

WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

VOL. V

FOREST GROVE, WASHINGTON CO., ORE., THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1908.

NO. 28

FORCES CLASH IN ANNUAL MEETING

B. and M. M. F. R. A. This City In Throes of Battle

TO AIR MATTERS IN COURT

"Porxy Contingent" Claims Right of Election and Proceeds to Choose Officers.

The first annual meeting of the Bankers and Merchants Mutual Fire Relief Association of this city was held in the offices of the secretary, W. H. Hollis yesterday morning at 10 o'clock and the business of the first year was wound up.

The reports of the association were in every particular very flattering. Nearly seven hundred thousand dollars worth of insurance was written during that period and had it not been for two bad incendiary losses at Shedd's, Oregon, the showing would have eclipsed all expectations and quite a large percent would have been returned to the policy holders. As it is, however, the association will be able to declare a dividend of 25 per cent at the end of the fiscal year, about March 1. Under the economic management and careful selection of risks that has been adhered to the past year it is estimated that the next year's business will thrive that of last. The business of the association heretofore has been almost entirely handled by the president and secretary, E. W. Haines and W. Hollis, respectively, and the credit of the success of the association is largely due them.

A brief statement of the association's resources and liabilities is as follows:

Cash collected to January 15, 1908.....\$ 12 335 61
Paid out—
Agents commissions..... 1 757 80
Office expenses..... 558 24
Total losses..... 5 208 10
Adjusting losses..... 37 05
Return premiums..... 70 80
Printing and advertising..... 184 56
License fee and corporation seal..... 18 50
Salaries of officers..... 1 200 00
Policy registers..... 67 50
Exchange..... 1 70

\$ 9 104 25
Cash on hand to balance 3 231 36

\$ 12 335 61
Total amount of applications received.....\$672 145 00
Policies issued.....526 145 00
Applications rejected..... 1 900 00
Applications canceled..... 48 350 00
In suspense..... 96 200 00

672 595 00
Resources..... 3770 30
Liabilities..... 598 68

Notwithstanding the very laudable report above given all of the tranquillity and peacefulness that ever prevailed over the association during the past seemed to have taken wings and flown when the moment for the selection of a board of directors came.

About sixteen members of the company were present when the board was selected and the usual procedure was expected to rule, but the offering of 127 proxies by F. A. Watrous, general agent, which was blocked by a motion that carried to the effect that only those present be entitled to vote, precipitated a lively discussion, which has by no means at this time abated. In fact it has been the cause of a second set of directors being chosen.

Attorney J. N. Hoffman, chief spokesman for the proxy contingent, argued for the admittance of the votes on the grounds that they had voluntarily been given to Mr. Watrous for him to use as he saw fit and for the benefit of the association. Mr. Watrous also assured the members present that if he be allowed to vote the proxies—127 in all and enough to have carried the entire election—he would guarantee that

the board he selected would be satisfactory to all concerned but the opposing contingent could not see it that way.

The constitution and by-laws do not provide for the voting of proxies and in as much as a motion was put and carried to bar them, it is contended by the old board, or the greater part of it, that they are in the right and the set of directors chosen on the proxy ballot is unconstitutional.

Attorney Hoffman gave notice that their side would carry the matter into the circuit court and to the supreme court if necessary to establish their rights to vote proxies.

The non-proxy board of directors is as follows: J. P. Dodge of Ashland, Lee Teutsch, of Pendleton; W. H. Hollis, S. G. Hughes, H. J. Goff, E. W. Haines and M. Peterson.

The proxy board follows: J. P. Dodge, Lee Teutsch, M. S. Allen, Fred A. Watrous, J. N. Hoffman, C. L. Bump and E. W. Haines.

The proxy board held a meeting in the offices of Mr. Hoffman yesterday afternoon and elected the following officers: Pres., M. S. Allen, Vice President, J. P. Dodge; Secretary, J. N. Hoffman; Treasurer, C. L. Bump; all receiving four votes each, the number being present.

Likewise the non-proxy board held a meeting last evening at the Association's headquarters and proceeded with the election of its officers, which follows: President, E. W. Haines; Vice President, M. Peterson; Secretary, W. H. Hollis; Treasurer, H. J. Goff. The treasurer's bond was fixed at \$6000 and the secretary's at \$1000.

Both boards have qualified and the papers have been forwarded to the Secretary of State.

The Non-Proxy board is in possession of all the books, papers and all necessary equipment to carry on the business and will continue to do business as before, while the other board have all these things to get yet, and it is thereby contended that as "possession is nine points in law" the battle royal is by no means over yet.

