

Rogue River Courier

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GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON.

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NO. 39

CHILDREN ENJOY COURIER'S GIFT

BOYS AND GIRLS OF ALL SIZES
AND AGES HAPPY.

OVER 700 IN ATTENDANCE

Manager Lawrence Gave a Fine Show
and Distributed Candy to
Hundreds.

AND THERE WERE MORE
THAN 700 OF THEM!

My!—did you ever see a crowd of folks enjoy a show as did the army of little people which this afternoon crowded the Bijou theater in response to the invitation of The Courier to be the paper's guests at a New Year matinee.

It was a stony-hearted individual indeed who could look upon that merry, eager, smiling, bustling, laughing throng of little men and women and not feel a glow of pride and thrill of patriotism—for these boys and girls of today are to be the men and women of tomorrow.

And how those hundreds of lads and lassies enjoyed the performance—well it is difficult to picture in words the appreciation of the big audiences, two shows being needed.

Manager Lawrence of the Bijou had all in readiness for the show when the hands of the clock announced the time. The house was filled quickly when the big doors were opened, and it was a jolly, showing, good-natured army that rushed in and scampered for the "best seats." Mr. Lawrence had received 3,000 feet of special pictures to please the young people.

Another film which amused to the limit was entitled "What W!; Be, Will Be." If you want to know the funny story depicted by that film, ask the boys and girls.

Another entertaining reel was "The Burlesque Circus," and the laughs and handclaps came in volume which proved that Scowling Care had no seat in the Bijou today.

The Carson trio sang to the most interested spectators it has been its pleasure to greet. This musical group comes from New York, playing in the west at Minneapolis, on to Seattle, and in making a jump from Seattle to San Francisco, gave Grants Pass a chance to hear some rich vocal music.

The throng of little people joined in with the singers on the stage when the "Star Spangled Banner" and "America" echoed through the building and caused the passerby on the street to stop and listen to the young voices singing the airs of their native land.

Manager Lawrence, at his own expense, had purchased a large lot of nuts and candy, and these good things he distributed freely as his New Year gift to the little guests.

The enjoyment of the merry throng was so intense that The Courier feels richly repaid for its effort to give to the boys and girls of the city and the county a treat on this good New Year day of 1912.

ROOSEVELT REFUSES TO TALK POLITICS.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., Jan. 4.—Maintaining his sphinx-like attitude in regard to the presidential nomination, Colonel Roosevelt today flatly refused to talk politics. His secretary announced that the former president would not go to his office in New York and also that he would make no statement regarding the political situation until he was ready to do so. This, he added, would not be soon, if at all.

Believing that there was a possibility of the statement coming today, the former president's home here was besieged by reporters.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fox came down from Central Point Thursday morning to spend the day here on business.

BERT YORK CLEARED ON CRIMINAL CHARGE

Judge Calkins and the grand jury are holding down the upper floor of the court house. The judge is enjoying the pages of a book while the grand jurors are deliberating on what to do with sinners. One resident of the county who had been charged in a bog case got clearance papers Wednesday. This was Bert York, who killed several hogs in the Murphy region which he claimed he believed to have been of the wild species. But W. B. Pinkerton declared the hogs were his own private property, and sued York in Justice Holman's court for \$40 actual and \$10 exemplary damages. A jury awarded the full amount. Criminal action was also begun, but this the grand jury today put an end to by finding "not a true bill."

RENEWAL OF HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

Beware you fisherman and you hunter, because that license to fish and to hunt which you have been carrying around in your pocket all these merry months ago now has no legal standing in the eyes of the wary game wardens, nor before the bar of justice. It is dead and died at midnight last night. He you to County Clerk Cheshire and plank down one shining dollar for a new fishing license and another shining plunk for a hunting license, as you will be locked in dungeon keep if you whip the streams and shoot holes in the atmosphere—if you are caught. And they do say that game wardens hereabouts are anxious for the scalp of some victim, any victim, because heretofore most all of the various six good men and true who have solemnly sat in the jury box in Justice John Holman's dignified court, with an alleged offending huntsman or fisherman as the victim, have declared in measured tones and without batting an eye, "not guilty," and thereupon the heathen and Medford raged.

