

"The Lure of the Mask," a story of the most alluring character in fiction, is proving popular

# THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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## Commercial Club Has Active Meeting

### Enthusiastic Members Plan Campaign for Increased Membership, Furnishing Club Rooms, Etc. Will Banquet Next Month.

An enthusiastic meeting of the Hood River Commercial Club was held Monday evening, in which all present joined in an effort to promote the interests of the organization. The final report of the normal school committee was received. Chairman Ernest C. Smith stated that it had decided, in face of the opposition in other parts of the state to obtain the school, to withdraw the active campaign contemplated substituting an invitation to the state at large to locate the school here in case the other districts failed. On the suggestion of J. L. Henderson it was decided to give the club's annual banquet in March instead of waiting until the new club rooms were available. The price was fixed at \$2.50 per plate.

In order to interest newcomers in the club a committee of five will be appointed by President Hall, three of them residents of the valley and the other two business men, who will prepare a list of new residents who will be invited to join.

The matter of furnishing the new club rooms was taken up. Estimates of the cost of fitting them up properly ran from \$3,000 to \$5,000. The result of the discussion was the creation of a separate fund for this purpose, and the authorization of a minstrel show to raise a nucleus for the fund. It was also decided to revive the observance of Commercial Club Day, at a date to be made known later, and which it is expected will make a substantial addition to the fund.

A. T. Allen introduced the idea of

## LIGHT COMPANY MAY APPEAL CASE

In a suit, brought by N. C. Evans in the circuit court at The Dalles last week, against the Hood River Electric Light, Power & Water Company, to recover the amount of his attorney's fees in his former suit against the company for an accounting, Judge Bradshaw decided in favor of the plaintiff, allowing the sum asked for. Owing to this decision and other features, it is now stated by the officers of the Light & Water Company that unless a compromise is effected that the case will be appealed to the supreme court, in which event the final disposition of the suit will probably drag along for a couple of years more.

An order in the decree, which the attorneys for the company take exception to, involves a transaction where Davidson received \$2,000 par value of the stock of the corporation for certain valuable property rights, and is ordered by the court to pay over to the corporation \$2,000 cash with interest from the date of the transaction, making, it is claimed, a gift to the company of these rights, notwithstanding the fact that it has received increased revenue from the use of these rights amounting to several times the amount of the purchase price.

Another instance, in which the company takes exception to the decree, is where Davidson is ordered to turn over to the company properties for \$5,000 on which he borrowed \$50,000 for the corporation, giving a judgment against Davidson personally for \$20,000. It is stated by the officers of the company, in relation to the transaction, that in order to save the property of the corporation from being sold under a mortgage foreclosure Davidson transferred some valuable pieces of property to the corporation under protest for the sum of \$25,000, thereby saving the credit of the company and enabling it to borrow \$50,000, which was used to cancel a heavy indebtedness contracted by the plaintiff Evans, also enabling it to rebuild its water system and construct the present power plant. It is claimed that this transaction saved the stock of the company from being a total loss. A compliance with the decree, it is averred, is not an equitable adjustment of the company's affairs, as it reduces the valuation of the company's property \$22,000 on the two transactions noted and places an improper judgment against Davidson.

adopting a badge and slogan for the club, which met with favor, and was referred to the board of directors. The announcement was made that the publicity fund campaign would be inaugurated next month.

An active campaign for new members was started by Secretary Skinner by the proposal that members of the club pledge themselves to report the application of a member of the organization at the next meeting. This met with a unanimous response, and was supplemented by Judge Henderson, who proposed that each member secure a new member by the next meeting or forfeit \$2.50, the amount of the initiation fee.

## HOME PHONE CO IMPROVES SERVICE

Commencing February 3rd, Charles Hall, president of the Home Telephone Company, assumed its active management. J. H. Hardinger, who has been manager of the company since it commenced active operations, having resigned.

The technical management of the service has been placed in charge of J. Schluter, who has heretofore held the position of wire chief. Changes in conducting the service that have been made and that are contemplated are expected to increase its efficiency. The hours of the operators have been shortened and their salaries raised. A change in the working hours has also been instituted, so that the operators are on continuous duty until they are released for the day. One force comes on duty at 7 in the morning, remaining until 1:30 in the afternoon with half an hour for rest, the other going on at 1:30 and remaining until 9 in the evening with half an hour off duty also. A rest room has been fitted up for the operators with comfortable chairs, a couch and desk, and overlooking the street in the front of the building. In this they will be expected to spend their leisure time.

Another change that will be made is to separate the long-distance department from the home service. A partition will be put in separating the two departments.

It is believed the changes will be conducive to better service to patrons and much more satisfactory to the operators.

