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THE POET'S GIFT.

I
 The faces of the passing throng
 He reads, in street and mart;
 For him the starry skies sing
 their song,
 And God speaks in his heart.

II
 To fleeting winds and bubbling
 burns,
 Sea sounds, and singing birds,
 He listens, soul-absorbed, and
 turns
 Their music into words.

III
 He walks the hills, the vales,
 the fields,
 The dim, mysterious woods,
 And each, because he loves them
 yields
 Dreams for his many moods.

IV
 A voice within him whispers,
 "Write,"
 And, pondering, dreaming
 long,
 Begot by darkness and by light,
 Lo, there leaps forth a song!

V
 Who to the world a true song
 gives,
 Though simple be its art,
 Gives something that forever
 lives—
 Life of his soul and heart.
 —Charles W. Hubner.

A CHANCE FOR SERVICE.
 There are local attorneys who say that under its police powers the city has authority to require that the electric light and telephone wires be placed underground.

Then why not insist that this improvement be made by both companies during the present year? It would add vastly to the appearance of the streets in the business section to have the overhead wires and the poles removed. The cluster lights could then be installed at regular intervals and their effect would be what it should be.

To remove the overhead wires would mean to safeguard the lives of firemen and of other citizens. In times of fire the overhead electric wires become a menace to human life. It is a danger many do not realize but if the wires are allowed to remain one of these days some poor fireman will lose his life and then there will be a loud outcry for the removal of the wires. In Portland the authorities did not realize the danger of the oil tanks until after Chief Campbell had been sacrificed. Now they are demanding that the tanks be taken outside the city.

If the wires are to go underground in Pendleton now is the time for action. Much street work has been ordered and some of it is to be in the business section. The companies should be required to place their wires underground in cables before the paving is done. The wires on Main and Court streets should have gone underground in cables before the paved. But it is not too late to correct the mistake. If necessary to have the lines along Main and Court street the cables may be placed under the concrete gutters or under the sidewalks.

Unless the East Oregonian is greatly mistaken the city council will take steps to require that the telephone and electric companies place their wires underground. It is a splendid opportunity for the council to be of service to the people and the members were chosen to represent the interests of the public—not to represent the electric trust or the telephone trust. Those corporations have able and well paid men to uphold their interests for them. In the past they have had the better of the game and it is time for the people of Pendleton, through their accredited representatives, to take a brace.

IT SUCCEEDED WELL.
 Pendleton endeavored to be a good host at the fourth of July celebration yesterday and expressions heard in many places indicate the plan succeeded well.

It is certainly a vast improvement over former celebrations at the afternoon program at the Round-up park. Yesterday there were comfortable seats for all and everybody could see the events upon the track and field. People did not have to stand around on hot streets in order to see the races and other stunts.

And there was no charge for anything. At the afternoon exercises people in the grandstand had enjoyment that would ordinarily cost them a dollar or more.

No one can truthfully say Pendleton attempted to make money off its celebration yesterday. On the contrary the committee this year, under the direction of its chairman, Mr. Montgomery, followed the broad plan of trying to show visitors a good time. They succeeded well and for this and the hard work they had to do the celebration managers are entitled to thanks and to congratulations.

SHOULD THE CITY DO IT?

Several Oregon towns are now discussing how to care for the street parking and with the street improvements in store for Pendleton it is a timely subject for consideration locally.

At Corvallis the scheme is for the city to maintain the strips of parking along the streets instead of requiring householders to keep up the parking in front of their places.

In favor of this plan there are some excellent arguments. The parking is in the street, not on private ground, and it would be as consistent for the city to maintain the parking as for it to sprinkle and sweep the streets.

Should the city maintain the parking the plan would insure uniform care and attention throughout the city. When the matter is left to individuals it is notorious that some do their duty while others fail to do so.

When the new paving is completed here there will be much parking to look after and the city will have to adopt one policy or the other with reference to caring for the strips. It is a subject that deserves some attention and discussion before any particular plan is adopted.

JUST AS PATRIOTIC.

Pendleton had a safe and sane fourth of July celebration yesterday and reports from over the state indicate similar celebrations were held elsewhere. The agitation for a sensible celebration of independence day has been so effective that practically no fire crackers were used this time despite the fact that the law against their use is not yet in effect.

After July 15, 1912, it will be unlawful for any dealer to sell or for anyone to discharge a firecracker that is over two and one-half inches in length, those who do so become subject to a fine of from \$25 to \$50. This law was enacted by the last legislature and Senator Burgess of this county was author of the bill.

It is needless to say that the idea of a safe and sane fourth appeals to most people. It is nonsensical to make the day one of noise and of exploding cannon crackers add nothing to the patriotism of the day. On the contrary it has made many people wish the fourth would not come so often.

Another revolt is on in Mexico, but unless there is some money as well as men behind the move it will amount to but little. There are reasons for believing that Madero's generalship was largely in his distribution of cash among his followers.

Speaking of spectacular stunts—what about the wild mule race for a thriller.

The Buckaroos covered themselves with glory at the finish anyway.

Some Athena fans are acting as though they were not yet fully grown.

If just the right sort of men can be elected, the fewer commissioners the better.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY SKETCH
 Charles E. Patton, congressman from the twenty-first Pennsylvania district, is fifty-two today, having been born in Curwensville, Clearfield County, Pa., July 5, 1859. He received his early education in the common schools of his native place and later attended Dickinson seminary at Williamsport, Pa.

In 1882 Mr. Patton married Mrs. Mary Beggs, of Ebensburg, Pa., shortly after he had started in business as a dry goods merchant. Later he branched out in various lines of business and proved himself to be one of those fortunate individuals whose every touch turns to gold. He is now identified with many of the most important business ventures of the community in which he resides, which happens to be his native town. He is a director of the Curwensville National Bank and president of the Curwensville Light & Power company, is interested in large lumber and contracting companies, besides owning several fine farms in which he takes an unusual interest. He has held nearly every elective office in his own town, and was elected to the sixty-second congress by a splendid majority.

JULY 5 IN HISTORY.

- 1044—Abd. King of Hungary, defeated by his own subjects and killed in battle.
- 1601—Battle of Ostend (Netherlands war of independence.)
- 1826—Battle of Stralsund (Thirty Years War.)
- 1752—Fifth action between the British and French fleets in the East Indies.
- 1797—Second bombardment of Cadiz by the British.
- 1807—Battle of Buenos Ayres, during the Napoleonic wars, when 5,000 British troops under General Whitelocke assaulted the city. They penetrated into the streets but suffered terrible losses from the defenders' fire from windows and roofs. Despite his brilliant maneuvering Whitelocke was forced to surrender.
- 1808—Cuenca, Spain, taken by the French under Caulincourt, and given up in pillage.
- 1848—The negroes of St. Croix revolted and compelled the governor to proclaim their freedom. The whites thereupon formed a provincial government, deposed the governor, attacked the negroes, and having captured 300, shot them immediately.
- 1864—President Lincoln issued a proclamation declaring the state of



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Kentucky under martial law.
 1898—Gen. Toral, the Spanish commander in Santiago de Cuba, was again called upon to surrender the city to the American troops, but declined and the truce was extended.
 1903—Breaking of the Oakford Park dam, near Jeannette, Pa., damaged property to the amount of \$1,500,000 and cost thirty lives.
 1910—Howard M. Hanna, of Cleveland, Ohio, gave \$250,000 to Western Reserve University.

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