

# Rogue River Courier

WEEKLY EDITION

VOL. XXIX.

GRANTS PASS JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON. FRIDAY, SEPT. 19, 1913.

NO. 23.

## PUBLIC MARKET OPEN WEDNESDAY

PRODUCER AND CONSUMER TO  
DEAL AT FIRST HAND.

AT 211 NOR. SIXTH STREET

Will be Maintained on Each Wed-  
nesday and Saturday, With R.  
E. Wilnot Master.

The Grants Pass Public Market will be opened promptly on time next Wednesday morning, the committee of twenty which has the enterprise in charge having completed all preliminary arrangements. The building at 211 North Sixth street, next to the Grants Pass Bakery, was rented by the committee for present quarters for the market, and the remodeling of the interior to make it available for the purpose is now in progress.

R. E. Wilnot has been engaged as market master, and will have charge on Wednesdays and Saturdays, the two days during which the market will be open. To meet the immediate demand for funds to open and start the market, each member of the committee of twenty put up \$5, and pledged a dollar a month to see the enterprise through till some other method of raising the fund can be devised. However, donations from other sources will not be refused.

The first day of the Josephine County Fair is a most propitious time for the opening of the Public Market, and it should be given such a welcome by the consuming public that there can be no room for doubting its success. The price for "stalls" within the market will be placed at 20 or 25 cents for each market day, and it is expected that there will be a good representation of producers on every day that the market is open. To assure its success, however, it is necessary that the housewives be there with their market baskets ready to purchase, and that after the opening of the market the peddler be discouraged, and that all producers bring their goods to the market place.

Portland has her Rosarians; Salem her Cherrians, Eugene her Radiators, and Grants Pass has her "Rogues." Boosters all, and what the Rosarians have done for Portland; the Cherrians for Salem, and the Radiators for Eugene, the Rogues will do for this metropolis of the Rogue.

The "Rogues" are the committee appointed by the president of the Commercial club, the committee of twenty, to find ways and means for doing things for the betterment of Grants Pass and for the improvement of local conditions. The first meeting of this committee was held Monday night when ten of the score met the obligation imposed upon them and after a lively meeting left the wheels of progress well greased. The committee decided that it would start out after one thing at a time, and that it would stay after that one thing till it had it landed.

The public market is the first thing the committee will go after, and so determined was the committee upon the necessity for the market that it set Wednesday, September 24th, the opening day of the Josephine County Fair, as the opening day for the Grants Pass Public Market, the market to be maintained for a time upon each Wednesday and Saturday, which will be official market days. A committee, composed of Messrs C. L. Hobart, F. M. South, W. P. Quinlan and A. E. Voorhies, was selected from the main committee to go to Medford, attend the market day there, and report back at a special meeting to be held at the Hotel Oxford at 6:30 o'clock this evening. This committee left at seven o'clock this morning in Mr. Hobart's automobile, and will study the problem of producer and consumer and outline a plan for the opening day here.

The place for the holding of the

## DR. REDDY SECURES CASH FOR RAILROAD

Dr. Reddy made arrangements while in Spokane recently for cash with which to continue the grade work on the municipal railroad to Wilderville, and that \$10,000 are available in blocks of \$2,500 as needed, with another \$10,000 when that is used, these sums to be put up on warrants issued by the council, the first \$10,000 having been already issued by that body. A wire to Engineer Harmon from Mr. Reddy stated that the arrangements for the funds had been satisfactorily completed, and that he was leaving for Pendleton en route home, but would stop in the Round-Up city to see the big show. This \$20,000 provided by Dr. Reddy will continue the work till the bonds have been re-voted and the funds made available from that source.

The graders on the right-of-way are making excellent progress, about 25 teams and forty men now being employed daily.

## VETERANS WILL COME TO GRANTS PASS IN 1914.

The veteran soldiers and sailors of Southern Oregon assembled in annual reunion at Talent on Wednesday selected Grants Pass as the location for its 1914 encampment, accepting the invitation tendered by the local G. A. R. and W. R. C., backed by the invitation of the Commercial club. When it came to balloting for location this city received 87 of the 102 votes cast. The election of officers held Wednesday resulted in the following selections to head the organization for the next year:

Colonel—Henry Metz, Medford.  
Lieut-Col.—Chas. Danlere, Ashland.  
Major—H. J. Gardner, Central Point.  
Q. M.—John Patrick, Grants Pass.  
Chaplain—Mrs. Myra McNeal, Ashland.

