

THE FRANCHISE.

There is division of opinion in Corvallis as to the advisability of granting an electric light franchise for a term of 30 years. There are those who strongly oppose the proposition, as well as those who favor it. If the step be once taken, that which shall be done, cannot be undone. After that the only alternative, will be to wait 30 years for the franchise to expire. If meantime, the cost of lighting, by inventions and discoveries, be vastly cheapened, Corvallis will be tied up, subject to the mercy of the corporation to which it shall be bound.

If, however, no franchise should be granted, Corvallis, at the end of eight years would be free and untrammelled. Then, there would be bidding for the privilege of supplying light to the town and its people. In that competition, the lowest possible rates would be obtained. Two years ago there was such competition, and the result is street lights for \$1.35 per month that but a few years ago cost \$3 per month, arc lights at \$5 per month that are costing \$7 in Albany, Eugene and Salem, and lights in private families by meter at one-half the former cost. If the pending franchise be passed, there will be no competition in lights for the next 30 years to come. It is to hedge themselves against future competition, and for no other reason, that those who seek this franchise, insist that it shall run so long a period.

The council should be very certain of its ground before final action, for a 30-year tie-up for the city is a very weighty matter.

"Why should I resign," exclaims Chauncey Depew. Being that he is a United States senator, and being that he is a director in 79 big corporations, railroad and otherwise, and being that he is a graduate in frenzied insurance, the senator is right,—why should he resign from the United States senate?

The TIMES is not conversant with what his official duties may be, but if Prof. Cordley's appointment as fruit inspector of Benton county has anything to do with chasing worms out of Benton count-apples, consumers are to be congratulated.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.

Three Lads the Victims—Guns and Feed Choppers.

Hugh F. Weitman, a lad of 16, residing with his mother on a ranch two miles from Corvallis in Linn county, was the victim of an accident Wednesday that robbed him of one toe. In handling a shot gun the young man rested the barrel on his foot, not knowing that the gun was cocked. In some manner the weapon was discharged and the little toe on the right foot was shattered. Dr. Cathey was summoned from Corvallis, and upon examination found that amputation of the injured member was necessary. The wonder is that the entire foot was not involved in the shooting.

Another accident happened late Tuesday evening, the victim being Milton, the 12 year old son of W. H. Harper, residing near the Sol King farm west of town. A feed chopper was in operation and the boy's index finger on the left hand was caught. It was so badly lacerated that a portion of the finger had to be amputated.

While playing with a piece of steel Tuesday, the five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Dinges, cut one finger quite severely on the sharp metal. The wound was not thought to be of any consequence, but the little fellow is now suffering with blood poisoning and is under the care of a physician.

The S. P. is selling round trip tickets between Corvallis and Portland for \$3, good going Saturdays or Sundays and returning Sunday or Monday following, either on West or East side, but good only on afternoon train from Albany to Portland on Saturdays if East side is taken. Passengers to pay local fare between Corvallis and Albany.

IS AGAINST IT.

Senator Avery Opposes the Granting of a 30 Year's Light Franchise.

Editor TIMES: I respectfully call the attention of Corvallis people to the proposition to grant a franchise, which will tie the city up in the electric light business for a period of 30 years. I am of the opinion that if this proposition were thoroughly understood that the people would be almost unanimous in opposition to it. It is to come up for final passage in the city council next Monday night and it seems to me that before a final step is taken all the people should have a complete understanding of the matter. I do not believe that any franchise should be fastened upon a city for so long a term as 30 years until after the people have come to a full knowledge of the facts, and have had a chance to vote upon the proposition at a popular election.

The city already has a light contract and is bound by a light franchise for eight years. The prices that we are now paying for light are all or more than we ought to pay. Within eight years by the development of water power and invention of appliances, the cost of lighting is certain to be immensely cheapened. Yet, as a city, bound, as we are by contract we cannot get the advantage of such decrease in the cost of lighting. If this be true for eight years, immensely more would it be true on a 30 years proposition, and how foolish it would be for the council at this time to tie the people up to such a scheme.

