

Gillette Followed Custom, Not Charter

The questions asked of Recorder Gillette by the Tidings have caused considerable inquiry to be made as to the financial records of the city, and of the dealings of the recorder or municipal judge.

The Tidings is informed and has every reason to believe that the system of bookkeeping in the city hall is adequate and simple in design, and the clerical work most admirably performed. In other words, every dollar of money passing through the office is accounted for upon the books of the city, and while it is doubtless true that the distribution of the items could be so arranged as to simplify the making up of reports, yet no criticism is made as to the accuracy of the actual records of financial transactions. The funds are kept separate, and no errors have been made which involve loss to the city, as far as known.

The sole exception to the above is in connection with the fines collected by the recorder as municipal judge, for violations of city ordinances.

The charter provides ALL such fines must be turned over to the city treasurer. We understand it has been the custom for some years for the recorder to retain a portion of fines collected, and the present official has followed the custom rather than the provisions of the charter. The charter provides that the recorder SHALL qualify as justice of the peace for Ashland, thus to handle violations of state laws within the city. As justice he is entitled to retain certain fees, and the charter so specifically states.

The present recorder's predecessor qualified as justice of the peace for the county, and thus could handle not only Ashland's violations of state law, but cases in adjacent territory, and of course was entitled to the legalized fees.

The failure of Mr. Gillette to qualify as justice, though frequently urged, left him the judicial qualification of municipal judge only, and the fines collected therewith belonged WHOLLY to the city.

The recorder has followed the custom, rather than the charter. The amount involved is small, approximately \$100 per year. His error has been undoubtedly lack of discrimination and judgment rather than intentional wrongdoing.

Following custom is the cause of most of our city's present difficulties, and it is the judgment of the Tidings that the recorder should be a man of sufficient experience and judgment to properly handle the office duties, in spite of custom to the contrary.

The following are the charter provisions verbatim:

Article IX, Section 5, City Charter.
"All fines collected for violation of ordinances and all penalties and forfeitures collected shall be forthwith paid to the city treasurer, who shall receipt therefor, and the recorder shall make monthly report thereof to the council."

Article IX, Section 3.

"The recorder shall, in addition to the qualifications required of him by the city council, qualify in like manner as a justice of the peace, and thereupon during the term of his office shall have full authority and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace for the county of Jackson to act within said city, and shall be governed by and subject to all the general and statute laws of the state of Oregon, prescribing the duties of justice of the peace, and any and all judgments of said recorder's court, while acting in the capacity of justice of the peace, shall be of the same force and effect and subject to the same proceedings as the judgments of justice of the peace."

Death Caused From Heart Trouble

Mrs. Anne Bland of Albany, Ore., who has been visiting at the home of G. F. Billings, died suddenly on Wednesday afternoon of heart failure.

Mrs. Bland and husband lived for many years in the vicinity of Ashland. She was born in England seventy years ago, and has lived in Michigan, Dakota and Oregon. She was a bright, lovable Christian woman who made a host of friends wherever she lived.

The funeral services will be arranged after the arrival of a brother-in-law, R. K. Burton of Harrisburg, Ore., probably Friday afternoon.

Crater Gateway Much Discussed

At the Commercial Club meeting Monday night the matter of the road between Ashland and Crater Lake was brought up. Mr. Moody made a short discussion of the matter and said that Ashland must rely upon itself for any road building in this line. He brought censure on the county court for the alleged inequality in the expenditure of road funds.

A resolution endorsing the \$20,000 appropriation which Will Steel is endeavoring to get from congress, to be used in clearing the dead and fallen timber from along the thirteen miles of new road built the past year from the Klamath entrance of the park to the rim of the lake at Crater Lake lodge, was passed by the members present.

Frank Moore voiced his opinions on the benefits to be derived from a good road leading from Ashland to Pelican Bay and Lake of the Woods. This matter has come up before the club before, but Mr. Moore's eloquence succeeded in bringing something definite, and a committee was appointed by President Newcombe to look after the opening of this road and find ways and means for such. The appointees were Mr. Greer, Mr. Enders and Mr. Moore.

