

## WELCOME THE VISIT

Sheriff and City Engineer  
Will Play Hosts.

## NOT AFRAID OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Elliott "Will Take Great Pleasure in Satisfying Taxpayers' League"—Mr. Storey Only Wants a Fair Show.

Sheriff Storey and City Engineer Elliott didn't seem perturbed yesterday by the promise of a visit from the Taxpayers' League. They even smiled. F. W. Mulkey, president of the league, was not perturbed, either. He smiled, too.

Up in the County Courthouse and the City Hall tongues of Mitchell persuasion were asking: "What is the Taxpayers' League anyhow?"

In his office down town L. J. Goldsmith, secretary of the League, responded: "A league of some 50 of the biggest taxpayers in the city."

"But we can't find them out," exclaimed the voices up town. "Who are they?"

The voice down town cited a long list of names. In the list were such as W. M. Ladd, A. L. Mills, J. C. Alsworth, Walter F. Burrell, J. N. Teal, J. C. Flinders, Dr. A. J. Gley and ever so many more.

Mr. Mulkey mailed five sealed envelopes to as many big citizens yesterday. In each envelope was a note. In each note the recipient was requested to serve on the committee which is to now through the office of the Sheriff and the City Engineer. The identity of the five gentlemen Mr. Mulkey kept secret. Whether they will accept remains to be seen. One of them, A. L. Mills, will doubtless decline, since he will be in California most of this month.

The job of investigating the offices may not prove congenial, inasmuch as Mitchell politicians condemn the League of nursing political designs in its bosom. This imputation the League indignantly rejects.

## Object of Investigation.

Affairs in the two offices don't look right to the executive committee of the League. That's what President Mulkey said yesterday and then added, "though I don't know for sure that the offices are used for political purposes."

"And if you find the offices conducted properly?"

"Then we'll say nothing about them. It is not the policy of the League to commend the honesty of public servants. They are presumed to be honest."

"We investigated the City Engineer's office less than a year ago. The information then acquired may serve a useful purpose now."

"Yes," remarked City Engineer Elliott in his City Hall office, "the Taxpayers' League investigated this office about a year ago. I accept respectfully refer the gentlemen to their findings at that time. This office was then conducted to their satisfaction. And I shall take great pleasure in satisfying them again."

But the brunt of the League's forceful in his English. And the Sheriff's broad shoulders and manly form lent emphasis to his remarks.

The Sheriff stood in the Courthouse between the east and west doorways while the cold wind played pranks with his long-tailed coat.

"If the Taxpayers' League, as it calls itself," declared the chairman of the county's peace, "will open its roll of membership and admit taxpayers like those in there," beckoning toward the tax-collecting department, where a crowd of property-owners were seeking to enrich the county exchequer, "we'll elect officers for the League who have some sense."

Sheriff Wants a Square Deal.

"If the Taxpayers' League, as it calls itself, will compare the report of its smelting committee on this office two years ago and of its smelting committee four years ago, with the report the new committee is going to make on my incumbency, the present Sheriff—that means me—will be highly rejoiced."

"If the League will give us a square deal it will find that in the first 18 months of my incumbency I saved the county \$55,000, compared with the record of my predecessor, and that in my two years of service I shall have saved the county \$32,000. If the League will give us a fair show it will do credit to itself and we shall be gratified for the favor."

Free From Political Prejudice.

"We have been very careful," said Secretary Goldsmith, "to keep our League free from political sympathy or prejudice. Politics will not be admitted into our organization, that's positive. The investigation which the League now purposes to make is actuated by no political motive whatever."

C. H. Carey, leader of the Mitchell organization which elected Storey and Elliott, believes that the public approves the extensive street improvements made last year. He says that those improvements have added the progress of the city and enhanced its appearance. The work has cost considerable money, but was required by the conditions of the times.

"We are in an era of improvement and progress," said Judge Carey last night. "Street improvements were one of the first needs of the city when the Mitchell organization went into power less than two years ago. Some individuals may complain, but I believe the people in general commend the improvements and wish them to continue."

