

# JACKSONVILLE SENTINEL

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Friday, January 29, 1904

## FRUITGROWERS "CONFEDERACY" OR "UNION."

The annual meeting of the Hood River Apple Growers' union kept the members busy last Saturday from 11 o'clock in the morning until 3 in the afternoon. While there was some sharp difference of opinion as to methods of union operations, yet there was a general feeling that the majority should rule, and that by all means the union must be supported. At the close of the meeting, E. L. Smith delivered a short but able speech admonishing the apple growers to stand by the union. "If we don't," he continued, "the other fellows will pick our bones clean. The future success of the apple business in Hood River depends on the success of this apple growers' union."

A. I. Mason, president of the board of directors, presided. Mr. Mason read a short address, including a list of recommendations prepared by the directors. Those of the recommendations accepted by the union and made a part of the by-laws are:

1. The annual meeting of the union shall be held the first Saturday in April.
2. The board of directors shall not be elected in full each year, at least two of them holding over.
3. This organization, through its board of directors, shall have the exclusive and unqualified power to market all apples grown by any of its members. A contract between each individual and the board of directors will be required.
4. The manager of the union will be placed on a flat salary.
5. No union label shall be placed on an apple box, except by the manager of the warehouse, just before shipping.
6. Each packer will be held responsible for his own work by a system of fines. No fruit will be received unless put up by a packer employed by the union.
7. The union will have no packing house foreman, except those employed by the union.
8. The 3½ and 4½ tier pack is to be discontinued, and the diagonal pack encouraged where possible.
11. Apple box material must be better than that furnished last year.
12. Co-operation with the Hood River Fruit Growers' union is looked upon as worthy of consideration.

When the 3d resolution came up for adoption it roused a spirited debate; C. H. Sprout was very much opposed to such a ruling, declaring it took the control of the orchard out of the owner's hands. B. R. Tucker opposed the measure. F. C. Sherrib supported it, declaring he lost the difference between \$1.25 and 95c a box for his Baldwins because some of the union members refused to help fill a car when the directors considered it best to ship.

It remained for Mr. Mason to close the argument and turn the tide in the motion's favor. The directors, in their experience of the past season, found it nec-

essary to set the time when certain varieties of apples should be shipped. They were better able to do this than the individual grower, because reports are received by the manager by mail and telegraph as to market conditions in all parts of the world. Furthermore, to insure the union an honorable rating in the commercial world, the directors must be in a position to deliver the goods when they contract with a dealer for the sale of a carload of apples.

The above is a part of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Hood River Apple Growers Union as taken from the Hood River Glazier, and it is of special interest to the members of the Rogue River Fruit Growers Union, for this Union has been nearly wrecked this past year from the same causes that gave serious trouble to the Hood River Union. The Hood River fruit men found that a mere "confederacy" was of no practical value to them and that only through a "union" in all that the word implies could they secure the full benefits of co-operation. This "confederacy" idea is the rock that has well nigh wrecked the Rogue River Fruit Growers Union and if it is not abandoned it will prove its total destruction. As this union is now carried on its members are not bound to heed any order of the union and they can sell their fruit through it or not as they see fit. The result of this loose system is that the directors and manager are completely handicapped in carrying on the business of the union, for on the verbal promises of members to supply fruit they may go ahead and make contracts that they may be prevented from filling by reason of the growers changing their minds and refusing to let the union have their fruit. It is up to the fruit men to stand by their union loyally and give it their united support, or go it alone and then fall victims of the other fellows who will pick their bones clean as Hon. E. L. Smith told the Hood River growers. There is no half way point in unionism and the Rogue River fruit growers will find, as have the Hood River and the growers of other sections, that they must stand together, work together, and trust each other and make their organization a solid union and not a loose confederation. But to accomplish this they must first overcome the traditional distrust that farmers have for each other.

A complete system of Macadam roads for Jackson county would add not less than \$10 an acre to the value of all farming land in the county. To gain this increased value to the farmers of the county would cost not to exceed \$5 an acre yet a very great number of farmers are strongly opposed to having the levy for road taxes raised and are content to hibernate on their farms during the winter only getting out and wallowing through quagmires, called roads, when necessity compels them.

It has been a year since Jackson Creek road was damaged by the flood in Jackson creek and it has been a year since the contest began between the progressive element and the mossback element in Jacksonville as to whether this road should be rebuilt or left as it is, and the contest is not yet ended.

The emblem of the mossbacks of Jacksonville is the owl, the bird of ill-omen that will hoot in the empty houses of the town after the mossbacks have succeeded in stifling every movement for the upbuilding of Jacksonville.

Grants Pass is getting interested in the good road movement and a proposition is now under consideration for that town and Josephine county to go partners in the purchase of a rock crusher.

The Native Daughters are actively engaged in preparations for their Leap Year ball to be given Friday evening, Feb. 12th. Committees have been appointed and Boffa's orchestra engaged.