What the Taxes Go For.

The tax levies for this year are now all made and people can estimate about what they will have to dig up soon to keep the machinery of government running another year. The total levy for the larger part of Forest Grove is 26.3 mills on the dollar. If your property is assessed at \$1000 you will have to pay the following amounts and for the purposes indicated below:

State tax, 2.1 mills.....\$2.10
County general, 1.5 mills.....1.50
County road, 2.88 mills.....2.88
County school, 2.78 mills.....2.78
County library, .04 mills......04
Forest Grove City, 5 mills.....5.00
" City Hall, 1 mill.....1.00
" Library 1 mill.....1.00
School tax, Dist 15, 5 mills.....5.00
Road Dist Special, 5 mills.....5.00

Total.....\$26.30

People who know what their assessment is can figure out for themselves from the above table what their total taxes will be.

Residents of that part of Forest Grove included in road district 14 are not subject to the special road tax, so their taxes will be \$5 less per thousand.

Died.

Lambert, the little five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Loomis, who has been suffering the past few days with diphtheria, died last evening. On account of this case of diphtheria, the public school, which is located on the opposite corner from the Loomis home, has been suspended until after the disease is abated.

Announcement.

The undersigned wishes to announce his candidacy for the clerkship of Washington county to come before the primary next April. I have had experience in that office and if elected will give the people my best efforts in that office.

W. D. SMITH.

NEW STEAM ROAD ROLLER

County Court Fulfills Promise to Buy Machinery for Building Roads.

The County court has ordered a seven ton steel roller from the east which will be delivered about April 15. It will be an American Gasoline Motor roller and the fuel will only cost about \$2 per day. This is estimated as a much lower cost than would take to run a steam roller. The cost of the roller was \$2500 but the old roller was taken in at \$400.

Judge Goodin is very much pleased at the attitude the county is taking towards road improvement and he believes that the people are becoming educated up to a good standard of highways. The reason why Dilley voted down the proposition was because they are at the expense of building a new school house this year.

National Bank Officers.

Tuesday was the annual election of officers and directors of the National banks in this state and the two national banks in this city held such elections and chose the following directors and officers: Directors of the First National bank are R. M. Dooley, J. E. Loomis, H. C. Wortman, R. M. Dooley, Jr., Frank E. Dooley and M. Peterson. Officers, R. M. Dooley, Pres.; M. Peterson, Vice Pres.; Gordon S. Ogden, Cashier. The only change made was the adding of Mr. Peterson to the board of directors and choosing him as Vice President. Mr. Peterson is one of Forest Grove's substantial business men and will thus strengthen the bank's directorate. The bank has done the largest business the past year of any in its history.

The Forest Grove National did not make any change in either the officers or the directorate and it stands as follows: Directors, Thos. T. Todd, J. W. Fuqua, J. A. Thornburg, John E. Bailey, W. B. Haines; Officers, W. B. Haines, Pres.; John E. Bailey, Vice Pres.; J. A. Thornburg, Cashier. This bank has seen in its one year's existence, one of the most remarkable growths and everything points to a continued prosperity in its future.

Buxton Telephone Meeting.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held Jan. 11 at the Bailey school house, four miles north of Buxton, for the purpose of building a telephone line from Buxton to Wm. Kelley's place on the other side of Green mountain.

P. Rutledge the promoter of the line, presided at the meeting. The subscribers formed an organization to be known as the Green Mountain Telephone Co.

The officers elected are as follows: President, J. R. Bailey; secretary, A. H. Wallford; treasurer, C. Gribner; directors, Martin Hart and Fred Greener. The line is to connect with the Hughes telephone line at Buxton. A branch from the proposed line will run to Hoffman and Jeppesen's sawmill at Bacona, to communicate with Portland.

Jubilee Singers.

Friday evening's entertainment at the college by the Tennessee Jubilee singers was the largest attended function in the course. The aggregation did not come up with the Fisk colored singers that visited this city two years ago, yet they did not appear in a number in which they were not roundly applauded. Some few folks attended who didn't crack a smile, even the hardest jolts at comedy of the big homely negro proving futile. Such people should have stayed at home for they might have known that the colored contingent would not indulge in classic flights; if they had the big majority of the audience would have been patetically deceived. What they went for was to hear negro melodies and that is what they got, instead of exhibitions of classic technique. To see a bunch of solemn folks at a negro festival reminds one that they had rather gone to a morgue meeting.

COUNCIL MEETING.

