

# St. Helens Mist

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NO. 14

## SCHOOL OFFICIALS HAVE GOOD MEETING

### STATE SUPERINTENDENT SUGGESTS PROVISION BE MADE FOR TEACHERAGES.

### Play Grounds Thought Advisable by Many—Recommend Aid for School Building.

The annual meeting of county school officers was held in St. Helens Saturday, March 20, in response to a call from the county school superintendent. About twenty districts were represented and a very notable lot of work was accomplished. State School Superintendent Churchill was present and added the interest of the meeting with instruction and advice in school matters.

The discussion of topics was opened by L. R. Rutherford, whose subject was "School grounds, size, play grounds, improvement and appearance." Rutherford presented the subject in a strong, convincing manner. Free discussion led to the generally expressed opinion that a play ground should not be less than five acres in size. The plan for outdoor play grounds with proper equipment was ardently endorsed. Through the interest manifested in school matters Dr. Edwin Ross, a member of the Helens school board, those attending the meeting were escorted to local school grounds, where a shed has recently been installed and is being equipped.

Superintendent Churchill, in an address, took up the question of the teacherage, or home for the teacher. The superintendent strongly favors such institutions, stating that Washington has 150 such homes, while Oregon has but 24. District No. 24 in this county has such an institution, where a comfortable home is provided for Professor Winn and family at present. He advocated greater care of school property, especially school furniture, and admonished school boards not to purchase supplies from agents, but to consult with the superintendent on such matters; also in the selection of teachers. Mr. Churchill mentioned changes in school laws, especially the law pertaining to high school tuition, which provides for the payment of a fee for pupils who have not attended high school in their district.

County Judge A. L. Clark handled the subject of parent-teacher circle in an able manner, strongly advocating a closer co-operation between parent and teacher, and made an appeal for school loyalty. The question of providing means for placing on the fair grounds a suitable building in which to display school exhibits of the county was taken up. President G. L. Tarbell, of the County Fair Association, had previously been appealed to by children to provide such a building, but as funds were not available for that purpose, other means were suggested. To that end a committee was named at a previous meeting of school officers to devise plans. A committee, consisting of Mrs. Aldred Watts, Scappoose; Mrs. Fred Trow, Rainier; Mrs. Edwin Ross, St. Helens, reported their plans to consist of a series of entertainments, tag sales, etc., as a means of raising the necessary funds. K. Larson, Warren; T. S. Morrell, Deer Island; J. H. Collins, Rainier; E. Lake, Warren, strongly endorsed the plan as outlined. Upon the matter was placed in the hands of the fair association.

Officers chosen for the ensuing year were: President, J. W. Allen; Secretary, G. L. Tarbell. Those present at the meeting were: P. Larson, Warren; W. O. Bumgardner, Columbia City; H. T. Bennett, Warren; Mrs. Jennie Sobteak, Yankton; G. L. Tarbell, Yankton; R. Adams, Scappoose; Fred Laube, Deer Island; T. S. Morrell, Deer Island; Edwin Ross, St. Helens; Otto Brookhaus, Deer Island; C. Fowler, Goble; U. W. Clark, Houlton; W. R. Holmes, Mayger; L. L. Parker, Vernonia; J. E. Lumley, Quincy; M. C. Hoven, Goble; William Roberts, Mayger; S. T. Burkhead, Goble; M. John, Vernonia; P. E. Brockway, Trenholm; L. L. Clark, Rainier; A. H. Carlson, Warren; Omar Nickerson, Vernonia; E. E. Stehman, Rainier.

## CITY COUNCIL IN REGULAR SESSION

### Order Bills Paid and Name Judges and Clerks of Election.

The city council met in regular session Monday evening. A communication from the S. P. & S. Railway Company regarding the fire alarm wires crossing their tracks at Houlton was read and referred to Councilmen Larrabee and E. A. Rotger.

Ordinance providing for the assessment of property in sewer district No. 7 was read second time.

The application of A. S. Harrison for use of the council chambers for meeting purposes by the merchants' organization was allowed, upon condition that the organization pay for the light consumed.

City Attorney Day presented the matter of the condition of West street, in Railroad Addition. The matter was referred to the property owners.

The painting of the city hall was a matter taken up and laid over until the next meeting.

The following judges and clerks of election were appointed to act at the forthcoming city election: Ward No. 1—Judges, Wash Muckle, E. A. Rotger; clerks, Edna Harris, Anna Quiek. Ward No. 2—Judges, Mrs. N. O. Larrabee, Mrs. Emma Belford; clerks, T. S. White, W. J. Mellinger.

The following bills were read and ordered paid: Lyons Bros., replacing window lights in city hall, \$5.85; labor on drainage ditch, \$247.75.

