

Rogue River Courier.

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GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1908.

No. 1.

JAMES FARREN AGED 102, IS HALE AND HEARTY

Never Drank Duffey's nor Chewed Tobacco—Voted for Andrew Jackson.

Mr. Editor: As we have a very worthy centenarian in this county and a man of uncommon physical strength, considering age, I interviewed him a few days past for the purpose of writing up this sketch to which he, James Farren had no objections. And in reply to my questions, I got the following summary:

"I was born in McMinnville, Warren county, Tenn., July 4th, 1806, and hence if I survive four months longer, I will be 102 years old. My father, Timothy Farren died at the age of 101 years, sitting at the breakfast table. He was a revolutionary soldier and emigrated from Virginia into Tennessee. Among my early recollections there were but few good wagon roads in Tennessee. I had never heard of such a thing as a grain cradle and the first that I saw was thought to be a grand thing in the way of invention and progress in development. All clothes cotton, wool and flax, were spun and woven at home and afterward made by hand into clothing and other articles by the women at home. The first time that I voted was for Andrew Jackson for president, in 1828 at the age of 22 years. The price of common labor was \$10 per month, including board and washing.

"At the age of 19 or 20 years I moved to the state of Missouri and afterwards married in that state to a Kentucky girl and lived in that state about 40 years.

"I never drank any of Duffey's pure malt whiskey and never took but one chew of tobacco, which made me so violently sick that I had no desire to repeat the dose. From the state of Missouri I moved into the state of Kansas and from thence into California, in the year 1863, and in the year 1873 I moved into my present locality of Josephine county, Oregon and settled on Briggs Creek, where I have been for 35 years past engaged in farming, mining, cattle raising and packing goods over the trail and there is no wagon road across the mountain up to the present time. At my present age I have strength to do some work of most any character and during the past winter have ridden on horseback from my place on Briggs Creek to Grants Pass, a distance of 30 miles in a day's time and I feel fully competent to make a horseback ride of 25 miles in a day. My life has been simple and temperate in the mountains away from excitement. I have killed a great deal of game and consumed it as food, such as deer, bear and other animals. My mind is clear, recollection good of all past events. I claim to be a Christian, although I have never been identified with any denomination.

"I am the father of 14 children, but all except three are dead. I think that they inherited tuberculosis on mother's side.

"If I live to see the next presidential election, the number will set me free, as it will be the 21st, since I became a voter. Respectfully
JAMES FARREN."

By J. M. Chiles.
Edward Baxter Will be Here April 14.

Of Edward Baxter Perry, the concert pianist and lecturer, who is to appear in Grants Pass Tuesday, April 14th, in a musicale under the direction of Miss Ethel Palmer, the New York Musical Courier says:

"Mr. Perry is the originator and principal exponent of the lecture-recital idea. He is the only blind pianist in the world's history who has succeeded in winning an unquestioned position in the front rank of his profession. He is the only American pianist who ever played at the Imperial Court of Germany. He is the only pianist, American or foreign, who ever sustained himself for 10 successive seasons by concert playing alone in the United States. He is the only pianist, living or dead, of any country, who ever played 1200 concerts in 10 consecutive years.

Will Build New Office.

One of the most important commercial enterprises in Grants Pass is its new fruit box factory, recently erected by the Grants Pass Box Co., which is said to be one of the best

equipped institutions of its kind on the Pacific coast.

The factory has a capacity of from 15,000 to 20,000 boxes per day, according to the class of boxes wanted and is capable of handling from 40,000 to 50,000 feet of lumber per day at full capacity.

Manager Hroner and Secretary Sharp, are both hustlers and they say that despite the financial flurry and the so-called depression in business they are receiving plenty of orders and that the factory will probably soon be running two shifts.

The company has just let a contract for the erection of a splendid new office building which will be completed by early June and one of the adjuncts to the business very much needed.

The company is now paying off the labor notes for February.

Fulton Replies to Heney.

Despite brief announcement, Senator Fulton was greeted by a good audience at the opera house last Tuesday night.

The senator stated that while he had not expected to leave Washington in behalf of his re-election at this time, that some of the recent statements of Francis J. Heney seemed to demand a personal reply. In the course of his address Senator Fulton presented affidavits indicating the malicious falsity of Mr. Heney's accusations.

