

Rogue River Courier.

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THE JOSEPHINE COUNTY LEAGUE

Good Roads Association has Been Formed

MONDAY'S CONVENTION.

Several Interesting and Instructive Talks on All-Important Subject of Good Roads.

The Good Roads Convention announced last week was held on Monday afternoon, and the beginning of a movement which will be of the utmost importance to this growing community. The Grants Pass orchestra was on hand and discoursed sweet strains while the crowd gathered and at various times during the program. The Bethany Quartet composed of Messrs. Cramer, Veatch, Cramer, Voorhies, also favored the gathering with a couple of selections which were well received. H. L. Andrews sang a beautiful solo at the close of the meeting.

Judge Stephen Jewell presided over the convention, and before introducing the Good Roads representatives, called upon Fruit Inspector H. C. Bateham to explain the connection between good apples and good roads. Mr. Bateham did so by stating that there was a vast amount of land all around Grants Pass which was excellent for raising apples, but unfortunately it would be impossible to get the fruit to the railroad until the wagon roads were improved. His talk was interesting and instructive.

Benton Bowers of Ashland, a member of the state legislative committee on good roads, and who is deeply interested in the movement for better highways, explained his ideas, stating that he considered it necessary to have the constitution amended in order to enable counties to issue bonds. A bill along these lines will be presented to the next legislature and he is of the opinion that it will be enacted into law. He explained that this had been done in California and though at first greatly opposed, was now favored by almost every resident of that state. The taxing system now in vogue does not raise a sufficient fund to build good roads and furthermore is objectionable in that it puts the entire burden on present tax payers to build roads for the future, whereas by the bonding system the present generation pays only its proportion, thus equalizing the expense. The bill providing for the amendment to the constitution will also carry a provision for the appointment of a state road commission and engineer to act with the county court.

Judge John H. Scott was next introduced as the Good Roads Evangelist. He talked at length explaining the purpose for which the Good Roads League was organized and the work it was endeavoring to bring

about. Good roads, he said, are not such a great problem as most people are inclined to think, and other people in other states are solving the problem, and it is important that the people of Oregon do not longer delay in taking hold of the matter. He was not inclined to agree with many who think that the pioneers were delinquent in their duty for not having built roads, but rather felt that they did a great work in coming in and settling up the country paving the way for the present generation, and it is up to the new-comers to build the roads to handle the increasing traffic.

The Good Roads League, he said, has no pet schemes or projects but they do believe that there are a few things which ought to be done. The state should make an appropriation, the counties should help, and the abutting property owners help. A state highway commission is needed, with an engineer. A tax of at least one-half mill should be levied, and this will raise \$300,000 next year, and he believes that the money should be apportioned so that no county should have expended within her borders more than \$20,000 until all other counties had had a like sum.

Reference was made to the proposed state highway running from the northern to the southern boundary and connecting through this state California and Washington. The proposed road, he said, would run through Grants Pass. California is building a road from Mexico to the Oregon line, Washington is building a road connecting Oregon on the north with Canada, and Oregon should do her part by filling in the intervening space. He called attention to the advisability of doing so from a commercial standpoint, as the road would be used by thousands of tourists in automobiles and other means of conveyance.

The speaker referred to Michigan's road law, which is very complete, but advised that we do not try and go so far all at once, but start with a good dirt road. He then explained by means of a black-board drawing, practical road building, emphasizing the necessity of careful drainage. No matter how good a road surface is built if drainage is neglected the road will sooner or later go to pieces. Next a substantial foundation should be provided. In establishing a grade where fills are necessary the foundation rock or earth must be firmly pressed into place with a heavy roller. For surfacing after the grade is completed the first layer should be four inches of crushed rock, broken into pieces two and a half inches in diameter. This should be well rolled into place while being applied, care being taken to see that the road is kept crowning well in the center to insure good surface drainage. Then the second course of two inches of crushed rock should be added, broken to about one and a half inches; roll again thoroughly and add rock screenings, being careful to keep out dirt and sand; giving the screenings a chance to work down into the interstices left by the layers of crushed rock. After this the roadbed should be sprinkled and rolled. If not well rolled at least 50 per cent of the work done will be

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APPLES FROM GRANTS PASS GO TO THE WHITE HOUSE

President Theodore Roosevelt and President Elect William H. Taft, will receive a box of Spitzenberg Apples, a gift from the Rogue River Fruit Exchange. One box will be taken from the orchard of Will Scoville, and the other from the orchard of W. L. Robertson. Rogue River apples are not only fit for a king but fit for the two foremost men in the United States. Shipment will be made within the next few days.

