TWICE A WEEK

GRESHAM OUTLOOK

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

VOL. 4. NO. 92 GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH, COUNTY, OREGON FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1915 $1.50 PER YEAR

HARD SURFACE IMPROVEMENT OF TWO ROADS

There is again a prospect that the two principal streets of Gresham may be improved with hard surface durnig the coming summer.

Last year when the county was expected to pay one half of the cost of the improvement the property owners on Main and Powell streets were signed up to a petition asking that the work be done. A majority was secured and the streets would have been hard surfaced had the county gone ahead with its plans.

All the plans, however, were laid aside, but the efforts to hard surface the principal county roads are maturing now, and will probably come to a head if the proposed bond issue carries, in which event certain plans are being made to get the improvement through Gresham on practically the some lines that prevailed last year—that is, the county is to pay half the cost for a sixteen-foot pavement, the property owners to pay the other half.

The Base Line road is included in the schedule for improvements this year and the movement now on foot is to have the cross road from the Twelve Mile house improved to the city limits.

Roadmaster Yeon has been seen in regard to the proposition and is in a receptive mood. He favors the idea for the reason that the new Union High school will need a better road than now exists in front of the property. If the people who own property on Main street will ask for it there is scarcely any doubt but that the street will get the hard surface.

Charles Cleveland has stated that he favors the plan and will endeavor to get the work done. If the others refuse he will ask for the improvement of the street in front of his own property, which extends south from the city line to Division street. It is believed, however, that the others will fall in line and that the county commissioners will endorse the plan, and that the work will be done.

It is also probable that the county will be inclined to hard surface Powell street on the same basis of one half the cost, while the work is being done on the other street.

A FISH STORY BUT A TRUE ONE

Ben Raney caught a salmon trout in Johnson creek on Tuesday that measured a fraction under 20 inches in length. There have been some good runs of these fish in Johnson creek this winter but this one is the largest caught so far.

The recent rains have brought the fish in from the Willamette. They come into the creek for food and are found to be full of angle worms that the rising waters dislodge from the banks. They are not hungry and are rather shy of baits but in a few days when the water goes down and becomes clearer there should be some good strings caught.

The best fishing is to be found in the deep pools below town. Raney's big fish was caught on the Cotton farm.

OLD PLATFORM SCALES SOLD TO METZGER BROS.

The platform scales which have stood for more than 20 years in front of the Gresham Drug store have been removed. The owner, J. H. Metzger sold the weighing machine to Metzger Bros., who traded it in for a new one which will be located in front of the old livery barn on Powell street.

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 suficient 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.

Notice!

Gresham Harness Shop, located in former Outlook office, opposite Pulfer Mercantile Co.'s store. tf

We are issuing 1915 hunting and fishing licenses at Sterling & Kidder's.

AUTOMOBILE COMPANY IS OPTIMISTIC

A circular letter has been received by the stockholders of the Beaver State Motor company. It confirms the cheerful information given in the Outlook last week that operations will begin here in a short time. The letter reads as follows:

To Stockholders and Subscribers:—At the beginning of 1915 we have been taking a retrospective glance at the affairs of this company in the past and a prophetic view of the future. We feel that you are entitled to know what we see.

We have received many complimentary expressions from stockholders regarding the progress made, considering business conditions. We own our site; we own our factory with its full equipment of machinery and tools; and we owe no money. This is a very satisfactory showing for the year, but it does not cover progress made.

We have practically completed the equipment of the Gresham factory. The last piece of machinery, a boring and milling machine weighing two and one-half tons, was installed just before the holidays. In addition to the large factory building at Gresham we have recently installed in an adjoining building a brass and aluminum foundry, a very essential adjunct, which is now in working order.

To have attempted to operate our factory last fall under the conditions would have been folly; yet we have not been idle, for we have designed a new six-cylinder engine, completed our patterns, cast the engine, and it is now being finished at the Gresham works. If this engine turns out as well as we expect it will be possible for us to manufacture practically all of our cars here, thus making us independent and placing us in a most favorable position. Besides, plans and designs for our new car are completed and we have every reason to believe our engine will be a success. Our 1915 model will be a small car to sell at a moderate price. As soon as it is ready for the trade we will mail to all subscribers a description with specifications.

We have been working on our new 1915 model during the past 90 days, but the scarcity of work in Portland shops has made it advantageous to have most of this work done outside of our own factory.

Our officers and directors have worked without compensation, we have had but little office expense, and the company is in good shape.

We are now ready to begin the manufacture of cars, and feel that notwithstanding the unusual and unfavorable conditions, we have fulfilled all of our pledges to subscribers. If stock subscriptions due and coming due are promptly paid, we will have ample funds with which to work, and there will be no further delay in getting out cars for the market. The company has been seriously handicapped in the past because subscribers could not or did not meet their obligations, and while grateful for the progress we have been able to make, we earnestly appeal to all who have not fulfilled their pledge to do so immediately.

