

Ashland's Great Granite Asset

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Mr. Blair is a granite man of wide experience, having come from the quarries at Barre, Vt., and having worked in granite as far west as Puget Sound, north into British Columbia and across the southern part of the United States from California to Virginia and South Carolina. During the morning he drew many interesting comparisons, particularly between the Ashland rock and that from Barre, long known as granite of fine quality.

Technically speaking, most granite has the "rift," the "grain" and the "head grain," corresponding respectively to the "flat grain," the "edge grain" and the end or cross grain in timber. One exceptional feature of this lower Ashland ledge is in the fact that the stone splits with the "rift" in any direction, leaving the usual smooth surface. A drill of new design is used having a hole through it from end to end, through which the dust at the point of the drill is blown away.

The Barre granite is of three shades, dark, light and medium. These three shades are also found in the Ashland deposits, and Mr. Blair is satisfied that this stone is equal or superior to the Barre granite in every particular. It will polish beautifully and show up letters in fine shape—two requisites for a superior monument stone. The granite of the lower ledge is remarkably uniform, free from black "knots," "white horses" and other blemishes. Blocks of fifty tons without a flaw could be taken out with adequate facilities for handling such large ones, which, however, are seldom needed. The two upper ledges, while largely free from blemishes, usually will not yield such large blocks of equal perfection. The granite of the second ledge polishes dark and shows carvings white, making in effect a beautiful contrast.

From Barre, Vt., are sent annually to Oregon about fifty carloads of granite of an estimated value of \$100,000. The stone costs \$1.35 per cubic foot in the rough there. The freight is \$1 per hundred pounds, and, while the net weight per cubic foot of finished dimensions is but 175 pounds, the stones necessarily are cut large to allow for dressing, so that the total cost of Barre granite in the rough laid down in Oregon amounts to \$3.85 per net cubic foot. Finished, the cost runs as high as from \$8 to \$9 per cubic foot.

At Barre there are ninety-two quarries, employing in all departments of the work about 12,000 men. Mr. Blair is confident that on his property there is as much fine granite as in the Barre quarries, though of course Oregon does not have the trade territory as densely populated or as well developed as that tributary to the eastern city. Many Barre quarries show "white horses" in the surface rock, but these disappear as deeper levels are reached, so the same may be true of the two upper Ashland ledges, which even now furnish many large, clear stones, while the lower ledge is clear from the start.

Mr. Blair submitted samples of his granite to Edwards and Lazell, chemical and efficiency engineers of Portland, for test. Samples were in two forms, solid and pulverized. The following extract is from this firm in reply: "Laboratory No. S, 185. This granite contains no iron in the form of sulphide and no sulphur. There is further very little iron soluble in acids. From the above investigations we consider the granite to be free from any material which will cause it to rust or stain." A recent government report approves the Ashland granite for all government work.

The company is now engaged in getting out steps for the new Portland auditorium. These blocks are three by four by eight feet and weigh nearly eight and one-half tons each. When one rough block was being lowered to the cutting shed the handler was asked its weight. He replied, "About ten tons." The foreman measured the stone and computed the actual weight at 20,475 pounds as evidence that the quarryman knew his business even to guessing weights. A monument valued at \$800 is being made for the grave of a well-known Portland business man recently deceased.

The Blair Granite Company is equipped with surfacing and polishing machines driven by electricity for turning out completely finished work as well as the rough product. Solid blocks of twelve tons weight without the slightest imperfection are now being taken out. The dirt hill covering the ledge is valuable in place of staging, which otherwise would have to be built for handling the stone. All waste dirt is easily and quickly dumped into the canyon below. The company owns 120 acres of quarry land, and, cornering with this tract,

a good little forty-acre ranch which will be used eventually for cutting sheds and employes' homes. A stream supplying an abundance of water runs down across the land through the canyon below the present works. For present uses the water is piped from a point 1,100 feet upstream from the quarry. A bunkhouse twenty-four by thirty feet and cook-house twenty by forty feet now furnish temporary quarters for the six employes.

Nature in conjunction with a wise utilization of her gifts has provided a splendid site and ideal conditions for a granite quarry, and Mr. Blair is much pleased with the outlook. The present orders on which he is now working and has secured in so short a time are evidence of his business sagacity and the true merit of the stone. Mr. Blair says he has everything satisfactorily figured out except the distressing problem as to how the tadpoles got into a barrel of water standing under a majestic Oregon fir at the meeting place of the road and an old irrigating ditch. The spot is enchanting and the barrel is painted a light blue, neither of which circumstances is likely to have influenced the tadpoles in their choice of a home. No one in the party was able to solve the knotty problem, so, not having their guilt clearly established, the little frolickers were left to the joy of their brief lives.

The location of Mr. Blair's property is about one mile below the Christensen sawmill on Neil creek and is near where S. Penniston and sons did some prospecting ten or twelve years ago, but the rock is now being taken out at a lower level to much better advantage. Mr. Blair's men are all experienced. The quarry boss, G. B. Johnson, who is also a cutter and polisher, and Richard Fagan, a cutter, are from the Barre quarries. Robert Gaulty and Frank Olson, both cutters, are from Wisconsin. John Blair is also a cutter and Lester Welis is truck driver and engineer. Walter M. Blair, the owner, is chief of all and a handy man at anything.

