

REPLY IS RECEIVED FROM COMMISSION

Local Chamber of Commerce Informed on Stand Taken in Unmerger Case

A letter has been received by the local chamber of commerce from the public service commission in answer to the one sent them by the chamber asking for an explanation of the action taken by the commission and H. H. Corey, one of the commissioners, in regard to the dismemberment of the Southern and Central Pacific railroads. According to the letter the commission has taken no definite stand as to the dismemberment, except as is beneficial to the rail service in the state of Oregon. This is the explanation of the action taken by the commission as referred to in the petition which is mentioned in the answer to the first question.

The letter reads: "Reply to your letter of December 5 has been delayed for a day or two by reason of the absence of all members of the commission from the office. Immediately upon their return it was given consideration, and will answer the questions therein contained in the order asked."

"(1) What action has the public service commission taken relative to the dismemberment of the Central Pacific and the Southern Pacific?"

"Answer: The commission has taken no action on this question other than as indicated by the copy of petition enclosed."

"(2) What are the reasons for thinking that the Natron cutoff is more likely to be constructed under an independent Central Pacific management than under Southern Pacific management, since the Southern Pacific board of directors has set aside the necessary funds for the building of the line if same is retained by the Southern Pacific company?"

"Answer: The question assumes that the commission has been so thinking, which is not the case, the commission not having committed itself on this subject and as yet having no opinion thereon."

"(3) How does the commission expect to have the Union Pacific railroad to have joint use of the Southern Pacific main line tracks?"

"Answer: The commission has not committed itself further on this subject than is set out in its petition in the following language:

"That the joint and common use of the lines herein named and described by such operating systems would insure to the shippers and patrons of said line a more adequate car service that will minimize the enormous annual loss that results from such car shortage."

"And further in the prayer of the petition: And that such further order be made giving such constructed lines as will warrant such construction and thereby adequately serve the territories herein described... and that said railroads be so grouped as to maintain and assure maximum competition and maximum use of cars, equipment and facilities."

"(4) Why is it that the public service commission does not desire the construction of the Natron cutoff with out the completion of the trans-state line from Odell to Crane?"

"Answer: The commission has taken no such stand as is intimated in your question, nor has it analyzed the matter to a sufficient extent to say which of the proposed lines is the most important, but has contended that all of the extensions referred to in its petition should be constructed."

"(5) Was Mr. Corey directed by the public service commission of Oregon to go to Washington for the avowed purpose of testifying in behalf of one main line in Oregon as against another line and are his expenses to be paid from the public tax funds? If so, why should the public pay the expenses of Mr. Corey when his testimony is all strictly partisan and against the building of an independent Natron cutoff from Oakridge to Kirk?"

"Answer: Commissioner Corey was authorized to present and protect the interest of the commission as indicated by one petition of intervention, copy of which is inclosed, and we have no sufficient reason to believe that he has done otherwise, believing

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Car Crashes Into Pole; Man Unhurt

Alec Mathews escaped injury but his father's car, which he was driving, was damaged to the extent of \$250 when it crashed into a power line pole at the corner of 6th and Main streets late Saturday night.

Young Mathews had borrowed his father's car for the evening and was on his way home when the accident occurred. According to the young man's story he was driving along the street at about 18 miles an hour when he dozed off for what seemed to be but a minute and was awakened from his short nap when the car hit the pole.

Damage to the car consisted of a smashed radiator, a leg broken from the crank case, a bent axle and one of the glass windshields was shattered.

SAVOI ARRESTED; FINED; JAILED; LIQUOR CAUSE

Pete Savoi, local bootblack and proprietor of a small confectionery store, was fined \$300 and given a three months' jail sentence by Judge Jesse G. Wells of the Eugene Justice court, Monday on a charge of unlawful possession of intoxicating liquor.

At the time of the arrest, according to Sheriff Stickles, the officers declared that they found a small soda-water bottle full of moonshine which tested 40 per cent alcohol. When he was taken before the justice for the preliminary hearing Savoi pleaded not guilty.

For some time Savoi has been suspected of selling liquor and has been accused on a number of occasions of selling cigarettes to boys under the age of 21, which is a violation of the state law.

NEXT PARENT TEACHERS MEETING IS DEC. 22

The next regular meeting of the Parent-Teachers association will be held Friday December 22, in the assembly room of the Lincoln school. The feature of the meeting will be a program furnished by the pupils of the primary grades.

Speaking in regard to the meeting Professor C. E. Lambert, of the Lincoln school said, "You should need no special invitation to visit your school, and incidentally to boost the Parent-Teacher organization."

HIGH SCHOOL GIVES THREE ACT COMEDY

"When A Man's Single," a sparkling three act comedy of love containing the eternal triangle and other premarital complications, will be staged at the High school auditorium by the High school students Friday evening, December 15, at 8 o'clock.