The automobile industry in America appears to be in better shape today than at any time in its history. The American demand seems to be as great as ever and Europe is calling for millions worth of automobiles and trucks. South America and the rest of the world which has been supplied by Europe in the past, must also come to us, and it would appear that it is only a question of how many cars can be built in 1915, for the sale of all of them seems a certainty. It is of course to be regretted that we have been held back so we cannot profit immediately by this unusual demand, but experts agree that the automobile business is approaching an era of still greater possibilities and we will have little trouble to sell all the cars we can make as fast as we can get them out.

The Gresham plant has recently been visited by the entire board. It is a thoroughly modern up-to-date factory equipped with the latest and best of machinery and tools. The affairs of the company are in such good shape that we can all congratulate ourselves that we have gone through the past year with its severe and unusual trials with such a magnificent and substantial showing.

By order of the Board of Directors,
P. A. COMBS, President.
J. L. BAILEY, Secretary.

Card of Appreciation.

We wish to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Gresham Council of Women Voters and all who took part in giving the banquet and entertainment for the volunteers of the Gresham Volunteer Fire Department.

Signed by committee, E. T. Jones, E. M. Thomas, J. E. Metzger.

Barber Shop Moved.

Owing to the plans for tearing down the R. R. Carlson building, I have moved my barber shop to the First State Bank building one door west of the postoffice. I will be glad to see any and all of my patrons at my new location. A. E. ADAMS.

DEDUCTIONS MADE FROM A REVIEW OF TAX PAYING DATA

Property Valuations	Number of Tax Payers	of Whole. Per Cent
Under $1,000.00	29,906	53.6
$1,000 to $2,000	11,319	20.3
$2,000 to $3,000	4,556	8.2
$3,000 to $4,000	2,238	4.0
$4,000 to $5,000	1,444	2.6
$5,000 to $6,000	1,019	1.8
$6,000 to $7,000	693	1.2
$7,000 to $8,000	512	.9
$8,000 to $9,000	420	.8
$9,000 to $10,000	328	.6
Over $10,000	3,323	6.0
Total	55,758	100.0

The above table of valuations, number of taxpayers and per cent of taxpayers has been furnished to the board of county commissioners by the tax collecting department of this county and the assessor's office. It is reliable and suggests the following train of ideas:

The estimated population of Multnomah county is 275,000. The total assessed valuation of Multnomah county is $335,000,000. The total assessed valuation of property assessed to those persons paying taxes on assessment of $10,000 or more each, is $253,141,942.

From the above facts the following is deducted: that of our total population, 1-5 or 20 per cent are tax payers. Of our total taxpayers, over half or 53.6 per cent pay only on an assessed valuation of $1000.00 or less, and that 75½ per cent of the total wealth of Multnomah county is in the hands of 6 per cent of the taxpayers, or 1.2 per cent of the total population. Therefore, does it not follow as a sound public policy, founded upon the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number, that wherever it can be demonstrated that certain public improvements (such as road and highway construction) are necessery for the proper development of this community, and wherein it can be demonstrated that the money raised for such public improvements is being wisely and efficiently spent, and that a dollar's worth of labor and material is being obtained for every dollar spent, that the funds for such public improvements should be voted?

If anything more were needed to convince the voters that a bond issue for the improvement of the roads of Multnomah county is a necessity, that one thing would be a reiteration of the statement that the city of Portland pays 90 per cent of all taxes levied in Multnomah county.

There are opponents to the proposed bond issue for hard surfacing the county roads. Some who oppose the movement are actuated by a parsimonious feeling, putting up the plea that the present roads are good enough for any purpose; others assert that they are good enough for the farmer who can haul his loads to market now to the full capacity of his wagon and the strength of his team. Some who oppose the idea don't know why they are opposed to it, but are "ferninst the government" in this matter as in everything else.

Another class of opponents to a bonds issue is composed of those who prefer a direct tax to raise the necessary money, but they are willing to be taxed and want good roads. They are entitled to consideration and have a whole lot of argument on their side, but they are in a minority. They may be able to block the bond issue proposition because they believe in the other way of raising money.

It is shown above that the assessed valuation of Multnomah county is $335,000,000. That sum does not represent one-half of the actual value of the property. It is further shown that only one-fifth of the people are taxpayers—or about 55,000. The registered vote is more than double that number, hence it is evident that more than 60,000 persons have no financial interests at stake and that they can vote to make the property owners pay the bills.

It is further shown that 75 per cent, or about three-fourths of the total wealth is in the hands of less than 8000 persons, consequently they are at the mercy of those who have nothing or at least very little at stake.

