

MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED

A well-known Italian clearing contractor, who went by the name of Leonard, has mysteriously disappeared and is being sought for by his brother, but so far without results. It is feared that he may be lying dead somewhere, although foul play is not suspected.

He had been clearing land on the Base Line half a mile west of the Twelve-mile corner, and complained of feeling ill. That was two weeks ago tomorrow, and he started for Portland. He was seen at Linnemann Junction by his brother and a friend living near there, which was the last heard or seen of him although every effort has been made to locate him.

It appears that when he parted with his brother at Linnemann Junction the latter expected to meet him at the Overland hotel on Burnside street, where he stayed when in Portland. As he failed to appear the brother naturally became anxious and began a search which resulted in his friend at Linnemann giving the information that Leonard failed to take a car there but started down the road saying he was going over to the Section Line. That was the last that was seen or heard of him and his whereabouts are a mystery yet.

It is thought that he may have taken suddenly worse or became demented and wandered into the heavy timber and perished. He was more than 50 years of age, of slight build and never dressed well; nor was it known that he carried much money, hence there seems to be no fears that he was waylaid by footpads.

He had worked in this vicinity for more than 15 years clearing land. He had many large contracts and was always reliable, having no enemies as far as can be ascertained.

It is possible that he changed his mind about going to Portland and is somewhere with some of his Italian friends, but his continued absence gives no hope that such is the case.

FENDLETON ROUND-UP AT PICTURE THEATER

A seven-reel feature, showing the Pendleton round-up of last year, will be the attraction at the moving picture theater tomorrow night. This attractive exhibition was at first shown in fifteen reels, but the important features were retained in the reduced number. This is an unusual chance to see a really great exhibition of "let'er buck," but owing to the heavy expense attached the admission will be more than usual. Seats will be 25 cents and 15 cents. One night only, Saturday, Feb. 7.

Dancing at Gresham.

Saturday night, February 7. Dancing 8:30 to 11:55. Good management; four-piece orchestra, union music. Everybody welcome. Gentlemen, 75 cents. Ladies free. 98

CARLSON URGES HARD SURFACE

Los Angeles, February 1.—Editor Outlook.—I see by the Oregonian there is some talk of hard-finished streets and roads for Gresham. I just wish to express my sanction of such improvements. I wish to say there is not a section of country any where that is better able to stand it, or people more entitled to have it, than the farmers and people about Gresham.

If the city council would pay the expense of sending two or three of those opposing it down here they would find towns no larger than Gresham with paved streets from curb to curb; not only one, but many places. The people here are no better fixed, perhaps not as well as our people. The reason is there is no moss on their backs. They are public spirited. It might change their minds. It reminds me of a couple of instances: A farmer was complaining of the times and finding fault with the railroads robbing them, the times were better when he hauled his produce 50 miles to market with ox teams. He was reminded that he could still do so if he so desired and have good roads to travel on besides. I know another instance where a farmer distributed some fence posts along the side of the road preparatory to building a new fence to take the place of a rail fence in front of his place. The last time I thought to look for the posts, which was about thirteen years after

SCHOOL AND GRANGE IN SPELLING MATCH

Since spelling matches have become fashionable again the higher grade pupils have become imbued with the idea that they are some spellers and have issued a "defy" to the members of Rockwood grange for a spelling down contest to take place next Wednesday evening.

The members of the grange are not the kind of people to back down and have accepted the challenge with the understanding that all members who are going to school at Rockwood will have to uphold the dignity of their school or go down to defeat in defense of its principles.

Miss Eva Campbell, principal of the school will "give out" the words which are to be taken from the school spelling book, and both sides are getting ready for the fray with the expectation that a new spelling book will have to be invented before the contest ends.

It so happens that neither of the three teachers of the school are members of Rockwood grange, and the grangers are going to be generous enough to allow them to "stand up" with their pupils as long as they are able. The grange has a few husky spellers of the old school who seldom met defeat and they are going to "go some" in their efforts to show that they haven't quite forgotten what they found inside the covers of the old books that they carried home every night and studied by the light of a tallow candle or blazing piece of pitchwood. It is going to be some "doins'."

ROCKWOOD GRANGE ELECTS DELEGATES

Rockwood grange held its regular evening meeting on Wednesday and elected three delegates to the grange county convention which will meet at Russellville with Pomona grange on the third Wednesday in March. The delegates elected are, F. H. Crane, Mrs. Mary Richmond and Mrs. E. L. Thorpe. Alternates chosen are Mrs. Crane, John Richmond and E. L. Thorpe.

The object of the convention will be to elect three pairs of representatives to the state grange, it being the custom that married couples may go together, making six representatives in all from this county. Their alternates will be chosen at the same time. Three of the ten granges of the county will take their turn this year, Rockwood grange being one of them, as it waived its privilege last year. The state grange will meet at Monmouth in May.

