

WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

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NO. 25

SPECIAL TAX CARRIED

District No. 13 Takes the Initiative and Votes Five Mills Special by Big Majority. No. 14 Goes Against Proposition. Thatcher to Vote Next Saturday.

The road meeting held in Verts hall last Friday afternoon for the purpose of voting on the levying of a special tax for building a permanent piece of road in District No. 13, was largely attended and the special tax question was carried by a large majority. It was voted to levy five mills special for this purpose, and it is estimated that from this amount the tax will amount to nearly \$3,000. Improvements to be made are to be spent equally between the east and west sides of this district. On the east side the road is to start at the point on Pacific avenue where the other piece of macadamized road left off and proceed as far east on the Base line road as the money will carry it. On the western side of the district the new road will begin at a point on A street and go southward on the Dilley road as far as the money will carry it in that direction.

Considerable discussion arose in the meeting which terminated in the betterment of the good roads proposition for which so many in this section are working. It was at first thought that seven mills would be the proper amount to assess but it was argued that as it was, in a measure, an experiment, it would be advisable to levy only five mills. The law prescribes that ten mills may be levied. The vote was taken by ballot and a total of 34 were cast. Twenty-six stood for the special tax while only eight voted against it.

The road to be built is to be what is commonly known as macadamized road and to be let by contract and built according to plans and specifications to be furnished by the county court.

In district No. 14 election, we have not the good word to publish as we have from district 13, for in that district the special tax was defeated by a small majority. The vote stood 15 against and 12 for the special tax. It was first voted to levy five mills if any.

The meeting was not well attended as in the other district, and from what we are now able to learn, it is said that this district is sorry that it did not carry, now that it can be seen what the benefits from this small special tax would have meant to the district. Any farmer driving into town from any direction will make all efforts to drive on

the new road on Pacific avenue and when he once uses it it becomes very apparent that it is the only kind of roads to have in any section. That this new piece of road is proving beyond a doubt its stability, is gleaned from the fact that every heavy loaded milk wagon that comes from the north, east or west uses it, and together with the incessant rains it stands a test that would not be likely given any other piece of road in the county.

The county court is straining every point given it by law to aid this section of the county because we are endeavoring to help ourselves, and not later than last Saturday when the writer was at the county seat did he receive assurances that if Thatcher, the district next to vote on the special tax, would vote the assessment the court felt that it would be justified in purchasing a new steam road roller for these roads to be built here. Any one acquainted with road building knows the needs and benefits to be derived from such machinery, not only to insure the permanency on the roads but the lessening of the cost.

Cornell Mountain district in the eastern section of the county voted only last Friday for a special tax for the same purposes as we here have done and it is understood that the district out north of Forest Grove will soon call a special election for the purpose.

In Thatcher district it is estimated that the first mile of road can be built for \$1370 as against the first mile in District 13 which would cost about \$2740, giving the Thatcher people an advantage of just one-half.

The following communication from John Beyer, supervisor of road District No. 29, should be read by every voter in that district: "To the tax payers of road district No. 29: Our county commissioner and judge have offered us a good opportunity to get our road rocked. Now is the time to get the rock as it is all uncovered and the crusher is all ready to go to work, and if the tax is levied they promise us a steam road roller. If we let the rock be taken away to other districts we may not get any more uncovered for years to come, and this opportunity will be lost."

JOHN BEYER,
Road Supervisor.

Additional Local Notes.

W. B. Rasmusen, who is attending the University of Washington, at Seattle, is home for the holidays. He has just completed a very successful season as football manager and put several hundred dollars into the treasury. He has also made valuable improvements on the football field including new bleachers and a high board fence around the arena. Mr. Rasmusen has been elected to manage all student body activities, debate, oratory, baseball, track athletics, and rowing. General management is a much sought after position and it is customary for the lot to fall to a student who engaged the freshman year. Mr. Rasmusen however entered the law department last year, captured capital debating honors and now manages the business of the entire student body of 1250 students.

