

# WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

VOL. V

FOREST GROVE, WASHINGTON CO., ORE., THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1908.

NO. 39

## MERCURIOUS POISONING!

Death Claims Young Forest Grove Girl at Portland Monday.

### DR. WHITNEY IN JAIL

Accused of Manslaughter—Deplorable Affair Casts Gloom Over Community—Victim Universally Loved.

Sincere regret for the untimely passing away of a promising young life and deep sympathy for the bereaved family were universally expressed by friends when the sad intelligence of Miss Mabel Wirtz's death in Portland reached this city Monday morning.

Miss Mabel Wirtz died at 308 1/2 College street at 4 o'clock Monday morning from the fatal effects of mercurial poisoning. Physicians had been successful in eliminating the actual poison from her system but the weakened condition in which the young woman was left was such that she could not retain food.

Miss Wirtz was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wirtz, of this city, and was 21 years of age. She was born at Camas, Wash., but most of her life was spent in Forest Grove with the exception of the last two years, during which period she made her home with her mother and brothers in Portland.

The funeral of Miss Wirtz was to have been held Tuesday afternoon and the body cremated, but sensational developments arose which caused a halt to be made and the arrest of Dr. G. B. Whitney of this city resulted, charging him with manslaughter and throwing him in jail at Portland. Dr. Whitney, who until recently was assistant in one of the dental parlors here, and popular among the younger set, is said to have procured medicine at a local drug store, which contained mercury, and induced the girl to use it which ultimately resulted in her death. A physician in Portland was called in the case and was apprised that the cause of the young lady's sickness was due to eating a tamale from which she was affected with ptomaine poisoning. When the girl's condition became alarming, it is said, Whitney admitted to the physician what he had done, and in order to alleviate the parent's sufferings induced the physician to diagnose the case as above stated.

Whitney stated that he purchased the medicine at C. F. Miller's drug store from Albert Watson and declares that he did not know it contained mercury.

#### WATSON'S STATEMENT.

In the sad and regrettable fatality with which my name has been connected no person more sincerely mourns than I.

Not, however, for reasons of consciousness of having performed a single legal or moral wrong, for that I did not do.

It was my habit to attend the drug store of C. F. Miller at noon and in the absences of the proprietor and clerks.

I never compounded a mixture for him or for any other person wherein there was the least hint or atom of suspicion that the medicine would or could be used for any improper purposes.

I absolutely never sold Whitney any mercury or mercurial poison in any form. The first time I was aware that I in any manner involved was when he went to me word that he wanted some mercury.

Signed, ALBERT WATSON.

An inquest was held in Portland yesterday and the jury found the following:

We, the jury, find that Mabel Wirtz died to her death at 308 1/2 College street, in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, on Monday morning, March 2 and 3 o'clock, March 30, 1908, from mercurial poisoning or some other corrosive agent furnished to her by one G. B. Whitney.

The Free Methodists held their last quarterly meeting of the conference in this city Saturday and Sunday and the meetings were the means of strengthening the various churches and giving them new impetus for the work they have undertaken. There were ministers and delegates present from several of the churches. Presiding Elder W. N. of Portland was one of the speakers.

#### Clean-up Day Set.

"Clean up your back yards and beautify your premises." This is the slogan adopted by the Forest Grove Civic Improvement Society at its meeting last Thursday night. Already its notes are reverberating throughout the city and everywhere signs of general improvement are in evidence but the work of clearing up has been set for Saturday April 11, and the arrangements and details for that day are in the hands of the door-yard committee.

Another important move was the selection of a committee consisting of Dr. Bishop, Walter Hoge and Judge Hollis to make the preliminary arrangements for a float for the Rose Carnival to be held in Portland in June.

The following is a list of committees: Advertising—W. H. Hollis, chairman; W. N. Ferrin, Walter Hoge, M. Peterson, A. B. Caples, J. F. Woods, Miss Manche Langley.

Streets and Sidewalks—Harry Goff, Chairman; Carl Hinman, George Hancock, L. L. Hollinger, L. J. Corl, W. H. McEldowney.

Dooryards and Private Grounds—F. C. Taylor, Chairman; Mesdames G. O. Rogers, J. E. Bailey, L. J. Corl, C. V. B. Russell, L. C. Walker, A. B. Thomas; Messrs. J. N. Boldrick, W. R. Harris.