LOCAL POLITICS NOW WARMING UP

H. C. Kinney is the Business Men's Candidate for the Mayor.

Up to the eleventh hour there was little interest taken in the selection of candidates for mayor and council to be voted on at the next election on December 7, but it is different now and every minute seems to add enthusiasm to our citizens. Tuesday evening ward caucuses were held, resulting in the following nominations: First ward—M. T. Galvin and G. M. Colwell. Colwell later withdrew and by petition J. G. Riggs is now the candidate. Second ward—E. C. Harmon and J. E. Myers. Third Ward—H. J. Clarke and Roe Cheshire. Fourth Ward—W. T. Coburn and Geo. Cronk.

Wednesday evening a convention was held at the court house and two candidates for mayor were placed in nomination, H. C. Kinney and Dr. J. C. Smith.

Dr. Smith stands for a continuation of the present municipal affairs, and H. C. Kinney, who is termed the business man's candidate, stands for greater civic improvements and a good, clean business-like administration. Mr. Kinney honored the city several years ago by serving as mayor and also on the council, and his record during those times is a forcible argument for his election at this time to the highest office within the gift of the people of this city. The gift is really a questionable one inasmuch as it means a whole lot of good, hard work, but as Mr. Kinney is one of the largest tax payers and most enterprising business men, and is anxious to see the city prosper as it will under the right sort of municipal management, he is willing to put his shoulder to the wheel once more and work for Bigger, Better and Greater Grants Pass.

The report is already being circulated, as it has been many times before, that Mr. Kinney is a stock holder in the Rogue River Water Company but in answer to this he says he is not now and never has been a stock holder in that company.

COMMERCIAL CLUB GETS A BIG BOOST

At last Saturday's meeting of the Fruit Growers Exchange held at the opera house, Judge Geo. H. Durham addressed the audience on behalf of the Commercial Club, outlining the work done in the past and also explaining the present need of co-operation between the fruit growers and the business men of Grants Pass; he also urged upon the tax-payers the necessity of their signing a petition to the county court urging that body to make an appropriation as provided by the legislature of 1906 for the purpose of advertising the resources of the respective counties. As a general result nearly all of the citizens attending the meeting signed the petition. Fifteen new members were enrolled in the Commercial Club as follows: W. R. Rannie, Fred Mensch, Will Scoville, manager of the Fruit Exchange, C. D. Coon, S.W. Phillips, R. G. Scott, H. C. Bateham, Willard Chase, H. E. Gale, D. C. Hefley, R. R. Turner, Prof. O'Gara, A. T. Lewis, C. H. Elaman, C. B. Fowler, making total membership of 125, by far the largest number ever enrolled in the history of the organization. Secretary Andrews has adopted the slogan "200" (members) working for 10,000 population for Grants Pass, which means a greater increase for the balance of the county, as most of the home-seekers are locating in the surrounding parts of the county.

The club is now in a fair way to be a most important factor in the development of this entire section, and the good work already accomplished in the past 18 months bids fair to be greatly surpassed the coming year.

FRUIT MEETING WAS A HUMMER

Growers Should Always Know Price to be Paid Them Before Fruit is Shipped.

The Rogue River Fruit Exchange meeting held in the opera house last Saturday afternoon was a successful affair in many ways. To begin with, the finest exhibit of apples ever seen anywhere was on the stage; in the second place, the Exchange gave a few minutes to Judge Geo. H. Durham of the Commercial Club, and the judge turned exhorter for the time being and talked fifteen people into joining that excellent organization; and in the third place Professor P. J. O'Gara was on hand and gave a most interesting talk to our fruit growers.

Prof. O'Gara began his talk by referring to the exhibit that had been brought in, and said that he had seen apple shows all over, had seen bigger apples but had never seen forty boxes of such perfect apples picked in so short a time before but he knew that was an easy matter here because all of our apples are good.

