

## ALL FUNDS ARE GOOD BUT ROADS

County Auditor Martin's half year report, ending December 31, shows a healthy condition of all county finances except in one particular. There was remaining in all funds the sum of \$1,074,308.26, of which amount \$173,505.88 was available for general purposes. In the interstate bridge fund was found the sum of \$656,931.84; in the special road fund, remaining from the bond issue of last year, there was \$243,855.98. The road fund was practically exhausted as the balance was only \$13.56.

County road work, paid from the general fund during the last six months of 1915, cost the county \$395,283.77. For the entire year the amount expended on the county roads, exclusive of the Columbia River Highway and hard surfacing, was \$566,555.52.

The special road fund for the year, spent on the highway and for hard surfacing and interest was \$1,931,977.35; all of which was paid out during the last half of the year.

The cash balance in the various county funds on January 1 was as follows:

General fund.....	\$173,506.88
State school fund.....	133,002.53
County high school.....	45,717.32
Port of Portland.....	7,789.95
City of Portland.....	282.22
School districts.....	2,286.18
Trust fund.....	6,020.46
Indemnity fund.....	1,716.96
County fair fund.....	148.79
Road districts.....	13.56
City of Gresham.....	72.59
Fish and game fund.....	27.50
Judgment fund.....	38.00
City of Troutdale.....	3.35
Riverside Drive.....	2.64
Library building fund.....	782.84
Interstate bridge fund.....	696,931.84
Special road fund.....	243,855.98

Total.....\$1,272,150.59

Of the county institutions the Multnomah farm shows the highest cost for the half year, amounting to \$24,201.56. For the whole year the cost was \$51,489.22. The Multnomah hospital shows a cost of \$15,464.86 for six months and \$31,034.11 for the twelve months. The widows' pension fund for six and twelve months yielded up respectively \$19,421.55 and \$37,912.05. Indigent soldiers came in for \$18,404.66 for the entire year.

On the whole the report shows a careful expenditure of the several funds, the only regret being that the general road fund is at such a low ebb as to preclude any attempt at road work. There was no money available to pay for removing the snow drifts which obstructed so many county roads last week some of which are yet closed. This statement will explain why the work had to be done by volunteers in order to get through the drifts.

As there will be very little money coming in until taxes are due, there is small hope of a continuation of work now unfinished and no hope whatever of new work being commenced until early in the summer.

## ONLY A DRAMA BUT STARTLING

"A Great Catastrophe" is the title of a drama to be given at Pleasant Valley grange hall next Saturday evening for the benefit of the Pleasant Valley school. There will be a social and refreshments after the program. Admission will be ten and fifteen cents. Following is the cast of characters:

- Kennard, a valiant lover.....
- Forest Jenne.....
- Dennis Milliken, who caused the catastrophe.....
- Dave Masters.....
- Ben Trapp, an Englishman with expectations.....
- Henry Restorf.....
- Robert Drew, the old man himself.....
- W. U. Moore.....
- Violet Drew, his daughter.....
- Hazel Berke.....
- Dorothy Primrose, a governess with nerves.....
- Lettie Osborne.....
- Tilly Craig, a stage-struck maid.....
- Isabel Masters.....

### Notice.

After February 1, 1916, my office will be in the Bank of Gresham building, over the Anchor store, entrance on Main street next door to hardware store. DR. WILL OTT.

In the Taft philosophy, frankness is prominent. He says he is not only keeping out of the presidential race, but is being kept out.

## CHEERING EVIDENCE REVEALED

There is cheering evidence of the intention of the county commissioners to hard surface the Gresham-Fairview road contained in the report of Roadmaster John P. Yeon, made recently to the county court.

After dealing with the financial aspect of the propositions yet ahead he says:

"Due consideration was given the present location, so that further construction of laterals would develop the largest possible amount of territory at the least expense and give shortest lines of haul to trunk lines."

"As an instance of this future course a lateral from Gresham to Fairview, a distance of only three miles, would connect the Powell Valley road, the Base Line road and the Sandy road, besides giving all the contributing territory a direct route to the nearest shipping point. These three roads all serve a distinct territory, and are the shortest routes from their several districts to the city, yet they can be looped together at small expense."

