

ROAD TAX AND EXTEND LIMITS Council Seeks Revenue for City Through Expansion

The City Council met in special session Monday evening with the following members present: Mayor Sills, Councilmen Wilkins, Obenchain, Crisler, Sanderson and Hanks. The principal purpose of the special meeting was to provide for a road tax. An emergency was declared and the following ordinance was passed and declared in effect.

"The city of Klamath Falls ordains as follows: That each male inhabitant of the city of Klamath Falls, between the age of twenty-one and fifty years, (except a person too infirm to perform labor and persons by law exempt), shall pay into the city treasury the sum of \$1.75 to be used for the improvement and repairing of streets and sewers of the city."

While this ordinance has been declared in effect and an attempt will probably be made to collect the tax, it is claimed, for more than one reason, to be improper and illegal. In the first place the ordinance has no title, and a title is a very important part of an ordinance. In the second place, it does not provide for the working out of the tax. Article 3 of section 93 which covers this ordinance says: "The common council shall have power and authority to levy and provide for the working of a city road tax within the corporate limits of said city and on streets and public highways thereof; and the council may, in its discretion, cause to be collected annually from each male inhabitant of this city between twenty-one and fifty years of age, etc., the sum of \$3, to be used for the improvement and repairing of streets and sewers of the city. The city council shall have power to direct by ordinance that all persons refusing to pay any street tax in money or labor be punished by imprisonment in the city jail, etc."

It will be seen that the ordinance as passed only provides for collecting the tax in cash and does not give the city the authority of accepting labor in payment of same. A recommendation was submitted for the extending of the boundaries of the city of Klamath Falls on Initiative petitions for amending city charters. Within the suggested boundaries would lie all of the present city, consisting of approximately 490 acres of platted and 250 acres of unplatted land and lake; also approximately 1500 acres of platted and 800 acres of unplatted land not included within the present city limits. This would include a greater part of the mountains on the east and west side of the town and a portion of Upper Klamath lake and a part of Lake Ewanna on the south.

According to the Initiative and Referendum act, granting to the cities and towns the right to enact or amend their charters, the people of Klamath Falls might vote to take in a greater portion of the county even against the wishes of the property owners and residents outside of the city limits. With the exception of one addition, the property proposed to be taken in has not over a dozen improvements. Some of the additions have no improvements except the survey stakes, and the greater portion of it is covered with rocks and sage brush. The members of the council discussed the matter quite extensively and the Mayor then appointed the council as a whole a committee to go over the proposed new boundaries with the city engineer. They will probably go over the ground within the next two weeks. It seemed to be the feeling of the council that a great portion of the proposed land should be left out, and only additions such as includes the property in the vicinity of the Catholic church and part of the Hot Springs, where the proposed depot is to be located, should be included.

County Court

County Court convened Wednesday and Judge Griffith and Commissioner Melhase put in the day checking over the books of the Clerk and the Sheriff. Commissioner W. A. Walker arrived in the city this afternoon to be in attendance at the session.

Most of the time of the court will be devoted to checking the books preparatory to the officers-elect assuming their positions. The new officers come in on the 6th and the outgoing ones are planning for vacations. County Clerk Chantain, together with his family, will leave for Spring Creek as soon as he is relieved by Clerk-elect DeLap. Roy Walker, one of the deputies in the clerk's office, will go to Ashland for the Charanga and upon his return will be employed on the assessment roll by Assessor Lee. Sheriff Obenchain has not definitely decided what he will do, but will likely go to the mountains.

In accordance with the order of the County Court declaring the county prohibition under the local option law the doors of all saloons in Klamath County were closed at midnight Tuesday. Large quantities of liquor were sold at wholesale before the time for closing the doors, and many of those who are fond of their little nip laid in a supply that will last for several days.

Some few of the places remained open to sell soft drinks and cigars and will continue this kind of a business. Ike Wright is one of those who will continue business at the old stand.

The petition for the writ of review will be heard by Judge Benson on July 7th, but in the meantime the order for prohibition is in effect.

