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Apple Growers Hold Interesting Meeting

Elects New Board of Directors and Votes To Make Marketing Fee Ten Cents a Box—Grading, Packing and Labor Discussed

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Hood River Apple Growers' Union held Saturday brought out a large attendance and resulted in many valuable discussions in regard to conducting the organization in addition to a review of its affairs and the election of a board of directors.

With the exception of three members the old board was re-elected. The members of the new board are C. H. Sprout, L. E. Clark, C. Dethman, E. H. Shepard, G. A. McCurdy, J. L. Carter, Geo. W. Simons, V. Winchell and O. L. Walters. The retiring members are O. L. Vanderbilt, H. E. Albee and J. H. Shoemaker. In addition to those elected the names of O. L. Vanderbilt, J. W. Palmer, R. W. Stebbins, Thos. Avery and J. B. McCully were placed in nomination. Mr. Albee and Mr. Shoemaker were not candidates. Mr. McCurdy received the highest number of votes and the vote between Mr. Palmer and Mr. Walters was close.

A feature of the meeting was the reading of a letter received by J. W. C. Wilson from Congressman W. C. Hawley stating that the Lefebvre bill had not been reported and that he considered it dead. The announcement was received with noisy satisfaction.

A. I. Mason then addressed the meeting stating that he had several important questions to be decided. The first matter he asked action on was that of placing an additional marketing fee on each box of apples in order that the indebtedness of the union could be cancelled and to give the board of directors a larger revenue to properly handle the big crop this year which he estimated at 300,000 to 350,000 boxes. He placed the amount necessary to provide this extra revenue at ten cents a box and moved that the meeting adopt it as the fee for marketing apples this year, with the result that it was carried unanimously with the exception of three votes.

In connection with this Mr. Mason advocated the marketing of apples on a percentage basis, believing that the inferior grades of apples should pay a proportionately higher price. A motion was then offered by Mr. Mason providing for remuneration for the services of the board of directors for the time they were employed in the union's business. He said they ought to have it and placed the amount at 25 cents an hour. This was amended by P. S. Davidson to 50 cents an hour, but before the motion could be put C. H. Sprout, one of the directors and secretary of the union, made such a strong talk against it that the motion was withdrawn. Mr. Sprout maintained that the directors were willing to serve the union for the good of the cause, for nothing, and felt honored in doing so. At the suggestion of Peter Mohr the board was given a hearty vote of thanks, which President McCurdy stated was highly appreciated.

The next matter brought up by Mr. Mason was that of placing the responsibility for grading apples. He thought, he said, that the responsibility should largely be put upon the packer as he was satisfied that it meant coming nearer to getting a strictly uniform grade. It was impossible, he believed, for a grower who had many thousands of boxes of apples to look after the grading of them personally. He also advocated paying packers by the box and if necessary making the amount a cent or two cents more a box than had been paid, to insure a better pack, or to give them seven cents instead of five. Peter Mohr, in his opinion, was to leave the culls and inferior fruit on the tree and feed them to the pigs. He made a wager in support of his statement and had the best of it as there were no takers.

the big crop expected, put forth an extra effort to put out the finest pack in the history of the valley. Mason then stated that the reputation of Hood River apples had been damaged by offering for sale in Portland inferior fruit wrapped in wrappers bearing the union label, and asked that steps be taken to make the practice impossible. He advocated compelling all growers to return unused wrappers. O. L. Vanderbilt stated that the matter had been taken care of by the directors in the manner Mr. Mason suggested. The latter then said he believed that a tax of one cent a box should be made for labels, the union allowing the grower credit for those returned. This idea was favored by some of the growers, but Mr. Sprout said he was opposed to this move as it would make a tax of eleven cents a box as the marketing fee and he believed that the amount provided would cover the cost. He advised that it be waived until later in the season and if necessary the directors could call a special meeting to consider the proposition.

