

The Monmouth Herald

Vol. VIII

Monmouth, Polk County, Oregon, Friday, August 11, 1916

No. 49

Monmouth is Located in the Best Section of the Best Valley of the Best State in the Union.

A MIDNIGHT FIRE ALARM

Burning of old House Illuminates City Thursday A. M.

A midnight fire alarm Wednesday night called out a large proportion of the citizens of Monmouth and served the purpose of cleaning up the old Emmett house on Monmouth avenue which had long been an eyesore to the people of the city. The fire company promptly responded to the ringing of the alarm but by the time they were prepared for business the old shell was thoroughly in flames. Its destruction was accomplished and rather than leave the charred walls to disfigure the landscape they were permitted to burn down in peace and attention was turned to wetting down the neighboring houses and trees.

The loss is very little for the building was worthless and had not been occupied for a few years past. The building was not even a landmark for many other buildings in the vicinity are older. There is nothing to indicate the origin of the fire. A dozen different causes may have contributed and then again an enterprising spirit and a match might have been responsible.

The evening was surely appropriate. Not a breath of air stirred. The dry boards burned like tinder and the column of smoke and sparks rose straight up with just a slight angle to the south. F. K. Skeen was the first to reach the bell rope and give the alarm although the glare of the flames on the sky was seen by many before the alarm was rung.

The response was immediate and from all directions. By the time the hose had begun to play there was a large audience to witness the performance. Some hasty toilets were inconspicuous in the crowd, many of the women clinging to the outer fringe of the circle where they could see but not be seen. When the boys with the hose had wet down the scenery thoroughly they were apparently minded to turn the nozzle on the crowd but successfully resisted the temptation.

The burned building is a part of the Coates estate and is the portion of Mrs. Mary Meador of Salem. The lot with the building off will be more valuable than when encumbered with the same.

Some of the shrewd ones think children are responsible for Wednesday night's fire. They say there are plum trees in the yard which have attracted the children of the neighborhood of late. They think the fireplace might have attracted them and the big fire have been the result of a little one started for juvenile entertainment.

The house was struck by a sky rocket sent up in observing the Fourth of July a year or two ago. The roof caught fire and a corner burned off which was never repaired.

There was no insurance on the structure.

Gordon Bowman Weds

Gordon Bowman, one of the most popular young men of Monmouth, was married on Wednesday of last week to Miss Anna Hockema of Alsea. The wedding took place at Corvallis where the young lady has been working. Miss Hockema formerly worked in the Hotel Monmouth and is a sister of Mrs. Orvil White of Tillamook. The young couple have many friends in this city to wish them a happy wedded life. They will settle down to house-keeping in the Stitt house, vacated this week by Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Hamilton. Mr. Bowman conducts the Monmouth livery, is a hard worker and a successful business man.

Chas. F. Hughes To Visit Oregon

Portland is sprucing up to welcome Chas. E. Hughes who will speak in that city August 16th at 8, p. m. The meeting will be held either in the armory or the ice hippodrome. State Chairman McNary will present Governor Withycombe who will introduce Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Hughes' schedule calls for stops in Oregon only at Portland, Medford, Ashland and Roseburg but National Committeeman Williams and the state committee will make an effort to have the schedule changed so that Salem, Albany and Eugene will have at least a few minutes each.

Fine Time at Dallas

Something like sixty Monmouth people, members and attendants at the Christian church attended the union services in Dallas Sunday. A large crowd from different parts of the county was present and all speak enthusiastically of the benefit derived from the meetings. Rev. W. A. Elkins was the speaker during the afternoon meeting and of his address the Observer says:

"Minister Elkins' theme was 'Remember Christ Jesus'. It was a message to christian people, encouraging them through the difficulties of life to remember Christ Jesus, in his sufferings for us, that through Him we might journey on to the end. Minister Elkins is well known to many Dallas people, having been raised in the community. It was a rare treat to hear him speak, both for old times' sake and for the powerful sermon preached."

Ralph Stewart, E. M. Ebbert's tonsorial assistant is now a benedict, the eventful step having been taken at Salem last Monday. Miss Mary Bellish is the former name of the bride.

We lamp by the Dallas Observer that J. H. Moran and Dave Hampton were in the county seat one day last week and surmise that there is a conspiracy of some kind on tap.

The many friends of John Riddell will be glad to learn that he is out of the hospital although he will not return from Portland for a short time yet.

LOSES AN EYE IN EXPLOSION

Grandson of I. H. Fream in Bad Accident at Falls City

Hershel, the 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lewis of Falls City and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Fream of this city, was seriously injured by an exploded dynamite cap Thursday noon of last week. A piece of copper from the cap lodged in his right eye, destroying his eyesight. A specialist summoned from Salem to examine the injury told the parents there was no way to remove the foreign substance except by removing the eye ball. If the matter was left in the eye it would surely destroy the sight of the other eye as well. The eye was taken out Monday and the piece of copper found.

Regarding the accident the Falls City News says:

"The accident occurred in the harness room of the barn of the Falls City Lumber Company which is at the rear of the Lewis home.

"A baking powder can containing 163 extra long split dynamite caps were found in a berry patch on the old Alex Christoff place in the southwest part of town by Bob Bennett. Bennett brought the can down and told Mrs. Lewis that he would put them in the harness room and for her to inform her husband about them when he came home. He placed the can on the work bench in the harness room.