ASHLAND'S CELEBRATION, JULY 4, 5, 6, 1916.

(By Frank H. Hull, Movie Man.) They let the cowboys have their way. Let us hope the spirit is here to stay. For with the roundup and the park. All classes may come and have their lark.

Young and old from every Oregon dell,
And from California, too, as well,
Will meet each year in Ashland,
With lithia as its foremost brand.

The Fourth is over, the cowboys gone,
Ashland may rest, for quiet is on,
Tracy Layne, the cowboy poet,
Said old man Adams got his goat.

Smiley Corbett with his million-dollar smile
Was there with fancy roping for quite a while.
Vernon walked away with the bulldogging event,
But Cable took the roping and away he went.

Bob Hall's drunken ride made a hit,
Smiley Corbett brought a yell when he lit;
Darrel Cannon won the saddle by his ride,
For he stayed on top when he got astride.

Big black George, the Fletcher boy,
Rode everything as though it were a toy.
Then right here he would expand
And ride in front of the big grandstand.

When "Skeeter Bill," with too much booze,
Tried to ride the bull he couldn't confuse,
He stuck two jumps, then fell on his face,
And assisted by friends he left the place.

Tracy wrote the poems while he was here,
But since he has beckoned to the farewell cheer,
I'll fill the vacancy where nothin's needed,
Till by another guy I am exceeded.

The Southern Pacific Company will erect a \$10,000 station building at North Bend.
Malheur county is building crushed rock roads at \$750 per mile.

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CATLIN
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COLLAR
THIN, LIGHT YET STARCHED AND EASILY IRONED. Each collar 4 for 50c. CLEGG, FRASER & CO., INC., PORTLAND.

Zueblin Gives Good Advice

Charles Zueblin, the Boston civic lecturer, began his lecture last Tuesday afternoon by saying that Ashland had the most beautiful Chautauqua grounds and the worst auditorium of any city in which he had addressed an audience. The subject of his talk was "The New Civic Spirit." The address was one of the best ever heard on that or similar topics. He did not talk long, but he talked so fast, and said so much in a few words that when he stopped he had said a great deal. He started in with the church, the school and charity. He said the American church was no better than the European church. People do not talk so much any more about the "little red school house on the hill." The "three R's" are a thing of the past. Men learn to do things—to make a living. Charity, a few years ago, was an institution used wholly for show. A man gave, not just for the sake of the giving, but so that someone would see him give. Now men give as if on a level with the person to whom they are giving—man to man. He skipped around some in order to cover his ground, but all his talk related directly to his subject. He said that the streets showed the kind of people that inhabited the town. That was one of the things he liked about Ashland. He liked the paved streets and park rows. He said that there can be no competition in public utility—there must be monopoly. Electricity cannot be supplied by one company, the water by another, etc. There must be one big municipal company to supply all these things. He next stated that he noticed that the streets of Ashland were swept and wanted to know what was done with the sweepings. All street sweepings, garbage and sewage are worth money, he said, and money should be made with them. He again said he liked our park rows and trees. These should be taken care of by a public authority in order to be sure of good and uniform care. Especially the trees should be set out and cared for by one person. "Some people," he said, "do not know the difference between a tree and a telephone pole." You never can tell what such people will do to a tree. Therefore, have one man take care of the trees and have them all alike. He has met few flies in this community. This sounds promising to us. We should endeavor to keep it so that strangers shall forever after be "met by only a few flies." He said that in Boston all children were required to take part in athletics. No child should be allowed to escape from school until he can earn a living with his own hands. Most people become criminals behind the bars. There were some of his sayings. Then came one of the biggest things—every city must have a big, progressive, municipal plan. He said Ashland had started well along that line with the exception that the public library should have been built on the Plaza where the city hall is. When we get our postoffice it should be built there also. The idea is to make the city center around one place. The park could not have been put in a better location. It suits Ashland's municipal plan very well. Ashland has a chance to become one of the most beautiful of cities if it will but keep the good work going. But—there is danger of

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Unqualified Praise From Everywhere

