ROGUE RIVER COURIER

GRANTS PASS, OREGON.

Published Every Thursday.

Subscription Rates:

One Year, in advance,	$1.50
Six Months,	.75
Three Months,	.40
Single Copies,	.05

Advertising Rates

Furnished on application at the office, or by mail.

A. E. VOORHIES, PROPR. & MNGR

Entered at the post office at Grants Pass, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1903.

The livest organization in Grants Pass, and the most active and zealous in its work, is the Woman's club and the Grants Pass Woman's club is the best organization of its kind in the state.

A public officer who does his work well should be allowed some praise. Blame and criticism are the lot of every public man under the sun, but praise is a rarer article. John Patrick, the recently retired street commissioner, has been diligent and faithful throughout his long term of office and has done good and substantial work for the city.

Next Saturday is Valentine's day. The pernicious custom of sending "comic" valentines, which are not comic nor funny but silly and contemptible, is, we are glad to note decreasing as the world advances farther into light. Every person who receives a "comic" valentine should place it carefully into the stove with the tongs, unopened and unread.

Fulton's chances for landing the senatorship are getting smaller every day. It is now extremely probable that the election will be deferred till the last minute of the last day, when some newly named man will go through with a rush. Who it will be is beyond the power of the political prophet to state, but the logical candidate is R. A. Booth. The state furnishes no better material.

Last Sunday Grants Pass was a "dry town" for the first time in years. The mandate of Mayor Bashor to enforce the Sunday closing ordinance was carried out. In his efforts to enforce the city laws and to carry out the promises under which he was elected, the mayor deserves the hearty commendation and support of the people of the town. When saloon men enter business here they are aware of the restrictions and they should observe them without being compelled. Let them observe the laws as other people are obliged to do. The mayor should be supported in this move.

A matter that has absorbed a good deal of the public interest this week is that of the Rogue river bridge. Some of the merchants of Grants Pass seeing that the ugly gap in the south approach remained unchanged for nearly three weeks, became naturally impatient and inclined to take matters into their own hands. Their action has caused some friction between themselves and the county court and as a result, Commissioner Lovelace, who had the work in charge, has handed in his resignation. As a matter of fact, very thorough investigation as to what had been done, was not made before taking action and this has placed the county court apparently in an unfair light. Probably if the court had anticipated the delay in getting material which has occurred, they would have provided immediately some temporary way of crossing but the delay was not anticipated. The order for timbers was sent in immediately but there was delay in filling the order. Meanwhile Mr. Lovelace was quietly making preparations and obtaining material. He was getting all things in readiness and so shaping the scheme that the different details, of preparations would be ready at about the same time. Then, when all things were ready, he intended to put in the bridge quickly, permanently and to stay. The quiet preparation was a feature not appreciated by the general public who wanted to see something done to the bridge. It is to be hoped that Mr. Lovelace will be induced to reconsider his resignation. During the time he has been in office he has done excellent work for the county and has saved for it several thousands of dollars in bridge work. He is the most valuable man that the county has had in office for many years and we can ill afford to lose his services. He is a thorough bridge mechanic and his work is of a quality that will endure. It is a pity that commendation of good work cannot be more freely expressed.

The spectacle of a mayor and council at loggerheads is not edifying and we sincerely hope the situation will be short lived in this city. Up to the present time the temperature of the city hall has been serene. Though the mayor and the council came to a deadlock over the appointment of the city officers, yet the disagreement has but a friendly one. No ill feeling has been exhibited and the mayor and council have worked harmoniously in the city's business affairs. Now, however, since open war has been declared, the situation assumes a different aspect and a darker one for the city, for if the mayor and council devote their energies to opposing each other, who will look out for the city's interests? Since the last meeting, the mayor has been predominant over his adversaries but none except the foolish prophet expects this condition to continue without a determined effort to prevent it. The members of the council are as firm in their determination as is the mayor and probably have a course mapped out to compass his confusion if possible. Now there is no question but has two sides. If there is only one side, it is not a question and no disagreement is possible. Each party in this case is convinced of the solidity of its position. Each, is backed up by sentiment or business interests. It is necessary for them to get together before the ever opening chasm becomes too wide to bridge. There must be a spirit of liberality and all stubbornness must be sacrificed to public interest. The mayor considers that he was elected on certain principles which he is therefore in duty bound to carry out and to that end he wants his own appointees in the subordinate offices. The council insists that the mayor's appointment are not satisfactory. There should be an earnest effort made to get together. Let each party give way a little if necessary. Let a conference be held and the points of difference enumerated and tabulated if necessary and some means devised, by arbitration if no other way presents itself, to eliminate these. It is imperative for the good of the city that war should be no more. Peace is sweet.

