

# JACKSONVILLE SENTINEL

ISSUED ON

FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK.

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Friday, January 22, 1904

### THE JACKSON CREEK ROAD.

The board of trade committee having charge of the proposed improvement to the Jackson Creek road and of the channel of Jackson creek have had to change their plans somewhat by reason of being unable to get the survey of the road made. The order authorizing the county surveyor to relocate the road so that the definite lines of it may be known can not be had until the regular session of the county court, which will be on the first Wednesday in February. This makes it impossible for bidders to make their estimates at the present time. The committee though are not losing time in carrying on preparations for the road work. It is the plan of the board of trade to secure if possible a fund of at least \$1000 for the road and creek improvement. It is expected to raise \$500 of this amount from the adjacent property owners along the road, the citizens of Jacksonville and the town of Jacksonville. The committee have their subscription paper prepared and it has been headed by Mr. Nunan with \$50 and by Miss Levy and Miss Kareuski owners of the Kareuski land, with \$50. The committee expect to secure \$50 each from Frank Bybee and Col. R. A. Miller, the other owners of land adjacent to the road, the balance of the \$500 to be subscribed by the citizens of Jacksonville and by the town, through an appropriation by the council. The county court as is their rule will give an equal amount thus bringing the amount up to the \$1000.

Now that the town has undertaken to improve the upper section Jackson Creek road and the creek channel the land owners along the lower section of Jackson creek are planning to open and straighten the channel of the creek through the farms. If this is done and Jackson creek given a straight deep channel it will eliminate danger of the farms along the creek being buried by a flood of tailings from the mines for the gravel would be swept on to Bear creek and thence on to Rogue river. But if the creek is not controlled it is but a question of the near future when hundreds of acres of the best alfalfa land in the Valley will be buried under a coating of gravel, entailing a loss of thousands of dollars to the land owners. These settlers are also planning to improve their section of the road from the Duncan place to the Bursell place, which if done will when the Jacksonville section is completed give a well graded road from Jacksonville to Central Point. With some additional graveling done on the Medford road there would also be a fine driveway between Jacksonville and Medford.

This road improvement will be to the business men and property holders of Jacksonville, one of the best investments that the town has ever made, for this road will enable the farmers to get to this place to do trading, give the public

better access to the county seat and give strangers a good impression of the town and the community. This road will cost considerable money but when Jacksonville once undertakes to do a thing it is accomplished and in no halfway manner either.

### THE CAMPAIGN IS OPENED.

Though it is more than four months until the state and county election is held for Oregon the campaign has been begun in Jackson county. Just at present Ashland is the storm center in the war. The Tidings opened the engagement with a brisk fire of taffy balls that was highly edifying to its favorite candidates and some what disconcerting to the other fellow. To this mild attack the Record responded with a heavy discharge from its big gun that was a strutting premonition as to what it would do when the campaign really opened.

One of Jacksonville's leading citizens was in the line of fire of these bellicose newspapers and between them they have given his candidacy for district attorney considerable prominence. The Tidings had this to say of Mr. Newbury:

Along the Republican ranks the name of Gus Newbury is mentioned for the position of district attorney. Gus is widely known and exceptionally popular. He is meeting with marked success already in his chosen vocation of the law, and would unquestionably make an admirable public prosecutor.

And the response of the Record was this:

Coiled up in a premature list of alleged candidates for county offices Ex-county clerk, Gus Newbury began the year by presenting the first section of his anatomy pointing toward the district attorneyship. Gus was retired last election from a four years pull at fat salaries drawn from the taxes of Jackson county people. He reluctantly gave up another nomination when he discovered he could not get it. Though making a little fortune out of four years of office holding it seems that fact has only whetted his appetite and it can only be appeased by four years more as district attorney. He was admitted to the bar—applicants seldom fail in Oregon—a few months ago and though he has appeared in court in a handful of Jim Crow cases he is prepared to ask the district to present itself as a law school and give him a liberal education and a fine salary in the bargain. Nominating conventions are peculiar bodies and no one can arrive at the workings of their judgment from any logical basis of reasoning. Prominent men have been seen presenting and urging the names of men in conventions for responsible positions who would never think of giving the same individual any of their private interests to attend to. The district has a number of experienced lawyers who are members of the Republican party and it may be just possible that the republican convention may not present the district with an option on a novice to educate.