Marsh Wagner was a prominent figure in urging for a better road over Green Springs Mountain, as he thought that this would mean a good deal commercially to the city. As so much was being brought forth for development, however, this was set aside for some future date.

Eastman Kodaks and Azo paper, used by experts the world over. Whited the Kodakists, dealer.

Children Taken Into Good Homes

That J. Pinion of this city was insane and that his five motherless children were destitute, was the substance of a report Judge Tou Velle passed upon last week. After thorough investigation and finding the report to be true, Mr. Pinion was committed to the asylum. At first the children were to be sent to the Boys' and Girls' Society in Portland, but kind people took the children into their homes. Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Poley took the baby and the fifteen-year-old girl, Mrs. J. R. McCracken of Talent took the boy, Mrs. Elsie Titus the ten-year-old girl, and W. A. Faulk and wife the eleven-year-old child.

It will be recalled that several months ago the mother died, leaving Mr. Pinion to take care of the five children. Some weeks ago he became sick, and, not having proper nursing at the home, the case developed seriously, and Dr. Brower, who had been attending him, asked the city to take him to the hospital, where he could be given careful nursing, which was done. He soon regained physical strength, but was left deficient mentally.

Announcement.
C. B. Graves, formerly of Hawarden, Iowa, is helping O. H. Johnson take care of his trade during the holidays. Mr. Graves is an old and experienced jeweler and engraver who came to Rogue River Valley about three years ago to retire and has a fine country home near Talent.

Try Enders' school shoes.

Harris Dean Raises Ginseng

Harris Dean announces that he will take quite a crop from his ginseng garden on his lot at 99 Granite street this year. For six years he has given careful attention to the producing of these plants and this year marks the first time that he has reaped a crop, as it takes several years for the plants to develop. This year he has taken off from his little plot, 40x27 feet, about one hundred and fifty pounds of roots, which when dried will weigh about 35 pounds, this bringing him about \$280, as it markets at about \$8 per pound. Mr. Dean's original investment six years ago was \$150. Seed for this plant costs from \$100 to \$400 per pound.

Hominy grits at the Ashland Trading Company.

Hedges wants to be recorder.

Rose Society Vaudeville Will Be Given in Ashland

The presentation of The Rose Society vaudeville by the social and business men and women of Medford at the Vining next Tuesday evening will doubtless prove the most attractive social event to be given in the Rogue River Valley for many years. The Rose Society Vaudeville was staged in Medford for two nights this week and created more favorable comment than anything that has ever been given in that city. Sixty of the business and professional men and leading society women of Medford compose the cast, and those who witnessed the performances in Medford say it is a scream from beginning to end.

In addition to the sixty Medford people in the cast, more than fifty seats have already been engaged for the Vining Tuesday evening. After the performance a dance will be given by the Ashland Elks for the entertainment of the visitors, and this event will be made the beginning of closer social relations between the two principal cities of the valley.

The Medford Mail Tribune comments on the performance as follows:

The Rose Society vaudeville show at the Page Theatre Monday night was a distinct success, from start to finish. It possessed the polish one sees in professional but seldom in amateur performances. A standing room only house greeted the opening night. In spots, but rarely, the show lagged, and now and then a joke missed. "The best amateur performance in the history of Medford," was the verdict.

The surprise of the evening was "Pop" Gates. Unexpected histrionic ability cropped out here in the opening skit. He was cleverly assisted by Miss Josephine Root and Fletcher Fish and Mrs. Ed Hanley, who took the role of the servant girl, making a "fall" that was a classic though dangerous. In this skit Miss Root and Mr. Gates engaged in a well-handled love affair. Evan Reames was billed to appear in this playlet, but failed to appear.

The Rogue River Pippins, an octette composed of Messrs. George Gates, Carter Brandon, Herman Purucker, Noel Lindley, Dolph Phillips, James Vance and Theodore Vance, Jr., sang a tuneless number.

Mrs. George T. Wilson for the third number gave a reading from Gilbert Parker's "The Lane that Hath No Turning." It was a highly artistic rendition of a difficult number, and a credit to her art was given the close attention from the audience.

