

The Santiam News.

VOL. X.

SCIO, LINN COUNTY, OREGON, JANUARY 4, 1907.

NUMBER 28.

PROGRESS IS THE KEY NOTE

Scio's New City Council Takes Hold of the City Government Under Favorable Auspices—The Mayor's Message.

THE OLD CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNS SINE DIE

After Hearing the Reports of the City Officers and Auditing Bills, Closing Up the Year's Business, Government is Given Over.

Tuesday, Scio city government changed hands. At 10 a. m. Mayor Miller called the council to order, all of whom were present. After hearing reports from the various city officers, auditing and allowing what bills against the city were on the table, Mayor Miller, after making appropriate remarks relative to city affairs and the pleasant association with the councilmen, the new council having been qualified, adjourned the board of aldermen, sine die.

Mayor Prill at once called the incoming council to order, after some little discussion as to just what the proper course was, he read the following as his inaugural message to the council:

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE.
Scio, Linn County, Or., Jan. 1, 1907.
TO THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCIO,

GENTLEMEN:—

It has been customary in the years past, at the conveying of this body, for the Mayor to present such recommendations and suggestions for your consideration as might seem to him proper and needed, and I shall not vary this custom.

In your hands has been placed the power of government and the exacting of such legislation as the demands may require and also a general supervision of all affairs pertaining to the City as an incorporated body.

Improvement and Advancement are the watchwords all over this Willamette Valley, and it rests with you as to whether we advance or remain stationary.

Of special attention at this time, for the advancement of the City of Scio and the surrounding county, is the inducement to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company to change their present road bed to come through Scio. A proposed change is about to be made, and it seems to me that some action should be taken to place before the proper officials the advantage of running their line through our City.

The "Forks of the Santiam" is known as the best portion of Linn County, and Linn as the best county in the State. Immense resources await development near Scio which can only be accomplished by proper railway facilities. I would recommend that a meeting of the citizens of Scio be called at once for the appointment of a committee of five to interview the proper officials of the Southern Pacific Railroad, or that your Honorable Body appoint the committee.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER SYSTEM.

I am informed that the present system has now been running some fifteen years and that during this time really no repairs to any extent have been made on same except the erection of a new tower. It has been demonstrated that the ownership of this system has well repaid the City. Not only has the plant paid for itself and all running expenses, but it has been a source of revenue to the City until the last few years when, on account of not furnishing proper lights, the patronage due it by the citizens was withdrawn. I believe in the economical administration of City affairs, but it certainly is not economy to allow the light and water system to deteriorate in such a manner that the lights are useless and the water supply inadequate in case of fire. The following repairs to the system are urgently needed:

1. A larger penstock to supply more water to the wheels and give an increase of power.

2. Water wheel reset.

3. A new water main laid from the station to the corner of Main and Mill streets, and I would recommend that this be at least a 5-inch main, which would allow of two hydrants at this corner and give the City two streams of water in case of fire. The water system, the main object of which is protection in case of fire, should be placed in such condition that when called upon, efficient service can be rendered.

On the Twenty-ninth of last May Scio was visited by a most destructive fire which resulted in a loss to many citizens, and which, in my opinion, could have been reduced one-half had we had a more abundant supply of water. The

saving of \$15,000 to the citizens would be a large item compared with a slight increase of taxes required for repairs.

4. A new pump of sufficient capacity to fill a 5 inch main and give abundant pressure is also required.

5. New commutators are required on dynamos, armatures rewound and new bearings.

During the months of August and September each year the water power furnished the City is wholly inadequate for at such times we are without lights and often without water. In case of fire the supply of water at such times would not last fifteen minutes and the business portion of the City would be at the mercy of the flames. Unless this can be remedied, the City should install a boiler and engine to supply power in case of emergency.

I am satisfied the citizens of Scio would liberally patronize the system if said system is placed in condition for first-class service at all times.

The lighting of the streets of the City should be considered as a great convenience to the citizens and if the plant was closed down, would make it very unpleasant, at least.

I am informed that at present the system is run at a loss, which should not be, and which, if continued, will result in closing it down. The proper repairs made, the plant would render good service for fifteen years to come. I would therefore recommend your earliest consideration of this matter and that the Scio Light and Water system be placed in first-class condition.