Senator Fulton, while he did not declare himself as absolutely in favor of Statement No. 1, did not oppose the proposition, and at the same time pointed out the evils resulting from the present system, but was willing to leave the matter to the judgment of the voters. The senator left here Wednesday noon for his home and will remain in Oregon until after the primaries.

THE BOOSTING FEVER BECOMING CONTAGIOUS

(Special Correspondence.)

The Oregon advertising fever is both contagious and infectious, and the remarkable part of the present epidemic is that those towns which have heretofore been normal now have the highest temperature.

Hon. Paul Morton, formerly Secretary of the Navy in President Roosevelt's cabinet, is being entertained in Portland. Mr. Morton is a Western man and is making an extended tour of the Pacific coast with a view to investments. People from all parts of Oregon should make it a point while in Portland to visit the Forestry Building and familiarize themselves with the timber wealth of this state. That building is now in charge of M. W. Gorman as a superintendent, and he thoroughly knows the forests of the Northwest and the value of every tree. Mr. C. C. Michener, field secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of America, recently visited the Forestry Building and remarked that it was the most satisfactory and interesting building on this continent and that his hour with Mr. Gorman was the most instructive he had experienced in many years.

McMinnville heads the list for a Yamhill County advertising fund of \$10,000 with a \$4000 subscription. M. O. Lowmesdale is president of the Yamhill County Development League and has the backing of the people of his county. That famous old county intends to be heard from.

Educators throughout the United States are asking for pictures illustrating the industrial, agricultural and horticultural progress of Oregon, and they are being supplied.

The Portland Commercial Club's correspondence includes a great many inquiries from people who want to work on farms. These inquiries and the facts concerning them are being sent to all of the commercial bodies composing the Oregon Development League.

The Corvallis Commercial Club, which claims with perfect confidence that its quarters are the handsomest of any western city or town of 5000 population, will have a housewarming on April 10th. Delegations will be present from many points in Oregon and the occasion will be an interesting one.

Klamath Falls and Astoria are the latest Oregon cities that have determined to have floats in the great parade. "The Spirit of the Golden West" which takes place in Portland on Tuesday evening, June 2, of Rose Festival week.

GRANGE TAKES UP CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS

Appoints Committees on Good Roads, Rural Mail and Rural Telephones.

The Grange movement is making good headway in Josephine county and the county now has five Granges with encouraging prospects for at least six more before the close of the year.

Last Saturday afternoon a Grange was organized at the Centennial school house, three miles southeast of Grants Pass, by State Deputy W. J. Dean, of Talent. This Grange started off with 28 members and it is expected that the charter will contain fully 35 names when it is closed at the meeting that is to be held this Saturday afternoon. The work of securing the members for this Grange was done by Mrs. H. M. Parham, Secretary of the Dimick Grange recently organized in the Dimick district west of this city, of which the membership list was also secured by Mrs. Parham. Mrs. Parham has been recently appointed a county deputy by State Master Austin. Bixton and she will later on when the farmers are through with the hurry of their work take up the organization of Granges at Murphy, Merlin, Wolf Creek, Williams, Provolt, Leland and probably at some other places in the county.

As there are several Centennial Granges in the United States it was decided to name the new Grange in the Centennial district a different name than that of the school district, which got its name from the fact that it was formed during the Centennial year. The name selected was Fruitdale, so given from the fact that the residents of that section are all going into fruit raising and are located in one of the richest and handsomest valleys in the county. The officers for Fruitdale Grange are H. C. Bateham, master; G. A. Hamilton, overseer; Prof. R. R. Turner, lecturer; Mrs. G. A. Hamilton, secretary; Henry Huck, treasurer; Mrs. F. A. Clements, chaplain; E. H. Wise, steward; W. H. Kincaid, assistant steward; Mrs. E. H. Wise, lady assistant steward; F. A. Clements, gatekeeper; Mrs. A. C. Hauck, cures; Mrs. Henry Huck, pomona; Mrs. C. C. English, flora.

The next meeting of Fruitdale Grange will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 p. m., sharp, the regular meetings being on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Dimick Grange will also meet this Saturday, but at 8 p. m.