Fairview Lodge No. 92 A. F. & A. M. will meet in their hall at Troutdale Saturday evening, February 7. Stated communication. Work will be in the E. A. and F. C. degrees.

they were placed there, they were still lying on the ground and in the grass and weeds and a part of the rail fence was still there. Now was this party too poor to build this fence and improve the looks of his place, or was it the same spirit that is lacking that opposes all improvements? Those benefited the most by improvements are generally the ones that oppose it. They are to be pitied not for their poverty, but this lack of ability to recognize their best interests.

I might say in addition that the towns showing the most improvements down here are what they call dry towns. This applies in every instance but one in the country towns. While it is certainly surprising, it is easily solved.

R. R. CARLSON.

Dressmaking.
Parlors next door to Gresham Real Estate company. Prices reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mrs. M. M. Squire.

ROCKWOOD GRADES ENTERTAIN PARENTS

Parent Day exercises were held at the Rockwood school on Friday afternoon last, attended by a packed house. The exercises were held by the intermediate grade, Miss Mae Benedict, teacher; and the primary grade, Miss Margaret Schantlin, preceptress. Both of these young ladies have proved themselves thorough, kind and thoughtful in their work and the occasion was one upon which they are to be congratulated. The program was good and every mother seemed proud of the children's ability to entertain.

HARD SURFACE MAY BE DEFEATED

Hard surface prospects for the streets of Gresham are not progressing as rapidly as many hoped for a week ago, and it cannot be announced at this time that there will be a successful termination of the efforts being made by the council committee to secure enough signatures to the three petitions to begin the work.

There is good ground for hopes that the canvass of the Main street property owners for signatures will eventually be successful. On Powell street, to insure success, the full-width surface area has been reduced to cover the distance from the western corner of the First State Bank building to the Methodist church, and yet there is danger that not enough signatures will be secured.

It is generally admitted that South Roberts avenue will have to be abandoned for the proposed improvement, at least for this year.

At the meeting of the city council, held on Tuesday evening, a resolution was passed that the offer of the Board of County Commissioners to give over the control of all county roads inside the city and make hard surface improvements 16 feet in width was favorably acted upon, and it is possible that the town will get that much hard surface.

It seems to be the idea that such an improvement can be made under the new law, as the streets that are now county roads are not under the jurisdiction of the city and may be improved under the ten-year bonding act.

In that event they will all become city streets and pass out from under control of the county, as announced by Roadmaster Yeon.

The gulch on Powell street, as explained before, is the bugbear that may block the full-width improvement of that street and Main street, too.

The difficulty lies in the fact that it will be hard to get a majority of signatures to the petitions without the name of J. H. Metzger. He has

so far refused to sign up for Powell street unless the county will put in a retaining wall on the south side of the gulch and fill it in. The attitude of the county board it not known, but it is not considered likely that it will be willing to do the work.

Mr. Metzger declines to sign up for Main street alone, but is said to be willing to sign for both streets if his desires are granted. The way things now stand it is going to be hard to get a majority of signers for either street.

The petitions for the three proposed improvements all guarantee that the cost shall not exceed three dollars per front foot to be assessed to the abutting property for a full improvement, nor more than one dollar per front foot for a sixteen foot pavement in the center of the street. That seems to be cheap compared with the cost of similar improvements in Portland. Figures for a full-width surface, less the share of the P. R. L. P. for 33 1-3 frontage on Belmont street ten years ago, show that the cost there at that time was \$151.77. That was at the rate of nearly \$4.50 per front foot. The railroad company paid for one foot each side of the double tracks and maintains its own centers.

The cost has been lessened about one-third since then and it may be possible to get the work done still cheaper now, but that is not assured. The bids for the work will determine that point.

As the matter stands now, it is the intention to try for a full-width hard surface on Main street from the Mount Hood track to the fountain, and on Powell street as stated above. The latter street will then get a 16-foot surface from the eastern to the western boundary and Main street to the northern boundary. Main street to the O. W. P. station will have to take whatever is given it, and it needs some kind of improvement badly enough. Probably it will get a dose of crushed rock.

"CITY BEAUTIFUL" PLANS OF CLUBS

Gresham will become the "City Beautiful," at least far more attractive than at present, if the plans being worked out by the Gresham Planting committee are put into effect.

This committee is a joint committee of the Commercial club and Women's Council and consists of Mrs. Belt, Mrs. Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Cleveland, W. F. Honey and H. L. St. Clair. At a meeting of the committee held Wednesday night at the library plans were discussed, recommendations made and a movement well started which needs only the co-operation of the citizens generally to transform our unlovely conditions into those of real permanent beauty. While it will take some years to bring this about, a beginning can be made now.