## C. L. BARLOW HAS SOLD HIS GALICE STORE.

C. L. Barlow, for the past nine years a leading citizen and merchant of Galice, has sold his general merchandise establishment at the mining town down the Rogue to Thomas Towns, late of Seattle, who is now in charge of the store, the deal having been closed Wednesday morning. The sale includes both the stock of goods and the store building. Mr. Barlow will retain the accounts due the store at the time of the transfer, and will occupy himself during the next few months in closing up his business affairs. He will retain his residence at Galice, and will be found on the job as county commissioner more effectively than ever, having more leisure to give to the public's business.

## ARABS KILL ITALIANS.

Rome, Sept. 17.—General Torelli and two other officers and 28 privates were killed at Benghazi, Africa, when Arabs attacked an Italian column, according to a dispatch received here today. Seventy-three Italian soldiers were wounded. The Arabs, it is stated, were repulsed.

first public market has not yet been selected, but will be within a day or two. It is urged that the farmers make arrangements to bring in their produce on Wednesday, the 24th, not only for the fair but for the public market as well. There should be a showing of everything raised on the farm in the fair and an offering of everything produced in the valley at the market. There should be fruits and vegetables, poultry, eggs, wood, etc., and when the farmers have done their duty by providing the stuff to sell, then it is up to the people of Grants Pass to be there to buy. The housewives must be on hand with their market baskets and select the produce on display by the producer. Get it at first hand, fresh and clean, and make of the first market day a grand success.

## SECOND ANNUAL JOSEPHINE COUNTY FAIR SEPT. 24, 25 AND 26

Display of Exhibits Will Be Large, With Special  
Interest in Dairy Cow and Driving  
Team Contests

The directors and department managers of the coming Josephine county fair are active in making the necessary arrangements for the big show to open on Wednesday, the 24th inst., and to continue over Thursday and Friday. The location of the fair will be the same as on last year, the use of I street, east of Sixth, having been obtained again. Temporary sheds and stables will be erected, the location and the arrangement being satisfactory except that it is temporary, entailing much expense and work in getting ready and in tearing down again.

Interest in Milk Cow Contest.  
What promises to be the premier contest at the fair, occasioning the greatest interest at this date, is the milk cow contest. The fair management had offered premiums of \$20 for the first prize winner and \$10 for the second, but the business men of the city have raised a fund to add to these prizes, making a cash prize of \$50 for the first and \$30 for the second. The dairy herds of the county have been largely added to during the past year, and there are many pure bred specimens as well as grades of the various breeds and the competition among them will be keen.

Annual Poultry Show.  
The poultry association has decided that no show will be given except that in conjunction with the fair, this taking the place of the annual association show. J. B. Metkie is in management of the poultry exhibition, and states that there will be more varieties exhibited than at any previous county show. He says that the poultrymen are taking the

## COMMISSION PROBES LOCAL WATER RATES.

The members of the state railroad commission, Frank J. Miller, Thomas K. Campbell and Clyde B. Aitchison, accompanied by Secretary R. H. Corey, stenographers, attorneys and clerks, are in session in the council chambers at the city hall hearing evidence in the application of the Rogue River Water Co. for permission to raise its rates for service to its patrons in Grants Pass. The railroad commission has jurisdiction over all public utilities within the state, and questions of rates and of service must come before it.

This present case was precipitated when the city council last winter attempted to make radical reductions in the rates that the water company was charging its patrons. This ordinance did not become effective, the city being enjoined from making the ordinance effective. The water company then made application to the commission for permission to determine upon a just schedule for the local service.

The present rates charged by the water company include a charge of \$1 per month for water for ordinary household use for drinking, cooking and washing. An extra charge of 25 cents per month is made for bath tub, and of 50 cents for toilet. The city through its ordinance attempted to make the household rate, based upon amount of water used, fifty cents for the first 5,000 gallons, eight cents per thousand above that. The company in its petition asks permission to increase the household rates to \$1.50 for general use, 30 cents per month for bath tub, and 60 cents per month for toilet. Other rates in the schedule are increased in proportion.