Through tickets from Klamath Falls to all railroad points were sold for the first time yesterday. T. A. K. Fasset, the local agent for the Southern Pacific, now has a complete line of tickets on sale and has also received the regular checks for baggage so that the service for this city is now the same as if the trains were in operation into the city.

Owing to the fact that Saturday will be the Fourth of July the Directors of the Water Users' Association will meet at the office of the secretary Friday afternoon.

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The Fourth at Reservation

The great Fourth of July celebration in Klamath County will be held on the Indian reservation near Klamath Agency, according to the arrangements now being made. The plans provide for a joint celebration by whites and Indians at Klamath Council ground near old Fort Klamath.

One of the greatest features of the day will be the baseball game, now being arranged between the Indian team of Chemawa and the Klamath schools. This will be followed by horse racing and other field sports. The new steamer Mazama will be in commission and other boats will assist in conveying the visitors from this city to the grounds, and it is predicted that a big delegation from all over the country will spend the Fourth at the Agency.

Camping grounds have been arranged for the white visitors and every arrangement made for their convenience and enjoyment. The Council ground is one of the beauty spots of Klamath county, and it is an ideal spot for picnics, with its abundance of cool water, shade and green grass. Parties attending from the outside will take their lunches. The program is as follows:

July 3-8 to 9 A. M.—Indian religious exercises under direction of Rev. Grafious, missionary.

9 to 12—Miscellaneous sports, followed by dinner. In the afternoon there will be a concert held by the Klamath School Band; ball game by local nine; horse racing for prizes, no betting. In the evening there will be an exhibition of Paints gambling, and a war dance in costume.

July 4-8 A. M.—Indian council to arrange exercises. 10-Horseshoe parade in war regalia, representatives of several tribes participating. 11-Grand march from old Fort Klamath to Council ground, followed by patriotic exercises at the grave. Music by Indian band and glee clubs. Declaration read by an Indian. Chaplain, Rev. Hiram White, allotting agent. Oration by Captain O. G. Applegate, ex-U. S. Indian agent and Superintendent. All exercises under the direction of Hon. Horace G. Wilson, superintendent of Klamath Agency. In the afternoon there will be a base ball game between Chemawa and Klamath school nines, followed by horse racing and other field sports. In the evening Indian songs, followed by annual Fourth of July ball.

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Grants Pass Organizes "Big Stick" Club

Grants Pass citizens who have the welfare of the city at heart have organized a "Big Stick" club, whose aims and objects are most commendable.

The club is secret in its membership, which is limited to 23, the "skidoo" number, all members of the Commercial club. It is the purpose of the club to work, directly and indirectly, upon unprogressive citizens and force them into line for progress. The mossback does not know what is going on, but the strongest kind of pressure is brought to bear on him, and he is virtually forced to get in line or "skidoo."

Those big property owners who refuse to assist in boosting a town, although they profit more than anyone else by the efforts of those trying to force the place ahead, through the increased valuations of property, are the principal subjects worked upon by the club.

Grants Pass is to have paved streets, thanks to the efforts of this secret club. Protests from influential men and property owners threatened to block improvements, as they have blocked them at Ashland, but the club got busy, the protests were withdrawn, some of them under pressure, and the paving is to follow.

Because Grants Pass merchants refuse to pay farmers cash for produce they are barred from membership, and the club is now trying to force the merchants to do business on a modern basis. —Medford Tribune.

Water Needed for Crops

That irrigation is the making of the Klamath country is demonstrated by a drive through the fields in the vicinity of Merrill and Tule lake. The farmers who have been using water judiciously have by far better crops than those who have been using water either too sparingly or too freely. In some places near Merrill it is apparent that much water is being wasted and owing to this and to ditches troubles the ranchers at the lower end of Tule lake valley have for not less than twenty days been unable to get water for their fields. Many of the small farmers in that section are sure to suffer the loss of practically their entire crops, while on the Carr ranch, W. C. Dalton says that on two hundred acres of alfalfa the growth has been stunted and the crop is already heavily damaged. Early this Spring he sowed about 600 pounds of alfalfa seed and because of lack of water this is a total loss.

In the lower part of the valley there are several small breaks in the canal and the new turnout boxes are not working satisfactorily. There is also trouble in getting water out of the lake through the Adams' canal. Because of these things the lower end of the Adams' canal is dry for several miles.

