

## TELEPHONE MEETING IS ADJOURNED

With twenty shares of the capital stock of the Multnomah & Clackamas Mutual Telephone company absent, the eighty or more shareholders present at the annual meeting yesterday were compelled to adjourn without doing anything.

The meeting adjourned for two weeks, January 18, at 1:30 p. m. Miss Eva Anderson, secretary of the company had her annual report ready but it was not read. In addition she had made some comparisons between the business done during the past two years showing the increase. Following are the different subjects of the report in full:

Trial balance for two years ending December 31, 1914.

Assets.	
Cash	\$ 993.84
Treas. stock	50.00
Material	665.98
Line	12539.53
Instruments	6061.19
Accounts, rec.	1484.90
Batteries	30.76
Directory acct.	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21836.20</b>
Liabilities.	
Capital stock	\$ 6900.00
Surplus	6851.84
Dividend	5.00
Profit and loss	8079.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21836.20</b>
Receipts.	
Balance	\$ 110.70
Rent	9747.74
Tolls	3002.16
Misc.	138.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12990.35</b>
Disbursements.	
Dividends	\$ 680.00
Office expense	1184.60
Operators	1981.61
Maintenance	3658.87
Pac. Tel. & Tel.	1801.42
Misc.	2690.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11996.51</b>
Cash	993.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12990.35</b>
New Lines and Extension.	
Sandy line No. 67	\$ 313.35
Cottrell line, No. 71	160.00
Troutdale line, No. 84	108.00
E. T. Jones line, No. 85	15.00
Sloop line, No. 76	47.50
Portland Gun club, No. 0.	35.00
O. W. Tarr line, No. 87	51.25
	\$ 710.10
Extensions.	
Line No. 43	\$ 60.75
Line No. 77	15.00
Line No. 42	15.00
Line No. 13	12.00
	\$ 102.75
2989 poles at \$2	\$ 5978.00
694 miles wire at \$10	6940.00
564 telephones	5986.18
Material on hand	300.00

Below, on this page, will be found the tabulated statement for two years of earnings and expenses.

### Stockholders' Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Multnomah & Clackamas County Mutual Telephone company was adjourned on January 4th, to meet again on January 18th, on account of a sufficient number of shares not being represented to hold a legal meeting.

The adjourned meeting will be held on January 18th, 1915, in the Commercial club hall at one o'clock in the afternoon.

A full representation of stock 's requested. EVA ANDERSON, Secretary.

Charity Hive No. 38, L. O. T. M., will give a 500 party on Saturday evening, January 9, 1915, in the Maccabee Hall at Rockwood. Admission 25 cents, including lunch.

Following is a comparative statement of earnings and expenses of the telephone company for the two years beginning, Nov. 1, 1912, and ending Oct. 31, 1914.

Expenses.		Income.	
1913	1914	1913	1914
Office expenses	\$ 886.32	\$ 7925.53	\$ 8509.28
Operators	1591.15	1369.35	1285.93
Maintenance	2284.25	13.45	None
Taxes	125.32		
Storm damage	605.95		
Interest	73.85		
Balance profit	3741.49		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9308.33</b>	<b>\$9308.33</b>	<b>\$9795.21</b>

## RECEPTION TO BE GIVEN THE FIREMEN

Regner's new opera house will be the scene next Saturday evening, January 9, of an enthusiastic reception to the Gresham Volunteer Fire Department. The arrangements are being made by the Women's club, who invite all adults of Gresham and vicinity to join with them in expressing their appreciation in this way to the firemen for their efficient work in fighting the recent fire and others.

An interesting program has been arranged for the occasion which will include an address by Mayor Geo. W. Stapleton, response by Fire Chief E. T. Jones, readings by Mrs. D. M. Donough, Miss Mabel Shipley and Miss Genevieve Stinson, singing by the Ladies' chorus, the Male quartet and Mrs. O. J. Brown and a piano duet by the Misses Ada and Florence Honey.

Following the program a cafeteria luncheon will be served. As no personal solicitations are being made for this luncheon, those who attend are expected to furnish articles from the following list: salads, sandwiches, pickles, doughnuts and cakes. For further information call Mrs. Chas. Cleveland, president of the club, or any of the members of the arrangement committee. The personnel of the committee is Mrs. Maxwell Schneider, Mrs. George Honey, Mrs. H. E. Davis, Mrs. K. A. Miller, Mrs. E. H. Kelly and Mrs. R. R. Carlson. The members of the club will act as a reception committee.

## A. C. RUBY WILL BUILD COSTLY RESIDENCE

What will be the finest and most costly residence in Multnomah county, outside of Portland, will be built by A. C. Ruby on his Base Line stock farm, about two miles northwest of Gresham.