MASS MEETING OF CITIZENS

Held on Friday to Assist Repair of Rogue River Bridge.

In response to a request of some of the citizens, Mayor Bashor called a mass meeting of the citizens of Grants Pass on Friday afternoon. The purpose of the meeting as stated in the call was to assist the county court court if possible in the repair of the Rogue river bridge. The meeting was attended by a large number of the citizens. Mayor Bashor was elected chairman and Fred Mensch secretary. The chairman stated the object of the meeting and invited discussion.

Inquiry was made as to what had been done but as no member of the county court was present, nohery definite information was forthcoming. County Clerk R. L. Bartlett said that the matter had been placed in the hands of Commissioner Lovelace with instructions to fix the bridge as soon as he could. The order for lumber had been immediately sent in but there had been unavoidable and unexpected delay in filling the order. Mr. Bartlett said that Mr. Lovelace was getting things ready as fast as he could and would do the work in a few days as soon as the materials were on hand.

For temporary use a free ferry was suggested. The G. P. W. L. & P. Co. offered the use of their scow which might be readily converted into a ferryboat and the Golden Drift Mining Co had offered to loan their cable. The river banks were already partially graded at the site of the old free ferry and a little work would make them passable. A motion was made by Dr. Smith to adopt the ferry boat idea but on division of the house the motion was lost.

J. W. Howard moved that the chairman appoint a committee to procure material for a temporary bridge. This motion was afterwards modified to the appointment of a committee of 10 to work in conjunction with the court. This motion was adopted and the following committee were named by the chairman: Henry Harth, R. L. Coe W. L Sweetland Frank Fetsch, John Schallhorn, R. D. Cole, W. M. Hair, John Randle, C. E. Harmon, and Dr. Smith.

Fountain Pens—Waterman's Ideal $2.50 to $8.00 at Cramer Bros.

THE FISH LAKE DITCH

Little Damage Was Sustained by the Recent High Water.

D. E. Morris, superintendent of construction for the Fish Lake ditch company, reports that very little damage was done in the ditch by the recent heavy rains. The employes of the company during the storm knocked off some of the boards in the flumes and blew out a few places at rocky points in the banks, thus allowing the water to flow out of the ditch. Mr. Morris denies that any great damage was done the ditch and states positively that $250 will repair all damages. Mr. Morris states further that the rain was a howling terror and that there are but few farms along the creek that are not damaged to a greater or less extent. J. D. Culbertson's five or six acre alfalfa patch is now a gravel bar, and others above and below him were damaged to considerable extent. All the foot logs from the head of the creek to Drowndsero are washed away.—Medford Mail.

Williams Items.

Miss Belle Acock returned to her home here last Wednesday.

Miss Georgia Stephens who has been working in Grants Pass for some time is visiting relatives at this place.

The Rising Star Mine shut down a few days in order to repair some machinery. They are now busily at work again.

A. N. Cox returned from California after several months absence. Mr. Cox has been employed by the Rising Star Mining Co.

Floyd Bailey succeeded in capturing three large coons during the snow. Floyd is one of the successful hunters of Josephine county.

Mrs Geo. St. John left last week for a short visit in San Francisco.

Wm. Bingham of Bandon, Ore., is visiting his parents of this place. Mr. Bingham has been absent 17 years but finds many familiar faces.

Wilderville Items.

The snow seemed to come to stay awhile this time.

