

THE POLK COUNTY POST

VOLUME 1

(TWICE A WEEK.)

INDEPENDENCE, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1919.

(TWO WEEKS.)

NUMBER 59.

SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD, HE IS MUCH ALIVE

Making use of Mark Twain's saying, "Reports of my death are greatly exaggerated", Roy W. Whiteaker may write the same when he learns of his "death." Word has been received from him that he is with the American army of occupation in Germany. Part of a semi-obituary which The Post intended to publish in this issue is printed anyway as it in a measure explains why Roy was supposed to be "dead." That part not thrown into the discard follows:

The mystery concerning the fate of one of Independence's brave soldier boys, Roy W. Whiteaker, has not as yet been untangled. He is reported "missing in action on or about Aug. 19" by the government, yet The Post had a letter from him dated Aug. 20 and a postal card was received by his sister undated in which he stated that he was again on his way to the front. The letter to The Post was written while he was in a hospital recovering from a gas attack. After his release from the hospital he evidently sent the card to his sister. If Roy was "missing in action" it must have been some time after August 19. The letter to The Post and the card to his sister were the last messages ever received from him.

Roy Whiteaker has evidently "gone west" fighting heroically for his country upon the field of battle, but relatives and friends are hoping because of the confliction of dates in the government reports, that there has been a mistake and that Roy will again answer "here" in the company roll call over there. There is a possibility that he has become separated from his unit and is with some other division of the American forces and that a tardy mail service has delayed a message from reaching his old home. Similar in character is the case of Armine Young. Reported missing in action, after several weeks he turned up in a hospital. He was separated from his unit and was in another company when wounded and sent to the hospital. Of course, his unit reported him missing. There are faint hopes that Roy Whiteaker may have had a like experience.

Weeks may go by before his death (if that be his fate) can be confirmed. The horrors of the battlefield cannot compare to the suffering and anxiety of the grey haired mother concerning his fate.

In case of Roy's death, his government insurance of \$10,000 goes to his daughter, a girl of eight, who is at present living with her mother in Washington.

ERNEST SMITH GETS BACK

Ernest Smith, who volunteered in old company L at the beginning of the war and served with honor and distinction with the American army in France, arrived in Independence a few days ago and was warmly greeted by his large circle of friends here. While Ernest was fortunate enough to escape German bullets and gas, he was smitten by the old chronic enemy, rheumatism, and was sent back to God's country a few months sooner than he would have been had nothing more than the cooties ever harmed him. He has received his discharge and retires to private life, having done more than his bit for his country.

THE POST BUYS MONITOR EQUIPMENT

The Post has purchased the printing plant of the old Monitor and will combine the greater portion of it with the present Post equipment. We are having our period of reconstruction at the conclusion of which, as has been announced before, The Post will be enlarged and improved. A large increasing patronage and inability to get sufficient help makes it a physical impossibility to issue The Post regularly until we get moved and adjusted.

WOMEN TO STAGE MINSTREL SHOW

The executive board of the Civic Club held a meeting at the home of Mrs. J. S. Cooper Monday afternoon and decided to have a benefit on Monday, Feb. 24, for the purpose of starting a memorial fund for our fallen heroes. This fund will all be kept at home and will be used for something of local interest and benefit. A rousing minstrel under the auspices of the Club and Liberty Chorus will be staged. It is thought that following a winter of so much gloom, a minstrel will be the most pleasing show.

OWLS BEGIN TO GO OUT NIGHTS

Following the raising of the "flu" ban, the Owls were the first to enjoy an evening at cards. Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Drexel were the hosts last Monday evening and provided a splendid time for the club. After a series of whist games, L. Damon received the first prize and Mrs. Word Butler held low score. Light refreshments were served.

There will be Sunday school at the Christian church on Sunday morning, Feb. 16, at ten o'clock.

Rev. W. B. Stewart of McMinnville will preach at the Baptist church in Independence on Sunday, Feb. 16, both morning and evening. Sunday school at the usual hour.

MERRY MONARCHS OF MINSTRELSY Opera House, Monday, Feb. 24

LATEST SONGS, CROSS FIRES, GAGS AND JOKES

SPARKLING MINSTREL FARCE!
THE KIND THAT CHASES
THE GLOOM AWAY!

AUSPICES OF WOMAN'S CLUB
AND LIBERTY CHORUS
BENEFIT
SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL FUND

ADMISSION 25 AND 35 CENTS
(Uniformed sailors and soldiers admitted free.)

IF YOU CAN'T LAUGH DON'T COME!

C Us On C St.

SANITARY MARKET

We carry a full line of fresh and cured meats and fish in season.

We sell for cash only. You don't have to pay the other fellow's bad bills.
Bring us your veal, hogs and fat cattle.

Free delivery to all parts of the town.

PHONE 1311.

