

MONTHLY DUES
ELIMINATEDInitiation Fee to Gresham
Commercial Club Re-
duced to One Dollar

A new idea in membership to the Gresham Commercial club was adopted at the meeting on Wednesday evening which provides for no monthly dues. An initiation fee will be charged, as usual, but it has been reduced to one dollar, the plan being to broaden the scope of the work.

If money is lacking for any special work the club will call for voluntary offerings. It is thought that sufficient funds will always be available for current expenses from the membership fees and rent of hall.

The club retains the control of the hall as heretofore, which will be rented to reliable parties for special occasions, and to the Pastime club under existing arrangements. The piano, which belongs to J. H. Metzger will not hereafter be included in the use of the hall, those using it making their arrangements with him.

It was decided to collect all arrangements of dues to April 1, and continue membership under the new regime and "Boost for Gresham."

John Metzger was appointed a committee of one to collect from all delinquents to that date.

Those knowing themselves to be in arrears should see Mr. Metzger at once, in order that their names may be continued on the roster for this year.

Election of officers for the coming year resulted as follows: President, O. A. Eastman; vice-president, F. L. Everson; recording secretary, Will Metzger; corresponding secretary, H. L. St. Clair; treasurer, C. J. Lundquist.

Chairman of standing committees were chosen, they to select their assistants, as follows:

Ways and Means—S. S. Thompson.
Finance—L. L. Kidder.
Membership—Frank C. Jones.
Publicity—E. L. Thorpe.
Entertainment—W. H. Congdon.

Don't forget to bring the whole family to Aysworth's for Shoes.

LAND GRANT SUIT
UP TO WILSON

Representative Lafferty has taken the land grant matter between the Oregon & California railroad company and the government direct to President Wilson.

His letter to the president is as follows:

The President, White House, Sir:—To call the attention of the president to the Acts of Congress of April 10, 1869, and May 4, 1870, granting 3,100,000 acres of land to the Oregon & California Railroad company, with the following provision:

"Provided, That the lands hereby granted shall be sold by said railroad company to actual settlers only, in quantities not greater than one quarter section to any one settler, and for prices not exceeding \$2.50 per acre."

To the fact that the company sold 800,000 acres (one-fourth) of said lands contrary to law prior to 1907, when a few settlers filed the first suits ever brought to test the above law;

To the fact that one year later (1909) the government filed a suit to forfeit the unsold 2,300,000 acres to the United States, making the settlers defendants, thereby preventing them from prosecuting their cases, and that the government case has not been prosecuted in good faith, but has been allowed to drag to this date without a decision on the merits in the court of first instance;

And to the fact that I have already called this matter to the attention of Attorney General McReynolds, will be the sole object of my visit to see the president, if a personal visit from me shall be desired.

This is not a matter that can be perfunctorily referred to the head of the department of justice. To get the specific directions of the president to the head of that department, because it is the president who is primarily responsible for the enforcement of the laws of the United States, is the very object of my taking the matter up direct with the chief executive.

This is not a complicated or in-

TROUTDALE NOW HAS
COMMERCIAL CLUB

Troutdale has fallen in line by the organization of a Commercial club. At a meeting of about twenty representative men on Wednesday evening the preliminary steps were taken to form a strong and aggressive club, followed by an election of officers for the coming year.

The following officers were chosen president, G. P. Lumsden; vice-president, C. S. Wilson; secretary, E. O. Tripp; treasurer, S. A. Edmundson; sergeant-at-arms, D. W. Mickle.

A special committee was appointed to wait on road supervisor McKay with suggestions for the improvement of the road between Troutdale and Fairview.

A committee was also appointed to co-operate with a committee from the Fairview club in an effort to secure cheaper rates and better service on the electric line to the city.

Another meeting will be held on Wednesday evening next at which time several other important matters will come up for consideration. Other committees will be appointed. The admission fee of the club has been placed at three dollars, with a dollar a month as dues.

It is a wise want ad that can keep away from page two.

DAMASCUS TELEPHONE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

At a meeting of the Damascus Telephone company held March 25, the directors instructed the secretary of the company to send notice to each stockholder to pay the sum of six dollars for service and operating expenses. The notices will be mailed to each shareholder next week by the secretary, A. H. Ritzau.