National forests now surround the lake and the rangers riding therein could act as wardens and give the birds absolute protection during the season of the year when they most need it.

Miss Lulu Mason, sister of Mrs. A. M. Worden, is here from Topeka, Kansas, and will spend the Summer.

Mrs. L. F. Willis returned Tuesday from Ashland, where she has been with her father, who has been quite ill.

LANGELL VALLEY

Crops are looking well. Although the grain is a little backward it is coming out fine.

If the farmers in this vicinity would all unite and build a dam across the lower end of the swamp with the proper headgates the hay crop could be more than doubled, and then there would be no shortage.

With the creamery at Bonanza this is one of the best places in the state for dairying. With the continuous growth of the country and the outside markets there is no chance for an ever production in this line of industry.

Oscar Campbell is now occupying his new house.

A few lank and lean mosquitoes are putting in their bills for the collection of blood.

Haying has commenced in this valley. The wild hay crop is short on the outer edges of the swamp lands, but towards the center it is very good.

Robert Malone was quite sick for several days last week.

All of the range stock around Langell Valley is looking well. The late June rains made the feed as good as usual.

A good roads movement should be organized in Klamath county. In some portions of the county good roads are being made, still there are also places where the roads are in a deplorable condition, especially in the spring of the year. This would be a good work for the Chamber of Commerce. If the right move is made it will meet with the approval of everyone and is sure to be a success. If every resident of the county would donate a week's work or its equivalent in cash it would only be a matter of a short time until our roads would be as good as any on the coast. Let Klamath take the lead and go on record as the most enterprising county in Oregon.

MT. HEBRON

Dorris baseball team went down in defeat in a fast game at Mt. Hebron. The game was interesting to those who witnessed it. Mt. Hebron led all the way until the eighth inning when Dorris tied the score. In the ninth Mt. Hebron succeeded in making another score, winning the game by the score of 6 and 5. The features of the game were the fine work of Taber in the box for Dorris, the battery work of Ramsey and Murrer and two fast double plays by Maguire and Messick of Mt. Hebron.

The new stock corral are finished and contain eight pens, the depot is nearly ready for occupancy, more sidewalk is being built and altogether things look good at Mt. Hebron.

Barnum & Kelly have bought the hotel building and will run a first-class hostelry. They will also add a livery and feed stable.

Maguire Mercantile Co. has increased its stock and has a large amount stored in the new warehouse, which has just received a coat of fresh paint.

A meeting was held in this school district on the 29th at which \$5,000 was voted to build a new school house. The building will be put up this Fall.

Captain Wadsworth's new home is a very neat little cottage.

Mt. Hebron will celebrate the Fourth with a dance, ball game and fireworks.

Protect the Game Birds

Nimrods of the Klamath country have in the past done much to protect and perpetuate the game supply of the country, but the territory is so large that it is absolutely impossible for a deputy game warden to cover the territory. Just at this season of the year the greatest harm is done to the perpetuation of the game birds by killing the young before they are able to fly, and by the robbing of the nests.

Clear Lake is a natural breeding ground for all kinds of fowl, and after the dam is constructed for the irrigation project the area for nesting will be increased. Parties familiar with the conditions say that at this time the tules surrounding the lake are literally alive with young birds and that there are still many nests with eggs in them. A party of Indians are now camped at the lake feasting on young birds and on the eggs, which they gather by the hundreds.

In order to protect these birds it has been suggested that the land acquired by the government for a reservoir sight be made a breeding ground for birds and that all hunting be prohibited thereon. This matter has already been suggested to some of the officials and was commented on very favorably. With the proper effort on the part of a number of the local people the object would be accomplished and an important step taken in the protection and perpetuation of the game birds of the Klamath section.

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Mrs. Ragan Pleads Guilty

Mrs. Nellie E. Ragan, of Royston, plead guilty in the United States District Court Tuesday to an indictment charging her with feloniously opening mail, and was sentenced by Judge Wolverton, to serve 30 days in the Multnomah county jail and to pay a fine of \$400.