Most of the characters have taken parts in previous High school plays and are well versed in dramatics and with the hard work they have been putting in preparing for the play it should be one of the best productions ever staged by the local students.

The cast will be:

Mrs. Briscoe, a high-toned Widow—Crystal Bryan.
Paul Briscoe, Mrs. Briscoe's stepson—Lyndel Gardner.
Winthrop Briscoe, Mrs. Briscoe's son—Kenneth Dillard.
Norah O'Neil, the Irish maid—Eileen Killen.
Jim Horton, a widower and farmer—Alfred Townsend.
Eleanor Horton, Jim's niece—Rebecca Wertman.

Pete Adams, Jim's nearest neighbor—Robert Driscoll.

Fred Hoppe arrived in town last Friday from Holdrege, Nebraska, for an indefinite visit with his uncle, J. W. Hoppe.

Lucian Tobias is at home again after some time spent at the John Seavey ranch, where he has been employed.

The Mountain States Power company are digging a ditch along 2nd street between A and B for the purpose of extending their gas mains so that the residents of that neighborhood may be supplied. The home of John Ketsis is being pined for the use of gas and probably several others in that vicinity will avail themselves of this convenient and economical fuel.

Marvin Jackson, of Avard, spent last week in Thurston harvesting his potato crop.

AMERICAN LEGION ELECTS OFFICERS

O. M. Olson is Re-elected Post Commander; Offer of Aid Sent Astoria Post

Election of officers for the coming year was held at the regular meeting of the local post of the American Legion held in the Woodman hall Sunday afternoon.

The following officers were elected: O. M. Olson, post commander; H. B. Freeland, first vice-commander; C. B. Senseney, second vice-commander; E. W. Howells, third vice-commander; C. A. Swartz, adjutant; Trubert Henderson, finance officer. The new executive committee will consist of five of the officers and four elected members, Frank Emerich, Ray Mitchell, Claude E. Jordan and Vern Woolley, Arnold Tomseth was reappointed sergeant-at-arms; M. B. Huntly, historian; W. P. Tyson, chaplain.

Incumbent officers who will resign their present posts to the new members when they are installed at the first meeting in the new year are: M. B. Huntly, first vice-commander; W. P. Tyson, second vice-commander; E. W. Gossler, adjutant; F. B. Hamlin, chaplain; W. P. Tyson, historian. The resigning members on the executive committee are, Fred E. Lemley, M. B. Huntly, C. A. Swartz, W. P. Tyson and Verdon May.

The community Christmas tree will be held under the auspices of the Legion Saturday night December 23, in the open air at the corner of 4th and A streets. A committee of one from each of the various fraternal organizations in the city has been appointed, each member by his respective organization, and will meet with M. B. Huntly in the city hall Wednesday evening to make the final arrangements for the holding of the tree.

A letter will be sent by the local Legion to the Astoria post offering any assistance that they might render to the ex-service men of Astoria who suffered losses from the recent fire.

A change was made in the method of selecting the executive committee which makes the members of this committee subject to election instead of appointment by the post commander, which has been the method used in the past.

The date of regular meeting has been changed from the first and third Friday nights to the afternoon of the first and third Sundays of each month. This change was made in order to make it possible for the men working at the mill to attend the meetings. A special meeting has been called for December 19, at The News office for the purpose of hearing the reports of the various committees.

LOCAL I. O. O. F. IS GIVEN BANQUET AT MEETING

Springfield Encampment No. 70, I. O. O. F., was entertained by the W. B. Pengra Encampment No. 67 at a banquet held in the Springfield hall Wednesday evening, December 6. In addition to the banquet a business meeting was held at which more than 50 members were present.

G. F. Culver, of Nebraska, who is visiting his son, W. T. Culver of Springfield, was the main speaker of the evening. Mr. Culver treated on the order as a whole and also spoke of the Encampments he had visited in the east. Mr. Culver has been a frequent visitor at the local Encampment although it has been 15 years since his last visit.

Installation of officers for the Springfield camp will be held during the first week in January, when the new officers elected last week will be installed. The newly elected officers are: E. W. Walker, noble grand; B. G. Sankey, vice-grand; O. M. Olson, secretary; J. W. Coffin, treasurer. The incumbent officers are: Harry Anthony, noble grand; E. W. Walker, vice-grand; O. M. Olson secretary; J. W. Coffin, treasurer. The men in the latter two offices were reelected.

John Seavey has just completed the building of a large barn on his home island ranch, the construction of which has taken a crew of several men some three months to finish. The barn is 40 by 100 and is one of the finest equipped in the country, being adapted to cattle and horses, both.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Pengra were in town Wednesday afternoon from their home in Pruneville.

