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MANY CANDIDATES SUGGESTED

Taxpayers Agree Eastern Clackamas Should Be Represented In Court And Legislature

Much interest has been manifested by the taxpayers of Eastern Clackamas in the last few days, since the Progress' article appeared, calling the attention of the local people to the coming vacancies to be filled in the county court and legislature.

Several well known local farmers and residents of Estacada have talked the matter over with the editor, suggesting the names of many good men, who if they would agree to act as candidates, could be elected and who would admirably represent this district.

Among the names mentioned for the county commissionership are J. W. Reed, Albert Kitching, Guy T. Hunt, J. C. Duus, John Steinman, Fred Bates, H. C. Stephens, J. C. Kilgore, Hal Gibson and others. Some taxpayers preferring candidates for the commissionership who have had actual road building experience and others preferring men of broader business experience.

To date only one name has been mentioned from the Springwater side of the river, but others will probably come up later, although the Springwater side has had representation in the court in recent years by Ex-Commissioner Lewellen and W. H. Mattoon.

Of nine men who suggested candidates to represent Eastern Clackamas in the legislature, seven of them suggested the same man, namely H. C. Stephens of George. While Mr. Stephens is a more or less newcomer in this county; during his three years residence, he has proven to be one of the best public spirited boosters, hard workers and capable business men in the community, a man of few words but plenty of action and willingness to work for the common welfare. Mr. Stephens, when approached on the subject, at first refused to accept the suggestion, but it is likely that if he is shown that the people of this, his home territory, want him to represent them at Salem, he will reconsider his present attitude. The other two names mentioned for the legislative vacancy were J. W. Reed and Ex-Representative Guy T. Hunt, both of whom would make good candidates.

Barton Meeting Appoints Committees

Much interest was manifested in the road meeting held in Barton last Saturday afternoon, to discuss the advisability of opening up a new road to parallel the P. R. L. & P. Co.'s line between Barton, Boring and Gresham.

The question of opening a new road received almost no support, as all present favored the rebuilding and repairing of the present River road, from Barton to Clackamas.

A general discussion occurred in connection with the Barton gravel pit, and the advisability of continuing to use this gravel for road building.

A committee was appointed, consisting of E. Heiple, W. Wade, C. Johnson, G. Burnett, J. W. Reed, Chas. Duncan and others, to wait upon the county court to try to obtain county help in the repair of the River road and to obtain special prices for gravel from the Barton pit.

To Consider County Budget

A committee of representative taxpayers was named last week to examine the Clackamas County budget and to report on same at the regular Tax Payers' Meeting, December 14th.

This committee met December 8th, when they studied the estimates of the county expenses as prepared by the county court.

The committee is composed of Harvey E. Cross, Oregon City; W. P. Kirchem, Redlands; C. E. Spence, Beaver Creek; J. L. Kruse, Sherwood; Frank Jagger, Carus; C. H. Dye, Oregon City; T. W. Sullivan, Oregon City; John Risley, Risley Station; F. G. Caufield, Oregon City; John R. Cole, Molalla; Geo. H. Brown, New Era; John Ely, Estacada; W. A. Proctor, Sandy; C. N. Wait, Canby, and A. D. Gribble, Aurora.

It is easy enough to name good men for the offices, but it is another thing to get the men to accept the nomination, and yet a harder matter to select a suitable candidate who can be elected, as the county vote at large must be reckoned with.

Several parties have asked the Progress to call a political mass meeting to be held in Estacada in a short time, at which time the consensus of opinion and the suggestions of all can be heard and considered. While it may be a little early to call a mass meeting, it is never too early for Eastern Clackamas to get together, stand together and elect their own representatives for the county court and legislature.

OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

It's Growth, Cost And Present Usefulness

The Public Library, located in the C. I. C. rooms in Estacada, has recently been taking account of its growth.

It has been in existence about 21 months, starting with a donation of a few dozen books by members and friends of the Civic Club. A library committee was appointed at that time to look after the purchase and cataloging of books and other matters pertaining especially to the library and it was voted to allow \$5 per month to the library fund.

Up to this time, \$115 have been paid over in this way to the library committee and \$111. have been spent for books and magazines. Cash donations, amounting to \$15, have been received and added to the book fund. Fixtures and library supplies have used a small portion of the fund and there is a balance on hand, available for new books, of \$10.40.

Two entertainments were given during this time, part of the proceeds of which went into the regular book fund and a part, resulting from the last entertainment, was used to start a special encyclopedia fund. This fund, as increased by subscriptions and special work done by members during the summer, has grown to \$25.65. There is still due \$5. on the set of Harvard Classics, purchased last year on the \$2. per month installment plan. After this payment has been completed, it is hoped the encyclopedia fund will grow more rapidly and that within a few months, the library will offer for the use of everyone interested, a comprehensive and thoroughly up-to-date encyclopedia.

There are now about 400 volumes in the library, from 50 to 75 of these are always in the hands of the people. Many books go into districts several miles distant. In addition to this, many people who have an hour to spend in Estacada, read the books and magazines in the library.

The magazines and papers regularly subscribed for at present are The World's Work, Review of Reviews, Popular Mechanics, The Ladies Home Journal, Boy Life, Woman's Federation Magazine, and the Daily Oregonian. Many numbers of other magazines are added to the reading table by friends of the library.

Since the room occupied by the library is no longer a store and

Stork Beats The Undertaker

The report of the State Board of Health contains a few interesting statistics pertaining to Clackamas County, although the report covers the year ending December 31, 1914.

In other words, during 1914 there were 529 births in this county, against 266 deaths, giving an added population of 263. Of the births, 156 were male and 110 female.

Corporation Values Less

The State Tax Commission has issued a notice giving the total appraised valuation of all corporation property in Clackamas county for 1915 as \$6,085,961.98 which is a considerable reduction under the appraised valuation of all corporation property a year ago, owing to the transfer of the Oregon City locks from the Portland Railway Light & Power company to the government and the dismantling of the old Crown Columbia paper mill of Oregon City.

However, owing to improvements made in other sections of the county, the total assessed valuation of all taxable property in the county will show a reduction of only about \$47,000 under the valuation of a year ago. The valuation of all taxable property now is \$30,323,161.08, while a year ago it was \$30,375,139.81.

Owing to the fact that much property is tied up in the Oregon & California land grant, the county can collect taxes on only about \$29,000,000.

is used strictly as a library and rest room, it has seemed only necessary to keep it open afternoons from one till five o'clock and therefore, these have been made the library hours.

Mrs. A. K. Morton has been appointed librarian and her salary of \$10. per month is paid from the club funds. The library committee has recently been reorganized and increased to seven members, including all members of the old committee, with Mrs. H. V. Adix as the new chairman. The committee comprises Mesdames Givens, Reed, Hughes, Frazier, Morton and Miss Dillon.

It is hoped the public of Estacada and surrounding country will enjoy this library and that its usefulness may continue in the future as in the past. Anyone interested in the reading matter to be found there, will find the librarian most willing to be helpful in every way possible.

—(Contributed)