But Simon workers are going to use the heavy expenditures of the city engineer's office for battering the Mitchell faction. They have set about showing up extravagance to taxpayers. They say that employees in the office are hired for political purposes and that they fritter away their time in shouting politics.

Last year street and sidewalk improvements according to Mr. Elliott's report to the Mayor at the close of the year were:

Street and Sidewalk Improvements.

New asphalt pavement 1.49  
Old asphalt pavement repaired 2.32  
Stone block pavement 2.39  
Wood block pavement replaced 2.39  
Bituminous macadam 2.39  
Macadam 2.39  
Gravel pavement 2.39  
Plank roadway 2.39  
Elevated roadway 2.39  
Graded streets unpaved 11.32

Total 22.29  
Sidewalk 16.22  
Wood 16.22  
Cement 16.22

Total 78.52  
New sewers 78.52  
Cost \$142,000

"The extent and value of the above improvements exceed that of any other period in the history of the city," said Judge Carey. "Old asphalt and wood block pavements, aggregating three and one-half miles, were either renewed or replaced. All this activity made many of the City Engineer and required many salaried men. It cost money, of course. But I believe the people will bear us out."

The payroll of the City Engineer's office last month amounted to \$711.07. Eighty-four men are employed. In 1902, under City Engineer Chase, the number was 61. The

## NOT IN THE ARENA

Mayor Williams Will Not Enter the Campaign.

## HE SETS ALL RUMORS AT REST

Not Working With Either Faction, Although He Favors Mitchell's Re-Election and Thinks Factions Should Get Together.

In spite of the importunities of many politicians, Mayor Williams will take no active part in the coming primary election, and therefore the Mitchellites have nothing to hope for from him and the Simonites have nothing to fear. Mayor Williams deprecates factional politics, he is even optimistic enough to hope that the warring Republicans will sometime cease their troubling and the party be at rest. Upon the broad ground that it is unwise to change Senators often, Mayor Williams advocates the return of Senator Mitchell to Washington in 1907. With the local factional fight he will have nothing to do.

Nevertheless Dame Rumor has been busy with tales of what the Mayor would and wouldn't do in the approaching election. Enthusiastic Mitchellites have said that Mayor Williams would take the stump for them. Simonites have taken the tale to scorn, and have even intimated that the efforts of Mitchell leaders to guide the Mayor in the way they thought he should go were not only ineffectual but reactive. To all of which gossip Mayor Williams has put an end.

Yesterday a reporter asked the Mayor if he had any objection to stating his position in the approaching contest between the factions of the Republican party.

"There is a good deal of gossip about what your views are, and no two tales are alike," said the Mayor.

"I don't see," replied Mayor Williams, "that my views on the matter are of any great consequence, but I'll say this: 'I do not intend to take any active part in any way in the approaching election.'"

"I never have, and do not now, consider myself as particularly identified with either faction of the Republican party, and my opinion is that if the leaders would be a little more conciliatory, the differences now existing in the party here might be reconciled."

"I wish to say that the merits or demerits of the present city administration are in no way involved in the coming June election. There are no city officers then to be elected, and if no party is benefited, certainly no party ought to be prejudiced by what the city administration has said or done."

"I have this to say: I believe Senator Mitchell has made an industrious and useful Senator, and I have been long enough in public life to know that with his experience in the Senate and his familiarity with public affairs and men he can do more for the state than a new and inexperienced man. For that reason I favor his re-election. I think a mistake was made in keeping Senators Dolph and Mitchell in the Senate when they were there instead of displacing them with new men."

"I have no possible interest in the coming elections not common to every citizen of the county and state."

## TO CALL DISTRICT CONVENTION

## Members Republican Congressional Committee Meet Today.

Members of the Republican Second District Congressional Committee will meet this morning at 11 o'clock in the office of P. L. Willis in Commercial block. The committee will name the day and place of the next district convention and will appoint delegates between the counties.

The convention will nominate a successor to Representative J. N. Williams.

It is customary for the district convention to be held the day before the State Convention. The date of the State Convention is April 14. The district committee will probably hold the appointment of the state convention.

