

Items of Interest From the Rogue River Valley

ASHLAND REPORT SHOWS PROGRESS DURING THE YEAR

ASHLAND, Dec. 20.—A very interesting forum luncheon was given by the chamber of commerce at the Hotel Ashland Tuesday noon. The topic for the luncheon was, "What We Have Accomplished for Ashland in 1923." This was thought very appropriate for this luncheon as it is the last one that will be given this year. The different civic organizations of the town gave reports, all of which were very interesting and profitable. The first report was given by Mrs. L. M. Wright, president of the Civic club. Mrs. Wright brought out the fact that the Civic Club house is a great advertising asset to Ashland, more especially so because it is open to tourists during the summer months. Last month people from coast to coast visited the club house. The place is free to the Red Cross, county health nurse and to the parent-teachers, except that the latter pay for the fuel when using the building. It is also open twice a week in the evening for teachers and other women employed during the day. The floral committee is beautifying the grounds and is also making plans for beautifying the whole street. After this report a vocal solo was given by Mrs. W. R. Henry followed by a piano solo by Mrs. Ray Dix.

Mrs. Louis Dodge, president of the Parent-Teachers council gave a very good report, saying that \$115 worth of equipment had been placed in the children's playground in Lithia park during the summer and a balance of \$85 is still on hand to start the work next year. Credit was given to the Lithians for aid in raising money for the playground fund. Free swimming lessons were given any child who cared to take them during the summer. A drinking fountain at a cost of \$178 was installed at the Hawthorne school. The P. T. A. state convention which was held for one day here was also a splendid advertisement for Ashland. Public interest was aroused by the recent budget election, resulting in a "much larger vote than usual." The big project for this year is a playhouse for the junior high school, towards which \$100 has been raised. Miss Marion Leach, representing the student body speaking first of the Ashland Boys' band, which is a great asset to Ashland, as it is one of the largest bands in the community. Some of the boys in this band played in the regular town band during the summer. The "Rogue News" which is published semi-monthly by the student body is also a great advertisement to Ashland, not only because of the circulation it has in town, but of the large exchange list that it has, papers being sent to high schools all over the country. The students of the school also keep the grounds of the high school in shape, impressing tourists

and visitors from other towns who see the school very favorably. Mrs. J. W. McCoy, representing the P. E. O. told of the high ideals and worthy work of this organization. J. H. Fuller, representing the Lithians said that they were organized with the idea of training the younger men for chamber of commerce work. Their motto is, "We Get Things Done." They put on the last Fourth of July celebration, aided financially by the chamber of commerce, but next year they plan to give the celebration without any outside assistance. Their octette is one of the best boosting cards known to Ashland. W. M. Wright represented the Kiwanis, stating that although a new organization, had been able to assist some in helping underprivileged children. They expect to be of great use to the town in the future. President F. C. Homes of the chamber of commerce told how they had co-operated with the farmers, fruit growers, and dairymen. He spoke of the Ashland exhibit at the Jackson County fair, with special thanks to the Civic Club ladies. Then he told of the wonderful success of the Winter fair and stated that Mr. Brewster of the Northwest Poultry association urges the chamber to apply for state appropriation in order that this fair may assume larger proportions in the future. Assistance was rendered the Ashland Cannery which has had a most prosperous year. The chamber assisted in securing 21 acres of land for the Hartman Syndicate and also aided in road building to these holdings. The summer normal school was brought about by the work of the chamber and Supt. Briscoe. They also helped the local Guard to obtain members, so that now it is one of the foremost companies in the state. A military pageant was given last June and the Coos Bay caravan and the Cherrians were also entertained during the summer. Rev. Chaney, president of the Ministerial ass'n reported that all of the churches are more prosperous than ever before and the membership and attendance is increasing steadily, which indicates that Ashland is growing and prospering.

Mrs. L. M. Wright, president of the Civic club will leave for Oakland Friday to spend Christmas with her brother there. Mrs. C. T. Payne returned Sunday from a trip to Oakland, returning by way of Sacramento. Mrs. Payne took her mother, Mrs. James Wells, to Oakland to visit her daughter, Mrs. Cole. Mrs. Payne visited her two sons at Sacramento.

Donald Fraser will return Friday from Eugene where he is attending the University of Oregon. Mrs. Fraser will accompany him on his return to that place and will enroll in the university the first of the year.

Jack Brady will return Thursday from Corvallis where he has been attending O. A. C. He will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents on Allison street.

Miss Edith Moody and Zenas Moody who have been living at Portland, will return home for the Christmas vacation. They are expected Saturday.

WASHINGTON.—Representative Hill, republican, Maryland introduced a bill to allow each congressional district to decide for itself whether the sale of beverages of 2.75 per cent of alcoholic content be permitted.