Last Meeting of Old Board Tuesday—Paid Regular Grist of Bills—Other Business.

Common council met in regular session Tuesday evening with Mayor Laughlin absent for the first time since he was elected one year ago. His absence was due to illness. Councilman Starrett, president of the board, acted in his stead.

Report of Financial Committee read and accepted and sight warrants ordered drawn for several amounts.

Upon motion of Councilman Wirtz the bill of costs in case of City vs. Miller amounting to \$12.50 was allowed. Election bills, total \$10, allowed.

Councilman Hinman reported that records do not show any alley in block 13 of South Park.

There was a lively discussion over the special assessment, over the defects in which it was drawn up and upon motion of Councilman Hinman the matter was ordered laid over to a called meeting by the mayor.

Report of Canvassing Board of Election composed of Messrs. B. H. Laughlin and Walter Hoge showing result of election was accepted and ordered placed on file.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts
Balance December 1.....\$ 651 24
Rec'd for lights..... 357 99
" " water..... 233 05
" W Hoge, license..... 21 00
" " Morley fine..... 1 35
" " pool licences..... 9 00
" Wilbur McEldowney..... 30 00

Total.....\$1284 63

Expenditures—

Paid warrants..... 675 56
Balance..... 609 07
Special fund—
Balance Dec 1..... 185 47
Rec'd A B Thomas..... 21 60
" L L Hollinger..... 7 00
Paid two warrants..... 16 25

Balance.....\$ 197 82

Library fund—

Balance Dec 1..... 123 39
Paid one warrant..... 38 25

Balance..... 85 34

Building Fund—

Balance Dec 1..... 117 12
Balance..... 117 12

Total balance..... 1009 35

Bills Allowed—

J. G. Lenneville, sal and blacksmithing..... 12 00
Walter Hoge, recorder, Nov. and Dec..... 8 80
Forbes Supply Co. wire..... 19 71
J. C. Latta, freight and hauling..... 1 15
Bazaar, supplies..... 1 10
E B Sappington, labor..... 5 50
L. J. Corl, sal. and com..... 21 61
M. Peterson and son, nails..... 11 90
J. F. McGill, pipe bands..... 2 00
Hugh Smith, street work..... 2 00
L. L. Hollinger, revising assessments..... 10 00
Len Munkers, work for city..... 6 60
B. L. Doane..... 6 65
S. E. Todd, labor and salary..... 27 95

\$ 136 57

A Reformer of Old.

Mr. W. J. R. Beach of this city, handed us the other day a copy of the Hawk-Eye, published at Burlington, Iowa, which contained the following bit of American history, alleged to have been written by Cotton Mather in 1682. In the letter Mather announces an attempt to prevent the landing of William Penn and a body of his followers from the good ship "Ye Welcome."

The letter follows:

Boston, Sept. ye 15th, 1682.

"To ye aged and beloved John Higginson:

"There be at sea a shippe called 'Ye Welcome,' R. Greenaway, Master, which has aboard an hundred or more of ye heretics and malignants called Quakers, with W. Penn, who is ye chief scampe, at the head of them.

Ye General Court has accordingly given secret orders to Master Malachi Huxett, of ye brig Propasse, to waylaye sed 'Welcome' as near ye coast of Codde as may be and make captive ye said Penne and his ungodly crewe so that ye Lord may be glorified and not mocked on ye soil of this new countre with ye heathen worships of these people.

"Much spoyle may be made bysell-ing ye whole lot to Barbadoes, where slaves fetch goode prices in rumme and sugar, and shall not only do ye Lord great service in punishing the wicked, but we shall make great good for his ministers and people. Master Huxett feels hopeful and I will set down ye news when his shippe comes back. Yours in ye bowels of Christ."

"COTTON MATHER."

Cornelius Jottings.

Judge Fitch of Cornelius, was kept on the jump the latter days of last week, dealing out justice to the offenders of the law at our neighbor town.

The preliminary trial of John Ingebrighton was held who was alleged to have tried to wreck the Portland bound S. P. train Thursday morning, was heard and he was released on \$500 bonds put up by his father to appear in the circuit court. He had been in the employ of the section work for the railroad and had been discharged. Wednesday night he indulged in booze and placed a railroad tie diagonally across the track. At the trial when asked by the detective, J. A. Riley of the S. P. what motive he had in placing the tie there said that he did not have any motive but just did it for devilment, and was influenced by the liquor.

