

# The Monmouth Herald

Vol. I

Monmouth, Polk County, Oregon, Friday, July 16 1909

No. 47

## INDEPENDENCE NEWS BUDGET

From Our Regular Correspondent.

### DAILY HAPPENINGS IN OUR SISTER CITY.

Scan This Column For News of Importance From the Riverside.

Ted Cooper is on the sick list this week.

Jess Whiteaker made a business trip to Corvallis Tuesday.

The Independence Laundry has opened up and is ready for work.

Mr. Kaltz, the piano tuner, was in our city the first of the week.

Chas. Shenefield and wife were Salem visitors the last of the week.

D. B. Taylor and wife were Corvallis visitors the first of the week.

Mrs. Sarah Young returned Tuesday from a few days visit in Portland.

Mrs. Chas. Hicks attended the Cherry Fair at Salem the last of the week.

Ed Wallace, of Corvallis, spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. M. W. Wallace.

Mrs. E. V. Dalton, of Dallas, was visiting friends here the first of the week.

Mrs. L. Damon and Mrs. Frank Skinner visited in Salem the last of the week.

Miss Ruby Earhart returned this week from a few days visit at Black Rock.

Miss Kate Jennings, of Perrydale, is the guest of Miss Grace Wallace this week.

Jess Whiteaker and wife returned the last of the week from a week's stay in Seattle.

The Independence Orchestra will give a dance at the opera house, Friday, July 16th.

Mrs. J. H. Ellison returned Tuesday from Hood River where she has been for a month.

Charlie Irvine and wife returned the last of the week from a months outing at the coast.

Miss Mabel Collins left the first of the week for Dallas to work in the Hotel Gail in that city.

Mrs. Ada Davis went to Airlie Saturday for a few days visit and to attend the dance that night.

Mrs. W. W. Percival and daughter, Pearl, returned the last of the week from Portland.

E. W. Cooper and wife, of Albany, passed through here Sunday on their way from Monmouth.

Geo. Wills and wife, of Salem, made a trip to Independence in their automobile Tuesday evening.

Carl Percival returned Tuesday from Seattle where he has been attending the Fair and also the races.

Harvey Copeland returned the last of the week from Seattle, where he has been attending the races.

Mrs. Geo. Anderson, Mrs. John Bohannon, and Mrs. Spurr were Salem visitors the last of the week.

Wiley Craven and family, of Dallas, passed through here last Tuesday on their way to Belknap Springs.

Miss Sadie Craven and her sister Lora, returned the last of the week from a visit with friends in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Owen and Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Hedges attended the Cherry Fair at Salem the last of the week.

Mrs. E. L. Delashmutt and Mrs. M. B. Smith, of Dallas, were guests at the home of W. W. Percival Wednesday.

Miss Ella Robinson returned to McMinnville Monday after visiting a few weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Robinson.

Mrs. Joe Hubbard left Wednesday for Portland, where she will help select the furniture for the room furnished by the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs at the Home.

Dr. Duganne, Asa Robinson, Rube Dickinson, and Sam Irvine returned the last of the week from Marshfield where they have been attending the races. They went in Harold Fitchard's automobile but returned on the steamer. They report a very pleasant trip.

Saturday, July 10th, the Ladies' Reading Club was entertained at the home of Mrs. D. B. Taylor, by Mrs. W. R. Allin, Mrs. Geo. Conkey, Mrs. D. A. Hodge, Mrs. P. M. Kirkland, and Mrs. S. B. Walker. There were several invited guests. The prizes in the contest game were won by Mrs. Joe Hubbard and Mrs. Willard Craven. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Joe Hubbard; vice president, Mrs. L. Damon; secretary, Mrs. Will Walker. Dainty refreshments were served and an enjoyable time was spent.

### Rickreall.

Peter Cook made a pleasant trip to the Metropolis, Saturday.

Peter Cook was in the Capital city, Tuesday combining business with pleasure.

W. E. Marks and wife, of Dallas, have rented and moved onto Uncle Conrad Smith's fine farm.

Harry Seymour and wife passed through here Friday enroute to the big Cherry Fair at Salem.

William Griffith, of Rickreall, is working in the hay field for Clark Hembree these fine days.

An Idaho stock buyer first of the present week paid Otis Waite \$7.50 for his small bunch of sheep.

Hay is selling at \$8.00 a ton standing in the field and not a very large quantity being sold at that price.

T. A. Riggs, of Monmouth, and John Grant, of the county seat, transacted business in our little village Monday.

D. C. Henry, of the prosperous O. S. N. S. city, was in Rickreall Saturday, soliciting for the best and only paper in the county that isn't filled up with saloon advertisements.

L. C. Koser and son John, Oliver Waite and William Fishback have completed a fine barn for Black Bros., northeast of Monmouth. Mr. Koser is considered one of the best workmen on the coast.

## FINE HOUSE IS DESTROYED

Residence of P. H. Johnson Burns

### FIRE CAUSED BY EXPLOSION OF TANK

Loss on Building and Contents \$4000 With \$1500 Insurance

Saturday about noon or at least everybody was in the act of satisfying the hungry feeling, a cry of fire was heard and on investigating it, the residence of P. H. Johnson was discovered in flames. The fire originated from an exploding tank of gasoline in the woodshed just back of the house.

Mr. Johnson has been working on an improvement in the gasoline gas generators, for heat and light. He has progressed very well and had his invention very nearly completed and ready to patent. He had been using it for lighting his residence and for cooking for some time. The gas was generated by pressure from a compressor run by a small electric motor, the machinery being in the woodshed as was the tank.

