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Coos Bay Times

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWS

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MRS. J. L. BOWMAN DIED OF PTOMAIN POISONING TUESDAY

Mrs. J. L. Bowman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anson Rogers of Coos River, and well-known here, where she was born and raised, died last night at her home in Irvington of ptomaine poisoning.

This news was contained in a brief telegram from Mr. Bowman to Dan Keating, acting manager of the Marshfield Woolen Mill store.

Irvington is a Portland suburb and Mr. and Mrs. Bowman made their home there.

Owing to the telephone wires up Coos River being down this morning Mr. and Mrs. Rogers could not be immediately apprised of their daughter's death.

Mrs. Lydia Bowman was the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rogers. Mrs. Alice Eldridge, a sister, resides at Mt. Taber, a Portland suburb. Anson Otis Rogers Jr., resides on the home ranch on Coos River.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowman had three children, the two oldest girls and the youngest a boy only a little over a year old.

The news came as a great shock to the Bay and everywhere there were expressions of sympathy for the bereaved husband and children and Rogers family. Mrs. Rogers was held in the highest esteem by the older residents of the Bay who knew her from girlhood.

TO ASK PAY FOR VACATION

A petition is being circulated among the Marshfield school teachers asking the school board to allow the teachers pay for the two weeks vacation during the Christmas holidays. It is understood that most of the teachers are signing it and that it will be presented in a day or two.

The teachers contend that as their expenses went on during the holidays the same as though school was in session, they should be reimbursed for their time. It is also understood that they will endeavor to show that many other towns and cities are allowing the teachers pay during the vacations of the school year, at least. M. C. Horton, a member of the Marshfield school board, said this morning that he had not been apprised of such a petition. He intimated that as a member of the board he would oppose granting it.

LAND CONTEST IS HEARD HERE

Before United States Commissioner Ch. B. Selby today, the government contest of R. C. Cordes' homestead in the Sand Hills is being heard. Special Agent McGowan is here representing the government and he and the government contends that Mr. Cordes has not lived on the claim as the homestead laws provide he should.

Two other Sand Hill claims are being contested on the same grounds, they being those of Chas. E. Nicholson and Chas. Stauff. The latter two will probably be heard tomorrow or next day. The hearing here is to secure the evidence of the claimants as to their actual residence on the homesteads and what they have done towards complying with the homestead laws.

HOT SPRINGS ALLEGED FRAUD

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18.—That Collins Hot Springs, a health resort up the Columbia, which draws most of its patronage from Portland, is a fraud and that the water is only lukewarm and has been artificially heated by a cunningly-devised heating arrangement which has remained undetected and unsuspected for years, was charged by the owner of the property, Fred A. Young, in a suit filed with the State Circuit court. Mr. Young accuses Captain C. T. Belcher, for years owner of the place, of having practised fraud and deception not only upon the public but in effecting the sale of the property.

Young bought the place less than five months ago, paying \$52,000. He paid Captain Belcher \$52,500 for the buildings and fixtures and the O. R. & N. company \$40,000 for the land, which heretofore had been merely leased.

While negotiating for the place, Young charges, Belcher assured him the mineral water sustained a normal heat of 118 degrees Fahrenheit. Belcher showed him the springs and the large feed pipe which carried the hot water to the bathing tank. Young says he felt the feed tank and found it very hot, but this fact, rather than arousing his suspicions, served to reassure him at the time. The sum of \$55,000 was asked by Belcher, but Young finally drove a shrewder bargain and got the place for \$52,500. He took immediate possession and prepared to open a health resort on a big scale.

Unexpectedly the temperature began falling off from his springs. This struck him as unusual, for he says Belcher had represented to him that all the heat was supplied by nature and that the water never dropped below the 118 point. He began an in-

WIRE IS DOWN AGAIN TODAY

The storm last night did not put the Western Union out of business, much to the general surprise. However, other troubles came up and after an hour or two this morning, the telegraph wire and the telephone wires got across between here and Sumner and put the Western Union out of commission. Linemen were sent out to eliminate the trouble and will probably do so sometime this afternoon.

