

FOREST GROVE PRESS

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UP TO COUNCIL

An Investigation of Records Discloses Some Questionable Items.

FOREST GROVE, January 30. (Editor of Press.)—Some time ago in an issue of your paper there appeared articles written by "Taxpayers" suggesting to the citizens of Forest Grove that if they wished to know how the business of the city was carried on that the city records would show every transaction and a complete and exact record thereof. Being of an inquiring turn of mind I hied me to the source of municipal wisdom, ie (figuratively speaking) the Recorder's office, and below are some of the items I found on the public records. Section 1 of ordinance 169 reads: "That the question of the issuance of Bonds of the city of Forest Grove, Oregon, by the common council not to exceed the sum of \$70,000.00 for the purpose of constructing and installing a water works system in said city of Forest Grove at a special election called by the council for said purpose as in the ordinance provided". Note that it does not state that if the \$70,000 is not needed to construct and install a water works system that the balance can be used for the general expenses of the city. On November 9, 1910 the following resolution was passed by the council: "Resolved that there be temporarily transferred from the building fund the sum of \$3905.03, and from the water fund to the general fund, the sum of \$2800." Note that \$2800 was diverted from the water fund where it should have been used for placing hydrants in sections of the city where the residents have not adequate fire protection (being from 400 to 1000 feet from a hydrant), and replacing wooden and rotten steel mains, with iron ones, in those parts of the city where the residents wish to pave, thereby saving unnecessary delay and expense in the future. On page 242, city ordinances, resolution No. 2 provides that the council accept the proposition of Morris Bros., of Portland, regarding the purchasing from the city of Forest Grove bonds to the amount of \$70,000, or so much as may be needed, at the rate of 5 per cent interest, payable semi annually, etc. Notice, they purchase \$70,000 bonds or so much as may be needed. Did they need the \$2800 for constructing and installing the water system? If so why transfer it to the general fund? If not why issue the bonds against the vote of the taxpayers? At a special meeting of the council held on July 12, 1910, the following action was taken: The finance committee reported that Morris Bros. would buy the final balance of \$10,000 city of Forest Grove 5 per cent water bonds on the following terms: Morris Bros. to pay for the said \$10,000 bonds with interest coupons due January 1, 1910, and July 1, 1910, attached thereto, the sum of \$10,000, or in other words, purchase the bonds at par or face value flat. A motion was made accepting the proposition of Morris Bros. and authorizing the treasurer to sell the \$10,000 worth of bonds. Question: Did the council sell the \$10,000 worth of bonds twice? In the city

treasurer's report of August 9, 1910, to the city council he reports he received for the sale of this \$10,000 worth of bonds \$9500, or \$500 less than by their votes they said they were worth. Our inquisitiveness led us to look to see for what purposes the money received for the sale of bonds was used and we acknowledge we were up against it as to the following amounts, in 1910:

Apr. 12, West Water Pipe Co.	\$1856.04
Apr. 4, Crane & Co.	68.40
Apr. 4, Crane & Co.	42.00
July 12, M. Peterson & Son.	218.50
Apr. 12, F. G. National Bank, checks cashed.	1303.26
May 10, F. G. National Bank orders cashed.	1877.31
June 14, F. G. National Bank.	2561.77
July 12, F. G. National Bank, checks cashed.	1454.79
Aug. 9, F. G. National Bank, orders cashed.	2179.05
Sept. 13, F. G. National Bank orders cashed.	1972.49

An expenditure of over \$13,000 which it is impossible to tell from the records exactly for what it was expended and for over \$11,000 of it there is no record showing who received it. Will our self styled "Taxpayers" come forward and enlighten us, or will it be necessary to have a Moses lead us out of the wilderness? MORE ANON.

Gov. West Will Lecture.

Gov. West has had special pictures taken for the making of lantern slides for his first illustrated lecture on "Prison Policy and the Death Penalty" to be given at the Crescent theater, Hillsboro, Sunday night, February 11, for the benefit of St. Matthew's church. This is not a sectarian lecture but one of national importance and the state's executive will undoubtedly develop some new ideas at this lecture. The Rev. Mark W. Lappen has received very favorable mention from his departure in securing the Governor and arrangements have been made to end the lecture in time to allow visitors from various parts of the county to get the late trains home. The Governor will return to Salem after the lecture.

Rev. T. L. Jones, of Yamhill, will be in Forest Grove Sunday and will occupy the pulpit of the local Methodist Episcopal church. Rev. Mr. Jones expects to remain here for a few weeks to assist in the revival meetings which will begin Sunday at the Methodist church.

Pioneer of 1852.

