

# St. Helens Mist

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## HIGHWAY BUILDERS WANT TO ARBITRATE

### PETITION WITH COUNTY COURT PRAYING FOR SETTLEMENT BY ARBITRATORS.

Attorney Preparing Answer, Which Will be Ready to File at Adjourned Session Saturday.

A decision will be reached tomorrow between the county and the Contracting Company as to what action will be taken in arriving at a settlement for services performed by the contract company on the Columbia highway.

On Monday of this week the contract company filed with the County Court a very voluminous petition in which various representations are made concerning their performance under the contract with the county highway work, the gist of which request to arbitrate the matter.

There is no question as to the right of the state highway engineer to demand a cessation of operations, which was done late last fall, owing to the fact that there was no money available with which to carry on the work. At that time there has been nothing done. In the final estimates on work completed, as prepared by the Highway Engineer Bowlby, some time ago, there is a specific amount of amount due the contractors.

As the work progressed last year payment was had with the contract company each month on the basis of 80 percent of the amount earned for the month. There is an amount due the contractors, but the question is what amount. The contractors in their petition do not make any specific claim, but merely ask that a board of arbitrators be appointed and their findings accepted as final.

That the attitude of the court will be at this time conjectural. District Attorney Cooper is preparing a reply to the petition, which will be ready for presentation at the adjourned session of court tomorrow.

## SHERIFFS ARE AFTER BACK PERSONAL TAX

County Brown Endeavoring to Collect Unpaid Amounts.

The sheriff's office is compiling a list of delinquents who have failed to pay personal taxes for the years 1912 and 1913. Deputy Sheriff Brown is sending out notices to the delinquents as the information is obtained from the records. The total amount due is \$962, and with interest will be over \$1000. The law directs the sheriffs to levy upon and sell sufficient of the personal property to satisfy the county's claim.

## CLATSOP MAN TALKS HIGHWAYS

Visitor Says "Good Results" Have Come By Engineering Science.

J. Curtis of Astoria, erstwhile politician, lawyer, councilman, etc., in St. Helens last Saturday on business. Mr. Curtis has had the experiences in public life which usually come to one spending a better part of a lifetime in one community, and his knowledge of the affairs is very great. In addition to those Mr. Curtis possesses a scholarly which most people envy. In discussing the highway situation in Clatsop county with friends here in this city, made some very interesting statements.

The visitor said that his county spent \$400,000 for surveying and building "similar" road work. That during the last summer the engineers and sub-engineers and their subs ran the S. P. & S. trains from Astoria points along the highway route surveying special road crews and extension parties to inspect the highway work and "similar" work; that Clatsop county at present has half a mile of well built highway, leading to the court house in Astoria to the office in the Sexarth building. All this has been accomplished at an expenditure of only \$400,000. Clatsop county should feel encouraged.

It is barely possible that Curtis is only enthusiastic over what has been accomplished in his county in the matter of highway building, but evident sincerity is really, almost sufficient to persuade one to look in the matter as he does. Curtis is an ex-newspaper man, which, in a measure, account for his usual effervescence.

## NEW HULL FOR SNAG-BOAT IS LAUNCHED

House and Machinery Being Transferred From Former Hull.

The new hull for the Government snagboat Multnomah has been completed at the plant of the St. Helens Shipbuilding Company and the work of transferring the house and machinery from the old hull is now in progress. It will take about thirty days to complete this work. Construction on the two large barges for the Columbia Contract Company was begun this week and will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. It will probably require about two months' time to complete these. There is other work for the yards in prospect, and it is very probable that there will be steady operation at the shipyards throughout the summer and fall. The force of mechanics at the yards will be increased by about 20 men right away.

## BIG CELEBRATION IN PROSPECT

MERCHANTS WILL STAND SPONSOR FOR THE EVENT.

Volunteer Firemen to Have Charge of Details and Success Assured.

St. Helens is to have a rousing Fourth of July celebration if present plans do not miscarry. The business men of the city hope to enlist the support of all good citizens in the undertaking, and make the celebration this year a more glorious affair than was the case last year, if that were possible. Last year's celebration was the biggest and best ever held in the county seat. This opinion is universal. With this understanding the undertaking for this year will be carried forward with the determination to equal if not excel the previous effort, which was so excellently managed by the local fire company.

Thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the undertaking the St. Helens Merchants Credit Association, at its meeting on Friday of last week decided to stand sponsor for this year's celebration, and passed a resolution asking the local volunteer firemen to take charge of the details and make of the occasion one that will be a credit to the city and themselves. The merchants of the city will call upon the citizens for aid in the undertaking, which, no doubt, will be freely granted. With the assurance that the firemen will carry out the details of the celebration the community may feel certain that a successful celebration will be the result.

