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A Weekly Newspaper--Only Paper Published at the County Seat--Devoted to the Interests of the People of Jackson County

REMINISCENCES OF A PIONEER

EARLY DAYS IN JACKSON COUNTY DESCRIBED BY JUDGE WATSON

The following we reprint from the Oregon Journal, the subject being Judge C. B. Watson, of Ashland, who is a brother-in-law of our druggist, C. C. Chitwood. Judge Watson was a caller in the Post office Saturday, and he is an enthusiastic booster for Oregon. The Oregon Journal says:

Judge C. B. Watson of Ashland is by birth a '49er. He was born at Time, in Pike county, in Illinois, November 25, 1849. He is one of nine children and he spent his boyhood working on his father's farm in Illinois. In 1870, when he was 21, he borrowed \$100 and started for the Pacific coast. He arrived in Sacramento with a capital of \$1.50. He at once landed a job chopping wood on Cash creek, near Woodland, Cal., and after seven months' work came north and, falling in love with the Rogue River valley, settled there. He went to school at Ashland in the winter of 1871, doing chores for his board. The next spring he taught a school. After teaching one term, he, with some other young men, drove a band of horses to Boise City. Returning to Ashland, he attended Ashland academy that winter. He taught a term of school the following summer, after which he landed a job in a surveying crew. On September 1, 1864, he married Ella J. Chitwood, daughter of Dr. J. H. Chitwood. He worked in the drug store for two years, during which time he studied law. In 1875 he was a candidate for prosecuting attorney for the first judicial district and was defeated by a narrow margin. In 1877 he was editor of the Oregon Sentinel. In December of the same year he was admitted to the bar and the following March, with his brother, W. W. Watson, he went to Lake county and started a paper called the State Line Herald. In a recent issue of the Ashland Tidings, Judge Watson gives the following interesting details relative to his arrival at Ashland:

On the first day of April, 1871, I landed at Ashland from the old Overland stage coach, then the only public conveyance from Tehama, on the Sacramento river in California, to Roseburg, Oregon. It was a beautiful day; flowers blooming on every side; the mountains redolent with color. The farmhouses and farms, though new, looked prosperous and the people seemed happy and contented. At the summit of the Siskiyou the driver stopped to give us a farewell view of California. I was a tenderfoot and the mountains had a fascination for me. Mount Shasta, seen from this point, was the most wonderful scene I had ever witnessed. The Scots mountains, which I had crossed the day before—my first real mountain experience—with their gleaming crests of snow, were to me a thrilling sight. Turning toward the north, Mount McLaughlin, shining like gold in the morning sun, towered with the dignity of a giant as representative of the Cascade range in Oregon. Below us spread the Bear Creek arm of Rogue River valley, toward which we plunged with a clatter of hoofs. Down, down we sped, while my hat tried hard to resist the upward tendency of my hair, which was plentiful then, for that was 23 years ago. I thrilled with delight at the beauty of my surroundings and in joy pronounced—under my breath—the sacred word "home," for I had a premonition that such it would be. We entered Ashland with much eclat, for the coming of the stage was the big daily event at this little hamlet of perhaps 200 people.

There was little trouble in becoming naturalized among this little gathering of pioneers, who always stood ready to welcome the newcomers. Three years

MAY LAY NEW WATER MAIN

The matter of laying a new water main along California Street from Oregon Street to the court house is being considered by the city. It is claimed this should be done before the paving is laid. This may soon be considered by the city council at a special meeting.

later I was a partner with Dr. J. H. Chitwood in establishing the first drug store in Ashland. The only other one was at Jacksonville, the county seat of Jackson county, which then embraced what are now Jackson, Klamath and Lake counties.

During the summer of 1874 a small circus came along and set up its tent in the plaza. A drunken German annoyed the showmen after they had gone to bed, and one of the men, a great, big, good-natured fellow, finally got up and chased the drunk man, who, when a few rods away, near the old Ashland house, turned and stabbed his pursuer and continued his flight. The wounded man returned to the tent and told his comrades that he had been stabbed. Dr. Chitwood's sign was on our store front only a few steps away, and a messenger was soon banging away at the door and calling for a doctor. I was sleeping in the back part of the store and answered the summons and told the messenger I'd get the doctor. While I was gone the whole crew belonging to the show turned out to get the stabber. They soon proceeded to get a rope, which they tied about the culprit's neck. By that time the town was pretty well aroused, and J. Q. Latta, a young man who was constable, came, and he and I thought it our duty to prevent the lynching. Latta was excited and uncertain what to do. I told him to call me sheriff as we rushed in, and I'd try to get the rope off the fellow's neck and we'd rush him out before they discovered the ruse. In we went among the mob in the big tent, he calling me sheriff. Both of us assuming the manner of officers as best we knew how, we rushed in, elbowing and crowding until we reached the culprit, who was begging for his life, while one of the showmen was scurrying up the center pole with the loose end of the rope. We did not lose a minute. John grabbed the fellow by the arms, warning the men that I was the sheriff, while I pulled the rope off the culprit's neck, and before the crowd fully realized the situation we had him out and were scurrying down the street toward the creek. There was a shack built over the edge of the creek and brush behind it. We dodged into the brush, then into the creek, and, dragging our man with us, we reached a point opposite the shanty and crawled under it, dragging the fellow, who was now pretty well sobered up. We whispered to him to crawl as far in as he could and stay there till we came for him. He was ready to follow our directions. We then came out into the brush and by a roundabout way got back to the tent, where the mob was holding a council. We acted greatly excited and asked if any of them had seen our man. We told them he had got away from us and had started up the creek. It was very dark and the whole country in that direction was a jungle. They started in that direction to get him, and we hung around to see that they did not nose out his hiding place. By and by they gave it up, their schedule requiring them to leave for Yreka at daylight. The managers required a pledge from me as sheriff that I'd use my best endeavors to capture him. After the circus had gone we went to the culprit's hiding place, got him and took him to Jacksonville, where he was placed in jail. Two days afterward the wounded man died. The Dutchman was convicted of murder in the second degree and sent to the penitentiary for a long term. This is the only time I ever assumed the authority of a sheriff.

