

St. Helens Mist

OFFICIAL PAPER OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

PIONEER PAPER OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

VOLUME XXXV.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1915.

NO. 2

BUDGET MEETING

LARGE CROWD ATTENDS

A Three Mil Road Tax Recommended. Abolish Highway Engineer

A large crowd of Columbia county taxpayers convened at the court house Wednesday afternoon to discuss the county budget as prepared by the board of county commissioners.

Much of the curb stone talk was not in evidence at the meeting as but little opposition was offered to resolutions submitted by the Taxpayers' League.

While it is not generally understood, many of the appropriations are mandatory on the part of the county court, and must be made.

A resolution was introduced fixing the road tax levy at 5 mills, but this was lost.

Another resolution was introduced fixing the levy at 3 mills, and was adopted.

The \$10,000 appropriation to improve the poor farm, next received attention. It develops that it costs Columbia county approximately \$7000 per annum to care for unfortunate poor. It is claimed that many of the inmates require care more than anything else, and were the farm properly equipped, this expense could be reduced close to three-fifths of the present cost. A resolution eliminating the \$10,000 was carried.

On motion the appropriation of \$1500 for publication of the commissioners' proceedings, was reduced to \$1200.

After considerable discussion the resolution abolishing the office of highway engineer was adopted.

After adjournment of the budget meeting, the court proceeded to make the following levy: general fund, 9 7-10 mills; road fund, 8 9-10 mills.

All the members of the county court swore with uplifted hand to perform the duties of their offices to the best of their knowledge and belief, and those who have taken the trouble to investigate will agree that their duties have been performed conscientiously and well. They have experience and in making up this budget the interests and needs of the whole county, irrespective of location, were taken into consideration, and to compile a budget satisfactory to all, is an utter impossibility.

Taxes are high! You bet they are, and they have about reached the limit, but place the responsibility where it belongs.

In speaking of high taxes and county budgets, the Corvallis Courier has the situation pretty well sized up.

Arbitrary state law has fixed these county officials and other state expenses on us.

One of the biggest wastes of big money in the state is the fish and game commission.

Cut off a few hundred of the wardens and salary-drawing officials and no doubt some fellow would catch a string of trout or shoot a hen pheasant out of season, but which would hurt the taxpayers the most, the poaching or the paying?

Another big expense is the state board of health, which has almost unlimited authority to do and to spend.

Soon they will have a ruling that one must wash his feet and brush his teeth at fixed hours.

Another is the public service commission which almost does away with necessity of courts and state and county officials.

Another is the state educational system that has no brake on it and that is simply running into alarming expenses in the way of fads and luxuries.

Again the state highway commission that is equaling the educational "machine" in organization and expenses. Then we come down to the sewer drains.

The office of sealer of weights and measures is no more needed in most counties than a pocket in an over-shirt.

State law tells a dealer he shall not

LOOKING BACKWARD

Industrial Review of St. Helens for the Past Year

One year ago everything looked gloomy in St. Helens. The lumber business was in a demoralized condition. Our quarries were not working. We were about to launch the Wapama, and the writer was invited to see the launching of what in all probability, would be the last vessel built in St. Helens. To those in business, it looked as only a miracle could save them. And so it appeared. The C. R. McCormick Co., with their accustomed energy, again came to the rescue. Their Mr. J. H. Price designed a new type of vessel to this coast and put it up to them to finance the building of it. This, owing to the depressed financial condition of the country, was no small matter, but they, with the success that usually attends, accomplished it. This vessel is now nearing completion. But better still, they have started another of the same type. No small credit for the success of this is due to the local staff.

Then came Louis Rosasco of the Italian Importing Co., who dreamed that we should have a cannery. With him to dream is to act, with the consequent result that thousands of people, not only on the coast, but far in the interior, as well as in foreign lands, now know the name of St. Helens. Would that we had more men of his type.

The quarries started up in early spring and have been working almost continuously since.

Early in the year, through the efforts of Messrs. A. S. Harrison, Sam Sonneland and D. Walter Williams of Williams & Hall, the credit men's association was formed, out of which grew the Commercial Club, through whose efforts, coupled with the aid of Messrs. Tarbell and Jacobsen, and others, we have now a creamery which will further advertise St. Helens.

During the year there was caught and shipped from here in round numbers 800 tons of fish, for which the fishermen received about 5 cents per pound, or in all \$80,000. Imagine this reduced to one-pound tins, and allowing for shrinkage, you would have 1,200,000 tins advertising St. Helens.