It was decided to ask the council to adopt a plan for parking the streets and avenues in the residence districts, permitting the setting out of trees and shrubs along the streets. The plan that will be suggested to the council at its next meeting is to make the roadway thirty feet, allowing a parking strip outside the present seven-foot walk of about three feet. By establishing this plan, trees could be set out and later, as found necessary, a curb could be made which would be on a fifty-foot street ten feet from the property line.

It was decided to have a tree planting day and encourage property owners to set out trees. A junior league of the Women's Council is being organized and the children are to be instructed and encouraged to plant roses and shrubs.

The day appointed for a planting day is February 28. This is to be

come a permanent institution to be observed each year on the last Saturday in February.

In view of the ease and cheapness with which roses and other flowering shrubs can be had, there should be a general response to this call for everyone to do something to beautify his or her place.

The Outlook was requested to make a call for native maples suitable for transplanting. There will probably be need of several hundred. Here's a chance for some boy or man to make something. Who will report to the Outlook office what he can furnish these trees for per hundred, delivered in Gresham?

Boys, put in a bid, we can promise you some business.

The committee recommended as far as possible the planting of native trees.

The secretary, Mrs. Belt was asked to communicate with several nurseries regarding the price of ornamental and shade trees, and try to get a supply on hand for use on Saturday, February 28.

Any who will report to the Outlook or to any member of the committee their needs and desires in this line will be assisted so far as possible.

The committee simply desires to formulate the best plan for work in beautifying our city, and keep before the people an ideal for achievement and desires to get suggestions from all who are interested. Why not address a little letter to the committee stating your ideas, your approval or disapproval of the plans already suggested—or a better plan?

The committee will meet next Wednesday night at the library.

GRESHAM TEAM WINS AT BASKETBALL

Gresham high school basketball boys defeated the Pleasant Valley team last night by a score of 14 to 10. The playing was good but the Pleasant Valley boys have had no practice together. Next Friday the home team will play here with the Estacada team. There is a strong rivalry between the two teams, owing to the defeat of the Gresham football team by Estacada, and there will be special efforts made to play even.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MRS. D. A. HART

Mrs. D. A. Hart, of Brightwood, died suddenly of heart disease last Thursday. Funeral services were held at her home on Sunday, W. J. Wirtz officiating, and interment was in the Cherryville cemetery.

Mrs. Hart was 65 years old and was well known in Sandy and vicinity. During the last fifteen years of her life she has lived at various times in Sandy, Gresham and Brightwood.—Eastern Clackamas Journal.

ASSESSOR REED MAKES STATEMENT

County Assessor Reed has prepared a set of tables showing the distribution of all taxes levied in Multnomah county upon the 1913 tax roll; also the assessed valuation, general, special and total levies in each school district. The figures most important to this vicinity are given herewith. Following is the distribution of taxes, showing what each community and school district will receive this year:

	Valuation	Amount
Gresham	\$ 507,900	\$3,047.40
Fairview	156,926	1,569.26
Troutdale	108,284	541.42
Dist. No. 4	1,479,425	5,917.70
Dist. No. 7	574,126	2,532.56
Dist. No. 8	358,450	1,075.35
Dist. No. 10	219,150	328.72
Dist. No. 15	213,899	427.48
Dist. No. 16	603,474	603.47
Dist. No. 20	562,409	2,812.94
Dist. No. 26	256,490	1,025.96
Dist. No. 27	435,980	2,179.90
Dist. No. 28	406,665	
Dist. No. 29	228,505	914.02
Dist. No. 40	667,167	1,009.75
Dist. No. 6 Joint	395,520	1,582.08
Dist. No. 15 Joint	481,145	721.71

Assessed valuations are shown as follows on all property in the same districts, together with the total taxes to be paid:

	Valuation	Taxes
Dist. No. 4	\$1,479,425	\$23,685.37
Dist. No. 7	574,126	8,818.25
Dist. No. 8	358,450	4,641.92
Dist. No. 10	219,150	2,509.26
Dist. No. 15	213,899	2,555.98
Dist. No. 16	603,474	8,177.30
Dist. No. 20	562,409	8,949.43
Dist. No. 26	256,490	3,578.03
Dist. No. 27	435,980	6,517.90
Dist. No. 28	406,665	4,393.39
Dist. No. 29	228,505	3,610.37
Dist. No. 40	667,167	8,872.22
Dist. No. 6 Joint	395,520	5,517.50
Dist. No. 15 Joint	481,145	5,976.23

Multnomah county will pay in 1914 (Tax Roll of 1913) 37.9957 per cent of the state taxes.

City of Portland pays nearly 94.8 per cent of all taxes levied in Multnomah county.

Total taxes for Portland, \$8,480,855.979. Population, according to the estimate of the city commission, 243,327. Taxes per capita, \$34.85.

Total of all school taxes in the county (State School, County High and Special School District), \$2,452,357.59. Number of pupils November 1913, census, 49,667; taxes per pupil \$49.37.