Investigation and then found that his bargain had been something in the nature of a J. Rufus Wallingford romance.

Examining the supply pipe running from the springs to the bathing tank, he says, he found that a smaller pipe was secreted inside for the purpose of carrying a jet of steam from the heating plant. This was the secret of the hot springs.

So now the new owner charges that the property is not worth a cent more than \$12,500 and in his suit he asks judgment against Belcher for \$40,000 on that score.

- AIR SHIPS TO CARRY LIGHTS. California Legislature for Aerial Traffic. SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 18.—A bill to regulate aerial traffic has been introduced in the legislature by Assemblyman Fitzgerald for the Pacific Aero club. The bill, in addition to requiring licenses and insuring aviators against damage suits, provides that each aeroplane must carry at least nine lights. Fitzgerald wanted it sent to the committee on navigation, but it went to the judiciary.

Among the Lawmakers At Oregon's Capital

TO CHANGE SYSTEM.

Want County Treasurer Instead of Sheriff to Collect Taxes.

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 17.—Taking the collection of taxes from the hands of the Sheriff, and placing this work with the County Treasurer, is the purpose of a measure introduced by Senator C. A. Barrett of Umatilla. He explains that Oregon is one of the few states where sheriffs collect taxes instead of the County Treasurer. Barrett says he wants the tax-collecting placed where it belongs. Along the same line is another bill by the same senator by means of which he wishes to provide that county funds in the hands of a county treasurer may be deposited in national or state banks, as is the present rule with state funds.

PETITION SIGNING CHECKED.

Bill Aims to Prevent Voters From Affixing Names Promiscuously.

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 17.—Promiscuous signing of initiative and referendum measures, unless the voter understands their provisions, will be prevented by a bill introduced by Representative Clemens, if it is enacted. This measure provides that before any voter can sign an initiative or a referendum petition he must subscribe to the following statement:

"I hereby declare that before signing this petition I have carefully read all of the above described (Senate bill, House bill, proposed law, amendment to constitution, city charter, ordinance or other measure, as the case may be), or the whole has been read to me in an intelligible manner; that I believe I fairly understand the same, and my attention was called to this declaration."

CHASE HAS SCHEME.

Portland Paper Gives Views of Senator's Bath Tub Plan.

The Portland Oregonian says: "If the views of State Senator Chase of Coos find expression in law through the enactment of the bill which he has in process of incubation, bathtubs will be installed in the public

schoolhouses of the state—or specifically in the cities—in rooms furnished with soap, towels and antiseptic lotions, fine-tooth combs, etc., and use of these appliances will be made compulsory upon the unkempt, uncombed and unwashed, as a passport of the educational privileges of the schools. This will necessarily mean the employment of bath attendants, welders of the hairbrush and fine-tooth comb, caretakers of towels and additional police duty on the part of teachers, much of whose time and energy are already employed in detective service. Incidentally it will add a mill or so to the annual levy for school purposes, since, though these baths will be nominally "free," the fact remains that they must be paid for by the all-enduring taxpayer.

"Now, really, has not this thing of relieving parents from all responsibility for the common welfare of their children gone quite far enough? While filthy, vermin-infested, germ-laden children should not be admitted into classes in the public schools, their parents—let us say their mothers—should be made cognizant of the fact that precedent to such admission her children must be cleaned up and as a requisite for remaining in school must be kept clean. An intelligent, comprehensive, compulsory education law will do the rest.

The public schools are primarily for the children of the proletariat. It does not follow, however, that these children should be dumped pell-mell upon the schools in utter disregard of that first principle of civilization—personal cleanliness. There is often, though not always, a valid excuse for poverty. For filth in a city like Portland, where there is no congestion of population and where there is an abundance of water, there is none whatever. A wise and stringent compulsory education law, supplemented by regulations stipulating that children shall be sent to school with clean bodies clad in reasonably clean clothes, clean faces and hands and clean, decently-combed hair, will settle this matter. This is the parents' part in the education of their children—the part delegated to them by Nature when children were born to them."

