

## VOTE 6.6 MILLS

### Taxpayers Also Grant New High School.

### TEACHERS GET MORE PAY

### Levy of .6 Mill Made to Increase Salaries.

### BOARD'S REPORT IS ADOPTED

### Bond Issue of \$100,000 is Authorized to Erect Stone High School Building on the East Side.

**NEW HIGH SCHOOL**—Resolution introduced by Thomas Hyslop adopted unanimously. School to be of stone, costing \$100,000, and located on East Side, adjoining Central school. Bonds to be issued to pay for building.

**TEACHERS' SALARIES**—Board's suggestion of .6 mill to provide asked for increase accepted. Matter of distribution left to board.

**ADDITIONS AND NEW SCHOOLS**—Suggestions contained in board report accepted. One new building will be erected and necessary additions built.

**TAX LEVY**—Total tax levy for schools is 6.6 mills.

The meeting of the taxpayers of District No. 1 in the assembly hall of the High School on Fourteenth street, last night, was a most enthusiastic one and replete with many lively debates in which sarcasm figured conspicuously.

The question of granting the asked-for increase in salaries to teachers and the provision for a new high school structure were the only matters discussed at length, but these were sufficient to lead many of those present into heated controversies.

The introduction of Mr. Hyslop's resolution for a \$100,000 high school bond issue was the occasion for much discussion, and, although strongly opposed by H. Wittenberg, it was carried with much enthusiasm. The .6-mill levy to increase teachers' salaries was also carried.

The reading of the clerk's report opened the meeting. This was followed by the reading of the board report by Mrs. Charles E. Sitton, who presided.

### Champion Teachers' Cause.

Joseph N. Teal arose and proposed that the report be adopted. He was no sooner seated when Samuel Connell took the floor and proposed to raise the recommended tax levy of .6 mill for the purpose of raising the teachers' salaries to 3 mill, making the total levy for the school department 7 mills.

His suggestion called for much applause, particularly from among the teachers and their friends present.

Mr. Teal once more took the floor and argued that the taxpayers should not take such a preposterous move without carefully considering the possible outcome. He cited that the taxes were higher than ever before in the history of the city and that the police, fire and other departments when they were really entitled to more consideration than was given them. He asserted emphatically that the method of petitioning resorted to by the teachers was not the best, and brought in this remark, which caused a great wave of laughter:

"Why, the prettiest girl in the city came to me and asked me to sign the petition, and I found it hard to refuse."

He then told of the great increase in the cost of maintenance of the school department, quoting that in a short period of time the aggregate sum had changed from \$200,000 to \$770,000, which, with the asked-for allotment of \$30,000 for teachers' salaries, would amount to \$700,000 or more for the year of 1905.

D. J. Malarkey took the floor and proved a great champion of the teachers' cause. He stated that the question before the assembly was not the cost of maintenance of the department, and he did not think it right that the teachers should be made to bear that expense. He appealed to those whose children were in the care of the teachers, and asked if it was fair that they should be forced to work for little more than the average servant girl received as monthly stipend.

Mr. Wittenberg then arose and stated that he was there to prevent the carrying of Mr. Connell's resolution, and that he did not personally in any way approve of the course pursued by the teachers in asking for the increase. He hoped that the taxpayers would not consider Mr. Connell's proposal to raise the levy .4 mill when the Board had already, in its report, provided for an increase of .6 mill, which would furnish the requisite \$30,000.

### Salaries Fair, Says Wittenberg.

"The teachers of Portland," he said, "are all receiving fair salaries, and some of them are receiving more than they are worth, and I would not countenance a horizontal increase to benefit the teachers indiscriminately, but only those who are qualified to receive recognition for their services and ability, and I will venture the assertion that none of them are."

"I am antagonizing a whole lot of teachers, and I wish to say to those present," he continued, "that I shall oppose every measure to grant an increase to those who are not worthy of it, but I shall most willingly prove the friend of those teachers who demonstrate that they are entitled to more than they are receiving."

"If this resolution is passed as Mr. Con-

nell desires, Portland will then be paying the highest salaries on the Pacific Coast. I make this appeal to you, and hope that you will look upon it in the right light—from a business standpoint."