That other laterals will also be hard surfaced within a few years at the most, is the inference from the following:

By completing the Columbia Boulevard from its intersection with the Sandy road, a distance of 8.95 miles to St. Johns, all of the northern part of the county lying west of the Sandy boulevard will have a paved road paralleling its most populous district, and the shipping points, with three paved laterals to the city.

"Paving south from Gilsan street near Eighty-second street for a distance of four and a half miles to the county line, will connect the Foster road, the Powell Valley road, the Base Line road and give access to this county from a populous district in Clackamas county, thus developing outside business."

While there will be two approaches to the Columbia River highway it is evident that the Base Line road will be given the preference in future consideration by this reference:

"When the projected link between the end of the present paving on the Base Line road and the Upper Sandy bridge is completed, a distance of 1.72 miles, the distance from the courthouse to the eastern county boundary will be 42.85."

However the route through Troutdale is not to be slighted. This paragraph explains why:

"The cutoff between Troutdale and the Auto club on the Columbia river highway is progressing and will be completed in time to pave early in the spring, thus completely eliminating all grades on the Columbia river highway above (5) five per cent. The contract for paving this link has been let and when paved will give a continuous drive over the Columbia river highway from the courthouse of 45.4 miles."

It is the evident intention to form a loop between Portland and the auto club, as witness this paragraph:

"A trip over the Columbia river highway, over the Sandy road, returning by the Base Line road will be 88.25 miles from the courthouse."

In planning the present system of highway improvement, every effort was made to decrease distance and give direct routes, as well as to eliminate the heavy grades; the location of a highway and its grades being the only permanent work."

The seven road divisions of eastern Multnomah received disbursements last year as follows: Division No. 6, Montavilla, etc., \$8439.96; Division No. 8, Mt. Scott, Lents, etc., \$36,438.51; Division No. 9, Gresham, westerly, \$19,631.72; Division No. 10, Fairview, Troutdale, etc., \$6223.12; Division No. 11, Gresham, easterly, \$10,743.13; Division No. 12, Corbett, etc., \$32,273.18; Division No. 13, Bridal Veil, etc., \$7287.72.

## OFFICE IN GRESHAM FOR COUNTY AGENT

M. O. Evans, assistant state agriculturist, was in Gresham this morning with S. B. Hall, county agriculturist, and assisted the latter in selecting an office.

The place chosen is in the First State Bank building opposite the Congdon hotel. Mr. Hall will have his office there in a few days, where he will be found about two days in each week. The remainder of his time will be spent on the outside, wherever he may be needed.

### Pleasant Home Bakery.

Mrs. T. H. Kennedy, Pleasant Home Bakery, Phone 271, is handling Royal bread from Portland. The bread can be secured also through Markell's Grocery, from Mrs. Kennedy.

Too many who exceed the speed limit never do anything after they arrive at their destination.

## AUCTION SALES TOO NUMEROUS FOR A SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY

Numerous auction sales in any part of the country, among the farmers, lead the observer to suspect that farming or dairying doesn't pay and that those who sell out are trying to save themselves from further disaster by unloading their belongings for cash in order to get away from a losing proposition.

This may not be true in every case, for some are selling out because they have enough to live on and are retiring from hard work. But the fact remains that many of those who sell out and leave are really doing so in order to go to some other locality where they hope to do better.

Not many farmers of this vicinity will tell you that they were successful last year in making more than a living. There was something the matter with the crops, or the prices were not satisfactory, and they found that they were a year older and but little better off when the year's balance was struck.

Now, there is always a reason for poor business among all classes. Among the farmers there have been several causes at work to cut down profits, one of which is undoubtedly the presence of Japanese farmers among us who have paid high rentals for many of the best farms and have glutted the markets with a surplus of produce in opposition to the white man who is at a disadvantage when competing with the Japs except in growing large crops of hay or potatoes.

And here is another idea: It is known that the famous potatoes of eastern Multnomah have lost their prestige. The crops do not yield as largely as they did ten years ago, and even good prices fail to give the profits that were made then. The causes for this condition are not far to seek, for they lie in diseased soil, inferior seed and planting of the same seed in the same ground over and over again without the proper rotation of crops to keep the soil in good condition for such crops.

Experiments made last year with home grown potatoes and those imported show more than a double yield of merchantable potatoes over the latter, as well as a double yield of all grades, which means a crop four times better from selected imported potatoes than from the inbred things that most farmers have been planting from year to year.