There was but a very small quantity of gasoline in the tank, about a pint, and the gas had been burning in the cook stove for some time, it being used to prepare the noonday meal. Mr. Johnson went out to the woodshed and shut off the power without first turning the gas off at the stove and he thinks that the heat from the stove was drawn back into the tank and caused the explosion. Several minutes elapsed between the explosion and the time of the fire breaking out. Mrs. Johnson coming out to the woodshed to see what had caused the explosion and then both returning to the kitchen where they discussed the matter of building a fire in another stove to finish the cooking. Little Verna Johnson first noticed the fire which had broken out on top of the tank, and shouted "Papa the house is on fire". Mr. Johnson seized a bucket of water and ran out and threw it on the fire, thus spreading the gasoline. When the explosion occurred a lot of the gasoline was thrown on Mr. Johnsons clothing and when he threw the water on the fire his clothing caught and had it not been for the presence of mind of Mrs. Johnson and Miss Tuthill he would have burned to death, but they wrapped a quilt around him to smother the flames. Meantime the fire had been gaining headway and by the time an alarm was turned in the woodshed was a mass of flames on the inside and before the engine arrived the end of the house was burning. The first application of the chemicals to the fire on the end of the house extinguished the flames, but there was a dozen places to fight and only one nozzle to fight with and as the fire was all outside the gas could do no good. The fire crept inside of the attic and then the hose was carried into an upstairs window and the steady stream of

chemical kept pouring into the attic until the ceiling fell in, when the boys had to abandon all hope of subduing the flames, but the great amount of gas generated by the fluid kept the fire back causing it to burn very slowly. Almost everything of value was saved from the upper story excepting that which was in Miss Tuthill's room and it being in the corner of the house most exposed to the fire, caught first and was all aflame before the hose was carried upstairs.

Miss Tuthill was the heaviest loser proportionately of any, for she lost almost her entire belongings, many things being cherished keepsakes.

Pres. Ressler saved almost everything of value in his room, among which was his piano and pianola and his library of over 1200 volumes.

Mr. Johnson's loss on household goods that were not saved is total as he had no insurance, but his loss on the building was covered by \$1500 which is a little over half the value of the building. His total loss not covered by insurance will reach about \$2500. The loss to others has not been ascertained yet.

Mr. Johnson was pretty badly burned on the left foot, leg and hand, but is getting along nicely and will be able to be out again in a few days. He has the fullest confidence in the chemical engine and believes that had it not been for it he would not have been able to save enough from the building to be worth talking about. He also says that there never has been an invention yet that there was not some damage done by it before it was perfect and he does not blame the principle of the invention, but that he did not take the precaution that should have been done to prevent what happened.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson feel very grateful to their many friends for their kind assistance at the fire and since and wish the Herald to extend their heartfelt thanks to all for their assistance and words of sympathy.

### In Boyhoods Happy Days

Friday evening the Herald man was dispensing intellectual pot-pouri to a few interested individuals in front of the bakery when a hand was laid on his shoulder and a voice he had not heard for 18 years asked "Did you ever know anyone named Blackburn?" Well I guess yes. The speaker was one of the kids that had romped neath the shade of the sturdy old oaks at Rock Hill many years ago and when last seen was a smooth faced youth, but now sports a fine large moustache. Lester Blackburn was one of the sturdy youths of our school boy days and was one of those most interested in making the "old swimmin' hole" a popular resort and if we remember correctly, was one along with the writer, that was "kept in" for being too industrious on the new dam during recess and did not hear the bell ring, hence was tardy. Lester is now a prominent stock grower of the Ukiah country, in Umatilla county and reports times better there than for years, in fact better than any other part of the state; money plentiful and everybody healthy and happy.

## FINE SHEEP JUST IMPORTED

Arrived Friday From Vancouver B. C.

### FIRST SHIPMENT EVER MADE TO U. S.

Riddle & Sons Secure Valuable Addition to Their Flock From New Zealand

Last Friday Wm. Riddell, Jr., returned from Vancouver, B. C., with a fine lot of sheep that he had just received from New Zealand. This is the first shipment of the kind ever made to the United States from New Zealand and Mr. Riddle is justly proud of the distinction.

There was included in the shipment a fine Lincoln ram, which has been added to the already splendid bunch of Lincolns owned by Riddell & Sons. The 12 head are what are known as Romney Marsh sheep and resemble the Lincoln, but are said to be of finer wool than the former.

We append a clipping from a local New Zealand paper regarding these sheep, which speaks for itself. The Mr. Evans spoken of in the extract was formerly in the employ of J. B. Stump and afterwards went to New Zealand.

"The Short Romneys and Perry Lincoln purchased through Mr. E. Short by Messrs. Riddell and Sons, of Monmouth, Oregon, were shipped away at Wellington last evening aboard the Moeraki. They were examined by numbers of those interested in sheepbreeding, including Mr. David Evans, lately shepherd to the Government, who was identified with the negotiations which led to the purchase of the sheep. The examination was made before the sheep were put on board and they were pronounced to be in excellent condition, and their prospect of surviving the voyage as could be possible with any sheep.

Much care has been exercised in their selection, the vendors looking partly for their reward in the splendid advertisement which the public exhibition of these sheep at the big American shows will afford to New Zealand stud flocks. They are to be exhibited immediately on arrival and news of their landing will be awaited with interest.

The shipment comprised two rams, six Romney ewes, and five Romney ewe lambs. It is understood that this is the first shipment of New Zealand sheep ever sent to America. Messrs. Dalgety & Co. were entrusted with the handling at Wellington and Sydney.

The Herald has formed a combination with the Pacific Monthly whereby we can offer that excellent western magazine and the best family county paper published in this county for the exceptionally low price of \$1.65 for both for one year. This price is for either new subscribers or for renewals. The price of the Pacific Monthly alone is \$1.50.