NEW BUSINESS HOUSE

A Toggery to Be Opened in the Hewitt Building

W. E. Lidyard has secured a lease of the new Hewitt building and about February 1st will open an up-to-date toggery. He will have a splendid line of gents' furnishings and everything that men wear in the clothing line.

This location is a very desirable one and one in which goods can be displayed to the best possible advantage.

Mr. Lidyard has a family and came here to make his home and will join hands with the business and social interests in everything that will tend to the prosperity and upgrowth of the city and community.

He comes here from Eugene and is well recommended by the business men of that city.

short weight any more than he shall short-change, and we have plenty of peace officers to go after the short-weighter as the short-changer. As well have a special officer to enforce the law against check forging.

Fruit inspection in most counties is little more than drawing down salaries. County veterinarian is about the same, and in many counties the health officer does little but draw salaries.

The remedy is to unmake the laws that force these salaries and expenses onto us.

The thing to do is to everlastingly cut off these drains, and that must be done through the legislature or an initiative law—it can't be done on a county budget.

The thing to do is to establish a state tax rate, about half what it is now, and prohibit its being exceeded.

GARAGE AND MACHINE BURNED

Marshal Chittim Loses Garage and Automobile

The fire alarm was sounded Christmas evening at about 8 o'clock when it was discovered that the garage of Marshal J. L. Chittim was on fire. The building and Ford machine were a total loss as Mr. Chittim carried no insurance.

Mr. Chittim is of the opinion that the fire was of incendiary origin, as the engine had not been turned for about six weeks. The conditions point to this result as the door was locked and the plug of the tank cannot be found. A theory is advanced that perhaps the intruder intended to steal the machine, removed the plug and lighted a match which caused the gasoline to ignite.

However, Mr. Chittim is of the opinion that the machine was maliciously set on fire.

SEWER CONTRACT IS NOT LET

Only one bid was received by the city council at the regular meeting Monday evening for the construction of a sewer in sewer district No. 1, section "B."

C. G. Randles of Portland, submitted a bid of \$2114.10, less \$500 for work done by the city.

The matter was discussed by the council at considerable length, when it was decided to take the matter under advisement for a few days.

The council also considered the question of extra lights for the fire alarms. The matter was referred to Councilman Ballagh and Electrician Cole.

JUST A SUGGESTION

Every business in St. Helens should be represented in these columns. There is no better way to show the enterprise and progressiveness of a city than through the columns of the home paper. If you are in business and want more business, why not let it be known? These are the days when people consult the columns of newspapers; they want to know when such things as they want are for sale and who offers the best inducements. The live merchant with a neat and well worded advertisement is the one that receives their patronage. Commence the new year with an advertisement inviting the public to trade with you.

ROD AND GUN CLUB IS ORGANIZED

A number of our local nitrods met Wednesday evening and organized a Rod and Gun Club, with the following officers: C. D. Sutherland, president; Hayes Esterbrook, vice president; C. E. Stevens, secretary; E. I. Ballagh and A. J. Kelley, field managers; J. T. Tabor, purchasing agent.

There will be twenty-five trap shooters, and the first regular shoot will be held Sunday afternoon. The Adams place has been selected for the shooting grounds.

OBITUARY.

Andrew Steffen died Tuesday morning, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. N. Young, near Warren. Undertaker E. A. Ross took charge of the remains, removing them to his parlors at St. Helens, where they were prepared for burial. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, from the Swedish Lutheran church at Warren. Interment was in Swedish cemetery.

Andrew Steffen was born in Finland, May 9, 1846, and died at Warren, Oregon, Dec. 21, 1915, aged 69 years, 7 months and 12 days. He came to America about 15 years ago. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife, and four daughters, Mrs. John Kallberg, Mrs. J. N. Young, Mrs. A. Johnson, all of Warren, and Mrs. S. Lindgren, living in Pennsylvania.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Emma Johnson and Klaus K. Foshany.
Elsie Van Valkenburg and Jesse Bryant.

STORE BURGLARIZED

Thief Enters Peterson's Cash Store and Relieves Till

Peterson's Cash Store was robbed Monday night and the cash register relieved of about \$2.00 in pennies and nickels.

Entrance was gained by removing a glass from the rear door and by introducing the hand the key in the lock was very easily turned.

