

THE BLUEBUCKET PEOPLE'S VALLEY

Boulders in John Day Zone Recall Big Discovery of Gold in Rich Creeks.

COYOTES CHRISTEN FOX

Canyon City and Prairie City Are Entwined in History of Fertile Country—Postoffice Trade Marvel of Section.

BY ADDISON BENNETT. JOHN DAY, Or., April 24.—(Staff Correspondent.)—The road leads nearly east. For a couple of miles the road is good, then it becomes rather precipitous. At the summit of the divide we reach Fox Creek and follow it down into Fox Valley to the little town of Fox, six miles from Longcreek, which consists of a store, a postoffice, a church and schoolhouse and a few scattering buildings. The town is of not great importance, but the valley is a very fine one, although the altitude is rather high, probably around 3000 feet.

The town and valley got their names from an experience of the first year some 45 years ago. He caught a number of coyotes and took their pelts to market saying he had a number of fox skins. From that time the valley has been known as Fox Valley. Leaving Fox Creek and Fox Valley the road is slightly uphill for a couple of miles to the head of Boach Creek, which we followed down for several miles to Mountain Rest, a stage station, where we took dinner. It is a lovely place, right in among the trees, and we were greatly tired the day being rather cold, with gusts of snow, we were pleased to find such good accommodations for ourselves and team. Mrs. M. G. Gowan, the hostess, and I found her a very pleasant woman to talk with, and I listened as long as we could wait to her reminiscences of pioneer life.

It is 15 miles from Mountain Rest to John Day, and the road is rather rough—up hill and down hill, and across country on foot for grazing, and none the best for that, as some of it is covered thickly with lava rock. Wagon Tongue Breaks. About two miles from John Day we came to the top of a very steep hill, leading down to the town, but the place is not in view for some miles further on. We were going down this hill at a pretty good clip—faster than we ought to have been going, when something happened and the wagon got stuck, slightly quick. The tongue broke right in front of the whiffletree, or rather the tongue was in two pieces, the straight part and the curved part, and the other part, the two pieces being fastened by a steel casting. This casting broke and left only a small strip of iron to hold the tongue, and it twisted and turned and was of no more use to guide the wagon than a bit of rope.

When the driver dropped the lines and gave a yell that would scare any sensible horse, and then prepared to jump, and quickly did, there was but one thing to do—hold the tongue up into the bank to the left, for there was a mighty bad fall in view on the right—a 25-degree bank for about 30 yards down. Well, the less said about it the better, but for a few seconds I would not have given Mr. Pitcock 50 cents for his team and wagon, for my life was none too secure. I can tell you. We got the team loose and I drove them down to the town and found that as only one mile or so behind us brought the wagon in—and I am doing my own driving now.

I expect to write three or four letters from this town, and then I can only tell a little about it. I have written a good deal about the "wonderful John Day Valley," and how some of the population of the place is given by the census as 253, but it seems a larger place than that, and it is certainly a good business point. Two miles up the creek lies Canyon City, the county seat, and 14 miles up the river is Prairie City. The former has a population of 1000, and the latter a population of 200. So you can see there are quite a number of people, consequently a number of interests centered right in and around John Day, and I gather news from both towns and the traffic between them.

The postoffices at both John Day and Canyon City are among the most singular of any in the state, for their mails are all received and dispatched in the night, or at least between 8 o'clock in the evening and 10 o'clock in the morning. The John Day postmistress in particular is up against a pretty hard proposition, for she has to handle all of the through mail, and Burns and Cannon, and dispatch the same for three other star routes. There are three mails every day to and from Canyon City—rather every night. The postmistress is Mrs. Nellie Elliott. She receives for her services as postmistress the regular sum of \$300 a year, with \$144 added as clerk hire for assisting the mails. Fortunately Mrs. Elliott has a husband, who assists her for several hours every evening, and she would have to hire a clerk, which would take all of her salary and leave her in debt.

Much Mail Handled. To show what a labor she has it is only necessary to say that she handled in the 20 days previous to my visit 440 registered letters, and in the latter part of her registry book to account for them, aside from the receipts she had to give and take. Frequently it takes three hours to get her own mail from the pieces going to other offices. As to the Canyon City office I will have a word to say later, for I know these facts are of interest to every postmaster in the state.