So now don't get caught and destroy the precedent, but go pay your coin and get crisp new licenses that will rout any gun-shoe game warden that might happen to part the bush and catch you.

T. J. FUSON MAKES HIS HOME IN MEDFORD.

The departure of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Fuson this morning from Grants Pass to Medford where this esteemed couple will make their home, occasions genuine regret among the vast majority of Grants Pass residents.

Mr. Fuson, who has been manager of the local opera house for two seasons, by his faith, courage and energy, has been instrumental in bringing high class attractions here, attractions that, perhaps, no city of its size in the country has been allowed to witness.

Notable in such a list were "Jim the Penman," with the Florence Roberts company; Ferris Hartman, Billy Clifford, May Robson, Virginia Harned, "Bright Eyes," "The Barrier," "The Girl in the Taxi," and others of much historic merit.

Mr. Fuson has dealt squarely both with individuals and his patrons, and his loss to Grants Pass can not be easily sustained.

GRANTS PASS HAS MADE BIG GAINS

1911 HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL
YEAR FOR CITY.

COLLECTIONS INCREASED

Much Street and Other Improvement
Work Completed
During Year.

As an indication of the big spurt Grants Pass took during the year just closed 'is indicated by the collections of Police Judge M. L. Opdycke. The collections for the first six months of 1910 compared to the collections of the first six months of 1911 tell an interesting story when put into figures. Total collections for the first six months of 1910 amounted to \$5,161.19; for the first six months of 1911 they totaled \$38,040.72, an increase of \$32,879.53.

The figures by months read as follows:

January 1910, \$257.75; January 1911, \$19,909.65.

February 1910, \$218.04; February 1911, \$808.81.

March 1910, \$259.31; March 1911, \$5,370.35.

April 1910, \$67; April 1911, \$8,424.03.

May 1910, \$161; May, 1911, \$1,711.53.

June 1910, \$4,198.09; June 1911, \$1,816.35.

Comparison of these figures for June of the two years show 1910 far ahead of 1911. This is because of the fact that collections for street improvement began in June 1910. From that time on the collections of the auditor have been heavy, and has added much clerical work to the office.

The new year is expected to see much more improvements of streets and alleys in Grants Pass. There exists now a total of 3 miles of hard surface streets in the city, two miles of bitulith and one mile of macadam. This is only a "good starter," say those who believe in the city's future, and it is prophesied that the coming season will see more paving and less remonstrances than heretofore.

TAX LEVY FIXED FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

From Monday's Daily.

January 3 the county court will meet for its first session of the new year, and it will be a busy session for the judge and commissioners. All school districts of the county which have not made tax levies for the year will be up for consideration, and the court will fix the levy. Each district must have at least \$300, and there must be a minimum of \$8 for each pupil in the district. A number of districts have already made levies.

The county court will also change road districts at this session, provided any changes are deemed necessary.

As to the tax levy for schools the following districts have made their levies. The numbers and amounts are:

District No. 2, five mills; No. 3, two mills; No. 5, six mills; No. 7, nine mills; No. 10, one and one-half mills; No. 11, two mills; No. 12, ten mills; No. 14, twelve mills; No. 17, two and one-half mills; No. 18, one mill; No. 24, ten mills; No. 25, three mills; No. 26, two and one-half mills; No. 27, eight mills; No. 28, two mills; No. 29, two and one-half mills; No. 30, one-half mill; No. 31, one-half mill; No. 32, two and one-half mills; No. 34, seven-tenths of one mill; No. 38, three mills; No. 39, one and one-half mills; No. 41, two and one-half mills; No. 43, one mill; No. 47, eight mills; No. 51, seven and one-half mills; No. 52, five mills; No. 53, seven mills; No. 54, ten mills; No. 55, three and one-half mills.

GRAND JURY MEETING CAUSES CONSTERNATION

Who will feel the grip of the law before the grand jury adjourns is a deep and dark mystery. There are all kinds of rumors along the "soft drink" riato and report last night was that there were some individuals seen slipping from back doors with suit cases in which reposed bottles.

What was in the bottles? you say. Why, probably ginger ale.

