

# The Hood River Glacier.

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HOOD RIVER, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1913

No 45



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## COMBINE PLANS CONSUMMATED

UNION RATIFIES CENTRAL AGENCY

At Annual Meeting Stockholders Instruct Board to Proceed with Coalition—Old Directors Re-elected by Acclamation

When the vote of Union stockholders had been taken Saturday on the question of amalgamation, the agitation which throughout the past month has aroused much interest among the apple growers than any other problem ever having confronted them, the audience in tense expectancy awaited the result, and when W. B. Dickerson, president of the Union, announced that the resolution authorizing the board of directors to lease the property of the concern to the federated association, had been carried by a prolonged cheering followed. The amalgamation plans were consummated and the stockholders had finished the most strenuous annual meeting ever held.

According to the laws of Oregon it was necessary that a resolution to carry receive a two-thirds majority of the stock of the concern issued, which amounted to 4,700 shares. The stock of the organization represented in person or by proxy amounted to 3775 shares. The resolution was carried favorably for the central selling plan was \$198, with 419 against.

The meeting lasted from 10:30 Saturday morning until six o'clock in the evening. No meeting of the Union has ever been so characterized by such heated argument. A. I. Mason was spokesman for the opposition and minority. Mr. Mason made several addresses, raising objections, on which he has based former criticisms. He declared that the price to be paid the National Apple Co. was to high and the coalition of the Apple Growers Union and the Davidson Fruit Co. should be formed by sale outright to the new concern. The repartee between Mr. Mason and exponents of the federation at moments grew warm.

The old board of directors of the Union, composed of W. B. Dickerson, Albert Sutton, C. W. Hooker, F. G. Hutchinson, L. E. Clark, O. L. Walter, Dr. Stanton Allen, John H. Mohr and L. E. Ireland, was re-elected by acclamation. However, it was announced that three of the old members will not be able to serve for the ensuing year. Albert Sutton and F. G. Hutchinson will resign from their positions because of the press of other business, and Dr. Stanton Allen will retire from the board because of ill health. Because of the lateness of the hour Saturday evening no ballot was taken on the directors and the growers endorsed Frank Kench, A. S. Smith and A. W. Stone, who were suggested for appointment to fill the vacancies. Geo. I. Sargent expressed for the stockholders of the Union their gratitude for hard work done by the old board during the year. He declared that the stockholders should not let the responsibility rest all on upon the shoulders of the directors, and officers of the concern but that they should cooperate with them. Peter Mohr said: "One of the troubles of the Union is that too many Union members ship through other organizations."

The meeting was opened Saturday morning by the reading of minutes and the report of the board of directors. In this report it was stated that it had been the custom to make returns on pools of apples as soon as all sales were made and the returns were in. But the board of directors recommended that this be changed and that the growers receive a substantial advance when the apples are delivered.

The report called attention to the increased facilities of the Union and the improvements made during the past year. With the new storage building, the agency now has a storage capacity of 175,000 boxes. A new arrangement has been entered into with the O. W. R. & N. Co., from which the property on which the buildings are located is leased. Formerly the directors were only able to secure a lease from year to year. Now the lease is extended for a period of 15 years, and the handling of bonds of the concern is facilitated.

The report had the highest praise for the manager, Wilmer Sieg.

Attention was called to the fact that the Blue Diamond brand of the Union had been copyrighted, and that a penalty was attached to violations of the copyright law when an individual shipped fruit wrapped with this label. The Union has begun this year to handle bluestone, lime sulphur and other spray materials and spraying machinery, besides giving its members the benefit of the purchase of quantities of hay, grain and other products needed on the orchard.

While the sales of fruit had not been as satisfactory as one could expect, the report stated, Hood River's apples have been excellently packed and the reputation the "Good" fruit has made in the market is an asset. All apples have been insured during the past year. The fire at Wenatchee last fall was a warning against failure to insure fruit in storage. Action has been taken looking to a sinking fund for the bonds of the organization.

The directors' report was followed by that of Manager Wilmer Sieg, who impressed on the growers' minds the importance of different methods of selling and distribution. Mr. Sieg pointed out the weak points of marketing during the past year and called the attention of the growers to the enormous amount of apples still left in storage this season at the beginning of spring. It was hoped, he said, that the freeze in the Southern California orange groves would prove a saving to the apple market. "It is a better," he declared, "for if the many thousand cars of oranges had been sent to market with the wonderful system of distribution controlled by the citrus associations, it would have meant disaster for the apple market."

Mr. Sieg stated that the Union had been looking toward a larger and foreign distribution of the fruits. "We want to get into Philippine and Chinese markets and enter a field that is almost too large for the human mind to comprehend."