Eight children have been sent to the Children's Home in Portland as the result of the Bradley-Gittings tragedy which occurred in Portland last week wherein Policeman Gittings was shot to death by Bradley. Four children belong to each party. The shooting affair was due to attention paid Mrs. Bradley by the patrolman. She conducted a restaurant here last summer under the name of Anderson, with whom she had run away from her home in Portland. Bradley got a clue of the whereabouts of his wife and met Anderson when on the train enroute to Hillsboro. A fight ensued and a gun play. Anderson and Mrs. Bradley fled to Banks, where they were arrested by Deputy Sheriff Kane. Anderson was sent to the penitentiary for six months.

The friends of Frank Fletcher will be glad to hear that he has made the leadership of one of the Whitman college debating teams which was determined by a tryout last Thursday evening. Frank will either lead the team against Pacific or Willamette. The debate will be upon the Japanese question. Oregon, Washington and Idaho have chosen practically the same question for their triangular debate.

Oregon Agricultural college will give a winter short course in general agriculture, dairying, horticulture, mechanic arts and household science. Persons desiring to enter these courses should reach Corvallis not later than Monday noon, January 6. No charges for tuition, but each student shall be requested to pay a registration fee of \$1 to cover the expense of materials used during the course. No entrance examination or educational test will be required. All will be welcome provided that they be more than sixteen years of age.

The Baraca Male Quartette will give a grand concert in Vert's hall, under the auspices of the Epworth League, next Wednesday evening, Jan. 1, 1908. The director, Charles E. Glass, is one of the best known musicians in the state, having been director at U. of O. The other members of the quartette are all good singers and it promises to be an entertainment of much merit. Reserved seats at Frank Allen's.

Little Ruth Knox, the four year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Knox who live north of the old Hughes farm, died Saturday evening after a short illness with membranous croup. The funeral services were conducted from the house Monday afternoon and Rev. S. of the Christian church gave the memorial. Interment was in the Forest View cemetery. Ruth was the only girl in a family of eight.

At the regular meeting of the W. R. C. held Thursday the following officers were elected: Pres., Emily Anderson; S. V., Sarah Thomas; J. V., Emma Cheney; Treas., Dayis Markke; Sec., Addie Morgan; Chaplain, Sarah Carter; Con., Anna Peters; Guard, Mary Tennis; Delegates, Dayis Markke, Della Purdin, Sarah Thomas; Alternates, Emma Cheney, Sarah Carter, Sarah Baldwin.

The holiday mails were much heavier this year than last as people sent small packages which were handled by Uncle Sam instead of Wells Fargo. There was a bewildering amount of "Merry Xmas" post cards and calendars that added to the bulk of the mails.

Regular Meeting of City Council.

The council met in special session Dec. 19 with all members present but Councilman Hinman.

The mayor stated that he had called the meeting for general business, but more especially to act on the pending fire limits ordinance and the special street assessments.

Chairman Wirtz of the ordinance committee presented ordinance bill "C" which had passed second reading Oct. 26, 1907. Councilman Hollinger moved that ordinance bill "C" pass to third reading. On roll call Councilmen Harris, Starrett, Hollinger, Walker and Wirtz voted "aye." No, none. The ordinance was read in full. The mayor announced that the ordinance having been read three several times the question now is, "Shall the ordinance pass?" Ordinance passed. Councilman Hollinger moved that the title of the bill be the title of the ordinance. Carried.

President E. W. Haines of the Electric Company, was present and addressed the council, explaining some of the difficulties likely to result from the effort to observe the requirement of the resolution adopted Dec. 10, 1907. They desired to do what was best for both city and the traveling public but wanted the city to understand some of the difficulties. Discussed at some length by the mayor and council but no action taken.

After consideration of the special street assessment problems Councilman Starrett offered the following and moved its adoption:

"Resolved, That the street committee be authorized to apportion cost of improvement under ordinance number 158 to the various properties abutting on streets where improvements were made, and turn the same over to the city treasurer. The city treasurer is directed to notify delinquents that they must pay amount due within five days after notice and if not so paid then he shall turn over to the recorder the list of delinquents, and the recorder shall proceed to collect at once in accordance with ordinance and city charter." Resolution adopted.

