

The St. Helens Mist Wishes You a New Year of Prosperity and Happiness

St. Helens Mist

OFFICIAL PAPER OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

PIONEER PAPER OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

VOLUME XXXVI.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916

NO. 2

COUNCIL FIXES CITY TAX LEVY

Levy of 12.9 MILLS Thought to Be Necessary for City Expenses.

The city council met Saturday night, December 23, for the purpose of going over the city budget. Several of the taxpayers of the city were present and offered suggestions. After much discussion a vote was taken and it was unanimously carried that the levy for the ensuing year be fixed at 12.9 mills. The assessed valuation of the city, according to County Assessor Blakesley, is \$637,230, and the public utilities, as set by the state tax commission, is \$53,125, making a total valuation of \$690,355. The millage agreed on will raise about \$8,900 for city expenses, which is an increase of about \$50 over the last year. For the sake of economy, the council reduced the salary of the city attorney from \$40 per month to \$20 per month. When the vote as to the levy was put to the council the vote was Allen, yes; White, yes; Muecke, yes; Ballagh, yes. Whereupon the mayor declared the motion carried.

The council met again on Tuesday night, pursuant to a call of the mayor. A request having been made by the school board that they be allowed to use the hall now occupied by the library, the matter was taken up and discussed. It was decided to allow the school the privilege of using the room, they to pay the city the sum of \$10 per month and also furnish their own fuel.

As to the matter of a party or parties turning in a false fire alarm the night of December 25, the council agreed on offering a reward of \$25 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty party or parties.

Several other matters of minor importance were taken up and discussed, but left over until next meeting. Thereupon council adjourned.

WOODMEN SELECT OFFICERS FOR YEAR

At a recent meeting of St. Helens Camp No. 10999, Modern Woodmen of America, the following were selected as officers for the ensuing year:

Consul—N. D. McCallum.
Adviser—H. E. Veazie.
Clerk—H. E. LaBare.
Banker—E. A. Ross.
Escort—J. W. Akin.
Physicians—Edwin Ross and L. G. Rous.

Watchman—F. W. Christie.
Sentry—Edwin Ross.
Trustee—W. A. Levi.

The installation will be held next Wednesday night, January 3, at the Odd Fellows hall, and the lodge extends a cordial invitation to all members and visiting neighbors to be present.

The St. Helens lodge, though only a few years old, has a strong membership and plans are being made for a further increase. It is probable that at some time in the near future the lodge will have a home of their own.

A UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GREETING

A party of well known traveling men, all of whom are regular visitors to St. Helens, instructed a confectioner at Astoria to send to each of the waitresses in a certain well known hotel there a large box of candy as a Christmas present. The greeting sent along with the candy is as follows:

"Here's thanking you for the 'eats' you have brought us, both good and bad, and listening with patience to our line of talk, both good and bad, and wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year during 1917." This signatures followed.

BUDGET MEETING

The county budget meeting, which will be held in the courthouse tomorrow at 1:30 p. m., promises to be a very interesting event. Many taxpayers from all over the county will be in attendance and will ask the court to explain why so much money will be needed for the conduct of the county's affairs.

TAXPAYERS' LEAGUE HAS SMALL MEETING

Delegates to State Convention Are Selected.

The Columbia County Taxpayers' League held its meeting in the basement of the courthouse Wednesday. On account of the bad weather there was only a small attendance. Vice President C. J. Larsen presided and Secretary W. J. Fullerton kept a record of the proceedings.

The budget was gone over but no definite action taken. Other matters of interest to the taxpayers at large came up for discussion but action was postponed until the next meeting of the league, which will be at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning, December 30.

Ten new members were taken into the league. The following were elected delegates to the state convention which will be held in Salem January 26: J. G. Watts, C. J. Larsen and W. J. Fullerton.

The officers of the league are especially desirous of a full attendance at the adjourned meeting Saturday morning, as some definite program is to be outlined relative to just what action the league will take in regard to the county budget.

POULTRY SHOW IN ST. HELENS NOW ON

Many Exhibits of Fine Poultry Attracts Interest.

The first poultry show of the Columbia County Poultry and Pet Stock Association is now on. The exhibits are in the carpenter shop next door to the Columbia County Bank, and the main show started this morning. Judge Myers, of Portland, an expert judge of poultry, will make the award of prizes. Some of the poultry which was on display at the recent poultry show in Portland is on exhibit here, and is attracting much interest. Albers Bros. of Portland kindly furnished the feed for the many chickens on display, a courtesy much appreciated by the local association. The show will continue today and tomorrow, and will doubtless be visited by many people interested in the poultry business.