Complaints were sworn out against C. Shilling, Mark Tracy and Amos McCurdy alleging that they had sold John Ingebrighton liquor. Shilling plead guilty and was fined \$50 but the other two men, Tracy and McCurdy, stood trial and were fined \$50 each, but served a writ for a review in the circuit court. Harry Bagley was attorney for the prosecution and George Bagley for the defense. Three cases from Cornelius are up for review in the circuit court.

A few days ago a fellow was passing L. J. Corl's new brick building reasoning aloud with himself as to whether he should make a certain purchase or not and every word that he uttered was hurled back into his teeth. The fellow grew very angry. He repeated another sentence and word for word with every accent came chasing after his syllables as an angry bull after a red shirt. He could stand it no longer and foaming with rage he made his way hastily to the rear of the building with the avowed intention of smashing his mimic to a pulp. He hunted high and low; finally went to the basement and made a regular Heney investigation, but with no avail. He finally came to the conclusion that he had misconed himself, that what he had heard was really nothing but an echo. Feeling cheaper than an open-work garment during the winter months he went home and kept the matter to himself. On the following evening he was going home with a friend that was passing the holidays in the city and the local character suggested that one of the plainest echoes he had ever heard was that made by Corl's building. "I'll just show you," he added. Each person recalled the best echoes they had ever heard and then as they passed the city treasurer's building the local character whispered to the friend: "Now listen when I shout how plain every word comes back," then emptying his lungs with, "What are you doing there." The walls of the building vibrated and reverberated with the reply, "None of your d—n business." Investigation revealed that a bunch of bachelors had gathered to discuss ways and means of dodging cupid's darts for the year 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton McNeill went to Portland Saturday and visited over Sunday with relatives.

VERY SMALL VOTE CAST TUESDAY

City Election Goes off Quietly in This City.

ONLY ONE TICKET IN FIELD

Usual Wet and Dry Fight Avoided by Union of Forces—Good Ticket Elected.

Monday's was the most peculiar election ever held in Forest Grove, and probably dates the dawn of a new and progressive era. For the first time in the history of the town, according to the oldest inhabitants, there was absolutely no electioneering and the reason was simple: Only one ticket in the field which seemed to meet the hearty approval of everyone in town but one or two of the straightest laced and most radical suffragists.

The lightest vote in years was polled—only 102 while there are at least 400 voters in Forest Grove. When a suggestion was handed out to a big number of voters they would come back with, "Well the Union Progressive is a good ticket and in accord with my views; it will be elected, so what's the use of my voting anyway, it wouldn't change results." That is the attitude that a big majority of the voters of this city took and that is the reason why 102 instead of 400 votes were cast.

Had it not been for the stories of E. W. Haines and a few others the board would have slept snoring for the work was not sufficient to keep the judges and clerks awake. But how different from other years when candidates went to the uttermost corners of the municipalities with surries and the glad hand to search out the voters and bring them in. Runners were sent out into highways and hedges and were not stingy with cigars in the least. But Monday not a single cigar was given away, not a single runner sent out.

The council chamber, the little jail, which on previous city election days has been a veritable sardine box jammed to overflowing with wets and dries keyed up to the limit and keen to see that nothing was done that would be in violation of Hoyle, was almost empty. Stephen Blank who entertained the board with reminiscences of the early day and conditions of the city, being about the only onlooker Monday and he did not challenge a single vote.

And the eventide brought no change. Heretofore the candidates and those much interested in the outcome of the election have been present with pads—no women attended, however—and pencils, and when the name of John Doe was read scratch went the multitudinous lead writing sticks; and, if perchance the clerk should shuffle a tally by mistake the thriffling quartet with some more would sing out "That's wrong" before the fellow doing the official stunts had time to correct his announcement. As a result of all this tally keeping there has always been a riotous run on the pencil and paper shops on the second Monday in January.

But what a slump in the graphite business there was Tuesday and for good reason. Not a soul was present after the curtain fell to assist the clerks in counting up the ballots. Folks that have made this sort of an annual social affair and homegathering event were not there. The absolute silence was only perforated by the counting of the officials. Chickens would have shed their feathers because of the impenetrable gloom had they been there and not even the roosters crowed over the result.

Outside of a few scattering votes the result of the election was as follows: B. H. Laughlin, mayor, 95 votes; J. H. Wirtz, councilman for short term, 95 votes; H. J. Goff, 95; Geo. G. Patterson, 98, and Chas. O. Roe, 95 votes, councilmen for full terms; Walter Hoge, recorder, 95 votes; L. J. Corl, treasurer, 98 votes; Ed. R. Wirtz, marshal, 93 votes.