LITTLE DAMAGE FROM STORM

Aside from a few broken panes of glass, no damage was done by last night's storm which was one of the worst that Coos Bay has experienced in a long time. The squall lasted all night and this morning and the fitful gusts made many buildings shake. Considerable rain fell during the night.

It is presumed that this is the storm that has been raging along the Northern California coast. Today the Coos Bay bar was not unusually rough but it was blowing a perfect gale outside.

The Nann Smith went down the Bay at noon, but it is not known whether she will be able to cross out.

The Breakwater is due to leave Astoria today but if the storm is as bad off there as it is off Coos Bay, it is doubtful if Captain Macgonn will cross out.

TO REBUILD MESSINA.

Quake Stricken City to be Rebuilt More Durable.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

MESSINA, Sicily, Jan. 17.—The rebuilding of Messina in durable masonry was inaugurated when the cornerstone of a group of public buildings to be erected by the city was laid.

Sealshipt Eastern Bulk OYSTERS will arrive on Breakwater. Phone 32. The Bazar.

Read the Times Want Ads.

FRESHETS HERE NOT BAD YET

Despite the heavy rain here yesterday, the freshets are not nearly as bad today as were anticipated. It is stated that the fact that it has been quite cool until this morning and that the storm was snow instead of rain in the mountains at the headquarters of the various streams is responsible for the escape from the freshet today.

Today, neither fork of Coos River was flooding much. Isthmus Inlet is up considerably.

Supt. W. F. Miller of the local railway reported that at Myrtle Point there had been a five-foot rise in the Coquille this morning but that the water was not high enough yet to interfere with the railway. This afternoon's trains got through all right and unless conditions become much worse than are now apprehended, Mr. Miller does not believe service will be interrupted.

From September 1, 1910, to 4:43 o'clock this morning, January 18, the total rainfall on Coos Bay, according to the government records kept by Mrs. E. Mingus was 35.09 inches. This is 2.01 inches greater than the average rainfall of the same period for the past nine years.

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NARROWLY ESCAPE DROWNING WHEN BOAT IS SWAMPED

Six employes of the C. A. Smith mill had a narrow escape from drowning Monday night as a result of a small rowboat in which they were crossing Isthmus Inlet, swamping with them. All had to swim for it and had it not been for the valiant efforts of Foreman Geo. Rourke assisted by Dan Kennedy, a boom man, one employe named Griffith would undoubtedly have been drowned.

At the conclusion of the afternoon's work, Foreman George Rourke, Wm. Murphy, August Isaacson, Larry Liljebo and Messrs. Churchill and Griffith started across on the ferry. A raft of logs was in

the way and they had to transfer to a rowboat. Too many got in and the boat swamped when part way across.

All could swim pretty well except Griffith and for a moment or two it looked as though he could not be saved. However, Mr. Rourke who is a good swimmer got hold of him and succeeded in keeping him afloat until other aid was secured.

Some of the others were having difficulty on account of their heavy clothing but Dan Kennedy, one of the boom men, who happened to be near, saw them in time to come to their rescue and help them get up on the raft.

ABOUT WOODEN BLOCK PAVING

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 12, '11. Editor Coos Bay Times:

As I take for granted that the people of Marshfield like any new progressive community are all the time interested in the problems which so vitally concerns the building up of your city, I take the liberty to again impose upon your good nature in regard to paving. A year or more ago I urged upon your City Council, through the columns of The Times and privately, to lay wooden block paving instead of the asphalt. It was however thought best to continue to lay the asphalt, or whatever it may be called. It is a peculiar fact that most communities will go through this same experimenting regardless of the experience of other cities. At that time I called the attention to experiments in Chicago, cited by the government in a pamphlet issued by the Forestry Department, which demonstrated beyond a question of a doubt that the wooden block paving was the most satisfactory. I also cited that the wooden block paving had been used for the last fifty years and is still being used very extensively in the larger cities of Europe like London, Paris and many other cities.