The dairy industry has never been the general success here that it has a right to be. There is a lack of organization among the dairymen which is deplorable but they are to blame for it and no one else. Efforts made a few years ago to perfect some sort of organization met with defeat

just because some of the dairymen were suspicious of being hoodwinked by those who were really trying to help them. Nothing came of the efforts and the distributors of Portland continue to take toll for the dairymen's mistakes.

The money that has been lost to the dairymen of this vicinity in the past three years, just because of a lack of co-operation, has been several times more than any premature fizzle would have cost under the worst conditions.

The cannery business is a good one if properly conducted under the cooperative plan, and the experiment here last year was not an entire failure. It was only the beginning under difficulties, but it has lacked the undivided support of many who expected it to be a paying institution for their especial benefit; right from the start-off. They are disappointed and will have no confidence in the business until the management shows them cash dividends.

All of the foregoing is but preparatory to expressing a belief that there is something better in sight. The appointment of a county agriculturist, was made especially for the benefit of those who need expert advice in preparing their soil, selecting seeds, developing conditions that will favor success in growing crops, feeding and caring for stock, and, above all, in finding or making a market for what they produce.

Mr. Hall, the new county agent, is to be right here for the purposes mentioned, but he is not going to do all those things alone. He will have the assistance and backing of the Oregon State Agricultural college. For every phase of his work he will have the help of specialists who will come here, make a study of conditions and suggest remedies that, if followed, will make for success in growing things.

As to the other great problem of marketing what has been produced, the combined energies of the county agriculturists of the state—now twenty in number—will be brought to bear upon it under the leadership of Paul V. Maris, state leader. In that direction they will also have the assistance of the college and the experience of all the other agricultural colleges of the nation, and the combined efforts of every county agent in every state.

Each county agent is simply the man on the spot. He may do many things unaided but there are greater influences back of him that are enlisted in the work he has been assigned to do. He should have the full confidence and co-operation of every producer, whether successful or unsuccessful, so that there may be better crops, better stock, better prices and fewer auction sales.

## LEAP YEAR DANCE SATURDAY, FEB. 5

The leap years girls are going to be happy yet. The postponed dance at Rockwood grange hall will be held on Saturday evening, February 5th.

There will be no change in the plans, for the girls are going to do the honors, pay all bills and choose their own partners. All men will be admitted free and may as well leave their pocketbooks at home unless they count on making a few friendly loans.

Nyland's orchestra has been engaged for the occasion and the girls will take turns in managing the floor. They have promised a few "gentlemen's choice" dances provided the gentlemen are real good.

### Friday Night, January 28.

You are invited to attend a grand ball given by W. Wilkinson of the Bridal Veil Amusement club in Regens opera house; Gresham, Friday, night, January 28. New music. Good management. Everybody come. This is the dance announced for the 14th but which had to be postponed on account of the storm.

### All Night Dance.

Multnomah grange hall, Orient, January 29. Supper 50c. Admission 75c. Beers orchestra. Good time assured. 96

Read the Want Ads.

## PARTISAN CAMPAIGN AWAKENED

The Oregon republican club, organized in Portland last week, has, through its Board of Governors adopted a set of resolutions for the guidance of its members in the coming campaign. They are worthy of endorsement by all republicans and are published here in full:

"We congratulate the people of this country upon the auspicious prospects of an early return to more prosperous times under a republican national administration.

"After nearly three years, with the democratic party in full control of the legislative and executive departments of our national government, with our country at peace and most bounteous crops, we find capital timid, employment for labor scarce, a general lack of confidence and consequent hard times.

"We believe this condition is caused in the main by destructive legislation and theoretical democratic administration.

"We favor a return to the republican principle of protection to American labor and industries. We denounce the provisions of the Underwood tariff law, especially as applied to our lumber, wool and other products.

"We favor the republican policy of a tariff commission with power to adjust schedules to meet changing conditions.

"We protest against the weak, timid and vacillating foreign policy of the present democratic administration, whereby the lives of American citizens have been taken and our commerce injured on the high seas; and especially do we protest against its policy with relation to our sister republic on the south, wherein our citizens have been shot down in cold blood and their property taken or destroyed without redress.

"We favor the placing of our nation in a state of preparedness for defense, by increasing our present inadequate army, navy and harbor defenses, so as to be in a condition of defense to repulse the attacks of any nation in the world, thereby insuring an honorable peace.