H. S. Wilson, of The Dalles, is chairman of the district committee and P. L. Willis, of Portland, is secretary. The members are:

Baker County, Davis Wilcox, Haines. Clatsop County, John C. McChes, Astoria. Columbia County, J. B. Godfrey, Portland. Crook County, John Combs, Prineville. Gilliam County, George B. Duke. Grant County, D. A. Belknap. Harney County, H. S. Bower. Multnomah County, P. L. Willis, Portland. Morrow County, B. F. Hynd. Multnomah County, P. L. Willis, Portland. Sherman County, J. B. Hoar. Umatilla County, Thomas Thompson, Pendleton. Union County, D. B. Hendrix. Walla Walla County, C. B. Jennings. Wasco County, J. H. Worley, The Dalles. Wheeler County, A. E. Looney.

## SIMON CLUB ORGANIZED.

## Seventh Ward Republicans Lining Up—Mitchell Club to Follow.

The Seventh Ward Republican Club was organized in Blanche's Hall, Powell street, Tuesday evening with a membership of about 60. It is a Simon organization. The officers are: President, H. G. Right; secretary and treasurer, Sylvester P. Walter; vice-presidents: Precinct 38, Edward Gunderson; Precinct 40, Fred Brithbart; Precinct 41, T. M. Edmunds; Precinct 39, W. W. Terry; Precinct 37, Edward Austin (Seilwood).

The objects set forth in the constitution are: "To promote the interests of the Republican party in the Seventh Ward, and particularly to secure economical and efficient service in the administration of the city and county government." and its members are confined to any and all legal rights of the Seventh Ward of the City of Portland who believe in the principles of the Republican party. There will be no dues and expenses will be paid by popular subscription. Meetings will be held every Tuesday night, and next Tuesday night A. C. Spencer and Wallace McCamant will address the club.

Tomorrow evening the regular or Mitchell Republicans will hold a meeting in Blanche's Hall and organize a club.

Deputy County Auditor. "Contributions were entirely voluntary," explained Mr. Burkhart last night, "none was compulsory and everybody who attached his name did so with that understanding."

But several gave grudgingly. They remarked that though they might be willing to contribute, and though they might not disrespect to Mr. Burkhart, they preferred to give in some other way or at some other time.

Judge Carey did not object to the contributions; in fact he welcomed them and frankly said so, but wished it understood that nobody was to be taxed unwillingly. "If we had ordered a percentage tax on all salaries," the Judge was heard to remark, "we might be properly censured. But we have not done so; in fact the members of the County Committee had no advance knowledge of Burkhart's purpose."

Three deputies in the County Clerk's office, J. S. McLeod, F. W. Frank and H. V. Bamford, removed their names from the paper. Mr. Burkhart assigned as a reason that they desired to make up a contribution from their own office.

Blowers Succeeds Roberts, Walter Moore Being Turned Down.

L. N. Blowers, formerly a merchant of Hood River, was sworn in yesterday as Deputy United States Marshal to fill the place of A. L. Roberts, recently appointed receiver of the La Grande Land Office.

Mr. Blowers was engaged in the mercantile business for a number of years and has taken an active part in politics. He is a staunch Mitchell man. His appointment was rather a surprise, for it was generally expected that Walter Moore, of Baker City, would receive the position, his name having been recommended by the Oregon delegation to the selection. It is said, was not entirely satisfactory to Marshal Matthews, and Mr. Blowers landed the position.

To Bury Frank McMahon.

Coroner Finley found the brother of Frank McMahon, who committed suicide a few days ago by drinking carbolic acid. John McMahon is a farmer near Eugene, Or., and will give his brother a respectable burial. The services will be held today at Coroner Finley's undertaking establishment.

Long Railroad Bridge Burned.

OMAHA, March 2.—A special from Wray, Colo., to the World-Herald says the Burlington Railroad bridge over the Republican River near the Colorado-Nebraska line, burned this afternoon. The bridge was nearly one mile long, and cost \$500,000.