To the south of John Day lies the Strawberry Mountains, a very low turquoise range. They tower to a height of 9000 feet. The altitude of the town is 3000 feet, but one would never believe it, so charming is the climate.

City and Prairie City, must be interlinked the one with the other, for they are of one group. I have said that John Day is a good business point, and there is a keen rivalry between the three towns for the trade of this section. I am rather inclined to think John Day fully holds its own. The location of the town is fine, with wide streets, level land, and fine building sites on the elevations leading up to the mountain. Just to the west of the town there are many acres covered with boulders, the relic of the old placer days, for he it remembered this entire section was first settled as a mining country, and over \$35,000,000 have been taken from the rich placers up Canyon and Dixie Creeks, and along the river.

And was this site, these boulder beds mentioned, the outcroppings from the fabled Blue Bucket mine? Who knows? Who can tell? And how many know the story of the Blue Bucket mine, a mine never found, never located, and yet more people have gone in search of it than went in quest of the Holy Grail.

Blue Bucket Tale Told. In briefest outline here is the story: In the late '40s or early '50s, when people were going through this section to the southwest, to California, and Southern Oregon, it is said one outfit



Roubaix L'Abrie Richey. GRANTS PASS, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—Roubaix L'Abrie Richey, a Grants Pass High School student, won the first prize offered by the Oregon Society of Sons of the American Revolution, in competition with all the high schools of Oregon. Richey took for his theme, "Forty-four Officers in the American Revolution." He has contributed frequently to the High School paper, in which pen-and-ink sketches by him are published frequently. Young Richey is a son of James Richey, a pioneer of 1823. His mother is also a pioneer of 1822, and a daughter of the L'Abrie family of Douglas County. The victorious student was born near Gresham, on a farm, where he resided for a number of years before entering the High School here.

had a blue bucket tied to the rear axle of the wagon. It was used occasionally by the children of the party to play with, to gather boulders, to dip up water, and such other uses as one would expect. But when the outfit reached California and untied the bucket, it was filled with nuggets of almost pure gold. Where had they been hidden? It was finally settled that the children had last used the bucket near here, and that the nuggets had been gathered on Canyon Creek, where he resided for a number of years before entering the High School here.

Flames Confined to Roof and Third Floor Work \$3000 Damage. Nurses Help Heroically, None Hurt in Rush. ROSEBURG, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—Twenty-two patients, two of whom were still under the influence of anaesthetics, were rescued from the Mercy Hospital, which caught fire at noon today. The fire was caused by a defective fuse and damaged the institution to the extent of \$3000, the flames being confined to the roof and space occupied by employees of the hospital on the third floor. At the time the flames were discovered there were 22 patients in the institution, two of whom had undergone operations a few hours before and were under the influence of anaesthetics when carried from the burning structure. With clocklike discipline the patients were placed on mattresses on stretchers and carried to points of safety, where they were attended by local physicians, who responded promptly to the call for assistance. Several patients considered in a critical condition were removed to near-by residences, while others suffering from minor ailments were placed in the hospital. The flames were first confined to the roof near the chimney and were making rapid headway. A general alarm was sounded and within a few minutes every department in the city was on the scene. With three streams of water playing on the flames, they were under control in about 30 minutes. In half an hour the last spark was extinguished.

The hospital was built two years ago at a cost of \$24,000 and was one of the best-equipped hospitals in this section of the state. It was conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, who were paid \$12,000, and includes the grading of the street and laying crushed rock for a distance of about eight blocks. Cement sidewalks have already been built by the property owners. This is the first of the several improvements to be made. The Council is advertising to improve Blackfoot street from Main street to the Pacific car track, a distance of about three-quarters of a mile, the cost of which will range from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Also it is proposed to improve Harrison street from Main street, and bids will be asked for in a short time. A remonstrance has been circulated against the improvement of Harrison street, but it requires two-thirds to defeat an improvement. The three improvements projected will cost about \$60,000. It is proposed to take up the improvement of Front street at last, and it will cost about \$20,000. This street is occupied by the Oregon City Railway.