## FINNY TRIBE IN MILTON CREEK DIMINISHED

Druggist, Councilman and Clerical Expert Go on Fishing Trip.

Three prominent citizens of St. Helens smiled forth at an early hour Tuesday morning in quest of mountain trout, spending a long day in the wilds of the upper Milton creek country. Councilman Hallagh, with his Ford car, and Recorder Quick and A. J. Deming, as guests, each bearing an undisputed reputation as the three crack fishermen of the city, waged an unrelenting warfare on the finny tribe as long as daylight favored them that day.

Up to the time of going to press it has been impossible to get a corroborating statement from either of them as to how many fish were taken. Their friends have some pretty well defined notions that the result of the day's crusade was a "skunk," but individually the gentlemen claim to have made a record catch. Their friendships are pretty well cemented and their secrets seem to be equally as well sealed regarding the result of their outing.

## BOY SCOUTS GO ON HIKE TO COUNTRY

Spend a Day With Nature to Mental and Physical Benefit.

Rev. F. J. Meyer and a bevy of his Boy Scouts were on a long hike last Saturday, going as far as the head-works of the city water system, on upper Milton creek. Mr. Meyer has been doing a splendid work for the young boys of the community since he has been here. The training the boys have received has covered a broad range, including physical culture, first aid to the injured, gymnasium work and other athletic features, which broaden them mentally and physically. The interest the reverend gentleman has manifested in the boys has been duly appreciated by the parents in this community.

## DEPOT IMPROVEMENT IS TO BE DEMANDED

COUNCIL ADOPTS RESOLUTION HAVING FOR ITS OBJECT BETTER FACILITIES.

Business Interests and Commercial Importance of City Demanding Immediate Action.

A strong effort is to be made through the medium of the city council to have better depot accommodations provided. At the meeting of the city council Monday evening this matter was discussed at some length and a strong resolution presented and adopted. For a city of the commercial importance of St. Helens the depot accommodations, building and all, are inadequate. Through the instrumentality of the business interests of the community there will be a concerted effort made to have conditions improved. The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the city of Houlton has been consolidated with St. Helens, and the present building now in use as a depot is called Houlton, and the city of Houlton no longer exists, and whereas, the aforementioned building is not in keeping with the size and importance of the city of St. Helens, therefore be it

Resolved, that the mayor and city council use every means in their power to urge the S. P. & S. Railway Co. to erect a more commodious and modern depot in our city, and that it be named St. Helens.

L. R. Rutherford was appointed a committee of one, to act in conjunction with the commercial club, and present the matter to the railroad officials.

The council took up a number of other important matters at its meeting Monday night, among them being the authorization of a light being placed in Spring street, as asked for at the previous meeting.

The members of the council and the Mayor decided to make a personal tour of inspection of the city by night in order to ascertain the situation regarding the condition of the lights throughout the city.

A proposal to employ a street commissioner was made by Mayor Morton, such an officer to have charge of all street and sewer work. The matter was discussed at length, but action was postponed.

## OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT IS APPRECIATED

Three Hundred People Enjoyed an Interesting Mixed Program.

The public entertainment given by the citizens of St. Helens last Saturday evening was, indeed, a success and a very much appreciated affair by the public generally. Mayor Morton, in his opening announcement, directed his remarks particularly to the young people, reminding them of a debt they owed in consideration of what was being done in the way of better school training facilities. The young people were reminded forcibly that all that was being done was in their behalf. An interesting program consisting of readings, vocal music, band selections, drills and other features made up the entertainment.

There were about 300 people present, a fitting testimonial to their interest in what the citizens were endeavoring to accomplish in the way of additional facilities at the fair grounds, especially in securing funds for the installation of suitable quarters for housing the display of school work of the county. It being the close of the last day for the sale of tags for that purpose the mayor took occasion to announce that those present would be given another opportunity to contribute further to the building fund if they were so inclined. Several young ladies offered tags for sale and disposed of about \$10 worth. Everybody in the community seemed imbued with the spirit of the occasion and joined in making it a success.

## EAGER FISHERMAN SERVING SENTENCE

Clatskanie Resident Caught at Illegally Taking Fish.

John Jarvi of Clatskanie, was arrested last Friday for fishing during the closed season. Judge Barnes of Clatskanie, sentenced the offender to 25 days in the county jail. He is boarding with Sheriff Hurlbut of Multnomah county, having been taken up there last Monday by Sheriff Stanwood.

## WORK ON HIGHWAY IN CLATSOP COUNTY

Road Can Be Made Serviceable With the Amount of Funds on Hand.

