

# Rogue River Courier.

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GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1908

No. 17.

## GRANTS PASS HAS MODEL POSTOFFICE

Best Equipped of Any In  
Rogue River Valley

## FREE MAIL DELIVERY NEXT

Postmaster Donnell Shows Local  
Newspaper Men Working  
of the Mails.

Through the recent building of an addition 22x40 feet at the rear of the postoffice building, the acquisition of a large fire proof safe, distributing cabinets, bag-rack, as well as other new fixtures the Grants Pass postoffice is now one of the neatest and most commodious offices in Oregon outside of Portland. While many of these improvements and the consequent facility in handling the mails here might have come in the natural course of human events, their more expeditious inauguration are in a great measure due to the sagacity and up-to-date methods which characterize Postmaster Donnell's business policy.

The new bag-rack recently installed is a table around which some 20 mail bags are hung into which all mails are distributed. On the same table all incoming mails are dumped, and after the letters are stamped on the new automatic cancelling machine, are classified in the sectional distributing rack after which the parcels are distributed in various boxes of the patrons. The bag-rack and sectional distributing rack are so situated in the room that the loss of a parcel of mail is next to impossible.

All the various blanks used are arranged in handy cabinets so that the whole is a splendid example of system and convenience and at a moment's notice either Postmaster Donnell or Assistant W. A. Newell can lay hands on any data that may be wanted. The office force includes besides the postmaster and assistant three clerks, James DeLamater, Clyde Martin and Lloyd Dyer.

Besides the general harmony which prevails among the employees there is an apparent universal pride in the whole force and the result is efficiency plus unscrupulous neatness throughout, besides an enthusiasm which makes the work a pleasure rather than an irksome task. The new furniture and fixtures recently installed include a number of cabinets and other articles turned out by the California Pine Box and Lumber Co. right here at home, which are a credit to both the office and the factory where they were made.

Through the courtesy of Postmaster Donnell the newspaper fraternity of the city were shown through the office one day last week when one of the mails was being worked, to give the press an idea of the facility and accuracy with which the mails are handled each day. On the north side of the new addition is a row of lockers for envelopes and other office supplies as well as for the coats and hats of the employees.

Mr. Donnell states that 4030 people get mail from the postoffice boxes each day, while 8.00 more are served through the general delivery window. For the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1908, the percentage of gain in postal receipts was 23 per cent over that of the preceding year; the gain in money orders issued for the same period was 65 per cent; money orders paid 26 per cent; registers dispatched, 20 per cent; registers received, 24 per cent and registers in transit, 10 per cent.

The gross receipts of the Grants Pass office for the last year were over \$11,000 or more than \$1000 in excess of the amount necessary to entitle the city to free mail delivery. In view of this fact the city council recently named the streets and have just finished the numbering of the houses, and at its last meeting the council passed a resolution making formal application to Postmaster Donnell for free delivery. The commercial club also passed similar resolutions and the two have already been forwarded to the department at Wash-

ington accompanied by Mr. Donnell's report in connection with an application for such delivery. Mr. Donnell advises the Courier that with no unforeseen delay the people of Grants Pass should be enjoying the convenience of free mail delivery by the first of January if not sooner.

During the fiscal year ending March 31st, there were sold in the Grants Pass postoffice 173 International money orders and 15 were paid. During the same period 8040 domestic money orders were sold and 5339 paid. During the year 2797 pieces of registered mail were dispatched, 3770 pieces were received and 5276 pieces were handled in transit. During the first quarter of the present fiscal year the volume of business of the Grants Pass postoffice has also materially increased over that of any preceding year.

As soon as Postmaster Donnell is advised of the action of the department at Washington on the application, if the same be favorable, an inspector will doubtless be sent here to look over the city and notices will then be posted announcing an examination for applicants for rural carriers. This examination will be held under the regular civil service rules, and the Grants Pass office will then be entirely under the civil service rules and placed in another class.

From recent advices from Washington Mr. Donnell is led to believe that Grants Pass will be designated as the location for all civil service examinations to be held in Southern Oregon. This in turn will make the Grants Pass office one of the most important in the state outside of Portland and Salem.

## GILMAN BED ROCK LAUNCHES FIRST BARGE

President Gilman and Nine Men  
Started Down Rogue River  
to Establish Camp.