MINE BLAST IS FATAL. Missed Hole Is Struck by Drillers, One Killed, Another Hurt. KELLOGG, Idaho, April 24.—(Special.)—William Byers was killed and another man injured last night while working in a drift on No. 3 level in the Last Chance mine. The two men were alone in the drift and missed into a missed hole which exploded. The flying rocks killed Byers instantly. Asby was thrown to the ground, where he was rescued by the miners and taken to the hospital. Byers was a single man about 36 years of age and had worked in the camp for the last 13 years. Nothing was known of his relatives. It is thought, however, that he came here from Canada.

Grants Pass Summer Hotel Planned. GRANTS PASS, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—E. J. McCormick, of Portland, has purchased property at the foot of Sixth street and will build a summer hotel on the banks of Rogue River for the accommodation of fishermen and their friends visiting in this community during the vacation period. Rowboats and launches will be kept in a boat-house annex, and patrons of the hotel will be allowed the privileges of the river above and below the dam just across the stream lies the city park.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure

The official Government tests show Royal Baking Powder to be an absolutely pure and healthful grape cream of tartar baking powder, and care should be taken to prevent the substitution of any other brand in its place. With no other agent can biscuit, cake and hot-breads be made so pure, healthful and delicious. Royal Baking Powder costs only a fair price per pound, and is cheaper and better at its price than any other baking powder in the world. It makes pure, clean, healthful food.

Royal Cook Book—800 Receipts—Free. Send Name and Address. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

22 PATIENTS SAFE

Mercy Hospital at Roseburg Is Visited by Fire.

2 UNDER ETHER AT TIME

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CLARK PRUNES ARE GOOD

Growers, With 8-Cent Offers, Expect to Make Good Profit.

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 24.—(Special.)—Today was the warmest of the season, when the mercury rose to 81 1/2 degrees in the shade as registered by the thermometer kept by A. A. Quarnberg, official weather observer. The fruit and all vegetation to shoot out. Mr. Quarnberg, who is horticulture inspector of the district comprising Clatsop, Clallam, Skamania and Columbia counties, has one of the earliest prune orchards in the county, and who has also been in touch with conditions throughout the state. He has given it as his opinion that the fruit crop, especially prunes, was not injured to any appreciable extent by the hard frost of April 23. The buds in his orchards were injured, and in the county, back from the Columbia River, the blossoms were not more than 3 per cent in bloom when the frost came. The buds were saved. From present indications there will be a heavy crop of prunes this year.

Prune growers are expecting to make a good profit this year, prune buyers having already offered to contract for the coming crop for 8 cents, the highest known price in many years. The fruit are in full bloom, but were not out enough to be hurt by the frost. A few peaches were nipped. Early English warblers, and the California warblers, were badly frosted, but the French varieties are just now blooming. The California English walnut trees are too early for this climate, Mr. Quarnberg believes.

MILWAUKIE TO IMPROVE

Work on Streets as Planned Will Cost Approximately \$50,000.

MILWAUKIE, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—W. H. Counsel, who was awarded the contract to improve Main street through the business district of the place, began work here today. The contract price for the work was \$12,000, and includes the grading of the street and laying crushed rock for a distance of about eight blocks. Cement sidewalks have already been built by the property owners. This is the first of the several improvements to be made. The Council is advertising to improve Blackfoot street from Main street to the Pacific car track, a distance of about three-quarters of a mile, the cost of which will range from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Also it is proposed to improve Harrison street from Main street, and bids will be asked for in a short time. A remonstrance has been circulated against the improvement of Harrison street, but it requires two-thirds to defeat an improvement. The three improvements projected will cost about \$60,000. It is proposed to take up the improvement of Front street at last, and it will cost about \$20,000. This street is occupied by the Oregon City Railway.

Springfield Bowlers Prove Rest.