"We favor state as well as federal aid in the reclamation of the arid lands of the eastern part of this western part; for the establishment of good roads; the improvement of our waterways, rivers and harbors throughout the state.

"We favor a policy of rigid economy as well as efficiency in the administration of our state, county, school, municipal and all public affairs; and to that end advocate the abolishment or consolidation of our too numerous commissions and boards and a return to a more representative republican form of government.

"We favor the enactment of a more equitable apportionment of the representatives in our state legislative assembly, in accordance with our state constitution, and the nomination and election of the members from this county from separate districts.

"We are unalterably opposed to boss dictation and machine rule within the party. We assert that the enactment of the Lockwood Primary Law in 1901, the adoption by the people of the Direct Primary Law in 1904; and we believe the principal object in the formation of the Progressive party in 1912, was a protest of the people against invisible, boss and machine controlled party government.

"We cordially invite all voters of this state who favor a return to republican prosperity, regardless of past differences or affiliations, to join with us in helping to make this a greater and better state and nation.

"To this end, we invite you to send in your names to our club headquarters, at 312 Dekum building, Portland, Oregon."

### Telephone Meeting Postponed.

On account of the impassable condition of the roads the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Multnomah & Clackamas Co. Mutual Telephone Co., has been postponed to Monday, February 7, at 2 p. m., by order of the Board of Directors.

EVA ANDERSON, Sec'y.  
Don't overlook the Want Ads.

## GOOD LINE OF ADVICE GIVEN OUT

Portland, Jan. 24, 1916.

Editor Outlook:—Co-operation is an action indulged in by everybody, no matter who the person may be. We use co-operation in our every-day life, either co-operating with ourselves or with some thing, or some one else. In other words co-operation is a staple necessity in this life.

In regard to furthering one's earthly interests, or his financial condition, figured in dollars and cents, he must enter into an agreement with others, combining capital and whatever else it may require in order to get maximum returns.

How were these great trusts and monopolies formed? And how did they prosper after they did combine? Such people that enter into these big concerns, never quit the business until they have made their pile. They know you can catch more and better fish with a hook and line than you can with the hook alone, and in this case they know they have a good strong line.

Now as far as the Gresham Cannery is concerned, it seems to me that this is a wonderful opening for the fruit and produce grower of Multnomah county. But it will never be a success till we all combine together and push with all our power. Farmers are not what they used to be. The man of the present day uses his head and he thinks. We who claim to be up-to-date agriculturists all belong to the grange and we are proud of it. We find the grange coming more and more into its calling every day, as time goes by. The grange always has harped on this subject of co-operation and right here is a good chance to put it to use.

I'm not a member of the association, neither as an outsider am I trying to dictate, but I am interested in anything that is for the benefit of the community and especially when so many of our fellow farmers already have quite a bit at stake. The money already put in will be lost and the confidence of the people will be shaken as well, if this co-operative cannery is not maintained.

There will be another stockholders meeting on February 14, and it is to the interest of everybody to be there and give their loyal support. We can't lose, and we won't wait for George to do it either.

C. B. LEWIS.

## FIRST POTATOES SELL FOR GOOD FIGURE

Reports from around the county indicate that several hundred bushels of potatoes were frozen during the recent cold spell. Those that were buried in the ground seemed to have stood the freeze, but many small losses occurred where they were stored in cellars.

In consequence of the cold weather the stocks in the hands of Portland dealers ran quite short and prices went up. First shipments to the city, right after the roads became passable, brought the best prices known for several years.

F. O. Snuffin, living near Gilbert took forty sacks to Portland on Friday which he sold on Front street for \$1.75 a hundred. Dealers were out here on Saturday making offers of \$1.35 and sacks furnished for large lots, but farmers are refusing to sell for that figure.

There is a good prospect that potatoes will reach \$2 a hundred before they are all sold, but not many will hold for that price.

### Laundries Charging More.

With increased prices in soap, starch, bluing and other things, due to the war, the Portland laundries are increasing their prices.

### Eggs and Chix.

Single Comb White Leghorns. Good laying strain. Eggs for hatching, \$1 for 15; \$5 per 100. Orders taken for day-old chicks at \$2 per 100. A. R. Lyman, R. 2, Gresham.

### Tailoring.

For men and women—cleaning, pressing and repairing done well. Peter Lenard, Powell street.

It did not need a Ford peace expedition to drive Old Man Winter out of our trenches.