LETTERS AWARDED TO SCHOOL ATHLETES

At a special meeting of the student body recently, letters were awarded to the basketball and baseball men of last year. Six basketball players received S's, but none of the six are in school here this year. They are: Lester Wellington, Raymond Deaver, Dale Perry, Walter Zyssett, Roy Laws, and Ray Brouse. The letter men in baseball are: George Walker, Caly Stanwood, Edward Malmn, Lawrence Davies, Dale Perry, Albert Faxson, John McVey, John Southard. Dale Perry was the only one who earned a track letter, and those who witnessed the county track meet will agree that he surely earned it.

ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER

M. Murray, a resident of Rainier, was arrested Tuesday afternoon in Rainier, and charged with a serious infraction of the law. He became engaged in an altercation with a Greek who runs a restaurant at that place and they came to blows. When the Greek was getting a little the best of the fist argument Murray drew a revolver and fired at his opponent, the bullet from the 22 calibre revolver making a little scratch on the fast-fleeing Greek. Murray was arrested and placed under \$2,000 bonds. His case will come up before the grand jury at its next meeting.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUN TO BE HELD BY HIGH

The students of the various classes are now practicing for the inter-class cross-country relay to be staged on the afternoon of the 22nd. Each class will enter four representatives, each runner to cover a distance of a half mile. The course, which will be two miles in length, has not been definitely selected at this time. This event is a new one for St. Helens, and should prove very interesting.

MASON'S STORE IS VISITED BY ROBBER

Contents of Cash Till Taken—Sheriff Working on Case.

Some time during Tuesday night, a thief entered Mason's confectionery and made a nice little haul. All the change left in the cash till, which amounted to about \$10, was appropriated by the visitor, but few of the articles of merchandise was molested. Entrance was effected by breaking the glass in the door to the kitchen and then unlocking the door. Deputy Sheriff Brown was early on the scene and is making an investigation. It is understood that he has a clew which will lead to the discovery of the guilty party.

St. Helens has been very fortunate in having so few of these occurrences, and if the guilty party is caught in all probability a heavy penalty will be inflicted as an object lesson to others who might have such notions in their craniums.

ST. HELENS BOY MAKES MONEY RAISING WHEAT

L. S. (Red) Hattan is at home spending the holiday season with his father, Judge Hattan. Several years ago Mr. Hattan left St. Helens and went to eastern Washington, where for a short while he was superintendent of a large ranch. Later he thought he would go into business for himself, so two years ago leased the ranch, and Wilbur Muecke became associated with him. The ranch is near Connell, Wash., which is in Franklin county and about 150 miles from Spokane. This year the boys had very good luck. They sold their wheat crop for \$15,000 and still have about one thousand bushels in storage. After paying rent, wages and all other expenses incidental to running a large ranch, they had about \$6,500 to divide.

Mr. Hattan plans to return to his ranch January 10, as he has some fifty head of horses to look after. During his absence his two hired men are looking after matters, but Red thinks he should be back on the ranch. His many friends in St. Helens are glad to hear of his prosperity.

EYE WITNESS TO PORTLAND TRAGEDY

Reese Hall was in the barber shop in the Morgan building Christmas morning when McCall killed his fellow barber, Shaner, and was an eye witness to the whole affair. Reese states that while he didn't get out of the shop as fast as did the negro porter who McCall tried to kill, that nevertheless he didn't waste any time in leaving the place, and incidentally forgot to wait for a shave. He says he was not at all nervous, but was afraid some of the barbers might be, so he went unshaved.

NEW EXTENSION TO WATER SYSTEM

Chas. Lope, superintendent of the St. Helens water board, has recently completed an extension to the system which will be of great benefit to many of its patrons. The extension begins on Fir street, near the S. E. Smith residence, and runs east for a distance of 600 feet and then south 500 feet to a point near the county road. The pipe Mr. Lope laid is a 2-inch pipe which he had formerly taken up from another section of the city and replaced a 1/2-inch pipe which was inadequate to supply the several families on the line. The extension cost in round figures about \$300.

SHIP HALTED BY TORPEDO BOAT

The schooner King Cyrus, under command of Captain Rosendahl, has recently arrived at Grays Harbor, after a passage of 117 days from Fremantle, Australia. In the Straits of Torres the vessel was halted by an Australian torpedo boat and was searched. No Germans were found among the crew and the vessel was allowed to proceed. Both the vessel and her captain are well known in St. Helens, the King Cyrus having been here many times during the past few years.

WAR VETERAN CELEBRATES 85TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. William Cox Celebrates His Anniversary Tuesday.

William Cox celebrated his 85th birthday anniversary last Tuesday, December 26. Twenty-five of his friends gathered at his residence to congratulate him and wish him "many happy returns of the day." Mr. Cox was born in England in 1831, and when but a young man he came to America, settling in Wisconsin. At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted in the 20th Wisconsin regiment and served his adopted country during those trying days. Nine years ago he and his wife, Anna Cox, whom he married in 1865 at the close of the war, came to St. Helens, where they have since resided. The guests brought many presents for this venerable citizen. A bountiful repast was served and all had a most enjoyable evening.