Acting upon the recommendation of the county advisory board the county court of Clatsop county has ordered the immediate resumption of work on the Columbia highway between Westport and Astoria. Peterson & Johnson, the contractors, however, refused to act unless the county guaranteed the payment of a claim they have before the state highway commission on the Boyjohn-Arnold contract. With assurance of State Highway Engineer Cantine that the Columbia highway between Westport and Astoria can be made serviceable with the \$69,495.28 available, the county advisory board recommended that the county court take steps to secure the completion of the work.

## DEALERS ORGANIZATION STRONG

OBJECT IS TO ADVANCE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

Efforts Will be Directed to General Upbuilding of Industrial Matters.

The Merchants Credit Association, which was formed in this city some time ago, gives promise of being a very useful organization in the community in many ways. Aside from the prime object which prompted its formation, that of a mutual organization in an endeavor to protect its members from loss through unscrupulous purchasers, the association will also have as one of its cardinal objects the furtherance of commercial and industrial welfare of the community.

Some plan will be worked out by the merchants whereby their united support can be enlisted in the line of work usually handled by a commercial club or chamber of commerce. In such work there is a broad field for useful endeavor. Many matters of great importance to the community are constantly coming up, requiring the attention of some local commercial organization, and in this work the local merchants association can wield a great power. Their organization is steadily taking in members, at the present time the membership being 24. The next meeting will be held Friday evening, April 30.

## AUTHORITIES LOCATE GATEWAY AT QUINCY

Property Owner Petitions Court to Put Outlet Across Private Land.

The Board of County Road Viewers and County Surveyor L. J. Van Orshoven on April 12 were at Quincy viewing out and locating a roadway through the property of Jafet Lindberg, as petitioned for by Joseph Lumijarvi. Lumijarvi represented in his petition to the county court that he had no outlet from his property to the main county road. The matter is yet unsettled, as it has been ascertained by the surveyor that there is an outlet from the northwest corner of Lumijarvi's property to an established road intersecting the county road.

## RETAIN PRINCIPALS OF LOCAL SCHOOLS

School Board Has Chosen Head Instructors for Ensuing Year.

At a recent meeting of the local school board, L. L. Baker, superintendent of the St. Helens public schools, and J. D. Brehaut, principal of the Houlton school, were re-elected for another year's work in their present positions. Superintendent Baker has rendered excellent service in the conduct of school matters, as has also been the case with Prof. Brehaut, in charge of the Houlton department. At the regular monthly meeting of the board to be held early in May, the grade teachers will be chosen.

## MINSTREL TALENTS BEING DEVELOPED

Athletic Club Members Start on Rehearsals for Minstrel Show.

The members of the Sunset Athletic Club of St. Helens, and their friends, have begun rehearsing for a minstrel entertainment which they will favor the public with in the very near future. The young gentlemen will give a creditable exhibition of their talents. The athletic club is composed almost entirely of members of the volunteer fire company, and their good work in the community deserves a substantial recognition. Their entertainment should be liberally patronized.

## SHOULD ADVOCATE NATIVE PAVING STONE

COMMERCIAL BODIES SHOULD ADVANCE ITS CLAIM FOR PAVING PREFERENCE.

Multnomah Authorities Might be Induced to Favor Local Product in Their Paving Work.

St. Helens, the home of the Belgian paving block, should forthwith present its claim in a forcible manner to the authorities having in charge the work of paving the seventy miles of highway in Multnomah county as a prospective, meritorious and deserving candidate as the supply source for a great deal of the material to be consumed in that enormous volume of public work. This claim would not have to be based upon any sentimental assumption, but upon the fact of genuine merit, backed by dollar for dollar value.

There is no patent paving material that is in any manner whatever a competitor of the Belgian block in point of durability. A pavement laid with the idea of carrying heavy traffic, certainly should be laid with no other material. This, of course, is the foremost reason for presenting the cause of the Belgian block to the consideration of the prospective customer.

However, its claims for favor are many. In the first place, the Belgian block is strictly a home product. In this respect, also, it has no competitor. And, further, too, being a strictly home product, all the expenditures in its employment as a paving material would immediately flow back into the channels of home commercialism. Furthermore, Belgian blocks is the only paving material which has no cost for the raw material. Nature's lavish hand in placing this superior basaltic formation at our disposal has made it possible to utilize it at a comparatively low cost.

A Belgian block pavement is the only one that can be guaranteed to stand up under heavy traffic. It makes no difference what other class of paving material is used or by whom it is placed, the consumer cannot expect to have a guarantee of its durability. No contractor will guarantee patent paving material at all. With the Belgian block no guarantee would be necessary. Its durability has for many years been an undisputed fact.

