

Oregon Historical Society
Journy Bldg

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BOLD BURGLARS LOOT POSTOFFICE

Some time between 3:30 and 4 o'clock Monday morning burglars blew open and looted the safe at the Forest Grove postoffice, getting away with about \$200 in money and \$22.00 worth of stamps.

Although a number of persons were awakened by the explosions, no one saw the burglars, for few people connected the noise of a blast with burglars and Night Watchman James was not in the neighborhood when the blasting was done. He is of the opinion that he was in the council chamber, putting wood in the stove, when the burglars blew the safe, as that is the only time he was where he would not have been attracted by a noise loud enough to awaken people three and four blocks away. James says he had been at the postoffice, on his regular rounds, about 3:15 and noticed nothing out of the way. He then went to the council chamber, fixed his fire and made preparations to go off duty at 4 a. m., as is his custom. He went home and to bed without having learned of the burglary, which was discovered by Fred Gardner, assistant postmaster, when he opened the office at 7 o'clock. It didn't take long to discover what had happened, for the floor was strewn with pieces of safe, broken furniture, torn mail and stamps and other litter. Several small particles of the safe door were blown through the windows and into the street, fully forty feet from the safe.

The safe had been blown by the old method of filling the cracks around the door with soap, leaving only a small hole at the top, through which to pour nitroglycerine. As both the inside and outside doors were besmeared with soap, it is evident that the two doors were blown at different times and this is possible, for some people claim they heard two explosions. The safe is a complete wreck, not worth repairing, as the sides are badly bent and the door a complete wreck. The owner, Dr. Large, carried burglar insurance on the safe, so he will lose nothing except slight damage to the windows and fixtures.

The loss of money and stamps falls on Uncle Sammy, as Postmaster Wirtz used due diligence in caring for the government's property.

About the only clues left by the burglars are some footprints, leading to and from the back door, where entrance was gained by prying open the door. Sheriff Applegate and Chief of Police Watkins were on the scene shortly after the robbery was discovered and made thorough investigations, but nothing encouraging has been discovered that might lead to the capture of the crooks.

A postoffice inspector arrived from Portland during the forenoon and checked up the loss and damage done.

Civil War Veteran

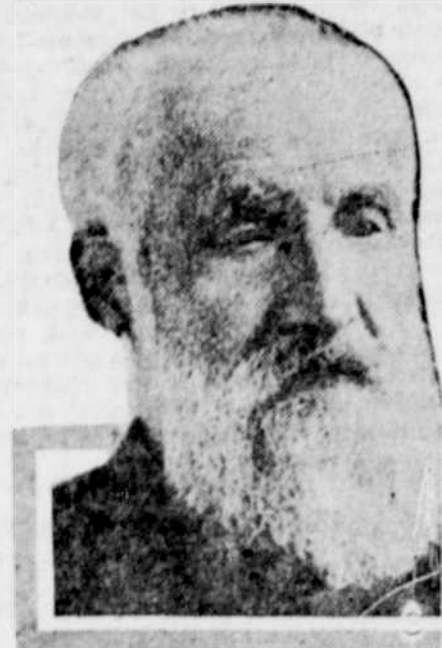
Answers Summons

Elias C. Smith, for forty-five years a resident of this city and county, passed away at his home, corner Pacific Avenue and A street, at noon last Sunday, aged 85 years.

Elias C. Smith was born in Franklin county, Ohio, on the 22d day of October, 1831, and was united in marriage to Eliza Andrews, in Franklin county, Ohio, June 17, 1856, from which union were born two children, J. D. Smith of American Falls, Idaho, and Judge W. D. Smith of Hillsboro, Oregon.

Elias Smith served his country

during the Civil war and is credited with the following military history: He enlisted from Woodford county, Ill., on the 1st day of February, 1862, to serve three years or during the war, and was mustered into the U. S. service at Anna, Ill., April 10, 1862, as a



private of Captain Samuel Sherman's Co. H, 62nd Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Col. Jas. M. True commanding.

He received honorable discharge at Little Rock, Ark., on the 2nd day of Feb. 1864, by reason of re-enlisting as a veteran in the same company and regiment, same day, to serve three years more or during the war, under Capt. John Foley and Col. James M. True commanding.

During the period of this enlistment he assisted in many skirmishes with the enemy, endured the trials and hardships of army life bravely, was promoted to corporal, was captured at Holly Springs, Miss., while with a detachment guarding the base of supplies, being attacked by the enemy at dawn, and bore a gallant part in all important engagements between his company and the enemy.

He was mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., March 6, 1866, and received honorable discharge at Springfield, Ill., by reason of service no longer required.

