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LANE COUNTY TO HAVE EXHIBIT AT SEATTLE

Commercial Club Engages E.
M. Warren to Have Charge
of the Display

At a meeting of the board of governors of the Eugene Commercial Club last night M. Warren was engaged to take charge of an exhibit of Lane county products at the Seattle exposition and to remain there with the exhibit during the entire time of the show. The board in-

structed Manager Hartog to go to Seattle in the near future and select suitable space in the Oregon building for the display.

Mr. Warren had charge of the county's exhibit at the Portland exposition in 1905, and has collected several county exhibits for the state fair at Salem. He thoroughly understands the work, and the members of the board of governors feel that they have made a good selection in naming him.

Lights Will Burn.
The board authorized Manager Hartog to have the streamers of incandescent lights which adorned Willamette street last summer re-colored and to hereafter burn them each Saturday night, providing that a satisfactory rate can be agreed upon with the light company.

It was decided by the board to publish, in the next number of Nobody's Magazine, the list of subscribers to the promotion fund for 1909. It is proposed to secure some kind of an attractive label to be placed on the door of every merchant and business man who subscribed to the fund to show to the public who are helping to boost the city and who are not.

Committees Appointed.

The board of trustees of the club also met last night and appointed the following standing committees for the present year:

House—H. W. Thompson, F. L. Chambers, C. A. Wintermeier.
Auditing—Darwin Bristow, W. A. Bell, E. O. Potter.
Reading Room—Dr. F. M. Day.
Membership—F. R. Wetherbee, M. J. Duryea, Frank Jenkins.
Reception—A. C. Dixon, G. D. Linn, P. E. Snodgrass.
Municipal Affairs—W. Kirkendall, G. W. Griffin, B. L. Bogart, P. E. Chambers, L. L. Goedrich.
Civic Improvement—E. O. Potter, A. C. Dixon, R. McMurphy.

A twelve-foot cement sidewalk is being built in front of the Campbell property on Olive street. It will be half a block long.

LOW PERCENTAGE OF EUGENE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE FAILED

The six weeks grade marks have just been given out at the high school for the first semester of this term. Out of 400 students only 63 have failed in any subject. The average student carries four subjects, making sixteen hundred subjects. Of this number seventy-seven or 5 per cent have so far been reported as failures. Although this percentage may be a small trifle larger after all "conditions" are completed, in comparison with the total percentage of sixteen per cent for the whole of last semester, this is a decided raise in the standard of work being done.

Throughout the whole year the faculty has been endeavoring to raise the school's standard by a much stricter standard of grading. This accounts partially for the large percentage of failures last semester and shows also that the faculty has been successful in its efforts to make the Eugene high school the best in the state. To Principal George Hug is due the credit for this work.

It should be mentioned in regard to the sixteen per cent last semester, that this is not a high figure by any means—in many standard and high grade schools it often runs much above twenty.

In the senior class of forty-two students during the last six weeks, there was only one failure out of some 168 subjects or a remarkable percentage of but slightly more than one half of one percent.

Of course in dealing with these figures it must be understood that the first semester's work is always the best of the three because the majority of the poor students have been cleaned out the semester before.

Mrs. Ira Hyland and Mrs. S. Drury arrived down from Lowell last evening.

A. WELCH CASTS REFLECTIONS ON WATER SYSTEM

A. Welch, founder and promoter of the Willamette Valley Company, is casting reflections on the manner in which the municipal water plant is operated, with the evident purpose of influencing the next election. Councilmen discussed the matter last night in open meeting and endeavored to get at the truth. The conclusions reached were that Welch knew not what he had talked of to the people in Eugene, and that the water plant is paying at least \$300 a month more than when controlled by private ownership with Welch at the head.

The accusation made by Welch, according to those who addressed the council last night, is that members of the city council or of the water force are needlessly wasting water, so as to make it appear that the city management is unsuccessful and inadequate. Welch was quoted as follows: "I think there are men in that council who are wasting water, and who are not a bit above it."

