

PYTHIAN KNIGHTS IN CONVENTION

Delegates Present From Lodges in Hood River and Wasco Counties and Visiting Knights From Portland and Willamette Valley--Big Interest and Enthusiasm Shown in Occasion Which Ends in Enjoyable Banquet at Hotel Oregon.

The district convention of the Knights of Pythias, which includes Hood River and Wasco counties, met here Saturday afternoon and evening, and was attended by a large number of delegates. In addition to Hood River, Dufur, The Dalles, Mosier and Cascade Locks were represented, and a number of prominent members of the order from Portland and the Willamette valley were here, and much enthusiasm prevailed. Arriving delegates were met at the train by a reception committee from the local lodge, Waucoma 130, accompanied by Mayor Hartwig, and extended the welcome.

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Club Members Hear Lively Discussions

New By-Laws, High School Horticultural Course and Chinese Relief Fund Engage Attention of Monthly Meeting--Interest Increasing in Growth of Membership of the Organization.

The monthly meeting and smoker of the Commercial Club Monday night was well attended and several lively discussions took place. Interest in the meetings of the club is increasing and the organization is showing marked progress.

The matter of raising a local fund for the famine sufferers in China was brought up and received strong support, and also some opposition. The latter was along the line of "charity begins at home," reference being made to several local cases in which it was declared there was necessity for relief. Further discussion, however, seemed to indicate that the majority were in favor of a good sized contribution from Hood River and also local relief whenever it was necessary.

State Street Litigation Stops Other Street Work

Another Restraining Order Causes Council to Halt and Await Action of Court--May Be Necessary to Amend Charter to Legalize Further Improvements on City Thoroughfares.

It was expected that the city council would take up the matter of street paving at its meeting Monday night, but the recent suit against the city in regard to a supplemental assessment on State street and further action brought by property owners on that street through Attorney S. W. Stark restraining the city from selling the bonds for the improvement, checked action. It was stated by Councilman Brosius that before any more was done in street improvement the city should determine the legality of the provisions of the charter under which street improvements are being made. If it is found that such provisions are not authoritative the charter will probably be amended.

Proceedings in regard to the removal of the oak tree on State street in the rear of J. H. Hellbronner's residence were renewed and on the statement of Councilman Wright that he had examined the premises and found that the building the tree was obstructing could not be moved Mr. Hellbronner was granted permission to remove the tree.

BIG ELECTRIC POWER ALONG COLUMBIA

Manager B. P. Bailey of the Pacific Power & Light company, which is the holding company owning the Hood River Light & Power Co. in a statement at The Dalles last week said in regard to the big plant the company is completing at White river:

"When our machines are installed our work at White river will not be completed, as a big 1800 horsepower machine has been ordered for delivery for June 1 and will be installed as soon after as possible."

FIRE DEPARTMENT ELECTS OFFICERS

The annual meeting of the Hood River Volunteer Fire Department was held Monday evening and much interest manifested in the work of forming and maintaining a strong organization.

This branch of Hood River's public institutions is one that citizens seldom think of until they have a fire, and then forget immediately afterward. The small contingent of men who have kept this organization together deserve much credit and it is not too much to say that the entire community ought to get behind them and give the organization and the fire-fighting facilities of the town a wholesome boost. As a matter of fact, there should be an annual appropriation from the city's funds for maintaining the fire department.

At the meeting Monday night the matter of increasing the effectiveness of the organization was discussed with the possibility of forming another hose company.

The election of officers which was held resulted as follows: President, Wm. Ganger; vice president, R. B. Perigo; secretary, W. E. Dabney; treasurer, R. Husbands; chief, Wm. Ganger; assistant chief, Arthur Clarke; foreman hose company, W. B. McGulre; ass't foreman, R. Perigo; foreman hook and ladder company, C. S. Jones; ass't foreman, Wilbur Coulter; chief engineer, chemical engine, R. Husbands; first ass't, Harry Bailey;

STARTS LOCAL FUND FOR FAMINE VICTIMS

At the suggestion and through the generosity of Mr. Edgar Locke, a fund has been started at Hood River for the relief of the famine sufferers in China. Mr. Locke has headed the fund, which is in the hands of the Butler Banking Company, with a subscription for \$25, and the amount subscribed will be forwarded to Ladd & Tilton, in Portland, who will send the money to their Hong Kong correspondent for distribution. The first money will be remitted by the Butler Banking Co. to Ladd & Tilton Saturday, March 18th. Any one who is interested and wishes to subscribe can do so at the bank.

The work of applying the funds that are being subscribed in America is being done in China by the Red Cross Society, and widespread interest is being taken in giving to this cause throughout the United States. It is claimed that China was one of the first to respond with a generous contribution for the San Francisco earthquake sufferers, and many believe that Americans should help this sorely stricken people on this account, if no other. Details in connection with the famine and plague continue to show frightful suffering among the Chinese, which can only be relieved by generous contributions throughout the world.

second assistant, Arthur Dabney; finance committee, R. B. Perigo, C. S. Jones, Wilbur Coulter.

Despondent Arizonian Takes Life In Hotel

Phil S. Boyd, Well to Do Druggist, After Trying to Buy Store Here, Takes Morphine--Letter Found Showing Act Was Premeditated.

Phil S. Boyd, a well-to-do druggist formerly a resident of Jerome, Ariz., who had been stopping at Hood River for several days, was found dead in his bed at a local hotel Friday evening, presumably from the effects of poison.