The light rain Saturday started the snow to melting.

Miss Della McCollum is visiting with her cousin Elsie.

Y. McCollum came to help J. W. McCollum on his new barn for a few days.

The Sunday school on Sunday was not very well attended on account of the weather.

J. C. K. McCann and Jas. M. Hocking made a business trip to Grants Pass one day last week.

Little Jimmie Lindsay has been quite sick for the past two weeks but is better at this writing.

The high water took out a great deal of fencing for the farmers whose land was close to the rivers and creeks.

There was no school this week as the teacher, Lincoln Savage, had business in Grants Pass to attend to.

Rev. Rogers preached at the Wilderville church Sunday. The roads were so bad he could not keep his other appointment two weeks ago.

Mr. Perry Laswell attempted to cross the Mooney mountain but was driven back by the snow. The snow was so deep it was impossible to get to Deer creek over that road.

Frank Stevenson had a bad accident one day last week while hewing some barn timbers. His ax caught on a bush and caused him to cut his left foot severely. He is getting along as well as could be expected.

Zanoni.

A COUNCILMAN'S VIEW

Mr. Hough Tells About the Deadlock in the City Hall.

To the Editor of the Courier:—

In the last issue of the Observer, appeared an account of the performances of his honor, Mayor Bashor of Grants Pass at the last regular meeting of the common council.

The present condition of city affairs is a public matter. It is a legitimate subject of public comment. It is one that does not promise anything but a continued squabble or row between the mayor and the council and one which may entail the city and some of its officers in needless and costly litigation and expense.

As the writer of this article does not own a newspaper or rather an equitable interest in one he must of course should he appear in public print attach his name to any communication which he may desire to send forth. The writer fully realizes that newspaper rows are not usually productive of favorable results but as the writer has had one or two newspaper rows before his willing to take his chances again this time and he asks this space in your paper that some explanation may be given to those who may not know all or the true condition of affairs. In the first place we have a mayor who was not elected but who is only acting under color of title to the office. At the time of his nomination in the city convention last November the writer undertakes to say that little or no thought was given by the political manipulators who brought about his nomination as to his ability or fitness for the place. Had there been he would not have been nominated. It is an indisputable fact that the mayor was nominated by a small coterie of ambitious would be politicians who are anxious to found a new political pary in Josephine county, and to start the building up of a political machine in the city politics. This coterie consists of Marcus Robbins, George P. Jester and a telegraph operator by the name of Isham. Messrs. Jester and Isham and the mayor are employes of the S. P. Company of Kentucky. Mr. Robbins is not a resident of the city. Not one of them pays a dollar of taxes in the city; not one of them has resided in this city three years, and I believe it is a safe prediction to say that not one of them will reside here three years hence; not one of them cares a straw as to what may happen in this city so long as his own selfish ambitions may be satisfied. This is the condition of affairs which confronted the common council of the city of Grants Pass, when the present acting mayor took his seat on the first Thursday in January of this year.

Prior to the time when the mayor took his seat there was considerable talk among various citizens and tax payers in the city as to whether he would be permitted to take the office. One member of the council called upon him, and he was told in unmistakable language that it would be the desire of Mr. Bashor, should he be seated to work in harmony with the council and to make such appointments as would be confirmed by the council and to fill the various offices with men capable and at the same time acceptable not only to the council but to a majority of the citizens and tax payers. He furthermore told the member of the council referred to that if his appointments were not confirmed he would meet the council to discuss the question of appointments to the various offices and would do all in his power to agree with them. He was finally seated. At the first meeting in January he made his appointments none of which were acceptable to the council and all were rejected. At the next regular meeting he again offered certain appointments for the consideration of the council. These likewise were turned down and moreover the mayor knew they would be. Between the first and second regular meetings the mayor met certain members of the council and the matter of appointments to the city offices was discussed and at other times private interviews were had with him by various members of the council but no candidates were agreed upon. If the council had to deal with the mayor the unfortunate condition of affairs in which the city finds itself probably would not prevail but when the council is compelled to deal with a man who is but nominally mayor and who receives all his orders and inspirations from the depot employes of the Southern Pacific Company of Kentucky who are neither tax payers nor have any interest in the welfare of the city but whose sole and only ambition is to build up a political machine in Josephine county for their own aggrandizement and possible advancement with the corporation whose servants they are, the condition is one which to the business men of Grants Pass is not pleasing. That it has been an attempt on the part of the S. P. employes whose names I have mentioned to undertake to put the city government entirely into the hands of S. P. employes is almost if not quite an indisputable fact. We have a Southern Pacific mayor who receives his orders and inspiration from Southern Pacific employes; he has appointed the local attorney for the Southern Pacific company for city attorney; and he attempted to appoint a man who is virtually a Southern Pacific employe to another of the city offices. The S. P. company has always received fair treatment from this city and should it keep its hands off the city affairs it will continue to receive the same fair treatment but the attempt on the part of is employes of nomadic residence, who pay no taxes, and have no interest in the welfare of the city will not be productive of the best results.