"Herschel is an industrious little fellow and often went in the room and made things with the tools. A box of brass rivets lay on the bench and Mr. Lewis had spoken about getting some extra long split rivets to fix the thick heavy harness tugs. Seeing the can on the bench he opened it and the caps being brass he supposed that they were the rivets that his father had spoken about.

"Taking one of the caps he put it on the anvil that was in the room and pounded the slit end down so as to make a shovel. After broadening the end down to the point that suited him he put it in his pocket and taking out another cap he struck the loaded end and the explosion followed. The hammer was blown from his hand, lacerating the thumb and forefinger, the claw striking him on the forehead cutting a gash from which the blood flowed freely, and struck the wall behind him. The boy's head was on a level with the anvil and the exploding cap burned his face and eyes considerably, the right eye being injured the worst. The force of the explosion knocked him down, but he was able to get up and walk to the house, falling on the back porch. He stood the ordeal very bravely and cried but little from the wounds that he had sustained. Medical aid was summoned and he was made as comfortable as possible. Up to the present time it is impossible to

ascertain to what extent the eyesight is endangered.

"This is indeed an unfortunate occurrence and the parents and child have the sympathy of the people of the town."

President and Mrs. J. H. Ackerman were among the assemblage at the state meeting of the Editorial Association at Medford last week. The convention lasted from Friday morning to Monday and included trips to Ashland, the California state line and a day at Crater lake.

Sudden Death of George F. Shew

Geo. F. Shew who has been the operator of the Monmouth brick making plant died suddenly last Saturday at Medford of a hemorrhage of the brain. For a few months past he has been working at Scio and his presence in Medford was on a business trip.

He was ordinarily in good health and news of his death came as a shock to his friends. Mr. Shew was a native of Noblesville, Indiana, and he was 61 years of age. He came to Oregon in 1890, locating at Ballston and Sheridan and then moved to Dallas. He has been interested in the local brick yard for the past eight years. The plant has only operated part of the time and he has worked in the intervals at Scio, Albany and other places. The funeral was held in Dallas Tuesday, with burial in that city, where lives one of his sons.

Mrs. Shew died twenty years ago but he is survived by the following children: Charles T. Shew of Dallas, Mrs. H. B. Shope of Scio, Mrs. B. F. McLoughlin and Mrs. Chas. H. Nazro of Stockton, California, J. H. Shew of Portland and Mrs. Corbett Skelly of Albany.

Mr. Shew was an Odd Fellow and a number of the Monmouth members of the fraternity attended his funeral at Dallas Wednesday.

Grange Program

Monmouth Grange will hold a regular meeting on Saturday of this week, August 12th, with a business session that will last until noon. Dinner will be served at noon. At 1:30 p. m. the following program will be put on:

Would it Be Advisable for the Grange to Have a Permanent Committee for the Solicitation of Co-operative Orders Among the Grangers—Mr. Treat.

The Monmouth Grange Fair—W. J. Stockholm.

Home Coming—Mrs. Rogers. Economics in the Home—Mrs. Edwards.

Roll Call: Men to answer—My Favorite Dish When a Boy. Women to answer—My Favorite Recipe.

Question Box.

Because of the absence of Mr. Gilmore on his annual vacation Mrs. Wm. Riddell, Jr., will act as lecturer in his place.

Prof. E. S. Evenden went to Salem on business Saturday.

COUNCIL HAS BRIEF SESSION

Orders Sidewalks and Makes Payment on Water Bonds

The common council met in adjourned session at 3, p. m., Wednesday afternoon with Aldermen Hampton, Lorence and Boothby present and with Recorder Walter Brown acting as chairman. There being no remonstrances against the building of sidewalks before the property of P. H. Johnson, Mrs. Elizabeth Ebbert and Walter Scott on Main street, Monmouth avenue and Broad street, an ordinance was passed ordering the sidewalks built and giving the property owners sixty days in order to make the improvement themselves.

The recorder submitted proof that he had obeyed the instructions of the council to give due notice of intention to levy assessments for the paving of Main St. between Broad and Monmouth, by posting notices and publication in the Monmouth Herald and on motion the proof was accepted and placed on file.

The recorder was ordered to draw a warrant on the water fund for \$750.85, semi-annual payment of interest and principal on water bonds. After which the meeting adjourned.

Off for Game

The Lockellemeti club starts on its annual outing the latter part of this week. The club goes to its clubhouse on Fall Creek, near Alsea, where it will rendezvous for the next ten days. The club consists of Dr. Butler of Independence and J. B. V. Butler and Geo. Boothby of Monmouth. Formerly Luther Grounds was a member. The club is regularly organized and has some odd rules. Appropriate to its Indian name the club has a chief. The chief is the most excellent hunter and fisher as shown by a unique system of tallying. A fish caught counts one, a deer killed counts one hundred, a bear killed counts two hundred. Every night the score is taken and the high man is chief for the next day. The chief on the closing day holds over until next year's camp. The chief is a man of authority, a genuine autocrat. When he says go—or come—or camp, the club goes or comes or camps. Occasionally when underlings are too fresh the chief levies a fine of 50 cents which keeps the treasury running. Deer are killed by the club members each year but so far there have been no bears.

A letter from Arthur Burkhead states that at the time of writing the Butler-West party was in the Yellowstone park and having a fine time and were about to start for Glacier park and more sightseeing.

The Boy Scouts returned from their hike and vacation outing on the Siletz Wednesday. They report a fine time.