### Delightful Social Function

A delightful social function was given last Tuesday evening in Odd Fellows hall by a number of Hood River's young ladies, in the form of a reception, dance and buffet lunch, commemorative of the valentine season. The decorative scheme consisted largely of red, red hearts which are supposed to be particularly tender at this season. They were used in many ways with handsome effect, the vivid coloring contrasting prettily with the greens and other decorations.

The guests, some hundred or more, were received by their attractive hostesses, Misses Blinn, Albright, Allen, Carter, Blythe, Cutler, Eaton, Goff, Goodnough, Irwin, Mortimer, Phillips, Tate and Vannett. Later the dance was opened with a grand march. The program contained a number of extras in which the fair dancers had the choice in making engagements. Punch of virtuous ingredients allayed the thirst of the dancers and an appetizing lunch was served throughout the evening. The affair was one of the most highly enjoyed during the social season and the young ladies were the recipients of many congratulations on its success.

### Upper Valley Land Sales

Last week Bruce Brothers and Mr. Tuttle of Indianapolis bought, through W. H. Marshall, 80 acres of E. H. Hartwig. They will improve all of it this spring. Mr. Marshall also sold for E. T. Folts 10 acres and for Raymond Gribble 10 acres to E. W. Clark.

J. C. McInnes, the well known White Salmon real estate man, was here Saturday looking the town over. Dr. Gearhart, also of that place, was here Monday.

## High School Improvement Discussed By Prof. Coad

There are a number of questions pertaining to high school education in Hood River valley that the observant home-seeker and the thinking resident might well ask. It is the purpose in this article to ask several such questions and offer a few facts and suggestions with the hope that they may create wholesome reflection which will in the end result in concerted action. It is an important question, both from the standpoint of the student and that of the man who meets the expense. In the first place, are high schools necessary?

All progressive communities have decided both by theory and by practice that high schools are a necessity. All institutions of learning above the high school demand that their students be graduates from accredited high schools or that they pass examinations in all required high school subjects. More than 90 per cent of the students of Hood River High School intend to enter college, university, or technical school after graduation. The percentage is nearly as high in the other schools of the valley. The Hood River University Club, with its 117 members, indicates very clearly the sentiment that exists in this entire community toward higher education. Thus, if Hood River is to keep pace with the best communities of the country and meet the insistent demand made by its young people it must maintain one of the best high schools in the entire West. If such an institution is to be developed it must be based upon broad principles and have the support of the entire community.

What is the present status of high school work in Hood River Valley?

Hood River, Frankton, Pine Grove, Odell, Barrett, Crapper, and Mount Hood school districts are each doing more or less high school work at the present time. Of these the Hood River High School only is meeting the conditions imposed by the colleges and universities for entrance. At present its graduates can enter without condition the universities of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon—any college or university in Oregon—and the universities of California and Stanford. But at the same time this school has not by any means reached the state of efficiency that is possible for it to attain. The other schools are doing as well as their resources will permit. It is not the purpose of the writer to criticize any school, but merely to point out existing conditions, in the hope that something better for all concerned can be evolved. One point that should be carefully considered by any school board or school district is the fact that with a small teaching force the

addition of even one high school grade cripples the work of the grammar grades by just that much.

What is the present high school work costing?

This is an important question. Practical utility and cost of maintenance are, in the order named, the chief factors to be considered. In round figures it is costing the taxpayers of school district No. 3 \$45 per student in the Hood River High School. This includes interest on the \$30,000 invested in the high school building, grounds, and equipment. Last year figures were presented at the annual school meeting at Pine Grove proving that the cost per student at both Pine Grove and Frankton was in excess of \$100. At any rate it is costing more for each of these school districts to maintain a high school than it would if one such institution could do the work of all. Under any plan that allows consolidated work, after adding a course in manual training and a course in domestic science, the cost per student can be reduced to less than \$40 per student. That means less expense for every taxpayer concerned.

Is the consolidation of high school interests practicable?

Consolidation has proved a success in every case tried where transportation is possible. There probably is no other place in the state where there are so many school districts within such easy reach of some central location. The permanent improvement of the roads that is to be hurried from now on will make transportation an easy matter. Then another fact should be taken into consideration is the certainty that an electric line will loop the valley in the not distant future. This will bring all parts of the valley within easy access to any central place. If the experience of other localities that have tried the Central High School plan is worth anything at all Hood River should profit by their success, for conditions here are as nearly ideal for such an undertaking as can be found anywhere.

This idea does not in any way concern or touch the proposed location of a normal school at Hood River. The sentiment all over the state is that Oregon's next normal school must be a purely technical school. That normal students must first graduate from some accredited high school in order to be eligible for training.