Mr. Teal took the floor in support of Mr. Wittenberg's argument, and stated that the teachers were receiving minimum and maximum salaries of \$600 and \$700 respectively. This was apparently Mr. Malarkey's cue, who arose immediately and asked the correct minimum salary paid to Portland teachers.

"Mr. Teal was not sure, but the chair came to his assistance and quoted \$500 for teachers of two years' experience."

"Salaries Low," Says Malarkey.

"Five hundred and fifty dollars for teachers of two years' experience," said Mr. Malarkey. "Divide that by 12 and you have something over \$46 a month. Take the maximum salary of \$700 and divide that by 12 and you will have \$58.50 a month. Sixty-two dollars and fifty cents a month for the women who must devote two years of hard study in outside institutions before they may obtain such a position. If there are teachers in the employ of the department who are not worth, as Mr. Wittenberg says, 'what they are receiving,' I cannot understand why they are allowed to remain (prolonged applause and laughter)."

"If I am not mistaken, Mr. Wittenberg, in the year of 1890 and prior to that time, did not the teachers receive salaries which were even higher than the present ones? If the asked-for increase was added?" asked Mr. Malarkey.

"I believe so," answered Mr. Wittenberg.

"And Mr. Wittenberg," continued Mr. Malarkey, "were the salaries at that time the highest paid on the Pacific Coast?"

"I can't say," replied Mr. Wittenberg. "I would have to investigate that because I have no data with me."

"Ladies and gentlemen," said Mr. Malarkey, "in the year of 1890 and prior to that time, as I have said, salaries were higher than the present desired salaries would be with the increase. The salaries were reduced during the financial depression following 1893, as were salaries in every other mode of living. Since that time, however, the depression has been superseded by prosperity and every kind of salary but the teachers' has been increased until salaries are as high as they were previously, if not higher. The cost of living is increased, and if we do nothing else, ladies and gentlemen, we should grant this increase."

The subject was carried on with monotonous discussion and finally put to question, as Mr. Teal first proposed:

### Levy Finally Passed.

"That the levy be .6 mill and the matter of distribution be left to the Board."

This resolution was passed, much to the chagrin of some of the teachers present and their supporters.

Thomas Hyslop then introduced his resolution suggesting that the New High School be erected on the East Side by a bond issue, and in the block adjoining the Central school, which was purchased years ago for the purpose.

Mr. Wittenberg arose, saying: "I opposed the increase in salaries for teachers. I am now going to make a fight for the little children. I wish to talk to the fathers and mothers and those who are interested in the welfare of the little ones."

"I am opposed to placing this school on the block adjoining the Central school, because it will rob the children of the breathing space they now have."

He went on to give several reasons why the school should not be erected there, and suggested that another block be purchased. He was interrupted by cries of "Boise, Boise."

Whitney L. Boise arose and said: "Mrs. Chasman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the block designated in Mr. Hyslop's resolution is the most centrally located for a High School on the East Side. Regarding the breathing space, I know of many schools where thousands of children have a common campus for their recreation and they are none the less healthful for it. Of course, we of the East Side would be flattered if another block were purchased so that the Central school could retain its large playground. All I can say, however, is that, if you are going to give us something, please, let us say where it shall be located."

Mr. Wittenberg arose again, saying: "I cannot agree with Mr. Boise. In building the proposed school upon that block we would have to rob the little ones of their playground, and if Mr. Boise could only see them enjoying themselves, he would say, 'For God's sake, let the school be put elsewhere.' We can obtain another block for a few thousands of dollars, but if this is not possible, I would suggest selling this block and purchasing another with the proceeds of the sale. In my opinion, a block further south would be more centrally located."

Dr. Joseph then arose. "Mr. Wittenberg's last statement," he said, "convincing me that he is not as much interested in the question as he would like us to believe. If he is so anxious that the children should have their playground why does he propose selling the plot?"

"I mean to say," hastened Mr. Wittenberg, "that if no other means is possible."

"Your reply does not change the nature of your stand in the least," answered Dr. Joseph.