SPRINGFIELD, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—The Springfield bowling team won by a 258 margin a bowling match here from the Lebanon team, which has held the championship of its portion of the valley. The visiting team came up in an auto. The Springfield team will go to Lebanon for a return match next week. The following are the players and the scores made: Springfield—Pierce 404, Pollard 410, W. Ledy 419, R. Ledy 453, Zerill 385, Lebanon—Donaca 298, Stark 409, Plank 330, Hale 352, Hudson 249.

McGuinnle Leads Polo Club.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., April 24.—(Special.)—The Vancouver Barracks Polo Club has elected Colonel George K. McGuinnle, commanding officer of this post, president of the organization. He is an enthusiastic sportsman who attends all athletic contests when possible. Lieutenant S. W. Scofield was elected secretary and polo representative and Lieutenant Tucker was elected a director. On the executive committee Captain Clifford Game was chosen, with Captain John R. Thomas and Lieutenant J. R. Starkey.

WOMAN IS SHREWED FARMER. CHEHALIS, Wash., April 24.—(Special.)—The delegation of instructors from the State College at Pullman has

Woodard, Clarke & Co. Washington and Fourth Streets

Grow a Lawn of "Woodlark" Velvet En-Gin-Oil Tailored Handbags. You can do it at a small expense with our always-ready-to-use outfits. It's a pleasure, too, these bright mornings, to get out soon after the sun has risen and trim and water your lawn. Just as an incentive for early rising we're going to make these special offers for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: A 14-inch lawnmower, high wheels, ball-bearing, very easy-running, offered for this sale at... \$4.98. A canvas grass-catcher, for either 12 or 14-inch lawnmower; sells regularly for 75c... 48c. 50 feet of 3-4-inch 3-ply rubber Garden Hose, guaranteed for one year, during this sale, only \$3.98. A revolving, ball-bearing sprinkler; sells at \$1.25... 98c. An extra strong Hose Reel, very fairly priced at \$1.25... 98c. Menders for old hose... 3c to 10c.

A Refreshing Bath. Let us send you one of our "Woodlark" Sprayers and a bottle of "Woodlark" rose and fruit spray. The sprayer is light, easily operated by hand, and throws a fine, continuous spray. Nicely painted and finished, on sale at only... \$1.00. Lightning Sprayer, similarly made, of lighter material... 50c. Woodlark Rose and Fruit Spray, absolutely destroys all leaf-eating insects, leaving foliage, flowers and fruit in perfect form. Pints 25c, quarts 50c; in cans, gallons, \$1.50. To be diluted in water. Our "Woodlark" liquid Toilet and Bath Soap insures a delightful, cleansing bath. Convenient, economical and of absolute purity. Pints 35c, quarts 60c, half-gallons \$1.00, gallons \$1.75. Our "Woodlark" Antiseptic Liquid Soap Urns are an ornament to the bathroom. The urn is of glass and the holder is heavily nickel-plated. We have them with heavy base to stand on shelf or ledge, or with bracket to be attached to wall. They prevent the waste of a single drop of the liquid.

Insure Perfect Roses. Medicinal Liquors. Your preference of four brands of Rye and Bourbon, full quarts, bottled in bond; special for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 98c.

Woodard, Clarke & Co. Washington and Fourth Streets

FIVE FIREMEN FALL FROM AERIAL LADDER COLLAPSES AS WATER ENTERS HOSE. Blaze-Fighters Injured in Quelling Flames in Warehouse at Seattle—Damage \$75,000.

SEATTLE, April 24.—Five firemen, fighting a fire in the Eyles storage warehouse at 112 Railroad avenue South, were injured late today when an 85-foot aerial ladder collapsed under their weight and threw them to the railroad tracks. The injured are: Fred Bayne, ladderman truck No. 1, left forearm broken, thigh lacerated and suffering from internal injuries. Martin Brasnahan, captain Engine Company No. 2, ribs broken. Guy Harrett, lieutenant Engine Company No. 2, face and scalp cut, slight burns. C. J. Moorehead, ladderman, Truck No. 1, head and face cut. Walter Zeligst, lieutenant Truck No. 1, cut about head and face. Bayne's injuries are the most serious. The fire broke out in the top floor of the warehouse, a five-story brick and concrete building, and was burning fiercely when the first firemen arrived. One doctor said it was going into consumption and gave me up to die. Had two other doctors but received no help would have been in my grave had I not seen your advertisement in the "Daily Eagle Star." After taking several bottles of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root I was entirely cured.