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## "BUTTERICK"

Artistic Picture Framing to your order—Large line of new Molding to choose from—Lowest prices

## The Meier &amp; Frank Store

We are Sole Portland Agents for "Ostermoor" Elastic Felt Mattresses—Custom Shadework a Specialty—Third Floor

## The New Knit Underwear

It is time to think about your coming Underwear needs—

The finest of silk, lisle and cotton undergarments in assortments that guarantee a satisfying selection—Buying as we do in enormous quantities direct from the mills we are enabled to quote the very lowest prices.

Imported Swiss Ribbed Vests, high neck and long sleeves, finest quality, newest styles, silk and lisle mixed, at \$1.50 to \$1.75; all silk at \$3; all sizes.

Lisle Thread Vests, pure white, pink or blue, knitted cuff, and fit close at the waist band, all sizes, at \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Low neck and sleeveless Vests, lace and hand-crocheted trimming, beautiful new styles at 60¢, 65¢, 85¢, \$1, \$1.50 up to \$3.50 per garment.

Handsome new lace trimmed Undervests, at \$1.50 to \$2.50.

Silk and lisle mixed Vests, hand-crocheted trimming \$1.50.

New Union Suits, low neck, sleeveless, knee length, \$1.50 and \$2.50.

The above are all imported goods in the finest grades. Domestic Underwear in all the newest Spring styles vests, pants and union suits for, garment \$25¢ to \$3.50.

## TALCUM POWDER 5c

We place on sale today 1000 cans of Dr. Graves' famous Talcum Powder—the grandest value ever offered at the remarkably low price of 5¢ a can.

Dr. Graves' Tooth Powder...8¢

Reg. 15c Dressing Combs, ea. 8¢

Reg. 15c Toothbrushes, ea. 9¢

Malvina Lotion...27¢

Malvina Cream, jar...27¢

"4711" SOAP 11c CAKE

5000 cakes of the famous "4711" Soap—the best soap of its kind on the market—a limited quantity to each purchaser at 11¢ a cake.

8-oz. bottle Lambert's Listerine...62¢

Saunders' 50c Face Powder...18¢

Pears' Scented Soap, cake...13¢

Pears' Unscented Soap, cake...11¢

Eastman's Talcum Powder...11¢

2-lb. bar Italian Castile Soap each...17¢

TOILET SOAP 17c BOX

500 boxes of Fancy Toilet Soaps—Carnation, Rose, Boquet, Sweet Cream—3 cakes in a box—always sold at 25¢ a box—this sale only 17¢ box.

Dressmaker's Forms, 32 to 40 sizes, \$3 values at \$2.00

New Spring Footwear for men, women and children

## Men's Furnishings

Spring styles in Men's Furnishing Goods

The largest and best showing we have ever made and includes everything new, stylish and desirable at the most moderate prices

New Golf Shirts—New Neckwear—New Hosiery—New Collars—New Gloves—New Jewelry—Spring Underwear for men and boys.

## Easter Bible Sale

Teachers' Reference Bibles, indexed with Dictionary Concordance—regular \$2.50 value...\$1.95

Teachers' Oxford Bibles, indexed, combined Concordance—regular \$2.25 value, this sale...\$1.73

New Testaments, cloth bindings—regular 59¢ value—for this sale only...29¢

Teachers' Reference Bible, \$1.75 values, for...\$1.37

Prayer and Hymnal, cloth binding, 75¢ value...43¢

All other Prayer Books and Hymnals at 25 per cent off.

## "PENINSULAR"

STEEL RANGES

## The Meier &amp; Frank Store

For misses and children; the neatest, most effective and serviceable clothes we know of—Coats and dresses in an immense variety of styles and materials and every garment very reasonably priced

Men's Coats, in navy blue, grays and fancy mixtures, brass buttons and chevron, box effects. They always look neat and stylish.

"Peter Thompson" Sailor Suits, in plain blue, black and white checks and fancy mixtures, ages 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16.

See them (Second Floor)

Wash Dresses

For boys and girls aged 1 to 8 years, new styles and materials, plain white and fancies, over 50 styles, all new, this season's garments—it doesn't pay to worry and bother with home sewing when pretty dresses like we're showing can be bought ready made for so little money—

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