The last subject for discussion was that of labor. This was also suggested by Mr. Mason, who said that some uniform rate of wages and other details in connection with hiring help should be agreed upon as it was a serious problem. On motion of R. W. Stebbins a committee was appointed to investigate and collect statistics. The chair appointed Mr. Mason chairman with the power to appoint the rest of the committee. The others selected are R. W. Stebbins, F. W. Cutler, J. L. Carter, H. W. Purdy. The meeting was then adjourned.

ROYAL WELCOME FOR O. R. & N. FARM TRAIN

The record attendance for the trip of the O. R. & N. demonstration train was awarded to Hood River by Prof. Withycombe and the newspapermen when it visited here last Wednesday. It seemed like everybody and their grandmother turned out to welcome the train as it was thronged with a happy crowd of sightseers that jammed the cars and made it almost impossible to get a peep at their wonders. Fred Pasley of the Journal stated that the patent milking machine had to be used four times to please the crowd of admiring ladies here and that one of them was so overcome with joy that she fainted.

The center of attraction was two or three dozen little chicks of an orange hue that many of the visitors thought was their natural color. Prof. Dryden who is something of a wit gravely told the crowd that they were hatched in the orange belt of California. He had the poultry car placarded with catchy signs advising poultry raisers to look closely into the ancestry of their hens in direct opposition to Mark Twain who advises not to do so as you are liable to come to a wax end or a langman's noose.

The train was the most complete ever sent out and although the horticultural exhibit was limited it greatly interested the local fruit growers. It was in charge of Young Allen who spent a summer here where he has many friends.

Prof. Kent in charge of the dairying car had all sorts of posers to the ordinary dairyman at his tongue's end and an exhibit that was of great value. Prof. Scudder knew something about dry farming and moisture conservation if anybody should ask you and gave some valuable tips to soil tillers.

A. A. Morse the veteran transportation man and father of our city engineer was in charge of the train and made things pleasant for visitors. Traveling Freight Agent Dunn was also along to see that things went right and Agent Fredrick wore the smile that would not come off. Even Operator O'Neill dropped his ready-for-anything look. In fact it was a great day for the demonstration train, Hood River and the O. R. & N.

After leaving Hood River the demonstrators at once began dismantling the cars, but it was necessary to take some of them to Corvallis to complete the work. The exact distance covered by the train was 1248 miles, and this mileage included practically the entire length of all Oregon branches of the O. R. & N. and the entire main line as far east as Baker City. The estimate made by Dr. Withycombe of the total number of persons who passed through the train is 13,875.

Miss Molly Steikney gave an informal tea last Thursday afternoon between the hours of 4 and 5 to the members of her kindergarten. Miss Blanche Phillips presided at the table.

Mrs. Lola Shepherd of Salt Lake, national lecturer for W. C. T. U., will speak at Baptist church Wednesday evening, (April 6), at 8 o'clock. All cordially invited. Mrs. Shepard is a speaker of prominence and has spoken here twice before.

Knew Horses Could Think But Draws Line at Mules

Two old timers were discussing horseflesh at the Mount Hood hotel a night or two ago. The particular thing about horses under discussion was their intelligence. One of them maintained that horses could think. The other old resident believed that man's best friend was pretty smart, but was skeptical when it came to admitting that horses could reason.