The company bases its request for the increased rates upon the contention that it is not now making a reasonable income from its investment, and that the increase is demanded as a business proposition. It contends that it has a property investment of \$42,323.55, and that its gross income from water rents

greatest interest in the approaching contest, and that all classes will be well filled. The beautiful silver cup donated by the Southern Pacific railroad company for the best individual exhibit of fowls has been received and is now on exhibition in the city. Mr. Rafferty, a Roseburg poultry expert, will judge the show.

The Art Department.  
Special interest is also being aroused in the art department, and the list of exhibits will be even larger than last year. Mrs. A. B. Cornell is superintendent of the art department, and has aroused much enthusiasm with the result that competition will be keen. The exhibit will be absolutely of new articles never before shown in the county as one of the rules is that exhibits to be eligible for competition for the prizes must not have been shown at any previous fair given by the association. Competition is open only to amateurs, and for the purpose of this exhibition an amateur is defined as one who has not given lessons or who has followed the work of any of the classes of art for profit.

Lectures on Eugenics.  
A slight change has also been made in the rules of the Better Babies contest, and the age limits of the first class has been put between six months and two years, it having been announced in the premium list as between one and two years. Mrs. Arthur Conklin, who is superintendent of this department, has made arrangements for the holding of lectures by the physicians who will judge the contest, the lectures to be some day during the fair to be announced later.

## CALIFORNIANS ADMIRE CLIMATE OF THE ROGUE.

Messrs. A. M. Montgomery, of Santa Monica, and F. C. Sharp, of Los Angeles, are in the city enroute to their homes after a trip to the Peck placer mine on Cave creek, the gentlemen being interested in the property. "While our trip was essentially one of business, it has turned out to have been one of the greatest pleasure as well," said Mr. Montgomery to the Courier. "I like to fish and to hunt, and I like the outdoors, and the outdoors in the Rogue certainly is all that one could desire. We have seen the most perfect climate while here though we came from the place where climate is supposed to be made. But there, near the seashore we have high winds, and the absence of wind is one of the things that makes the Rogue climate delightful. We spent three hours in the Josephine caves yesterday," continued Mr. Montgomery, "and were delighted with the wonders underground. Yes, we are sure coming back."

Washington, Sept. 18.—Former Governor Joseph Folk of Missouri is to be appointed solicitor for the state department. It is understood that his nomination will go to the senate either this afternoon or tomorrow.

within the city during 1912, the best year it had ever had, was \$16,154.09. It says that the fixed charges during the year were \$13,459.32, leaving a net profit of \$2,694.77, and that it is entitled to at least 8 1-2 per cent upon its investment for interest, depreciation, etc.

Evidence is being taken by the commission to find the present value of the company property, and to arrive at the reasonableness of the rate fixed by the council, that asked by the company, or at some point between that will do justice to all parties concerned.

City Attorney Colvig is representing the interests of the city, and Attorney J. N. Teal of Portland is appearing for the water company.

## DEATH OF WALTER S. COUTANT, OF FRUITDALE

Only a few short days removed from health and vigor, from associations with friends and neighbors, Walter S. Coutant answered the final summons early Wednesday morning, one of nature's noblemen, a dutiful son, faithful husband and enduring friend and respected citizen having passed from life when his spirit winged its flight. Stricken severely only Sunday after a few days of ailing, Mr. Coutant was taken to the hospital in this city where physicians operated upon him for appendicitis, other complications also being found, and it was known then the suffering man had only a fighting chance for recovery. Tuesday morning following the operation he seemed to be holding his own against pain and disease, but Wednesday morning at two o'clock the soul was released from the stricken body, and death had won the unequal contest.

Walter Coutant was born in Wyandotte county, Kansas, on August 29th, 1880, the son of Charles G. and Mary E. Coutant, being at the time of his death 33 years and 18 days of age. The family moving to Wyoming, Walter spent his boyhood days in that state, and completed his education at the Wyoming state university. He was private secretary to Congressman Mondell of Wyoming for four years. On April 12th, 1901, at Laramie, Wyoming, he was married to Miss Cora Belle Gray, who, with one child, a little girl, survives him.

Six years Mr. Coutant spent in Alaska at the time the north called so many of the progressive and adventurous citizens from "the states," serving as deputy clerk and later as reporter and stenographer for the first division of the court of Alaska. He later owned and edited the Juneau Record-Miner and the Ketchikan Mining Journal, coming to southern Oregon when he sold out his newspaper interests in March, 1908. Here he invested in farm property, and for the past four years has devoted his energies to the development of a farm in the Fruitdale district. He was a life member of the B. P. O. E., holding membership in Lodge No. 426 of Juneau. He was also a member of the Arctic Brotherhood and of the Knights of Pythias, and was an active and interested worker in the Fruitdale and the Pomona granges.