A CLEAN CITY.

The health of any community depends to a great extent upon the cleanliness of its surroundings. Fifth, decaying vegetable matter and improper drainage, which sooner or later infect the water supply used for drinking and other purposes, lead but to sickness and distress. Rubbish, briars, vines, boxes, boards and refuse matter of all kinds lying in the streets and alleys and found upon our sidewalks and around our business houses are an eyesore to the public and give to strangers who visit our City an unfavorable opinion. A city with clean streets and alleys, well-kept yards and residences is a constant advertisement to the outside world of prosperity and well-being and produces an increase in business. I therefore recommend that special attention be given this matter and that on or before May 1st and October 1st the law be fully complied with.

I wish at this time to call attention to several ordinances:

One which relates to disorderly conduct, intoxication and the use of profane and vulgar language upon our streets and in public places. Violations of this ordinance are altogether too common. Profane and indecent language is constantly being indulged in by many and often in the presence of women and children.

The curfew ordinance, which requires all persons under 18 years of age to be at home by 9 p. m., is violated to such an extent that we do not realize that we have such a law. I would suggest that if parents do not take sufficient interest in the matter to have their children home at the proper time, the law either be enforced or repealed.

More attention should also be given to the enforcement of the peddlers' and hawkers' ordinance. Scio is frequently visited by such people who use every dishonest means to evade the ordinance and who sell our residents a cheap article at a good price. Home business men should have proper protection.

All ordinances found upon our books should be enforced without fear or favor to anyone, and any of them found inoperative should be repealed.

Special attention is directed to the inspection of all sidewalks and crosswalks and when found defective should be repaired and placed in first-class condition.

With these suggestions submitted for your consideration, and ever bearing in mind that energy and improvement in City affairs as well as in private matters lead to prosperity, I ask each committee appointed to the various departments of City affairs to carefully look into the business required of them and to work together in a spirit of harmony for the improvement and upbuilding of the City of Scio.

Annual Meeting.

Wednesday the Scio Milling Company held its annual meeting for the purpose of electing directors, and receiving reports of the business for the past year. The company has done a very satisfactory business during the past year, and the prospect for an increased business during the coming year looks bright. The officers of the past year were re-elected and the present management continued.

A dividend of three per cent was declared, which leaves sufficient funds in the treasury to build a permanent dam on Thomas creek, which was ordered built at the site of the old dam near the dam mill.

VALLEY SHIPPERS TO MEET

Will Continue the Agitation for the Correction of the Railroad Transportation Abuses in the Willamette Valley.

MEETING TO PRECEDE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Will Gather at Albany and Work Along Lines Marked Out by Eugene Convention—Favor Portland Chamber Plan.

Willamette valley shippers and merchants, unwilling to let the matter of railroad transportation abuses rest, have arranged another meeting, to be held between this time and the convening of the Oregon legislature. They will gather at Albany, January 10. The question of "Remedial Legislation" will be handled without gloves.

The Albany meeting will work along the lines marked out by the Eugene convention. Car shortage troubles, exorbitant rates and various other phases of the situation will be discussed. Prominent citizens from different parts of the state will be asked to speak. Commercial clubs and other business organizations will be invited to send delegates. The purpose of the meeting will be to solidify the sentiment of the business interests and the producers with reference to legislation that will best serve the needs of Oregon, without retarding development of the state's resources.

The meeting will immediately precede the convention of the legislature. A large number of the members of that body are expected to be present. The action of the meeting will have an important bearing on legislative action regarding the proposed railway commission and reciprocal demurrage law that is to be demanded by the business interests and the producers of the state from the legislators.

The committee having in charge arrangements for the meeting is composed of Dr. M. H. Ellis, president of the Albany Commercial club, Frank J. Miller, C. E. Sox, Judge C. H. Stewart, G. E. Sanders.

At the Eugene meeting there was a unanimity of opinion that transportation evils were great, and the need for reforming them imperative, but the speakers differed somewhat in their views as to the best remedy. Since that time agitation, education and counseling together have brought order out of comparative chaos and it is said the manufacturing, mercantile and agricultural interests of the state will show a united front at the Albany meeting in favor of remedial legislation in the form of a railway commission and reciprocal demurrage law modeled on the bill proposed by the Portland chamber of commerce.

