

GOLD HILL INVENTOR HORRIBLY MAIMED BY EXPLOSION OF CHEMICALS

BIG BUILDING PROJECTS NOW ARE PROMISED

Building Operations During 1911 Promise to Be Much Greater Than They Were During 1910 When All Records Were Smashed.

FEDERAL BUILDING IS BUT ONE OF MANY

City Improvements Will Be Greater Than Ever—Much More Paving Is to Be Done This Year.

That building operations in Medford during the year 1911 will exceed in gain over 1910 more than that year did its predecessor is the promise made by local contractors. These predictions include, besides business blocks and residences, street, sewer and city work of all descriptions. Topping the list of contemplated buildings is the structure to be erected by the federal government. This building, for which considerably over \$100,000 is already assured, will house all the federal offices maintained in this city and provision will also be made to take care of any offices likely to be established here within the near future as increase in the population will make necessary.

The Odd Fellows building, as it was not completed until after the advent of the new year will be included in this year's figures when, next December, the accomplishments for the 12 months are reviewed, and among the others which will occupy prominent positions in the list are the Masonic building, to be erected at the corner of Riverside avenue and Main street at a cost of \$50,000; the two new school buildings to cost approximately \$33,000 each and to be located, one in the Queen Anne addition and the other on Jackson boulevard; the Palm building, to be built opposite the St. Mark's building on Main street and to cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000; the Medford hotel, \$125,000; the Carnegie library, to cost \$20,000 and to occupy the site in the city park formerly occupied by the water tower; the John M. Root building, to cost \$30,000, work upon which has already been started; Howard building opposite the present postoffice; and the completion of building on the Neff property, adjoining the Mail Tribune building.

The Sisters of Charity are contemplating the erection of a hospital building in East Medford which will cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000. It is the intention of the sisters to complete this building and have it ready for occupancy within a number of business enterprises already suitably located are contemplating the building of additions to their present quarters; principal among these being the Union Meat company who will shortly start work on three new cold storage buildings. Owing to the fact that the Southern Pacific in tends to park their property on the west side of the track the Union Meat company may possibly have to secure a new site for their entire plant, but whether this is made necessary or not they will install three new cold storage rooms before the coming hot season.

The Southern Pacific railroad for their part will spend somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15,000 or \$20,000 in parking their right of way and the street railroad system upon which work has already been started will materially increase building figures for the present year.

Not only will building activity be great in the business portion but between four and five hundred residences will be built during the coming year. They will vary largely in cost, but an average price of \$2000 each will be estimated by the class of building put up last year.

Apart from the work contemplated by individuals the city will this year spend almost as much as it did during last year.

JUDGE CALKINS SAYS ELECTION WAS ILLEGAL

Grants Pass Must Remain In Dry Column for Some Time to Come According to Decision Handed Down In Circuit Court.

COUNCIL HAD PASSED MODEL LIQUOR LAW

The License Fee Was Fixed at \$800 a Year—One Saloon Was to Be Allowed for Each 750 People.

Twelve hours after the Grants Pass city council passed an ordinance providing for licensing, regulating and controlling saloons, Judge F. M. Calkins of the circuit court, upheld the ruling of District Attorney B. F. Mulkey and declared the recent election, at which the town was voted wet, illegal.

Thursday evening the council in session passed a model liquor license law, restricting the number of saloons to be inhabitants and placing the license at \$800 per year. Screens, card rooms and all other evils are debarred by the new law and every applicant for a license must, under its provisions, file a bond of \$1000. This law will be in effect on February 8th, or twenty days from the date of its passage.

Friday morning, Judge Calkins overruled the remurrers to the indictments of the men accused of violating the local option law and held that law was still in force in Grants Pass notwithstanding the recent election.

As the thing stands it seems as if the council has no right to issue a license to a salooner in Grants Pass. It has no more right to license saloons than the county court or any other unauthorized body.

The opinion of Judge Calkins, given in part, is as follows: In the Circuit of the State of Oregon for Josephine County.

The State of Oregon vs. Jack Whitsett. This matter was submitted to the court for determination upon the demurrer to the indictment filed herein. The only question for decision is whether the constitutional amendment known as the home rule bill operates to repeal the local option law so far as it affects Grants Pass.