Upon being arraigned before Judge Wolverton on the indictments returned against her by the late Federal grand jury, by consent she was allowed to open a letter written by Mrs. Fred Campbell, of Bly, and addressed to Weinstock, Lubin & Co., of San Francisco. The four charges of embezzlement filed against her by the grand jury were dismissed as full restitution had been made to the persons molested, and it was the opinion of United States District Attorney McCourt that severe punishment was not necessary.

The defendant was accompanied to court by her husband, Bert Ragan, her mother, and two children, Harry, aged 4, and Vivian, just 1 year. As the babe is too young to be taken from the woman, Judge Wolverton, after accepting the plea of guilty, was in a quandary what sentence to pronounce. In view of the many crimes fastened upon the former postal employe, the court evidently did not feel that full justice would be done by the mere infliction of a fine, and consequently made the order for 30 days' imprisonment.

Carrying the child in her arms and leading the boy by the hand, Mrs. Ragan was escorted from the courtroom by a deputy marshal. Her husband and mother brought up in the rear, and the mournful procession to the county jail started. Naturally not realizing the fate confronting their mother, the two tots played together in great glee. The baby girl is just barely able to toddle and little Harry took great delight in proudly assisting his sister to walk across the cell. When the time for parting arrived Mrs. Ragan and her mother were on the verge of prostration, and both wept bitterly.

Mrs. Ragan was indicted on many charges, the full particulars of which were previously reported in this paper. The particular crime for which she was sentenced was for opening a letter addressed to Weinstock Lubin & Company. On the back of the envelope was the name and address of Mrs. Fred Campbell, and feeling assured that the letter contained an order for wearing apparel accompanied by the necessary money, she opened it.

Her suspicions were well founded, but the order did not suit Mrs. Ragan, as none of the things enumerated would fit her. Accordingly she changed the order for articles of which she was in need, believing that the package would pass through the Royston office. By some mistake the goods were sent to Mrs. Campbell over another mail route and the substitution discovered.

Tule Lake Getting Lower

Mysterious Tule lake is gradually getting lower, and as the water in the lake recedes the volume finding its way through the outlet gradually decreases. Some few weeks ago when the measurement of the flow was taken it was 16 second feet, but a few days ago when the Reclamation Service hydrographer measured the flow it was but 10 second feet. The measurement also showed that during the past few months the water had gone down seven inches. Of course, the lowering of the lake is not due to the water escaping through the outlet for when the small stream flowing through the outlet is compared to the enormous size of the lake, it is evident that one might as well attempt to lower the lake by dipping the water out with a thimble. Measurements taken by the Reclamation Service show that the water flowing into the lake is decreasing and this together with the increment in the evaporation accounts for the receding of the water of the lake.

Existing conditions, however, show that at one time the lake had an outlet for during the Modoc war, in 1873, the lake was some five feet lower than it is at this time, and it is the opinion of some that the small outlet that has been discovered can be enlarged so as to materially lower the lake. The escaping water makes its way through honey-combed rock and it is a plausible theory that if it finds its way into the bowels of the earth in one place it might do so in another. Expending a few thousand dollars in an attempt to enlarge the outlet or to make a new one might result in the draining of the lake as is planned by the Government in connection with the irrigation project.

One of the positive signs that the lake bed was at one time perfectly dry where the water is now many feet deep is that a few days ago, Jack Crawford, who has a homestead on what is known as the Peninsula, found the pieces of an old immigrant wagon which had been burned, indicating that the party had fallen into the hands of the Indians. The finding of this wagon at this particular place is the strongest kind of evidence that at one time the road crossed the lake bed where the water is now more than 12 feet deep, and this in turn leads to the conclusion that the lake had an outlet of sufficient size to keep the water from inundating the fertile lands that are now covered by several feet of water.

The Democratic Platform

The leading features of the national platform will be anti-trust and anti-injunction declarations, tariff revision, election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, a graduated income tax, enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission, advocating of postal savings banks, state's rights and anti-imperialism to the extent of having the national government declare for the independence of the Philippines as soon as a stable government can be established.