Tramp Expected at South Bend. SOUTH BEND, Wash., April 24.—(Special.)—The big tramp steamer Anrelley, with a carrying capacity of 3,000, 600 feet of lumber, is due to arrive at this port about May 1. The vessel will carry 1,000,000 feet at San Francisco, 1,000,000 at the Kleebe Lumber Company's mill at this place and 1,000,000 at one of the Raymond mills.

Railroad Man Writes Remarkable Letter. In 1903 and 1904 I was a terrible sufferer for about 12 months with kidney and bladder trouble. I could not sleep nights and was obliged to get up ten or fifteen times to urinate. I passed mucus and blood continually. My medical treatment is needless. The Portland Daily Oregonian, Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.

"The Only Thing That Will Relieve Neuralgia."

The piercing pains of Neuralgia, which often follows a bad cold or La Grippe, are frequently almost unbearable and few medicines afford any relief to the sufferer. "I am a rural mail carrier and have been a user of the Dr. Miles medicines for years. Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills can't be beaten. They are the only thing I have found that will relieve my neuralgia and I have tried most everything, besides medicine from the doctor. I am willing to tell anyone what the Anti-Pain Pills did for me."

CHARLES HILDBRANDT, Box 205, Woodville, Ohio. "If you, like Mr. Hilderbrandt, 'have tried most everything' in vain, try not do as he did, fight your aches and pains with Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills. Let the pills bear the brunt of the battle. No matter how stubborn the contest, they will come out victorious. Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills stand on their record, which is a long list of cures extending back a generation. Druggists everywhere sell them. If first package fails to benefit, your druggist will return your money."

Victim of Drink Needs Orrine. Drink cunningly destroys the will power, and while the drunkard wants to do what you tell him, he wants a thousand times more the drink that he craves. Medical treatment is needless. Orrine destroys the desire for liquor, so that the drink will not be missed and restores the patient to health. This remedy is thoroughly scientific and is uniformly successful that it is sold with a guarantee to refund your money if after a trial it has not benefited. Booklet free on request. The Orrine Company, Orrine Building, Washington, D. C. Sold in this city by Skidmore Drug Co., 151 Third St., and 372-374 Morrison St.

SUNNY MONDAY

Sunny Monday laundry soap contains a wonderful dirt-starter which saves half the rubbing. The soap itself does most of the work—you merely assist it. Your poor back will appreciate the difference at once. Sunny Monday will do its best work in any kind of water—hot, cold, hard or soft. All waters look alike to Sunny Monday.

Better Than Medicine

Rheumatism, nervousness, neuralgia, backache, liver and kidney complaints are caused by excess uric acid. Medicine can only temporarily counteract the effect, while electrodes remove the excess uric acid, and all other poisons and impurities from the system. The result is prompt relief and a permanent cure. S. F. Robb, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., writes: "I am a farmer of the Iron Mountains. I have had rheumatism for the last ten months. I purchased a pair of electrodes and have had great results from them. I have worked but three weeks in the last ten months and now I am working on my farm every day and think I am getting well." "I have been to Hot Springs twice and to Mineral Springs twice, and twice to the hospital in the last ten months." John McArthur, of Bowling, Minn., writes: "Enclosed please find \$1 for which please send me three pairs of Electrodes. I have used two pairs of your Electrodes now. When I began their use I was not able to make a step without the aid of crutches, now I am able to get around nicely with a cane and believe another pair will completely cure me." "What Electrodes have done for others, they can do for you. Nothing is so convincing as the actual test. Electrodes will convince you. Wear a pair 30 days absolutely at our risk. Booklet upon request. At druggists or by mail, postpaid. If your druggist cannot furnish Electrodes, send us \$1 and we will see that you are supplied immediately. State whether for man or woman. Electrode Company, 341 Los Angeles street, Los Angeles, Cal.