



### JAMES KEANE COMING.

Excellent Organization to be in Corvallis Three Nights.

At the Corvallis Opera House next Monday night James Keane, a popular young Eastern actor, who has been meeting with great success in the West this season, will inaugurate a three-nights' engagement. Mr. Keane comes to Corvallis with an enviable reputation and a list of new plays. The opening bill will be "The King of Rogues or Sherlock Holmes," a dramatization of one of Sir Conan Doyle's famous detective stories and a play that has a remarkably successful run in all the large Eastern cities. The scene of acting in "Sherlock Holmes" is laid in London and the story deals with the many thrilling adventures of "Sherlock Holmes," a famous detective who is in pursuit of a noted crook. The piece is replete with exciting scenes and thrilling climaxes and the scenic effects are said to be quite elaborate. Mr. Keane will appear in the title role. One of the most pleasing features of this play is the fact that each member of the cast has a most excellent part. Mr. Keane has surrounded himself with an exceptionally strong supporting company and some splendid performances may be looked forward to.

The second play will be, "What Happened to Jones," a comedy of world-wide reputation and more than the usual amount of interest will be shown in this play as it was rendered here some time ago by local talent, who will no doubt be eager to compare their performance with a professional aggregation.

Mr. Keane will offer for his closing bill his own dramatization of Robert Louis Stevenson's wonderful story "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." This piece while weird, uncanny and gruesome in many respects, is an intensely fascinating one and always proves a great drawing card. High class vaudeville specialties will be introduced between the acts. The specialties will be changed each night with the play. Popular prices will prevail. Reserved seats at Graham & Wortham's drug store.

### Much Good Work Done.

The Village Improvement Society has done a vast amount of good since its organization for the upbuilding and improvement of Corvallis. Since its organization it has caused many unsightly places to be cleaned up and has also had much to do with interesting residents in cleaning up yards, trimming ragged hedges, fixing up torn down fences, sidewalks, etc. There has been such a great improvement in Corvallis during the past two years, that it is at once noticeable to former residents and visitors when they arrive in the city now. Corvallis has come to an awakening, as it were, of her own importance, and especially to the fact that she must keep a neat, attractive appearance, and always put the best foot forward, if the best class of settlers and citizens are to be induced to come here and remain.

This society deserves much credit for its part in bringing about these new conditions, as it has taken the lead in new improvements and beautifying the ugly places about town. Among other improvements the society has made on its own account, is the filling of the bad mud holes around the C. & E. depot. This week two carloads of gravel were shipped in and workmen employed to unload it into the mud holes in the street leading to the C. & E. depot, which has put the streets at that place in pretty good condition. Such improvement as this is what gives visitors a good impression of our city

when they first step from the trains, but it is really the duty of the two railway companies to keep up such places on their property, not altogether the duty of a private society.

### Philomath Notes.

Rev. W. F. Caldwell arrived yesterday from Waverly, Washington, for a visit with his brother, President Caldwell.

J. L. Tanblaricon is remodeling his residence and when completed it will be one of the most desirable homes in the city.

The Bowman property just east of town was sold last week by Henry Ambler to J. P. Hammer. The price paid was \$400.

J. E. Henkle has on display an elegant line of Christmas presents. It is without doubt the finest line ever seen in Philomath.

The Mark Burnap property about four miles southwest, was purchased last week by Fred Seemit. Henry Ambler made the sale.

The school entertainment given by the public school pupils in the I. O. O. F. hall Saturday night was very successful. The net receipts were \$29.50

Scott & Pugsley have just completed the enlargement of their store room, and have added several new lines to their stock, among them is a handsome line of house furnishings.

S. W. Gibbons is to be congratulated upon the neat and attractive appearance of his butcher shop in its new location. It is the neatest shop that Philomath has ever had and is equal to the best in the county.

Another matter of some importance was discussed and action thereon postponed indefinitely. It was the electric light franchise that was to have been rushed through. The franchise that was to have been properly drawn up and presented, was not handed in and no representative of the company put in appearance, so the council did the only thing to be done in postponing action of any kind.

The city council met in session Monday night with Mayor Henry Ambler in the chair and all but one of the councilmen present. The matter of importance that called the body together in extra session concerned the tax levy for city expenses for next year. The matter was brought over from the last regular session, owing to the fact that the budget could not be made up from the incomplete reports of the year's work sent in by some of the officers. The value of all assessable property in the city is \$87,500 and the levy was fixed at seven mills. The city's assessment last year was not sufficient to meet expenses and as a consequence there is a debt of \$159 that must be made up next year. The amount of money accruing from this and other sources will be sufficient, it is thought, to cover all expenses.

### Sudden Death.

Seymour Chipman, 72 years of age, died suddenly at his home in this city at 2:45 yesterday afternoon just as we were going to press. He was taken ill last Monday with heart disease.

Deceased leaves a wife and five children. He was a prominent member of the Masonic order in this city and Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters of the state; also a G. A. R. member of high standing.

### Real Estate Transfers.

Eli S King and wife to D H Garrison et al, 210 acres near Corvallis; \$6000.

J J York and Wite to R N Williamson et al, land near Wells; \$6500.

### COLLEGE JOTTINGS.

Items of Interest In and Around the O. A. C.

Students are all studying hard this week, dreading exams.

Elmer Wills, formerly an OAC student, is the guest of his brother, Rube, this week.