The celebration which is now a memory, and a most pleasant one, has brought from every direction showers of praise upon Ashland. Added to the parks which will entertain thousands without congestion, were the mineral waters, the roundup, the parades, the various ceremonies, the continual band concerts by four of the best bands which the cities of the valley have ever had good reason to be proud of, the magnificently staged roundup, the dozens of minor events, the ball games, the dances, the swimming pools, the whole-hearted manner in which the people responded in offering accommodations and co-operation, was the fact that no exorbitant charges were made and everybody was given such excellent satisfaction that they could not but leave singing the praises of the hospitality of the lithia city. To quote all the comments which have appeared in the newspapers of our neighboring cities would require columns. Suffice it to say that not a single instance of criticism appeared, and let the following from the Klamath Falls Herald stand as a fair sample of the commendation which has been given the city:
"Klamath Falls people returning from attending the Ashland celebration are loud in their praises of the hospitality of the lithia city and the splendid celebration held. The parades, fireworks and other features were by far the best witnessed any place in Oregon outside of Portland.
"The civic improvements brought about in recent months in Ashland were the cause of much congratulation for the town. The entire town entered into the spirit of the big affair."
Credit for the celebration rests in the main with the directive force which was centered in the general committee which was made up of the following: H. O. Frohbach, chairman; A. H. Pracht, H. G. Enders Jr., M. E. Briggs, Amos Nininger, Frank Jordan, C. B. Wolf, C. Adams, George Owen, Harry Hosier, D. D. Norris, O. T. Bergner.
To H. O. Frohbach must go the major credit. All of his time for weeks was devoted to the celebration, always unruffled despite the many obstacles which of course appeared, planning, directing and working, his ability was an immense factor in the systematic manner in which the celebration was carried out and the immense success scored. To every other member of the committee must go the thanks of the city and to the many who served faithfully and well on the sub-committees, throwing themselves with all their soul into the work of making the visitors welcome and comfortable. But then our celebration was a success only because everybody worked and the realization of success is sufficient reward.

Beer Petition Has The Most Signers

Eight petitions for the placing of statewide constitutional amendments on the November ballot had been filed with the secretary of state when the period for filing these petitions closed. Three petitions which are known to be in circulation did not appear, apparently being given up.

The amendment "to abolish discrimination against home manufacture of light beer" was brought in with 42,046 signatures, and the amendment initiated by the Oregon state prohibition committee "to prohibit the importation of liquor for beverage purposes" was filed with 30,470 signatures.

The petition validating the location of the Ashland normal, other state schools and providing for the location of a normal school at Pendleton was filed.

The petition "to repeal and abolish the Sunday closing law" was filed with a large number of signers.

A petition providing for the "people's land and loan law" and several county petitions were filed.

The rural credits petition, in which there had been keen interest manifested over the state, was filed with about 26,500 signatures. This amendment is initiated and favored by the Oregon Referendum League, a federation of the Oregon State

Girl Whistler At Chautauqua

The Elite Trio, composed of a reader, a whistler who is, by the way, only fifteen years of age, and a pianist, were heard by large audiences Thursday afternoon and evening. Their programs are of first class. The young whistler is an artist. She was encored time after time. Her closing number was the old "Mocking Bird." In it after whistling through the song she imitated the call of every kind of bird from a meadow lark to a screech owl. She has a remarkably clear and beautiful whistle. When in rendering a selection she made all sorts of little trills and birdlike quavers which quite stole the heart of the audience. During the evening's performance the girl and the pianist whistled a duet. This was something new and was very pleasing. The reader rendered a number of good selections, among them one from London's "The Call of the Wild." She did not merely say the words, but one could almost feel with the watchers as the dog pulled the heavily laden sledge past the finish and won the money for his beloved master.

The Weinhard Brewing Company at Portland is putting out 3,000 barrels of non-alcoholic beverage, employing 75 persons.

Salem factories are putting in larger equipment for the manufacture of loganberry and fruit juices. These beverages increase in popularity.

Hermiston dairymen are building three new silos.

Everywhere desired and everywhere admired are the Wirthmor

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The new models on sale tomorrow

When there's such an insistent and overwhelming demand throughout the country for any particular article, it symbolizes just one thing: namely, that the article is superior to any others obtainable at the same price. That's the case with the Wirthmor Waist—the same eagerness which greets their sale here being manifested in hundreds of other cities throughout the various states.

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Grange, Farmers' Educational and Co-operative union and the Oregon State Federation of Labor.

The statewide tax limitation amendment petition came in with about 35,000 signatures. It is fostered by the State Taxpayers' League.

Favor Pendleton Normal Measure

County school superintendents of the state gathered at Salem to grade examination papers, endorsed unanimously the proposed constitutional amendment to establish a normal school at Pendleton and to validate the location of the normal at Ashland and other state schools. The resolution follows:

"Resolved, that it is the sense of the county school superintendents of the state of Oregon, in convention assembled, that the best interests of the schools of the state demand increased facilities for the training of the teachers, and that we, therefore, endorse the initiative measure to establish a normal school at Pendleton."

James J. Corbett by Walt Mason

Once there were giants in the land, men who could scrap to beat the band. In modern times the cheapest skates are known as champeen heavyweights, but long ago, when Jim was young, men didn't fight with jaw or lung, but used their fists, and used them well—brave days of Jackson and John L. They slugged away, while they could stand, when there were giants in the land. And Corbett won his laurels then, among those mighty fighting men. He was the champion when that meant something more than getting fat, and standing, in a graceful pose, to figure in the movie shows. He's an authority on sport, and his decrees the wise ones court. He's an authority on smokes, and as his trusty pipe he stokes, he often says, "Tuxedo's best; it has the edge on all the rest."

JAS. J. CORBETT
Famous Prizefighter and Actor,
1872-1933
"My enthusiasm for the fragrance and mildness of Tuxedo has no limit. Tuxedo is without doubt the most satisfactory pipe tobacco."
J. J. Corbett