The difficulty between the mayor and the common council will in all probability continue. The inevitable result will be to the detriment of Grants Pass during the coming year, but however the matter may terminate, however costly it may be to the city, the better class of citizens will at least have had an object lesson which at future elections they will take advantage of. The mayor and Messrs. Jester and Robbins have a right to whatever political ideas they may have. This is a free country where every man may express his political ideas and vote according to his political faith, but one thing is certain, they shall not build up a socialist political machine in this city this year for their own political aggrandizement and advancement with the Southern Pacific company of Kentucky by dealing out the public offices as they see fit, and without the consent of the council, unless some means is devised whereby at least six members of the common council shall lose their seats.

Respectfully,

A. C. Hough.

Leland Siftings.

This snow has been hard on stock but people here have provided feed enough so the stock will not suffer.

Tom Virtue has gone to Spokane. He was clerking for Virtue & Mackin. He left a host of friends behind him; being a very affable fellow, he will be missed.

The miners have plenty of water. We can hear blasting night and day, tearing down the heavy bank so the ground can be washed away. To one that has never seen a hydraulic mine at work it is surprising.

We are expecting quite an immigration here in this vicinity soon. We need a lot of steady young men that are matrimonially inclined, for we have a right smart chance of the opposite sex that are looking out for fellows.

Since my last writing we have had quite a lot of snow but no wind so the storms have not been severe. The snow has retarded farm business but is going off gradually. We have had frosty nights with sunny days so the snow has melted gradually. At present it is foggy.

T. J. Mackin of Virtue & Mackin, always has a smile on his face. The girls like to wait until he is at liberty to wait on them then there is a rush to see who shall be waited on first. Once upon a time he was very reserved when in company with the young ladies, but that time seems to have passed away.

Everbody is well, hardly any one complaining of cold or anything of that nature. With the warm south winds the snow will soon be gone, then farmers can finish sowing their grain and make garden, as we have a good market for all we can raise. Farmers will raise big crops this year.

We think the Nugget that is printed at Cottage Grove is a little off. It says that Cottage Grove and vicinity is the best place on earth to settle in. "If one wants to settle in a place where it rains nearly all of the time, then that is the place to go to, but we think a person should settle where one can see the sun occasionally.

The snow has sent several of our prospectors in from the hills. Some brought in some fine specimens that show free gold. Soon as the hills are bare again, we will hear of some rich finds. The snow has melted so slow that the creeks are not high and the miners are getting the benefit of the rain and snow. As bad as the roads are, freight is being hauled to different points.

Wide Awake.

Merlin Items.

J. H. Harvey was seen on our streets Sunday.

All invited to the entertainment February 21.

Guy Colby returned home to Coyote creek Sunday.

A great many strangers are looking over our town.

J. M. Mark is ill with cold and severe sore throat.

Henry Booth has been quite sick at his home near Merlin, but is improving.

The school will be given a holiday this week, while Prof McConnell is absent at Grants Pass.

Who is the popular lady who will claim the handsome Oil painting Saturday evening, Feb. 21?

