

Over 200.

My dress goods stock has been carefully gone through and all remnants put on the table.

S. F. Young, Albany, Or.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Dr. Lowe, the optician, is coming soon. The wise will wait for him.

U. B. Vogle has a large stock of optical goods and can fit the eye O. K.

Miss Bertha Davis is home from an extended visit in Oregon City.

Asahel Bush, a wealthy Salem banker and a prominent democratic politician was in town Monday.

Albert Ray, of the firm of Russell & Co., Portland, was in town Tuesday on a hop-buying tour.

Tickets for the Heritage-Winkler concert Feb. 14th, 25c; children under 12, 15c.

Grand musicale Feb. 14th by B. S. Heritage, musical director of Willamette University, vocalist, and Emil Winkler, of Leipzig, Germany, pianist.

The stars and stripes proudly floated yesterday from the public school flag staff, in honor of the anniversary of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

Sunday morning the government snag boat Corvallis passed up the river. For the present she will be engaged in removing obstructions to navigation between Eugene and Harrisburg.

There comes a time now as then when a gentleman feels the need of a stylish haircut or shave, and there is no place, as everyone knows, where those luxuries can be secured as cheaply as at Spencers.

Horace Underhill, of Summit precinct, was in town last Friday on business connected with the estate of Patrick Gillhooly, deceased, of which he is the administrator.

The 1895 tax roll has been completed and yesterday it was turned over to Sheriff Osburn for collection. The total amount of taxes for collection as shown by the roll is \$60,301.46

Tonight Deputy Sheriff Skipton and N. R. Barber take the "Sunset Limited" for California. The former goes on a pleasure trip, while the destination of the latter is reported to be the Cripple Creek mining country in Colorado.

Died, at Grass Valley, Nevada county, Cal., at the residence of James Blodgett, from a stroke of paralysis, Miss Asenath Blodgett, aged 78 years. The deceased, was a former resident of Blodgett valley and one of the old pioneers who crossed the plains to Oregon in 1847.

J. D. Howell is no longer lessee of the Corvallis opera house. He gave up his lease last week and Mr. J. S. Spencer, a resident of Lane county, who owns the property, has appointed Attorney E. E. Wilson to manage the business until other arrangements are perfected.

M. O. Wilkins and wife, with their household effects, left Corvallis Tuesday morning for Eugene, to permanently reside. Mr. Wilkins, in addition to his duties as official court reporter of this district, will continue the practice of law. The young barrister has plenty of force and determination and in his new field will doubtless meet with success.

Dr. E. P. Geary, of Marshfield, grand chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias, paid Valley lodge a fraternal visit last Monday evening. Dr. Geary is a member of a very prominent Oregon family. He is a son of the late Dr. Geary of Eugene; and has a brother holding a lieutenancy in the U. S. army, while another brother is a leading Albany physician.

Hon. Thos. H. Tongue, of Hillsboro, has accepted an invitation to lecture before the students of the agricultural college on Friday evening, February 21st. Mr. Tongue is one of the most eloquent orators in the state. He is an able attorney and prominent in public life. A cordial invitation is extended to the citizens to attend this lecture and the capacity of the college chapel, without doubt, will be taxed to its utmost.

The order of United Artizans have organized a lodge in this city and last week installed officers as follows: Master Artizan, Wm. Hartless; superintendent, C. H. Lee; secretary, Emma Thompson; treasurer, A. F. Peterson; senior conductor, Mrs. Miller; warden, Mrs. John S. Scrafford. The grand orator of the order is expected to deliver a lecture here soon with a view to increasing the local membership.

A bill that startled some of the brethren at the council meeting Monday night was one presented by ex Chief of Police Taylor, for \$147, claimed to be due on back salary. Taylor bases his claim upon the fact that the city reduced his salary by resolution instead of by ordinance. The claimant believes the reduction by resolution was illegal, and that he is entitled to \$50 per month until same was reduced by ordinance. The bill was referred to the finance committee.

A. W. Rose returned last week from an extended tour through the southern states and seems satisfied to remain in Oregon. He found hard times prevalent throughout most of the states he visited and in Georgia and Florida the people were anxious to sell their property with a view to moving to some other portion of the country.

R. M. Davison, state committeeman for Benton county, attended a called meeting of the state central committee last week at Portland. He says that reports from all over the state indicate that the republican ticket will receive a larger majority than two years ago. The committee, after deliberating some time over the matter, finally decided to hold the state convention on April 9th, being the same day the democratic state convention will be held. They recommend the holding of primaries on March 21st and county conventions on the following Saturday. The county central committee has not yet held a meeting, although it is the intention of the chairman, G. A. Waggoner, to call the members together in a few days, at which time the date for the holding of the county convention will be fixed.