ONEONTAS LOSE TO EUGENE TEAM

Final Score 31 to 25; Local Hoopers Stage Rally in Last Half of Game

Fighting brilliantly until the shrill notes of the final whistle announced the closing of a clean hard fought game, the Oneonta Athletic club hoopers went down to defeat before the "C" club five, of Eugene, by a score of 31 to 25 in the High school gymnasium Tuesday evening.

Vandine, B. Barber and C. Barber were the bright lights for the local basketballers, Vandine being high point man with five field goals and a total of 10 points to his credit. Vandine's laurels as high point man were hotly contested by C. Barber, the speedy little forward, who amassed four field goals. The Murray brothers held the places in the firmament for the invaders, amassing 23 of the 31 points between them.

During the first half the visitors, by means of superior team work, outplayed the local hoopers at every point and when the whistle sounded for the end of the first frame the score stood 19 to 5 in favor of the invaders. Although the Springfield players fought valiantly throughout the entire period they were greatly handicapped by lack of practice and poor teamwork. At the close of this period Hutchins was substituted for Delph at forward for the local team.

A rally, which, if there had but been a Joshua present to call back the fastly fleeing minutes, might have changed defeat to victory, was staged by the local hoopers during the second frame. Heedless of the extremely slippery floor and the superior teamwork of their opponents they fought. Time after time the leather sphere swished through the net of their opponents goal and the flood of counters began by their opponents in the first half dwindled down to an insignificant brooklet.

All in all it was a good game considering that it was the opener of the season and the extremely slippery floor on which it was played. A total of nine fouls for the entire game vouches for the fact that it was a clean game and for the sportsmanship displayed by the players on both teams.

The lineups:
Oneonta "C" Club
Delph 2 F. Murray 13
C Barber 8 F. O. Murray 10
Vandine 10 C. Smith 2
Davidson 1 G. Taylor 4
B. Barber 2 G. Stein 2
Substitutions: Hutchins (2) for Delph.
Referee: E. A. Britton.

VICTIM OF PNEUMONIA IS BURIED AT LAUREL HILL

Thomas Albert Nesbitt was born in Colorado, January 1, 1883, and while still a young man he came with his parents to Oregon. He was married January 17, 1904, to Miss Jessie Weltr at Thurston. He died of pneumonia, December 3rd 1922, at the Eugene hospital where he had been taken for treatment. Interment was in the Laurel Hill cemetery on Tuesday morning, December 5. Rev Stivers conducted the services from the Branstetter chapel in Eugene.

Mr. Nesbitt leaves, besides his wife, Mrs. Jessie Nesbitt, five children, three daughters and two sons, all at home; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Nesbitt of Camp Creek; three brothers William, of Burns; R. H. of Pleasant Hill and Bert of Wendling; a sister, Mrs. E. A. Nesbitt, of Denver, Colo.

J. B. Campbell, an uncle of W. P. Rodenbaugh, who works at the Myrtle Point hospital early Monday morning, and was buried at 1 o'clock Tuesday. Mr. Rodenbaugh received a call that his uncle was very ill and rushed to his bedside and arrived before his uncle died. Mr. Rodenbaugh remained until after the funeral.

Mrs. T. J. McCracken leaves today for San Francisco to join Mr. McCracken, who will be employed there until spring, when they will return to Springfield.

The Baptist Ladies' Aid will hold a bazaar and food sale, Saturday, December 16 in the front of the Long & Cross plumbing shop. Be sure and come early and get your Sunday dinner.

Catholic Chapel Dedicated Sunday

Formal dedication of the recently completed Catholic chapel, which is located on the corner of 6th and B streets, was held last Sunday morning. The dedication ceremonies were conducted by Archbishop Christie, of Portland, while the mass was celebrated by Rev. O'Hara, of Eugene.

The chapel, which faces B street, is constructed of wood. The dimensions of the building is 24 by 40 feet and has two entrances, both on the 6th street side. In order to have the chapel ready for immediate use it will be just temporarily enclosed, the permanent work to be completed at a later date. The building was constructed by Lepley Bros., M. J. McKlin and W. L. Rouse.

FORMER LOCAL GIRL IS MARRIED IN CALIFORNIA

The marriage of Miss Irene Stewart formerly of Springfield, to Norvell Thompson, an assistant in the dramatics department of the University of Oregon, has been made known, the ceremony having taken place in California.

Miss Stewart is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stewart, former residents of Springfield, but who are now making their home in Eugene. Miss Stewart attended the University of Oregon and during her college career took a very prominent part in the university dramatic activities, having played the leading roll in several plays.

Mr. Thompson, who is assisting Mr. Reddie in the dramatic art department of the university, has returned with his bride to Eugene where he will continue his work. The young couple will reside in the Hotel Osborn apartments.

