

COUNCIL'S \$2900 CONTRACT

C. Reese, of the firm of Kelsay and Reese, the engineers who have been employed by the fire and water committee of the city council, called Mayor Wilkins this morning and asked what the city was going to do about the engineers' bills and contracts.

The conversation that followed in the mayor's office, led to the fact that the city council would be asked to pay the bills and that the mayor believed the bill would be paid. The mayor informed Mr. Reese that he was aware of a certain contract being in existence between the committee and the engineers wherein they were to receive \$2900 for services being performed. He stated positively to Mr. Reese that in his opinion the council should not pay this contract.

It is stated that this contract at this time is now in the possession of private persons and is not open to public inspection.

SECRECY OF CONTRACT

It seems that the contract is guarded as a secret and the fact that such a contract is in existence is known only to a few persons.

Mr. Reese did not divulge to the mayor what course he would pursue, but it is supposed the courts will be resorted to.

The contract specifically states that the committee nor the city is held responsible except in case of a sale of bonds. But the courts might decide such a contract illegal.

BOYS INTEREST IN LIVELY BUSINESS

C. P. Barnard, of Roseburg, last evening closed a deal with Eli Bangs, of this city, whereby he purchases a large interest in the latter's extensive livery and stage business here, the deal to take effect on February 1.

Mr. Barnard will remain in Roseburg until April 1, when he will remove to Eugene with his family. In the deal Bangs acquires his former home and residence at West Ninth and Charnel streets, which Mr. Barnard purchased two or three years ago. The deal, however, reserves the east 60 feet of the lot and will erect a hand-to-hand residence thereon.

Six of Mr. Barnard's horses will be kept here from Roseburg and new harnesses and other equipments will be added to the business here.

It will be remembered that about two years ago Mr. Barnard bought a large interest in Mr. Bangs' business, following to his pressing business at Roseburg, sold out to his partner and returned to that city. He says he is glad to get back to Eugene again.

THE DEATH OF MACK DAVIS

Mack Davis, a well-known livery driver at Springfield, died in that city this afternoon about 2:30 o'clock from a complication of diseases at the age of about 70 years.

He was an old resident of the community formerly living several miles from Springfield on the McKenzie river. He was a widower and had children but leaves one brother in California and one in Washington. He had been living in Springfield for six years and at the time of his death was a partner in the livery business with John M. Winzenreid.

THE DRAIN-COOS BAY RAILROAD

D. Drain was over from Drain Bay on business. He tells us that the steel rails for the new Drain and Coos Bay railroad have arrived and more are enroute. A lot of about 30 Greeks is employed in unloading the material. Preparations are being made for rebuilding the bridge across Pass Creek, in Drain, making it a double-track structure. Also for two bridges over Elk creek so as to admit the tracks, which are to be put in place as the initial step toward the building of the new railroad. The engineers are now at Dean's creek, near Scottsburg.—Roseburg Review.

Born

East Eugene, January 10 1906, John J. Brown and wife, a daughter, weight ten pounds.

THE Y. M. C. A. INCORPORATES

Articles of incorporation of the Young Men's Christian Association of Eugene were filed with County Clerk Lee this afternoon. The incorporators are Samuel Roome, P. L. Campbell and F. L. Chambers, and the object and business as set forth in the articles are as follows:

"The spiritual, intellectual, social and physical welfare of young men and to that end the object of the corporation shall be to buy, own, sell and mortgage real estate, to purchase, own, erect, construct, manage, operate and maintain suitable buildings in which to conduct reading rooms, gymnasiums, swimming tanks and any and all other things necessary, suitable or convenient to carry the foregoing purposes into effect."

WILL DEDICATE MASONS' HALL

Twenty-one Eugene Masons went to Creswell this afternoon to assist the lodge there in dedicating its new hall and will confer the master degree upon a number of candidates.

The Creswell Masons are making great preparations to entertain the visitors. The visiting party consists of the following: L. M. Travis, Fred Flisk, H. D. Edwards, L. M. Price, Dr. Geo. O'B. DeBar, Y. D. Henall, Geo. J. Moran, G. L. Hunt, E. Terpening, L. R. Edmondson, G. W. Buoy, J. B. Willoughby, S. W. Taylor, R. H. Shacklett, J. S. Gray, D. L. Carrell, J. H. Daniels, S. R. Mosher, A. W. Gilbert, J. M. Howe and F. S. Tingley.