Representative Hermann, during the last congress, succeeded in getting a bill passed appropriating the necessary money for making a complete survey of the Willamette river from Eugene to Portland. The survey was finished during the summer and since that time the engineers in charge of the work have been engaged in making estimates and plans for improving the river as provided in Mr. Hermann's bill. Recently Mr. Hermann had the war department telegraph to the Portland engineer to transmit the estimates for the new project. In his reply the engineer informed the department that the estimates had been completed and the sum recommended for the contemplated improvements amounts to \$131,667. This does not include \$69,000 estimated for improving the Yamhill river.

At the council meeting Monday night the question of a proposed reduction in the charges of water to private consumers came up for discussion. Upon a motion to instruct the city attorney to prepare an ordinance embodying such reduction in the rates, the vote resulted in a tie, there being but six members present. The motion was supported by Lee, Grefoux and Blaklee, and opposed by Flett, Samuels and Davis. Upon a tie vote being announced, the mayor cast his ballot with the supporters of the motion. Those who favor the reduction, claim the water company's rates are too high and that the power was granted the council under the charter to regulate the charges. It is said the water company will not submit to the proposed reduction without a fight. If the majority faction goes ahead with their proposition the matter is likely to get into the courts.

The devils have been driven from Corvallis. Yesterday was the beginning of "China New Year" and the pig-tailed boys celebrated with the usual din. The great fault of the Chinese plan lies in the fact that it only frightens away the devils and does not annihilate them. They hover around above the smoke and din, to increased virulence when the bombardment has ceased. Last year they were attacked with an explosion of powder that nearly drove the citizen from the town, and yet they managed during the balance of the year to get in as very effective work. Shooting strapes, suicides and failures furnished plenty of sensational news items. The Tse cloven-hoofed imps jumped astride the hop market and ruined it. They dug away at the grain price until it shrunk to starvation rates. They lay in the paths of several public men and caused them to stumble. They worked all their old tricks and invented several new ones. This year powder was scarce, the devils are many and the populists have their augers sharpened. The Chinese are earnest, but they fail to get at the root of things.

The public school children will observe the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln in one celebration, on Friday the 21st inst. Each of the departments will have appropriate literary exercises, in preparation for which the pupils have been rehearsing for some time. To these patriotic exercises the public, and especially the patrons of the school, are cordially invited. The matter of procuring a library for the school has been considered by Professor Pratt and his corps of assistants for some months but until now nothing has been accomplished. Mr. Pratt informed a GAZETTE representative that teachers had decided to ask for popular contributions in the way of books, magazines or such other reading matter as the public might feel disposed to donate. Of course money would be received, and economically expended in the purchase of such literature as the teachers might select. It is the intention to open a library in each department and an opportunity will be afforded Corvallisites to make their donations at any time. On the afternoon of the Washington Lincoln birthday exercises will be an excellent time to make a start, and it is to be hoped that upon that day the nucleus for a splendid library will be formed.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the county court will receive sealed bids up to 10 o'clock a. m., March 4th, 1896, to furnish 30 cords of old growth body red fir wood 4 feet long, and 50 cords of grub oak wood 4 feet long. To be delivered at court house in Corvallis between June 1st and Sept. 1st, 1896. The court reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

L. M. HUNTER, County Clerk. Dated this 5th day of February, 1896. Organ for Sale. A fine Estey, black walnut, cottage organ for sale at \$50. New. Cost \$150. Call at this office.

OREGON'S GOD-CHILD.

When the stately warship of the United States that bears the noble name of Oregon, takes her place in the Pacific squadron, Corvallis will have a live personal interest in her. This city will be represented in the testimonial that is going to be presented by patriotic minded citizens of Oregon to the white-winged defender of our national safety, whose god mother is the state in which we live.

The amount may not be large; the beginning is small, but still it is a beginning and gives the assurance that Corvallis will contribute something and have some part in the honor. As yet, no personal solicitations have been made, but when it was first announced that the local committeeman was ready to receive subscriptions, a big round, American silver dollar was placed in his hands. This first contributor was Judge John Barnett. Others have signified their intention of "following suit."