On December 29th I wrote Andrew Rinker, City Engineer of this city, "If not too much trouble will you kindly advise the number of square yards of each individual kind of pavement laid in this city per year during the last five years and also cost of the same."

To which I am in receipt of the following information giving tabulated statement for each year, but for the purpose of saving space I will group and give thousands of yards only, for the years 1906, 1907, 1908 and 1909 only, the number of yards but not the cost being given for 1910.

- Asphalt, resurfacing only 111000 Sq. Yds., average cost \$1.50 per yard.
- Brick, 66000 Sq. Yds., average cost \$2.20 per Sq. Yard.
- Granite Blocks, 24000 Sq. Yds., average cost \$1.75 per Sq. Yd.
- Sandstone, 48000 Sq. Yds., average cost \$2.26 per Sq. Yd.
- Macadam, 101000 Sq. Yds., average cost \$1.13 per Sq. Yd.
- Cresosoted Wooden Blocks, 471000 Sq. Yds., average cost \$2.48 per Sq. Yd.

Eliminating the asphalt resurfacing and the macadam, the total paving for the five years is 801000 square yards of which 627,000, or 78% is cresosoted wooden blocks costing as above \$2.48 per square yard, or considerably more than either brick, sandstone or granite. It certainly does seem too bad that the city of Marshfield does not take advantage of the opportunity of securing absolutely the best pavement which can be laid. Can it be that it is too cheap? It was not until the price for lumber for paving in this city got up to \$20 and over that our City Fathers discovered that the wooden block paving after all was the best paving. Can it be that your City Fathers are unable to make the

TREE BREAKS GAS PIPELINE

This afternoon a tree fell across the gas pipeline at Ferndale, shutting off the gas supply.

In consequence, The Times' linotype machine was put out of business and much news could not be set.

same discovery until wooden block paving becomes as valuable or more so than the other kinds?

In talking with some of your people, my attention was called to the fact that wooden block paving in the eastern cities as it was laid twenty years or more ago in the shape of round white cedar blocks on two inch common plank had become unpopular which statement was absolutely true. Such pavement being laid as a make-shift only on account of its extreme cheapness. Its life in reality being only six or eight years, the blocks being round, cut from small trees, leaving openings between them and the wood being exceedingly soft and the sappy part decaying very quickly which also of course was the case with the two-inch planking underneath. You, very fortunately, have a kind of wood which no other district of our country has, namely the Port Orford Cedar, which is close grained, firm and withstands decay almost indefinitely and for that reason is especially suited for a foundation; and I believe would last for that purpose almost indefinitely. Then I do believe that the cedar blocks which have the peculiarity of toughening and hardening by exposure, which is demonstrated where it is being used for wharfs and bridges, would last for a great many years, where the traffic is as light as it is in your streets and probably will be. The fir blocks without treatment would last indefinitely as far as wear is concerned, but will of course in time decay. If however, these blocks are selected, eliminating the sap, I believe they will last without treatment for a great many years, and would of course make your cheapest pavement as far as original cost is concerned, and I am not sure but probably, considering the first cost and interest, the cheapest in the end. Think the experience of the larger cities all over our country, as well as in Europe, in using wooden blocks where lumber is so very much higher than it is with you, it does seem preposterous that you will permit the laying of a single yard of any other pavement.

Yours very truly,

C. A. SMITH.

HUME ESTATE OPTION.

Keasey, Huminson, Jeffery, a real-estate concern of Portland, have secured an option on the Hume estate at Wedderburn. Mr. Huminson is expected in a few days when the deal will probably be closed. It is the intention of the company to put the tract on the market.—Lakeport Banner.