### KILLED ON SPECIAL DUTY.

**Ominous List Published by Japanese Navy Department.**

**TOKIO, Dec. 28.—(A. M.)**—The navy department publishes a list of the ship officers and 65 men who were killed while on special duty. The time, place and circumstances were not explained, and it is presumed that another cruiser has been mined and sunk or damaged.

### List of Army Dead.

**TOKIO, Dec. 28.—(A. M.)**—The army department publishes a list of 23 officers killed and 96 wounded, presumably at Fort Arthur.

## ALL TRAVEL

### Grand Jury Files New Indictments.

### CONSPIRACY IS CHARGED

### S. B. Ormsby, W. H. Davis and C. E. Loomis to Face Trial.

### ALL SAID TO BE IN LAND RING

### George Sorenson, an Ex-Deputy Sheriff, and Henry A. Young, Ex-Football-Player, Are Included —Davis, Mayor of Albany.

**INDICTED ON CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD.**

Salmon B. Ormsby, of Salem; William H. Davis, of Albany; Clark E. Loomis, of Eugene; Henry A. Young, of Portland; George Sorenson, of Portland; John Doe and Richard Roe.

The Federal grand jury made its second public appearance yesterday afternoon, at which time it returned indictments against Salmon B. Ormsby, of Salem; William H. Davis, of Albany; Clark E. Loomis, of Eugene; Henry A. Young, of Portland; George Sorenson, of Portland; John Doe and Richard Roe. The charge is that the indicted men entered into a conspiracy on December 29, 1903, having as their object the defrauding of the Government of the United States out of a portion of its public lands in township 11 south of range 7 east, and that by means of false and forged applications, false and forged affidavits and proofs of homestead entry and settlement, some in the names of real and some in the names of fictitious persons, the Government was induced to issue patents to the lands.

It is charged that in furtherance of the conspiracy William H. Davis swore to an affidavit before S. B. Ormsby in which he said he had resided upon the claim since by him as by law required, and it is also alleged that the conspiracy was a part of the one entered into by the defendants, Horace G. McKinley, D. W. Tarpley and Emma L. Watson.

### W. H. Davis Is Mayor of Albany.

In the indictment just returned William H. Davis, Mayor of Albany and chairman of the Republican County Central Committee of Linn County, is the central figure. Ormsby and Loomis, Sorenson and Young have all been before the public from the opening of the land-fraud trial several weeks ago, but Dr. Davis had not been brought into the case until the latter part of the week just passed, when he appeared before the grand jury by his own request.

The Government expects to prove by the evidence against the Albany man that he went into the conspiracy to defraud the Government knowingly, and a year after he had abandoned his claim as the result of correspondence with the land office at Washington.

The story shows that Davis went into the forest in 1892 in company with William Horn, a timber-locator, of Albany. Horn located him on a claim and built a cabin for him in the same year. The cabin was afterwards destroyed by a tree falling upon it and the next year Horn built another. In 1893 Dr. Davis went to his claim for a day or so, and again in 1894 he spent a short time there while on a fishing trip. He also went fishing in the vicinity in 1895.

Dr. Davis made his final proof before R. B. Montague, of Albany, in 1900 and swore that he had cultivated five acres of ground each year since residing on the land, that he had raised crops and had made the place his residence except for short periods in the winter, when he was compelled to leave to make a living for himself and family.

### Wrote to Binger Hermann.

In 1901 C. E. Loomis came to Albany to connect on the claim of Dr. Davis, in connection with about 45 other claims held up by the department. It is said that the doctor became uneasy about this time and wrote to Binger Hermann, then commissioner of the land office, asking his advice in regard to his claim. He also asked Mr. Loomis to write to the department in regard to his claim.

Under date of March 11, 1901, Loomis wrote a personal letter to Mr. Hermann asking his advice in relation to the claim. He stated that Dr. Davis was in trouble over it; that he had dropped the land upon its being put into the Cascade forest reserve, but that he had later, upon the advice of Colonel Bob Miller, made his final proof. The Colonel, so said the letter, had advised Dr. Davis to the effect that all the time elapsing since the creation of the reserve and the date of actual entry and since the survey had been made would be recognized by the department as residence. The letter closed with the statement that Mr. Loomis would be glad to gain any information which might be of use to "some very good friends" of Mr. Hermann's in Linn County.

