

Washington County News

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"WHERE ROLLS THE OREGON"
... LEWIS AND CLARK ...

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A Brief Historical Sketch of the First Congregational Church of Forest Grove

A Congregational Church was formed at Forest Grove in 1844 or 1845, of which the Rev. Harvey Clark was pastor until 1854. It met in a log house on what is now the college campus, at the spot where the petrified stump now stands. This building was also used as a school house. In 1851 the records of the church were burned with the house of the clerk, T. G. Naylor. At the opening of the new record book about 30 persons claimed membership and were so acknowledged. The Rev. Thomas Condon acted as pastor for a year in 1854 and 1855, after which the resident ministers, Messrs. Clark, Marsh and Walker supplied the pulpit for one year. Rev. E. Walker then became acting pastor. The church building which recently burned, was erected in 1858 and 1859 at a cost of about \$7,000. Rev. S. H. Marsh and Rev. Cushing Eells with Mr. Walker, occupied the pulpit until 1861. From 1856 to 1861 fifty persons united with the church. Rev. W. A. Tenny was pastor from May 1861 for about one and a half years. Then Messrs. Walker, Lyman and Marsh occupied the pulpit till 1867 and also from 1869 to 1875. Rev. D. A. Miles was pastor from 1867 to 1869. Rev. J. F. Ellis was pastor in 1875 and 1876 for one year. Rev. S. S. Vandersal for two years supplied both the Congregational and Methodist churches, preaching in the Congregational building; then, as the arrangement was not allowed by the conference to continue longer he withdrew from the conference and continued pastor until July 1882. Rev. J. R. Herrick supplied for a few months after which Rev. H. S. Mills came from the east and acted as pastor until Oct. 1885. He then resigned and the pulpit was supplied by Rev. J. F. Ellis, Rev. F. Crang, Rev. D. Bicknell and others until June 1887. Rev. C. F. Wood was then chosen pastor and remained one year. Rev. Daniel Staver then accepted a call and remained until August, 1890. Rev. Alonzo Rogers was pastor from October 1890 until April 1897, and Rev. Austin Rice from Sept. 1897 until Sept. 1898. After an interval of ten months during six of which Rev.

S. M. Freeland acted as supply, Rev. M. D. Dunning became pastor and served from September, 1899 till November, 1901. Since January 1st, 1902 Rev. Daniel Staver has served as acting pastor.

The church has been mainly self supporting. A Ladies' Working Society was organized in 1875 and has been an important factor in the social life of the church as well as rendering financial aid. The church has received during its existence about 650 members and has a membership at the present time of 217.

As a civil organization the church was incorporated in 1855 and again in 1882. The block of land upon which the building will stand was a gift to the organization from Rev. Cushing Eells and his wife in 1858. The church also owns about six acres to the west of town used for a cemetery, part of which was given by Henry Buxton and T. G. Naylor. The church has contributed largely to benevolences, the amount for the last ten years averaging about \$250 a year. The church building was burned in the early morning of July 13, 1901. It was insured for \$2,000 which became the nucleus of a new building fund.

In May of 1904 the plans submitted by F. M. Starrett were accepted by the church and a building committee appointed. On examination of three bids submitted, that of Mr. S. B. Starrett was accepted and the trustees authorized to make a contract with him. The new edifice will be modern in every respect with rooms for Sunday school and facilities for social purposes.

Obituary

Arthur G. Adkins, son of J. W. H. and E. C. Adkins was born in Missouri January 2nd, 1881. He received his schooling in Forest Grove. At the time of his untimely death he was 22 years, 6½ months old. He was deputy sheriff under Sheriff Story of Portland, until about 8 months ago when he had to resign on account of cancer of the kidneys which was operated on about 3 months ago at the Good Samaritan hospital. He sank slowly until death released him from pain on July 17, 1904, at his residence on Lovejoy street, Portland. He carried insurance in the Ancient

Order of United Workman lodge for \$1000. He leaves a wife and one son about four months old, also a father, mother, three brothers, J. W., Chas. M. and J. J., and four sisters, Mrs. J. S. Hoare and Mrs. Clay Trites of Portland, Mrs. M. O. Gheer of The Dalles, and Miss Lena Adkins of Gales Creek. Deceased was a member of the A. C. church. The remains were brought to Gales Creek cemetery for interment, Rev. Ivan Dupay officiating.

Deceased, being jovial and kind under all circumstances, leaves a host of friends to mourn his untimely departure.

Whitney-Battreall

Sunday evening, July 18, at the First Methodist church of Dilley, there was performed the rites by the Rev. J. G. Alford of Lafayette, Oregon, that united in matrimony Mr. Harry B. Whitney to Miss Blanch Battreall.

Nearly 250 guests, friends and relatives of the bride and groom, were in attendance, and withal it was one of the most pleasant affairs ever given in the community.

The church had been tastefully decorated in keeping with the event. A beautiful evergreen arch above the altar and about which were wreathes of roses and floral decorations. At 8:30 Mr. Earl Buxton, groomsman, and Miss Gertrude Ross as bridesmaid, escorted the couple up the aisle to the altar, while Mrs. C. W. Bagwill rendered in a decidedly charming effect Mendleson's March from Lohen gren. Mrs. Bagwell's splendid musical talents were shown by the instrumental selection which she rendered after the ceremony and during congratulations by the friends. The flower girls, Miss Lizzie Briggs and Miss Esther Conwell did their parts splendidly and in their handsome attire of pure white added a special charm to the ceremony.

The bride and bridesmaid appeared in gowns of white silk organdie and lace when beneath the arch in the shadows of the soft light presented an appearance especially beautiful.

The groom and groomsman were attired in plain black.

After the ceremony the happy couple received the well wishes and

congratulations of their many friends, and many handsome and useful presents were given as tokens of the high esteem in which both are held.

They will visit with the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. I. Conwell near Dilley, for a few days and will then go to their home near Buxton, Oregon.

Sealed Bids Wanted

Notice is hereby given that the directors of school district No 15, Washington county, Oregon, will receive sealed bids for erecting an addition to the present school house of said district, said addition to be completed and ready for occupancy by October 1st, 1904. Bids will be opened August 1, 1904. Plans and specifications to be seen at the Clerk's office.

W. S. HUDSON, Clerk.
C. N. JOHNSON, Chairman.

Gaston Girl Honored

Miss Lena Parker, of Gaston, is the proud possessor of the diamond medal offered by the W. C. T. U., as a prize for the finest oration given by a young lady on the Temperance issues. The contest was held at Gladstone Park at the Summer Chautauqua now being held there and the orations were delivered before an immense crowd. The News is glad to compliment Miss Parker on her success. She was formerly a resident of Forest Grove and a student at Pacific University.

Change in Business

Monday July 18th, J. T. Buxton, the blacksmith, who for many years has successfully conducted a general shop on Main street and is one of the best known business men in the city, sold the business to Mr. J. F. McGill recently from Barnsville, Ohio, but formerly had been engaged in business here, and is well remembered by many of the citizens. Mr. Buxton will be missed from the old stand by his many friends but expects to remain and will likely engage in other business. Mr. McGill, while quite well known, comes highly recommended as a workman, and the patrons will find him clever and accomodating and ready to do the best of work in the blacksmithing line.