The water promoter told Moon and Gilbert in the presence of Street Commissioner Turner and Councilman Roach that when the plant was in private hands, the company had supplied the town with one pump, while now three are hardly sufficient.

The council at once investigated both these charges. The only perceptible leak or waste, which their employees reported, is in the lower reservoir. Last Sunday a large stream flowed down the back side of the hill, and it was stated by one member of the city council that as soon as possible the inside of the reservoir would be replastered.

Superintendent Taylor of the water plant, testified that Welch did not know how much pumping had ever been done to supply the city with water, and gave elaborate figures to prove his statement.

No Irrigation.

But that the water situation is serious the superintendent definitely proved. "This is not due to any fault of the city," he said, "but to the growth of the town. Where there used to be one user there are frequently three now. So bad is this that we face a water famine. Next summer I doubt if we can furnish much water for irrigation, unless more pumps are put in. As it is now we can hardly keep up with the demand. We haven't been able to pump into the big reservoir at all, since the freeze, and why that is we can't discover."

Street Commissioner Turner reported on the amount of flushing needed to keep the sewer system in shape, and it was almost definitely learned that the only bad leak was in the lower reservoir.

Taylor then described what the municipal plant had done. "Since we took hold of the plant we have increased the receipts \$300. Seventy people that were not paying for their water before are now on the books, and every day or so we have people clamoring to be connected. The only thing that I see, is that our pumps are not able to furnish the water, and more must be put in."

Light Discussion.

The council also vigorously discussed the overcharges by the Wil-

lamette Valley Company. Councilman Gilbert said that the city light bills had doubled since the new Willamette Valley Co manager had taken hold of the business. Little or no more light had been used before than after, and either the meter had never been read, or the present charges were too much.

Other councilmen told how people over the town were facing what they claimed to be exorbitant charges. One man had not used his lights, yet he was presented with a big bill. He told them to take out the meter or sue him, but they did neither, and let him off with a dollar charge. Other people were mentioned who kicked hard, and told the company to sue, but the manager kindly cut their bills in half. These things seemed to make the councilmen very suspicious.

Electric Franchise.

The ordinance granting a franchise to Frank Bennett for an electric light and power plant and giving him the use of the streets and the right to sell his light and power, was returned to the promoter for revision. No remuneration in the original document was granted the city, and the term was fifty years instead of twenty years, the period the council thought most practical.

Fairmount Park.

L. M. Travis and Carl Travis proposed to the council to recover four acres, including the oak grove in Fairmount, which was once dedicated to the city as a park, but since has been held by Susan Lowell, to whom it was deeded for a loan made by her. The Travis brothers proposed to make the suit without cost, provided that the city would bear half the responsibility.

Minutes Corrected.

The minutes were ordered corrected so as to definitely show that only \$500 is to be paid for the conduct of the city injunction suit. For the benefit of the public it was also shown that Engineer Kelsey is to receive only two percent of the total cost of the McKenzie power plant, and that this amount is being paid in monthly installments of \$250, until the whole sum is drawn. The council said that the plan was originally to pay this sum as the station was constructed, but owing to the injunction suit, the obstructionists had made it impossible.

Small Matters.

Cockerline and Wetherbee's street assessment was ordered received by the city treasurer and a written order was also sent to the treasurer to pay three warrants belonging to Wells Anderson and Garrett. Sometime ago the treasurer refused to do this, though the warrants have no connection with the injunction, upon which the treasurer based his action. Elmer Roberts stated that he thought the band should receive \$3,000 for the year by taxation. He stated that during the last eighteen months the members had made up for deficits of \$1100 from their own pockets, and that they would not again play under the popular subscription plan.

There were only six deaths in Lane county during the month of February, according to the report of Dr. W. H. Davis, county health officer. This would give an annual death rate of only three in a thousand. There were 26 births during the month.

Chief of Police Farrington was today petitioned by a number of citizens to enforce the ordinance requiring ladies to take off their hats at all entertainments where there is a paid admission. At the moving picture theatres several women leave on their big hats and obstruct the view of many in the audience.