Shortly after the close of the war he and his family came west, by way of San Francisco to Oregon with the pioneers of 1871. They have made their home in around Forest Grove since that time, having lived and conducted a hotel in this city nearly 30 years.

Mr. Smith was an active member of the local G. A. R. post and was at one time commander of the post here.

Several years ago he became a member of the Forest Grove Christian church and was a faithful member to the day of his death.

Last June Mr. and Mrs. Smith celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary, which was attended by their two sons and daughter.

Deceased has been declining in health for the past year and death was due to a general breaking down of the system, death coming painlessly and peacefully.

Deceased is survived by his widow, Eliza Smith; Nora, an adopted daughter, who has for years been to him as his own child, the two sons already mentioned, and a brother, Luther, of Los Angeles, who is 89 years of age. Both sons were here for the funeral.

Funeral services were held at the chapel of the Forest Grove Undertaking company at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, Rev. R. L. Putnam officiating, and the remains were interred in Forest

View cemetery, with the G. A. R. burial service. The funeral was largely attended by old soldiers, relatives and friends who sincerely mourn the passing of this excellent citizen.

In Lincoln's Memory

Judge W. J. R. Beach Monday delivered to the Forest Grove high school pupils an address on Abraham Lincoln and his achievements that is worthy of more space than the Express can give it. Being one of the veterans who fought in the union army during the civil war, Judge Beach knows and feels about the great emancipator as none of the later generation can feel or know.

Judge Hollis gave an interesting talk to the students in the morning on the same subject.

CONDENSED NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Emma Stoecker returned last evening from a visit at Portland.

A son was born at the Forest Grove hospital Monday to Mrs. C. W. Mercer.

W. B. Keen of Gresham attended the funeral of Elias C. Smith Tuesday.

Cream separator, incubator and fruit and vegetable cannery for sale cheap. Phone 024x. It

Mrs. Walter Weber was operated on at the local hospital Sunday and is getting along nicely.

George Armentrout, who has been quite ill at the home of his son, Wade, at Banks, is convalescing.

Mrs. E. Dowd and Mrs. Ella Hastings of McMinnville visited at the Frank Crabtree home the first of the week.

The little son of Dick Goff of Hillside, who had an operation to one of his hands last week, is getting along nicely at the local hospital.

Mrs. Jack Raynard and baby, Ruth, of Scholls visited at the home of Mrs. Raynard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Crabtree, Tuesday.

L. A. Fernsworth, former Banks editor, who has been on the border as a soldier for the past six months, arrived from the south yesterday on a business visit.

Messrs. J. S. A. T. and H. T. Buxton Sunday attended the funeral of Wm. Breidenstein, who died in Portland Friday, aged 55 years. He was married to Anna Wooley, a cousin to the Buxton boys.

Roy Devlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Devlin, who came home with the Oregon roops yesterday, came out last evening to spend the night with his parents, returning to Vancouver today to be mustered out.

Forty-five members of the Congregational Working Society gave a surprise party at the home of Mrs. Dan Danser last Friday afternoon to Mrs. Van Walters, the retiring president, and it is said Mrs. Walters was certainly surprised. The afternoon was spent at sewing, just a little talk and the disposal of a very nice lunch. Yesterday afternoon, at the home of Mrs. A. E. Scott, the same ladies gave a party in honor of Mrs. M. Peterson, who leaves in a few days to make her home in Portland. A very nice social afternoon, with delicious lunch; was the result.

Christian Church

Lord's Day services as follows: Bible school 9:45 a. m. 11 a. m. Communion and Sermon. Theme: "The Supreme Task."

6:30 p. m. Christian Endeavor. 7:30 p. m. Song Service and sermon. W. J. Clark, our National Adult superintendent in Bible School work, will deliver the message. Following the service there will be a baptismal service.

Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:15 p. m.

Everybody invited to these services. R. L. PUTNAM, Pastor.

Baldwin-Woodward

At 8 o'clock last Thursday evening, Judge Beach united in marriage Abraham Baldwin and Miss Lucy L. Woodward, two well-known and highly respected citizens of Forest Grove, the ceremony being performed at the Beach home. Friday evening a number of the happy couple's young friends gave them an old-fashioned "charivari," and on Saturday and Monday evenings a number of their grown friends called to show their good will. The crowd that came Saturday evening presented Mrs. Baldwin with a beautiful blooming plant, which the bride values very highly, as she does the fern presented her by the Woman's club. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin are comfortably domiciled in the Woodward property on South First street.

Younger-Joy

Miss Ethel A. Joy and Edward L. Younger of Portland were united in marriage by Rev. H. L. Bates at the First Congregational church in this city at 6 o'clock last Friday afternoon. A wedding supper at the home of the bride's brother, C. M. Joy, followed the ceremony and at 9:35 the bride and groom departed for a wedding trip through California, returning via Salt Lake City.

