

## RAILROAD ACTIVITIES.

Electrification of Southern Pacific lines in Oregon which will be undertaken as soon as two or three legal details have been disposed of will cost the company at least \$2,000,000,000. This is the amount appropriated for this gigantic improvement of railroads in this territory and all of it is to be spent within the present year. Official announcement to this effect may be looked for any day. The exact mileage that will adopt electrical energy for motive power in place of steam has not been definitely decided upon, but it will reach 100 miles.

Under the appropriation which was approved some months ago, the principal item will be the changing of motive power on the Fourth-street line, known as the West Side division, which embraces 50 miles of track between Portland and McMinnville. The other line that will abandon steam locomotion will be the Yamhill division between Portland and Dallas, a distance of 63 miles.

This means a total of 113 miles of new electric lines radiating from Portland, and means to the country which they tap, better service, faster service and more trains. The betterment will effect not only the handling of passenger business, but will give an excellent fast freight and express service for the scores of rapidly growing cities and agricultural districts through which these roads pass.

For a considerable passenger and freight zone, the Southern Pacific will place itself in direct competition with the Oregon Electric and the commonpoint communities have been doing their level best to assist the Hariman people in meeting their rival Hill electric line on all equal footing. This is notably true with Forest Grove, where a city franchise to pass through the main street of the city has been granted.

Newberg City Council has also granted a franchise and in McMinnville, the Southern Pacific already has such rights. The two main items that have to be cleared up before the actual conversion of motive power will be begun is the securing of franchises in Hillsboro and Portland. The Hillsboro Council will take final vote on the question this week, and as soon as this has been taken, the legal department of the company will appear before the Portland Council and ask for the right to operate electric trains over Fourth street to the southern city limits. The company is not anticipating much trouble in dealing with the city of Portland because public sentiment has for years been strongly in favor of electrification of the line on account of the noise and smoke nuisance of steam locomotives.

A large part of the electrical material and equipment needed for changing the line from a steam to a "juice" line already has been ordered and it is known that some of the material has already been laid down at points where the improvements will be commenced.

Orders have been placed for the requisite number of electric motors to handle the traffic on the two divisions and that these will be delivered by the time the change has been made, probably about May or June.—Telegram.

Abstracts promptly furnished at reasonable rates, by L. D. Brown, Dallas, Oregon. tf

## Report of Public Schools

Report of the schools of Polk County for the school month ending Dec. 29th, 1911.

Number of schools reporting correctly and on time	58
Names of schools failing to report correctly and on time: Parker, Brush College, McMinnville, Valley, Greenwood, Lone Star, McCoy, Guthrie.	
Number of pupils remaining at last report	2982
Number of pupils registered new during month	37
Number of pupils registered secondary during month	18
Number of pupils readmitted during month	121
Total number pupils on register during month	2958
Number of pupils dropped during month	159
Number of pupils remaining at time of report	2659
Number of days taught during month	14
Whole number of days attendance	37495
Whole number of days absence	1613
Whole number of times late	478
Number of pupils neither absent nor tardy	1648
Average number of pupils belonging	2793
Average daily attendance	2978
Per cent of attendance	95.8
Number of visits by parents	112
Number of visits by members of the school board	40

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for the county for having made a per cent of attendance of 95 or more: Zena, Dallas, Smithfield, Pedee, Red Prairie, Bridgeport, Lewisville, Salt Creek, Valley View, Monmouth, No. 15, Bethel, Oak Grove, Ward, Fair View, Cochran, Oak Point, Elkins, Independence, Antioch, West Salem, Buena Vista, Spring Valley, Popcorn, Harmony, Montgomery, Lincoln 100 per cent, North Dallas, Enterprise, Crowley, Fir Grove, Sunnyslope, Oakdale, Powells Camp, Liberty, Falls City, Pioneer, Oakhurst, Rock Creek, Mountain View, Mistletoe 100 per cent, Valley Junction.

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for the county for not having had any tardies during the month: Smithfield, Ward, Oak Point, Elkins, Spring Valley, Lincoln, Crowley, Powells Camp, Liberty, Hopville, Mistletoe. You will notice that the attendance this month has been very good and many schools are on the roll of honor, it is hoped that this may continue the rest of the school year, as the interest in the attendance over the county is the best I have ever seen.

We still have too many tardies, there are too many people keeping their children home a few moments to work, and I find that nearly all the tardies come from a few families in the county.

We have now two Standard Schools in the county, Spring Valley and Buena Vista, and there are many others that are within one or two points of being Standards and will be by next report.