The Old Black Hen

Said the little red rooster, "Gosh all hemlocks, things are tough, Seems that worms are getting scarcer and I cannot get enough.

What's become of all those fat ones is a mystery to me;

There were thousands through that rainy spell, but now where can they be?"

The old black hen who heard him didn't grumble or complain,

She had lived through lots of dry spells, she'd lived through floods of rain.

So she flew upon the grindstone and she gave her claws a whet,

As she said, "I've never seen the time there weren't worms to get."

She picked a new undug spot; the earth was hard and firm.

The little rooster jeered: "New ground—that's no place for worms."

The old black hen just spread her feet, she dug most fast and free,

"I must go to the worms," she said, "the worms won't come to me.

The rooster vainly spent his day, through habit, by the ways

Where fat young worms had passed in squads back in rainy days.

When nightfall found him supperless, he growled in accents rough,

"I'm hungry as a fowl can be—conditions sure are tough."

He turned then to the old black hen and said, "It's worse for you,

For you're not only hungry, but you must be tired too.

I rested while I watched for worms, so I feel fairly pert;

But how are you, without worms, too, and after all that work?"

The old black hen hopped to her perch and dropped her eyes to sleep

And murmured in a drowsy tone, "Young man, hear this and weep:

I'm full of worms and happy, too, and I'm about all in,

The worms are there as always, but I had to dig like sin."

—Author unknown.

COURT HOUSE NEWS

Alterations are being made in some of the offices in the court house to provide new quarters for the circuit judge.

F. Roy Davis, court reporter, is moving his headquarters from Medford to the court house.

The county commissioners were in session Wednesday.

Jurymen are being called for Monday for cases of prohibition violations. The first case set for trial is the case of the state vs. Walter Woods, a rancher of Eagle Point.

J. W. Shirley, chief deputy in the tax collecting department, has returned to his duties after a week's vacation spent at his home in Medford. He will have another week later and says he will probably go somewhere besides just home.

BOYS ENJOY PARTY

Master Orville Wilson entertained five boy friends at a party Wednesday afternoon. The boys report a good time—games, ice cream and cookies, 'n' everything. Those present were: Sam Ball, Rex and John Moses, Ernest and Albert Olson.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Marriage licenses were granted during the week to the following couples: Wm. R. Campbell, Jessie H. Warren, both of Medford.

W. Harold Miller, Ottawa, Canada, Adelaide Harrison, Medford. Herbert O. Hussong, Medford, Carmen Rose, Ashland.

OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP

At the request of President Charles Wesley Tenney, the editor has been asked to announce through the columns of The Post that the trustees of Gooding College will award a \$50.00 scholarship to the honor graduate of the Jacksonville high school for the fall term which opens September 9.

In case the valedictorian does not accept, the honor will be open to some other graduate, provided he has a good high school record and is recommended by his local principal and pastor.

This help, together with the offer of Gooding College to give all worthy students an opportunity to work for half their board and room, will make it possible for many worthy young men and women to attend college this year who would otherwise not be able to go. Gooding College is located at Gooding, Idaho.

GRANTS PASS CELEBRATION

Grants Pass will celebrate July 4, and has an ad in this issue of The Post. The display ad does not say so, but free coffee will be served at noon and there will also be a free radio.

At 6 o'clock there will be a patriotic program, featuring Governor Pierce.

SALE OF BONDS CONTINUED

The sale of road bonds for the Rush-Sommit section which is being paved, which was continued from May 16 to June 18, has been continued again to July 16.

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

The outstanding feature of the eighteenth National Convention of the Republican party was the voicing by the delegates of their faith in Calvin Coolidge. The President and his running mate, Chas. G. Dawes, another striking example of sterling American manhood, go before the voters on a platform which should win for the Republican ticket the votes of many Democrats. The platform is free from political bunkum. It is an honest, straightforward statement of the things for which the Republican party stands.