The portion of the highway from the oil tanks, in the vicinity of Linton, to Portland, is, no doubt, carrying the heaviest traffic of any section of road in the state. Approximately 100 ten-ton auto trucks make the trip daily from the tanks to the city. No patent paving can long withstand such a severe test. The distance from the oil tanks to the city is approximately two miles. It is proposed to surface that section of the highway to a width of eighteen feet. For that work it would require approximately 900,000 regulation-size Belgian blocks, and even though the first cost of the improvement by the use of stone blocks were greater, the ultimate cost would be nominal, as future cost of repair would be entirely eliminated.

Portland has sent into the coffers of foreign institutions during the last decade hundreds of thousands of dollars for paving material. Vitrified, or Seattle brick has been extensively used for paving the streets of the Oregon metropolis. The money so expended built up foreign institutions at the cost of the home product. The test of time has demonstrated the fallacy of such business methods. The use of the wooden block, another strictly local product, and excelled for standing up under heavy traffic only by the Belgian block, has been industriously avoided, greatly to the discredit of the authorities and to the financial loss of the community at large. The merit of the Belgian block should be presented to the Multnomah county authorities in the most convincing manner possible by business interests of this community. Certainly, it does seem that out of the great volume of material to be consumed in paving the 70 miles of Multnomah county roads, such a meritorious local material as Belgian blocks should be given the consideration which is due it.

## GOOD WORK DONE ON ROAD TO PORTLAND

County Roadmaster is Hopeful of Having Smooth Road for Summer.

The St. Helens-Portland road from Erickson's hill, in the vicinity of Warren, south to Scappoose, has been widened, scarified and put in good condition for summer travel, according to Roadmaster Titus' statement. From Scappoose south to Johnson's crossing a crew is now at work placing that section of the county road in good condition. Mr. Titus says that in all probability that part of the road will be covered with fine rock and oiled. Near St. Helens there is some good work being done on the road, which will give a good thoroughfare all the way to Portland.

## HOULTON-ST. HELENS ROAD IMPROVEMENT

Work Cannot be Completed This Year on Account of Lack of Funds.

The improvement of the highway connecting this city and Houlton is one of the much needed and substantial pieces of road work now in progress. It is unfortunate, however, that it will be impossible to complete the work this year, owing to lack of funds. There was but \$2500 available for this work, and Roadmaster Titus informs The Mist that the amount available will complete the work only to a point a little more than half the distance from Houlton toward St. Helens. If it is possible to effect a saving on some other work during the season it may be possible that the St. Helens-Houlton improvement can be completed.

## WOMEN WANT CIVIC BETTERMENT

REST ROOM AND LIBRARY NOW THEIR AIM.

Organization That is Undertaking Great Good for the Community.

The Women's Club of St. Helens is an organization entitled to the hearty support of every citizen and business institution here. The ladies are undertaking to bring about many betterments in civic and educational conditions. One of the most commendable undertakings of the club is a plan to establish a rest room at some convenient location in the city, where visitors could find comforts and conveniences that would be an encouragement to visit the city oftener.

Such an institution, properly equipped and supplied with magazines and other periodicals would provide quarters where ladies and children from the surrounding country would be glad to go. Their visits to the city would be more frequent and the business institutions of the town would be greatly benefited.

While the establishment of a rest room is just now one of the principal objects of the club, there are other very important matters the ladies are endeavoring to work out. Among them is the establishment of a reading room and library, where young men could find it both profitable and convenient to spend their evenings. This might be brought about in conjunction with gymnasium work which the athletic club is instituting. The ladies are enthusiastic and sincere in their work and should be encouraged.

Their club work covers a wide range of useful endeavor. At their bimonthly meetings they take up child welfare, home economics, civics, literature and current events. The club has a membership of 25, and meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

## CLEAN-UP DAY WITH LOCAL BALL FANS

Next Sunday afternoon has been proclaimed clean-up day for St. Helens baseball fans. The Noah's Ark Midgets and the Live Wires will proceed to clean up the first and second teams of Houlton in a double header Sunday afternoon, starting at 1:30. Baseball fans can get a chance for some real excitement at the St. Helens school grounds.

## CHICKEN THIEVES ARE SENT TO COUNTY JAIL

Two Young Halfbreed Indians Visit Chicken Roosts Near Rainier.

Last Monday morning two young halfbreed Indians, giving the names of Joe Rock and Frank Rock, aged 16 years and 18 years, were taken into custody by the constable of Rainier precinct, charged with stealing chickens.

The youngsters were traveling on a tie pass, and seeing a flock of well-groomed chickens at the ranch of Shared Rice, near Rainier, on Sunday evening, they proceeded to help themselves to five of the birds, taking them to the river bank, where they partook of hiyu muck-a-muck, after which they contented themselves by remaining all night in the vicinity of their acts of depredation.

They were arrested Monday morning, given a trial before Judge Doan of Rainier, and sentenced to three months in the county jail. Sheriff Stanwood took them to the Multnomah county jail Wednesday morning.