W. B. Bell, a Portland architect, has nearly completed the plans and specifications which call for a building to cost \$25,000. It will extend two and a half stories above a full concrete basement and contain fourteen rooms and three sleeping porches.

Among the appointments will be an ice plant, an electric laundry and a vacuum cleaning plant. Construction will probably be started within the present month unless the weather interferes. The Ruby ranch, as it is best known, is situated on the Base Line road and contains about 180 acres. It is the home of the famous Belgian horses which were shown at the Gresham fair during the past several years, and which have won first prize at all the northwestern fairs. Mr. Ruby is well known as a progressive stockman.

## CLEANING AWAY FIRE WRECKAGE

Cleaning up the wreckage of Osburn's blacksmith shop and Hessel's machinery store is going on briskly and the photograph studio ruins are being torn down. Mr. Osburn owns the property and is clearing the site preparatory to making plans for his new building. The ruins of the Crawford dwelling were cleared away last week.

Some work of the same kind is being done on the other sites, and there is a prospect that all the rubbish will be removed in a short time. No definite plans have been announced for rebuilding, but it is almost certain that the vacant lots will have new tenants within a few months at the furthest.

## STEADY PROGRESS FOLLOWS IN WAKE OF MAN'S ACTIVITY

Progress in eastern Multnomah during the past year was steady and permanent and of the quality that will wear well. While it is admitted that business was not so brisk as it has been known to be in other years, there was a substantial growth in every enterprise from farming to the promotion of the industries that go to make up the supremacy of this section as a desirable part of the state to live in and do business in.

But for the recent disastrous fire in Gresham which placed a temporary check upon the activities of the town, there has been no retrogression. Rather, there has been an advance and a branching out in some new ones. The promotion of the new fruitgrowers' association is an instance. The erection of the automobile factory is another, although its inception dates back into the previous year.

Improvements in Gresham have kept pace with the other prosperous achievements of the year, and but for the losses by fire would have made for Gresham a record mark. The late disaster will prove a blessing in thin disguise by another year, and the allied industries of the town and its vicinity give the promise of making 1915 a notable epoch in the history of Powell Valley and all the surrounding country.

While the building industry has not been great it has served to stimulate trade and keep money in circulation. The improvements at the fair grounds, the cannery building, the Regner block and other buildings of lesser note have called for an expenditure within the city limits of over \$40,000 during the year or in perspective before the cost is counted up. Added to these the equipment of the automobile factory, the cannery and the cost of clearing and planting new acreage in the near vicinity—all tributary to Gresham—and the total will represent the money that has kept the city of Gresham prosperous for the past year and made it a desirable place for home builders and investment seekers which are sure to be attracted here by the knowledge that this is a flourishing community.

Nor has enterprise been entirely at a standstill in the other localities surrounding Gresham. Marked improvements may be seen at Troutdale, Fairview, Pleasant Home, Rockwood and Pleasant Valley. These improvements are principally in the form of new residences and barns and an increased area of tillable land wrested from the wild domain that is constantly yielding to the efforts of its owners to make it productive. The new land that will be yielding its first crops this year within the confines of eastern Multnomah will be approximately five hundred acres. Not very much in itself, but it gives an idea of how much more will be grown this year than was grown last year. That much of progress shows increased prosperity and add its quota to the wealth that now exists—a wealth that cannot decrease or fly away, because it springs from the soil and will grow with the years that are to follow.

There can be no retrogression for the basic principle is here. It is to be found in the farms, the dairies, the orchards and the livestock industry which is increasing all around us. The registered herds are rapidly taking the places of the grades in cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry. This condition is one of the results of the county fair, at which no prizes are given to inferior stock, and where the exhibits of only the best in each class are rewarded with generous premiums. For this generosity the people are beholden to

## REGNER'S MASQUERADE GLITTERING SUCCESS

The New Year masquerade ball given by Arthur Regner in his new opera house on Friday night last was a successful affair, the attendance being almost as large as it was at the opening ball on Christmas night. It is estimated that 450 persons were present, about one-half of whom were in costume.

The floor management was under direction of W. R. Bagnell and wife, dancing instructors from Ringler's Cotillion hall in Portland.

Prizes were awarded as follows: Best costume, lady, Miss Laura

a liberal county court, that sees prosperity in encouraging the production and exhibition of only the best. More than \$5000 will be given away again next fall to those who make exhibits at the Gresham fair; fully one half of that amount will go to the stock and poultry departments and half as much more to farm products.