## COMBINATION FARMING AND DAIRYING

### Comfortable Living Is Made by Progressive Deer Island Resident.

Instances are so numerous in this county where there is such a splendid condition of thrift and contentment on the farm that it is difficult to draw out any particular distinction except as to individuals and methods. Down around the good community of Deer Island seems to be the mecca for the good and progressive farmer. The Mist has just had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with another of the go-ahead farmers of that locality, Mr. J. F. Lloyd. The gentleman several years ago purchased the Lyman Merrill place and converted it into not only a good home, but an ideal source of revenue production. Although Mr. Lloyd is not engaged so extensively in the dairy business as others in that locality, nevertheless his herd is of such proportions that he has a handsome income each month. His success is due in a large measure through the fact that he produces on his farm practically everything that is consumed, not only in the home but also by the stock. This winter he has maintained his herd by feeding kale and rutabagas, and has sufficient of the former to carry the stock over until pasture is sufficiently advanced. Mr. Lloyd retains the milk, shipping only the cream, the former being utilized for raising a good quantity of hogs, from which also is derived a good income each year. Mr. Lloyd was in the county seat Tuesday attending to business matters.

## IMPROVING MAIN ROAD TO HOULTON

### Hard Surface Will Render Thoroughfare Best in the Community.

The road leading from Houlton to St. Helens is being improved in a most substantial manner, under the supervision of William Eakin. The work starts at the railroad tracks and consists of a thoroughly prepared foundation with a water-bound McAdam surface.

## PIONEER PASTOR TAKES FARM.

From the Leader, published at Toledo, down on Yaquina Bay, we take the following item: "C. N. Plovman, an old timer in this country, has leased the Pannock place, on Olalla, for a term of years. Mr. Plovman spent many years preaching throughout Oregon and will be remembered by many of our old settlers." Mr. Plovman was the pastor of the Methodist church in St. Helens at one time, residing out in the Milton creek settlement. He left St. Helens about 18 years ago, residing in Clackamas county for several years.

## COUNTY COURT PRESENTS HIGHWAY CASE BEFORE STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

### OFFICERS FROM COLUMBIA AND CLATSOP COUNTIES ASK STATE TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO AID ROAD WORK

### Strong Presentation of the Highway Situation in Columbia and Clatsop Counties Is Made Before the Members of Highway Commission

A delegation consisting of County Judge A. L. Clark, Commissioner Harvey and State Senator McBride, representing Columbia county, with a delegation from Clatsop county, appeared before the state highway commission at Salem last Monday, seeking state aid for the Columbia highway through these counties.

Mr. Dougal, on behalf of Clatsop county, presented figures showing that his county had exceeded the lawful limit of indebtedness and had no way of legally raising sufficient funds to complete the highway in that county, and intimated that this condition existed largely through the general understanding with the highway engineer that the money raised would be sufficient to complete the road.

During the discussion State Treasurer Kay asked a great many pointed questions, which were readily answered by Mr. Dougal, but which seemed to disconcert Major Bowby, the state highway engineer, who took refuge frequently in his report, accusing everyone who disagreed with that report of misstatements. Under questioning from Mr. Kay, Mr. Dougal stated that portions of the hard surface road laid down by the highway engineer was in very bad shape; in some places being cracked and broken, and in others being worn by the wheels of vehicles passing over it. This was admitted by Major Bowby, who said that the people who furnished the material had agreed to repair it.

Judge Clark presented the condition in Columbia county to the commission, and appealed to them for aid in completing the highway through Columbia county. The judge presented facts and figures as to the amount spent on the highway to date, without in any way criticizing the highway engineer, but was interrupted by Major Bowby, who tried to discredit the judge's statements. Judge Clark retorted that these figures and statements had been taken from the record of the county court and carefully prepared by the county clerk, who, he said, was an excellent bookkeeper, and whom he was willing to trust fully as well as the man who prepared Major Bowby's report. The judge then took the engineer's report and pointed out discrepancies amounting to several thousand dollars. Major Bowby was forced to admit that the report was wrong, but gave as an excuse that it was a typographical error.

Governor Wythecombe and Treasurer Kay asked frequent questions and seemed able to grasp the various points in the road situation as they were brought out. Mr. Kay asked Major Bowby if it was true that about \$62,000 had been spent for engineering in Columbia county. This the major attempted to evade by explaining how much had been spent on the Columbia highway for different items, but Mr. Kay insisted that he answer the question, and as Judge Clark produced the facts, as shown by the county records, the major was forced to concede that, including the \$5000 charged to the state, this sum was approximately correct.