And another rumor had it that the tip went to several alleged soiled doves to hunt the cyclone cellar and stay there until the grand jury adjourned. Whether there was a begira or diving under floors is not known—exactly.

That shivers are running up and down the spines of a number of individuals seems certain and what the result will be is guess work. Ask Mulkey. Some do say that Mayor-elect R. G. Smith will not need to "bankrupt the town," as he declared he would do if necessary, to clean up the alleged bootleggers, because Mulkey has all of them tied in a bunch and will hand them over en masse to the grand jury.

There are people, though, who declare that Mulkey will land nothing but a cost bill for the county. This is unkind, say his friends, because when he works up a case the twelve good men and true who sit in judgment turn the gentry loose.

CHURCHES TO ORGANIZE PERMANENT ORCHESTRA

A meeting was held at the Newman M. E. church parlors Tuesday evening for the purpose of organizing a permanent orchestra club among the churches of the city. At the present time two churches, the Newman M. E. and the First Baptist, has orchestras and the plan is to encourage all the organizations to utilize their musical talent and form one big orchestra club which will have regular meeting nights for practice.

In this manner, when a part of one church orchestra is absent from the city the churches may draw on the club for substitutes. Then, too, when union meetings are held or other large church gatherings meet, the entire orchestra, having practiced together, could play harmoniously, adding greatly to the musical programs.

A good attendance was present at the first meeting Tuesday evening and all were enthusiastic over the plan. After an hour spent in practice, the ladies of the company served refreshments.

MISS DARNELLE BECOMES BRIDE OF F. W. VIRTUE.

Frederick W. Virtue and Miss Mary Josephine Darnelle were united in marriage at 11 o'clock a. m. at the home of the bride's father, Jasper Darnelle at Murphy, Rev. F. C. Lovette officiating.

The bride is well known in Grants Pass, where she is held in high esteem by a wide circle of friends, as she is a young lady of pleasing personality. The bridegroom was formerly a resident of Grants Pass, but for several years has lived in Calgary, B. C., where he has a home prepared for his bride.

Before going to British Columbia, Mr. and Mrs. Virtue will enjoy a wedding trip through the south, visiting with friends at Medford, San Diego, Cal., and other points south.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—Reports that Senator Robert LaFollette would retire from the presidential race were set at rest here today in an official statement from Walter Houser, the Wisconsin man's manager, from LaFollette headquarters. Houser said: "Once for all I wish to set at rest rumors that LaFollette will withdraw or his friends will withdraw his name as a candidate for the presidency. The campaign will continue until the gravel falls in convention and declaring who is the republican nominee for president."

NEW MAYOR AND COUNCIL SEATED

CITY ADMINISTRATION NOW
HEADED BY R. G. SMITH.

APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED

Council Adjourns to Meet Friday
Night to Consider Special
Election.

Cromwell stalked into the hall and broke up the rump parliament. "Bob" Smith stalked into the council chamber last night and broke up the Grants Pass parliament, not figuratively, but actually. The old regime of the city government went out in stress and storm, and it all happened with not a word of warning that it was coming. As a result there was a verbal combat between Mayor Smith and former Mayor Myers—while a room filled with seated and standing spectators looked on agasp.

And this is the way it happened: The old council, with Mayor Myers presiding, was in session. Judge Opdycke, seated at Myers' left, was acting as clerk as usual. Mayor-elect Smith stepped to the table, and with an "excuse me," placed his legal piece of paper before Opdycke to sign, and raised his hand and he was sworn in. Then Mr. Smith went back into the auditor's office and some of the other newly elected ones placed their papers before the auditor. In the meantime the old council and Myers were proceeding with business. By that time all but two of the councilmen had been sworn.

The council will now hear a report of H. Wood employed to audit the city's books," said Myers. Mr. Wood stepped to the front and began reading. Suddenly Mr. Smith came in from the auditor's office, stood at the mayor's right hand and surprised the group of statesmen and the large audience by saying:

"The city auditor refuses to swear in two of the newly elected councilmen, and I want it done, and done now." Mayor Myers was astounded and so was everybody else in the house. Mr. Wood stopped reading his report and looked on. Mr. Smith and Mr. Myers immediately locked horns. Myers said:

"What do you mean by butting in here in this way and at this time?"