Thus, from the standpoint of uniformity, efficiency, and economy any plan that can be evolved that will permit united action will redound to Hood River's credit in educational progress.

EDWARD E. COAD.

## Married Folks Society Honor St. Valentine

### Large Gathering at Odd Fellows Hall Make Merry Piercing Hearts, Writing Poetry and Feasting. Music Enlivens the Occasion.

The Married Peoples' Society added a very enjoyable affair to the list of social events of the city this winter when it gave its Valentine social at Odd Fellows' hall Monday evening. The social was attended by about 100 members of the society and their guests.

The beautiful decorations provided for the Valentine dance held last week were still in place, which were added to in an artistic manner. Each one present was provided with a card on which was traced the design of a heart with their names written on the card and which was planned on coat or dress front as the occasion required. In this way formality was put aside, introductions made unnecessary and sociability reigned supreme.

A feature that provided a good deal of entertainment and amusement were slips of paper on which hearts had been drawn and in the center of which was the name of an apple. These had been cut in five pieces and were distributed to the guests who were instructed to hunt up those having the pieces that fitted theirs and then compose a poem, each line to commence with the letters that were on their slip. The attempts at poetry were both inspiring and amusing, the prizes being won by Irwin Parkins, Mrs. W. L. Upson and Mrs. R. E. Harbison.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to some excellent music provided by the Mandolin Club, George R. Wilbur, J. C. Skinner, and the Asbury Church Quartet, consisting of Mrs. E. O. Hall, Miss Edith Andrews, G. B. Dutton and Alva Day.

A short address that was highly appreciated was made by Rev. T. B. Ford. Refreshments were served during the evening by a number of little girls charmingly attired in white dresses besprinkled with red hearts. The committee which had charge of the affair was warmly congratulated for a most pleasant evening.

The program and committees were as follows:

**GENERAL COMMITTEE**  
C. W. Edmunds G. B. Dutton F. H. Coolidge  
Harry H. Bailey John Walters  
**INVITATION AND PRINTING**  
G. B. Dutton Dr. T. B. Ford  
Jenkins Walters C. P. Sonnichsen  
**HELP AND REFRESHMENTS**  
F. H. Coolidge E. O. Hall Alva Day F. W. Flint

voted to leave the matter to the county central committee with the understanding that it would exercise its judgment in adopting some plan calculated to produce the best results.

Dr. J. N. Smith, of Marion, and J. H. Worsley, of Wasco, asked that the same discretion be left to the county central committee of their counties with the result that, following some discussion, the original report of the committee was amended to the extent that in other counties where it was deemed advisable the method of procedure in electing delegates to the state assembly might be determined by the county central committee.

"Proxies will not be allowed in the state assembly if the recommendations of the state committee are adhered to. On this subject the committee took no compromise position. It voted to eliminate from the state gathering all proxies. The committee did recommend, however, that the vote of absent and duly elected delegates in the state gathering shall be cast according to the majority opinion of those present and acting from the same county. This method it was contended, will insure the polling of the full vote of every county in the assembly and at the same time be expressive of the wishes of the particular locality interested.

"As to congressional and district assemblies, the state committee recommended that assemblies for the recommendation of congressional and district offices be held during the recess of the state assembly; that the delegates to the congressional and district assemblies be the same delegates as shall represent those districts at the state assembly; that all recommendations of the congressional and district assemblies be reported back to the state assembly."

**DECORATIONS**  
John Walters Irwin Parkins  
Mrs. Cora Smith Alva Day  
**FINANCE**  
H. H. Bailey Prof. L. B. Gibson W. A. Isenberg  
**MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT**  
C. W. Edmunds A. P. Manning  
F. W. Angus E. L. Kiemer  
**THE MANDOLIN CLUB—**  
Messrs. Robert B. Perigo, A. Loeffler, E. A. Kincaid, Irwin Parkins.  
**ASBURY CHURCH QUARTETTE—**  
Mr. J. C. Skinner, Director.  
Mrs. E. O. Hall, Miss Andrews, Mr. G. B. Dutton, Mr. Alva Day.  
**BARTON SOLOISTS—**  
Mr. George R. Wilbur, Mr. J. C. Skinner.  
**ACCOMPANISTS—**  
Miss Sadie Ford, Mrs. Geo. R. Wilbur.  
**OUR PASTOR—**  
Dr. T. B. Ford.  
**LITTLE LADIES IN WAITING—**  
Misses Kalkins, Wright, Johnson, Johnson, Kaufman, Irvine, Nickelson, Lynn.  
**PROGRAM**  
The Mandolin Club—Merry Widow Waltzes  
By Way of Introduction.  
The Mandolin Club—Overture  
From the Prince of Pilsen  
By Way of Getting Acquainted.  
Prison—B.A.P.—L.A.P.—N.A.P.  
The Mandolin Club—The Palms—J. Faase  
Punch and—More Punch—By Everybody  
Mr. George R. Wilbur—Three for Jack—Squire  
Our Pastor—How The Layman Lays  
Dr. T. B. Ford  
The Mandolin Club—Le Miserere  
From El Trovatore  
Asbury Church Quartette—The Story of An  
Apple—Koeckel-Parks  
Mr. J. C. Skinner (A)—King Duncan's Daughter—Allison. (B) The Rose—Johnson.  
The Mandolin Club—College Life.

