

CORVALLIS GAZETTE



VOL. XLII.

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, TUESAY, OCTOBER 31, 1905.

YOUNG AMERICA CO.

An Old Book Containing Much of Unusual Interest.

A few days ago F. P. Sheasgreen, who, for a long time was chief of Corvallis' fire company, presented the book containing the records of the first engine company organized in this city to Jesse Spencer. For all the book contains something that will be found interesting. For instance, on the first page we find the roll of members of "Young America Engine Co. No. 1." On the opposite page we find, "Corvallis Fire Department, Engine Company No. 1, organized June 18, 1872."

Thus, we find that our company was organized something more than 33 years ago. The constitution contains articles to the number of twenty. Following the articles comes the "rules of order." Then comes the names of members—some active firemen and other contributing members. A glance over the role shows the names of many prominent men who have since been gathered in by the grim reaper. Foremost, we note John Kelsay, John Burnett, B. W. Wilson, L. G. Kline, S. Neugass, Max Friendly, Thos. Graham and others. The minutes of the first meeting are of interest and were written at the time of its holding. The first item is as follows:

"Pursuant to notice a number of our citizens met at Fisher's Hall, at eight o'clock, p. m., this day (June 18, 1872) for the purpose of organizing a fire company. J. R. Bayley was elected chairman and Wm B. Carter secretary of the meeting."

At this meeting the constitution and by-laws of Albany Fire Department No. 1 were read and adopted. From this it is known that Albany had a fire company previous to the organization of the Young America Company in this city. As a minute of the first meeting we find the following interesting item:

"On motion of Mr. Wrenn the company proceeded to the election officers for the ensuing year, with the following result: President, J. R. Bayley—unanimously elected, upon which the doctor made very appropriate remarks. Secretary, Wm B. Carter; treasurer, Otto Fox; foreman, George P. Wrenn; 1st assistant foreman, B. W. Wilson; 2nd assistant foreman, F. E. Robinson. On motion 'Corvallis Engine Company No. 1,' was adopted as the name of the company."

At this meeting sixteen members went to work and paid their initiation fee—\$1 each. Thus, we find that at the end of the first evening the treasurer had on hand funds in the sum of \$16.

The next meeting of the company was held June 22nd, 1872. At this meeting ten more men paid their initiation fees and were placed on the roll. On motion it was made the duty of every fireman to procure a uniform within thirty days and Mr. O. Fox was requested to have one by next meeting for exhibition.

On the fourth meeting of the company we find that a motion was made by George P. Wrenn that all fines be remitted. The motion carried. It is presumed that these fines were either the result of absence or tardiness. At this meeting Wm B. Carter was granted \$5 in payment of notices printed calling meeting for organization of the fire company. It was paid without reference to the finance committee.

An engine must have been ordered, for at the fifth meeting of the company the matter of a reception on the arrival of the engine was fully discussed and a committee appointed. The following gentlemen were named on the committee: B. W. Wilson, H. Flickinger, W. F. Rayburn, S. Neugass and August Knight. It was

also moved and seconded that the company be assessed to meet the expenses of the reception. Referring to the matter of uniforms, it was decided that "Young America No. 1" be painted on the belts.

At the sixth meeting the matter of parade and drill was the matter of discussion. There were four new names added to the company's roster. At the eighth meeting we find a committee appointed to write a new constitution and by-laws. In the book is a record of this new order of things. There are sixteen articles in the new constitution adopted and twelve in the by-laws.

It seems that the company was doing things about that time, for at the tenth meeting, held October 19, 1872, there was a discussion of the fittest way of celebrating the completion of the engine house. "John Burnett moved that Wednesday evening, Nov. 27, be fixed as the time for a Fireman's Ball. Carried." Perhaps it will interest some to know that the office at present used by the Corvallis Gazette was the engine house referred to above. Until about three years ago the past summer quite a high bell tower stood at the rear and connected with this building. Inside, the tower was used for hanging hose to dry. In reference to the price of tickets to the ball we find the following, indicative that times were good or else people were more willing then than now to "pay the fiddler."

"Mr. Neugass moved that the price of tickets be fixed at \$5. Mr. Burnett moved to amend by striking out \$5 and inserting \$3. Mr. Wrenn moved to amend the amendment by striking out \$3 and inserting \$4. Lost. Mr. Burnett's amendment prevailed and the price of tickets was fixed at \$3."