CONTRACT NOT A SECRET

The Guard is informed that the contract made between the fire and water committee and Engineers Kelsay and Reese for the sum of \$2900 is not now a secret. An official of the city stated today that the council had voted for the committee to make the necessary contracts with the engineers for surveys, etc. This, it is claimed, the committee did, and that they fully protected the city's interests and secured the services of an expert engineer at a reasonable price.

NOT SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL.

It is freely admitted that the contract was not submitted to the council, but this would have been done at the proper time. There was no intention of secrecy and it is stated that the document could be seen by the public at any time by calling at the city attorney's office. In fact, the mayor has had the document in his possession, which shows no secrecy was maintained.

THE OTHER SIDE.

It is stated by other members of the council that as the contract has been in existence nearly two months, and that as the fact of its existence only became known in the past few days it not having been properly submitted to the council, it is evident that it was a star chamber proceeding.

MRS. EVELYN RAMP WANTS DIVORCE

Mrs. Evelyn Ramp has sued R. D. Ramp in the circuit court for Lane county for divorce. She alleges cruel and inhuman treatment. She says that her husband has cursed and abused her and slapped and struck her in the face. She endured this treatment until January 7, 1906, when she was compelled to leave him. She asks that the court allow her minor son, Lynn Dryden, aged three years, to be taken care of by B. F. Ramp, his grandfather, residing in Marion county. The couple were married in Lane county December 20, 1899.

A. C. RUBY NOW BANK PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Commercial National Bank at Pendleton, the following officers have been chosen for the year: A. C. Ruby, president; T. G. Halley, vice president; W. L. Thompson, cashier; W. S. Badley, assistant cashier. All are members of the board of directors, Robert Laing being the remaining member of the board.

Mr. Ruby is the well-known horseman, and besides his interests here he is associated with two banking institutions in the East.—Pendleton Tribune.

U. O. NOT "RICH MAN'S" COLLEGE

All sorts of peculiar and searching questions will be asked of the University students when they register for the second semester. President Campbell stated at the last assembly that the authorities wished to learn if any basis exists for the oft-repeated charge that this is a "rich man's college." "Frequently," said President Campbell, "it has come to my notice that the University of Oregon is spoken of as a place where no student of small means has any rights to attend, as most of its students are declared to be the sons or daughters of comparatively wealthy people of the state. For this reason the argument is advanced that the State University should not be supported by the state, but by tuition fees from the students."

"This is a mistake. There are many students in this university who are working their way through college, and wherever it is possible, the university aids them in their purpose."

"It is also a fact that a student is looked upon with considerable admiration who is not afraid to get out and work for his education, and the university has various small positions reserved for students in needy circumstances."

"To see exactly if the charges have any foundation, and for other reasons when the students register again the second semester, which will be required this year for the first time, they will be asked several questions as to their finances and method of living while in college. Answers will not be compulsory, but all students who have no objections will help by adding the university in making an accurate statistical report of student conditions. To determine this the student will be asked how much money he receives a month, whether he works during summer or at college, what his living expenses are, what he spends for pleasure, and what his father's business condition is."

ELIJAH HILLS DIED AT JASPER

Elijah Hills, one of the early Lane county pioneers, having come across the plains to Oregon in the early 50s, died at his home near Jasper last night about midnight, at the age of about 75 years.

The deceased had been ill only about two days. On Wednesday he left the house and not returning for some time it was thought that he had gone to a neighbor's place. He was found several hours later lying unconscious on the ground in the barnyard. He was carried into the house and rapidly grew worse until death came.

The deceased was one of the best known pioneers of the county and an upright and honorable citizen. He was the brother of Cornelius Hills and an uncle of Jasper Hills, the well-known logging contractor.

BACCALAUREATE SERMON

The senior class at the University of Oregon yesterday announced it would ask Rev. Frank H. Matthews, of Boston, to deliver the baccalaureate sermon at commencement. Matthews is a graduate of the class of 1895.

The faculty of the university has decided that seniors presenting these of marked excellence shall receive special mention on the commencement programs. There are but few of these honors to be awarded and this valued honor of excellence will receive much competition from the graduating class.

SPRINGFIELD MILL RUSHED

The Booth-Kelly people are making some valuable improvements in their Springfield mill. They have recently built a large new dry kiln, and are now installing one of the latest 1904 planers, which has a cutting capacity of over 100 feet per minute, or twice the capacity of the present planer. Mr. Tuffs informed a News reporter this week that many other improvements would be made during the spring and summer, but that the mill would not be shut down on that account. He says it is the intention of the company to continue the night crew all summer, as prospects for a good market are better than ever before. They are now working 21 hours per day and are behind with their orders.—News.