Until the taking of effect of the amendment known as the home rule amendment, all municipalities of the

MAY RESIGN TO GO ELSEWHERE

City Engineer Harry Foster Reported Contemplating Leaving City—Place May Be Filled by S. E. Semon, Present First Assistant.

Harry E. Foster, city engineer, will resign in the near future and leave Medford, according to a report circulated last evening, and it is believed by his friends that his resignation will be tendered to the mayor at an early date.

The fact that Foster has been contemplating a removal to another section has been known for some time past but he has not as yet decided when he will take the step.

His position here will in all probability be filled by S. E. Semon, at present Foster's first assistant and formerly a member of the engineering staff under City Engineer R. A. Thompson of Seattle, Wash.

Mr. Foster could not be located last night and no confirmation of the report was obtainable.

DEFENSE ALL IN IN SCHENK POISON CASE

One Time Society Leader Does Not Tell Her Story In Court—Conspiracy Is Basis of Defense of Millionaire's Wife.

CREDIBILITY OF MRS. HEDGES IS ATTACKED

Sixty New Witnesses Are Subpoenaed to Rebut Evidence Offered by Defense.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 21.—Without a chance to hear from the lips of Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk her personal refutation of the charge that she administered lead and arsenic poison to her millionaire husband John O. Schenk the jury before which the one time society leader is being tried heard the announcement at 3:30 this afternoon, "the defense closes."

As soon as the defense had closed prosecutor Handlan announced that he had subpoenaed 60 new witnesses to rebut the "conspiracy" evidence of Mrs. Tedges, an dothers, Mrs. John Lash, one of these, caused a scene in court just before the noon recess, leaving the stand she walked quickly to where Mrs. Schenk sat and kissed the defendant. Each woman wept in the other's arms.

Prosecutor Handlan this afternoon bitterly attacked the credibility of Mrs. Tedges. He produced a note she was alleged to have written to Albert Schenk, brother of John Schenk, alleged head of a conspiracy against the packer's wife.

"No doubt you will be surprised when I take the stand against your sister in law," the note said. Handlan asks: "Did Albert bite?" Witness: "What do you mean?" Handlan: "You know you wrote that. You wanted to see if Albert wouldn't buy you off, didn't you?" Mrs. Tedges bristled and shouted: "No, no."

As soon as Prosecutor Handlan finished grilling Mrs. Tedges the state began the examination of 80 rebuttal witnesses particularly respected credibility of Dr. Myers.

MOTHER AND HER FOUR BABES BURN

Wife of Manager of Fairbanks Scale Company With Four Children Loses Life When Home Burns.—Lived In Toronto.

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 21.—Five persons met their death and another was taken to the Western hospital badly burned as the result of a fire which destroyed the residence of Percy Brooks, manager of the Fairbanks Scale company of Toronto, at No. 4335 Indian road early today. It is believed the fire started from a defective furnace.

The dead are: MRS. PERCY BROOKS and her four children. Brooks is at present in Chicago on business.

The bodies of two of the children were found on the first floor in the bath room while the body of Mrs. Brooks and her two youngest children was discovered in her bedroom on the second floor. The positions of Mrs. Brooks' body indicated that she had thrown herself before her children as a shield from the flames.

The fire was discovered by a neighborhood, T. McAvish who turned in the alarm. Despite the efforts of the firemen the house was destroyed. The woman was burned almost beyond recognition and a servant girl, Violet Martin, was badly burned and taken to the hospital.

BOTH HANDS ARE BLOWN TO BITS

One Eye Is Lost and Small Hope Is Held Out for His Recovery—Was Carrying On Experiments With Chemicals In His Home.

LITTLE DAUGHTER IS ALSO BADLY BURNED

Mother In Next Room at Time of Explosion — Ruptured Vein Bursts Endangering Life.

In full view of his baby daughter H. C. Riedel of Gold Hill had both of his hands completely blown off yesterday when chemicals with which he was experimenting at his home exploded. Besides the injuries to his hands, which necessitated their amputation, fragments of the tin pan in which he was mixing the chemicals cut him about the face and ruptured a blood vessel in his neck so badly that it burst shortly afterwards. His left eye was almost blown out of his head and surgeons attending him at the Gold Hill hospital hold out little hope of his recovery.

The little girl who was standing beside him suffered burns about the face.