At a meeting of the company, held Nov. 23, 1872, this company on dance arrangements reported progress. Notice was given that the engine would be housed at 3 o'clock p. m., on Wednesday evening, November 27. At this meeting August Knight moved that the ladies be requested to present the banner on the occasion of the housing of the engine and the motion carried.

The dance was well patronized for at the first meeting held after the dance we find receipts of the dance reported in the sum of \$165.

At a meeting held April 5, 1873, we find the following: "Resolved, That the insurance companies interested in the protection of property in this place be requested to contribute liberally in assisting the fire department in procuring additional hose for use of company."

The above are a few of the facts relating to the birth and early life of the Corvallis fire company. They are a chronicle of the most important events of the first year of the company's existence as set forth by the records referred to. Several charter members of the company are still in the city and others are in various sections of the union—some have gone to that bourne from whence no traveler ere returned. Peace be to all of them, living or dead. They took upon themselves the task of protecting, voluntarily, both life and property and the work is still going forward.

In this day and age many wonders are occurring all the time. For instance, in Portland, not long ago, a couple secured a dog license and managed to get married on it. Not long after the mistake was discovered and the dog license cancelled. Whether the groom got his money on the license refunded or not we do not know, but report has it that the groom finally procured a proper license and was properly united in matrimony.

Attorney Curl, of Albany, was in Corvallis, Friday, attending some matters of a legal nature.

A NEW DISCOVERY.

A Base for Fine Perfumery Says Chemist.

Almost everything can be turned into a source of profit and convenience to man if the latter's ingenuity, patience and perseverance can but get control of some of nature's secrets. One of the latest things we have heard of is the use to which the sage brush of the arid districts is to be put, as the following in the Baker City Democrat will show:

May 15. N. E. Imbaus, who for years has been the manager for a French syndicate owning the Flagstaff mine near Baker City, patented a process for extracting an oil from sage brush which is used as the basis of commercial perfumery of high grade. In making this extraction a pulp is formed from which paper of good quality is made. Mr. Imbaus' letters patent promise to be exceedingly valuable and it he puts either one or both products on the market there will be a revolution in commercial circles. Everybody knows that they pay a very high price per ounce for high grade perfumery and that the products they buy are not all essence of the scent named on the bottle. Only a drop or two of violet, for instance, is put in an ounce of some base oil to make a bottle of violet perfume. This base oil itself is very rare and valuable and this is what Mr. Imbaus has secured.

The commercial world knows that paper of all grades is getting to be a valuable commodity and that the material from which it is made is growing scarcer every year. Wood pulp is becoming a scarce article in the United States on account of the rapid destruction of the kind of trees from which it is composed. As a result common news paper has advanced at a high percentage during the past two years.

The first sheet of paper ever made from sage brush is now on exhibition in the First National Bank in Baker City. This is of a yellowish tinge, but there is a sample in Paris that is pure white and of good quality.

Whether the production of the perfumery oil and the manufacture of the paper of a by-product depends upon whether the cost of production can be reduced. If the problem can be met and mastered farmers will be planting sage brush in their irrigated fields.

A Dead Bird Is a Carcass.

At Albany, Or., a hunter was tried last Monday upon the indictment of having a Mongolian (Chinese) pheasant in his possession during the closed season. A jury acquitted him on the instruction of the circuit judge that a dead bird is not a pheasant within the meaning of the law, but a carcass. Violators of the present game law in Oregon need not fear punishment unless they are seen to kill such birds, and such witnesses will have to testify in court.

This means more game law legislation at the next session of the Oregon legislature, it is to be supposed.

Will a game law ever be passed that will hold good against all technicalities and poorly drawn indictments?—Pacific Home-Stead.

This is drawing the point pretty fine. However, there is a point, but it about as hard for many people to discern as the famous subject that for years agitated the debating societies of the colored people of the South: "What am the butt end ob a ram?"

A Novel and Original Play.

At the Opera House tonight

the attraction will be Mr. E. Spofford's superb production of "A Human Slave," a timely and up-to-date melodrama in four acts, from the pen of William L. Roberts. In these days of many melodrama productions, it is the exception rather than the rule to find anything novel and original in this class of entertainment, but it can be truthfully said of "A Human Slave" that it possesses elements so thrilling and so interwoven with intense human interest, that it is one of the most remarkable dramas of its class ever written.

There is no subject more uppermost in the public mind at the present time than the great ethical questions of capital and labor. While "A Human Slave" does not by any pedantic dissertation attempt to define these rights, the story of the play, however, shows the treatment accorded honest working men by a certain class of employes. One of the greatest scenes ever produced on any stage is the rolling mill scene in "A Human Slave."