Miss Carolyn Andrews sang "My Melancholy Babe," assisted by Cousin Middlebush. The sweet voice of Miss Andrews showed to advantage in this number, but her distinct success was made in the cabaret scene with a classic Greek dance.

Mrs. A. Conro Fiero and Ed Andrews appeared in a scene from Hall Caine's "The Christian." This was the dramatic feature of the evening, and both displayed their trained art to advantage.

Charter Amendment Makes Booster Fund

J. W. McCoy made a strong plea at the Commercial Club Monday night for the support at next Tuesday's city election, of the measure providing a half mill tax for development purposes. He stated his belief that the tax should have been larger in view of the publicity and development projects now under way—but pointed out that the small amount was more financial encouragement than the city as a whole had ever given to the work of the club before and that therefore the club's boosters should feel duly grateful if the measure passed. He expressed the hope and belief that it would carry at the election but believed an earnest campaign should be conducted from now till election day. L. J. Trefren seconded his remarks.

The work which is being done for Ashland through the Commercial Club is certainly a work that is deserving of support by the whole people and one that should not devolve upon a few loyal citizens. Ashland will either rise or fall by her own efforts. There is nothing a city of 5000 cannot do if the whole 5000 get behind it. Ashland is at a stage where the entire population must "hang together or hang separately."

Business interests, progress in all lines, property values, daily bread, everything vital to the city's welfare and that of its citizens depend upon advertising Ashland to the world as the finest place in the world to live. This cannot be done without money—and the cost should be

The dances of Clydia Schott and Fletcher Fish scored, Miss Schott being particularly graceful.

Miss Josephine Root and Mrs. O. C. Letter as the Spaghetti Sisters in songs and dances were one of the many hits of the evening.

The cabaret scene (December 31, 1915) was the crowning number, and brought out a number of startling gowns. The joy and abandon that exists just before the death of a year was apparent, and the section went along with a smash and dash. Sprague Riegel and Mrs. Owey Patton as colored assistants put across a number of clever jokes, among them being slams at the matrimonial inclinations of County Judge Tou Velle. Considerable irony was also exposed when the manager of the cabaret refused to cash one of George Carpenter's checks.

The surprise of the evening was the coming of R. W. Ruhl as "Dolly Varden." No one expected the Sun editor to garb a wig and gown. He carried the deception to a successful conclusion. His foil was Judge Kelly, who was allowed to do and say what he pleased for ten minutes. He did. Judge Kelly was "Smoke Bellew" from Alaska.

The Yama Yama Girls, Miss Dorothy Conner, Mrs. Edgar Hafer, Mrs. A. Conro Fiero, Miss Carolyn Andrews and Mrs. Hamilton Patton, were good. Miss Lone Flynn scored with a difficult violin number. Billie Morgan and Miss Venita Hamilton gave a double number on the piano. Morgan also appeared in a Chinese dance to advantage.

Late dances were given by the following: Miss Elfert and Walter Merrick, the fox trot; Miss Dorothy Conner and H. Chandler Egan, the Castle polka; Miss Josephine Root and Earl Tunny, original steps; Mr. and Mrs. A. Conro Fiero in "La Polivier," and Miss Edna Warner and Hob Deuel in the Castle gavotte. All were good.

R. H. McCurdy, Cousin Middlebush and Alfred Carpenter made excellent waiters in the cabaret, and the dull spots were enlivened by Gerald Sooy-Smith, mournfully asking if any one had seen his friend, "Frankie" Fraser. Gerald was a monacled Englishman.

The ladies appearing as guests at the cabaret were Mrs. Fred Hopkins, Miss Mary Deuel, Miss Fern Hutchison, Mrs. Willard Campbell, and Miss Dorothy Daggett with the fancy dancers.

K. L. Bernard and Pop Gates essayed a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde role and appeared as one, there being a striking resemblance that mystified the audience.

The show closed with Cousin Middlebush singing "It's a Long Way to California," a farewell to the condition of things in this state after January 1, 1915.