Judge Clark showed the commission that without state aid there would be no hope of opening the highway this year, and briefly outlined his idea of how the money should be spent to give the people of Columbia county the most benefit in the shortest time and to open the road to travel this summer. Mr. Kay said that the highway commission sympathized with the counties which were having trouble, and that the state had proceeded on two extensive plans and should not have torn up so many old roads until new ones were built. He said that Columbia and Clatsop counties would be aided, but as Secretary of State Olcott is in California no action will be taken until his return.

Senator McBride, when interviewed by a Mist reporter, said: "It was a splendid meeting from Colum-

bia county's standpoint. Both Judge Clark and the Clatsop county delegation simply presented the facts as they existed, and good reasons why these counties should be given state aid without making any personal fight against anyone, and if Major Bowby 'was in bad' at the meeting it was only by too great eagerness on his part to justify his own record and to discredit the statements of those who had the facts and records to back them up. There is no question in my mind that the highway commission will help Columbia county with a very substantial appropriation, and too much credit cannot be given Judge Clark for the business-like and concise way in which he presented matters to the highway commission."

## SCHOOL FIELD MEET DATES ARRANGED

### Good Program Provided for Meeting at St. Helens on May 8.

County school field day events will take place in St. Helens on the 8th of May, and a good program of sports has been arranged for the occasion. The school principals' association met in the office of the county school superintendent in St. Helens on the 20th of this month and made complete arrangements for the occasion. The program consists of: Fifty-yard dash, 100-yard dash, 220-yard dash, half-mile run, mile run, hurdle race, relay race, high jump, broad jump, pole vault, shot-put, discus and javelin. The high schools compete in one division and all grammar grades in a second division. All schools are urged to participate and make the occasion a gala time.

## TIME FOR REGISTERING CLOSED ON 25TH

### Many Voters Failed to Register for City Election.

Registration of voters for the city election were pretty brisk up to Thursday evening of this week, and if you did not get your name on the registration books you will have to have your vote sworn in. The city recorder informs us that there are but 343 registrations, hence there is a lot of work ahead for the judges and clerks of election in case there is a very large vote turns out. The registrations for East St. Helens are 247 and for West St. Helens 96.

## CONFISCATED BOOZE POURED IN SEWER

### Rainier Marshal Disposes of a Quantity of Confiscated Liquors.

Through his persistence in running down bootleggers the city marshal of Rainier had accumulated a fair sized amount of confiscated liquors, and on Tuesday made a general clearing up of the accumulation. Four gallon jugs and two pint bottles of whisky and 24 quarts of beer were emptied into a sewer and flushed to the river. The city recorder of Rainier declares he will give bootleggers the limit of the law hereafter.

## HALF PAY PRIVILEGE IS GENERAL

### Taxpayers Are Availing Themselves of Right to Pay Half of Taxes.

Tax payments during the last few days have been very good. On Wednesday over \$25,000 was received by Treasurer Hattan. Practically all of this was full payment by two concerns. The Northern Pacific Railway Company paid its taxes in full, which amounted to \$17,726.51, and William McPherson, of Howell, Mich., sent a remittance in excess of \$5200. However, as a rule, only half payments have been made so far. Collections up to date amount to about \$150,000. There have been 1850 receipts issued on tax payments this year.

## THIS COMPLAINT IS JUSTIFIABLE

### Yankton Resident Says Auto Speeders Endanger Limb and Life.

Mrs. Rudolph Karth, of Yankton, has what seems to be a very justifiable complaint to make regarding the practice of auto drivers in speeding their cars along public thoroughfares, without regard to the rights or safety of people traveling by other means. Mrs. Karth states that on several occasions as she has been driving to or from her home she has had very narrow escapes from accident by drivers of machines who seem to delight in the practice of testing their skill in an attempt to see just how near they can drive to her conveyance without hitting it. In a great many cases country horses are unused to the modern automobile and take fright, becoming uncontrollable. There are hundreds of sensible auto drivers, but the unreasonable and senseless one is the fellow who does the mischief. It is unfortunate that some have so little regard for the rights of others, thus bringing all motorists into bad repute.

## VIRTUE OF ADVERTISING IS DEMONSTRATED

### Old Time Friend of This Paper Heeds Call for Help.

Two weeks ago we inserted a small paragraph in this paper to the effect that we were in need of a copy of the issue of The Mist of October 24, 1913. In less than three days we had the paper in hand, having been sent by our old time friend, E. W. Conyers, of Clatskanie. Mr. Conyers is one of those splendid characters who is always alert to do a favor, no matter what reasonable sacrifice it entails. The copy of the paper was requested by the members of the Masonic fraternity of this city, who desire to deposit it in the cornerstone of their temple upon the occasion of celebrating the laying of that part of their structure, which is soon to take place. Mr. Conyers' kindness has served a double purpose, and we extend our gracious thanks.

