

The Gold Hill News

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CITY OF GOLD HILL, OREGON

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SHALL WE PAY OFF OUR \$8600.00 DEBTS?

Instead of finding that Gold Hill has been operating on an indebtedness allowance of \$1500.00 according to charter limitations, the fact is that the first of the year found the records of the City Council showing about \$8600.00 in the red instead of the supposed-to-be-limit-of-\$1500.00.

Does that condition spell improvement, Hardly. It does not look like very many street, water, sewer or park improvements for the town for a long time to come. Is there any way you tax payers can figure out how the present and new council is going to pay that debt when the only income that is accessible is the incoming taxes receivable next fall? The income from the sale of water by the city is hardly enough to meet the expense of that department and the receivable taxes amount to about \$2500 estimated to be just sufficient to operate the city for one year. We hear much talk about "how he or she or I would run the city if I was doing it" and now, since this is your city it is up to You To Run It and here is hoping you can find a solution of paying off this debt without raising taxes any higher.

It probably is news to many people here to know that the taxes in Gold Hill are so much lower than most of the towns in the county that they seem like nothing compared to some others. Gold Hill's tax percentage for the coming year, according to Tax Assessor at Jacksonville, is very low and to raise an amount sufficient to take care of the cash indebtedness divided into three equal amounts or over a period of three years would make the taxes in Gold Hill second from the bottom of the list in this county with about 61 mills. While none of us like to increase our taxes, we surely must do something before the next taxes come in to take care of this debt. You citizens may not have figured what that debt means, but if you will figure up the interest at 8% on \$8600.00 you will understand what the council had to pay out in the way of interest the first of the year on this debt. Had these debts been paid by the administrations that incurred them the present council would have been able to spend between five hundred and seven hundred dollars on the streets this spring.

The big question now is, "shall we call a special election and vote an additional tax levy to cover this shortage? Will you tax payers of Gold Hill vote such an increase in the taxes? If not then will you please attend the council meetings and tell the city dads how to raise the money to pay off the debts.

THE INCREASING OF POSTAL RATES

There is a measure of irony in efforts of the railroads to obtain from the government more money for carrying the mails and their ingenious attempts to enlist the favorable attitude on the part of the newspapers toward the project. As a fact, whenever there is a raise in the cost of handling the mails the burden always is placed on the back of the newspapers. This was exemplified quite recently when the newspapers having fought for a higher wage for the Postal employees were rewarded by having the increased expenditure passed on to them for payment in higher rates of newspaper transportation.

In the case of the postal employees of course there was a legitimate reason for the raise even though it did involve sacrifice on the part of the publishers but when the railroads step out for demands for a higher rate for transporting publications then it is time to call a halt.

We wonder how the public would feel if it had to meet the requirements for postal service demanded of the publishers who deliver their bundles to the cars, each bundle separated to reach the different zones, put the bundles in the cars at their own expense and have them picked up by their dealers at the points of destination. As a fact the Post Office department has practically no cost of handling, other than what it pays to the railroads.

The government charges are in excess of \$1.70 per hundred pounds for a haulage of 150 miles for newspapers whereas railroads and other carriers competing for similar shipments offer rates ranging from 30 cents to 90 cents per hundred pounds for the same distance.

The cost of newspaper transportation is already excessive. It has reached that point where if it be increased it is likely to effect the public. Surely it is time this exploitation of the press by the government came to a stop.

IF WE CAN'T DRIVE 'EM OUT, BUY 'EM OUT

To the Knocker, let us say that the time is here when they can sell out the property they hold in the town where they are so dissatisfied. If anyone don't like Gold Hill or what's in Gold Hill the best thing they can do is sell out and leave the cursed community. To the booster we can say, now is your chance to buy out the knocker and when they are gone Gold Hill will have a chance to go-ahead and we will all prosper. Let us all resolve to dispose of the fault finders at any cost. Twice their price is cheap ridance of our most expensive element.

Millionaire Mine Case Near End

The long drawn out struggle to clear up the difficulties at the Millionaire mine which has been under prosecution in the Circuit Court at Jacksonville under Judge Evans for the past couple of weeks is about at an end. The final pleading was handed in to the Judge by Attorneys Borden & Gaylord on the 26th of this month.

Thursday, the 21st J.M. Lively and C.A. Olson, of the smelter company and leasers of the mine, S.E. Heberling, former General Manager of the Millionaire company who filed the receivership on the property with attorney Geo. Roberts met Chas. Knight, former president of the mine and Robert Lightbody, former superintendent of the mine with their attorneys Borden and Gaylord at the Court House to present final evidence to prove or disprove their several claims. One of the outstanding events of this meeting was evidence that someone has tampered with the records of the corporation since same were turned over to the receiver and forgery was claimed by Heberling when he identified some of the records pointing out that words had been added to original entries by showing that a different kind of ink was used and part of the writing was very old and part very new.

Just what weight the evidence of changed records will have on the final settlement is only guess work.

In the afternoon after the hearing above, Attorney Gaylord visited the mine and returned to Medford with Chas. Knight's belongings, it is reported, after which we understand Mr. Knight left for the east to attend to matters of other business.