"Wall," said the first old timer squinting one eye and ejecting a stream of tobacco juice that landed in a cuspidor six feet away, "I'll tell yer. When I was livin' out on the west side some years ago I had a mare that knowed more than any one on the place. That is, barrin' my wifer. Why, say, that mare knowed the time o' day better than any \$1.25 alarm clock I ever see. As a matter of fact, we had a clock in every room in the house but stopped windin' 'em up. Didn't hev to. Every mornin' as regular as six o'clock came that mare started to rattle and klick and holler so you could hear her all over the place. She used to keep it up for about five minits and then quit fer fifteen. And say, if I didn't git out and feed that mare inside of them fifteen minits she'd start in agin and never let up till I did git there. Then she'd quiet down as nice as yer please. I used to feed her with an old hard plunk filled up twice. One mornin' I was thinkin' about somethin' else and only give her one plunk. So help me gosh, I didn't more and closed the stable door before she let a squeal out her that you could hear at Astoria. Knowin' somethin' was the matter I went back suden. When I got there she was lookin' as mad as a hornet. I couldn't see that anything was the matter and started away agin, when she let go agin and kicked four plunk often the stable that landed more'n a rod away. So I stopped and looked her over and noticed she hed her eye fixed mighty hard on somethin'. I follered the line or vision and she hed her gaze on that hard plunk. Then all of a sudden it struck me that I'd only give her one plunk of feed. So I give her another and went on back to the house for breakfast, and she never made another sound that mornin'. I lived near the plauer where we could hear the whistle. If I happened to have that mare out workin', at the first toot at 12 o'clock she'd stop in her tracks for a second and then squeal and snort and quit work right there. No use to try to git that mare to do anything more. I had to unhitch. If I was plowin' I hed to stop in the middle of a furrow. If I hed a wagon I hed to leave it and walk to the house and feed that mare, and there was no use tryin' to git her out of that stable until the 1 o'clock whistle blew. Same thing at 6 in the evenin', had to quit. There was one thing, however, she didn't mind goin' out nights. She was always good about that. Although, if we went anywhere to a party I always took

a bag of oats, for when they served refreshments I had to go out and feed that mare or there was trouble. Yes sir, yer can say what yer please but that old mare could think."

"Now looky here," said old timer No. 2, "that looks like pretty strong evidence, but I wouldn't exactly call it thinkin', its more like association or ideas. That old mare simply knowed when she was hungry and made or fuss till she was fed. That yarr about her knowin' whether she hed one or two plunks or feed I think was couln' it a little too strong. Of course I know of a somewhat similar case, where a friend a mine brought a pair of mules that hed been worked around a sawmill for a long time. Every day when the whistle blowed for 12 o'clock, the mules, or course, stopped work and was unhitched. This friend a mine that brought them mules hed a farm along the railroad track. There was a passenger train passed the place everyday at half past eleven and the engineer always whistled there. The first day he was workin' the mules as soon as the engineer whistled the critters stopped dead still and wouldn't budge another inch. So he unhitched and hed 'em and they went alright till the next day when the same performance occurred. He finally got foxy, though. One day when the engine whistled he unhitched and left them mules a standin' a few minits and then hitched 'em up agin and they went all right. Now you see, if them mules could think they'd knowed they was bein' fooled."

"The most curious thing, howsumever," continued old timer No. 2, cutting off a liberal slice of plug, "that I ever seen was a pair a mules in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, that I called Christian Science mules. Them mules could pull most anything from a hairpin to a locomotive if yer could er load it on a wagon, but once in a while when they tried to pull a heavy load outen the street car tracks they got stuck. So the big steel company that owned 'em would send down another team, back the end of the wagon up in front of the team that was stuck, hitch on a chain and the two teams'd pull the load clear er the tracks. One day when the team was sent down it didn't git started to pull as soon as the hind team and they pulled the load out without any help. Well sir, after that when them Christian Science mules got stuck all they did was to back a wagon up in front of 'em without hitchin' on, make a big holler and that team a mules would haul the load without anybody pullin' a pound except 'emselves. Yer see they thought they was gettin' helped and that was all they was to it."

"Wall," said old timer No. 1, "I knowed horses could think, but I never went quite so far as to say mules could. You got me beat. I guess I'll go to bed."

Breaks Record For Oregon Orchard Land

East Side Orchard at \$2,200 an Acre Hits High Mark—Purchaser Also Makes Record Price for Unimproved Fruit Lands

Although believed that Hood River orchard lands would reach a price better than \$2000 an acre this year, the announcement came sooner than was expected when B. E. Duncan & Co. sold 63 acres of Dr. Stanton Allen's place for \$2,200 an acre yesterday.

The purchaser is Rede S. Delano, an eastern man who has been here some time looking the valley over, and includes 7 acres of brush land adjoining for which was paid \$528 an acre. Both these are record prices, the former for bearing orchard and the latter for unimproved land. The total purchase price is \$18,000.

The orchard is eight years old and is considered one of the finest in the valley. Originally bought by Dr. Allen from Wilson Pike it is but part of his holdings, of which he has fifteen acres left.