When inside the hanging switch was jerked off, which left the front of the store in darkness. The burglar was very systematic as the papers and memorandums in the cash register, which had been left open, were removed and piled carefully in order. The glass removed from the rear door was set to one side where it would not be broken in the darkness.

The thief was evidently a transient as he seemed to be after money only. Had it been home talent, canned goods and provisions would have been appropriated as well as the cash.

While the thief is unknown, Mr. Peterson has his suspicions.

SEVEN CARS OF BEANS ARE SOLD

14,000 Cases Contracted for September, 1916, Delivery

L. Rosasco, manager of the Columbia River Canning & Produce Co., returned from Seattle last week, where he delivered the last carload of beans of this year's output. This is a remarkably good showing, and excels some other canneries throughout the state in securing a market for their product. This is the seventh carload sold of this season's output.

What is still better, Mr. Rosasco contracted for 14,000 cases for delivery next September at a good price.

This will necessitate the enlargement of the plant and more capital will be required.

This enterprise has passed beyond the experimental stage and is therefore a safe investment. There is still a certain amount of the capitalized stock unsold and to make these improvements and enlarge its capacity, a limited amount of the stock is now on the market. It is to be hoped that our enterprising business men and capitalists will join forces in this laudable enterprise. It furnishes a splendid pay roll and gives employment to hundreds, mostly women and children.

This is a home enterprise, owned and operated by home people. It furnishes a market for the product of home farms and the money is all kept at home. This stock should be grabbed up at once so plans can be arranged for the future work.

SCHOOL STATISTICS

Columbia county school census shows a loss of 123 for the year ending Nov. 25.

County school census of the larger districts.

County	1914	1915
Dist. No. 1, Scappoose	3905	3782
Dist. No. 2, St. Helens	286	295
Dist. No. 5, Clatskanie	558	551
Dist. No. 13, Rainier	394	431
Dist. No. 7, Warren	541	468
Dist. No. 25, Quincy	245	201
	248	261

District No. 5 has increased its territory, while Dist. No. 7 lost territory.

Districts Nos. 24 and 27, Oak Ranch and Rock Creek schools, have each ten pupils of school age. These are the districts that are seemingly worrying the outside world so much, especially Dist. No. 27. The fact of the case is the Nehalem country is mostly owned by the timber interest and the settlers have moved away. At present, logging operations are in progress on the lower Nehalem and soon the sparsely settled districts will greatly increase in numbers. There should be some consolidation, and will be as soon as the roads are passable and the people interested want it.

The firemen will give another dance in the city hall Friday evening. They propose to dance the old year out and the new year in.

LISTEN FOR BUGLE CALL

Military Company Will Soon Be Ready for Organization

Already nearly enough names are signed to the petition to warrant the organization of a military company in St. Helens. The young men of the community are responding readily to the opportunity offered to secure military training in a regularly organized company of the Oregon National Guard. A few are rather skeptical as to just what will be required of them but after investigation nearly all who are eligible are signing up.

One of the questions being asked by the men is as to the cost of joining the company, which is readily answered by saying that it costs nothing only a little time for drill. Uniforms, guns, ammunition and all equipment is furnished free by the state, as is also an armory. The armory will be fitted up with storeroom and lockers as well as company quarters. These company quarters will be fitted up for the use of the members and will be an admirable place for the boys to spend their evenings and enjoy the privileges of a well furnished club room.

Social features will be one of the attractions and this feature is certainly needed in this community.

Once each year the company will go into camp for instruction and drills will be held at least twice each month.

During the next week it is expected that the petitions will have sufficient names to forward to the adjutant general, and that within another month a full fledged military company composed of the best young men of the community will be drilling in a St. Helens armory.

ASSAULTED BY A FARM HAND

Mrs. Mabel Myers, aged 19, a bride of a month, is in a serious condition at the Good Samaritan hospital, Portland, Tuesday. Poses are trailing every clue to find E. B. Kemp, a farm-hand, near whose cabin the girl was found, naked and crawling through the snow, that night. She had been shot through the breast and badly maltreated. The chief clue connecting Kemp is a letter, bearing a special delivery stamp, delivered to Sheriff Huriburt last night, telling him to rush to the rescue of a "poor woman who had been assaulted by a tramp."

Kemp is missing, but his description has been sent broadcast. O. H. Myers, the woman's husband, is a young farmer at Oresham. He has vowed vengeance and is aiding the search.

Mrs. Myers may die, but the hound will not. He will be sent to the pen if convicted, and pardoned out in a few years.