One of the most interesting portions of his report to the growers was that on warning against the planting of ordinary varieties. "We cannot expect even a fair price for the ordinary stuff," he said. "The delay in top grafting such varieties is just so much of a delay in the success of the commodity." Nor would he advise the in-

creased planting of Jonathans and Gravensteins. "I can't read the future of the Oriley," said Mr. Sieg. "It seems to me but an aristocratic name for the old Greasy Pippin. Winter Bananas are good sellers, only when extra fancy, and most of our Winter Bananas have been choice during the past year. The Delicious is a good variety.

"As to pears, the d'Anjou is a profit maker. The winter Nellis lacks the bronze color necessary to make it attractive.

"Indiscriminate shipping must be discouraged. We should have one shipping concern for all classes of stuff.

"During the past season up to the time of Mr. Sieg's report, the Union had shipped 380 cars of apples, which had been distributed in 45 cities and 30 states of the Union. Union apples had gone to 12 foreign countries. The organization had shipped pears to seven cities of the United States. While a full and complete estimate cannot be made on prices of the fruit, owing to the fact that all has not been sold and that all returns are not in, Mr. Sieg's report was gratifying to the growers and will show a better return than any other northwestern district.

As to whether or not the local central selling agency will join hands with the Northwestern Distributors of Spokane is still problematical. The growers have left the matter with the board of directors. H. F. Davidson, who is Hood River's trustee on the Distributors' board, in an address to the growers Saturday told them that the plans of the concern organized at Spokane if properly worked out might terminate in the best results for all the districts. Fitted on the curtain of the stage of the Helbronner hall were exhibited two interesting charts.

The percentage of the Hood River valley crop as to varieties, as shown on one of the charts, is as follows:

Newtowns, .229; Spitz, .241; Bon Davis, .089; Baldwin, .074; Jonathan, .059; Black Twig, .037; Oriley, .027; King, .021; Gravensteins, .02; Arkansas Black, .009; Red Cheek Pippin, .008; Wagner, .008; Stark, .007; Gano, .006; Winter Banana, .005; Swaar, .005; Greening, .005; Hyde's King, .004; Winesap, .004; Russets, .004; Northern Spy, .003.

Nearly a hundred other varieties are grown in the valley, but in such small proportions as to make them absolutely uncommercial.

The percentages of the main varieties as to their grades run about as follows:

Extra Fancy Fancy Choice  
Delicious .49 .259 .051  
Arkansas Black .57 .188 .138  
Winesap .67 .222 .054  
Newtown .593 .155 .129  
Spitzenburg .573 .228 .142  
Oriley .487 .17 .22  
Jonathan .498 .42 .11  
Red Cheek Pippin .341 .429 .23

The new central selling organization will take the form of a coalition of the Union and the Davidson Fruit Co.

The plan of the National Apple Co. will be purchased for \$25,000. The new concern will be controlled by a board of nine trustees.

The nomination of these trustees will be made each year at the stockholders' meeting. Mr. Davidson stated that he is perfectly willing for the Union to name the trustees, which power is given by the Union's majority representation of stock, provided representative men from different parts of the valley were chosen.

## Yakima Fruit Pledged to Distributors

All of the 22 districts represented in the Yakima Valley Fruit Growers' association pledged their fruit to the North Pacific Fruit Distributors as a selling agency Friday, the tonnage represented being about 2200 cars, says a dispatch from North Yakima to the Portland Journal. The Horticultural union will make no terms with the new selling agency, and will probably market through the Northwest Fruit Exchange.

Though it was announced that the meeting was to be a representative affair, every fruit selling company, whether cooperative or stock, being welcome to come and discuss, it was quickly apparent that it was merely a meeting to carry through a pre-arranged program.

Immediately following the endorsement of the new selling agency, J. E. Shannon, a trustee of the Yakima Valley Fruit Growers' association, rose to move that the association be designated as the sub-central for the district represented by Yakima, Kittitas, Benton and Franklin counties, which carried. President W. M. Nelson, of the Horticultural union then arose and said that this action shut out the Horticultural union, that his association indeed had received no notification of the meeting in time to send delegates and that he believed that it had not been at any time desired that the union come in on the plan. He made the statement, he said, so that if later it were charged that the union had selfishly remained out of the plan, it might be known that it had had no choice in the matter. The union represents about 800 carloads of fruit.

J. H. Robbins, manager of the Yakima association, who is to be manager of the selling agency if the plan goes through, was on the floor during most of the meeting explaining plans.

## Oregon to Remain Intact

Assurance has been given from Washington that the famous old Battleship Oregon will not be dismantled and broken up, as was feared, but it will be retained in commission as a part of the Pacific reserve fleet, with headquarters at the Puget Sound navy yard. Advice has been received to this effect in response to petitions from the state that the old sea fighter be saved from destruction.

## Cornell Buys Motorcycle

Ward Ireland Cornell, the Upper Valley real estate man and one of the most enthusiastic promoters of that community's interest, has just purchased from the Gilbert Implement Co. a handsome Indian motorcycle. The machine has a tandem seat and Mr. Cornell will give his listeners the pleasure of spins over the community's roads.