The children of the public schools took the matter up and, undismayed by a ponderous editorial in a local paper inveighing against the awfulness of such a project, they proudly gave as they could afford and Tuesday a purse of \$3 15 was turned over to the committee's representative as a token of the children's patriotism and of their interest in the development of our country's navy. Contributions were made by pupils in departments presided over by Prof. Pratt, Mrs. Nelms, Miss Turney, Miss Spencer and Miss Duncan. Miss Spencer's pupils, in the fifth grade, contributed the largest sum, they raising \$1.00, and Mr. Johnson, who is looking after the Corvallis end of the movement, is going to present a handsome picture of the "Oregon," to be hung in their room. So when the testimonial is presented, whether it be something for the officers and men to eat out of, to read, to look at, or to use, it will be something that Corvallis has an interest in and that Corvallis always will have an interest in. The subscription list is open and any contributions from 5 cents up may be left with B. W. Johnson, at the GAZETTE office.

AT THE PLAYHOUSE.

The Independence Amateur Dramatic Club made its second visit to this city, last Saturday, producing the popular literary play "American Born." The play is far from being suitable for amateurs. It is full of difficult situations and exciting climaxes. There is no sparkling dialogue to tickle the risibilities, nor depth of plot to hold the attention. It is essentially a play of stage pictures and tableaux, and these require the most skillful handling to be made effective.

We regret that the patronage was not better, for these friendly visits by organizations from sister cities merit our attention and encouragement. They are not money-making ventures, the desire being simply to make expenses.

Mr. Readick, as usual, was excellent. He portrays a part with such smoothness and delicacy that it is a pleasure to witness it.

Miss Cora Snell made a good impression in the part of "Mary Hope," one of those characters that even the very highest order of talent fails to make itself felt in, and, at the same time, one that requires delicate handling in order to be acceptable.

Also worthy of a word of praise is the manner in which Mr. W. H. Patterson treated the character of "Faggles." Mr. Patterson is free from that self-conscious, hopelessly-lost appearance so characteristic of amateurs, and plays his part quite professionally.

Other members of the cast were: Miss Freeman, W. P. Connaway, J. B. Morin, Frank Burch, Harry Hosler, L. A. Bailey, J. A. L. Myers and Ward Webber.

The Uncle Josh Spruceby company played to a fair house Tuesday evening. The band and orchestra forms the principal and the best part of the organization and the musical part of the program was first-class. The sawmill scene was realistic and greatly pleased the audience. The play was apparently constructed for the introduction of this scene. Part of the specialty work was very good. The gun manipulator struck the popular fancy. The "Hayseed" band paraded in the afternoon and gave an enjoyable street concert.

COLLEGE NOTES.

J. H. Gault left for his home in Hillsboro this week.

J. R. Cooley has returned after a short visit to his home at Cottage Grove.

There will be a students dance at the Opera House, Friday evening, Feb. 14. This will probably be the last dance given by the students this year. All students and members of the faculty are cordially invited to attend.

The court martial held at the college last Friday evening, was a very interesting affair. Owing to the fact that this is the first court martial held in the battalion, it was not as perfect in all the details as it might have been. Taken altogether, however, the boys did very well for beginners. Capt. F. E. Edwards officiated as judge advocate, and Capt. C. L. Owsley, as president of the board of examiners. The board was composed of the following officers: Capt. Clyde Phillips, Capt. Arthur Morrison; Lieutenants C. G. Porter, H. L. McAllister, Jos. Smith, C. R. Porter, H. M. Friendly, Arthur Buchanan, Lee Beall, H. W. Kelly. The result of the court martial has not been published.

The directors of school district No. 9 held a meeting last night at the office of Clerk Wilson. The several bids for furnishing wood to the district for the coming year were opened and the contract to furnish oak wood was awarded to W. A. Jolly at the price of \$2.25 per cord and to furnish fir wood to Durno Bros. & Bogus at \$2.10 per cord. After some informal business was transacted, the meeting adjourned.

A BELIEVER IN CREAMERIES.

E. E. Paddock, after spending several months among relatives in the east, is back in Oregon and is looking for a place in which to locate with a view to engaging in some mercantile pursuit. He says, if anything, times are better in Minnesota and Wisconsin than in Oregon. This he accounted for by the diversity of productions in that portion of the country in which he has been visiting. That section he says has developed wonderfully during the past few years. Land that sold for \$30 and \$40 per acre, five and six years ago has doubled in price.