NEW LOGGING CAMP IS IN PROSPECT

H. B. & A. Company Plan to Begin Operations Near Yankton.

The Holland, Briggs & Avery Logging Company will, in the near future, establish a large logging camp on Milton creek, a short distance from Yankton, provided they can secure right of way from several parties who are now in controversy with them. Should the camp be established it will give employment to at least 75 men, and will operate for some time, the concern having large timber holdings in that vicinity. It is planned to make an extension from Looman's crossing, on the St. Helens Lumber Company's railroad, up Milton creek for a distance of about four miles. The end of the road will be near the Charles Wallace place, where the company's timber is located. It is understood that the only obstacle in the way at the present time, is the fact that several persons owning land over which the logging company wishes to cross are holding back consent. It is hoped that a compromise settlement can be arrived at, for the employment of another 75 to 100 men in a permanent enterprise would be of benefit to the entire community, and those employees of the St. Helens Lumber Company who are temporarily out of work on account of the closing of the camp would be able to find employment immediately and their work be near their homes.

REPRESENTATIVE OF O. A. C. IS SPEAKER

Recently Miss Cowgill, of O. A. C., spoke to the students about the club work which the agricultural college is conducting in the interests of the boys and girls of the state. She discussed the extension courses in domestic science, agriculture and dairying, which are open to the young people of Oregon under the supervision of the college which she represents. Miss Cowgill strongly advised the students to form clubs and take advantage of one or more of these courses.

ENGAGEMENT OF MISS PHILIP ANNOUNCED

Miss Elizabeth Philip gave a party Wednesday afternoon in honor of her sister, Miss Elsie Philip, at which a number of close friends were present. After refreshments were served, the guests were informed of the engagement of Miss Elsie to Rev. A. A. Heist, a former St. Helens man, but now located in Portland. No definite date has been set for the wedding, but it will probably be in June. Both Miss Philip and Rev. Heist are well known and have many friends in St. Helens who offer congratulations.

Flavius Sten left Wednesday for his home in Great Falls, Mont., where he is employed by the Anaconda Copper Company. Mr. Sten states that the company employs about 3,000 men in the conduct of their business there. Flavius is employed in the warehouse department and checks the shipments of ore which come in from Butte and other mining localities.

MAN KILLS WIFE THEN COMMITS SUICIDE

Tragedy Occurs at Rainier Tuesday Afternoon.

Brooding over the fact that his wife had recently instituted divorce proceedings against him, W. J. Horton, a logger, Tuesday afternoon at Rainier, killed his wife, Sarah J. Horton, and then turning the weapon on himself sent a bullet through his head. Both the man and his victim fell unconscious, Horton dying in less than two hours and the woman lingered for four hours. Both of them were unconscious so no direct statements could be obtained. The shooting occurred in the store of W. S. Cobb & Co., which is just opposite the S. P. & S. depot, immediately after the arrival of the boat from Kelso, on which Horton came to Rainier. Evidently Horton had his mind made up as to what he would do and how quickly he would do it, for he walked directly to the store, where his wife was employed, and without a word shot the woman. The woman had recently filed a divorce suit against Horton, and on the summons, which was found on the body of the man, he had written a short note which stated in effect that he could not live without his wife and therefore had decided to kill both himself and her. Another note found on the man's body was addressed to his son, Troy Horton, and dated on Christmas day, instructing the son to collect certain moneys due Horton and wound up by saying that he had worried over the divorce suit so much that he could stand it no longer and the son would probably not see him again.

When Horton arrived from Kelso, where he has a brother, Bud Horton, a wealthy shipping man, he stood for a few minutes before the barber shop where the manager of the Cobb store was getting shaved, apparently to make sure that the manager of the store was not in his place of business. When he recognized the manager, he at once proceeded to the store and the tragedy followed within a few seconds.

Earlier in the day Mrs. Horton told a woman friend that her husband had, on the preceding day, before going to Kelso, threatened to return yesterday and kill her.

Both had been previously married. Horton had one son, Troy, as the result of the former marriage, and Mrs. Horton had three children, Ray, Guy and Myrtle Wisecup, aged 22, 16 and 10 years respectively, the issue of the former union. Troy Horton was in Stella, Wash., where his father had been at work recently, since he and his wife separated last October, and Mrs. Horton's children were also away from town.

Mr. and Mrs. Horton formerly conducted a lodging house in Portland. The woman was clerk of the Women of Woodcraft. Mrs. Horton had held a position in the Cobb store since October and she had but recently applied for a divorce, and this is believed to have worked on the man's mind to such an extent that he became temporarily deranged.