For several years past, the professor has devoted a great deal of attention to pear blight and has made a study of that disease in Oregon, California, throughout the South and in the East. So far it has not made a great deal of headway in this state but has made its appearance and therefore if our orchardists are to keep it from following the steps of other states who have lost practically all of their best fruit, they must be allowed to get a relative name. It is a vegetable organism so minute that if 25,000 of them were placed end to end they would not make an inch. It attacks pears, apples and quinces. The plant is a low order of bacteria and on account of its smallness can not be seen until it has gotten well into its work.

The professor described at length how trees become infected with it, from flower-visiting insects, sap suckers and pruning tools not being properly cleansed. He urged orchardists not to wait for spring to get rid of it but to cut it out now and whenever it makes its appearance. In the spring the first indication of pear blight may be noticed by the blossoms appearing wilted, the twigs or leaves turning black. The trees should be so grown that there will be no fruit spurs on the trunk or body, and under no circumstances should sprouts be allowed to grow out from the roots as much of the infection comes that way. He also advised that nursery stock be used grown on Keefe or Winter Nellis roots as they are both very resistant.

A peculiarity of pear blight is that it will not attack a tree that is not thrifty. Trees that are inclined to blight should be supplied with nitrogenous foods very sparingly. He also advised orchardists to go slow about manuring pear orchards and Spitzenberg apples; also to be careful not to over-prune trees subject to blight. Pear blight can not be treated by spraying the disease must be cut out. Inasmuch as practically all pear blight is taken into the trees by insects, and mostly flower visiting insects, many persons are apt to conclude that bees should not be kept in orchards, but this is a mistake, and the professor advised all orchardists to keep bees as this is the best means of securing cross pollination.

Reference was made to irrigation, and the professor stated that he believed that this would be the most important and profitable undertaking that could be gone into for this valley, but he advised his hearers not to go on the theory that because a little water is good for trees that a whole lot is better, but to use it sparingly and intelligently.

A brief reference was made to anthracnose, which is a fungus trouble, but this disease being so well known he did not deem it wise to take up much time with it. In spraying he said to use good bordeaux which is sky blue in color and must be made and used fresh. In spraying a pump that can not develop 700 pounds pressure to the inch should not be used as good work could not be done with less.

The matter of frost prevention was discussed and numerous instances cited where excellent work had been done by keeping piles of old rails and wet straw and litter handy so that smudges could be started when the danger point is reached.

On the subject of marketing fruit, our exchange was complimented on the showing so far made, and the growers were advised to get out of the habit of dumping their product into the cars and trusting to luck to get a good price. There is no reason, he said, why an orchardist or farmer should not know what he is to get for his crop when he sells it any more than there is for a manufacturer or dealer of any kind to ship goods and then settle on the price afterwards. If people are going to organize to keep the price down the fruit growers were compelled to organize to keep it up and should do so. He said the great success of Hood River apple growers and other fruit growers in that section was due largely to their excellent organizations.

It is generally agreed that the visits of Professor O'Gara to this section have been incalculable benefit to all of our orchardists. He has visited many of the places and in nearly every case has been able to point out to the owners some way by which their trees could be improved and a better grade of fruit produced. In closing his address he stated that he expected to visit here again in the spring and make a more thorough study of conditions and expressed his willingness to visit any place desired and answer any and all questions regarding the fruit industry.

RAILROAD OFFICIALS VISIT GRANTS PASS

Two different sets of railroad officials were in Grants Pass during the past week. First came Superintendent L. B. Fields and Resident Engineer W. Ballows and later General Manager J. P. O'Brien; General Freight Agent R. B. Miller; General Passenger Agent Wm. M. McMurray and District Freight Agent C. A. Malboeuf. Both parties stayed here long enough to meet our business men, visit the apple display at the opera house, and see something of the valley. Their visit here at this time was simply to get better acquainted with our people as they are out on a general tour in the interest of the road. They greatly admired our apple exhibits and were loud in their praise of the valley as a fruit producer.