TWO MORE LODGES RAISE TELEPHONE RATES

The Pacific States Telephone Company evidently believes Eugene people are easy money and has decided to raise rates on party lines where they can do so.

A representative of this company is now calling on subscribers and informing them that unless they are willing to pay 25 cents a month more than at present they will be placed on a 10-party line, and that their telephone bill will be continually ringing. Some have stood for the hold up, while others have told the representative very plainly what they think of the corporation's service.

The Eugene service is bad and the rates at present are excessive, and it seems that while we have received much benefit from municipal ownership agitation on the light and water question we might apply the same medicine to the telephone trust.

HOW COMPANY ROBS PATRONS.

The city council should take some action to curb the grasping greed of this corporation and also to regulate the existing rates of the company so they would be just and equitable to all.

At the present time the company charges one individual one price and another price to another, so it is evident there is a holdup somewhere. Many patrons of the company receive party telephone service for \$1 a month, while others are mulcted out of \$1.25 a month for exactly the same service, and it is stated there are instances where the company has made a rate as low as 75 cents.

The members of the Eugene council have the necessary backbone and the Guard hopes to see them take up this question and get rates that are not only equitable but reasonable, and if no other way appears it would not be a bad idea to apply municipal ownership to the business and own our own system if necessary.

SUPERINTENDENT ARCHER RESIGNS

T. C. Archer, who entered into the superintendency of the Oregon Securities mines at Bohemia early last spring, and who has been instrumental, by his large knowledge of mining affairs, his palooking energy and managerial conservatism in furthering the development and profitable operation of the famous properties, will retire on or about the 15th of this month.

Mr. Archer will be succeeded by Captain J. A. Eade, who is already on the ground acquainting himself with the conditions. Captain Eade is a mining man of lifelong experience, having begun his work in the Michigan copper mines thirty years ago.—Cottage Grove Western Oregon.

WILL SUE PAPER FOR LIBEL

"Paul, the Handcuff King," who appeared at the Bijou theatre Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday night of this week, informed a Guard reporter today that he intends suing the Morning Register of this city for libel and has retained counsel to handle his case. The papers have not yet been made out.

This is the result of an article appearing in Thursday morning's Register in which it was stated that Paul was a fakir.

"CYRUS NOBLE" KELLY AGAIN

Cottage Grove Western Oregon: J. W. Kelley, one of the old time printers and a writer of no mean ability, was in Cottage Grove Tuesday. In a talk with a Western Oregon man he stated that he would in the course of a week or ten days start a paper in the bustling little town of Yoncalla, Douglas county. Mr. Kelley states that the town is chuck full of energy and enterprise and the citizens show a willingness to aid every enterprise that may rebound to the stability of the town. He has met with excellent encouragement and proposes to give the people of that section a paper of which they may be proud. It will enter the field under the name of the "Yoncalla Independent."

FOUR BOYS FINED TEN DOLLARS EACH

Cottage Grove Western Oregon, January 9th.

N. P. Chrisman, who owns land adjoining Dorena station on which he lives, swore out warrants charging Onias Land, Wilber Kelley, Warren Kelly and David Baker with unlawfully taking down and removing his fence. The defendants were arrested and brought before Squire Vaughn. The trial was had this morning. The defendants were adjudged guilty and fined ten dollars each and costs. There are questions of title to land involved in this matter which will probably have to be settled in the circuit court.

TWO HOP SALES JUST MADE

Jan. Hays, representing Horst & Co., has purchased 100 bales of hops from Hyland Bros. at 10 1/2 cents per pound and is taking them today.

T. A. Livesley & Co. have purchased from Emerson & Dodge 65 bales at 7 1/2 cents.

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SPRINGFIELD NEWS NOTES

In driving over the city Sunday we counted 49 houses that have been built within the past three months. Where is there another town in the state that can show up with this?

Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart, Mrs. J. L. Clark, Mrs. Harry Stewart and Mrs. J. E. Stewart, "chaperoned" by Mr. Joe Clark, constituted a party from Springfield who were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fisher at Marcola this week.

V. W. Harsbarger, an old Springfield resident, surprised the boys last Friday night by unexpectedly dropping in on them for a few hours. For the last five years he has been making his home at Bickleton, Wash., and is enjoying the prosperity of that thriving city. He informed the News that he is well pleased with his present location and that he is engaged in the furniture business, also county supervisor at a salary of \$1000 per year.—News.