President L. F. Gilman and nine men started down the Rogue River last Friday afternoon for a point just below the mouth of Galice creek, where the Gilman Bed Rock Mining Co. will set their new machine, and where they are now establishing their first camp. The barge in which they embarked is 20x40 feet and contained a cargo of some eight tons of provisions, timber, rope and various other articles. Quite a number who had learned that the barge was to leave were down to see Mr. Gilman and his men make the start.

Word received by Secretary Wendover, who is in charge of the office of the company in this city, states that the party passed through Hell's Gate without mishap or incident. The machine, with which this company is to mine the bedrock of Rogue River has just been completed at Sacramento, Cal., and will be shipped to Merlin, from where it will be hauled by wagon to a point just below Galice creek. Thousands of dollars worth of gold have been taken from the Rogue River and from Galice creek, but thus far the use of wing dams has been the only method by which the bed rock of the river bottom could be mined, and since the wing dam is both expensive and uncertain, it is well known that millions of dollars in gold still cling to the bed rock of the Rogue and its tributaries.

To secure this valuable treasure furnished the impetus for the invention of a new machine by Mr. Gilman which gives every indication of successful river bed mining. The result of the initial trial of the new machine, which will be made during the latter part of the present month is, therefore, being watched with great interest by not only mining men but the people in general in this section. The success of the machine will result in a revolution of the gold mining industry throughout the state and will also create a demand for the Gilman mining machine all over the coast country as well as Alaska.

If you want the best steel range made, get a Malleable at Hair-Riddle's.

## FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST.

Christian Science Reading room, 117 E street, near Second. Services 11 a. m. Subject of Sunday's lesson—"Truth." Wednesday meeting 8 p. m.

Fruit picking ladder—just the thing you have been needing—at Hair-Riddle's Hardware Co.  
Tin Fruit Cans at Hair-Riddle's.

## RESOLUTION FOR FREE DELIVERY

Business Houses and Residences Numbered.

## STREET SIGNS ARE UP

Council at Regular Session Announces Readiness of City for Inauguration.

The city council convened in regular session last Thursday night with H. C. Kinney president of the council presiding, Mayor Smith and Councilmen Burkhalter, Fetsch and Lewis being absent.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the last meeting, the petition of Edwin Smith and J. M. Johnston asking a lateral sewer be ordered through the alley in Blok 28 of the original townsite was read and referred to the sewer committee.

The communication of City Attorney Clements relative to refunding the auctioneer's license to Max Zimmerman for market day was laid on the table.

The following bills were reported favorably by the finance committee and upon motion warrants ordered drawn in payment of the same:

L A Robinson, labor on street	15 50
F E Hobson, engineering	10 00
Cramer Bros, hdw	16 80
Rauch & Cook, blacksmithing	23 55
G P Iron and Steel works, tank etc.	15 00
R R Water Co, water for flush	15 67
Western Hotel, meals, election board	7 00
Claus Schumler, groceries to guaranteed cases	13 50
G P Hdw Co, plumbing	141 65
G P Hdw Co, hdw	44 89
On acct fire, July 6th	11 25

Ordinance No 322, relating to laying and constructing a lateral sewer on Third street and Lawndridge avenue, was read the first time in full and on motion the second time, by title. An emergency was declared and the ordinance was read the third time in full and placed upon its final passage, all members present voting aye.

On motion the city auditor and police judge was authorized to advertise for bids for the construction of a submain sewer from the corner of third and A streets to Second street.

The following resolution was then passed by unanimous vote:

Whereas, the common council of the city of Grants Pass, Josephine county, Ore., by ordinance duly enacted and by contract thereafter let, has caused to be numbered all the houses of said city in a systematic manner, and has caused to be placed at the intersection of all streets, signs indicating the names of the intersecting streets, all of which has been done for the purpose of bringing the postoffice department's attention to the fact that the city is now ready, and that the people of the city desire free mail delivery, and to that end have made such preparation, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the common council in session at a regular meeting thereof on July the 16th, 1908, that its auditor and police judge be and is hereby instructed to import such to the local postmaster, G. W. Donnell, and that said G. W. Donnell be requested that this resolution be made a part of his official report; and that he forthwith report that it is the expression of the community and that the people in general are interested in demanding a free delivery system for said city.