The day of granting free franchises to corporations and others—long terms is over. It is one of the means by which a few people get rich at the expense of the many. People have come to understand that granting such franchises upon mere promises of some benefit that is to accrue, is wrong in principle and disastrous in practice. The talk of the corporation that wants this franchise that this will be the only chance to get electric power to Corvallis is nonsense. There is enough power in the McKenzie river alone to supply power to every city, town and farm in the whole Willamette Valley, and it is a matter of only a few years until it will be done, and at a cost so cheap that electric lights and lighting will be within reach of all, the poor not excepted. If Corvallis wants the benefit of the coming cheaper light, she had better not bind herself hand and foot for the next 30 years.

P. AVERY.

From the Pittsburg Pa. Press:—Elias Day, the entertaining humorist, appeared in the Library Auditorium and this number was the best of the Carnegie course."

LEAGUE MET.

Had Visitors from Bellfountain and Elsewhere—Electric Road Project.

There was a large attendance at the meeting of the Citizens League Tuesday evening. The government ownership of the Oregon city canal and locks was a theme under consideration. Mr. Westbrook of the steamboat line that operates to Corvallis addressed the meeting on the subject, presenting much valuable information. The League has however, been long on record as favorable to the plan of government purchase of the locks and an open and untrammelled Willamette.

Other visitors in attendance at the meeting were E. M. Belknap, Ed Williams and Mr. Bennett of the south end of the county. They presented the scheme of the proposed electric railroad of which mention was made in a recent issue of the TIMES. No company has as yet been organized, and the whole plan, according to the statements of those interested in the enterprise, is as yet on paper, save the right of way, a considerable portion of which has been pledged. The scheme proposes that the road will extend from Corvallis to the Lake Creek country, passing through Bellfountain enroute. A resolution was adopted pledging the good will and cooperation of the League in the furtherance of the enterprise.

For Rent.

Nice office rooms to rent in my concrete building. Also cheap back room.

B. R. Thompson.

Remember Nolan's Great Annual Mid-winter Sales will begin Saturday morning December 30th at 9 o'clock. This will be a Bona Fide Sale in every respect.

WILL RECOMMEND MORE.

O. A. C. Graduates for Lieutenancies in Philippine Constabulary.

Lieut. Quinlan, commandant of the cadet regiment at O. A. C., has received instructions to recommend an additional six graduates of the college for appointment to the Philippine Constabulary. The instructions are from General Allen, in command of the Constabulary, and who is now on a business visit to the United States. He directs that the recommendations be made in order that a list of eligibles may be convenient for appointment as required. Late appointments of officers of the Constabulary into 2nd lieutenancies in the regular army have caused more vacancies, and the list of new officers for the Constabulary is increased. Lieut. Quinlan is looking around for candidates of whom there are many, as the positions are considered desirable, promotions being rapid, and the pay very good. Third lieutenants receive \$1,100, 2nd lieutenants, \$1,200, 1st lieutenants, \$1,300 and captains, \$1,700.

Lieutenant Floyd Williams, recently appointed to the Constabulary, has been in town a day or two accompanied by his wife. He is to leave tomorrow for San Francisco, whence on the 10th inst, he is to sail on the steamer Coptic for Manila. His transportation, furnished by the government, has already been placed at his disposal. Mrs. Williams will not accompany him to the Philippines.

Married.

At the Holroyd home in the north part of town, Tuesday occurred the marriage of Robert H. Holroyd and Miss Erma Ashley, Rev. C. T. Hurd of the United Evangelical church officiating. Only a dozen relatives and friends witnessed the ceremony. The bride wore a costume of cream mo-hair.

Both bride and groom are members of respected families that have recently located in Corvallis. Both the Holroyds and Ashbys are from Fayette, Iowa, and are people of means. For the present the newly-married pair will reside in Corvallis, in apartments over the Taylor creamery.

SHEPARD-WOODS.

Pretty Home Wedding—Couple Well known in Corvallis.

A pretty wedding took place at 1.45 p. m. Wednesday, when Ralph C. Shepard and Miss Leila Woods were united for better, for worse, by Rev. C. T. Hurd of the United Evangelical church. The event took place at the Woods home, and about 20 guests were present to offer congratulations and good wishes.

The bride, who is one of Corvallis' most estimable young women, was prettily attired in white organdie, with veil. The decorations were evergreens and potted plants.

The groom graduated from O. A. C. last year. He is a brother of Clay Shepard, secretary of the college Y. M. C. A., and a young man of splendid character.

At the conclusion of the wedding luncheon, Mr. and Mrs. Shepard departed for Portland on a brief bridal trip. They will reside in Polk county, across the river seven miles from Salem. Many friends wish them well.