Miss Pauline Davis has been unable to attend classes this week on account of illness.

Rev. Bush, of the Presbyterian church, led the devotional exercises at chapel Wednesday morning.

Students who are not taking the Barometer, should subscribe for it; as there are to be some fine pictures in the next issue.

The Feronian and Zetagean literary societies are planning a joint meeting for Saturday night. There is sure to be an interesting program.

Prof. Lake resumed his duties at the College, Monday morning after an extended trip to Victoria, B. C. The students were all glad to see him back in his old place.

Prof. and Mrs. Trine, Marion Stokes and Claude Swann will accompany the girls basket ball team, which leaves today for Cottage Grove and Roseburg, where they have games.

The Physical Culture class gave an exhibition of the term's work in the Armory Thursday afternoon. There were a number of visitors in the gallery and the girls did credit to their teacher, Miss Crawford, and themselves.

Edna Smith is on crutches this week from the result of a severe ankle sprain, received while practicing basket ball Monday evening. It is feared she will not be able to take part in the games tonight and tomorrow night, which will greatly weaken the team.

A fair sized crowd attended the recital given by the pupils of the Piano Department in the college chapel Wednesday evening. All the numbers were very good, the program lasting an hour and all felt well repaid for braving the wind and rain to hear it.

### New Steamer for Yaquina.

John Marshall and associates, of Portland, have purchased the steamers and business of the Western Transportation company, operating on Yaquina bay and will hereafter run the steamer line between Newport and Yaquina on the bay, connecting with the Corvallis & Eastern trains. Mr. Marshall, a former engineer on the Columbia river and a man of means, has associated with him in this venture several people of means and the plans of the company include the bettering of the service and its extension. The steamer T. M. Richardson, which for a number of years has been on the run between Yaquina and Newport, is included in the deal, and this steamer will run for the present as of old. The new company will also bring a large steam launch into the bay and operate it when the traffic is sufficiently light to make this advisable. But the best improvement contemplated is the building of a new steamer to take the place of the Richardson on the summer run. A large steamer, strong and absolutely safe and seaworthy will be constructed, one that can handle the growing summer excursion business with ease and without crowding, and this will take the place of the old Richardson, that has been on the run so long, and was getting somewhat light for the rapidly growing traffic on the bay. The placing of the new steamer on the bay will be gladly welcomed by the traveling public and will have a tendency to increase the travel to Newport, Oregon's best summer resort.

### LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Articles of general interest will be published in this department as the personal opinion of the writers. It is understood that the paper is not held responsible for any opinion here expressed.

### The Hand of Corporations Visible.

There is not a private citizen in the United States who can bring an action under any of our statutes against railway corporations for extortion or even fraud, though the evidence be conclusive and irrefutable and obtain certain punitive damages, nor will our courts inflict penal retribution upon any of the many offending corporations.

We are informed that there are no penal clauses in our statutes for the government of railway corporations. It is visible from a remote point of view that such statutes were written by the hand of very able railway attorneys and passed in state and national legislatures by corporation lawyers.

### NO PROTECTION FOR PRODUCER OR CONSUMER.

Railway extortion is a species of robbery practiced under cover of charters creating corporations of public carriers.

A freight rate is a charge for the transportation of a certain commodity to its destination, and must be paid by the shipper, who in most cases is a railway agent, purchases the product from the producer, he deducts cost of transportation from the price paid to the producer hence the producer is compelled to pay the railway extortion. If the producer ships his own products to market he pays the railway extortion, and adds it to the price paid by the consumer.

All railway extortion is paid either by the producer or consumer. It is immaterial how many middlemen may handle the product, the extortion in freight rates is just so much robbery practiced under forms of law upon either the producer or consumer, for which there is no remedy under any statute for the control of the railway corporations of the United States.

We are told that the law provided that all rates shall be just and reasonable, but the law fails to say what is just reasonable, and provided no penalty for railway extortion to the degree of even notorious robbery.

An action may be brought in a Federal Court at the expense of the party who has been outrageously plundered and if he can defeat an army of corporation lawyers, he may receive the difference between what the court may conclude is a just rate and a rate of extortion.

If the middlemen do the shipping, the producer and consumer have no standing in court whatever, nor can they make an appeal to any tribunal under heaven for relief. This piracy has been in progress for a whole generation, and our party bosses exhort us to further tolerance of this system of extortion, robbery and spoliation,—while our official bunco-steerers tamper with this corporate monster in courts and legislatures, state and national.

Have we no statesmen who see the eminent peril to our domestic and foreign commerce, if not indeed to our internal peace? Cannot our renowned jurists and distinguished legislators give the people some form and order to a national policy which will exert its influence to protect the producer and consumer from the claws and maw of the greed of corporation? If not there is a power that will give supreme expression to its will under the white heat of its indignation, it will melt many corporations upon the top of a burning volcano. F. M. HOPKINS.

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## Agents Wanted

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Wouldn't you be glad if you could get a responsible Fire Insurance Company to insure your buildings for \$3.00 per year? That is just what you do when you buy one of those handy fire fighters, adopted by the U. S. Government and

### Drypowder Fire Extinguisher

It is a tin tube containing 3 1/2 lbs. of a dry powder, like sand. Throw a small handful on a fire, and it puts it out in two seconds.

It is the cheapest thing in the way of Fire Insurance ever invented. Call and see one at the Corvallis GAZETTE office.

# FIRE!

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