

Rogue River Courier.

VOL. XXIII.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1907.

No. 29.

ROGUE RIVER VALLEY ANNUAL POULTRY SHOW

To Be Held in Grants Pass in January Under Auspices of Bird Fanciers.

A special meeting of the Grants Pass Poultry Keepers Association was held Monday evening at the office of Charles Meserve for the purpose of arranging for a midwinter poultry show in Grants Pass. There was a large attendance at the meeting and all were highly in favor of a poultry show and the opinion was that a very creditable exhibit could be made. The show will be open to exhibits of all Rogue River Valley poultry keepers and it is expected that Jackson county will be as well represented as will be Josephine county. The show will be held in January but the date will depend on when a competent person can be had to come here and judge the exhibits. It is expected to get either Prof. Dryden, of the Oregon Agricultural College, or Mr. Elmer Dixon, of Oregon City to act judge. Prof. Dryden is in charge of the department of poultry at the O. A. C. He came to Oregon last summer from the East and he is one of the best posted men in the United States on all that pertains to poultry. Prof. Dryden acted as judge of the poultry exhibit at the Rogue River Industrial Fair held in this city last month and the impartial manner in which he made the awards and the thorough knowledge he had of all features of the poultry industry made him many friends in Rogue River Valley. Mr. Dixon is one of the leading breeders in Oregon of fine poultry and he is one of the best posted men on the Pacific Coast on all that pertains to fowls. As a judge of poultry he has a high standing and each year he officiates as a judge at various poultry shows in Oregon, Washington and California.

The general supervision of the poultry show is placed in an executive committee composed of George Cramer, Charles Kingwell and J. L. Fryer. The arrangement of the premium list and of securing premiums was placed in the hands of a committee composed of George Cramer, J. D. Fry, C. E. Plamer and Mrs. P. Hanson. This committee was appointed at a previous meeting of the Association and done some preliminary work in canvassing the business men of Grants Pass to secure donations of premiums. They reported very gratifying success and when their work is completed they expect to have a list of premiums of such value and variety as will warrant poultry keepers to make an extra effort in making exhibits and to insure a large display of fowls of all kinds.

The next meeting of Association will be held on Monday evening, October 21, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kingwell on East Iowa avenue. To unite pleasure with business this meeting will be a social gathering as well as for the completion of arrangements for the poultry show. The lady members of the Association are arranging for this feature for the evening and will serve ice cream and cake. The admission fee they have fixed at six eggs and the eggs must be of recent vintage for they are to be sold and the proceeds added to the funds of the Association in meeting its expenses. Not having the half dozen eggs need not impel a person to raid their neighbor's hen house nor to remain away from the entertainment for a silver 25 cent piece will bring to the donor as hearty a

welcome to the evening's entertainment as though they had brought the regulation admission fee. Every member of the Association is expected to be present and a cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend and spend an enjoyable evening.

Anent the Governor's Veto.

Editor Courier: At the first dinner of the winter given by the Commercial club of Portland the question of the referendum being invoked on the \$125,000 a year appropriation for State University at Eugene was discussed. All the speakers seemed to think that the governor was very much opposed to this appropriation. Now there is at least a suspicion that the governor vetoed this bill for political effect in order to strengthen his position before the people as a conservator of their interests when he comes before them as a candidate for United States Senator. It has been thought that if the Governor had not wished this bill to be passed over his veto it could not have been done. That immediately after the governor vetoed this bill his friends were the most active ones engaged in mustering votes to carry it over his veto.

Can it be possible that our governor could have played Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde on this proposition and given the lie to Lincoln's remark that you could not fool all the people all the time. We should like Governor Chamberlain to tell the people whether directly or indirectly he assisted in getting enough votes in the State Senate to pass this bill H. B. No. 37 over his veto or not. The unwritten history of a Legislature would be very interesting reading.

Yours for facts,
INTERESTED CITIZEN.

Obituary—Caldwell.

Mrs. Martha Williams Caldwell, wife of G. B. Caldwell, was born in Lynchburg, Va., June 3, 1827 and died in Grants Pass, Ore., September 29, 1907. She was married in San Jose, Cal., in February 1852 and they came to Josephine county, Oregon in an early day. She joined the M. E. Church, South in 1859 and has been a devoted Christian ever since the pioneer preachers found a resting place and real Christian hospitality in the home of this good woman.

She was the mother of 10 children, five of whom survive her. Mrs. Martha E. Howell and Mrs. Maggie Biglow, Williams, Ore.; Mrs. Laura E. Dixon and G. M. Caldwell, Grants Pass, Ore.; and Mrs. Ella S. Wilkins, McCleod, Cal. Besides her husband and five children, she leaves 60 grandchildren and great grand children. She was in poor health for several years but her devoted husband and loving children supplied every temporal want. She loved the Bible and whenever she was able to attend church she was an intelligent bearer of the preaching of the word. She was laid to rest at Williams, Ore., September 30th. Funeral services were conducted by Geo. M. Gardner, pastor M. E. church, south, Grants Pass, Ore. A devoted wife and loving mother has gone from us, but our loss is Heaven's gain. May the lives of the bereaved ones be such that they will meet her in the Glory World.