LIST OF TRANSFERS.

Reported by Columbia County Abstract Company.

- Dec. 24—L. R. Rutherford, Adm. to Swan Bergquist; land in Sec. 31, T. 7 N., R. 4 W., \$351.
- Dec. 27—Juliette DeBast et ux to Horace A. Sylvester; land in Sec. 28, T. 7 N., R. 2 W., \$10.
- A. S. Harrison to J. S. Parke; Bk. 12, Rose Hill, \$100.
- Dec. 28—Wm. H. Hacker et ux to Aldy Simons; land in Sec. 31, T. 5 N., R. 4 W., \$10.
- A. J. Wright et ux to New York and Rainier Co.; land in Rainier, \$1.
- Nancy J. Armstrong et ux to Western Timber Co.; and in Sec. 7, T. 4 N., R. 4 W., \$1.
- Col. Co. Investment Co. to L. E. Swan; 18.92 acres of lot 129, Beaver Homes, \$10.

FARM DISPLAY

The display of farm products in the window of the St. Helens Improvement Co. is from the farm of Ray Tarbell of the Yankton neighborhood, from his 13 1/2 acre farm. Mr. Tarbell has taken the special prize of \$5 offered by this company for the best exhibit of farm products from 15 acres or less, for the past three years. If his neighbors do not hump themselves, he will win it again next year.

PASS HAND IN HAND

OLD SETTLERS CALLED

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Adams of Scappoose, Pass Away.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Adams died at their home in Scappoose Sunday, December 26, within eleven hours of each other. They were both afflicted with la grippe and succumbed to the grim monster within less than half a day of each other. They traveled along life's highway hand in hand for many years and who shall say that it was not their wish that they should pass to the Great Beyond hand in hand with a smiling farewell to the world.

They were natives of Russia, and were born in 1839 and 1840 respectively. Married in 1858, they emigrated to America in 1879 and located in Nebraska, where they resided for two years. From there they moved to Butte, Montana, and after residing there for one year, drove overland to Salem, Oregon, where they resided for a short time. From there they moved to Scappoose and took up a homestead, where they have resided ever since.

To this union were born 10 children as follows: Mrs. Anna Harms of Warren; Fred Adams of Scappoose; Mrs. Carrie Backwell, deceased; Ferdinand Adams of Scappoose; Mrs. Tillie Holgate of Price, Utah; Mrs. Minnie Atterbury of Seattle, Wash.; Gus Adams of Walla Walla, Wash.; Mrs. Julia Kautemeyer of Portland; Adolph Adams of Frances, Wash.; and Herman Adams of Portland. Besides these children they are survived by 20 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the residence in Scappoose Tuesday and attended by many friends and neighbors.

M. W. A. OFFICERS

The following officers were elected by M. W. A., Camp No. 10,999.

Consul, W. A. Levi; past consul, F. W. Christie; adviser, N. D. McCallum; clerk, H. E. LaBare; banker, E. A. Ross; escort, H. E. Veazie; physicians, Edwin Ross and L. G. Ross; watchman, A. A. Friske; sentry, H. P. Ross; trustee, F. W. Christie.

The officers will be installed January 5.

ST. HELENS AT COURT

Judge Thos. A. McBride of Salem, was greeted by his many old friends in this city Thursday. It may have escaped public attention, but St. Helens enjoys the distinction of furnishing the state with two members of the supreme court, Chief Justice F. A. Moore and Judge McBride. We have a number of lawyers here, yet that would look pretty well "dolled up" in the judicial ermine.

CHURCHES.

Congregational Church,
10 a. m., Bible school; 11 a. m., "The Dove Theory of Life." 6:30 p. m., Christian Endeavor; New Year's sermon, 7:30 p. m., "A Year Nearer." John Foster, Ph. B., B. D., minister.

M. E. Church.

Sunday school at 10 a. m.; preaching 11 a. m., theme: The Test of Our Love for God. Epworth League 6:30 p. m.; evening sermon 7:30 p. m., theme: What Good Resolutions Shall We Make? At the morning service Holy Communion will be celebrated. Let every member, if well enough, be present and start the new year aright by attending worship on the first Sunday. Everybody will find a cordial welcome with us. F. N. Sandifur.

EX-EDITOR OF MIST

J. R. Beagle of Alaska, who was the guest of the Richardson family Tuesday, was the editor of the Mist twenty-five years ago, but still he failed to "drop in on us."