Mr Williams, from New York City, who has been spending a few days in our city left Monday for San Francisco.

Prof. McConnell, being one of the board of examiners was called to Grants Pass this week to assist in examining teachers.

Milt Reynolds returned home from Gold Beach Saturday. Mr. Reynolds has the contract to carry the mail from Gold Beach to Illahee.

The entertainment that is to be given by the school the evening of February 21, will be the last entertainment given by the school this season.

All are invited to attend the entertainment given by the students of the school, February 21, free of charge. The voting contest will close the same evening at 10 o'clock after which the picture will be presented to the lady receiving the most votes. The candidates are Mrs. Edward Bland, Misses Millie Frier, Ida Reynolds, Mabel Massie, Dena Jones, Maggie Chiles. In behalf of the school, Night Hawk invites all to come to the entertainment, prepared to vote and assist in making the entertainment a success financially as well as socially. This entertainment and voting contest is to be given to raise funds to finish paying for the school organ.

(Received too late for last issue.)

Ross Crow visited Grants Pass Saturday.

Boys, it would take only 5 cents to vote for that popular lady.

Mrs. Long has been quite sick for several days, but is now improving.

Mrs. Simpkins is also quite sick.

The county bridge over Lonse creek at Merlin was badly damaged by the high water.

Mrs. Paul Girard left Saturday evening for Saginaw, where Mr. Girard has employment.

Has not Grants Pass some popular ladies who will enter the contest for the handsome oil painting? We invite our Grants Pass neighbors to enter this contest.

The candidates for the picture this week are Misses Millie Frier, Mabie Massie, Dena Jones, Maggie Chiles and Ida Reynolds.

Married—Edward Bland and Miss Maud Jones. The young couple are well known young people of Merlin and have many friends who wish them a long life of happiness and prosperity.

Merlin Night Hawk.

Provolt Items.

J. W. Turvey made a trip to Grants Pass last week.

The Provolt baseball nine expect to be invited to join the Southern Oregon base ball League next summer.

Although the weather has moderated considerably in the last week the snow still hangs on and the placer miners are able to operate the mines on account of low water.

Albert York and Frank Knox have begun the work of pumping the water from the old Anaconda quartz mine. Development work for the purpose of showing up the mine is the object.

At the Mountain King quartz mine on Powell creek, a vein of rich ore has been recently discovered. Jeff Raney has been hauling the frame and stones for an arrastre at this place this week.

The recent storm has deposited an immense amount of snow in the high mountains. Farmers and miners are rejoicing over this as it is indicative of plenty of water for mining and irrigating in the spring and early summer.

Everett Holman went to Grants Pass Friday. He reports that there is two feet of snow on a level on upper Powell creek, and that the miners have suspended operations. The recent flood did no more damage at the Sharp Bros. and Holman mine than to carry away three of the flume boxes.

"Sis and Son" (the successors of "Ma and Pap") who write ostensibly from Bridge Point, Applegate, came out with an interesting budget of news in last week's Courier. To our mind, those items are suspiciously like those which might be gathered by a person sitting around the Provolt postoffice. If we have a rival in this field we should be glad to be informed of the fact so that we may be properly prepared for indefinite retirement from active business.

We are pleased to see the interest taken in our work of reporting the happenings of this valley, by different persons. For instance, "Dixie," of Kubli, makes a feeble attempt to create a misunderstanding in regard to our news item about the Provolt-Missouri Flat base ball game. It is rather late in the day to be disputing about the facts of the case and "Dixie" probably expects we have forgotten about them. We have not, and if the Missouri Flat boys wish a reminder, the Provolt nine stands ready to administer another drubbing to them.

Irrigators of this section are inclined to think that the Courier and Grants Pass Board of Trade have become their champions without the asking in the matter of placing screens at the head of ditches. As far as the miners are concerned it makes very little difference as the fish do not run to any extent during the mining season. But during the irrigating season there are many more fish destroyed through irrigation than there are hatched in all the hatcheries of the state. The cost and trouble of putting in screens is very little compared with the advantages to be derived from them.