Anna M. Smith, widow of the late David Smith, died Wednesday, January 31, 1912, at her home in this city, at the age of 84 years. Funeral services will be held at the Methodist church tomorrow at 1:30 o'clock. Burial will be made in the Forest View cemetery. Aunt Ann was born in Marion county, Ohio, and together with her parents, came to Oregon by ox-team in 1852. She walked almost all of the entire distance, and her party endured almost untold hardship. She was a member of the Methodist church in which she has wielded an influence for good always. She was of a cheerful disposition and lifted the cloud from many a life which afterward admitted sunshine. We believe that no other person in the Grove had so wide an acquaintance and so many friends. She lived an exemplary life. Her son, Milton W. Smith, of Portland, survives her.

Clover Hay

\$7.00 per ton, cash. Delivery added. J. D. RODE.

IS FOUND DEAD

Lonely Hermit Dies in Bed in Mountain C. bin at Timber.

James Hamblin died Friday, January 19, aged 69 years. Mr. Hamblin, a widower, lived alone near Timber, and had apparently been in good health up to the time of his death. The body was not found until Sunday morning. Mr. Hamblin's son lives about 300 yards from his father's home, and was at the residence during the day, Saturday. Finding the door locked he thought that his father was away and made no further investigation. On Sunday morning the son, in company with O. C. Smith, of Dallas, who, with his wife, was visiting at the home of the younger Hamblin, went to the home of Jas. Hamblin and found the door still locked and no signs of life about the place. Upon investigating, they found that the key was on the inside in the lock. They then went to the window of the sleeping room, and, looking in, found Mr. Hamblin in bed. Not being able to arouse him they forced the door and, entering, found him in bed where he had died Friday night. Every thing indicated that he had just gone to sleep and passed away without struggle or suffering. The acting coroner, Dewitt Smith, was summoned, and he, together with Dr. Woods and Sheriff Hancock, arrived in the afternoon and made an investigation. They found that the old gentleman had died from natural causes. The body was brought to Forest Grove and funeral services were held by Rev. Gould in the Forest Grove undertaking parlors, Tuesday. The burial was made the same day by the Grand Army, of which he was a member. James Hamblin came to Pendleton, Oregon, in 1852. He moved to Timber about ten years ago, and took up a homestead on which he lived up to the time of his death. He, together with his

son, was engaged in the shingle business until about two years ago. He is survived by two daughters, who live in Indiana, and one son, Geo. T. Hamblin, of Timber. Mr. Hamblin was well known throughout Washington county and had many friends.

Mrs. Wilson Dies.

Anna B. Wilson, wife of James Wilson, died January 31, 1912, at her home on Second street in this city. Funeral services will be held at the Christian church by Rev. Hilton, Saturday, at 11 o'clock, and interment will be made in Forest View cemetery. Mrs. Wilson was born at Lestonell, Ontario, and came to Oregon 34 years ago. The family has lived in Forest Grove the greater part of the time since. Mrs. Wilson is survived by her husband and four children, Otto, Gladys and Bessie Wilson and Mrs. M. E. Stanard, of Portland; also four sisters and brothers, Mrs. Robert Sheane, of Monticello, Washington, Mrs. J. H. Garrett, Chicago, Mrs. Frank Graham and Mrs. H. E. E. Hawes, of Portland, and J. D. Bellinger, Wm. Bellinger and Rob't Bellinger, of Forest Grove, and Thomas Bellinger, of Dayton, Oregon.

Reception Is Success

A silver offering in our city, by the Federation of Women, Wednesday, January 31, was held at the residence of F. J. Miller, South Park. Mesdames Miller, Buchanan, E. F. Burlingham, E. Meresse and J. F. Taplin, committee, tastily arranged decorations for the reception. The entrance of the dwelling was provided with tripod and gypsy kettle all covered with tinsel, where the guests dropped the shining coin. The arrangement throughout the dwelling was one of superb beauty. Many attended and the gypsy kettle was liberally filled.

A. G. Hoffman and M. S. Allen purchased the interest of E. G. Mills in the business of Hoffman & Allen Company, yesterday. Hoffman and Allen will continue the business. Mr. Mills will look after his farm interests. Hoffman and Allen have for a number of years been in business together and have built up a fine trade in their line.

PLANS TAKING

Much Interest Being Shown Over State in Proposed Industrial Contests.

Before the first March winds blow the greatest tryout ever held in the schools of Oregon will be under way. The boys and girls of the state are going to determine "Who is Who" in gardening, farming, carpentry, cooking, sewing, and in raising chickens, ducks, and pigs. Enthusiasm for this statewide series of industrial contests is waxing warmer than it has ever been for contests along athletic lines. A bulletin of information and instruction, including the state prize list, will soon be sent out to the school children, one for every home. All the boys and the girls now need to do is to go to work. If they want to compete in gardening they should at once secure a plot of ground, which they may have plowed. If boys expect to win prizes in woodwork they should begin practicing with their tools. If girls wish to carry off laurels in cooking and sewing they must begin early either at school or at home. If it is the poultry contest that lures most, settings of eggs should be secured from breeders of pure strains of chickens or ducks. Or if hog raising seems most attractive, the competitor should secure a thoroughbred pig and start to feeding and caring for it. There is nothing to prevent a boy or girl from competing in all these lines.