## All Citizens May Vote Today

In the election that will be held today to submit to the vote of the people the proposed amendment of the city charter, all citizens will have the privilege of the ballot, whether they are property holders or not. Those entitled to the ballot must have resided in the state at least six months and in the city for a period of three months.

## SUPPORT HOWN FOR LIBRARY

MASS MEETING IS WELL ATTENDED

Citizens Urged to Vote for Charter Amendment—Qualifications of Electors Explained

If but an atom of the enthusiasm that prevailed at the mass meeting of men and women at the Commercial club Tuesday night pervaded the atmosphere today, the special election will result in an amendment to the city charter, and the city council will be enabled to proceed to secure a suitable site for the county library. The assembly room of the Commercial club was well filled Tuesday evening when Mayor Blanchard called the meeting to order. A limit of ten minutes was placed on the time to be consumed by speakers and Secretary Scott, of the Commercial club, was made referee.

Prof. J. O. McLaughlin, principal of the city schools, and secretary of the library board, was the first speaker. Prof. McLaughlin told in a general way of the way money for libraries were expended. "The success with which the local institution has already met is impressive," he said. "We have found that we need books, the library was opened six and one-half months ago. During the two weeks of September 395 books were distributed. Now, with the branches established in the valley, we are distributing each month 2200 books. There are 372 barrows in the city now. The money appropriated by the Carnegie corporation was based on the population of the county."

J. E. Robertson, the councilman who is a member of the library board, next took the floor. "I believe in a library for the community," said Mr. Robertson. "The time is ripe for the establishing of such an institution. And it appeals to our pride that we should have a commodious site for the building. The problem as to financing the council caused us to devote a great deal of thought as to the best way to work out a means of securing the money. Some of us thought that the more provisions our charter contained for the issuing of bonds, these bonds would be just that much less desirable to purchasers. However, we have included a provision in the proposed amendment to the charter, that the council can only spend a sum not to exceed \$7,000 for the purchase of library or park property. When this sum is exceeded, the matter will again have to be put up to a vote of the people. Some have heard to say that the taxes are high and times are hard, but the tax, if \$4000 cash were paid for the lot that it is thought best to buy would be only 194 cents on each \$1000 of assessed valuation in the city. The price of the lot offered the city is considered a reasonable proposition."

Mrs. R. D. Gould, chairman of the Woman's club committee, told of how the women had always desired to secure a library for the city and how they had worked to secure the vacant street property. "We had two things in view," she said, "We wanted the library and we wanted to save the handsome oak trees there. The women spent \$80 last year in improving the property. We think there is opportunity to secure the additional property and to make it a beautiful site for our library. If we do not do this a change may take place in the ownership of the property. We may have a Japanese laundry there, and the oaks may be cut up into stove wood."

Mrs. W. W. Remington stated that she spoke as a newcomer. "Hood River is noted for its beautiful scenery. There is no more beautiful place in the world for a library," she said, "and the institution is a gem that has been offered us. All we have to do is rear the prongs of a setting and secure it for ourselves." Mrs. W. H. Lawrence called attention to the fact that we did not need the library for the fiction that we might obtain there. "We want it for reference books. And furthermore we want a safe place to send our children for books we want to know that they will be safe. The site that is proposed is in a centrally located in a quiet community. If the library were located on the corner property how do we know but that our children might in their journeys to and from the place come in contact with the men and women called to the court house to trial or as witnesses? We need to establish the library here among our oaks and make it another rich asset for Hood River county."

Rev. J. R. Hargreaves told the people that they would not miss the \$4,000 asked for the site. "We pay the teachers of our schools, for we want good instructors. Well, our librarian is a professor of reading. Her work is more important than that of any other teacher or preacher in the city," he said. "Don't let us have to regret in after years that we have failed to secure a suitable place and adequate room for our library."

Rev. B. A. Warren, rector of the Episcopal church of The Dallas and president of the library board there, and who during his preparation for the ministry had 10 years of experience as a librarian, said: "Give your public institutions room to grow. Because we are a small community does not keep us from needing books any more so than if we were a large center." Mr. Warren told that the Carnegie corporation had no strings on the site secured for the building. "I had always thought he required that the name 'The Carnegie Library' be placed across the front of the building but I was down at Salem recently and I find that over the door there appears the name, 'The Salem Public Library.'"

Mrs. J. E. Ferguson, of Odell, who has taken an active part in securing the branch library at Odell, told of the work of the women in that district. "We have 112 people making use of our library now," said Mrs. Ferguson. She told her listeners that the plans to secure the Oak covered lot were worthy. "We want to make the Hood River valley the garden spot of America. We want to get more tourists. I wonder what the people of southern California would give to have such natural assets as we are possessed of here."

Truman Butler next took the floor and made the motion that the city take proper steps to secure a library site.

(Continued on Last Page.)