Robt Lightbody is also reported to have sold off his cow and some other effects and to have driven to California for a visit with relatives. The leaving of the principles in the defence seems to indicate that the case is ended and is now up to the judge.

It is believed the property will be sold to satisfy the demands of creditors including the claims of the County for taxes in the amount to date of about, \$2700.00. Court costs around \$2500.00. A mortgage held by Mrs. C. A. Olson at \$4000.00. C.O.P. power bills of \$1500.00 and M. S. Johnson of Gold Hill at \$800.00.

Other items to be settled by the Court include Wages to Heberling at \$18,000.00. Wages to Lightbody and wife at \$10,000.00 and a claim by Chas. Knight of \$30,000.00.

Apex Mine Is Getting Ready

The Apex Mine is driving ahead daily to a more successful future. Eleven men are now on the pay roll getting mine and mill in readiness for continuous operation and will be in full operation extracting gold from the bowels of the earth in the near future. This mine has had a great deal to do with the revival of mining interest in Oregon and since the men interested are mostly all residents of Portland the long practice of Oregonians passing up Oregon investments in mining has taken a change for the better and other Oregonians are awakening to the fact that Oregon is the richest State in the Union in resources and one of the best and safest places to invest their money.

Bear Hunter Is Visitor Here

Another of the old-timers returned to Gold Hill. They always come back. Purl Bean, well remembered as a prospector and hunter in practically all parts of Southern Oregon in days gone by, spent the past two weeks with his wife and family at the Brown place in the Dardennelle district where the elder Brown passed away the other day. Mrs. Bean was a daughter of Grandpa Brown and a sister of Mrs. Emmet Sutton of Gold Hill at whose home the Beans also visited while here. They returned to their residence at Kirby Thursday of this week.

C. A. Olson, who for several days has been attending to matters of business at Eugene and other points in northern Oregon, returned to Gold Hill Sunday.

John Steelman Passed Away

John W. Steelman, one of the few remaining members of the local G. A. R. and a well remembered citizen of this part of the state who for some time has been confined to his home here with pneumonia, passed away at 12:50 today, quietly, with his friends and wife with him at the time. He was born in Springfield, Ohio, February 7, 1842, and died January 28, 1926 aged 84 years, 11 months and 20 days. Funeral services have been announced to be conducted by the G. A. R. at the Rock Point Cemetery at 2:30 o'clock Saturday, January 30, 1926.

Old Pioneer Dies At Dardenelles

DIED—John Sanford Brown, passed away at his home, two miles south of Gold Hill, Thursday afternoon after a short illness. The deceased was born in Missouri, October 3, 1846 and was 79 years 3 months and 18 days old. He came to Oregon when he was about 3 years of age and has lived in various parts of the state ever since. He has made his home near Gold Hill for the past 19 years. He leaves to mourn his loss four children: Mrs. Carry E. Sutton, J. F. Brown, Mrs. Etta M. Bean, and Mrs. Ethel T. Stanley; also 25 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Rock Point Cemetery last Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Tony Ross, a member of the City Water and Light Committee, has spent several days at Salem where he has been following the Councils policy of straightening out the affairs of the City of Gold Hill. He has been clearing up bits of inefficiency in the records pertaining to the City's water rights at the pump and power plant on Rogue River here.

Doc Ray Passed Away at Los A.

Word was received here this week of the sudden death of Doc. Charles R. Ray, for many years a prominent resident of this county and recognized as representing the largest holdings of real estate under

one name in this part of the state. Doc Ray, who for some months has been in New York where his brother Col. Frank H. Ray died April 11 1925 and was enroute to Medford when he was taken sick with pneumonia near Los Angeles and died January 26th. At the time of his death his son Frank and Frank's wife were with him.

WHITE ENAMEL WARE AT LESS Than COST

Here is just what saving housewives have been looking for—a chance to get a full set of White Enamel Kitchen Ware at a price never before known in Gold Hill and not likely to be possible again. While the stock lasts—at less than our cost price,—

OVAL DISH PANS 12 QUART PAIRS
SEVEN SIZES HANDLED SAUCE PANS
DOUBLE BOILERS WITH LIDS
PRESERVING KETTLES

The Oval Dish Pans fit right down in your sink and one of the most useful articles in a modern kitchen. Every home should have one. Remember—sale at less than cost!

DON'T FORGET OUR FREE ALUMINUM

Gold Hill
Hardware & Imp. Co.

Smith's home always looks so cheerful

But there is a big house next door to Smith's that no one ever stops to admire.

Its windows are always dark. The porch light seldom shows a welcome. The windows along the side give back spooky reflections from the street light on the corner.

B-r-r-h!

Switch on the lights!

With electricity so plentiful, so convenient and so reasonable, why shouldn't anyone enjoy plenty of light?

Electricity is the cheapest service you can buy.

THE CALIFORNIA OREGON POWER COMPANY



Medford, Oregon
Roseburg, Oregon
Grants Pass, Oregon
Klamath Falls, Oregon
Yreka, Calif.
Dunsmuir, Calif.