SIX ACRE RANCH ON WAGNER CREEK SELLS FOR \$5000

By Mary O. Carey.
EDEN PRECINCT, Dec. 20.—Six acres of land on Wagner creek have sold for five thousand dollars; this is the price of some of the land in the Talent district. Mrs. Sula Dean last week completed the sale of her home on Wagner creek to A. J. Sells, who took possession of the place immediately. This was formerly known as the Bob Robinson place and all the old timers remember it thus. It is one of the cosiest places along the Wagner creek road. Since there has been a walnut grove planted on the place it has become one of the finest little places in that neighborhood.

We are pleased to announce that Mr. and Mrs. Gus Samuels of Medford have purchased the grove opposite the Fay place just north of Phoenix on the Pacific highway. They will make an auto camp out of the grove, which is one of the most ideal on the entire stretch between Ashland and Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuels were former residents of this locality. Mrs. Samuels being a teacher in our public school for a number of terms. Their many friends will gladly welcome them back among us. The grove is now being thoroughly cleaned of all dead underbrush and fallen limbs and trash. The many little necessities of a good camp ground will be added in the coming weeks, then the buildings will be constructed.

Mr. and Mrs. George Croy, former residents of Phoenix, were at the home of Mrs. Croy's uncle, James Allen, this week, and left for their home in California to spend the holidays with Mrs. Croy's son who is attending college at Berkeley, Calif.

J. W. Watkins of North Talent has been delivering some fine fir wood to Noah Chandler this week from his timber tract on Coleman creek. It takes the best part of a day to deliver a load since the roads have become so soft.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Corliss of West Talent started by auto for Portland on Thursday of this week. They were accompanied by Mrs. Lilly Blackwood as far as that city, when she will be met by Mrs. Slane to whose home she intends to go for the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Corliss will visit with Mr. Corliss' parents in Portland.

Will High of Talent purchased a new Ford car last week, which is fully equipped with all the modern necessities. Mr. High traded in his old car which was in very good repair.

Fred Purdy of Phoenix went to Benicia, Calif., this week to spend the holidays with his son, Milo Purdy, and family. Milo is head man in the mixing department of the big spray dope factory at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Carless of Phoenix left Tuesday for Victoria, B. C., to visit Mrs. Carless' daughter, Miss Dorothy, who is attending col-

lege at that place; also to visit her mother who lives at Seattle.

The Blue Flower Lodge of Phoenix had several Portland people stopping at the lodge the first of the week. They expect a number during the holidays who will want to visit the valley.

CO-OPERATIVE TO BUILD NEW HOUSES IN GOLD HILL

GOLD HILL, Dec. 20.—(Special).—The Gold Hill Cooperative Development company recently organized and incorporated by the business men of Gold Hill expressly for the purpose of promoting the building of dwelling houses in Gold Hill are preparing to begin the construction of two modern five room buildings at once. The company has purchased the four lots below the Kellogg office building formerly belonging to the Chas. Erlwein estate. These lots are the choicest building sites in the city already graded and a heavy cement sidewalk facing on 4th avenue side, the street facing the railroad reserve. Wm. H. Miller has been appointed general manager of the company by the board of directors and will have immediate charge of all the construction work and the purchasing of building materials and supplies. The company proposes to buy building materials in car load lots and will do some jobbing trade in connection with the building operations. There are many buyers for proposed dwellings and other sites will be procured and buildings erected as soon as the first two buildings are completed.

There have been several changes in the business houses in Gold Hill the past week. Mrs. Lillie B. McIntosh (nee McClelland) of Gold Hill, and her son S. A. McIntosh recently from Lovelock, Nevada, who recently fitted up the White Star grocery at considerable expense in the concrete building recently vacated by the Aug. Schuerman grocery after doing business for a month have sold their business to Wm. H. Miller & Son, who recently opened a wholesale feed and supply store next door. Young McIntosh has returned to his former home in Nevada and will re-engage in business at Lovelock. The Millers will continue to operate the two business establishments together under one head. The two store buildings and warehouse were formerly occupied by the Schuermans moved their business to Ashland and occupy their own store building on Boulevard avenue in Ashland.

A. W. Lewis who has been operating the City Meat Market the past two years has sold his butcher business to John Pickard, an experienced butcher and packer, last year from Montana. Mr. Pickard was employed at the local cement plant a short time last winter but has been residing with his family in Medford the past few months and employed by Ed Binns in his several butcher shops in Medford. Mr. Lewis was formerly in the butcher business in Central Point with his brother in that city and they will again unite their forces in Central Point. The Lewis family will return to their old home in Central Point which has been rented during their absence and the Pickards will occupy the Harrison dwelling in Gold Hill vacated by Mr. Lewis.