Riedel, who is a miner by occupation, was working on the invention of a new friction match which would ignite even though it had once been wet. The chemicals he was mixing in the improvised mortar were powdered red phosphorus sulphur and chlorate of potash.

A few minutes before the explosion Riedel turned to the child at his side and told her to run away as the material was almost dry and when in that condition easily combustible. She had turned to obey when both she and father were suddenly enveloped in a sheet of flame.

Immediately after the explosion neighbors who had been attracted by the noise summoned Dr. R. C. Kelsey. Tourniquets were applied to the man's wrists to staunch the flow of blood and he was rushed to the hospital.

Both hands were amputated and for a while it was believed that the patient would recover but the ruptured vein burst causing a loss of blood that may result fatally.

Mrs. Riedel who was confined to her bed in an adjoining room escaped injury.

FLOOD WRECKS COUNTY BRIDGE

Cement Approaches to New Structure Across Bear Creek Near Central Point Are Damaged by High Water.

The cement approaches to the new county bridge across Bear creek, near Central Point were displaced by the recent high water and travel over it at present is impossible, causing the orchardists in that section much inconvenience.

This bridge came into notice early last fall during the primary campaign when Joshua Patterson, county commissioner, was up for reelection. It was charged then that the cement work was not done in the proper manner.

The bridge approach on this side of the creek was swept out of place while the one on the opposite side is badly cracked. Those who have seen the structure since the flood of Tuesday say that the bridge will have to be practically rebuilt.

BOWERMAN IS DEADLY FOE OF PEOPLES' LAW

Attacks Rogue River Fish Bill In Senate—Evident He Has Not Forgotten Big Majority Given West In Jackson County.

HE IS COUNTED CHIEF ALLY BY HUME INTERESTS

He Seems to Be Devoting His Energies to Punishing His Political Enemies—Attacks Bourne.

SALEM, Jan. 21.—That Jay Bowerman is devoting his energies to punishing his political enemies is made clearer every day. His bitter attack upon Senator Bourne, his course on the eastern Oregon asylum and his assault upon Dr. Steiner and the state institutions, indicate that he is going to play politics throughout the session. It is also evident that he has not forgotten the big majority given West in Jackson county, for he went out of his way in his Bourne speech to attack the Rogue River fish law, southern Oregon's pet measure, passed by initiative last November, which he declared took the means of livelihood from a hundred families.

Bowerman is counted upon by the Hume forces to lead the fight to nullify the present law, and restore commercial fishing on the Rogue. He will have the support of the assembly element to a large extent. With this following and the support of the fishing interests, it is hoped to make a strong showing, though the fact that the law had such an immense majority of the popular vote, renders its repeal problematical.

Captain Eggleston has introduced a bill fixing fees for constables. Senator Von der Hellen has introduced a bill to prevent railroad rate discrimination and Representative Buchanan a bill to classify counties and place officials upon established salary basis, to do away with special legislative action for every increase in salary due to increase in growth of business a county.

EXHIBIT BUILDING TRANSFER SLOW

Negotiations Have Been Delayed Pending Completion of Details—Consent to Transfer Must Yet Be Received.

Transfer of the Exhibit building from John D. Olwell to the Commercial club is delayed pending completion of details. Before papers are signed consent of the Southern Pacific to the transfer must be received and it will be several days before their action is known.

At a conference Saturday between Mr. Olwell and members of the Commercial club committee appointed to conclude negotiations, a disagreement as to terms arose, which may delay final transfer. Mr. Olwell demanded \$500 cash, the balance (\$1500) to be placed in escrow until deed was turned over, and agreed to surrender possession upon April 1. This was not soon enough to suit the committee.

Pending receipt of word from the railroad as to the lease, the matter is up in the air. It is probable that a compromise will be reached and the affair amicably adjusted.

To find a better furnished room—perhaps at even less rent than you now pay—is surely a task worth a few hours of your time. Arm yourself with some clipped ads—and start on a "hittle journey!"

FUNDS ASKED FOR ASYLUM TO BE PARED

Over \$800,000 Asked and Committee Recommends That It Be Cut Down to \$579,000 Which Is to Cover All Expenses.

DR. STEINER GRILLED FOR MISMANAGEMENT

Legislative Committee Off to View Site Chosen by Bowerman for Branch Insaane Asylum.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 21.—From all indications the appropriation asked for by Superintendent Steiner for the asylum during the biennial period will be pared by the legislature to about two thirds the figures presented by Steiner.