Besides the wife and baby girl, a widowed mother, three sisters and one brother are left to mourn the early passing of this well beloved man.

The funeral services will be held at Hall's undertaking parlors at two o'clock Thursday afternoon.

From Thursday's Daily.

The funeral services over the remains of Walter Coutant, who died early Wednesday morning, were held at the Presbyterian church at two o'clock Thursday afternoon, the sermon being preached by Rev. Wm. R. Jeffrey Jr., pastor of the local Methodist church. There was a large concourse of the friends of the man who had passed present, and the floral offerings were many and beautiful. The Elks lodge at Juneau, Alaska, of which the deceased was a member, wired to have flowers on the bier in its name. Interment was by the side of the father who had preceded Walter to the Great Beyond by less than a year.

## PANKHURST NOT WORRYING.

Paris, Sept. 16.—"I am ignoring the absurd stories that when I get to America I will be detained at Ellis Island," said Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, who rejoined her daughters, Christabel and Sylvia, in a hotel here today.

The militant suffragette leader said she preferred not to say anything further at present.

Portland, Sept. 19.—When Iverson West grumbled so strongly over his inability to stay on the water wagon that he tried to end it all at a rope's end on the Montgomery dock, Judge Stevenson came to his rescue by giving him a liquor cure session on the rockpile.

## S. P. CO. OBJECTS TO ASSESSMENT

FILES COMPLAINT WITH BOARD  
OF EQUALIZATION.

## CLAIMS DOUBLY ASSESSED

Eight Acres, in Center of City, Valued at \$91,255, Listed as Non-Operating Property.

Not many complaints of dissatisfied property owners have come before the Board of Equalization for adjustment, only eight having filed formal notice that the assessment of their property did not meet their ideas of what was fair and equitable. Action upon these complaints has not yet been taken, though a number of property owners have been cited to appear before the board at ten o'clock Saturday morning.

## Southern Pacific Objects.

The Southern Pacific railroad company has made the most strenuous kick to date, wanting an assessment of \$91,255 set aside, claiming that it is a double assessment. Under the law of the state the operating property of the railroad company would be assessed by the state public utilities commission. But the Southern Pacific company owns eight acres of land in the very center of the city that the county assessor does not consider a part of the operating property of the road. These eight acres include the parked strips lying back from the right of way, and abutting on Sixth street, as well as lands occupied by lumber yards, warehouses, etc. This was assessed by the county as business property alongside was assessed, and the company has entered formal protest, and claims that the assessment levied by the state commission upon its operating property should cover this as well, the assessment by the county being what it terms the "double assessment." Assessor Pollock maintains that the property should be assessed by the county the same as property held by the company in any other part of the county and not "operating" property. The attorney for the company in his communication to the board makes a veiled threat that if the demand is not acquiesced in by the board, that the case will be carried into the courts. The eight acres assessed on the basis of business property which it adjoins was valued by the assessor at \$91,255.

## Grange Committee Investigates.

A committee of 14 taxpayers from Rogue River grange has been investigating the question of assessment values, and its report is now on file with the Board of Equalization. The report, which is signed by H. Wood, "representing fourteen taxpayers," states that while it does not question the desire of the assessor of Josephine county to make a just and equitable assessment, that examination of the rolls shows many inconsistencies, and that property values as they appear upon the assessor's books are far from fair or equitable. The report also says that the committee does not think that "position, social or otherwise," should influence the fixing of property values for the purpose of assessment, though it does not go so far as to say that such influence has been exerted to bring about the "inconsistencies" of which it complains. The committee quotes certain assessment values on well known properties to support its contention. It shows that values in the lower Rogue district, from which the members of the committee came, are much higher than in other portions of the county. It gives as illustrations the Elsmann orchard of 72 acres, assessed at \$157 per acre; Hull's Lakeside orchard, 27 acres, \$152 per acre; Dr. Loughbridge, 40 acres in alfalfa, \$100 per acre; Finnagan & Cornell, 100 acres hops and alfalfa, \$100 per acre; Dixie Ranch,

(Continued on Page Eight)