SANTIAM FARM.

Hello Mr. Editor! Santiam wishes you a happy New Year and a prosperous year of business.

Mr. James Pindexter, of Condon, is now visiting with his brother Joseph, of this vicinity, and is occasionally casting sheep's eyes at some of the fair sex. He has been an old bachelor for several years and as he is anticipating a cold snap and his imagination runs high, he thinks a partner might cruse a Chinook change in his experiences.

Mr. James Calavan, of Washington, formerly of Scio, is now in on a visit with relatives and old time friends, who have greeted him cheerfully on his return.

Mr. and Mrs. Page, also Miss May Calavan, of Salem, are up on a visit to spend the remainder of the holidays.

Mr. Lee Bilyeu has sold one of his fine mares to a stock dealer for \$200, which shows that good horses are worth raising.

Mr. Julius Mary, of Lebanon, was a caller on Lee Bilyeu during the past week.

David Horsburg was out buying stock sheep during the past week. As sheep in price are away up in G, he undoubtedly had to pay fair prices. Mr. Horsburg is also beautifying his farm with a straight rail fence.

Mrs. J. P. Crabtree (Tinker Jim) was a caller on the sick wife of S. W. Gaines over Sunday. As Mrs. Crabtree is a fine nurse and never forgets to lend a helping hand with the sick, her visit was more than welcome.

Mr. George Wilford and wife of California are up on a visit with Mr. Wilford's mother, Aunt Hannah Bilyeu,

relatives and friends on both sides. The Pie Eater acknowledges a call from George.

Mrs. Lida Curl, wife of Miller Curl of Washington, is down spending the holidays with her mother, Mrs. J. M. Bilyeu and her brothers and sisters and old time childhood friends.

Wm. Green's sister, of Rock Hill, near Lebanon, made him a holiday visit.

Henry Cyrus, who lately had an operation performed upon him for cancer of the stomach, in which two-thirds of that organ was removed, is reported to be getting along nicely and it is hoped that he will fully recover his health.

Mrs. S. W. Gaines anticipates a large New Year present in the shape of her baby boy, Curtis Griffin, of San Francisco, who is billed to arrive on that day. He has been at the earthquake city for over three years.

Mr. J. D. Griffin, of Stayton, who started for San Francisco some ten days ago, has returned, arriving on New Year's day. He received a dose that will probably relieve him of the heaves.

George Brock and family who moved to Canada some time ago, seemed to have got all of the cold weather they wanted in a short time. They returned to G. L. Southerland's about New Year's day and will spend the rest of the winter in old Oregon.

John and Miss Rose Crabtree went to Lebanon last Monday to spend holiday week with relatives and friends in that city.

G. L. Southerland is contemplating going to Grass Valley, there to spend the rest of the winter clerking in a dry goods store.

J. W. Pindexter, wife and daughter, Miss Flo and Grandma Pindexter, spent Sunday with M. C. Gaines and family.

S. W. Gaines returned Sunday from their Portland-St. John's trip. Owing to illness of Mrs. Gaines, they cut the visit somewhat short. Mrs. Gaines is now convalescing.

Santiam Farm chickens have resumed their usual peace and quietude since the burglars have been placed in durance vile.

Hello! Itemizers at Providence, Shelburn, Crabtree, Jordan and Munkers, send in your items. We all like to read them. Let us help the editor to make the SANTIAM NEWS a newsy paper in fact as well as in name, and don't forget to subscribe for it yourself but have your friends subscribe as well.

Our first and last snow of 1906 fell on the night of the 30th inst. Not enough fell to show except on surrounding hills.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Crabtree and daughter Miss Rose, visited with Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Titus on New Year's day.

M. C. Gaines celebrated the New Year in killing ten head of fine hogs, some of them tipping the beam at 400 pounds. He took some of them to Lebanon and received 7 1/2 cents per pound for them.

Newton Crabtree, when visiting the Pie Eater lately, stated that the Albany Grangers were endeavoring to locate the first and oldest house built in Linn County. Mr. Crabtree now owns the first house built in the county. It was erected by John Packwood in the spring of 1844 on the donation land claim of Uncle Johnny Crabtree. The house is still standing and is in good sound condition.