The Methodist Episcopal Church Gold Hill, Oregon.
A union of all denominations.
Rev. W. J. Call, pastor.
Sunday school at 10. A. E. Kellogg, supt. Morning worship at 11. Sermon by the pastor.

The Sunday evening services will be taken up by the Sunday school Christmas program with the annual Christmas tree. The committee in charge are making a special effort to make this a Sunday evening program and to excel all former Christmas celebrations in the church.

Regular prayer meeting service at the church Thursday evening at 7:30.

RIVERSIDE RIPPLES

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Elliott and Mrs. Beatrice Jones attended the show, "Prosperity," in Grants Pass on Friday night.

Miss Nellie Jacobs and Mrs. Chas. Wahl were Grants Pass visitors Friday.

Don't miss the masquerade ball at the Riverside Community Club house on Saturday night, Dec. 22. Cash prizes will be given.

Mrs. Beatrice Jones, Mrs. George Kettle and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Champin were shopping in Medford on Wednesday.

A delightful meeting of the Recreation club was held at the home of Mrs. Chas. Wahl on Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Wahl and Mrs. G. W. Matthews being hostesses. Those present were Mrs. Geo. B. Alden, Mrs. John Butler, Mrs. Fred Wahl, Mrs. Roe, Mrs. R. W. Engel and son, George of Medford, Mrs. L. H. Pickett of Central Point, Mrs. Bruce of Minneapolis, Mrs. Fred O'Kelley of Rogue River, Mrs. M. W. Jacobs, and Miss Nellie Jacobs of Riverside. Mrs. Beatrice Jones, Mrs. George Kettle and Mrs. Chas. Champin of Foothills creek.

Miss Virginia Gray of Rogue River spent the week end with Miss Daphne Matthews of Foothills creek.

The Foothills creek school will close Friday for a week's vacation.

LIGHTBODY HOME WILLOW SPRINGS DESTROYED BY FIRE

WILLOW SPRINGS, Dec. 20.—When Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lightbody returned from a shopping trip to Medford Wednesday noon, they found their home at the Millionaire mine entirely destroyed by fire. The fire was caused from a defective flue, and there was no insurance on the building or its contents. The house itself was of little value but the loss of furnishings, books, furs, and articles collected while the family were abroad, will be severely felt.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Porter and daughter, Hildegard, leave the end of this week for Chico to spend the holidays with Mrs. Porter's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hoagland, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Hoagland and small son expect to motor down, also.

The Willow Springs school closes Friday for a two week's vacation. The community Christmas tree and entertainment will be given Saturday evening, December 22 at the school house, beginning promptly at 7:30.

Wednesday afternoon of last week.

Mrs. W. B. Harris entertained the ladies of the neighborhood at a tea in honor of Mrs. J. W. Elden's house guests.

Mrs. Georgiana Elden and Miss Sarah Morgan of Elburn, Illinois, who have been the guests of relatives here for the past six weeks, left Tuesday morning for Santa Anna, where they will visit friends and later take an apartment for the remainder of the winter.

Miss Edith Nichols, who has been ill with measles the past two weeks is again able to be out. Miss Nichols will not attend school until after the holidays.

The Southern Pacific is putting in a block signal system through the valley. A large gang of men are now working near Seven Oaks.

Roland Birkholz leaves Saturday morning to spend the holiday season with his friend, Ralph Elden, in Portland. He will return the second of January.

PASSENGER FARES TO ASTORIA ARE REDUCED

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 21.—The public service commission today granted by telephone permission to the Spokane, Portland and Seattle railway company to reduce passenger fares between Portland and Astoria.

The new rates which are to become effective on one day's notice, will be two cents a mile as against the present rate of three cents a mile. The new rates include a \$3 round trip between Portland and Astoria.

HOLD BIG TURKEY SHOOT AT ROCK POINT SUNDAY

ROCK POINT, Dec. 20.—J. L. Kershaw and P. J. McQuat will hold a turkey shoot at Rock Point Sunday. Mr. Kershaw made a trip to his ranch at Wellen on Thursday and returned with about a hundred turkeys for that purpose.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Robbins and daughter and Miss Dorothy Robbins were among out of town shoppers in Medford Monday.

Miss Edith Campbell and Messrs. Willis and Richard Pruitt of Medford were guests of Miss Martha Porter Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Robbins spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Briscoe at Talent.

Mrs. Chartraw of the Sleepy Hollow ranch was a Medford visitor Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ganfield and children were hunting Santa Claus in Medford on Monday.

Harris Porter has returned from Corvallis where he is attending school and will spend the holidays at home.

Miss Alice Harper and Mrs. Rose Gay joined the mob of Christmas shoppers in Medford last Saturday.

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