All in all, the show was good, the acting excellent, the amusement clean and well worth the price. There will be another record-breaking crowd at the closing performance tonight.

Metcalf Head Of Shorthand Dept.

The Ashland Polytechnic school again opened its doors Monday with Prof. J. H. Hardy at its head and with Prof. Metcalf of Los Angeles assisting him in the stenographic department. Seventeen were enrolled the first day and there are several who have signified their intentions of entering next week. When seen yesterday Mr. Hardy stated that he was well pleased with present appearances and believed that the school will prosper from the start.

During the time he was connected with the school, and until he was compelled to leave on account of his health, it prospered in every way, and it will not take him long, with the co-operation of Ashland people, to place the school back to that standard. Mr. Metcalf comes from Los Angeles well recommended and will make an able assistant for Prof. Hardy.

E. G. Stone and wife of Logan, Iowa, who have been touring the coast, are visiting with E. E. Miller and family on Church street. They are en route to California points. Mrs. Stone is E. E. Miller's sister.

borne equally. A vote against the measure is a vote for more empty houses, lower rentals for business blocks, greater stagnation in every line. Vote to help advertise Ashland and you vote to help yourself.

Interesting Topics At Many Churches

Baptist Church.
Thursday afternoon and evening, December tenth, will be our first Monthly Church Day. The program will be somewhat as follows:

Ladies' societies will meet at two and four o'clock.

Deacons and trustees at 5:30. Basket supper at 6:15. Principal Moore will address those assembled at 6:45—subject "Co-operation Between the Parents and the High School Faculty."

Mission study at 7:15. Classes for men, women and young people. A story-telling class for the children. The weekly prayer meeting at eight.

Monthly business meeting at 8:45. Adjournment to home, or to social hour, at 9:15.

Next Sunday morning worship at eleven. Theme "What We Are." "Created in Christ Jesus for Good Works."

Evening service at 7:30. "Jesus' Teaching Concerning Riches." The public is cordially invited.

Congregational Church.

The new pastor will preach next Sabbath both morning and evening. Sunday school at 10. Morning worship at 11. Theme, "The Church in Its Treatment of Doubt." Junior Endeavor at 3:30. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30. Evening service at 7:30. Subject, "Did God Harden Pharaoh's Heart?" A hearty welcome to all. Rev. R. W. Farquhar, minister.

Trinity Church.

Services next Sunday evening at 7:30, conducted by Archdeacon Chambers of Portland.

Ministers Meet In Gold Hill

The Rogue River Valley Ministerial Association met Monday in Gold Hill. Ministers from all the valley towns were present. Several interesting papers and addresses were given.

Dr. Douglass, pastor of the Ashland Methodist church, read a paper on the "Holy Spirit."

J. K. Hawkins, pastor of the Medford Methodist church, talked on "Pastoral Evangelism." W. F. Shields, pastor of the Methodist Presbyterian church of Medford, talked on "Personal Work." W. D. Bator, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Grants Pass, talked on "Financing the Church." Dr. J. K. Baillie, pastor of the Phoenix church, presided. J. M. Spencer, pastor of the Rogue River church, served as secretary. A delightful dinner was served by the Ladies' Aid of Gold Hill.

The association adjourned to meet the second Monday in February in Ashland.

Henry Scott, who was arrested on a charge of malicious damage to the railroad company, was bound over to the grand jury Wednesday at a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace Thomas. He furnished a cash bail and will appear for trial next February.

—C. H. Gillette, candidate for City Recorder.

Try Enders' line first.

Rogue River Dry By Two Votes

Rogue River went dry by two votes at the city election held Tuesday, the count standing 59 dry, 57 wet, a much closer race than was expected. All the old councilmen were re-elected as follows: Samuel Matthews, Dr. Ernest Woods and Charles Hatch.

At Eagle Point four sought three berths in the council, the following winning, with the votes after each name: J. F. Brown, 59; Norman McCoy, 66; George Phillips, 75. C. S. Painter, being the low man, was the loser.