LADIES OF G. A. R. INSTALLATION

Rich Mountain Circle No. 4, Ladies of the G. A. R., installed at their regular meeting January 13 the following officers: President, Mrs. Nettie Krouse; senior vice, Mrs. Jennie Vogel; junior vice, Mrs. Albina Forrest; chaplain, Mrs. Mary Wheeler; treasurer, Mrs. Bertha Foster; secretary, Mrs. Angie Chapman; conductor, Mrs. Hattie Koepke; guard, Mrs. C. E. Reinher; assistant conductor, Mrs. Hannah Hendershott; assistant guard, Mrs. Mary Clendenen; organist, Mrs. Ella Horton. Mrs. Estella Dimond acted as installing officer, after which an interesting program was rendered. An elaborate banquet was then served in the beautifully decorated banquet room to one hundred and fifty guests.

JUNCTION ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT

Times: B. F. Howard has purchased the north half of the Wilkinson block and has about completed a building for the electric light plant, which will be moved to that location. The building is 20x40 and plenty large for the dynamo and engine. For the present he will use his traction engine and later will put in a stationary engine.

The new dynamo arrived Thursday and an expert machinist is here to set it up and see that everything moves off right.

NEWS ITEMS FROM CROW

Crow, Jan. 10.—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mulkey and children, of Eugene, arrived yesterday on a visit to J. R. Liles' family.

There are four cases of measles in the family of Margaret Liles.

Nanava Owen is recovering from an attack of measles.

Marion Calloway, wife and daughter, of Roseburg, are visiting at Henry Calloway's at Mirth.

The meeting of the Crow Telephone Company at Crow on the 6th inst. resulted in levying an assessment of \$5 per capita for the purpose of meeting the company's liabilities and putting another wire on the line. Shares are also taken off the market, there being now about thirty-seven phones connected on.

Messrs. Zimmerman and Mitchell are busily plying their steam drill at the Mirth coal mine. They are very reticent in regard to their intentions and the prospect. They give us plenty of latitude for guessing.

The Crow lodge of ~~Boys~~ held an open installation of officers in the presence of about two hundred invited guests last Saturday evening at their lodge room, and afterward served a banquet which those who partook of it pronounced perfect in quality and lavish in quantity. Harmony and good fellowship reigned and a delightful time was had. The lodge was organized October 30, 1905, and now consists of 28 members with four additional to be initiated at the next fortnightly meeting. The ladies have bought and paid for a splendid new organ and complete lodge regalia. They have won and deserve much credit for their pluck and enterprise.

EUGENE PUBLIC INDIGNANT

Eugene patrons of the Pacific States Telephone Company were surprised to learn of the fact that the company is discriminating by making various rates to its patrons.

One Eugene business man said: "The Guard deserves great credit for this expose of the telephone people. I for one shall order the telephone service at my residence out and I hope all who are paying a toll of over \$1 a month will do the same." That is the way to give this monopoly a much-needed lesson.

WHAT COMPANY CLAIMS.

The company claims that this new rate made several years ago did not apply to old, original subscribers, but in this it does not state facts, for recently the company has made as low as a \$1 rate to one of its new patrons. When it comes to facts, would a druggist, banker or any other business man give his goods to one customer cheaper than to another under similar conditions? If he did he would soon quit business.

The citizens of Eugene demand that the present company must give us just and equitable service and prices or suffer the consequences.

MRS. PATTERSON SUES FOR DIVORCE

Agnes Harris Patterson yesterday filed a divorce suit against A. D. Patterson on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment and failure to provide. The couple were married in December, 1903, and the plaintiff alleges that from that time on she received the harshest of treatment. She asks for a divorce, the right to resume her maiden name and for her costs. Percy R. Kelly and L. E. Bean are the attorneys for the plaintiff.—Albany Herald.

Mrs. Patterson is a resident of Eugene, and her husband is at Sacramento, Cal.

A RUNAWAY FARM TEAM

A team belonging to John Lynch, attached to a farm wagon, ran away this morning, creating considerable excitement. The horses ran out East Fifth street and stopped near Barker's sawmill on the river bank. No particular damage was done.

Ball at Creswell

The people of Creswell and neighboring towns who indulge in dancing are anticipating a most enjoyable time on January 20, on which date Creswell will have its first dance of the season.