It is understood that the demands of the labor leaders will be met in nearly every particular, although the language of the platform will not be so specific as the Gompers planks which were submitted to and turned down by the Republican convention at Chicago. The provisions as tentatively agreed upon, which affects labor, are understood to be as follows:

"We favor an employers' liability law, applicable alike to both private and public employers."

"We favor an 8-hour work day."

"We favor such a modification of the law relating to injunctions as will, first, prevent the issuing of the writ in industrial disputes except after notice to defendants and full hearing; second, permit trial before a judge other than the one issuing the writ, and, third, allow a jury to be summoned in all cases where the alleged contempt was committed outside the jurisdiction of the court."

"We believe in the conciliation of capital and labor and favor every legitimate means for arbitration of all disputes between them."

The tariff revision declaration will be strong and to the point. It will advocate placing on the "free list" all articles built in or manufactured by trusts and rational reductions in the tariff on all articles commonly characterized as "necessaries of life."

The state rights plank will advocate the extension of federal control along lines which will add to and not be substituted for state remedies.

Much work has been done on the roads a few miles southeast of the city. The large steam grader recently purchased by the county has been used in grading up the low places and as soon as a heavy rain falls to settle the loose dirt the roads will be in excellent condition.

Dredging on the railroad dike is progressing splendidly, but the work is not going fast enough to suit the railroad officials, and W. H. Kent, who has the work in charge for the contractors, states that another dredge has been ordered and will be put on the work as soon as it arrives. The two machines that are now on the job work two 10-hour shifts daily, and Mr. Kent is of the opinion that at the rate the dike is now being built it will be not more than six weeks until it will be constructed to the navigable water. When this point is reached about half of the dike will be completed. With three dredges on the work it will be some time during the winter when the grade across the marsh will be entirely completed.

W. E. Parry is in the city from Medford looking after his interests in this section.

Geo. C. Hill will commence the erection of a beautiful residence on the Hot Springs tract next week.

Geo. Dick was committed to the insane asylum Monday. Judge A. B. Miller was the committing magistrate.

INJUNCTION NOT ISSUED

Misunderstanding of the Court's Order Caused the Confusion

There seems to be a difference of opinion on the part of the lawyers as to the effect of the writ of review granted by Judge Benson, in the local option case. Judge Benson, however, informs this paper that the writ of review ordered is not a restraining order stopping the officers from enforcing the local option law, but simply commanding the County Court to take no further legal proceedings in the matter until the case is heard on July 6. Judge Benson states that offenders of the prohibition law after July 1, are just as liable to prosecution as before the issuing of the writ.

This statement by the Circuit Judge puts a different phase on the matter entirely. It was generally understood that the order of the Judge had the effect of granting a respite to the saloonmen and nearly all of them were making arrangements to continue business until the final decision in the case.

The writ of review is granted, "ordering a transcript of the proceedings had in the County Court, in the matter of the petition for the local option election, etc.—to the end that our said Circuit Court may cause to be done thereupon what may appear of right ought to be done in the premises, and in the meantime the said County Court, the County of Klamath and its officers are commanded to desist from further proceedings in said matter so sought to be reviewed."

The misunderstanding was on the interpretation of the last part of the order, it being contended that according to it the peace officers were prohibited from enforcing the order of the County Court declaring prohibition. Judge Benson's explanation of his order, however, will probably be accepted by the saloonmen.

The jury in the Arant case retired at 9:30, and after thirteen hours deliberation, during which they asked for instruction, from the Judge, they failed to agree and were discharged. The jury stood 8 for acquittal and 4 for conviction. Those who stood out for conviction were: A. C. Lewis, Fred Stukele, Barge Mason and E. W. Gillett.

Judge Drake, for the defense, asked for an immediate new trial, and Judge Benson set Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock for the hearing and ordered a special venire of 25 summoned for the jury.

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*If I do not lead, why
do others follow.*

A few good reasons for my success in the
Jewelry Business--

Reliable Work, in all lines.
New and Up-to-date High
Grade Goods.
Reasonable Prices.
Responsible Guarantee.
Lastly, the money back, if
you are not satisfied.

The only place to get Photographs, with a written
guarantee for one year.

G. Heitkemper, Jr.

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KLAMATH FALLS

Our goods are attractive, also the prices