The members of Fruitdale Grange are planning to carry out in full the purposes that the Grange stands for in a farming community, which is the same as that of the commercial club to a town, and will take up the inauguration of several public utilities that will make for the betterment of conditions in their settlements. For the present the improvement of the roads and the securing of a rural mail route and a rural telephone line connecting with Grants Pass will be undertaken. A committee consisting of G. A. Hamilton, H. C. Bateham and F. A. Clements was named to solicit contributions of money and labor for grading the main road to Grants Pass and to take up the matter with the County Court relative to securing the co-operation of the county in doing the work. The plan is to ask each land owner in the settlement to contribute 10 cents an acre in cash or work to the road improvement. As the Fruitdale road is one of the most attractive drives out of Grants Pass the automobile owners will be asked to each give \$2.50 to this road fund. The highway up the south side of Rogue river is one of the coolest in summer and one of the most romantic pleasure driveways in the Valley. The upper section of this road is fairly good at all times of the year but the last two miles toward this city owing to the heavy travel over it and the many stumps and roots is very rough even in the dry season. This will be turpined and as much more as the funds will permit. Wednesday Chairman Hamilton, of this committee, accompanied by George Gebers, road supervisor for the South Grants Pass district, and Charles Meserve appeared before the county court to represent the matter of securing assistance from the county on this road work. County Judge Jewell and Commissioner Wertz assured Chair-

man Hamilton that Supervisor Gebers with the county grader and team would be sent to grade all the road that his committee would get cleared of stumps and other obstructions and plowed. The soliciting for funds has been begun and work of preparing the roadbed will be commenced next week so as to get the grading done before the dry season comes.

To secure a rural mail route for the settlement a committee consisting of E. H. Wise, Prof. R. R. Turner and W. H. Kincaid was appointed. The route that will be covered with this rural mail service will be from Grants Pass through Fruitdale and thence by the Salt Spring road to the Murphy road at the Perry place and thence by way of Murphy, the New Hope settlement and down Appleage Valley to J. H. Robinson's and thence to Grants Pass by way of the Jerome Prairie road. It is expected that the requirement of the Postoffice Department can be met in securing the not less than 75 box holders on the route. Postmaster G. W. Donnell, of Grants Pass, is giving the committee all the assistance possible and it is expected to have the mail route in operation within the near future.

A committee consisting of G. A. Hamilton, Prof. Turner and Robert Huck was chosen to secure the subscribers for a rural telephone to connect Fruitdale with Grants Pass and to have charge of the work of installing the system. The committee is having the best of success and will have not less than 12 subscribers to the telephones and they hope to have the line up and telephonic communication with this city established within the next two weeks.

Milinery Opening

A beautiful line of Pattern Hats and Novelties on display Thursday, April 12, at Mrs. M. P. Anderson, over Gumpert's. Wait until you see our line, as the hats are very reasonable.

WORK BEING PUSHED ON GOVERNMENT TRAIL

Work is progressing constantly on the government trail down Rogue River and as soon as the bridge plans are returned from Washington, where they were sent for approval, work will be commenced and soon a seven foot bridge with 150 foot span will be placed across the river. The completion of this trail, which will be about July 1, will open Curry county to the world by land. The people of that county have promised assistance in the work and the county is expected to make an appropriation toward the expense. The five miles of this trail completed will be the very best trail in the West, and about half of the distance was blasted from the solid rock at an expense of over \$1000 per mile. In places the workmen had to be let down from above by ropes in order to drill for the blasts, and much more of the work was very dangerous. This route was reported on adversely by several engineers and other said it could not be done, but through the persistence of Supervisor Anderson, the work has been accomplished and soon we will have a connecting link between Josephine and Curry counties which will be open winter and summer and is on a water grade.

Much more work is planned for this section, one improvement being the construction of a telephone 35 miles to the mouth of Whiskey creek. Twenty-five miles of the line to be a metallic circuit and all constructed in thorough manner. Cedar poles are to be used and they will be treated with preservative, and No. 9 wire is to be strung from Galice west. Work will be commenced on the telephone line about May 1.

Mr. Anderson will have on hand between \$17,000 and \$18,000 which will be available about May 1, outside of salary rolls and he hopes to carry on the work during the remainder of the season without interruption.

Narrow Escape for Fish Warden.

Deputy Fish Commissioner John Wilson of Roseburg narrowly escaped drowning Thursday of last week, while examining a fish ladder at the Golden Drift dam.

While looking over the ladder he slipped and fell into the current and was carried more than a hundred yards before he succeeded in reaching shore. Mr. Wilson has been stopping at the Layton the past week and looking after official matters here.