Boyd secured a room at the hotel Thursday night and as he did not appear the next day the proprietors of the hotel became uneasy and entered his room. On investigation it was found that he had been dead some time, and after the body had been examined by the coroner and a physician it was removed to an undertaking establishment.

A letter which pointed to suicide and which read as follows was found in the room:

"To my good big-hearted friend: Old boy, I hate to have to leave you, but I have suffered for nearly four years, and now, after making you lots of trouble, I must end it all. Phil S. Boyd."

A coroner's inquest was held Saturday and after hearing the testimony a verdict which stated that Boyd had taken his life by his own hand was reached.

It is learned that Boyd went into Plath's drug store Thursday and wanted to buy the store, offering Mr. Plath a good price and a bonus if he would sell to him at once. Mr. Plath, while not wishing to sell, told

Boyd that he would consider the matter.

Geo. W. Cheesbrough, who knew Boyd well, came down from The Dalles Saturday morning and took charge of the body temporarily. He said that Boyd had been worrying a good deal lately because he could not get into a business again that suited him. The unfortunate man is stated to have had no financial trouble and to have had money in a bank in Arizona and also in Spokane.

The body was prepared for burial and taken to his former home in Arizona by his brother who came here for that purpose.

The letter above referred to was sent to Mr. Cheesbrough at The Dalles and the Chronicle of that city says that it contained Mr. Boyd's will and instructions that should anything happen to him, his sister at San Diego be notified. The Chronicle further says, "He enclosed a check for \$50 to be used by Mr. Cheesbrough in carrying out the instructions in the letter. One of the peculiar features of the case is the bequest of \$50 to Victor Harwell, who is employed on the government work at Big Eddy, with which Harwell is to help pay for the completion of a correspondence course."

"Mr. Boyd has been associated in business matters with R. A. Smith of

GOOD WORK MAY GET PUBLIC LIBRARY

At the meeting of the Public Library committee two weeks ago, a sub-committee was appointed to consult with the county court relative to an appropriation.

The committee was cordially received and encouraged. A law has been passed recently allowing grants from counties to help maintain libraries, and in May, when that law goes into effect, the county court will gladly consider the committee's appeal.

However, the attitude of the county court depends a great deal on the disposition of the people. The people of Hood River must show that they wish a library. In the near future an appeal for money will be made, with which to buy books. An enthusiastic answer to that appeal will be an important factor in securing the appropriation. This seems to be a good time to strike, while the iron is hot.

BARACAS WILL GIVE HICKS AT COLLEGE

"Hicks at College" is the title of a play which will be given by the Baraca and Philathen classes on Tuesday evening, March 21st.

It is one of those New York all season runs especially adapted for presentation by young people. Hicks the originator of a new kind of breakfast food, goes to one of the eastern colleges to secure an ad writer.

Tom Horton, the college favorite and yell leader, is the very man he needs. Horton, although in dire financial straits, refuses to leave college just at this time but finally is forced to consent. His lady friend and other students prevail upon him to remain until the big basket ball game of the season is played and also until he graduates in June.

Hicks is desperately in need of Horton and the means he uses to secure his dismissal and make him accept his offer are both laughable and serious and admit of the finest acting. The 21 characters are all chosen from the two classes and are being coached by Mrs. Campbell.

The between-acts will consist of a club drill by the Philathenes, music by the orchestra and special quartet music by the Congregational choir. The play is on a par with, if not superior in many ways to, "The Green Horn" given by the Baracas last season. Tickets can be secured at Clarke's drug store the latter part of this week.

Sprout Buys Frank Property

The lot occupied by the harness shop, and formerly owned by Sherman Frank, has been sold to C. H. Sprout, who already owned the 25 feet between the Elliot building and the new purchase. The price paid for the lot was \$4,000. It is the intention of Mr. Sprout to erect a brick block on the lot, a large part of which will be occupied by the hardware business of E. A. Franz.

A crowd of Epworthians and their friends spent a most enjoyable evening at the home of Miss Hazel Smith Monday. Games, music and social hour were followed by dainty refreshments, each guest carrying away pleasant memories of an evening well spent.

HOOD RIVER MEN BUY ABSTRACT BUSINESS

A. P. Manning and family left last week for Salem, where they will reside in future. The occasion for the departure of the Manning family is due to the fact that Mr. Manning and Attorney Geo. J. Watson have bought an abstract business in the capital city, which they are about to take charge of. Mr. Watson, who is now associated with A. A. Jayne, will leave for Salem as soon as the latter returns, and he is expected this week.

The Missionary Circle of the Baptist church meets Thursday p. m. with Mrs. J. M. Wood.

Events of World Wide Interest Pictured For Busy Readers



News Snapshots Of the Week

Carter H. Harrison, Democrat, and Charles E. Merriam, Republican, were nominated by their respective parties as candidates for mayor of Chicago. By a vote of forty-six to forty in the United States senate William Lorimer of Illinois was declared legally entitled to his seat in that body. The question has arisen in the appointment of Henry S. Boutell as minister to Portugal whether the United States government has given formal recognition to the new provisional government. America and other countries are hurrying food and medicine to the thousands of plague and famine stricken sufferers in northeastern China. Wide interest is being shown in New York's \$100,000 breach of promise suit brought by Miss Anna Berthe Grunspan against William English Walling, the well known Socialist.

It pays to advertise.