Public School Buildings and Grounds—A. G. Hoffman, Chairman; Mesdames G. A. Boldrick, George Hancock, A. B. Thomas, Walter Hoge, Mayne Abbott, Misses Gould, Foster, Dora Baker, Messrs. H. T. Buxton, G. A. Thomas, Janitor.

Young People's Work—E. Seymour, Chairman; Mesdames E. E. Williams, Emma Chandler, J. A. Abbott; Misses Myers, Penfield, Messrs. H. Baldwin, R. Peterson, Loren Watkins.

Social Committee—Mrs. Walter Hoge, Chairman; Mesdames L. L. Watt, C. V. B. Russell, Vice Chairmen; Mesdames Harry Stuart, H. C. Atwell, Misses Kate Shannon, Estelle Elliott, Messrs. A. B. Caples, F. S. Barnes, J. H. Hartley, Gordon Clapp.

Humane—J. S. Bishop, Chairman; Mesdames G. O. Rogers, A. G. Hoffman, M. S. Allen, Messrs. H. L. Bates, A. B. Caples, J. G. Lenneville, U. G. Hanna.

Rose—H. L. Bates, Chairman; Mesdames L. C. Walker, W. A. Kane, C. F. Clapp, Moore, F. C. Taylor, John Thornburgh, S. Hughes, G. O. Rogers, C. V. B. Russell, U. G. Hanna, G. A. Boldrick, A. B. Thomas, Miss June Walker, Messrs. W. R. Harris, J. S. Bishop, S. T. Walker.

Reception—A. B. Thomas, Chairman; E. Seymour, R. M. Dooly, Mesdames W. McEldowney, E. H. Brown, H. Haynes, A. G. Hoffman, W. N. Ferrin, E. Seymour.

Reading Room—Mrs. L. L. Hollinger, Chairman; Mesdames G. O. Rogers, Harry Stuart, Messrs. A. C. Boggess, H. W. Boyd, Miss E. B. Penfield.

Excursion and Promotion Committee—E. W. Haines, Chairman; J. H. Hartley, W. B. Haines, B. H. Laughlin, C. O. Roe.

#### For Pensioners.

According to a press dispatch from Washington, D. C., the commissioner of pensions has announced the monthly increase of pension for the following residents of Washington county: J. C. Strain, Dilley, \$12; Lewis S. Fairchild, Cornelius, \$20; William L. Davis, Tualatin, \$15; M. H. Grosbeck, Hillsboro, \$12; J. J. Hill, Hillsboro, \$15; Henry Harrington, Cornelius, \$15; A. J. Killin, Greenville, \$10; J. L. Laughlin, Forest Grove, \$8; John H. Clear, Sherwood, \$15.

#### To Boston as Delegate.

Professor Mary F. Farnham, of the department of English in Pacific University, was recently chosen as a delegate from the Federated Women's Clubs of Oregon to the annual meeting of the National Federation which meets at Boston in June. This choice brings honor to the Forest Grove women's club which is one of the most active in the state organization.

#### Senator Fulton at Hillsboro.

Hon. C. W. Fulton, republican candidate for the U. S. senate, will deliver an address in the Crescent theatre, Hillsboro, at 2 p. m. on next Thursday, April 9. This will be the only address by him in this county owing to the shortness of the campaign.

Mrs. Tom Hunley of Dilley, was visiting here during the week.

#### I. O. O. F. FRATERNAL VISIT

Forest Grove Three Linkers are Hospitably Entertained at Hillsboro

With Odd Fellowship banners flying high a score or more of Forest Grove "three linkers" went to Hillsboro last Friday evening to visit the lodge at that place. The affair proved one of the most pleasant fraternal doings of the season and the local contingent has nothing but fulsome praise for the Odd Fellows of the county seat who did everything to make the visit a happy one.

A team of 16 members from the Forest Grove lodge put on the initiatory work and two candidates were given a glimpse of the mysteries of Odd Fellowship. A banquet closed an eventful night in the annals of the two neighboring lodges.