The bride was formerly a teacher in the Forest Grove schools and has for the past three years been employed in the Hillsboro schools. Mr. Younger was formerly foreman in the S. P. shops at Hillsboro, but is now employed in the company's Brooklyn shops, at Portland, in which city Mr. and Mrs. Younger will make their home after March 1st.

Those present at the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Joy, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Joy, Mr. V. B. Joy and Misses Eleanor and Dorothy Joy.

Woman's Club Meeting

The regular meeting of the Woman's club was held in the Congregational church parlors Feb. 12th. The secretary, Mrs. G. D. Rodgers, sent her resignation as she is to be away for the rest of the winter. The club accepted the resignation with much regret and Mrs. Whitehouse was elected to fill the vacancy. Mrs. White reported for the civics committee, that they had found it impossible to carry out their plans in regard to bird houses as it is now too late for this season.

Mrs. C. E. Walker, chairman of the Public Health committee, reported their sales of Christmas seals had been the largest this year of any season yet—\$70.85. The state had hoped to get \$5000, and at last report it had reached \$6800, and not all returns in.

Mrs. E. E. Williams, chairman of Red Letter Day, was unable to be present, but sent her report and \$67.47 for the scholarship loan fund. A rising vote of thanks was given the chairman and all who assisted.

Miss Marcia Thatcher, chairman of the Rose committee, reported they had decided not to give the western product supper. They had decided to ask the business men, who seemed willing to help, as it last year proved to be one of their busiest days.

The matter of installing a bubbling fountain in front of the reading room was decided. It is to be the property of the city, given by the Woman's club. Mrs. John Abbott was instructed to order and install the same. Next meeting, Feb. 26th, is to be an open meeting; each member can ask one guest. The club sent Mrs. Barber, who has been ill all year, a plant valentine, and Miss Lucy Woodward congratulations and a fern.

The Political Science class felt the time was so short they could only tell the club what they were missing. Next meeting will be Monday with Mrs. Scheetz.

The City Dads Seek Settlement

With Councilmen McCready and Todd absent, the city council met Tuesday evening for the February meeting.

After hearing and approving the reports of I. J. Hoar, retiring city treasurer, and his successor, E. S. Sparks, the report of the finance committee on monthly bills was accepted and warrants ordered drawn for liquidation. The payroll, for the first time in the history of the city, contained items of salaries for the mayor and members of the council. The mayor draws \$4.00 per month and councilmen \$3.00 and if they get the city out of its muddle with the sewer contractors, the city officials are worth their wages; otherwise it is a debatable question.

On recommendation of Councilman Coon, wages of unskilled city employes were raised from 25c to 30c per hour.

Water collector was instructed to prepare list of persons who owed for as much as two months' water or light service and it is likely that service will be discontinued to such.

City Marsnal Watkins reported that boys who had been bothering the lights in the postoffice were now known and he wanted instructions. The city recorder was asked to look up the law and report next meeting.

The ordinance committee presented an ordinance making it unlawful for any firm or individual to keep more than one pound of dynamite or more than five pounds of gunpowder inside the city limits. Referred to recorder for investigation.

Another ordinance provides for compelling the installation of fire escapes on all buildings in excess of two stories. This was also referred to the recorder, who will report next meeting.

A resolution ordering cement walks in front of the Caples, Hoffman and Naylor properties, North Main street; the Baber property, on First avenue, south, and lot on the north side of First avenue south, between Fourth and Fifth streets, was given first and second readings and laid over until next meeting.

On suggestion of Councilman Mertz it was arranged, before adjournment, that the council should hold an executive session the following evening to select a committee to confer with the officers of the Elliott Construction company regarding a compromise of the sewer dispute. Mr. Elliott was present and agreed to meet such a committee. The meeting was held last evening, the committee selected and it is expected that a meeting will be arranged for an early date.

A Beautiful Party

Mrs. J. R. Joy last Saturday afternoon entertained a dozen little girls in honor of the first anniversary of the birth of her daughter, Dolly Betty. After the little tots had played various games to their hearts' content, they were taken to the dining room, where a beautiful sight greeted their eyes. The table was decorated with kewpies and red streamers, a large kewpie in the center holding in his hand a tiny candle, emblematic of the first anniversary of little Miss Joy. The guests were Eleanor Joy, Laura Mae Jones, Leone Burns, Marjorie Burns, Margaret Stribich, Lucile Stribich, Nernice McNutt, Tina Ritchie, Blanche Tucker, Alma Nagle, Jessetine Nagle and Harriett Helen Hughes.

Mrs. L. C. Mizz and Mrs. E. Williams Monday attended a meeting of Martha Washington chapter, O. E. S., at Portland.