The balance of the place will be improved as soon as possible by Mr. Delano, who will also erect a home on it in keeping with the surrounding country places.

CHAS. PLOG PLACE SELLS FOR \$36,000

A big orchard sale during the week took place Friday when C. L. Rogers sold the Chas. Plog place to C. P. Jordan and A. J. Goodman, two well known Portland business men. The price paid for the place, which consists of 36 acres, was \$36,000. Originally Mr. Plog had 80 acres which he bought from Frank Chandler for \$11,000. At that time this was the highest price that had ever been paid for fruitland at Hood River. Mr. Plog is stated to have realized \$54,000 from the sale of the entire property in addition to the money he has received from the crop of apples.

The bids for the erection of the Baptist parsonage were opened in S. W. Stark's office on Saturday afternoon and the contract awarded to E. W. Dark. The work of excavating commenced Monday morning. A house which will be an ornament to the Heights will be built.

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Favorable Toward Plan To Buy Water System

Council Takes Action to Bring Matter to Settlement—Wants Direct Proposal From Company—Other Business Transacted

From action taken on the petition of citizens to the city council to call an election to vote on the proposition of buying the city water system it is believed that it is now ready to entertain the proposal provided it is placed before it through the proper channel. At the council meeting Monday night the petition signed by about 50 propertyholders which was recently submitted to the council with an option on the plant by A. C. Buck was reported back to the city's lawmakers with the findings of City Attorney Derby. The latter stated that in his opinion the option offered Mr. Buck on the water system would not in any way bind the company and for that reason thought that the council should take up the matter direct with the company.

Councilman Brosius said that he believed the council collectively and individually was in favor of adjusting the matter, and of giving the people an opportunity to settle the question definitely and legally. In view of this and also in view of the conclusions of the city attorney he moved that the petition with the city attorney's opinion be referred back to Mr. Buck for procedure through the proper channel, which it was inferred was a direct proposition from the water company to the council.

Councilman Hall stated that he was also favorable to having the matter put up to the people. That the petition contained the names of the proper number of taxpayers to call an election and he believed the council should act toward that end. Mayor McDonald stated that he had informed Mr. Davidson, the president of the water company, that the council was ready to do business when the company came direct to the council and submitted their proposition. The motion to refer the matter back to Mr. Buck for adjustment being put before the council it was unanimously carried.

A petition signed by propertyholders in the vicinity of the vinegar plant asking that the lower end of Seventh street be vacated was referred to the street committee.

Signed by sixty names a petition declaring the armory building to be

GROWING INTEREST IN WOMAN'S LEAGUE

"The American Woman's League," says one of the members, "is growing in interest and numbers. We now have secured two rooms on the second floor of the Bartmess building where we will be very cozy and comfortable. Our meetings for the present will be every Tuesday afternoon from 2:30 until 4:30 as after the business session there will be a social hour."

"Many of our members have completed their membership and are now ready to take up the courses of study afforded by the People's University of the American Woman's League."

"We want to form a 'Choral Class' very soon to take up the course of study offered to members, free of charge by the Quin-Campbell Conservatory of Music which is affiliated with the American Woman's League at University City. A complete course is offered, from the most elementary through to harmony, composition, counterpoint, fugue and orchestration."

April 2nd class A publishers of some one hundred of the leading magazines of the country met in convention at University City to formulate plans of cooperation which will mean much to every member of the Woman's League. While they were assembled in convention Hood River Chapter sent the following telegram to our founder, E. G. Lewis:

"Kindest greeting from the sixty members of Hood River Chapter, April 2nd. We are all very glad to hear of the first national convention of the American Woman's League to be held in University City in May, and in addition to the delegate from each organized chapter every member of the Founder's Chapter will be given an opportunity to go to the convention with all expenses paid. Every woman should get into line, or it will be a rare treat to be permitted to take part in the convention festivities and celebration of the completion of the Founder's Chapter."