A brief summary of the platform shows that the President and his party are pledged to governmental economy; to tax reforms that will still further reduce the burden of taxation; that the strictest scrutiny will be made so that the integrity of the Budget System may be preserved. It declares that the Republican administration slashed \$200,000,000 from the cost of government and eliminated 50,000 employees from the payrolls; that the Administration lifted the tax burden some \$1,250,000,000 per annum, at the same time reducing the debt by over \$2,500,000.

The platform refers to the fact that in 1920, when the Republicans took office, that there were about three million men out of work in the country and that today there is little unemployment. The party is pledged to give to the farmer all necessary government assistance in organizing and establishing a system for the co-operative marketing of agricultural products. It promises to aid and simplify as well as the cheapening of our marketing and distributing machinery. It promises departmental help in diversified farming and, if necessary, direct financial aid during the transition period of diversification. There is also a pledge to continuous and vigorous efforts to strengthen and broaden the export markets.

In the matter of railroad rates, there is a declaration for a revision with a view to reduce the rates on agricultural products. Aid for good highways is urged. The new immigration law is indorsed. In the matter of prohibition, there is a declaration in favor of law enforcement. There is also a declaration that guilt is personal and a pledge to publish every individual found guilty of fraud against the Government.

There is a declaration to extend every aid, financial and otherwise, to the disabled veterans of the late war.

There is a provision asking that the President be given power, in time of war, to draft every citizen of the United States, so that capital, labor and, in fact, every resource of the Nation will do its part, share and share alike. This would mean elimination of the profiteer and the slacker during the periods of national strife. The World Court plan is indorsed, but there is a renewed announcement that the United States will have no participation in the League of Nations.

The Republican party, through Temporary Chairman Burton, called attention to the fact that during the Republican Administration taxes have been reduced; peace restored with Germany; the suffrage amendment ratified; millions of dollars have been spent on disabled soldiers; the tariff has been revised so as to produce more revenue and lessen taxes; that there is a lack of unemployment; that good wages obtain; that more legislation has been enacted for the benefit of the farmer than during any session of Congress for 50 years (even William Jennings Bryan has publicly admitted this fact); that peace in Europe has been aided by the Dawes Commission; that the Budget System, a Republican measure, in the first year of its being, resulted in the reduction of \$600,000,000 from the estimates submitted; that the Republican Party does not stand for the cancellation of war debts owed to us by foreign countries and for which

ALL DAY MEETING AT UNIONTOWN

MEDFORD AND ASHLAND MINISTERS TO SPEAK-- BASKET DINNER

An all-day meeting is to be held at Uniontown school house next Sunday, and all who can are urged to go.

The morning service, which will begin at 10:30 o'clock, will be in charge of W. W. Robinson, of Ashland, who is chairman of the Jackson County Sunday School Association, and Rev. Amos, another Sunday school worker. In the afternoon Rev. Lawrence of Medford and Rev. Murgler of Ashland will speak.

This promises to be a great, old-fashioned meeting, and all who are interested in church work—and all who are not—are urged to attend. Don't forget to take a basket dinner.

THEY WERE CURIOUS

A gathering was held recently to celebrate the completion of the Ashland-Klamath Falls highway. It was called the Mile High celebration because of the elevation at the point at which it was held. About two thousand people were present and had a great time.

But these folks missed a very important event of the day. After they had departed, forest rangers discovered a large number of deer on the site of the celebration, showing curiosity and feasting on scraps left by the picnickers.

The lady who reported this to us said it had not been decided whether this was an indignation meeting or if the deer were just celebrating the invasion of the white man.

GOOD NEWS FOR FISHERMEN

J. W. Berrien, superintendent of the state fish hatchery at Butte Falls, and W. R. Coleman, superintendent of fish screens, were in Jacksonville Wednesday. They had just planted in Big Applegate River thirty-six thousand cutthroat trout and informed us they will plant thirty thousand more in the same river within the next two weeks.

Supt. Berrien has two million fishes in the hatcheries for liberation in Jackson and Josephine counties.

Game commissioners of Oregon planted 92,000 Eastern Brook trout in the upper waters of Rogue River last week.

No doubt this will sound good to the fishermen. All of which reminds us that Editor Shutt, who is on a fishing trip, told us he would send us some trout—if he saw anyone coming this way.

PRESBYTERAN CHURCH

Our subject for Sunday morning will be, "Judging, or Casting Pearls Before Swine." The seventh chapter of Matthew is a very practical chapter and it is our intention to draw from it a few helpful lessons.

The Sunday school will meet at the usual hour for Bible study, and it is hoped that we might see some more new faces in our Sunday school at that time. Strangers are always welcome at this church.

Edwin H. Edgar, Pastor.

IN JUSTICE ROE'S COURT

A suit was filed in the Justice's court Monday by a firm in Salem for collection of a debt claimed to be owed by an Ashland business man. The papers were served by the sheriff.

our people paid; that a packing bill to protect the stock raisers was passed; that a co-operative marketing act was passed.

The dominant note of the entire convention proceedings was as Mr. Burton voiced it, "the people—and all of the people—have confidence in Calvin Coolidge."