Following is the financial statement of the company for 1912, showing a healthy condition of affairs with a small balance on hand. The report follows:

INCOME.
Carried forward from 1912 \$ 151.86
Collections 1911-1912 679.00
Long distance earnings... 49.28
Note 150.00

\$1030.14

DISBURSEMENTS.

Accounts carried from

1911 \$122.96

Interest on note 26.45

Operators' and secretary's

salary 338.45

License fee and taxes 1912. 34.92

Poles, lumber, wire, insu-

lators 125.81

Office 61.66

Labor 98.00

Note paid 154.00

\$962.25

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT.

We, the undersigned, have examined the books of the Damascus Telephone company and find them according to this statement.

Signed EMIL KETELS,

ROY WHITE,

ARTHUR HEACOCK,

Committee.

FAIR APPROPRIATION
WAS SETTLED TODAY

LATER—A report from Portland this afternoon states that the fund has been equally divided and that the Gresham Fair will receive the sum of \$2593.

Ten members of the board of directors of the Multnomah county fair went to the court house this morning on a hurry-up call from President Lewis to be there at ten o'clock. He sent out word late last night that the fair appropriation of \$5000 was in great danger of being lost, as the other fair associations of Portland are claiming it and that the county court has not yet fully declared itself in the matter. The outcome will be watched with interest.

involved matter. All the law on the subject is quoted in this letter. To file Briefs and consume decades on a law as plain as this is ridiculous. Yet, this is what the department of justice is doing, and it has prevented private citizens from enforcing the law on their own hook. With high regard, Very truly yours,

A. W. LAFFERTY.

Reading and Desk Lamps of all

descriptions. Ray H. Todd. 11

CARLOAD OF PROVISIONS FROM GRESHAM READY FOR
SHIPMENT TO FLOOD VICTIMS

Spike Junior Learns to Ride

E. L. THORPE.

Mr. and Mrs. Spike, for many years two honored residents of Portland, moved out on a farm near Rockwood a few weeks ago with the enthusiasm of a young couple just going to housekeeping for the first time. But they were not young married people at all. They were full of years and wisdom and had seven children who could give the Rockwood kids more advice about things in general than Webster's dictionary ever knew about.

Well, they settled down and bought some horses and cows and chickens from their neighbors, all of whom found an excellent opportunity to unload a few specimens that they had kept hid from the humane officers for several years, and that was the way the Spike family became farmers.

I was down around Rockwood one day looking for news items and swapping gossip with several old grangers who make their living as honest tillers of the soil, when I heard one of the Spike boys telling another kid that their old brindle cow had a calf. A pressing invitation to go over and see the calf, with a promise of some fun, decided my course for the next hour, so I followed the boys to the barnyard where the calf was seen ever in one corner tied to a tree.

"Let's have a ride," suggested the Rockwood kid, and he untied the calf while the Spike boy looked on in silent admiration. Here was something new for the lad from town and he began to think that the country boys knew a few things themselves.

So they got the calf out into the open and the Rockwood kid got aboard. The calf was very docile while the preparations were going on, and was really no match for the boy who was used to riding calves; but Spike was anxious to have a try at the game and the other boy gleefully helped him to take a lesson in broncho busting, so he fixed things just right with a half hitch around the calf's nose and then got Spike on the quarter deck. Just to make things come out right he tied Spike's feet together underneath with the end of the calf's rope.

"That's the way, we all do out here when we break calves to ride," said Rocky, and then he walked around the calf and quietly stuck a lighted cigarette into its ear.

Then the circus began: That calf just snorted and bucked and flew across the lot, while Spike laid down full length and grabbed it around the neck with both arms. They went bang into a fence then backed out and took another tack that disturbed an old hen and fourteen chickens in an opposite corner. The hen flew at the calf which only excited it a bit more and they came sailing down the barnyard with the calf bawling, the hen sputtering and Spike yelling for help.

Old man Spike and his wife heard the racket and rushed into the yard just as the calf turned a corner around the chicken house, and then there was another mixup. The calf struck Mrs. Spike somewhere and she landed back against the old man who picked himself up just as the calf was getting ready to run full tilt into a barbed wire fence. Shriek after shriek rent the air and six more Spike kids came out from different directions, all of them tickled to death to see their brother in a predicament but somewhat afraid to say a word to the old folks.