The recorder notified the council that the case of the city vs. C. L. Large wherein the latter had been fined \$100 for selling liquor without license, had been taken to district court on a writ of review. Councilman Starrett moved that the mayor be instructed to employ Judge Hollis and County Attorney Wall to look after the interests of the city in the case. Motion carried.

W. B. Haines who had been elected chairman of the judges of election for the coming city election, sent in his resignation and M. Peterson was elected to fill the vacancy.

Richard-McBurney.

There was a very beautiful and pleasant home wedding Dec. 18, at the home of J. W. McBurney of Gaston, when their daughter Merrill A. was united in marriage to William H. Richard of Hillsboro. Rev. J. M. Barber of Forest Grove, being the officiating minister.

About 2 p. m. the happy couple stood under a beautiful arch of evergreen, fir and the mystic mistletoe bough, and answered promptly the questions that united them as one.

The presents were well chosen, being appropriate and beautiful and will long serve as reminders of the occasion.

The couple took their departure on the evening train in the customary shower of rice and after a few days of visiting and sight seeing, in Portland and Albany, they will begin house keeping in Hillsboro.

Many good wishes follow them in their new life.

New Bank for Gaston.

Gaston is to have a bank. Private individuals have organized under the name of the Gaston Banking Company with a capitalization of \$50,000 and will open their money institution to the public January 10. J. H. Westcott, who formerly conducted a hardware store in this city but is now in the general merchandise business in Gaston, has been elected president and cashier of the bank. Other members of the institution are: Tom Carmichael of Gaston, Tom Honeyman, M. Winter, Morris Abrahams and Dr. Dewitt Connell of Portland. Gaston is the hub of quite a scope of territory and the bank should prove to be a valuable annex to the city's institutions.

Miss Gertrude Nicholas was awarded the three dollar box of candy in the popular girl voting contest at Oscar Baldwin's confectionery Tuesday evening. She received 1891 votes; Miss Hazel Stockman 1305; and Miss Reta Macrum 1263. The contest was one of much interest.

CHRISTMAS EXERCISES AT THE CHURCHES

Good Programs of Yuletide Season Given

DUE ARRIVAL SANTA CLAUS

Good Cheer the Keynote—Heavily Laden Trees and Happy Children Everywhere.

Christmas Eve was a joyous occasion for the little tots, old folks—and everybody. Many homes were scenes of Yuletide Eve festivities and good old St. Nick was the chief entertainer. Christmas trees brilliantly lighted with winking candles and scintillating tinsel served to make the homes cheery and the hearts of the children glad and the same thing only on a larger scale interspersed with good programs occurred at the large homes—the churches. The Methodist, Christian and Congregational had capital programs in keeping with the time and the seating capacity of each was taxed to its utmost.

At the Congregational church principal H. L. Bates was master of ceremonies—and wholesome ceremonies they were indeed. The songs by the different classes—of Misses Chandler, Clapp, Elliott and Mesdames McKenzie and Hill—were roundly applauded without exception. A song by the primary department in which there were about 50 little tots packed on the stage, was sung in remarkably fine unison. Beth Sexton recited, "How Santa Does It" with good effect. The best and most heartily applauded number was, "That Bad Teddy Brown," by little George Seymour, the son of his father Edward. George has not been out of the cradle and in Buster Brown uniform for many months, yet it would trouble a grown person to put the fine contempt that George did for "That Bad Teddy Brown," who didn't believe in "no Santa." The roast was really clever. The children filed into the Sunday School room and got gifts from the tree. A free-will offering was taken for the Children's Aid Society of Portland.

Children were also king at the Methodist church, Prof. Arthur C. Boggess presiding. The classes of Misses Gould, Brown, Corl, Mrs. Carlyle and Fred Knight rendered their various selections splendidly and extracted enthusiastic offerings from the large audience. The song by the quartet, Misses Abraham and Underwood and Messrs. Kirkwood and Gardner and the instrumental duet by Vernon Gould, Cornet, Archie Markee, Trombone, were among the good things presented.