Christian Church

"The Greatest Thief in the World" will be the subject of the sermon at the Christian church next Sunday evening. In the morning, the pastor will speak on "The Genius of Christianity". Special music will be arranged for the evening service. The public is always welcome. The congregation is arranging for a revival meeting to be held in July by two splendid evangelists. Watch for further notices with regard to it.

Cherry Grove

Hotel Cherry Grove, at Cherry Grove, was opened to the public Sunday. Quite a number from Portland were out on the occasion.

Fred Robertson, of Gaston, was in Pike the latter part of last week attending the funeral and burial of his cousin. The Farmers' Independent Telephone Company held election of officers Saturday last. Al Woodhouse was elected president. Arrangements were made with the Bell telephone company, represented by Pem Patton, to carry wires of the Independent on the Bell poles.

Bert Ives, of Forest Grove, has been visiting with Herb Smith for a few days.

Charles Dixon was in Forest Grove Tuesday.

Born to the wife of Wm. Lee, a daughter, Thursday, January 25, 1912. Dr. Hawke, of Gaston, was knight of the stork.

W. E. Allen and sister, Ethel, were in Forest Grove Saturday.

L. D. Oakes has installed a cream separator and will make butter for the market. C. E. DIXON.

Gales City

Mrs. Talman, of Corvallis, is visiting her cousin, Mrs. James McClaran.

Mr. Williams, of Portland, our new sawmill man, was out one day last week to his mill, on business.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Hines are the proud parents of a new boy. Good luck to the little fellow. He may shoe horses for us some day.

Miss Bertha Churchill has gone to Hillsboro to attend school.

Mr. Hawthorne, who had the misfortune to be under a shed that fell during the snow, is improving slowly.

J. J. Adkins and family returned home last week from a long visit with relatives in different parts of the state.

Jas. Hamblin was found dead in his house on the Nehalem near Timber. The body was brought out for burial Monday evening.

Haynes Items

George Spenser, Martin & Forbes' foreman, from Mount Tabor, visited the greenhouse at Haynes, Sunday.

Mr. Clark, of Hillsboro' was a caller at the greenhouse last week.

Lester Tunblin, of Portland, is the guest of William McDermott this week.

Mr. Arnold, Martin & Forbes' rose grower, made a flying trip to Portland last week.

Charley Ward, of Portland, called at the greenhouse Saturday.

Congregational Church

Morning subject at the Congregational church next Sunday, "The Transfiguration".

Lime and Sulphur spray at the Forest Grove Pharmacy.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Gantenbein and little daughter, Marian, of Portland, were guests at the home of C. A. Littler on last Sunday. The occasion was the birthday of Mr. Littler and a birthday dinner was served in honor of the day.

Rev. Wilbur Cook died at Phoenix, Arizona, January 23, at the age of 24 years. Funeral services were held at the Free Methodist church on East Ankeny street, Portland, Rev. Coffee officiating. Interment was made in the Multnomah cemetery. Rev. Cook at one time was pastor at this place.

N. W. King and wife, who have been visiting in Sacramento, Oakland and San Jose, California, returned last Friday. They report that Oregon is still good enough for them. The weather was rainy and chilly, and with the conveniences provided in the homes of that part of California, it was far from comfortable.

For County Clerk

To the Voters of Washington County:

I am a candidate for the office of County Clerk, and have filed a petition asking to have my name placed on the official nominating ballot of the Republican party for the primary election to be held April 19, 1912. In said petition and at all times I pledge myself, if elected, to perform the duties of said office as prescribed by law and for the best interests of the public.

Edw. C. LUCE, Candidate for County Clerk. (Paid Advertisement.)

LOOK!
Original With the Press

\$5 GIVEN AWAY \$5

Who Has the Best Ad?

Any reader of the Press may write his preference naming the display ad that appears in next week's issue of this paper that most appeals to him. \$5 cash will be divided equally among the readers whose preference is centered on the ad showing the greatest number of preferences.

Look the advertisements over this week. Get your share of the cash; it's yours if you decide with the majority.

Cut out this coupon and save it until next week. Only coupons cut from the paper will be counted. Read the ads this week and be ready to select next week.

COUPON

Ad

Name of person making selection _____

Address _____

This offer is open to any reader, and will be repeated next month. Get ready for another choice.