## HOOD RIVER TO HAVE FRUIT TRAIN.

Hood River never misses an opportunity to secure an advantage whenever even the least opportunity presents. Their latest point to gain is that of securing a special fruit train to be run during their strawberry season. It will be but a few years until there will be fast fruit trains sent out daily from Rogue River. It is not uncommon during the height of the shipping season, for six to eight refrigerator cars loaded with fruit to be sent out daily. How the Hood River Fruit Growers Union secured their special fruit train is told in the following from the Hood River Glacier:

E. H. Shepard and G. J. Gessling of the Fruit Growers' union did some effective work among the railroad people during the association meet at Portland last week. They made such a showing to the railroad people that they agreed to give the fruit shippers a strawberry special out of Hood River during the height of the season, running it on passenger train time, the shippers to furnish the railroad company with an estimate of the number of cars in the morning and they will start a light train out of Portland with just enough cars so that the strawberries will complete the train. This was Mr. Gessling's suggestion, and after the railroad people had it under consideration for a day, they came to the conclusion that this would be the best solution of the difficulty.

### Some Locals.

**Kraut at the Boss.**

Fred Luy, a Jacksonville boy whose barber shop in Medford is given the credit of being one of the finest on the Pacific Coast, has recently had built a fine residence in that town and from this week on he and Mrs. Luy will make it their home.

P. A. Bender, residing near Central Point, who was operated upon three months ago by Drs. Gale and Pleasants, for the removal of a cancerous growth in the region of the groin, has almost fully recovered from the operation, notwithstanding that he is an aged man, the operation being performed on his 72nd birthday, and he is now in good health.

The Indians may be dying out but the Redmen certainly are not, at least here in Jacksonville, for they have been gathering in the Palefaces at a lively rate of late, 24 having been put through the gauntlet to prove their worthiness to become braves in Oregonian-Pocahontis Tribe No. 1, and nearly half as many more are working up their courage to the point of trying the ordeal.

G. A. Dyson arrived back from Eugene Wednesday where he has been since the holidays with his family, and left the next day for the Yellow Jacket mine on Forest creek, which he and other Eugene parties are opening up. The work of driving a tunnel, which is now in 180 feet is being done by W. I. McIntyre and M. A. Gorder and the tunnel will be continued until the full extent of the ledge is known. The prospect is fine that the Yellow Jacket will prove to be a mine of much value.

C. R. Welch and his son Ernest have sold their interest in the Medford Furniture Company to their partners, F. W. Hollis and J. H. Butler, and will leave at

once for Baker City where they have bought the Queen City furniture store. Mr. Welch and Ernest have many friends in Medford who while regretting their removal wish them the largest prosperity in their new location. Messrs. Hollis and Butler are live business men and have done much toward building up the Medford Furniture Company to one of the largest establishments of the kind in Southern Oregon and that the trade of their firm will continue to increase under their efforts is a matter of certainty.

The suit for divorce brought by Herbert Darling against his wife Anna Darling was begun Thursday before Judge Hanna and will probably not be finished before Saturday. The parties are residents of Gold Hill and their trouble has divided the town into factions and has aroused considerable feeling, and more than 30 witnesses were at court about half on each side. Both are young people and have two little children. Darling, charges his wife with adultery and asks for the custody of the children. Mrs. Darling vigorously denies she has been untrue to her vows and on that ground resists the divorce and alleges that Mr. Darling is unable financially and otherwise to provide for the children. Mr. Darling is a well known working man of Gold Hill vicinity and Mrs. Darling is a daughter of J. B. Morelock of Gold Hill.

Ex-Sheriff Alex Orme, of Gold Hill, now mining superintendent for the Condor Power & Water Company, came to Jacksonville Wednesday evening and remained here until Thursday evening to greet his many friends, when he returned to his home. Mr. Orme has lately been sick with a severe attack of the grippe, but he is now gaining strength and expects to resume his work next week. Mr. Orme stated that the Condor Company would in about a month commence the work of installing a 20 stamp mill at the Braden mine to be operated by electric power from the Gold Ray station. The line for poles on which the heavy copper wires to carry the current will be strung has been surveyed. The line will be four miles in length and the poles will be set for it during March. Electric power will be used to operate the drills, hoisting and other machinery about the mine. Several thousand tons of rich ore is now blocked out and thousands of tons more is to be had that will make this one of the best producing mines in Southern Oregon.

Dr. E. B. Pickel was in Jacksonville Saturday in consultation with Dr. Gale on the serious eye case of Chris Keegan. The Doctor had the honor not usually given of having been the nominee on both tickets in the recent municipal election in Medford and was elected without a dissenting vote. Dr. Pickel is a strong advocate of good roads and contributed \$10 on his own offering to the fund now being raised by the Jacksonville board of trade for the improvement of the Jackson Creek road. As mayor of Medford the Doctor states that he shall use his best endeavors to have the streets and the roads leading to the town put in the best condition possible. He will favor for this year but expenditures of the road fund but for next year he hopes to have Seventh street and the Jacksonville road made into a fine macadamized street, from the S. P. depot to the limit of the Medford road district, which is a mile beyond the town limits and half way to the Grove school house. With the mile to be built by Jacksonville this spring and the two miles to be built by Medford next spring then would remain but two and a half miles of the Jacksonville-Medford road to macadamize, which when completed would make one of the finest driveways on the Pacific Coast.

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