Done in council on this 16th day of July, 1908.

There was some informal discussion of the proposition of the city's purchasing the water plant of the Rogue River Water Co, but no official action was taken in the matter.

## MARKET DAY LAST SATURDAY

While Not the Success Anticipated  
Boosters of the City  
Feel Repaid.

Last Saturday was Market Day. It was strenuous and the temperature was high, in fact, it was too hot for

the wedding, and it was declared off. But there were a good many people in town and the merchants were busy most of the day. The band got out at 1 o'clock and furnished a good program.

Of course, it was the first Market Day, attended with the usual curiosity and some thought it was not as large as it should have been. But the general consensus of opinion seems to be that Market Day should be made a permanent institution, despite the fact that its inception was somewhat inopportune on account of the weather.

The parade included, besides the band, a bevy of young ladies on horseback, as follows: Misses Maude Baber, Carrie Umphlette, Frankie Letcher, Lois Rehkopf, Marguerite Cleveland and Bessie McCollm.

As is usual on the first day, the number of horses and cattle was not large and the sale was slight.

The \$5 gold piece for the largest bona fide family was awarded to J. B. Borongha, who has a splendid little fruit farm west of town. He was here with his 10 children and was an easy winner. Mr. Borongha came here from Iowa with his parents at the close of the war in 1858. Since his marriage, 18 years ago, he has reared eight boys and two girls. Mrs. Borongha comes from a numerous family herself, she being one of 13 of which County Supt. Lincoln Savage is one.

Mr. Zimmerman said that while the crowd was not as large as he had expected, that it averaged up with other places of this size. He left Sunday for Medford where he expected to have a Market Day next month.

## THE CANNING FACTORY OPENED LAST FRIDAY

Began on Royal Anne Cherries  
and is Handling About  
Two Tons a Day.

The Grants Pass Cannery opened up last Friday with a force of 20 hands on Royal Anne cherries and are now handling about two tons of fruit a day, that is to say the factory is putting up something over 10,000 cans of cherries daily. Of course this is nowhere near the capacity of the factory, but is all the cherries that can be secured. A representative of the Courier called at the factory yesterday afternoon and found everything running nicely. Manager Sampson says the season has opened in first class shape but that he would like to have had three times the amount of cherries. Twenty hands, girls women and men were at work this week; though when the factory runs at normal capacity 60 girls alone are employed. However, the small fruit crop this year is not sufficient to run at full capacity. But as soon as the tomatoes come in, which will be within a week or 10 days, the factory will be running full blast. W. B. Sherman has 23 acres of fine tomatoes just a half mile east of the factory which are the finest ever raised in the Rogue River Valley.

Manager Sampson says the cherry season will be over the early part of next week and that the blackberries will come on next week, then the tomatoes. Tomatoes will be one of the strong lines of the Grants Pass factory this year and Mr. Sampson says they are going to put out an article this year in the tomato line that will equal, if not excel anything in the market.

A car load of cans were received at the factory last week and another this week, while still others are in transit. A car contains about 30,000 cans or enough for a three day's run on fruit. A car of sugar was received Monday. Mr. Sampson expects to handle a few peaches from Ashland this season. The cannery is now offering four and a half cents per pound for blackberries in bulk—with-out crates.

While everything is not fully adjusted, Mr. Sampson says everything is running finer than a fiddle. The factory shipped a car load of vinegar to Medford yesterday.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.  
The Bible School meets at 10 o'clock in charge of Roy Hackett. At 11 a. m. the pastor will preach on "The Prophet in His Own Country." In addition to the evening B. P. Y. U. at 7 p. m. the Young People will present a program at 8 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended.

## ELECTRIC LINE TO BE BUILT

Preliminary Survey Is  
Now Under Way.

## WORK TO BEGIN AT ONCE

Mr. Collins Is Much Pleased with  
the Outlook and Local  
Encouragement.

G. A. Collins, who is in the city for the purpose of building an electric road into the Illinois valley, returned yesterday from a second trip over the proposed route and is even more sanguine than ever over the project. The preliminary survey is now under way and Mr. Collins says this will be finished within the coming week.

He says that the enterprise looks sufficiently plausible to him and his associates that a company will be organized next week and that within the next 60 days men will be at work on the grade.