This article is not specializing with individual enterprises, but it is proper to predict that there will be considerable done by those who are in a position to spend money on certain public and home betterments. The "burnt district" of Gresham will undoubtedly be rebuilt. What the cost will be is a matter of conjecture, according to the demand for the buildings to be erected. Thirty thousand dollars is probably a fair estimate. Then there is the union high school, which will cost another twenty-five thousand. To these may be added the probable construction of some first-class buildings on other sites. They are being considered and are only awaiting the trend of events to become realities. Then, there are also several dwelling houses in contemplation, some are even now under course of construction, to be finished soon. It is known that more are in prospect.

A great portion of the prosperity of eastern Multnomah is to be attributed to the excellent roads leading through it and across. While it is recognized that Portland has paid 90 per cent of their cost, it is also to be remembered that Portland needed and demanded them. Up to within a year or so they were sufficient for all traffic, but that was before the day of the automobile and the auto truck. Roads that were considered the best then are becoming obsolete now; they are insufficient for the traffic, and what was good enough for the farmer then is now unfit for even his use because they are wearing out.

The plans to provide better thoroughfares—roads that will stand the wear and tear of twenty years under all conditions of travel are needed—and they will be built.

It is to be regretted that there is opposition to the plans of the county commissioners in some quarters, but there is always opposition to every plan that costs money. It is only by taking a firm grip on a project and pushing it through with a determination to succeed that many things are accomplished. The Columbia River Highway and the Interstate bridge are examples. One is nearly finished, the other will be built this year. In a like manner the roads of eastern Multnomah will be hard surfaced and with that done, there will come a compensating era of prosperity that will convert the doubters and opposers, but they will have to be "shown" before they will believe.

Gresham is the strategic point for all of this section. It is the gateway to the mountain resorts—the natural pass for all the country that lies eastward, and the center of all its greatest industries. It needs development, needs attention and a spirit of liberality and progress on the part of every person who lives here.

With the spirit of the new west it will go forward, not backward, and with no unforeseen calamity it will be the focus of discernment more and more each year as it goes onward with the prestige that far seeing has in store. Each passing year will see some advancement, but the coming one will see the most tangible results flowing from its resources and the efforts of its people to bring them about.

## DAVIS, "POINSETTA"

Best sustained lady character, Mrs. Nellie Marshall, "Witch."

Best costume, gentleman, James McKinney, "Uncle Sam."

Best sustained gentleman character, A. E. Kessler, "Tramp."

It was announced that a series of dancing instructions would begin tomorrow evening, Wednesday, January 6, and continue every Wednesday night. Those who wish to take lessons may apply at the hall during these evenings or to Mr. Regner at any time. The cost will be 50 cents for a single lesson, or six lessons for \$2.50. The hall will be open to interested spectators at these lessons.

## ROADMASTER RECOMMENDS SEVEN ROADS

Roadmaster John B. Yeon has made a report to the county commissioners in which he makes recommendations for hard surfacing several of the county roads but leaves out the Section Line. A part of his report is as follows:

I am of the firm opinion that the macadam roads on our main highways have out-lived their usefulness and no more macadam should be constructed on the main arterial roads in the county, as I have satisfied myself through the reports of other states and counties, coupled with the records of my own office, that the cost of macadam and its upkeep is far in excess of what it should be, considering the cost of other hard surface in conjunction with macadam. Valuable data on this question can be obtained anywhere to substantiate my statements and I, therefore, will not go into a lengthy report on this phase of the question. As to trestles, culverts and bridges, I would recommend that they be constructed with a view to permanency. The width of wearing surface of bridges and roads should in my estimation not be less than 18 feet. The width of bridges should preferably be 20 feet.

I am heartily in favor of the local issue, for paving the following roads, the number of miles indicated: Sandy road from city limits to Sandy river..... 10 Columbia River Highway from Sandy river to county line..... 28 1/2 Base Line road from city limits to Troutdale cross road..... 9 Powell Valley road from city limits to Gresham..... 8 Foster road from city limits to county line..... 5 Canyon road from city limits to county line..... 2 Linton road from city limits to Linton..... 3

Total miles..... 65 1/2 If the final estimate of the above work should prove that a \$1,000,000 bond issue would make the improvement then the issue means a charge to each owner of \$3.00 on the principal of the bond, and a charge of 15 cents per annum for interest. For instance, a ten year bond issue would mean for every property owner assessed at \$1000.00, an annual payment of 45 cents, including principal and interest; for the property owner assessed at \$500.00, an annual payment of 22 1/2 cents, including principal and interest, and the poor man, owning no property would receive the benefit of an increased demand for labor, inasmuch as 90 per cent of the cost of road improvement is for labor.