Mr. Paddock spent several weeks in Otatana, Steele county, Minn., and it was there that he noticed the most improvement. The town had increased in population from 3,500 to 5,000 within the last five years. One of the principal industries is that of dairying. In Steele county there are now no less than fifteen or twenty creameries, which are conducted on the cooperative plan. Their output commands good prices, creamery butter seldom bringing less than twenty-five cents per pound. Stock and grain growing are also given attention by the farmers there, but there are very few indeed, who devote their energies exclusively to a single pursuit. That is what Mr. Paddock believes to be the trouble with many Oregon farmers today: They raise too much grain and too little of other products.

A few years ago in Steele county, Mr. Paddock says land was cheap and most of the farms were heavily encumbered, but those farmers who have diversified their interests, and especially those who have given considerable attention to dairying, are now mostly out of debt, and prosperous. In Otatana the two banks have deposits aggregating over \$600,000, more than one half of which belongs to well-to-do farmers in the neighborhood.

People will of course argue that the business of dairying can be overdone, but these are groundless fears. There ought to be at least fifty creameries in the Willamette valley, Mr. Paddock thinks. It would then be possible for Oregon dairy products to find an eastern market. There is no reason why Oregon butter should not command as high a price as that manufactured in the northwest. Good creamery butter is always in demand in Boston, New York and other eastern cities, and throughout the year sells readily at from 25 to 30 cents per pound. If the business was gone into quite generally, it would then be possible to market our dairy products in the far east in ear-load lots. Of course three thousand miles seems a long distance to ship butter, but we are marketing our fruit in the east, and there is no plausible reason why other commodities can not be disposed of there as profitably as prunes, plums, pears and cherries. Products that can not be disposed of in the local markets must be raised in sufficient quantities to permit of their shipment in car loads, otherwise the freight will eat up a large share of the profits.

In this connection Mr. Paddock spoke of the advantages that had accrued to shippers of green fruits during the past season in localities where large quantities were grown. This was practically illustrated in Corvallis last fall when the first car load of green fruit was shipped from this point. No single grower had the necessary ton tons of fruit for a car, and it was only after considerable solicitation that local growers were induced to form a pool and ship together and thus take advantage of rates offered on car-load lots. Had less fruit been grown, there would not have been a car load to market, and consequently no shipment would have been made from Corvallis. Thus it is plain to be seen that the more fruit grown in any locality the better will be the facilities afforded for shipping and marketing same; and what is true with regard to the fruit industry is also true of dairying.

Mr. Paddock says that the Willamette valley is naturally better adapted to stock raising and dairying than any portion of the east that he visited. Corn, clover, and the various grasses used for feed, grow more luxuriantly in Western Oregon than perhaps in any other locality in the United States, while the mild winters and cool summers of this section reduce the expense of carrying on the business to a minimum. When the Willamette valley turns its attention more to dairying, stockraising and fruitgrowing and less to grainraising, Mr. Paddock remarked, it will begin to prosper as never before and will eventually become one of the wealthiest and most populous sections of the United States.

THE JOB SALE.

Yesterday at one o'clock was the time fixed by Assignee Bryson for selling the really belonging to the insolvent estate of Hamilton, Job & Co., and a number of citizens were at the courthouse door at the appointed hour. From the large attendance, it was expected that the bidding would be quite spirited, but it turned out, unfortunately for the creditors of the estate, that with very few exceptions, the crowd was present merely out of curiosity. The Graham drugstore property was the first offered for sale, \$3,000 was the bid and it was made by R. E. Gibson. Banker Woodcock raised the amount to \$3,500. Gibson offered \$3,000 but failed to get the property. Mr. Woodcock's bid of \$3,615 being the successful one. The bank building and fixtures were next put up for sale. Some minutes elapsed before an offer could be obtained. Finally, however, L. G. Kline started the ball with an offer of \$5,000. W. H. Hartless bid \$6,000 and M. S. Woodcock followed with an offer of \$10,000, which was not increased, and the property was knocked down to him for the First National bank. J. N. Brandenberg was the successful bidder on the Cauthorn warehouse property, his offer being \$225 for the 31-60th interest owned by the bank. The other 29-60th interest in this property is owned by Banker Bush, of Salem.

Property in Job's and Wilkins' addition brought \$1,605. W. M. Ladd, the Portland banker, was the principal purchaser. Asa Alexander bought the five-acre tract below town for \$30, and R. E. Gibson bought the larger tract, containing about 13 acres, for \$22 an acre. The sale of the balance of the property was then postponed until the 1st day of April, 1896. A little over \$10,000 was realized from the sale.

Considering the financial depression the price obtained for the Graham corner is generally thought to be a fair figure. The bank building, however, brought considerably less than was expected and some are of the opinion that the sale will not be confirmed.

'T WAS ALWAYS THUS.