The construction of a road into the Illinois valley has been the subject of much discussion for a number of years past and many are of course skeptical relative to the consummation of the enterprise, but Mr. Collins, who is anything rather than ostentatious or given to "hot air," says the road is going to be built and that the dirt will be flying in September.

## Illinois Grange.

Illinois Valley Grange No. 370.  
Elsie Kohler, reporter.

An interesting and enthusiastic meeting of the Illinois Valley Grange was held at the M. E. church, Althouse, July 18. The proposition laid before the meeting of Ray Briggs, relative to renting the creamery hall, met with unanimous approval. Hereafter we meet once a month at the creamery at 10 a. m. The next meeting will be August 15, when we will have our business meeting in the morning and at noon, a good, old-fashioned picnic dinner in the grove west of the creamery. In the afternoon a program will be given under the direction of Mrs. John Smith, who was chosen lecturer pro tem. Several gentlemen have volunteered to clean out the grove and put up a table. They are aware that they will receive a sufficient reward in the dinner they know will be forthcoming.

All grangers who can possibly attend are requested to be there at 10 a. m. At noon anyone who wishes to come and share their dinner and their ideas with our dinner and our ideas, will be cordially welcome.

Few people realize the good that can be derived from an organization of farmers such as the grange is. However, if they will come and join

us, work with us, and help us, they will quickly agree that in this age of organization, the farmer must not be in the rear. Success to the Oregon granges and to those of Josephine County in particular.

## Grants Pass 18; Central Point 3.

The above score is the fearful result of last Sunday's game, between the local team and the Central Point aggregation on the Grants Pass grounds. It would seem that the locals had started out with a view to keeping pace with the mercury in number of points as they started off with 11 runs in the first inning. But the pace was too strenuous when Old Sol continued to bear down upon the twirlers of the sphere—it was only about 110 on the diamond—and the game closed with the above story on the score sheet.

Judge J. O. Booth returned home last Friday from the national democratic convention at Denver to which he had been a delegate. Of course the judge is a good democrat and it is needless to state that he is much pleased with the result of the convention and is wonderfully sanguine relative to Bryan's election; in fact he confidently asserts that "Mr. Bryan will be elected by the largest majority ever given a presidential candidate in the United States." He mentioned one republican at the convention who said he had attended every republican and democratic national convention for the past 40 years, who said that the Denver gathering was the greatest political event of them all.

Malleable Steel Ranges at Hair-Riddle's.

## PLANTING 50 ACRES OF TOKAYS NEAR MERLIN

H. E. Gale, Formerly of Buffalo,  
N. Y., Putting Out Splendid  
Orchard.

H. E. Gale was down from Merlin between trains last Saturday to look after business matters. During a brief call at the Courier office he incidentally spoke of the fruit farm he recently purchased near Hell's Gate and known as the William Crowe place. Mr. Gale has since christened this 375 acre tract the River View Ranch. He now has a corps of men at work slashing, preparatory to putting out 50 acres of Toky grapes this fall. In addition he will also plant 34 acres of peaches.

Mr. Gale and family some five years ago came from Buffalo, N. Y. to Portland, where they have since resided until last May he purchased the above tract, which he considers the finest piece of land in that section, though there are several thousand acres in the same vicinity which at the present time can be had at a very low figure compared with the prices for less valuable land elsewhere.

Mr. Gale will have a fine crop of Peaches this season from the small orchard on the place when he bought it. River View Ranch is, owing to its southwesterly slope, ideally adapted to the propagation of the Tokay grape for which Josephine county has already become famous.

If you want to enjoy a fishing trip, get one of those split bamboo rods at Hair-Riddle's.

## WHERE ARE YOU GOING



my pretty maid?  
"We're going to O'Neill's sir," she said.  
We're going to see the Hammock styles.  
For which they're coming around for miles.  
And they are the Hammocks you'll want to see,  
So get thee going right merrily.

### Forget the Poetry

but you won't forget the new patterns in Hammocks, Hammock chairs, Porch chairs, Porch screens, and many other useful articles for the warm wave season.

**GOOD OLD SOLID COMFORTS**  
Try Them at Our Risk

## O'NEILL THE HOMEFURNISHER