All the above figures may not be exact, but it is incontrovertible that the situation is in the hands of those who can compel the wealth of the county to pay for hard surfacing every thoroughfare. In the country districts the roads are a necessity and will become more of a necessity as time goes on. The day of gravel or crushed rock roads is gone by and the increasing cost of keeping them in repair would in the long run be greater than in putting them in such a condition that repairs would be unnecessary. Hence the raising of funds to make the roads permanent is an absolute necessity, and a bond issue is the surest method—the sonest realized.

All the money ever taken from the country east of Portland for taxes would not build our present roads. They have been the most potent factor in creating present values, and with better roads there would be a higher valuation. That any voter in eastern Multnomah can object to a bond issue and better roads is not to be thought of.

ROCKWOOD GRANGE GIVES BENEFIT DANCE

Seventy-five cents for gentlemen only, ladies free and supper for nothing is the plan of a benefit dance to be given by Rockwood grange on Saturday evening, January 23. It is to be given in aid of Lester Swigert, who has just returned from a seige in one of the Portland hospitals. Music will be furnished by Mead's four-piece orchestar, one of the best in Portland. Tickets are on sale by members of the grange and there is going to be a record-breaking attendance. All the proceeds except the pay for the orchestra will be donated to the object for which the dance is to be given.

FRANK R. JOHNSON SECURES ACQUITTAL

The hearing of the appeal taken by Frank R. Johnson from the decision of the Justice of the Peace at St. Johns, fining him $25.00 and costs for shooting at a Chinese pheasant on the public highway at Bairdsdale on October 6, last, was held in Judge Davis' court before a jury on Tuesday, January 12. After a lengthy trial, the appeal was allowed, and Mr. Johnson discharged. The state was represented by Deputy District Attorney Ryan, whilst the defendant was represented by Attorney John R. Hughes, of Portland.

COMEDY AND DRAMA REGNER'S OPERA HOUSE

Regner's opera house will open as a dramatic theater on Saturday evening with the Wills-Collins company. There will be ten persons in the cast, the performances to be in the nature of skits in comedy.

Mr. Regner, in his opening announcement, states that a first-class entertainment is assured, and that nothing but the best talent procurable will be seen there at any time. For tomorrow night the prices will be 25 and 35 cents.

LENTS BANK CASHIER ARRESTED FOR FORGERY

H. Rostad, former cashier of the Lents bank, has been arrested for the forgery of twenty-six notes, totaling about $21,000. The directors of the bank made up the defalcations and the bank depositors will loose nothing.

The discovery was made three months ago by the state bank examiner. The specific charge on which Rosted was apprehended is the alleged forgery of a note for $1200 signed by C. B. and B. O. Miller. He is said to have made a confession to the district attorney, but there are hints of others being involved.

Some liars are not satisfied when they get hold of a good story that is true. They want to tinker with until they spoil it.

WITHYCOMBE INAUGURATED AS GOVERNOR

Governor Withycombe was inaugurated on Tuesday afternoon and made his first address to the legislature. It was replete with suggestions for economy and business-like methods. Following are a few of his suggestions:

Oregon is but in her infancy and more than all else she needs sound assistance in the development of the resources Nature has given her.

The principle upon whcih we should act when state money is concerned is the same as if that money were our own.

Annual or continuing appropriations have come to be regarded widely as unbusinesslike.

Your difficult task is to devise ways and means for making and keeping Oregon actually a prohibition state, so long as the will of the people shall decree.

Wise road building is probably the best investment the state can undertake and for its encouragement I recommended consideration of some plan for the establishment and use of a larger state road fund.

It is generally conceded that agriculture is our basic industry and if we are to realize a truly Greater Oregon we must lay the foundation by means of constructive legislation for agricultural development.

Outside the prison walls the convict labor might well be employed in the construction of state highways.

Today Oregon's greatest need is payrolls. The development of manufacturing will provide wages for many of our immigrants and they, in turn, will supply markets which will make profitable the agricultural development undertaken by others.

The public schools are truly the bulwark of our civilization and as such merit our most hearty interest and support. The rural schools are suffering for the want of efficient teachers, nor is it difficult to ascertain why. Each year Oregon requires over 1000 trained instructors, but we produce, through our Normal schools, but approximately one-tenth of that number.

The 28th biennial session of the Oregon legislature began its labors on Monday last and was organized with the election of W. L. Thompson as president of the senate and Ben Selling as speaker of the house. Other officers are as follows:

Senate—chief clerk, J. W. Chochran; reading clerk, Frank Motter; sergeant-at-arms, W. G. D. Mercer; doorkeeper, Roy Corey; mailing clerk, Irving Moreland.

House—Chief clerk, W. F. Drager; Journal clerk, H. A. Wilkins; reading clerk, Dudley R. Clark; calendar clerk, Charles Erksine; sergeant-at-arms, H. T. Bruce; doorkeeper, George Miller; mailing clerk, W. S. McAdams.