The funerals of both victims of the tragedy were held Thursday.

LIST OF TRANSFERS

Real estate transfers reported by Columbia County Abstract Company:
Dec. 20—Geo. Morel to Louis Muller; land in Sec. 15, Tp. 6 N., R. 2 W., \$1.
R. W. Nicholas to Pearl V. Sweek; W 1/2 lot 1, blk. 148, St. Helens, \$50.
Dec. 21—Alvin J. Bicknell et ux. to Gladys Parkhill; land in Sec. 19, Tp. 7 N., R. 3 W., \$10.
Araminta Vanvolkinburg et ux. to Wilson K. Tichenor et al.; land in Sec. 8, Tp. 7 N., R. 4 W., \$10.
Dec. 22—E. B. Woodyard et ux. to Thomas W. Killingland, NE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 Sec. 32, Tp. 4 N., R. 3 W., \$10.
Ross Stanwood et al. to G. R. Anliker, timber on W 1/2 of SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 and SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 Sec. 20, Tp. 6 N., R. 2 W., \$10.
Dec. 23—Sarah A. Schoonover et ux. to William Corwin; land in Sec. 4, Tp. 4 N., R. 1 W., \$300.
Dec. 26—M. W. Hunt et ux. to Isaac D. Hunt; land in Sec. 14, Tp. 3 N., R. 2 W., \$10.

EASTERN STARS AND MASONS INSTALL

Big Attendance to Witness Interesting Ceremony.

The Masonic and Eastern Star lodges held a joint installation of their officers Wednesday night. It is the first time in the history of the lodges that such an installation has been made, and more than 100 members of both lodges were in attendance to witness the interesting ceremonies.

The installation of the officers of the Eastern Star was held first, and Mrs. Ray Watts was the installing officer. The officers installed were: Worthy Matron—Mrs. Lila Cronan; Associate Worthy Matron—Mrs. Mary Christie.

Worthy Patron—E. A. Rotger.
Conductress—Mrs. L. L. Baker.
Associate Conductress—Mrs. S. L. Butler.

Secretary—John Phillip.
Treasurer—Andrew King.
Marshal—Mrs. E. A. Rotger.
Chaplain—Miss Madolain Thomas.
Warden—Mrs. S. E. Lynch.
Sentinel—L. R. Rutherford.

After the installation of these officers the lodge took a recess and the Masons then took charge. Other Clark, a former master of the lodge, presided and was installing officer. The following officers were installed to serve during the ensuing year:

W. M.—E. A. Rotger.
S. W.—A. L. Stone.
J. W.—Ernest St. Johns.
Secretary—E. E. Quick.
Treasurer—James Dart.
S. D.—S. C. Morton.
J. D.—A. J. Peel.
S. S.—Harley Turner.
J. S.—T. F. Robertson.

After the installation all repaired to the banquet room, where a bountiful repast was served. The room was tastefully decorated and on each table there was a small Christmas tree. Short addresses were made by the newly elected officers of both the Masons and the Eastern Stars, and all of them pledged themselves to work for the interest and growth of the lodge. Many members and visitors from a distance were present and all unite in saying that it was one of the most successful lodge functions ever held in St. Helens. The new officers elected will begin their duties at the next meeting.

ENTERTAINED

On Wednesday evening, December 20, the Himalaya Club was entertained at the home of Miss Jessie Stokes. The main feature of the evening was a prettily decorated Christmas tree which held gift for each guest. Miss Goldie Hattan and Miss Merna Yeomans, the new members taken into the club, were put through a series of "stunts," affording much amusement to the onlookers. Those present were Miss Jessie Stokes, Miss Alice Quick, Miss Anna Quick, Miss Helen Duns, Miss Helen Larson, Miss Gertrude Phillips, Miss Viola Lyburner, Miss Marie Paulson, Miss Madeline Allen, Miss Goldie Hattan, Miss Merna Yeomans and Mrs. E. C. Laws.

CHRISTMAS TRADE IS LARGE HERE

All of the home merchants interviewed report a very satisfactory Christmas trade. The shops were compelled to keep open until a late hour Saturday night to accommodate the belated buyers. The slogan "Trade early and trade at home" had its effect, and in consequence when the tired merchants closed their several places of business Saturday night, they found they had done the biggest Christmas business in the history of St. Helens.

FIREMEN'S DANCE IS BIG SUCCESS

The Volunteer Fire Department gave their Christmas dance at the city hall Saturday night. The music was furnished by Wilson's orchestra and there was a large crowd present. Good order was maintained and those attending report a most enjoyable time. A neat sum was realized which will go into the firemen's benefit fund.