These figures are based on the assumption that the county will not increase in wealth during the life of the bonds, but it is a foregone conclusion that in ten years Multnomah county will have increased greatly in wealth, thereby reducing these figures proportionately. The making of this improvement of 65 1/2 miles of hard surface roads will make Multnomah county one of the foremost counties in the Pacific Northwest in mileage of paved roads, while at present we are at least 10 years behind time in the construction of permanent highways. In regard to the assessment district plans for the hard surface of roads, which was tried out this year on the Base Line road and the Riverside drive, I do not believe that the county should attempt any more hard surfacing under this plan, for the reason that I consider the plan both impracticable and unjust. I do not believe that any property abutting on country roads should be directly assessed for the cost of paving the road, inasmuch as immediately upon the completion of the pavement the assessable value of the property is increased, and this increase will be in 10 years pay for the improvements.

## DOUBLE HEADER BASKET BALL GAME

The people of Gresham will have another basket ball treat on Friday night, January 8th, when a big double header game will take place at the Gresham rink. The Gresham Athletics, who have been doing some remarkably fine playing of late, will meet the strong team of the North Pacific Dental college.

The high school team will play the boys of Franklin high school in a game which promises to be one of the most thrilling of the season.

There is need of a good bunch of rosters and a large representation of the citizens of the locality, to give evidence of strong support of the home teams and enable the boys to pay expenses.

Mayor Simpson of North Bend proposes that the federal government take over all Coos Bay improvements in future.

From January 30 to Sept. 30, 1914 the counties of the state spent \$3,369,788 on roads.

Bids have been taken for 450,000 tons of rock for the Columbia jetty next year.

## TWO WRECKED SAFES YIELD LITTLE LOOT

Gresham people must be unusually sound sleepers, or else the fatigue of celebrating the holidays was too great to permit of anyone being disturbed by such a trifling thing as blowing a safe open in the dead hours of night.

Perhaps anyone who dreamed of hearing a noise thought it was the last dying echo of the new year din, and kept on dreaming. At any rate no one has been found who remembers hearing the safe at the Mt. Hood depot scattering itself about the office, nor the door of M. D. Kern's office safe giving up its contents to a set of burglars somewhere between 1:30 and 5 o'clock yesterday morning. Entrance to the depot was effected by smashing a front window. The safe was wrecked and loot consisted of \$9.65 was taken.

At Kern's lumber yard the outer door of the safe was left unlocked but the inner door was "shot" only to reveal some papers and two smooth dimes. The dimes are a total loss, but a bunch of notes in a drawer were found later in the field east of the lumber yard. Several checks were not taken as being too dangerous to negotiate.

Several deputy sheriffs and detectives were here yesterday looking for clues but none were found except two badly twisted keys at the lumber yard office and a piece of the railroad office safe wrapped in some cotton used to deaden the sound of the explosion. This latter fact would indicate that the Kern safe was robbed last. Entrance at the Kern office was made by cutting a piece of glass out of the door and unlocking it from the inside.

It was discovered later that the cracksmen had first entered the new cannery building by smashing a window. From there they took a piece of rope and a pump handle, both of which were found later. A bar of iron from the section house was also taken and used at the railroad depot to break into the building.

## MANAGER OF C. C. STORES VISITS GRESHAM

J. C. Cochran, of Oregon City, advertising manager of the C. C. stores, was in town early this week looking after the interests of the Gresham store. This store is one of a chain of stores operating in Oregon and at Vancouver, Washington. Mr. Cochran says that buyers for the stores will soon go east to purchase new lines of spring and summer goods. Already much buying has been done and early shipments are expected to arrive at the Gresham store. The C. C. people have located here permanently and give assurance of conducting their business on fair and safe principles. They do business on a strictly cash basis and give the public the benefit of the lowest prices. J. B. Carter who has charge of the local store is a permanent resident here and a man strictly reliable and pleasant to trade with.

## TWO CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO

A meeting of the board of directors of the Gresham Fruit Growers' association was held last night at which two important contracts were signed up for the coming year.

One was with the A. Rupert Brokerage Agency of Portland, which will handle the packed and canned goods of the plant; the other was with Fred Kaster of the Brownsville cannery as process man for the season.

Field Manager Sterling reported having sold four carloads of feed during the past four weeks, and has taken orders for another carload; also for a car of alfalfa hay.

## ANNUAL ELECTION FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Gresham Volunteer Fire Department will meet Wednesday night January 6 at 8 o'clock for the annual election of officers and other important business. All members are expected to be present. By order of the chief, Harry Johnson, secretary.

The annual election of officers of the Gresham Amateur Athletic club will be held in the fire hall, Thursday, January 7, at 8 p. m. This will be a very important meeting and no member of the club can afford to be absent. Bert Lindsey, president; Harry Johnson, secretary.