The Christian church people rendered the program—the older folks acting as entertainers and the children listeners. Impersonations were the order—child pieces given just as children would give them, and the unique departure made a boisterous hit with the large congregation of people that filled the pit and balcony. Oliver Curtis was master of ceremonies and also presented a clever number in the shape of a dream of things and persons 30 years hence. Selections were rendered by Messrs. Sias, Dunsmore, Miss Mary Sias, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. McCreary. Mrs. and Miss Sias were encored because of their fine impersonations. The Misses Darling, Sias, Grace Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and Mr. Wells sang.

Bachelors Take Notice.

It will keep the bachelors dodging next Wednesday to fight shy of the leap year maids, peshaps, and again—perhaps not. At any rate it will be interesting to watch the proceedings of the gentler unmarried sex just to see if they do make any advances for a hubby. Many men who have not had enough blood in their necks to suggest the general question will greet the new and hop-step-and-a-jump year with riotous applause. These fellows have not proposed because they "have not had the sand, dough, and perhaps the initiative. In the first place they do say that it takes sand to win a home during the common years of the realm. Sand is just as necessary then for a case as it is for a good batch of mortar. And many a man has had to darn his old socks and fry his own flapjacks because of his lack of the glass element. But thanks be to the maker of the calendar there comes a time when sand is a minus quantity for the homeless—if the typo doesn't make it homely it's the Latin for men, both mean the same, however. A fellow in an adjoining town has been courting a girl for the

past five years and only last week he nerved up sufficiently by the assistance of Pertna to say to her stammeringly, "Well-er-er-I've had something trembling on my lip for the past month." His lady fair regarded the whole thing as a huge joke and replied, "Well, why in the world don't you shave it off." This fellow lacked sand and is now thanking the planets that a time is not far distant when sand is not a requisite on the part of man. A matrimonial house built upon sand, however, would be shattered ere the frame work of proposal were put together. There must be dough taken along with the sand in common years—the dough like father used to make, the kind that talks. And again initiative is a prime requisite. A man may have sand and dough; yet if he hath not the initiative he is a tinkling brass and sounding symbol. But leap year obviates all these. At least the sand and initiative. Leap year puts not a passive "Yes" into the maiden's mouth, but a positive, an aggressive, "Will you be mine," on her lips—not of the trembling sort either. Of course she will be drawn hither and yon by dough. As the needle of the compass is drawn by the loadstone of the North, so the girl is attracted by the coin a fellow hath, if beauty, brains and other things are intermingled in good proportion. Get your hat on straight old batch; your turn is at hand for the Leap Year cometh.

Editors in Fistic Encounter.

A disagreement between the editors of the Hillsboro papers this morning led to a fistic encounter on the streets of that city. The trouble arose over the failure of one editor to deliver the type for the delinquent tax list, to be published by the papers there this week. As both papers are printed on the same day some "tall" calculating must be done in order that they each use the same form and get out on time. Mr. Guild of the Argus, who seems to have gotten the best of the "argument," deplores the affair while Mr. Rath of the Independent is not so sure that a warrant will not be issued.

Attorney R. S. Hamilton of Lind, Washington, was visiting his daughter who is a student in college here yesterday.

Parties of Scoggin Valley say no wonder Phil Porter is wearing a smile of the won't wear off variety. The stork presented his home with a 10-pound baby girl Tuesday morning and wished him a Merry Xmas.

Ezra Dixon, who is a student at the Oregon Agricultural College, is in the Grove during vacation. He intends to enter the debate tryout for one of the three teams to meet Pullman, Willamette and McMinnville.

Misses Ruth Fitch, Maveine Templeton and Jessie Hoge will be at home to all their friends on New Year's day from 2:30 to 5 and 7:30 to 10 p. m. at the residence of Miss Hoge, Main and Second Avenue South.

Hi Porter returned from his trip to Minnesota, Friday, and will make Forest Grove his home. He went back doubtful as to whether he would return but once back it was "Oregon for him." His family will return in the spring.

Harry Bagley, counsel for Mark Tracy, has filed a writ of review with Justice Fitch of Cornelius who fined Tracy \$25 for alleged violation of the Sunday closing law. The case will be reviewed in the circuit court which convenes March 16.