A fine line of fishing tackle and the best shells in the market, cheap at Hodes gun store.

—Dr. Lowe, the well known oculist-optician will be at Hotel Corvallis next week two days, Jan. the 11th and 12th. Consultation free.

Railroad Lands for Lease.

Lands of the Oregon & California Railroad Company, in Oregon, will be leased for the year 1906 subject to sale. Owners of farms and ranches adjoining railroad lands should file their applications not later than February 1, 1906, after which date applications from others will also be considered.

Address: Charles W. Eberlein, Acting Land Agent, 1035 Merchants Exchange, San Francisco, Cal.

Seeds.

All kinds of clovers and grass seeds Grub oak wood, all sowed. Vetch hay L. L. Brooks.

Notice of Stock Holders Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stock holders of The Great Eastern Mining Co. will be held in Corvallis, Oregon, at the store of Wellsler & Gray, Jan'y. 8th 1906 for the purpose of electing a board of directors and transacting such other business as may properly come before such meeting. 7.30 is the hour.

36th ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE 36th

AT

The People's Store

Time to clean up now, before spring goods begin to arrive; time to cut the prices deep enough to make sure the work of Clearance in the next thirty days. Every department contributes special features. Money-saving sales are to be lunched in every section. Your interest is obvious if you want to save money.

Corsets

In order to make room for new styles of Thompson's glove fitting corsets, we have gone through our stock and sorted out broken lines of W. B's. which we shall discontinue.

Regular price \$1.00, Special 39c  
" " 1.50, " 74c

Men's Suits and Overcoats

All our mens high grade suits and overcoats, in worsted, fancy tweeds and chevots styles of this season showing in Hart, Schafner & Marx hand tailored garments.

\$25.00 suit and overcoat	\$19.95
20.00 "	15.95
18.00 "	14.40
16.50 "	13.00
15.00 "	12.00
12.50 "	10.00
10.00 "	7.95

GROCERY SPECIALS

Some people don't know that we have a grocery department, so we are making prices that will cause you to get acquainted.

- Diamond C soap regular 5c, special 8 bars 25c.
- 16 oz. cans Schilling's Baking Powder, special 45c.
- "Best" Cornstarch regular 10c, special 5c.
- 15 candles full weight 12 oz. 25c.
- 30 pounds best beans \$1.00.
- K. C. baking powder 25 oz. 25c.
- 16 pounds best No. 1 Rice, \$1.00.
- 1 pound package bird seed with bone 8c.
- I X L Tamales regular 15c, special 10c.
- I X L macaroni and cheese regular 10c, special 5c.
- Elite, Bixby, or Whittemore's Shoes Polish regular 25c, special 14c.
- Long's Woodlawn maple syrup; guaranteed best grade on the market, regular 75c, special 60c.
- Star tobacco per package 45c.
- Armour's washing powder regular 25c, special 15c.
- Cut nails per pound 2c.
- 1 pound oysters per can 10c.
- Decorated mush bowls each 5c.
- "DAIRY SALT" 50 pounds regular 50c, special 30c.

Great Clearance Sale of all Waists

Wool, flannel, albatross, and fancy waists, plain and trimmed, black, white, red, blue and green. All the newest and prettiest styles.

\$1.25 waists, each	.69
1.50 " "	.78
2.00 " "	1.19
2.00 " "	1.38
3.00 " "	1.53
3.50 " "	1.74

Values up to \$10.00 each, all at low prices

Rubber Boots

We have an over supply of rubber boots and we don't want to carry over a pair. We are going to let "Clearance Sale Prices" do the work.

Men's Thigh Saag Proof Boots	\$5.21
" Short " " "	3.58
" Thigh Friction " "	4.17
" Short " " "	2.81
" " Pebble " "	2.81
Boys' " Friction " "	2.22
Women's Pebble " "	1.64

Knit Goods

Ladies knit skirts all wool blue, red, brown and black

Regular 85 cent, special 64 cents  
" \$1 50 " \$1 08

Regular \$1 25, special 93 cents  
Golf vests regular \$2, special 98 cents

You can save money by visiting our store during the next 30 days

Every department offers surprising values. Watch this space for further bargains next issue.

25 per cent discount on remaining holiday goods

S. L. KLINE

The People's Store

Corvallis, - - - Oregon.

Mail orders filled

Sale prices during the month.