Among those who attended from here were: John McNamer, A. L. Sexton, E. W. Haines, Rev. H. Gould, Miles Wataous, G. B. Campbell, Chas. Odell, O. Dixon, Chester Dixon, N. Moulton, W. K. Curtis, R. M. Taylor, Sam Walker, H. H. Clark, George Misner, R. C. Hill, S. L. Show, Wm. Long, Chas. Van Dorn, S. G. Morgan, John Wilhelmsen, Fred Gardner, A. E. Gardner, E. K. Abraham and H. Porter.

#### State Central Committee to Meet.

The Republican State Central Committee is summoned to meet in Portland, April 10, to call a state convention and to name the number of delegates that every county in the state may send to that convention.

The republican state convention will choose four delegates-at-large for the national convention; also four candidates for presidential electors. The state central committee also will provide for conventions in the two congressional districts, each district naming two delegates, which gives Oregon altogether, a total of eight delegates in the national convention. Eight alternates will be named to take the place of delegates who cannot be in Chicago on June 16.

Every republican who takes part in the county primaries and convention will have a voice in naming Roosevelt's successor.

Every republican in Oregon should attend his county convention and should see that the right kind of men are sent to the state convention. The responsibility rests upon every voter. Not much time remains to act up to organize.

#### Mrs. W. D. Hare.

Mrs. Mary Meade Hare who passed away at the family home at Hillsboro last week was well known in Forest Grove. She was born at Union Springs New York in 1840. She was prominently identified with several fraternal orders and with the Woman's Club.

Mrs. Hare's maiden name was Anthony and was a cousin of the well-known woman's rights leader, Miss Susan B. Anthony. Besides her husband Hon. W. D. Hare of Hillsboro, she leaves a brother, C. E. Anthony of San Diego, Cal. She had been a member of the Presbyterian and Congregational church since girlhood and was a member of the Eastern Star, the Grange and the Grand lodge Degree of Honor. The funeral services were held from the family residence and burial in the Masonic cemetery. A large concourse of friends were present to pay the last tribute to an estimable lady and neighbor.

#### Nicholson-Pomeroy.

At the Folsom residence in this city Miss Anna E. Pomeroy and Mr. C. E. Nicholson were united in marriage Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock by Rev. A. J. Folsom. The contracting parties are well known in Forest Grove. The bride has been prominent in lodge circles, was always a favorite participant in amateur theatricals and has a host of friends here. Mr. Nicholson for several years was junior partner in the grocery firm of Nicholson & Son, but recently retired from business to move on a farm seven miles north of town. He is a genial, good fellow and numbers his friends by the score. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson will make their home on the former's country place.

#### Gov. Chamberlain at Hillsboro.

Governor Chamberlain will speak at Hillsboro, immediately following the horse parade which is to be given there on the afternoon of April 18th.

Possibly an airship or something else was needed to complete the gamut of systems of locomotion which were in evidence on the streets yesterday. Steam cars, automobiles, horses and carriages, bicycles, invalids chairs and the stilt of the ubiquitous small boy completed the array. Forest Grove takes on metropolitan airs at times.

#### RAIL NOT CRACKED

Railroad Men Disagree With Reporter's Opinion Relative to Rail.

To ascertain the real condition of a rail on the scene of the recent wreck west of the Forest Grove depot, which a correspondent to a Portland paper said was cracked and possibly unsafe, L. R. Fields, superintendent and William Rollins division engineer for the West Side Division of the Southern Pacific, came to Forest Grove last Monday.

They made an examination of the rail and concluded that which had been taken for a crack by the youthful reporter was nothing but the cut made by a chisel at the time the rail was removed from another line and that the soundness of the rail was not at all impaired thereby.

#### Where Husbands Participated.

An event long to be remembered was the social gathering Tuesday evening, at the home of Mrs. V. S. Abraham, where an elaborate four course dinner was given by the members of the Domestic Science Department of the Woman's Club of Forest Grove, to their husbands and invited guests. Covers were laid for forty and the menu was as follows:

Bouillon, Wafers, Celery, Pickles, Cream Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Home Canned Corn, Bread and Butter, Egg Salad with Mayonnaise Dressing, Boston Brown Bread, Orange Pie, Apple Pie, Cake, Home-made Bonbons, Coffee, Nuts.

A distinctive feature of the evening's entertainment was the toasts, over which Mrs. Seymour, as leader of the department, presided in a pleasing manner, as toast-mistress. After extending a welcome to "Our Invited Guests," the following were called upon:

Principal Bates, "Our Hostess." Dr. Brown, "The Single Men." Mrs. Hoge, "Our Annex to Our Club."