"Why didn't you stop the dad-droted old fool?" yelled the old man as his wife sat on the ground before him with vengeance in both

eyes.

"I—oh—I did try to," she wailed and then she fainted away and laid still.

"I'll show it a thing or two," he howled, and then he grabbed up a piece of broken fence rail and waited for the calf that had changed its mind about the wire fence and was coming back on a return circuit by the way of the chicken coops.

In another moment the calf was within reach of that rail and the old man let out a swat that should have tumbled him a home run, but it would never have been called a foul. It took the calf just one second to dodge away in another direction. Spike senior went spinning around like a Chinese top just in time to land the end of the rail in the stomach of his daughter. She doubled up and looked sad like out of her dreamy eyes, and old man Spike glared at her for a minute or two like a tom cat does when a yellow dog comes around.

Things were just getting exciting enough to make it interesting there, so I climbed upon the fence to see what would be the next number on the program. Mrs. Spike was still lying in a faint; the daughter was moaning like the breakers at Long beach; the other five children had scattered out of the way; the chickens were cackling in every direction; the Rockwood kid was nowhere to be seen and the house dog had just arrived. The calf was still circling the barnyard with young Mazaepa Spike still hanging on like a Bull Moose.

Then the old cow rushed into the fray. She had heard the bleatings of her baby from the far side of the pasture and just as old man Spike was wondering whether he had killed his daughter or not a cyclone took him somewhere below his armpits and he started for the house, making the first forty feet in one jump with the assistance the old cow gave him.

Then the Rockwood kid showed up again, while the calf rushed up to its mother and stood still. Rocky was used to cows and calves and with a few quick jerks he released young Spike who rolled off by the side of his mother and sister and they all three laid there in mortal terror until Rocky drove the cow away.

I made a sneak across a field and back to the store, but I heard afterward that old man Spike wore out a hame strap on the boy and that the daughter had gone back to the city to get a genteel job in a candy store. Mrs. Spike threatened to get a divorce but she compromised on a basis of 50 per cent on the sale price of that dangerous old cow and its fool calf.

Spike wants to sell out and go back to the city, but his neighbors are trying to encourage him to stay as they have a few more old specimens in their menageries to unload and he can't sell those he bought at first for none of the farmers will buy them back.

The family will probably remain here and in a few years they will also have a collection to unload on the next unsuspecting victim that moves out here from the city with an idea that he knows all about the life of a farmer.

The Correct Corset.

The corset determines the fit of the gown; therefore, it is of prime importance to get the right corset. Why not allow us to fit you in a Spirella corset that will impart the fashionable long, slender outlines; stays guaranteed not to break or rust, samples shown and measures taken or appointments made. Mrs. A. M. Wilkinson. Phone 615. If

GRESHAM BUILDERS
OFF TO MANZANITA

A party of Gresham people are going to Manzanita beach next week to begin building operations on several different kinds of structures there.

J. C. Peterson has taken the contract to build a three thousand dollar hotel for a woman there. He will take John Parker along to help in the construction. They will probably be gone about three months, having other work in view after the hotel is finished.

Fred Fieldhouse will be one of the party taking Arthur Fieldhouse along with him. They will build a bungalow for Mr. Fieldhouse and a store building for E. G. Kardell.

E. C. Lindsey will leave for the same place next week, having shipped his carpenter tools yesterday. He goes to do some contract work on buildings to be erected during the summer.

Miss Alberta Allen is also having a bungalow built at Manzanita and James Lawrence will go down later to begin the erection of one for himself.

There will be several excursions to the beach during the coming summer and quite a number of interested persons will take the trip, probably several times.

PLEASANT SURPRISE
TO REV. F. M. BURTCH

Members of the Baptist church and friends gave a pleasant surprise on the pastor, Rev. F. M. Burch and family, yesterday and evening. The family received a number of useful presents. A good time was enjoyed by all present. An oyster supper was served at six o'clock, of which about sixty persons partook. Those present were, Mrs. J. O. Downing, Mrs. J. A. Davidson, Mrs. D. R. Shoemaker, Mrs. Mary Shoemaker, Miss Edna Shoemaker, Miss Elizabeth Shoemaker, Mr. and Mrs. Hill and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Cook, Snoda Cook, Loretta Cook, Margaret Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, E. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Magnuson, Esther Magnuson, C. Atterbury and children, Mr. and Mrs. Clananahan, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Squire and two boys, Mr. and Mrs. McClain, Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Read, Ross E. Read, Clifford Read, Amy Read, Mrs. Truscott and daughter, Mrs. Lewis Metzger, Mrs. Dabney, Mr. and Mrs. Wostell, Harry and Helen Wostell, Hannah Lane, Lucy Peterson, Esther Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Burch and children, the house being crowded.