SUPERB ISIS ATTRACTION!

"THE SPELL OF THE YUKON"

ADAPTED FROM THE FAMOUS POEM OF THE SAME NAME BY ROBERT W. SERVICE IS A VIVID DRAMA OF REAL ALASKAN LIFE THAT YOU MUST NOT MISS SEEING. DURING ITS ENTIRE FIVE ACTS YOU WILL SET SPELL BOUND BUT THRILLED TO THE HEART

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

NO RAISE IN THE PRICE OF ADMISSION

CHOICE HATCHING EGGS

These S. C. White Leghorn Eggs are from the foundation stock of the O. A. C. winter laying strains and will guarantee good strong chicks and fertility.

PRICE PER SETTING 15 EGGS \$1.50

Also will take orders for Day Old Chicks, with or without mother hen.

Price Day Old Chicks 15c. each.
Price of Mother Hen \$1.25 each

W. E. CRAVEN

PHONE 7011 INDEPENDENCE, OREGON

MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONTINUE IN DEADLOCK

It appears to be a hopeless deadlock between the mayor and city council over the appointment of a city treasurer. Under ordinary circumstances it would not figure materially in municipal affairs for the old treasurer would continue in office until his successor was elected, but in this instance the retiring treasurer has "retired" beyond the corporate limits several hundred miles thus disqualifying himself.

Mayor Walker in a speech from the throne at Wednesday night's council meeting said that he had appointed Ira D. Mix as city treasurer and until shown that Mr. Mix was disqualified for the place no one else would be appointed. He sharply "passed the buck" to the council. Councilman Bohannon made a vehement reply to the mayor's statement. He said there was nothing personal in the opposition of himself and colleagues to Mr. Mix and that they agreed with the mayor that he was competent and well qualified for the place, but it was their contention that the city treasurer should have some personal liability in addition to the usual bond.

A certain houn' dog ruffled the feathers of a part of the city's governing body and caused a thrill in addition to the treasurership deadlock. This houn' in his hours of leisure tore down Councilman Bohannon's chicken fence, scratched Councilman Calbreath's store window and had a party in Councilman Walker's back yard. After the three had given their testimonials, the hardware dealers' association, which comprises the other half of the council, offered no objection to a demand that the chief of police enforce the dog ordinance to the letter. Chief of Police didn't like the talk concerning the enforcement of the dog ordinance and after the session told the mayor to look around for a new chief of police.

Still a third bomb was exploded at this session when a notice was read from the public service commission in which it was stated that the Independence telephone company had made application for an increase in rates. The council was quick to unanimously agree to protest against the proposed raise and to comply with all legal requirements in order that any citizen or citizens might battle the telephone octopus according to Hoyle if so disposed. How much of an increase in rental on telephones the company proposes to ask for is not known.

LIEUTENANT RALF A. FLOYD ARRIVES HOME

Lieutenant Ralf A. Floyd, one of the most popular Independence young men to join the colors, arrived home several days ago and has been the object of much attention and curiosity. He has the unique distinction of being the first Polk county boy, if not the first Oregonian, to reach Germany after the war began. However, he would have much preferred to have waited and gone in with the rest of the Americans. While delivering planes from a base in the rear to a station at the front one cloudy day by mistake he sailed over Germany and was brought to earth by some Teuton whose aim was good with an air craft rifle. This meant that the young lieutenant was elected to become the guest of the Germans until the war was over. Their hospitality was fairly good, he says, outside of meals. The menu was not very desirable. After sojourning with the Germans for several weeks one day he took French leave and started for home. After several days of wandering in search of a friend he got hungry and lank and made no protest when the Germans took him home with them again. They appeared to be somewhat peeved because he had gone away without saying goodby and gave him a change of rations. When the armistice was signed, he was permitted to depart. Lieutenant Floyd looks well and none the worst from his experience as a prisoner of war. He is on furlough awaiting the pleasure of Uncle Sam.

SNEAK THIEVES PROWL BY NIGHT

Sneak thieves, prowling by night, are busy in this section. Several have reported losses. Postmaster H. S. Wood's bicycle turned up missing one morning recently. The same gang is charged with stealing several hundred pennies that were to be used to buy food for the hungry babies of Belgium.

J. W. KIRKLAND NEARS HIS 91st. BIRTHDAY

On Saturday, Feb. 15, J. W. Kirkland will celebrate his 91st. birthday and friends are congratulating. Mr. Kirkland feels as young as he looks.

MAINTAINING REPUTATION FOR GOOD SHOWS

The Isis, open again after a "vacation" of several weeks, is maining its reputation for putting on good shows. A number of excellent pictures are booked for the near future which will prove a great treat to all movie fans.

Tuesday night's bill, "The Spell of the Yukon" is a dandy.

Ice Jordan, reported missing in action, has been heard from.