This letter was given to George R. Ogden, a clerk in the department, by Mr. Hermann, who replied March 28, 1901. Ogden called attention to the fact that the doctor had sworn to his cultivation and residence upon the claim and afterward it appeared from the facts that the claim had been abandoned, such affidavits would make Dr. Davis, or any other persons, liable to prosecution for perjury.

### Ormsby Sent to Investigate.

Upon receipt of this letter Dr. Davis abandoned effort to secure the claim and nothing more was done about it until May, 1903, when Ormsby was sent to make a report on the lands. Some of the claims had been recommended for cancellation by Loomis and among them was the Davis claim. D. W. Tarpley came to Davis about this time, so it is said, and made a proposition to him which he accepted. Davis was to secure \$200 each from the men who had filed upon the claim and afterward he abandoned them. Tarpley was to receive a share, and so was Ormsby, who had been sent by the Government to make his

report. Through Ormsby it was expected that the claims could be ousted to patent.

Dr. Davis, it is said, then secured pledges from 14 men, each of whom promised to donate \$200 toward securing patents to their old and abandoned lands. Of this sum the doctor is supposed to have raised \$1200. He gave \$300 of the sum to Tarpley and the rest was to have been divided between Ormsby and a firm of Washington, D. C., attorneys, who were to be employed to see after the securing of the patents at the General Land Office.

The report of Mr. Ormsby was favorable, in spite of the fact that Loomis had once reported against the claims, and in October, 1902, patents issued to the lands.

**Henry Young is Well Known.**

Henry Young, another one of those indicted, is well known in Portland and in the Willamette Valley as an athlete. He came from Astoria and was given a clerkship in the Secretary of State's office by Frank I. Dunbar during the early part of that official's first term. Young, however, drank to excess and was discharged. He later was entangled with the law for having collected money from various persons in Salem under pretense of representing a firm with which he had no connection and is supposed to have left the state under this cloud. He was at one time a member of the Multnomah football team and was known as "Leftie" Young. Young represented himself as George A. Graham before Judge Galloway, then of the Oregon City Land Office, and also made affidavit before R. B. Montague as Henry Young.

Young is now in the East, but the Government does not have any great desire to apprehend him, as he is of too little moment at the present time. As the offense for which he is indicted is not extraditable, it is thought that Young will not be one of those to attend the trial.

### Sorenson Once Deputy Sheriff.

George Sorenson is also a well-known



W. H. Davis, Mayor of Albany, indicted in land fraud cases.

Portland character. He was at one time a Deputy Sheriff of Multnomah County under Sheriff Frazer and was charged with grafting Chinamen and was discharged from the force for the reason that he had been implicated in many things in Portland not to his credit, and about a month ago, when the land-fraud cases drew near, left the city. He is now supposed to be in Missouri.

Ormsby is supposed to be at his home in Salem, while Loomis is in Eugene and Davis is at Albany. The court fixed the bonds of each of the men at \$1000 and they will be held with the indictments and placed under bonds at once.

### HIS TACIT CONFESSION.

**Horace McKinley Admits He Figured in Land Frauds.**

**SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)**—Horace G. McKinley, here to meet an Oregon timberman regarding the George Sorenson, of St. Paul, acknowledged today that Oregon timber lands had been secured by fraud; that he had a part in the deal; but he denied that United States Attorneys Hall and Heney had promised him immunity from punishment, and predicted the indictment of Senator Mitchell and Congressman Hermann. Said Mr. McKinley, in answer to a question asking how he became involved in the frauds:

"It's a pretty long story, but—oh, well, you know. Land laws were pretty lax down there, and, well, anyway you can safely put a bet down that frauds have been committed, all right, and just between you and me, indictments are apt to be returned against Mitchell and Hermann."

"How extensive were these land frauds?" asked the reporter.