EUGENE WATER PLANT WILL PROVE DIVIDEND PAYER

A statement of the water department's receipts and disbursements of the city of Eugene, now being made up by City Recorder Dorris, will show a substantial balance on the right side of the ledger since the plant was transferred to the city, a little over three months ago. This is notwithstanding the fact that the charges of the Willamette Valley Company for furnishing power during the past two months is generally regarded as exorbitant. The receipts will furthermore be considerably increased when the irrigation season begins. There is no longer any doubt but the municipal water plant will not only pay running expenses and interest on the bonds issued to purchase it, but will in addition put money into the treasury, or into a sinking fund to redeem the bonds when they mature. Therefore the taxpayers need not worry about the water plant investment as having added anything to the burden of indebtedness they have to carry.

A municipal light and power plant would be the best investment the taxpayers of Eugene could make, and would probably prove more successful from a financial standpoint than even the water plant.

RAILROAD MEN WOULD LIKE DIVISION POINT IN EUGENE

Railroad men would like to see the small railroad division points in the upper Willamette valley consolidated into one main division at Eugene, and say that in case such a plan was followed a payroll of twelve or fifteen thousand dollars would be poured in the coffers of the city. By making Eugene a large division point, the railroad would lessen its expense by combining the Springfield and the Junction City plants.

"The Southern Pacific has plenty of track room here, too," said one man. "They could lay trackage from the millrace to the Geary school, and if more was needed I believe the Commercial Club and its backers would get it for the company. Eugene is a better town to live in than Portland, and nothing would suit the railroad men better than to have a big division point here. As it is the crews are kept at Junction City, Springfield and Eugene, and they all might have their families in Eugene."

Richard S. Smith and wife, of Klamath Falls, arrived in Eugene this afternoon, after a trip to Washington, D. C.

ADDITIONAL TRAIN SERVICE TO WENDLING

The old schedule on the Eugene-Wendling branch of the Southern Pacific will be resumed about the 20th of the month, the Guard is reliably informed. After that date, it is said, there will be two trains each way every day between the two points, the same as when the service was first inaugurated out of Eugene. The morning train will leave Eugene at seven o'clock and return about the same time as the Springfield train does now, viz, 11:20. The afternoon train will run on its present schedule leaving Eugene at 1 p. m., and returning at 5:20. The morning train to Wendling was cut out a year ago when the sawmills were closed down, but now that there is more activity among the mills along the Mohawk, the Southern Pacific has seen the necessity of resuming the local service.

It is said there will be another change in the schedule of the trains on the main line at about the same time, but it is not learned what it is. Nothing has been heard lately of the proposition to run the Albany-Springfield local into Eugene.

HOMESEEKERS RUSH TO PACIFIC COAST

Pocatello, Ida., March 11.—To illustrate the extent of colonist travel moving westward, A. F. Brewer, car service agent of the Oregon Short Line, has presented some startling figures. "In the last five days," said Mr. Brewer, "the Short Line has handled 1000 tourists a day from Pocatello west, and not only this, but the freight department has handled from 25 to 30 cars a day of household goods and farming implements, being transferred by the settlers moving from the east to the west. This is outside of the travel which comes over other roads, and through Ogden and Salt Lake City, and shows how the tide of emigration is working westward."

"The majority of these homeseekers are fairly well to do, who have perhaps sold out their eastern homes and are on their way to the boundless regions of the west to start anew under more favorable conditions. They are usually supplied with sufficient means to purchase a farm, and they begin at once to build up the country in which they settle and are good citizens for the country. Most of the traffic is headed northwest, where the grain fields and fruit orchards of Idaho, Washington and Oregon spread their tempting acres, out before the colonist."

MRS. LANE, NOVELIST, DEAD AT LYNCHBURG

Lynchburg, Va., March 16.—Mrs. Eleanor McCarthy Lane, the novelist, died here last night.

G. O. McGee and Frank McGee left on the stage this morning for Wildcat.

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