It is now used for a log stable by Mr. Crabtree. The Crabtrees moved into the house in 1846.

G. A. Griffin and the writer amused the neighborhood at the death of the old year and the advent of the new by firing off the first cannon ever fired in Linn County. The cannon was made in 1854 to be used at a celebration on Franklin Butte the same year. This was the first 4th of July celebration known to be held in Oregon. Newton Crabtree retains the old cannon as a relic of by gone days. PIE EATER.

Caught Marion County's Coyotes.

Late last Thursday evening Wm. Brenner and J. S. Warwick returned from a four-days' coyote hunt in Marion County, in the vicinity of Turner. They only had with them six hounds, but the half-dozen proved to be sufficient to capture two coyotes and a sackful of jackrabbits. It is believed that these two coyotes were the only ones infesting that locality and that the sheep flocks will now not be molested. Until the Scio hounds and Joe Warwick entered the chase these Marion coyotes were sensibly feasting on fat mutton at will. But with the fastest hounds in the State, assisted by Joe and encouraged by Bill Brenner's whoop, the day of reckoning came. Brenner says that had it not been for his rubber boots he thinks Joe might have been at the killing, but he is well satisfied that Joe tried his best to get there, even if he was handicapped with the heavy boots. At all events, the bounty that the boys will get, will remunerate them.

STOLIDLY TELLS OF CRIME

Thirteen-Year-Old Albert Olson Is Entirely Incapable of Contrition or Remorse for His Awful Deed.

UNGOVERNABLE HATRED CAME OF BROODING

Then He Sookingly Slew Best Friend—Self-Confession Leads to Speedy Swearing and Confession—Dreads Dark More Than Guilt.

ST. HELENS, OR., Dec. 29.—In the county jail at this place is confined Albert Olson, the 13-year-old matricide, whose apparent indifference to the horror of his crime is almost incredible. Confinement in the dark, lonely jail and fear of the coming night seem to thrill him far more than memory of the deed.

He told in detail to Sheriff Martin White today the story of how he murdered Mrs. Sarah Ayres, his foster mother, last night. She scolded him, he said, for failing to go to bed on time and finally punished him for his disobedience. He retired to his bed after being spanked, but could not sleep. He brooded over his imagined wrong until he decided to kill his mother in revenge.

Rising quietly he tip-toed into the hallway, where a 45-60 calibre rifle was kept. The woman sat sewing. He cautiously entered the room and rested the rifle upon a chair. He aimed deliberately, killing her instantly with a shot to the brain.

The boy went to the home of Lou Davies, a neighbor, and told that his mother had been shot. He was in bed at the time, he said, but was aroused by the report. He declared he heard a sound as if some one was running near the barn immediately after the shooting. Then he went to the home of E. H. Lynch, another neighbor, and repeated the story.

Sheriff White arrived, questioned him and suspected him. The boy was taken into custody. He was removed to the jail at St. Helens, where, after persistent cross-examination, he stolidly confessed.

The juvenile murderer is only 13 years of age. He was adopted by Mrs. Ayres and her husband five years ago. They took him from the Boy's and Girl's Aid society of Portland. He was born at Lebanon, Oregon. He has a number of brothers and sisters in Oregon.

Mrs. Ayres was the wife of C. L. Ayres, a respected citizen of this county. He was absent from home, but was notified today of the crime. Mrs. Ayres is survived by a grown daughter, Mrs. Mary Balch of Sappopoe.

Today at an inquest the verdict was that death was due to a gunshot wound inflicted by the boy.

G. W. STONE A COUNTY BOARDER TOO.

He Made Confession That Led to Conviction, But When Brought Before Judge Dickey, Was Given Sixty Days in Jail.

On Thursday of last week, just as we went to press, George W. Stone was arrested upon the complaint of Mrs. Harry Beard, and was at once taken before Judge Dickey for trial.

Prior to the arrest of Beard, Stone had made a voluntary confession in writing in the presence of J. A. Bilyeu and L. E. Miller, of which the following is a copy:

Scio, Or., Dec. 24, 1906.