The county court has ordered telephones placed in the court house, a convenience that will be greatly appreciated by all having business with the county officials. Now if the county court will have the circuit court room fitted for lighting with gas another very much needed convenience will be supplied. The present oil lamps make such a yellow feeble light that it is impossible for business to be carried on in the court room so soon as darkness comes on. In order to expedite business and thus shorten the term of court Judge Hanna would often hold evening sessions, but he cannot do this because of poor lights in the court room. The March term, soon to be held, will be in one of the busiest seasons of the year for the farmer and to those who may be jurymen or litigants every day spent in court is a very great loss and they would be willing to appear at evening sessions if thereby the term of court

would be shortened and they be at liberty to go to their homes that much sooner. As each day of court adds an expense of from \$25 to \$100 to the burden of the taxpayers, to shorten the term is a matter of economy to the county. Judge Hanna would readily hold evening sessions when there was a press of business and the county court would be but making a profitable expenditure for the county in having the court room properly lighted.

Jacksonville people may not care what strangers think about their sidewalks but for their own comfort they should put them in good condition. The holes in the stone and brick walks should be fixed and the broken boards in the plank walks repaired. The gravel walks in the residence parts of town have sections that are as muddy as a cow trail. Crushed granite is easily and cheaply had from the hills back of town and with a little extra coating from year to year it makes a clean, solid walk—a decided improvement on most of the walks in the town. A number of people have expressed a willingness to put granite on their walks but they hold back because no effort is made by the town authorities to compel derelict property owners to fix up the walks in front of their premises. If the council would judiciously exercise a little force and compel the sidewalks to be put in a respectable, passable condition the comfort, the peace and the prosperity of the town would be conserved and Jacksonville would be one step ahead in the march of progress.

The newspapers of Medford, Ashland and Grants Pass are decidedly easy victims on fake stories and the more improbable the story the more likely are they to bite. Recently one of them was taken in on a fake about inscriptions being found on the summit of Wagner butte that had been put there by Lewis and Clark when they visited this Coast a century ago and the other papers of the three towns were thoughtless enough to republish the yarn. Had these newspaper editors been up on history at all they would not have given credence to this story and thus added to the confusion that the general public has on so many historical matters. And now on a simple news matter are they imposed on again and one that they could easily have avoided had they read the big dailies. Their latest is that M. E. Kenna, father of E. D. Kenna, vice president of the Santa Fe railroad, died in Jacksonville, Oregon on last Sunday week. The facts in the case as given in the big dailies are that the well known capitalist died in Jacksonville Florida.

There is a likelihood that this Valley will have three or more automobiles this summer, the report being current that Dr. Pickel, C. H. Lewis and Olwell Bros. are each to purchase a machine. Several other persons are also planning to buy automobiles and it is probable that by

another year there will be several more machines in this valley and the time is not distant when they will be as numerous here as in the East. The coming of the automobile will be a most important factor to the good roads movement in Jackson county for those who buy automobiles are usually persons of means who in order to have good roads for their machines will liberally aid in the building of macadamized highways. The cause of good roads in Jackson county needs all the assistance possible and the help of the automobilists will be gratefully appreciated.

Medford's municipal indebtedness on January 1, as shown by Mayor J. R. Wilson's report was \$73,373.94. This is an increase of \$3,339 to the town's indebtedness since January 1, 1903. Medford's school indebtedness amounts to about \$18,000, making the total indebtedness of the city over \$90,000, which is almost as much as Jackson County's indebtedness. Jacksonville has heretofore been able to pride itself on its small, steadily decreasing indebtedness and very low rate of taxes, but that can not be said now of the town, for its taxes are 10 mills, only one mill less than Medford's and like Medford, the town expenses for this year have exceeded the income.

Ashland's new prohibition ordinance has gone into effect and the town will be "dry" for this year. The ordinance as prepared by City Attorney W. E. Phipps, and passed by the council at their last meeting, prohibits the sale of all liquor, except on the prescription of a licensed physician, within the city limits. The penalty for the violation of this ordinance is, a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$100, or imprisonment of not less than ten days nor more than 30 days in the city jail, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Old residents say that Jacksonvilles streets have presented this past year the most disreputable appearance in the history of the town. They do certainly look pretty tough but no worse than some sections of the public highways leading from Jacksonville that are also used as dumping places for all manner of refuse and rubbish. Nature gave Jacksonville a pleasing environment as handsome as any town in Oregon, but man has sadly marred its beauty.

The business of the livery stables of Jackson county decrease 75 per cent with the coming of the fall rains and muddy roads. Every other business affected by vehicle traffic suffers almost as great a loss during the winter months.

Many a life in a country home is jeopardized or lost by the long delay in getting the physician to the bedside of the sick one, caused by the impossibility of traveling fast over muddy, dangerous roads.

All candies 10 per cent cheaper for 30 days at the Boss.

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