Warrant attached and 1913 assessment roll became the tax roll, January 31, 1914.

Cost of maintenance of assessor's office in 1912 was \$50,324.42; in 1913 it was \$41,211.98; decrease for 1913 was \$9,112.44.

REV. W. H. BODDY WILL PREACH

During the week special meetings have been in progress at the Free Methodist church, in charge of Rev. Edwin Hight, assisted by Rev. M. L. Schooley, of Colville, Wash. Mr. Schooley is a very interesting speaker with a clear cut message of Bible salvation. The attendance has been increasing each night and a great day is looked for Sunday. There will be services tonight, Saturday night and at the usual hours Sunday morning and evening.

Beginning next Monday night Rev. W. H. Boddy, of Portland, will preach each evening during the week. Rev. Mr. Schooley will conduct Bible readings each afternoon at 2:30, except Monday and Saturday. Mr. Boddy has been heard here on several occasions and it is expected many citizens will take an interest in his clear, uplifting sermons.

Arrangements have been made for the installation of electric lights in the church. It is hoped to have them ready for use Sunday.

LABOR COMMISSIONER EXPLAINS ACTION

Salem, Feb. 3, 1914.—To the Editor Gresham Outlook:—Having been attacked for my attitude in enforcing the eight-hour law on public works, I wish you would kindly print the following:

Much adverse criticism having been made because of my determination to enforce the eight-hour law on public works, the same as other laws of the bureau, which is dealing with what is today the greatest question before the American people—the labor question, should not be hampered by wrong conclusions. The laws coming under my jurisdiction to enforce, like all laws, are enacted by the people of this state, either direct through the initiative or by the leg-

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT

The East Side Business Men's club has issued a call for a meeting to be held at the East Side library on February 10, at 8:00 p. m. for an expression on the question, "Why a State Legislature?"

The call is signed by Dan Kellaher, chairman; L. M. Lepper, secretary; C. C. Hall, M. O. Collins and M. B. McFaul.

This matter was mentioned by L. H. Wells in his last Portland letter to the Outlook and in an interview with Dan Kellaher he referred to the call of the committee to consider the matter of commission form of government for the state of Oregon as follows:

"The question is repeatedly being asked by citizens all over Oregon, Why a State Legislature? Take the last legislature, with its political machines; with the corporation and other big business lobbies, blocking really useful and meritorious legislation; yet prompting and causing other big business and special interest and special privilege legislation to be passed, which is really a detriment to the farmers, laborers and people at large.

"We should have less legislation. We should have far less freak legislation. Under present system great floods of unnecessary measures clog and cloud every session of our state legislature, and the question 'Why a State Legislature?' will not down. What's the answer? Many well informed citizens say, the answer is, Commission form of government for the state. Many citizens who believe in progress in government, advocate the abolishment of the state senate, as a first step. Others advocate going to a complete commission form for the state, abolishing both houses of the state legislature, and substituting instead a commission or body of nine state commissioners, (elected from and representing the various state districts to be formed), besides the governor, secretary of state, and state treasurer; thus making a legislative body of twelve, and abolishing all boards and commissions. The commission sitting permanently with state legislative meetings. Such a plan, it has been suggested, would give more time and study for carefully working out proper legislation. It would lessen freak and special legislation which is rushed through under present system, of 'you tickle me and I'll tickle you' or trading system and place our state legislation on a more careful and scientific basis.

"Kansas is studying this same question, as are also Wisconsin and other states which believe in progress, they deeming some such step needful to wipe out corporation lobbying and influence baneful in legislation, both state and national. "Some 330 cities are successfully using commission government for cities, with more and more added every week. And no city which has adopted the commission form has gone back to the old system. Less officials with a direct responsibility being the cry of the hour, for city state and nation. This too, will, if possible, lessen the cost of government and bring us a lower tax levy. "The East Side Business Men's club of Portland, has been studying this state commission government question. A committee has been appointed to pursue the study and take the necessary steps to have framed and submitted to the people for their approval commission form of state government, if deemed advisable. "It is deemed best to invite citizens who believe in going forward and in progress, to meet and go over the problems in detail."

I am not responsible for the same. When an act is passed it is either a good law, a faulty law, or no law at all. If a good law it should be enforced for its value; if a faulty law it should be enforced that the faults may be seen and cured; if no law at all, or its intent obscure, it is for the supreme court to decide. I believe all good men and women on sober second thought will realize that it is my sworn duty to see that the laws are enforced. "Trimming" by officers settles nothing. I should know what the law means and the people whom it affects should know what it means. It is my duty to enforce the labor laws, and I believe the right thinking of this state, when they understand the situation, will back me up in doing so, but whether they do or not, believing I am right, I shall go ahead.

O. P. HOFF,
State Labor Commissioner.