Woman's Club Meeting

The regular meeting of the Woman's Club was held Wednesday afternoon at Old Fellows hall, Mrs. Batchelder presiding. Mrs. G. R. Casner and Mrs. Thompson were appointed as a committee on sanitation. The matter of beautifying the serpentine road was enthusiastically discussed. A fine program was rendered during the afternoon in which Miss Radford, Miss Brock, Mrs. Will, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Batchelder, Mrs. Chas. Hall, Mrs. Huxley, Miss Fox and Mrs. H. C. McGuire participated. Mrs. Laraway had charge of the refreshments. The next meeting of the club will be held Wednesday, April 13th, when the men will be asked to take part.

unsafe and a menace to the part of the city it is situated in and asking the council to do something about it was submitted. After considerable discussion the matter was referred to the Health committee. It was stated by Mayor McDonald that the armory building was not on the lot it was legally entitled to and if it was deemed of sufficient interest by the propertyholders it could be gotten rid of.

A proposition for the improvement of the city's fire equipment received favorable action. Application for the erection of a brick garage at the corner of First and State streets by L. D. Boyd was granted. It was moved to dispense with ringing the curfew bell (and the News man seconded the motion) as it made it necessary for the night marshal to desert his post of duty at times when it was important for him not to do so, and because it jarred citizens who lived in the immediate vicinity, and were in the habit of retiring early, out of bed. The motion was unanimously carried as was also one to place a police signal light on the Brosius building that could be operated from the telephone office. The assessment for the improvement of T. Twelfth street, which approximately amounts to something over \$9,000, was approved and several ordinances amending former ordinances passed their first reading. It was stated unofficially that C. L. Rogers, who is getting rights of way for the pipeline for the new water system, was meeting with success and a committee was appointed to investigate in regard to getting suitable books in which to keep the city's accounts.

SPELLIN' BEE HUGE SUCCESS

From a financial standpoint and also as an entertainment the Spellin' Bee given by the Woman's and Commercial clubs Friday evening was a huge success, although disastrous for the male element when it came to spelling. It is whispered that the ladies had cornered all the spelling books in town making it impossible for their opponents to post up, but of course this can only be hinted at. We wouldn't for the world say that it was so. All we know is that one of the men spellers told us that he had been hunting for a spelling book all over town and couldn't find one. Let this go as it may, it will have to be admitted that it is a feather in the cap of the ladies and a severe blow to the much vaunted superiority of the male intellect. There is a possibility that some of the men were over gallant and missed words purposely in order not to triumph over the reverse fair sex. We want to give our thanks to the ladies who all intend to have this appear as a fact. In fact we dare not, inasmuch as our back is toward the door and our office is in such easy access from the street.

But seriously the victory was a signal one. As a spelling master Mr. Jayne was most successful while the brave men and fair ladies took their cruel with becoming grace. Prof. Gibson was the last of the men spellers to succumb. The winners at the end of the contest were Mrs. George Strahalian, Mrs. C. A. Briggs and Mrs. G. A. Thompson.

Following the spelling contest a number of the ladies gave what was designated as a Brownies drill and was one of the most amusing things seen in many a day. Music for the drill was provided by Mrs. H. C. McGuire. Later came the sale of the baskets with Truman Butler as auctioneer. Mr. Butler went at his task in typical auctioneer style. One of the baskets sold for \$22.50 and another for something over \$13 while one brought less than \$1.50. Judiciously spent the time on what looked like an orange box full of delicacies with the intention of not having any more cooking done for the rest of the week, considered himself fortunate in getting it, only to find it contained two peanut buttered sandwiches and a pickle. But there was plenty and enough for all, who enjoyed a merry lunch.

The affair netted the organizations something over \$300.

MUST NOT AID OR OPPOSE NORMAL SCHOOL MEASURE

Replying to a letter from Ira Powell of Monmouth, Attorney General Crawford rendered an opinion to the effect that Section 35 of the Corrupt Practices Act makes it illegal for any newspaper to publish anything either for or against any candidate for office or measure before the people, unless it is marked paid matter and contains the name and address of the person responsible therefor. This hits various country papers that have been publishing matter favorable to the normal school petitions which are now being circulated. A heavy fine or imprisonment is provided for violation of the act.