I, George Stone, at the Fireman's Hall, in the City of Scio, in Linn County, and in the presence of J. A. Bilyeu and L. E. Miller, do state that we, George Stone and Harry Beard, did go upon the pasture land of J. A. Bilyeu in the fore part of said 22d night, December, 1906, and with a 22-caliber rifle shot one of the goats in said pasture. Shooting was done by Harry Beard. Then we carried the goat to the creek, by a breakwater, beside the County road, near the City, and butchered said goat and put the pelt and entrails in a sack with some stones and threw them into the water in said Thomas Creek, and took the meat to my barn and divided the meat with ax. Then we—Harry Beard and myself—placed the meat in two grain sacks and then took the meat overhead in the barn and hid it in the hay and straw.

G. W. STONE.

Stone pleaded guilty before the Court and was sentenced to serve 60 days in the County jail at Albany, to which he was taken the following day. The sentiment in the minds of most people in the community is that while the sentence for Stone is light enough, Beard should

have been sent up for a longer period. Stone's family was left in destitute circumstances, there being neither food in the house nor wood to burn. Through the charitable spirit of our citizens the deficiencies have been supplied.

Somebody in this city other than Beard or Stone are guilty of robbing the henroosts. Since these lovers of goat meat were taken to Albany attempts to rob Mrs. Bilyeu, of the South Side, of one or more of her fowls. But Mrs. Bilyeu had become wise and had locked up her chickens. Beard and Stone may have been wrongfully accused after all in the chicken business.

EQUAL SCHOOLS FOR JAPS GUARANTEED.

Secretary Root and Attorney-General Bonaparte Meet With Devil and Reach Agreement—Most Important Question Presented.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Federal government will take steps to provide equal school privileges for Japanese in San Francisco. This was the decision reached at a meeting this afternoon by Secretary Root and Attorney-General Bonaparte and United States Deputy District Attorney Devlin of San Francisco. The government is not yet ready to announce the exact form of the legal action, but it is alleged that the supreme court of California will be asked to restrain the school authorities from excluding Japanese residents from the public schools attended by white children. In accordance with a previous understanding a statement of facts has been agreed upon for presentation to the supreme court of that state.

The question will be one of the most important ever presented for adjudication. It is aimed to define the exact relations that the state bears to the federal government under treaty obligations.

The government is moving very carefully and is weighing each act with unusual deliberation, for it is realized that upon the outcome may depend the question of peace or war between the United States and Japan. Devlin will remain in the city several days to assist in the preparation of the government case.

It is expected that the department of justice will in a few days announce formally the decision reached by the government.

CITIZENS' MASS MEETING.

An Enthusiastic Meeting—Committee Appointed to Interview the Southern Pacific and Curtis Lumbering Companies.

Wednesday evening the leading citizens of Scio convened at the Fireman's Hall for the purpose of selecting a committee to interview the Southern Pacific Railroad Company to ascertain if it was possible to have the proposed change of the railway line pass through Scio; also to confer with the Curtis Lumber Company with reference to building a mill in or near this city.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Prill, who by motion, was selected as chairman, and T. L. Dugger secretary of the meeting. After some discussion, the following were named as a committee to confer with Superintendent Fields relative to the matter: A. G. Prill, T. J. Munkers, Claud Vehr, E. W. Langdon and T. L. Dugger.

This committee was also empowered to confer with the Curtis Lumbering Company with reference to building a large sawmill in or near Scio. As it is unknown at the present time what the Southern Pacific's intentions, the committee was given discretionary powers regarding both projects.

New Year's Edition.

As has been the custom for a number of years, the Oregonian publishes a New Year's edition that is fully up to the standard of New Year publications of that most excellent newspaper. The present issue recites the accomplishments of the past year for Portland and for Oregon and the Northwest. The people are coming to look for this annual edition of the Oregonian as a record of the past year's achievements to be filed away as a sort of historical data. When we say the present edition is fully up to and, in several respects surpasses any of its former New Year's editions, we have said all that can be said in its favor; for we have nothing with which we can compare it to show its excellence. The Oregonian is one of the substantial business enterprises of Oregon, that never disappoints us.

Many of us do not agree with its editorial utterances, yet we must agree, as a news gatherer, it has no equal in the Northwest. The News wishes the Oregonian a most prosperous business for 1907 and that it will continue to be as it has in the past, the leading exponent of the views and business enterprises of the Northwest.