While here they promised to send the Southern Pacific Demonstration train to this section sometime in February, and on December a horticultural meeting will be held at which it is hoped to have Dr. Withcombe and Prof. Lewis of the agricultural College present. Mr. Malboeuf promised to see these gentlemen and if they can come will notify Secretary Andrews of the Commercial Club so that arrangements can be made for the meeting. On the evening of that day Mr. Malboeuf will meet with the members of the Commercial Club to discuss freight rates and other matters of importance.

To close out our stock of Bain Wagons we will sell one 3 1/4 inch Gear with standard height wheels 3/4 and 3 in. tires for \$90.00 cash (regular price \$105.00). Also one one-horse Bain Georgia wagon \$50. (regular price \$82). Hair-Riddle Hardware Co.

ASHLAND TOOK ALL THE HONORS

Won Both Football and Basketball Games.

BOTH GAMES WERE GOOD

Crowd of Rooters Came From Ashland and Grants Pass Turned Out In Force.

One of the cleanest and best attended football games ever witnessed in Grants Pass was played at the Athletic grounds Thanksgiving afternoon between the Southern Oregon State Normal and the Grants Pass High School. The day was perfect and an 800 crowd turned out to cheer their favorites. Both teams showed a marked improvement over the playing which they did at Ashland. It was a general subject of comment that there was no wrangling but instead a friendly rivalry between the two teams, which made the game especially interesting to the uninitiated.

No score was made by either side the first half. Within a minute after the beginning of the second half, Stuart of the Normal got the ball at kick-off and tore down the field for a touchdown. Normal kicked a goal, making six points. Within ten minutes more Bagley of the Normal got loose with the ball and made a spectacular sprint up the field for another touchdown. Normal failed at the try for goal leaving the score 11 to 0 in favor of the Normal.

The most exciting points of the game came within five minutes of the end of the second half when Grants Pass within five yards of a touchdown and on her first down repeated bucking and scrimmages failed to carry the ball over the line and it went to the Normal who sent it 100 yards down the field in two long punts, and time was called with the score standing 11 to 0 in favor of the visitors.

The basketball game in the evening at the Coliseum rink between the Grants Pass High School and the Normal, was more interesting than the football game earlier in the day. The city showed its appreciation of good clean athletics by turning out in goodly numbers.

The game was speed itself from start to finish and at the outset showed that the teams were well trained and evenly matched. At the end of the first half the Normal was 2 points in the lead; at the end of the second half the High school had tied the score and then the fun began as the game was to continue until one side should throw a basket. As a result of a double foul both sides had a try at goal and both failed. After five minutes more of hotly fought battle the Normal threw a basket, making the score 11 to 9 in favor of the Normal.

The Ashland boys and their friends were all pleased with their treatment while here. Prof. H. H. Wardrip, manager for the visiting teams remarked before leaving, that Grants Pass surely knows how to entertain and under all circumstances to give her visitors a royal welcome. After the basket ball game a reception was tendered the Normal boys in the W. O. W. hall by the High School.

Professor and Mrs. P. Ritner are in the city on a combined business and pleasure trip. Prof. Ritner conducts the Ashland Commercial College which is fast making a reputation for turning out competent office men and women. The school now has the largest number of students enrolled since its beginning and preparations are being made to secure additional room. Sometime ago a request was made by people in Grants Pass that the professor establish a branch school here but at that time he was unable to do so, but on inquiry it is learned that he now has a competent teacher who could be sent and if a class of 20 was secured he would be glad to open a branch giving the same course of instruction as that given at Ashland and for the same money. Those interested in the matter might take it up with Commercial Club.

Mrs. James Hubbard told Mrs. Jones that Jim never grows since she uses Folger's Golden Gate Coffee. Her grocer grinds it for her.

Compliments of

R. H. O'NEILL

The Housefurnisher

By special arrangement we are enabled to make the following GRAND OFFER to our customers: To the person who has patronized us to the amount of \$5.00 FOR CASH we will give a card which will entitle the holder to one life-size 16x20 portrait on the payment of 98c at the Grants Pass Studio. Sittings Free.

NOTE—The work given with this offer is positively guaranteed to be first class, and those not holding these cards will be charged the regular price, \$3.00.

Full line of Frames and Moulding at greatly reduced prices. See them all—look them over.

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