## AIM IS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL

### Ladies of Goble Will Give Entertainment and Ice Cream Social.

The Literary Society and Ladies' Club of Goble are showing their interest in the school children and school work in a very substantial manner. Saturday evening, April 3, the ladies will give an entertainment and ice cream social at Redmen's Hall, Goble, to raise funds which they will apply to purchasing furnishings for the play shed on the school grounds, which is soon to be erected. This is a commendable effort and the ladies will undoubtedly be rewarded for their industry in a substantial way by the people of the community.

## CLATSKANIE CARRIED OFF THE HONORS

### Won High School Debate in Contest With the Scappoose School.

In the debate at Clatskanie Saturday evening between the Clatskanie and Scappoose high school debating teams the Clatskanie team was victorious. Clatskanie had previously won over the Rainier team, and as a consequence Clatskanie now holds the honors of championship of the county. The winning team had the affirmative on the question of government ownership of railroads. The judges were M. L. Baker, principal of the St. Helens school; J. H. Collins, of Rainier; Professor Hussong, of Astoria.

## FISHERMAN IS LANGLISHING IN JAIL

### Taken for Fishing Without a License, Justice Imposes \$50 Fine.

James Dudley, said to be a resident of Kalama, Wash., is languishing in the county jail in lieu of putting up \$50 as a fine imposed by Justice Watkins last Tuesday for fishing in the Columbia river without a license. Dudley was taken by the game warden Tuesday, having in his possession a quantity of catfish and not being possessed with the proper credentials to entitle him to participate in such sport.

## STRONG APPEAL IN BEHALF OF COUNTIES

### STATE AID FOR COLUMBIA HIGHWAY URGED BY POWERFUL PORTLAND PAPER.

### Strong Presentation of the Highway Situation—State's Duties Are Cited.

One of the most clearly defined exposition of facts regarding the highway situation in Columbia and Clatsop counties that has been printed appeared in a strong presentation of the case in an editorial in the Oregonian of last Sunday. That paper urgently insists that the state come to the aid of these two counties in a financial way, to extricate us from our helpless position. Such an exposition of facts as the Oregonian presents can have no other than the most salutary effect upon the situation in general, and a strong influence upon the highway commission to come to the relief of the counties. The editorial is presented below:

"Columbia and Clatsop counties are in a predicament over construction of the Columbia river highway which calls for more than ordinary consideration from the state highway commission. Moreover, there is more or less of a moral obligation on the part of the state to do what it consistently can to right their difficulties.

"Both counties voted bond issues to build the highways, with the understanding that the proceeds would be sufficient to complete a passable road. But all the bond money has been expended and Clatsop county has paid out of its general road fund \$29,000 in addition, yet the road is not completed to grade in some sections and there are twenty-eight bridges to be built. The counties are at the end of their immediate resources. Unless they receive state aid the highway must remain in an unfinished condition for two years or longer.

"It is now plain that the highway was laid out with greater regard for ideal grades than for county finances. It is apparent that the road construction might better have been done in sections by building new portions where they were most needed and utilizing temporarily the passable roads that already existed. But it seems that some existing roads have been destroyed to make way for what is as yet an unusable grade and that the marketing difficulties of the farmer have been increased rather than diminished.

"The Columbia river highway was constructed under supervision of the state highway engineer. The mistakes made are largely the mistakes of the state. In private enterprise the principal is responsible for the errors of an authorized agent. So it must be in public enterprises.

"Just what the highway commission can do to give the counties the relief needed is problematical. The quarter-mill state road levy will produce probably \$225,000 this year. Of that Jackson county will receive \$45,000 under the provisions of a law passed by the last legislature. The commission last year promised Hood River county \$50,000 for the Mitchell Point section, which sum may be reduced to \$40,000.

"There will then remain in the fund approximately \$130,000. It is a bagatelle compared with the road construction needs of the whole state. Clearly the funds are not ample enough to justify the undertaking of any new work. The \$130,000 ought to be applied to unfinished roads and in such application Columbia and Clatsop counties are entitled to generous consideration.

"The Columbia river highway is a trunk line of general value to the state. It is also a market road for large farming communities. The latter have contributed heavily, and the state is primarily responsible for the fact that they are not assured of immediate benefits. The state now owes the counties financial assistance."

## AUTOMOBILE BURNS.

S. L. Butler, who resides on his farm near Goble, had the misfortune to lose his Overland automobile by fire on Wednesday at his home. Fortunately Mr. Butler had invested in \$600 insurance on the machine, written by A. T. Laws, of the St. Helens Improvement Company.