"They reached out pretty extensively, I tell you," declared Mr. McKinley. "They were being going on for years, you know, for years, and some people would never suspect, would never dream of, have been getting the long end of it right along. Those very same people should have protected us, but instead they endeavored to make us the scapegoat, and that, you know, doesn't always pay."

"This thing will shake things up politically in great shape. If they indict Mitchell and Hermann, and the Government officers say they certainly will, then that means the end of the Mitchell party in Oregon, as the Senator has controlled politics there for years. And I notice, as a general thing, that when the Government starts out to do a thing, it gets away with it."

"Well, how do you expect to get out of the trouble?" asked the reporter.

"That is something hard to tell, of course," he replied slowly.

"The prosecution said they would appreciate any information we would give, and that's all they did say, and to tell the truth, we don't know how to bank on it. The Portland papers declare we have been promised immunity from prosecution, but that is not so. The Government has not promised us a single thing."

"Right away. It would not surprise us at all if they were tried during the next term of court."

### Steamers Wait for Fog to Lift.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 27.**—So dense was the blanket of fog which hung over the harbor all day that business at the Government quarantine station was almost entirely suspended. Not a single steamer arrived. A little puff of wind from the West this afternoon tore a hole in the fog bank, revealing four steamers which had come in during the night and found an anchorage off the station.

Several steamers were due from foreign ports today and it is supposed they are lying off Sandy Hook waiting for the fog to lift before attempting to come into the harbor.

## IN FOG AND ICE

### Great Storm Rages East of the Rockies.

### GALE WITH INTENSE GOLF

### Telegraph Lines Disabled and Railroad Trains Delayed.

### TWO LIVES LOST IN CHICAGO

### Territory From the Mountains to New York, and From Winnipeg to New Orleans is Visited by Severe Weather.

**CHICAGO, Dec. 27.**—One of the severest storms of recent years has raged throughout the territory lying between the Rocky Mountains and the Great Lakes since early this morning, and has caused much trouble to street-car companies, railroads and telegraph companies. The latter were the greatest sufferers from the blizzard, which swept through the West and Northwest during the last 24 hours, and which was preceded by a heavy fog and drizzling rain, which made the wires almost unworkable.

The intense cold and terrific gale that followed close upon the fog coated the wires with ice, and later in the day three poles to the ground, crippling the companies badly. Railroad trains were badly delayed all through the West, some of them being 24 hours late. Street-car traffic in all the cities of the West and Northwest was practically at a standstill at some time during the day.

In its extent the storm was the most widespread of any during the last 15 years. Counting the fog as a component part of the storm, it stretched from the Rocky Mountains to New York, and from Winnipeg to New Orleans.

### Deaths in Chicago.

The only fatalities due to the storm in this city were:

Alexander Stelner, a steamer, killed while unloading coal. A chute was blown from its fastenings and, striking Stelner on the head, killed him instantly.

Thomas Walsh, a laborer, struck by a heavy board while entering a new building at Green street and Washington boulevard. The board almost cut his head off.

At 10 o'clock tonight the storm was reported as subsiding at Kansas City and other points in a north and south line from that city, but it will be several days before normal conditions are restored throughout the entire section.

At Chicago and east of here the storm was still raging with great violence and was expected to continue throughout the night, the center of the storm being between Chicago and Cleveland. Reports from Kansas City early in the day were that the storm extended from the middle of Missouri as far south as Indian Territory, and was accompanied throughout its entire extent by the heavy winds and snow which on the level would have been about one foot deep. It was drifted so badly by the gale, however, that in nearly all the cities of Nebraska, Kansas and Western Missouri, street-car traffic was at a standstill by noon.

### Mercury Drops at St. Louis.

The storm by noon had reached Eastern Missouri and the temperature in St. Louis went down 30 degrees in two hours, while the wind, blowing 60 miles an hour, piled the snow up in the streets in great drifts. It was found possible to keep the street-cars running, although great havoc was wrought with the telegraph and telephone wires.

At Omaha and Des Moines conditions similar to those in Kansas City were reported and both places were in bad shape early in the day. Before daylight most of the downtown electric light circuits in Omaha were out of business and the outlying districts were without light. All over the Western States the storm increased in violence throughout the morning and at noon was raging with great fury. All trains in this section were reported from one to six hours late and constantly losing time.