## CITY WATER BONDS SELL AT PREMIUM

Interest in the proposed construction of the municipal water system centered Monday in the opening of the bids which was fixed for 12 o'clock by the city council. Six bids were received one of which was thrown out after being read on account of failure to accompany it with a certified check for \$1,000 as provided in the proposal for bids. The other five were S. A. Kean & Co., Chicago, who offered to take the bonds at par with a premium of approximately \$500; The Central Savings Bank and Trust Co., of Denver, who bid for the bonds at their full value \$90,000 and \$300 premium; Morris Bros., of Portland who offered approximately \$86,000 and the John Nueven Company, of Chicago whose bid was \$90,725.00.

On motion of Councilman Broelus the bid of the latter was accepted. In bidding for the bonds the bidders stipulated that their offers were subject to the validity of the issue and the proceedings preceding it. With the exception of Morris brothers the bidders were unknown in banking circles at Hood River but reference is said to show that the Nueven Company is a reliable house and also several of the others.

In securing information to bid on the bonds intelligently it is stated by some of the attorneys for some of the larger bond houses who have examined the city charter in anticipation of litigation with the water company, that they are not satisfied that some of its provisions are not faulty in connection with the bond issue. Attention is called to the fact that the council has already voted a 7-mill tax for general purposes and has also held a special election to authorize a levy of another tax of 6 mills for paying interest on the bonds, making a total of 13 mills, while a provision in the charter that has never been amended states that "the council may levy taxes not to exceed one per cent, or 10 mills," this amount being 3 mills less than the total amount necessary to provide for both purposes.

Another procedure which the legal sharps of bond buyers say may prove a legal obstacle to the issuance of the bonds is that Hood River is divided into two voting precincts and that although the council ordained that in general elections the polling may be done at one polling place it makes no such provision for special elections. The law, it is stated, says specifically that no voter shall vote in any other precinct than the one in which he resides. As the voting in all special elections has been done in one precinct it is claimed that there is a possibility of attacking the legality of the bond election on these grounds and of projecting the bond buyers into a legal controversy in which they would have considerable difficulty in recovering on their investments.

## Republican Assemblies To Be Held in July

### State Central Committee After Harmonious Re-Organization, Adopts Plan That Will Re-Unite Party in Oregon on Broad Lines.

The plan to hold county and state assemblies throughout the state, which has been maturing for some time was brought to a successful issue in Portland Saturday when the Republican State Central Committee met and re-organized and endorsed it without a dissenting voice. Some difference of opinion arose as to arranging the details which were finally completed and a broadly representative policy adopted.

In its account of the meeting the Oregonian says:

"Without a single discordant note the Republican state central committee, at a meeting in Portland Saturday, authorized Judge M. C. George, the newly elected chairman, to call a state assembly to be held in Portland Thursday, July 21.

"This assembly will consist of 1248 delegates, apportioned by the committee among the 34 counties of the state on a basis of one delegate to every 50 votes or major fraction that were cast for R. B. Butler for presidential elector in November, 1908. Twenty-seven counties were represented at the meeting, the proceedings of which were marked with uninterrupted unanimity.

"The large and representative state assembly was indorsed by the com-

mittee without a dissenting voice on the recommendation of a sub-committee of five members which had been appointed to prepare and submit some method of procedure for calling and holding such an advisory gathering. The members of this committee were: R. E. Williams of Polk; C. T. Early of Hood River; H. T. Botts of Tillamook; C. S. Moore of Klamath, and C. E. Cochran of Union.

"In counties outside of Multnomah it was recommended that delegates to the state assembly be selected by county assemblies and that delegates to the county gatherings be chosen by majority vote only at mass meetings of the voters in the different precincts, these meetings to be called by the county central committee. Saturday, July 9, is the date recommended for the precinct mass meetings, with the date for the county assemblies fixed for the following Saturday, July 16.

"From this plan of organizing county assemblies and electing delegates to the state assembly, Multnomah county was excepted. In this county the committee found that it would be impracticable, because of the large number of voters, to hold precinct mass meetings. It was