Opening day was signalized by the filing of 24 bills in the senate and 26 in the house. There was no undue delay and both houses proceeded to business with all celerity. The proposed law enforcing prohibition had the first honor in the house.

Representative Olson, of Multnomah, has presented a bill to drive petition peddlers out of business. If it passes anyone may become a candidate by filing his intention and pay a fee.

A bill to abolish the state game and fish commission with a Master warden in charge who will be responsible directly to the governor.

Blue sky amendments have been introduced making the law less drastic.

Governor Withycombe's first appointment was Harvey Wells of Portland, as insurance commissioner to succeed J. W. Ferguson.

A resolution has been entered to abolish several commissions and boards, with consolidations and restrictions in salaries. The object is economy in accordance with the pledges made before election.

It is likely that six or more constitutional amendments will be submitted to the voters at a special election next Wednesday.

Among the departments which the Barrett resolution abolishes are the State Board of Public Accountancy, Bureau of Mines and Geology, Conservation Commission, State Immigration Commission, Board of Higher Curricula, State Architect and State Immigration Agent. It suggests that the offices of Superintendent of Banks, Corporation Commissioner and Insurance Commissioner be consolidated with that of State Treasurer; that the Tax Commission be abolished and the work performed by it turned over to the State Railroad Commission. Consolidation of the State Land Board, State Water Board and State Board of Forestry is urged. They are to be added to the State Water Board, the name of which shall be changed to the Board of Land, Water and Forests.

FAIRVIEW IS UNDER A NEW GOVERNMENT

By J. H. SCHRAM.

On Tuesday evening Mayor-elect E. H. Whitney took the reins of the city in his hands, and while his inaugural address was short it was well received. Among other substantial improvements he recommended to the city council, was the building of a city jail and the finishing of the streets was noticed in his remarks, as well as several important ordinances that should be drafted, regarding the welfare of our city. He assured the council that for the next year at least if they did their duty a large amount of work would be done.

Recorder Morrison settled down in his chair and shoved his pencil as an old timer at the work. He will, if not prevented by the council, work some beneficial changes in his office and is competent to do so from the vast experiences he has had along the line of book and record keeping.

Treasurer Stone shook hands with himself, jubilant over the fact that he had succeeded himself in office. His report showed $791.64 on hand: general fund, $743.21; electric light, $36.33; city hall fund, $11.69.

Look out for your dog. Hunter is poundmaster and says he will have 'em if they are not collared.

A card of thanks was tendered the retiring mayor, Wm. Butler. Quite a number of citizens were present to witness the transfer of officers and all were satisfied.

Maurice Schram is becoming quite efficient with the mail these days while the regular carrier is suffering the blessing that comforted Job.

Ed. and Clara McDaniel, of Montavilla, are sojourning at Paul Fisher's of Columbia View. They are talking of moving to Mist, Oregon, and seek dame fortune through the medium of the plow and hoe.

It is reported that George and John Burlingame, also Ira Brooks, have traded their property here in town for acreage at Scapoose and will move there in the spring.

The Rev. Mr. Province is still continuing his series of meetings, although being refused the use of the churches by the official board. J. M. Davis, our merchant, threw his hall open free of all charges and the good work still goes on just the same.

SUICIDE AT GERVAIS NOT JOHN E. CRAWFORD

An item in the daily papers on Monday, that a man named Crawford had been found near Gervais with his throat cut, was the cause of a rumor being started that the man was John E. Crawford, whose home is in Gresham.

Mr. Crawford has been staying in Portland lately and his wife here made inquiries there which seemingly confirmed her fears. It was found that he had left Portland on Saturday and had not been seen up to Tuesday morning. His description tallied with that of the suicide and Mrs. Crawford began making preparations to have the body sent here for burial when the word came that her husband had returned to Portland and was as safe and sound as ever.

The authorities at Gervais were in communication with Mrs. Crawford but she had lost interest in the matter and the remains were buried there.

Readers of the Outlook will notice a new locality represented in the correspondence columns. Hurlburt is the promising community referred to and will have a space in the country news items from now on.

Coming! New lot of Hardy Spray Pumps and accessories to Sterling & Kidder's Hardware store.

A bill to license auto passenger cars comes from D. C. Lewis of Multnomah; also to keep auto trucks from using unpaved roads during the winter.

A bill has been presented requiring relatives to pay $15 a month for inmates of the asylum and feeble minded institutions.

A "game fund" war is on, the proposed bill to turn all collections into the state treasury, instead of being used by the game commission.

Senator Dimick has offered a resolution to abolish the Oregon naval militia.

Automobile licenses may be had of county clerks if a proposed bill to that effect is passed.