XYZ.

Applegate Items.

Thos. Lowman of Provolt was on Williams creek the past week.

George Fields of Provolt was a visitor to Grants Pass Wednesday.

H. Pernoll of Applegate was at G. W. Moon's Monday purchasing a lot of mill feed.

Mr. and Mrs. K. G. Fields of Provolt were up on little Applegate one day this week visiting relatives.

We have had some nice weather the past week. Saturday it began raining and the miners began rejoicing.

Clinton Cook of Applegate, who has been down on Rogue river piling hay for the past two weeks, returned home Monday.

Fred Offenbacher of Williams creek passed through here Thursday on his way home with a fine band of sheep. There were about 50 head of them and about one-third of them were lambs.

Miss Georgie Stevens of Grants Pass is visiting relatives on Williams creek the past two weeks. Miss Stevens will return to Grants Pass this week, where she will begin work as usual.

Mr. Loesch, the hop man of Applegate is cutting a nice lot of fir hop poles this season to replace the ones that went off during the high water this winter, though his loss of poles was not great.

Carter Davidson the foreman of the Fabela Mining company of San Francisco, reports they have found the old channel of Brushy gulch. Instead of swinging to the left, it swung to the right by 100 feet and prospects finely.

The party that was held at L. W. Smith's Saturday night was a grand one. They played games and at midnight the table was spread with a good supper which was appreciated most highly by all who were there.

Ulysses Provolt and Theodore Payne of Provolt, have been down to Murphys this week and purchased a nice little bunch of stock cattle from Daniels and Son. The cattle are thin but in good living order. They got the bunch for $11 a head all round.

The dance that was given at the hall of O. E. Ross, Friday night, February 6 was a fine one. They had good music and a fine supper and all seemed to have a good time. It was a birthday party for Miss Gladys Ross on her 14th birthday.

C. O. Bigelow of Williams creek is putting a large break-water in Williams creek at the Sparlin ford. Mr. Bigelow is making it of pines from four to eight inches through. He put the tops of the trees down into the water and let the butts rest about a quarter in the bank. This is so the water cannot wash them out when it is up. When completed, it will be one of the best that has been made in Williams creek for many years.

Sis and Son.

County Treasurer's Notice

There are funds in the treasury to pay all county warrants protested to Jan. 10, 1898.

J. T. Taylor,
County treasurer.

Grants Pass, Ore., Jan. 5, 1903.

Plain Talk to Mothers.

The photograph that a mother cares for most is that of the little one who has passed away. For just one picture of this sort few mothers would grudge the price of several dozen pictures. But you say, "Next week I must take little Willie down and have some pictures made of him." Next week may never come for little Willie.

C. L. Clevenger,
Photographer,
Grants Pass.

CLASSIFIED AD

WANTED.

A thoroughly reliable, energetic who can devote the whole or a her time to business. One who h some business experience preferr dress "B," Courier Office.

A good farm hand. John H. L near Wilderville, Oregon.

An energetic manager for offi opened in this city for large m turing concern. Salary One Hun lars per month extra commission expenses. Five Hundred Dollars cas ity required. Best of references Manager, P. O. Box 2124, San Fr Calif.

FOR SALE

Seven Eighths Jersey Cow, fresh of O. J. Knips. Harkness Ga

Belgian Hares for sale or trade try. Inquire of Howard R

9700 whole root apple trees in Eureka Nursery, Wilson J. H. Robinson.

ALL the standard variety of app at the Eureka nursery near ville, Ore., satisfaction in qu quality guaranteed. J. H. Robi

200 ACRE ranch, good pr apple orchard, small abundance; water for irrigation springs on every 40 acres; center range country; two dwelling h barn, every thing complete; well from frosts, good mining mar half mile north of Tunnel 9, pri Inquire at this office.

ESTRAY.

Taken up at my place, near the last day of January, 1903, one mare colt about 3 years old strip in face, no visible brand. er can have same by paying advertisement and keeping.

P. G. Ba