Edw. Seymour, "Our Wives and Sweethearts." Mrs. Buxton, "The Domestic Science Class."

W. B. Haines, "This Dinner." L. J. Corl, "Last but not Least." Forest Grove is certainly to be congratulated upon having women who are interested in such an up-to-date Department of Club work.

#### COUNTY COURT NEWS

##### PROBATE COURT.

Estate of R. L. Cate, deceased. Administrator allowed until May 15 to inventory and appraisement.

Estate of Lendel S. Foster. Final account filed; Monday, April 7, time set for final settlement.

Estate of Mary Jane Sutherland. Administrator authorized to sell personal property.

Estate of John H. Kindell, deceased. E. I. Kuratli, John C. Kuratli and Benton Bowman appointed appraisers of property in Washington County.

Estate of Sarah D. Bates, deceased. J. E. Bates appointed administrator. It is further ordered that said administrator be authorized to release the Southern Pacific from all claim of said estate against said company as result of death of said Sarah D. Bates on payment of \$4,000. Bonds of said administrator fixed at \$8,000.

Estate of Howard E. Bates, deceased. J. E. Bates appointed administrator. Bonds \$2,000. Administrator authorized to execute and deliver to Southern Pacific R. R. Co. a release from any and all claims against said company on payment of \$1,000.

Estate of Florence W. Bates, minor. J. E. Bates appointed guardian. Bonds \$4,000. Guardian authorized to release Southern Pacific Company from all claims which said minor may have against said company on payment of \$2,000 by said company.

##### MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Jas. S. Herd, and Lena Koerber; C. E. Nicholson and Anna M. Pomeroy.

Ed Ward, who went to the Coos Bay country about a year ago, arrived in Forest Grove Tuesday morning for a brief visit while on his way to Seattle. He is a resident of North Bend where he is engaged in the machinery business more particularly sawmill and logging outfits. He expresses himself as well pleased with conditions there and is a booster of the Coos Bay region. "Four years ago," said he, "the present site of North Bend was a large field of stumps. Today it's a busy active town of 2500 people." The growth of that section of the state has been accelerated by a campaign of publicity conducted by the commercial bodies of the towns on Coos Bay.

E. T. Kuratli, ex-recorder, was in Forest Grove, Tuesday.

## SETTLED OUT OF COURT

#### Enthusiastic Road Meeting.

Filled with enthusiasm for the cause of good roads and civic pride more than seventy-five representatives from Forest Grove invaded the quiet precincts of the county seat last Saturday evening to listen to an interesting lecture on the subject of "Practical Roadbuilding" presented by a government expert and engineer, Paul Lancaster of Washington, D. C.

The meeting was held in the opera house and was presided over by County Judge Goodin who introduced the speaker of the evening who delivered a thoroughly interesting talk on road making. The address was all the more interesting because of the views which were used to illustrate the lecture.

The pictures were taken from actual photographs and told vividly the story of "before and after" as applied to roads when built according to up-to-date methods. Not only did the speaker treat of the historical side of road building from the days of the Romans to the time of the energetic Western Yankees, but he also gave estimates of cost in the building and keeping in repairs of various kinds of roads.

Mr. Lancaster laid special stress on the supreme essentials of road building. The first thing he said to be taken into consideration in constructing a road is drainage; the second thing is "more drainage" and the last and all important thing is drainage.

That drainage in this section of the country is the most important thing seemed to be clear to the speaker's mind as well as that of his hearers. There is nothing that means so much to the industrial life of a community than good roads over which the farmer can at any time of the year bring his product to market.

The United States government through the department of agriculture has taken great interest in the cause of good roads and has conducted object lessons in road building in various sections of the country. At Salem, the government engineers, assisted by Marion county, built a mile of macadamized road near the state fair grounds which is a model highway. A similar object lesson was conducted near Pendleton by the corps of experts which did the road building at Salem.

#### Electric Line News.

That Forest Grove and the western part of Washington county will be linked to Portland by a trolley line operated by the Oregon Electric company by January 1, 1909, seems to be an established fact. This company will have 100 miles of main line in operation consisting of the principal trunk line from Portland to Salem and two extensions, one from Portland to Forest Grove and one from Salem to Albany.