The superintendent asked for an appropriation of \$812,375; the committee in reporting back to both houses late yesterday afternoon recommended that \$579,749 be appropriated to cover all expenses of the asylum, including improvements and further recommend that the asylum be investigated by the legislature. The report of the house committee declared the aims, purposes and uses of the state school for feeble minded have been perverted.

In the report Dr. Steiner was grilled for alleged mismanagement and extravagance and mention was made of the fact that an automobile was purchased with state money for use of the asylum officials despite the previous refusal of the legislature to appropriate money for the purchase of the big red car.

In explanation of the deficiency between the asylum expense and the appropriation Steiner declares the high cost of living is responsible.

The legislative committee named at the request of Governor West and State Treasurer Kay will leave Salem soon for Pendleton to view the site selected by Acting Governor Bowerman at that place for the branch asylum.

The committee will undoubtedly invite the committee of medical experts named by the board of trustees to accompany them. It will also select such engineer and medical experts as it deems necessary to advise it relative to the site. These experts will be selected by the committee in the first part of next week.

The purpose of the committee's visit will be to report to the legislature whether or not it deems the present location suitable for a building site.

ENGINEER IS SENT TO SALEM

Office of Good Roads In Response to Request of Chairman Von der Hellen, Instructs Heidel to Proceed to Capital.

The office of public roads, department of agriculture, acting upon a request made by Chairman Van der Hellen of the senate committee on highways, have ordered Benjamin F. Heidel, highway engineer and good roads expert, who has been in charge of the construction of the Crater Lake road, to proceed to Salem and there wait upon the committee of the legislature and furnish them such data and advice as they may require.

State aided highways are assured at this session and Mr. Von der Hellen in being given the chairmanship of this committee was placed in a responsible place, which is gratifying to his constituents in Jackson county.

LOCATION OF FEDERAL B'LD'G IS UNDER FIRE

Meeting of Citizens Held In Commercial Club Rooms at Which Committee Is Appointed to Ascertain Feeling of People in Matter.

WEST AND EAST SIDES BOTH AIR THEIR VIEWS

Judge Kelly Acts as Chairman—Dr. Pickel Points Out Steady Growth of West Side.

In order to determine the attitude of residents of Medford generally towards the site recently selected by the federal authorities for the location of the new postoffice and government building, a committee of three business men were appointed at a meeting held in the Commercial club rooms last night to make a canvas which, when completed, will be submitted at a mass meeting to be held in some designated hall.

Although the meeting was called by persons favoring the sending of a protest against the site to the postoffice authorities, a number of men favoring the location were present and arguments along both lines were made.

The theories advanced by those not in favor of the present site centered around the fact that at the present time the business center of the city is located at the junction of Central avenue and Main street and that the probabilities are that activities will radiate from that center for some time to come by virtue of the fact that that point is also midway between the two railway passenger stations.

Another point advanced in favor of keeping the postoffice on the east side of the Southern Pacific track was that the junction of the four highways over which the rural and suburban patrons of the Medford postoffice must travel is located at Riverside avenue and Main street.

E. E. Kelly, who was appointed chairman of the meeting, stated that his opposition to the present location was not based on property interests but on the grounds that in placing of the postoffice in a position closer to the business center of the city as a whole would be better served. Dr. J. G. Goble favored a protest and based his contention on the belief that the next few years will see the better residential district located on the east side of Bear creek. He maintained that in the near future there would be not one but several bridges thrown across that stream and that expansion is as likely in that direction as towards the west. Numerous sites between the two present passenger stations, it was advanced, could be obtained by the government which would place the postoffice within the 80-rad limit inside of which the mails would be transported to and from trains at the expense of the carrying railroad; that the matter was one for the people, who pay the taxes that will build a federal building and for whose convenience such an institution is conducted, and not a few property or business interests to decide. The appropriation for the building, now already made, they claimed could not be withdrawn by the government and that so long as the building was an assured fact the decision of a government official who might never even see Medford again much less be himself placed to any inconvenience by a mistake in the location of the postoffice should not be allowed to be final in the minds of the major portion of the patrons of the proposed building it be inaccessibly placed.

The chief argument advanced by those favoring the Sixth street site was the fact that that location, being near the present center of population, which they placed at the point where the Washington school

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