Tom Bellinger of Portland, was out from the metropolis last week and closed a deal for four acres of land at Hillside, which he believes to contain a rich lode of apollo. He will probably put up a plant out there to prepare the apollo for commercial use.

E. A. Jerome of Hood River, is here visiting his daughter, Mrs. Jake Wirtz, during the holidays. Mr. Jerome formerly lived here and designed some of the finest houses in this city, and built the Laughlin hotel. He is doing architectural work at Hood River.

Miss Madge Chapman of Gales Creek, took up a collection among the young people of that place and purchased Dick Ranes a splendid pyrography outfit which was presented to him Christmas. Dick was very grateful for the present. He has been ill for three years and not able to go out of doors.

Lydia M. Pointer of near Portland was married to Edwin R. Morrill at the home of his father, A. A. Morrill at Hillsboro yesterday, Rev. Kilpatrick officiating. Only near relatives of the contracting parties were present. After the wedding a sumptuous dinner was served. Mr. and Mrs. Morrill will live in Hillsboro.

FOR SYSTEM OF PERMANENT HIGHWAYS

County Judge Goodin Writes the News His Views.

ASKS SOME GOOD QUESTIONS

County Commissioners and Judge Should Stand for Good Roads Before Elections.

Following is a communication from County Judge J. W. Goodin on the the good roads question which we are pleased to give space for, and hope every reader of this paper will read it through:

"The good road movement throughout the country, in my opinion, has reached the stage in Washington county where the taxpayers are demanding that a greater percentage of their money be spent for good, permanent macadam roads. Some roads leading to the central trading points in the county and to the county line on the different roads to Portland, as well as stretches of road across bottom lands and on hillsides throughout the county, have been kept in repair by corduroying and planking for a number of years, and each year several thousands of dollars of the money raised for road purposes is spent in this manner. The price of lumber and corduroy the past year has been so high that the cost of a well-built road of this material will nearly cover the cost of good macadam within three miles of the rock quarry.

"Such roads are only a makeshift, and if not replaced every few years, become a menace to travel. It is apparent that the most economical way to improve the roads that we are thus obliged to maintain is to macadamize. I will not in this article attempt to discuss the cost or to estimate whether or not this manner of improvement pays. I believe the progressive people of Washington county have an understanding of the value of good roads and that they are wise enough to invest money for their construction. The main purpose of this communication is to bring the question before the people for discussion.

"Among the questions presenting themselves are the following: "Should the road laws be so amended as to give the county court authority to levy a special tax to raise funds to be used for permanent work only?" "Should the county court expend money from the general road fund to assist districts who have voted a special tax on the property in their district for permanent work?"

"If so, to what extent?" "The matter of voting a tax in the districts is in line with the state aid plan now so universally acknowledged to be the only successful way for carrying on this work. The district, the county and the state each are paying a share of the expense.

"New Jersey was the first state to adopt this new law in 1891 and now twenty-three states are improving their roads under this plan and under state supervision: One reason why this system commends itself is that not one state has adopted the law and then turned back to the old system again, and several of the states have increased the percentage of the share paid by the state, notably Connecticut, which pays three-fourths of the whole amount.

"The candidates for the state legislature and for county commissioner will soon be presenting themselves before the people and I believe the people should know how they stand on this important question before electing them to said offices.

"I feel a great responsibility in this matter and I believe that the duty lies at the door of the county court of our county and it should be immediately accepted and acted upon.

"There is no reasonable excuse today for expending the money of the taxpayers as has been done in former years when no uniform methods were employed, but simply a guess and do it again process."

"I will write further on this question and invite anyone interested to discuss and to criticize our plans to establish throughout the county a system of well-built macadam roads.

J. W. GOODIN.

No little comment has been occasioned by the story in The News last week upon the proposed road to Tillamook. No opposition has as yet been offered to the proposition but much enthusiastic argument. Not far from this proposed road is a mountain profile with rock which would rock the roads of the whole county. It is in a loose form.