If we are to keep Polk County as the banner school county, we must keep working and boosting school conditions, and we ask the co-operation for the rest of the school year of every parent, school officer, teacher and pupil in the county, and we will win. Yours respectfully,

Enter the Villain.

Scene.—Dinner party at the house of a well known peer. "When I took my first brief," said the prosperous barrister, recounting his career, "I was very nervous and excited, especially as my client was a bad egg. He was a man of good family, whose name would have been fatally tarnished had the rascal been convicted. Happily, I managed to get the beggar off."

After dinner a multimillionaire entered. He was a friend of the host, who presented the K. C. to him.

"I do not need to be introduced to this gentleman," observed the millionaire patronizingly. "I met him long ago. In fact, I gave him his start in life. I was his first client."

The noisy hilarity which greeted this announcement was never explained to the late comer.—London Tit-Bits.

# Annual Clearance Sale

**Our Clearance Prices On Dry Goods means a reduction from 25 to 50 per cent. We have decided to make these Astonishing Reductions in order to start the New Year with only New Spring Goods.**

**Ladies, Misses and Childrens Coats Reduced 50 per cent. Ladies and Misses Skirts Reduced 50 per cent.**

You can buy all of these at 25 per cent reduction: Shoes, Hats, Caps, Umbrellas, Comforts, Blankets, Outings, Underwear, Gloves, Dressgoods, Taffetas, Meslins, Fancy Wastings, Gingham, Shirting, Embroideries, Laces and all Trimmings, Queensware, Glassware, Crockery, Graniteware, Combinetts, Aluminumware and Kitchen Cutlery.

All prints 5 cents per yard while they last. Now is the time to take advantage of these prices as we must reduce our stock in order to make room for our New Spring Goods.

Do not ask us to change goods sold at these prices.

**Sale closes February 1st, 1912.**

Produce taken as Cash.

Don't forget our prices are right. **We are here for Business.**

## Monmouth Mercantile Co.

Monmouth, Oregon

L. D. Brown, Attorney-at-law  
Notary Public, Abstractor, Dallas, Oregon. tf

### Church Directory.

#### EVANGELICAL CHURCH

W. A. GUEFFROY, Pastor.  
Morning service at 11:00 o'clock  
Evening service at 7:30 o'clock  
Sunday School at 10:00 a. m.  
Y. P. A. Meeting at 6:30 p. m.  
Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

W. A. WOOD, Pastor.  
Morning Service at 11 a. m.  
Evening Service at 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School 9:45 a. m.  
Y. P. S. C. E. 6:30 p. m.  
Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH.

Preaching Service, 11:00 a. m.  
Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.  
B. Y. P. Union, at 6:30

#### W. C. T. U.

Local Union meets every second and fourth Friday in the Evangelical church at 2:30 p. m.

### V. O. BOOTS

Fire, Life and Casualty  
INSURANCE

Losses Promptly Paid

### THE

## Weekly Oregonian

The best Weekly Journal of the Northwest. Gives all the News of the World.

Price per year \$1.50

Herald one year 1.00

Booth papers for 2.00

Subscribe NOW



TRADE MARKS  
DESIGNS  
COPYRIGHTS &c.  
Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the

**Scientific American.**  
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year, four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.  
**MUNN & Co.** 361 Broadway, New York  
Branch Office, 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

## Many of the First Electric Motors Sold are Still in Use.

Few kinds of power machinery can show the long-lived, every-day durable qualities of the electric motor.

The electric motor has but one revolving or moving part. It is one of the simplest pieces of mechanism known.

It will run under almost any conditions and requires only ordinary care and attention.

The only property recovered from a recent grain elevator fire in Minnesota was an electric motor. It was repaired and *is in service today.*

The first electric motor of a certain make sold in St. Louis has been used *every day for fifteen years* and is still operating satisfactorily.

*These facts ought to convince users of other kinds of power of certain of the many facts in favor of electric drive.*

*Our experts will plan installations without expense to you.*

OREGON POWER COMPANY,

Phone Dallas 24.

## POULTRY SUPPLY STORE

THOMAS BOULDEN, Proprietor

KEEPS ON SALE

Best Grade Chic Feed.  
Best Grade Grit, Bone and Oyster Shell.  
Best Grade Bran, Shorts, Barley and Oats.  
Best Grade Corn, Scratch Feed, Egg Food,  
at Lowest Cash Prices. Also, Rooms for Rent

*Will Pay Cash for Eggs and Poultry.*

**Monmouth, Oregon**

## Monmouth Bakery

ORVIL WHITE, Proprietor

**The Best Bread. Fancy Pastry of all Kinds**

Give us a trial. We can surely please you

**Monmouth, Oregon**

Let your march be onward and upward