Construction work on the Forest Grove line, it is asserted, will be begun within thirty days. The contracting firm of W. S. Barstow & Co. will have charge of the construction work which will probably consume a period of six months.

If the present Portland-Salem line is to be taken as a criterion, the line to Forest Grove will be one of the finest that money can build and will be thoroughly equipped for the huge traffic which is sure to follow the development of the resourceful section through which it is destined to pass.

#### S. P. Pays Bates \$10,000.

Adjustments were made Monday by the Southern Pacific Company to J. E. Bates for \$10,000 for the death of his wife and infant in the wreck which occurred half a mile west of this station on Tuesday evening, February 11, when the Sheridan local went into the ditch, killing three and injuring 26 people. The total of \$10,000 was decided on without the aid of the court, but is divided as follows: To the estate of Mrs. J. E. Bates, \$4,000; to the estate of Howard Bates, infant, \$1,000; to Florence Bates, who was badly injured, \$2,000, and to J. E. Bates, husband and father, \$3,000. J. E. Bates was appointed administrator of the estate and legal guardian of the child, and the matter is now in process of probate.

#### Card of Thanks.

The undersigned wish to express their heartfelt thanks to the friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted at the death of our uncle, Andrew Thatcher.

WARREN AND FRANK THATCHER.

The Haines-Kane Damage Suit for \$25,000 Stopped and New Bank to Open.

## HAINES OUT FOR SENATE

Received 35,000 Shares Mining Stock and Bank Will Pay Out.—Investigation Stopped.

The suit instituted several weeks ago by State Senator E. W. Haines, banker, against Deputy Sheriff Frank T. Kane, his former cashier, to recover \$25,000, has been settled out of court.

The parties to the suit and their attorneys met Monday in Portland, where the settlement was made, in which the defendant turned over to E. W. Haines 35,000 shares in the Commercial Mining Company, which were held by him and against which the suit was started. The cash value of the shares assigned to Haines is said to be more than enough to cover the deficiency alleged in the complaint against his former cashier and will aid materially, as an asset, in bringing the affairs of the bank to an early adjustment.

The assets of the defunct bank, however, are said to be sufficient to pay the depositors dollar for dollar but it would take much longer to bring about an adjustment, and upon the heels of the settlement of this suit is the announcement that a new and stronger banking institution will soon be opened up here. It is understood that capital from Portland has been offered, and also influential citizens of this place have expressed a willingness to help put the bank back on its feet. The mining stock is said to be paying a monthly dividend of nearly \$300 per month.

Simultaneous with the announcement of the settlement of the suit comes the announcement that Senator Haines would enter the race for the senate. Mr. Haines states that he is a candidate for the senate, and said that it was at the urgent request of his friends that he entered the race at all, but that had not the adjustment of the case been amicably made he would have, under no circumstances, consented to run. He considers that the settlement of the suit is a vindication and substantiates the accusations made in his speech in Masonic hall, as well as those made in the complaint against Kane and filed in the Circuit Court two weeks ago.

After the adjustment of the damage suit, the special investigator, Max Crandall, of Hillsboro, was relieved of further investigation, and it is understood that the total deficiency in the bank will not be made known to the public.

#### Ten Year School Books.

Every scholar of the eighth grade in our public schools now, commenced school in 1900.

The books were changed in 1901 and 1907, therefore he has had three sets of books.

All parents bought new books last fall. Remember it was an unnecessarily big expense.

It will be better for the scholar, teacher and parent, to change school books every ten years instead of six years as at present, for the present plan is demoralizing to our school system and the "Pocket Book."

EARL E. FISHER, Candidate for State Senator.

A base ball benefit dance to be given in Masonic hall Saturday evening is announced by dodgers that have found their way in every nook and corner of the city and vicinity. The music will be furnished by Walker's orchestra and the proceeds of the affair will be applied to the base ball fund.

It is expected that a goodly number of the lovers of the "light fantastic" will be present to assist a worthy cause.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Anderson's smiling faces are once more seen in Forest Grove. Their many friends are glad to see them and hope they have come to stay. They will start for Roseburg in a few days to visit with Mrs. Anderson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, and her brother Oliver. Mr. Anderson intends purchasing property there if suited.

Carl W. Michaux of McMinnville, who had at one time a position in one of the local drug stores, was here Saturday evening.

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