BIRTHDAY PARTY IS HELD FOR POPULAR YOUNG MISS

A birthday party was given for Maxine Smitson on her third birthday, December 8, at the home of her parents.

The room was very pretty with Christmas decorations. A delightful luncheon was served to the children present by Miss Maxine's mother.

The children present were Mary Smitson, Rachel and Agnes Winn, Belva Holmes, Geneva Fritts and the little hostess.

LOCAL TOTS WILL HAVE REAL XMAS

A real "honest-to-gosh" Santa Claus, a big Christmas tree, candy, nuts, an everything, this is the dream of every child as the Yuletide approaches. For the children of Springfield, be they rich or poor, this dream will be fulfilled this year in the big community Christmas tree, which will be held at the intersection of 4th and A streets on the evening of December 23 under the auspices of the Springfield American Legion, according to Chairman M. B. Huntly of the central committee which met to make arrangements for the tree, in the city hall last night.

Each organization in the city has been allotted a certain duty to perform in order to make this Christmas tree a success. The W. O. W. will get the tree and put it up, the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen will arrange for the lights and decorations for the tree and platform, the Springfield schools will give the program, the Springfield fire department will furnish the Santa Claus, the Ladies of the 3L, the Rebekahs and the Willing Workers, will arrange the presents, the American Legion will do the soliciting and the ladies of the American Legion auxiliary will give out the presents.

Anyone wishing to subscribe to the Christmas tree fund are requested to do so and may leave the money with W. P. Tyson or at the office of The News.

The central committee, which is composed of one representative from each of the organizations in Springfield, was organized at the meeting for the purpose of becoming a permanent committee. M. B. Huntly was elected chairman, W. P. Tyson, treasurer and Mrs. Carl Petterson, secretary. The purpose of the committee will be to carry on various sorts of civic work which will benefit the city of Springfield.

SPECIAL MEETING OF L.L.L. HELD

Stand is Taken Against Change Advocated For Workmen's Compensation Act

A reconsideration of the wage resolutions passed at the last regular meeting was the main topic of a special meeting of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen held in the Woodman hall Monday night.

A resolution authorizing the conference committee to meet with the managers of the Booth-Kelly mills, in Springfield for the purpose of discussing the existing wage scale was voted on and finally tabled until the next regular meeting to be held on December 18.

The question of establishing of a district wage board brought forth a storm of discussion both for and against the establishing of such a board. W. D. Smith, field officer for the organization, described the wage board and tests to which similar boards had been put in other places.

A motion was then passed that the Springfield local, which is number 7 in district one, should elect two members to form a regional wage board in conjunction with a similar number of representatives which would be appointed from Silverton by the local at that place, which is district two. In addition to the four employee members on the board an equal number of representatives from the employers will have to be appointed in order to complete the board. A communication is to be sent to President Norman F. Coleman, of the 4L, requesting him to urge the operators to cooperate in this movement by selecting a representative to serve on the board. The local employee members selected to serve on the board were, D. W. Crites and D. W. McKinnon.

Among the resolutions passed at the meeting was one to write a letter to each member of the state legislature advising them to keep their hands off the workmen's compensation act. At the present time there is a movement being instigated to abolish the clause in the present compensation act which gives the employee the right to sue the employer in case of accident when the employer is entirely to blame because of the failure to install the proper safety devices.

According to the time set for the regular meetings of the local organization the next meeting would fall on Christmas day, so it was determined to hold the meeting on the preceding Monday which is December 18. In order to insure a real attendance at this meeting tickets will be drawn by the members attending which will entitle them to a chance on two prizes of \$25.00 each. One of the prizes is offered for the men's organization and one for the women's organization.

THREE BIG PLAYS TO BE AT BELL DURING WEEK

This week's program at the Bell theatre is one of the best ever offered the movie fans of Springfield and has for the stars of the three plays, "Human Hearts", "The Three Word Brand" and "Clarence". House Peters, William Hart and Wallace Reid.

Human Hearts, a story of simple mountain life, of love, of sacrifice and of deceit, is playing its last time today. The "Three Word Brand," which will be Saturday's attraction, is a thrilling story of the old frontier and of fatherly love starring Bill Hart and Jane Novak. It is like the rest of the Bill Hart productions—it is good. "Clarence" will take everything that is blue out of Sunday and with its sunshine and laughter will make you forget that the mercury is hovering around zero and that just before you came to the show you were feeling like a first cousin to an Eskimo.

Henry Nestle, who was drowned in the Willamette near Eugene, last Thursday, formerly lived with his family in Springfield and was employed at the local rock and gravel plant on Mill street. The sympathy of the former neighbors and friends is extended to the bereaved family.

Mrs. Rosa Bossorman and family, moved last Friday into the Leonard property on D street between 5th and 6th.

F. E. Wallace and R. F. Robins, of Creswell, were in town last Thursday.