As R. W. Veatch boarded the train, yesterday, bound for Jacksonville several of his gentlemen friends, surmising that he might be going on one of Cupid's errands, were at the train and made it rather embarrassing for him, by throwing a quantity of rice into the car window and making remarks which would lead the passengers on the train to conclude that he was either a benedict or soon would be one, which remains to be seen.

NEW WATER COMPANY ASK FOR FRANCHISE

City Council Requested to Grant Permission to Start New Plant for this Purpose.

Last evening the city council held its regular semi-monthly meeting and among other matters of importance was the petition of the Thompson Water, Land & Power Co., of Portland, for a waterworks franchise. Mary Thompson, one of the members was present and Attorney Westcott, of Portland appeared before the body in support of the application.

He stated that they proposed to furnish water from the springs back of the Morrison place, north of the city, where at an elevation of 800 feet they claimed they could produce sufficient moisture to supply this city, and that they proposed having a gravity system, and two or three reservoirs. Verbally he said they could offer the water for domestic purposes at 16 2/3 cents for each 1000 gallons and for mechanical purposes where 10,000 gallons are taken at 50 cents per 10,000 gallons and so on.

It would take six months to install the plant and about 60 days to demonstrate, by excavation that they could fill the agreement of providing sufficient water for the city's use. He said that they were ready to submit a written proposition to the council and the matter was referred to the old committee, Messrs. Kinney, Stovall and Coburn, who are today conferring with the applicants, as to minute details and the whole matter will then be brought up for action at the next session of the council, two weeks hence.

It was apparent from the drift of sentiment ascertained among the councilmen, as well as from leading business men, that everything hinges upon the ability of these people to furnish enough water and if they will go ahead and demonstrate this fact, beyond any doubt, then the franchise will likely be theirs for the asking.

Ceery at Pardee's. 10-18 11

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

One of the visiting railroad officials remarked to the Courier representative: "Well I see that after you have been wanting and asking to have a new depot for the past three years, they are repairing the old one and now you may expect to wait another three years for the new one! But, laying all jokes aside, the railroad people are planning to move the old building to the vacant lots just adjoining the present site this winter and if they do, they will make you practically a new structure, just as they have one at Oregon City and elsewhere on the line. The present site of the depot is too low and it is too damp when the rainy season is on. Mark my word, you will have practically a new and creditable depot before another springtime rolls around."

"Say, Mr. Editor, how about these petitions the numerous applicants for the position of postmaster in Grants Pass are circulating? Can a body sign any and all of them, if he wishes to do so? One aspirant approached me and wanted my signature on his paper and when I told him that I had already signed up for another party he informed me that it made no difference and that I could sign all of them, if I desired to do so. This was news to me and I am wondering just what kind of a paper I really did sign. Perhaps it was merely a certificate as to good character, in which event I can sign all of them, for they are all good men, and true."

Prominent Grants Pass citizen—"Isn't it about time to give Mr. Carson another reception? Do you know he will not, or at least does not put his Tokays on the local market? Yes, we can't go to the home grocer and get some of our home grown grapes. The very idea! Why, it seems to me that, instead of shipping the grapes all away it might be a good plan for him to let his neighbors see what those boasted grapes taste like."

C. S. Hoxie, a new arrival from Omaha, Nebraska: "I like your people, your climate and the bright prospects for the future. Before purchas-

ing a home here, I went to Medford and other places which had been advertising heavily, but found that there was more or less hot air to be found and that land prices were accordingly too high. I got a bargain in the Kinney place and have sent for my family to come at once. After having spent 35 years in the drudgery of office work, I am looking forward, with pleasurable anticipation to the enjoyment of fruit raising and outdoor life."

"I tell you it is most encouraging to come into a community like this and have people meet you with wide-open arms, as they have done me," said Prof. Stanton Rowell, the new band master, and then he continued, in talking with the Courier man—"You certainly have a fine class of people and the way everybody takes an interest in the prospects for a band only goes to show, in advance that we are going to have a rousing, good band and one that will be a credit to this growing city. There is plenty of good material and then members are entering into the practice with much enthusiasm. Yes, we are going to have a splendid band, and not one but three bands. One will be the organization composed of the experienced players, another of men who are not so expert and then you must not forget our Rogue River Boys Band, which will, I am sure, become one of the star musical aggregations of Southern Oregon."

Pastor Evan P. Hughes, of the Bethany Presbyterian church: "I tell you it does me good to see church members attending the mid-week prayer-meeting and their actions often have much influence upon the man of the world. I remember a case of this kind at Ashland, when one of the really agents told a young man, a member of my church, asking him to tell his mother that the said agent would call and see her about a business matter, Thursday evening. "You needn't come that evening, for she will not be at home", said he and then he added "That is our prayer meeting night. It had a good effect on the agent, who told me about it afterwards and who expressed his great respect for people who thus lived up to their professions."