In the Northwest the storm was even more violent than throughout Missouri and Iowa. In St. Paul the snow commenced falling early last night and grew heavier all through the night, while the wind increased until it was blowing at 50 miles an hour. The heavy snow and the gale worked havoc with the railroads and some of the passenger trains from the Pacific Coast were reported tonight as 24 hours overdue and making slow progress.

### Very Violent in Northwest.

The storm reached westward from St. Paul until it covered almost the entire Northwest, and from the Dakotas, Eastern Montana, Wyoming, Northern Michigan and Wisconsin the storm was the same. The wires in all directions were down, the snow was filling the streets and railroad cuts so tightly that street cars were for the most part compelled to stop running and all trains were far behind time.

In the South conditions were somewhat better, the snow in many places being changed into a heavy rainfall, preceded by thunder and lightning and followed by heavy winds. Nashville, Louisville, New Orleans, Montgomery and Memphis all reported exceedingly heavy rains, a rapidly falling thermometer and terrific winds. In the Ohio River Valley the first heavy rain in five months commenced falling early in the day and continued throughout the

night. The storm was appreciated by the boatmen along the Ohio and its tributaries, for the stage of water in those streams has of late been very low and navigation was difficult in many places.

### Wind of Terrific Speed.

The storm struck Chicago soon after noon and increased with great rapidity until it had assumed hurricane violence at 5:30, when the wind tore through the downtown streets at the rate of 72 miles an hour. It fell away after that, and by 7 o'clock had dropped to 50 miles an hour, where it remained throughout the night with occasional gusts that would howl through the streets with the force of a cyclone, tearing down signs, smashing in plate glass windows and in many sections of the down-town districts hurling pedestrians from their feet and overturning delivery wagons.

In all parts of the city chimneys were blown down. There were numerous instances of people being bruised by being blown from their feet while passing some of the high buildings of the downtown district, and in several places police were stationed to turn back light delivery wagons, which would infallibly be turned if they attempted to pass the corners ahead of them.

Between noon and 7 o'clock in the evening the mercury dropped from 34 to 11, and was still falling.

### Great Damage in Wisconsin.

The late reports from Wisconsin are that the storm was the most severe ever known in that section. Damage in Madison is estimated at \$100,000.

In Indiana the damage by the storm is estimated in the hundreds of thousands. The damage was especially heavy in the oil fields where fully 500 derricks were blown down and all operations suspended. Near Muncie, Frank Kavanagh was killed by a falling derrick. The loss on derricks alone in the neighborhood of Muncie is placed at \$250,000.

Late dispatches from Nebraska state that the storm was the most severe in many years and that all trains were delayed from two to 12 hours.

### PORTER IS TO RETIRE.

**Meyer Will Succeed Him as Ambassador to France.**

**NEW YORK, Dec. 27.**—The Herald will say tomorrow: It has been definitely decided that General Horace Porter, of New York, shall retire as Ambassador to France and he will have his resignation in the hands of President Roosevelt before his inauguration. This announcement was received by the Republican State leaders.

General Porter's successor to Paris will be George Von L. Meyer, the present Ambassador to Italy.

### FAIRBANKS IS A MASON.

**Great Gathering Sees Initiation Ceremonies at Indianapolis.**

**INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 27.**—Senator Charles W. Fairbanks, Vice-President-elect, was initiated into the secrets of Masonry today. The initiation was made the occasion of one of the most notable gatherings of Masons ever held in Indiana.

### CONTENTS OF TODAY'S PAPER

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### Portland and Vicinity.

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## TRUST IS SUED

### Action Against Paper Company at St. Paul.

### FILED BY GOVERNMENT

### Unlawful Combination to Control Sales is Alleged.

### PRICE OF PRODUCTS INCREASE

### Attorney-General Moody Acts for the United States Through the District Attorney and the Federal Court.

**ST. PAUL, Dec. 27.**—Attorney-General Moody, for the United States, through District Attorney Haupt and Frank B