George McMillen Drowned.

One day last week Judge W. S. McFadden, of this city, was summoned to his farm near Junction because of the unaccountable absence of George McMillen. The latter was missing and there was considerable anxiety over what had happened, the fear that he was dead being maintained. This theory, alas! was correct, for the man had been drowned. Mr. McMillen was employed by Judge McFadden. A dispatch from Junction, October 27, throws light on the subject and is as follows:

George McMillen was drowned in the Willamette river about one mile above the railroad bridge. Mr. McMillen was working for Judge W. S. McFadden on his farm east of town. Last Tuesday he took a horse and was going to ford a fork of the river to an island, where Mr. McFadden keeps some of his stock during the summer months and drive the stock home. He did not return, and his family became worried, but they made no inquiry about him to their neighbors until yesterday, when McMillen's horse was found in the woods, near the river, with the saddle hanging under the horse's belly. It was thought that he must have drowned, and a search was made for his body where the tracks of the horse were found coming out of the water, and after dragging the river for a few minutes the body was found and brought to the surface and taken to his home on the McFadden farm. Mr. McMillen leaves a wife and three children.

Tonight is All Hallow'en eve and if you have anything that you prize it will be better that you put it in a safe place and mount guard over it with a shotgun until the dawning of the morning.



A BROKEN FACE

disqualifies a watch for work as well as a man. If your watch has a fractured case—

BRING IT HERE FOR REPAIRS

In fact, if it has anything the matter with it, externally or internally, we can make it all right again. We repair the finest watches or the simplest clocks. Don't throw either away until you have our judgment on it.

Albert J. Metzger

JEWELER

Occidental Building, Corvallis

PAYING POSITIONS

await every young man or young lady who will thoroughly qualify in Shorthand, Typewriting, Bookkeeping, and English.

Day and Night School

Night school meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9:30. Day school, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Five days a week. TAKES BUT A SHORT TIME.

CORVALLIS BUSINESS COLLEGE

I. E. RICHARDSON, PRESIDENT.

Are you in the dark?

Do your eyes give you constant service without pain?

If not, your eyes are in a condition demanding investigation and correction. Have your eyes examined by

E. W. S. PRATT, Jeweler and Optician.

Licensed to practice optometry in the state of Oregon.

PIANOS AT SMALL PRICES

The Eilers Way of Selling, and Why They Can Do It.

A few figures that will illustrate what can be done now. Your opportunity to get a piano. No home need be without one.

Cut rates on pianos! You have heard of cut rates on groceries, but cut rates on pianos—how is it possible, you ask. That's just it. Before such a thing could be effected there must have been a combination of very unusual conditions. In the first place it means buying in large quantities—getting out of the small way of doing business. It means the cutting out of every useless and unnecessary expense. It means the shipment of pianos without boxes in special cars which saves big sums on freight charges.

Then it means the selling of pianos so excellent and satisfactory that the public demands them. We have accomplished just these things.

We buy for the largest and busiest stores on the Pacific coast, in Portland, Ore., San Francisco, Stockton and Oakland, Cal., Spokane, Seattle and Walla Walla, Wash., Boise and Lewiston, Idaho. Also Astoria, Salem, Pendleton and Eugene, Ore.

We buy the best pianos that money can secure. It we went all over the world with hundreds of thousands of dollars to spend on pianos, it would be impossible, absolutely impossible, to get better pianos than we have to sell, simply because we have the best that money can buy. Chickering, Weber, Kimball and other splendid makes, over thirty makes in all.

We have placed the selling of our pianos in the hands of Prof. Taillandier, head of the piano department of Corvallis Agricultural College. Prof. Taillandier's entire reliability and excellent judgment are well known to the people of this vicinity. Piano buyers will doubtless be glad of the opportunity to consult him in regard to their selection of a piano.

He will be more than pleased to give you all information desired and can be seen at his residence on College Hill on Saturdays and every evening of the week. A telephone call will bring him to your house. Ind. 185.

EILERS' PIANO HOUSE

PROF. G. TAILLANDIER, Special Representative

You will be treated right

and made to feel at home when you visit our store

We have the goods and will be glad to figure on your bill. Fir, maple, Pacific and quartered oak

Bed Room Suits from **\$14.25 up**

When you call at our store ask to see those new style Rockers and Dining Chairs. Our All Wire Springs are made expressly for us and are fully warranted. We are constantly receiving new goods. See our new line of Matting and Art Squares.

Hollenberg & Cady, Corvallis