Be sure to sample the Crisco-fried doughnuts which will be demonstrated at Holmes Brothers' grocery store Saturday. Golden Gate coffee will be served with them and a useful receipt book given to all callers.

—For recorder vote for Hedges.

Watch Enders' ten big windows.

Notes From the Commercial Club

Report of Ashland Commercial Club for the week ending December 5, 1914:

George Sercombe, Gulf Crest, Mobile county, Alabama. City of Ashland, fruits, grains, alfalfa and stock. J. R. Hayden, 1412 Gladstone avenue, Calgary, Alta., Canada. Fishing and hunting, fruit lands and stock.

J. L. Kohr, 411 Virginia street, Vallejo, Cal. Government lands.

Mrs. William Bradley, 3212 Fifth avenue, Sacramento, Cal. "I wish to thank you for your very prompt and courteous reply to my letter. You certainly made very clear the things I wished to know. At some future date we shall come to Ashland and investigate more fully the farming land there." (See lists of November 21 and 28.)

J. W. Hill, 1224 Twelfth avenue, Greeley, Colo. City of Ashland, fruit lands, grain lands, stock and timber.

W. Chapman, Long Beach, Miss. "Will you please send me literature and information on Ashland and its surrounding country. We hope to join you in the spring."

H. H. Rosenquist, Othello, Wash. Says he himself is interested in our fruit and grain lands, alfalfa and stock, but that he has been asked to find out by some of his friends if there is any government, state or S. P. lands to be had.

James F. Reynolds, Box 31, Attica, Ind. "Kindly put me in touch with party who has small tract of land near city for sale and price with or without improvements."

H. M. Maloney, 1325 Fourteenth avenue West, Calgary, Alta., Canada. "Will you kindly give me the price per acre of a good improved forty-acre farm or thereabout, also what a farm like above could be rented for? I am interested in going to Oregon somewhere and would like to get located on a good tract of land. Give me all the information possible and the name of some good land agent." Says his parents and a good family of ten would come with him and he wants to help buy place for his parents.

F. M. Ghormley, Lakeside, Cal. "Kindly, for use of intending settler, send such information as every one needs going to a new country. I have used by homestead right. Are there any other ways to get title to a home, school lands (stone and timber), or partially improved land?" Hulda Holstrom, 534 North Thirtieth street, Corvallis, Ore. Illustrated literature.

J. L. Martin, 117 East Chapman avenue, Fullerton, Cal. Descriptive literature of Ashland and surrounding country.

Alvin J. Loomis, care B. E. Loomis, Aberdeen, Wash., and F. E. Parker, Kirkland, Wash. Both old friends of Fred E. Porter, 233 Maple street, city. He is trying to interest them in Ashland.

G. M. Keeney, R. F. D. 2, Box 30, Grand Junction, Colo. Interested in stock raising. Will visit Oregon sometime in December to look the country over.

William Edgar McGhee, R. F. D. 3, Marysville, Tenn. Fruit lands, grain lands, alfalfa and stock.

F. J. Coberly, Sandwich, B. C. "Please send me literature of your district and oblige."

H. W. Meaker, 78 Seymour street, Auburn, N. Y. "What I should like is land that I can grow anything on, fruit, truck, grain, alfalfa and stock, with prices, naming improvements, if any, and specifying distance from shipping point for each piece, and of course size of each."

Medford Police Enforcing Rules

Twenty-three Medford citizens were arrested Sunday night for violation of the city ordinance pertaining to the lighting of automobiles, says the Medford Sun. All appeared before Police Judge Gay Monday and were fined \$1 each. Following is a list of those arrested:

Walter Merrick, Miss Mabel Ray, Frank Ray, Dr. Porter, Dr. J. J. Emmmons, W. H. Gore, B. Wolgamott, B. G. Worthington, R. I. Stuart, Mike Hanley, R. H. McCurdy, Ralph Bardwell, Dr. Riddell, two cars belonging to the Rogue River Valley Canal Company, Dr. Polentitz, Big Pines Lumber Company car, Ernest Slemment, Dr. Clancy, Welborn Cornitts, E. G. Brown, James Leslie and Frank Loder.