"I am not butting in here or anywhere else. I am the mayor of this town. I have taken the oath of office, and you are not the mayor of Grants Pass. Furthermore the business of this council belongs in the hands of the men of the new administration; and now I want these two councilmen sworn in. It is not a personal matter; it is a matter of law."

Myers shoved his chair back with the remark: "Well, you can have it," and left the table, going into the auditor's office. As Mr. Myers was about to get up Mr. Smith remarked:

"I do not mean to interrupt you so much as I mean that these men must be sworn in."

Mr. Smith took the vacant chair and was then and there at the head of the city administration. He waved his hand at Wood, who was still standing ready to continue his report, and said: "That will do you; sit down." Wood sat down.

Things looked black for a few moments and the air was crackling and snapping. But all else was silence. Opdycke left the table, went into his office and swore in the two councilmen. Then the three new councilmen present, Everton, absent, fled to the auditor's office and the old councilmen whose time was at an end got up and the three new men took their places. Frank South stood up to give Caldwell his chair. The two men shook hands most cordially and held a brief conversation, both in smiles. McLean took Philip's seat and Clark took Sauer's seat. When all were seated Mayor

MINING CONGRESS FEBRUARY 2 AND 3

Will Josephine county be represented in an adequate manner at the Southern Oregon and Northern California Mining congress? Is a question that is daily asked of The Courier, and the answer is that Josephine county surely will be represented.

The congress convenes in Medford February 2 and 3. The date was January 17 and 18, but was postponed.

The Courier some days ago called on the mining men of the county to make preparations to send an ore exhibit from Josephine county and as Josephine is the most widely mineralized county in southern Oregon, it should take the lead of all others in a comprehensive exhibit.

Many new prospects have been opened to more or less extent since the congress convened in Grants Pass in July of last year, and with the older properties should furnish one of the most attractive collections of ores of any region to be represented. If this is not done, Josephine county will be the loser, as outside people will naturally judge a district by its representation on the ground.

Now the fact is that Josephine will be represented and that in a splendid manner. Attorney O. S. Blanchard, president of the mining bureau of the Commercial club, stated to The Courier today, that collections of mineral are coming in and that one feature of the exhibit from Josephine county that will cause widespread interest at the congress is one hundred pounds of quartz that is alive with free gold. This sack of treasure is now stored in the vaults of the First National bank and is valued at \$10,000. It is ore from a find of last year by two boys in the county and is now in litigation, the rich ore being ordered in the bank vaults by Judge Calkins.

Several Grants Pass men are on the program for addresses and technical papers, and altogether the fact seems to be that Miss Josephine will be there in her silks.

Smith explained his action in interrupting proceedings. He said:

"Gentlemen: My reason for protesting as I did a few moments ago was because of the fact that I did not want any question to arise as to the legal standing of the two gentlemen whom the police judge refused to swear in. If he could postpone swearing them in when he did, he could postpone it for a year. The business of the evening, when these men were here and ready to serve, should be in their hands. This is my reason for insisting that they should be allowed to take the oath of office.

Explanation by Myers.
Mr. Myers later explained his part in the matter as follows:

"It has been the custom for the old administration to clear the boards of business on hand and then turn everything over as a whole and all at once to the new administration. This we expected to do tonight. The whole rumpus was a surprise to me."

Judge Opdycke Explains.

Why Judge Opdycke had put the two councilmen-elect off when they wanted to be sworn in was explained by him as follows: "Above all things I was and am much interested in the report Expert Accountant Wood has made for the council. He had been asked to read it, and was doing so, when I was asked to sign more papers by newly elected gentlemen. I wanted them to wait until I had heard that report."

Thus the three explanations explain how the whole storm cloud developed and scattered little black glooms all around and around. But no gore was shed and the undertaker was not needed.

At the close of business of the new council last night Mayor Smith informally addressed the members on the subject of the outstanding warrants against the city, some \$70,000 of them, and desired that a special election be called that the people of the city may vote to authorize a bond issue to take them up, make the load be borne in the east instead of by the Grants Pass banks, put money in circulation, thereby making better times and relieving considerable

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