WORK ON BED ROCK MACHINE COMMENCED.

Inventor Gilman Here to Commence Work on Barges for Machine.

Frank L. Gilman, inventor of Gilman's patent mining machine for mining the bed of rivers, and president of the Gilman Bed Rock Mining Co., was in Grants Pass the first of the week to explain his machine to some of those interested in the company and to select a place for the building of the necessary barges which will support the machine. Mr. Gilman will return about the middle of the month and will then commence work on the barges and in May the machine, now being constructed at the Phoenix Iron Works, is to be ready for shipment. This machine is in shape something like an immense hollow sad iron, something over 30 feet long and 16 feet high, to be constructed entirely of steel and will have a weight of 32 tons. One of Mr. Gilman's patents covers the automatic siphon with a 14-inch nozzle and it is calculated to "dry" the machine in a very few minutes. Mr. Gilman has made two smaller machines and he says that they worked to perfection.

It is well known that the bed of Rogue River is rich in fine and coarse gold, and the exposing of bed rock by any means has meant rich returns. The diverting of the water from the river bed at the Gold Ray dam while it was under construction uncovered an immense amount of gold which was quite an item in helping the expense account. If Mr. Gilman's machine proves to be the success which he believes it will be it will mean big dividends to the stockholders.

Mr. Gilman is not a stranger to Rogue River as he was one of the two men who first went from Grants Pass to the coast down the river about 14 years ago, building their boat at Grants Pass and making the start from here. He has also spent many months prospecting on the river. His home for many years has been at Eugene where his family now is. They will, however, make Grants Pass their home later.

Mr. Gilman returned to Grants Pass Friday morning and work will be commenced immediately.

Sullivan's & Considine's Vaudeville Company.

Local Theatre-goers will shortly have an opportunity to witness Sullivan's and Considine's big vaudeville company, which is slated to appear in this city, at the Opera House, the evening of Wednesday, April 8. The list of artists appearing with the company contains the names of some of the bright particular stars of the vaudeville world. Richey Craig, the droll comedian, is to present his latest comedy offering, "I've Got A Job Now." The act is replete with

catchy lines and Mr. Craig's quaint humor is certain to bring the house down. Young Buffalo, the champion rifle shot of the world, will furnish a marvelous exhibition of his skill. Young Buffalo does all kinds of fancy stunts with the rifle, among them being his wonderful human target work. The star feature of Buffalo's act is his disrobing of a young woman by shooting the buttons from her clothing. Davis, Lee and Company will be seen in the screaming comedy sketch, "The Ballot Girl." Mr. Davis is a well known Eastern comedian and his assistants in the act are performers of ability. The O'Neill Brothers are a trio of singers and dancers and Miss Maud Sutton presents a dainty little comedy creation abounding in catchy situations and bright lines. Brooks & Jeanette, Sketch. The cast is an all star one and the S. R. O. sign will doubtless be hung out long before the doors open. The company will appear here for only one performance. 4-3 1t

That New Train Schedule.

According to the latest reports, Sunday, April 19th is the date set now for the installation of the new limited passenger train on the Southern Pacific through here, when at least one train additional daily each way will be added to the present service. The schedule as now proposed, it is said, will bring passenger trains into Ashland early in the morning from either direction.

Work has been going on this week at the Southern Pacific depot installing two quadruplex telegraph machines, and a new battery room has been provided at the east end of the big passenger depot building. Mr. Charles Day, of San Francisco, has been in Ashland since last Monday superintending the work, which will increase the railroad company's telegraph facilities in this city materially. —Ashland Tidings.

Quartz Blanks at the Courier office.

GRANTS PASS BALL TOSSERS WARMING UP

The Grants Pass ball team, which carried off the pennant last season, as the best team in the Rogue River Valley league, has bloomed again this spring. At a meeting held last week Fred Roper was unanimously elected Manager and Paul Setzer was chosen captain. In an interview Captain Setzer advises the Courier that the team, though somewhat handicapped in the box, will maintain last year's standard.

There are 16 in the list now trying out and exceptionally strong fielding and batting has already been manifested. There seems no special reason why Grants Pass should not have a splendid ball team and the boys are worthy of support and encouragement.

The Grants Pass team will play the Jacksonville nine on the 13th; Medford the following Sunday and the University of Oregon Juniors on the 22d.

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