Hotel Congdon, New Management

Regular table board \$5 per week. Fine Sunday chicken dinners. Phone your order for the family dinner at reduction. Regular meals 25 cents and up.

Let us take care of your mail orders. You will find it convenient during the busy season. Sterling & Kidder.

FIRE ALARM DANCE
WAS GREAT SUCCESS

The Gresham Volunteer Fire Department held their regular monthly business meeting Wednesday night, April 2, in their room in the city hall. The council gave permission to the firemen to purchase the necessary lumber for ceiling the room upstairs.

The petition to the council, by the firemen, requesting that the council pay doctor bills, medicine bills and any other expenses incurred on account of accident to a fireman while in actual service, was referred to the town council. It is probable that the parents of all firemen who are under age will be obliged to sign a written statement that they gave their permission to join the fire department.

The fireman's dance was a great success. The total receipts were \$77.30, and expenses \$35.35, leaving a balance of \$41.95.

Dr. James Withycombe, director of the Oregon Experiment station at Corvallis, is authority for the statement made at a recent meeting, that the hog has paid more debts, built more homes and bought more clothes and school books for farmers and their children than any other one product in Oregon.

NEW ROAD FUND
NOT AVAILABLE

Road Supervisors are not Friendly to Diverting their Appropriations

While the new road from Fairview to the Columbia river will undoubtedly be built, there is going to be some exasperating delays before the final result is obtained. The county court still adheres to its former declaration that there are now no available monies in the road fund for the purpose. It will be remembered that it was suggested by the court that the two road districts here contribute a part of their allowances to the work. That proposition met with instant disfavor on the part of Supervisor Kenney, who claims that he cannot afford to let any of his allowance go and do the work laid out for him in Gresham district. He is preparing to put down at least two miles of crushed rock on the Section Line road, coming eastward as far as the Rockwood cross road. The Powell Valley road west of Linneman Junction needs a mile of the same treatment, and Pleasant Valley avenue is booked for another mile. Besides these proposed improvements there are other sections to demand attention, all of which will use up every dollar of his allowance. He states that it will be impossible for him to give anything from his fund for the road to the river.

Donald McKay, supervisor of the other district, is inclined to be more liberal as the new road is in his territory. He has arranged to have the fences moved and says that if he has any money to spare for improving the road later on he will proceed to clear it out, removing the trees and stumps, if possible, through to the bank of the river.

CONFLICT IN DATES
ABOUT APPOINTMENT

Senators Chamberlain and Lane are flooded with applications for office by democrats who hope to get every vacancy as fast as they came up. The Oregonian correspondent at Washington reports that "there are four presidential post-offices in Oregon going begging, no democrats having applied. Hillsboro, which became vacant May 22 and pays \$1900, has not attracted a single democrat as yet, and no democrats have applied for postmasterships at Enterprise, Gresham or Sumpter, all now vacant. Enterprise pays \$1600, Gresham \$1500 and Sumpter \$1300. In some instances republicans have applied for these offices, but the Senators do not intend to recommend republicans if democrats can be found who are willing to accept these appointments."

In connection with the above it may be stated that rumors of an application for the Gresham postoffice have been in circulation. However there may be a hitch in the proceedings as it is understood that the present appointment holds for more than three years yet.

A statement from Washington to a Gresham man more than two months ago conveyed the dates of expiration of all presidential post-offices in Oregon. Among them was Gresham with the report that Mrs. McColl's commission had expired on May 17, 1912. This statement probably led to the agitation for the appointment of a democrat to the office, but it is rather peculiar that there is a conflict in dates between the department at Washington and the prevailing understanding here.

The most peculiar part of it all is the apparent confirmation of the report by the Oregonian correspondent at Washington, as it seems to be his idea that the postoffice here has been vacant for a year and that there are no applications for the place.

There is a discrepancy somewhere which those interested should investigate.