"It does me good to see how patriotic you people of Grants Pass are," remarked a stranger within the city's gates to the Courier reporter and then he continued after this fashion: "I see evidences of this on all hands. The flag poles in private yards and in public places, the many G. A. R. buttons and Sons of Veterans emblems also are much in evidence. To an outsider such things make a lasting and most favorable impression. I take it that you must have a sober, law-abiding class of people and those are the very kind of people who will come here to make their homes and to my way of thinking, they are the salt of the earth. You can't have too many of that class of citizens."

Capt. and Mrs. J. Osborn have arrived from Bellingham, Wash., and have taken charge of the local Salvation Army Corps. They find the work a very promising condition. This week they are holding meetings for the public, except Tuesday, when the soldiers have their meeting. Already they are beginning to look ahead and think of providing Christmas treats for the poor of this locality.

W. H. B. Kent, the forestry inspector from Washington, D. C., accompanied by Forest Ranger, H. M. Gutrie left a few days ago for a tour of inspection out in the Steamboat region. While making the trip from Medford to this city the other day, in his big automobile, W. M. Hodson met with unusual bad luck, having no less than four flat tires. He said it was the worst piece of bad luck he had ever had and he hardly knew how to account for it. He was here to look up some wood, as the fuel question at Medford is said to be getting to be rather serious.

A few days ago, T. P. Cramer mounted his bicycle, with his fishing rod on his shoulder and rode out to the Golden Drift dam, three miles from the city where in just one and three-quarters of an hour he caught 10 fine salmon trout, the largest weighing nine pounds and two ounces and the total 28 pounds. M. C. Ament landed nine members of the Sunny tribe in the same time.

PIONEER GRAPE GROWER IN ROGUE RIVER VALLEY

Friends of the Late Peter Britt Claim This Honor for That Departed Horticulturist.

A Jacksonville correspondent of the Oregonian claims the honor of being the father of the grape industry in the Rogue River Valley for the late Peter Britt, for half a century a respected resident of the county seat, whose beautiful gardens and vineyards, now maintained by his son Emil Britt, are a show place for all visitors to Jacksonville. The correspondent says: "The questions as to who is the father of the grape industry in Rogue River Valley has been raised as the outcome of a banquet recently given by a real estate firm at Grants Pass in honor of A. H. Carson, a grape-grower of that section of the valley, who is credited with being the originator of the grape industry in Southern Oregon. It is an unearned and unfair honor to credit Mr. Carson or any of the other present vineyardists of Jackson or Josephine county with being the father of the Rogue River Valley grape industry, the true facts are herewith given:

"To the late Peter Britt of Jacksonville belongs the honor of introducing tame grapes into Rogue River Valley and of having the first commercial vineyard. This vineyard consists of 15 acres and is one of several in this vicinity that have demonstrated that Rogue River Valley can produce a grape and a wine equal to the best of the famous grape districts of Europe. Mr. Britt was reared in the grape district of Switzerland, and, having traveled in France, he thoroughly understood the growing of grapes and the making of wine. He arrived in Jacksonville in the fall of 1852, being one of the pioneers of this old mining town, and noted the vigor of the wild grape vines about here, and he determined to give tame grapes a trial. He got his first vines from California in 1854 or 1855. These

were the old Mission grapes and they grew so well that he later got in other varieties and for the 50 years to the time of his death in October, 1905, Mr. Britt carried on the work of demonstrating what were the best grapes for this soil and climate and in that period he grew over 200 varieties of American and European grapes.

"Vines were had from Mr. Britt for every vineyard in Rogue River Valley, including Mr. Carson's that were planted prior to the last 10 years. The Britt grapes and the Britt wine were famous while yet Mr. Carson was a struggling lawyer in Arkansas, and the fine quality of both were known to all pioneers of the Pacific coast who had occasion to pass through Jacksonville on the stage line in early days.

"Mr. Britt was a lover of nature as well as a scientific horticulturist, and the park about his residence in this place has been for years one of the leading attractions of Southern Oregon."

Although General Agent Mahoney would not positively confirm the rumor, yet he would not deny the fact that General Superintendent L. R. Fields, of the S. P. lines in Oregon was here yesterday, in company with Roadmaster W. Bollons who were said to be actually making arrangements for removing the depot grounds from their present location, two blocks to the east, bringing them between 7th and 8th streets. It is stated that substantial \$17,000 brick passenger and freight depots very similar to those now being erected at Eugene, are contemplated.

Manager Horner of the new Grants Pass Box Factory informs the Courier that everything is moving along nicely out at that new plant. New machinery is being installed, right along and there is not a hitch in all the extensive works now under full operation. He finds that they are really unable to supply all the demands made upon them for material, although they are running the plant day and night. He is greatly pleased with the way the business is flourishing.

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