Some thirteen populists, a few spectators and an intense calmness, occupied the circuit court room of the court house last Saturday afternoon. The eventual object of the meeting was to elect delegates to the populist state convention, but the representatives of the cure-all party found themselves woefully handicapped from the very beginning.

The secretary of the county committee had unfortunately fallen into the wicked hands of some convivial democrats, and, becoming imbued with an over abundance of spiritual democracy, he was necessarily absent from the afternoon's deliberations. The Oregon Henry Watterson of his party, Mr. W. T. Hoffman, announced his selection, by some unrevealed power, as chairman of the county committee, and desired to know the names of the committeemen from the various precincts. He then took his seat and a golden, or perhaps in connection with populism, it better be said a greenbackish silence, arose from the tobacco-laden salava that frescoed the floor, and seized every man of them. But every emergency has its Napoleon, and from out the vasty depths of tranquillity there arose an auburn tinted delegate from the romantic shades of S-w-p creek, and in a voice trembling, probably with emotion, announced that the secretary had desired him to acquaint his fellow embryo statesmen with the direful news that all the records and documents of the Benton county end of the party were lost, strayed or stolen.

It is said that Ben Woldt discovered on that day, among the litter in his back yard, some fugitive papers that bore populist names and figures, together with some democratic doctrine that did not set well on a populist stomach. It was a condition, however, not a theory, that the convention had to face. A vain appeal was made to the memory of the delegates and then it was decided to appoint new committeemen. Several precincts had to be left unrepresented as those present were unable to recall any populists in such localities upon whom the honor might be bestowed. Those selected were: Willamette, Riley Logan; Fairmount, C. Skeels; Snap Creek, C. M. Vanderpool; Monroe, James Calvert; Philomath, G. A. Robinson; Alesia, W. G. Sharp; Summit, M. R. Savage; Kings Valley, Perry Eddy.

The convention, rolling up its sleeves, then proceeded to elect four delegates to represent Benton county at the state convention. The chairman of the assembly, Mr. Skeels, was first nominated. Possessing no mock modesty, he put the motion himself, called for ayes and nays, and declared himself elected. The invincible Felix Dodola then nominated Richard Calloway, in a ringing speech that brought the janitor out of the basement. Mr. Calloway was unanimously elected. Then some of the delegates began to question the gentleman's devotion to the party. It was asserted that he was true blue and although a recent convert, he had all the ics and isms at his finger tips. However, in the interest of harmony, but without withdrawing his name or reconsidering the vote, the convention selected C. M. Vanderpool in his place. The selection of Major Bruce completed the quartette, which is supposed to support the populist poet laureate, W. T. Hoffman, as congressman from this district. No one seemed to know where the state convention was to be held, nor when, but the gentlemen elected announced their readiness to go whenever duty might call them. The convention decided that their primaries should be held the first Saturday in March and the convention the Saturday following.

The convention was marked by the most decorous conduct. There was no cheering, no applauding, no exhilarating speeches. Not the slightest evidence of enthusiasm marred the dull placidity of the proceedings. All remarks were made in feeble, apologetic tones, and a funeral service would be a lively event compared with Saturday's staid meeting.

OUR LOCAL HORTICULTURISTS.

On July 14th next the State Horticultural Society will hold its semi-annual meeting. At the Portland meeting it was tacitly agreed to hold the July meeting at Corvallis, but the final decision of the executive committee may favor some other locality. One chief factor in determining the place of meeting will be the local membership. At present there is a disposition to hold the meeting at Salem, because the local membership there is much larger than here.

There is no question that much benefit is derived from the meetings of the society and our local fruit growers remember with pleasure and a sense of profit the last meeting held here. Shall the next meeting be held here? That depends on your interest in the matter. If you want a score or more of the foremost horticulturists of the state to meet here and give you the benefit of their years of experience, then become at once an active member of the society and use your voice and influence to get other persons to do likewise.

The membership fee is only \$1.00 per year and the society expects to publish at the close of the year a report, full of interesting information to the fruit growers, gardeners and florists, both amateur and professional. This report will be free to members only.

Remember, the society is an organization of horticulturists, working for the advancement, in every legitimate way, of Oregon's horticulture. It knows no politics; no religion, save the upbuilding in all its varied branches of Oregon's horticulture.

Are you enrolled among its working members? If not, why not? Is not the cause a good one? Will you not assist in building up this organization, and through it, that greatest of agricultural interests—our fruit industry? E. R. LARK. (Persons so disposed can deposit their admission fee and receive a receipt for same at this office.)

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