

The Athena Press

SEMI-WEEKLY

VOLUME XVII.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1905.

NUMBER 20.

ED. MANASSE

Athena's Leading Dry Goods and Clothing Emporium

NEW

SPRING GOODS

ARRIVING DAILY

ALL THE LATEST WEAVES ARE NOW ON EXHIBITION

LEWIS & CLARK NECKTIES
FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. THE GENUINE ARTICLE

ED. MANASSE

Agent for Butterick's Patterns.

TO BE HEALTHY, WEALTHY and WISE BUY YOUR

**Hardware and Plumbing
Supplies**

OF

COX & M'EWEN

SOUTH SIDE MAIN STREET, ATHENA, OREGON

C. A. BARRETT & COMP'Y

INCORPORATED.

GANG PLOWS

Flying Dutchman, Oliver, Cast & Steel Bradley Gangs

VEHICLES

Henney Buggies, Hacks and Carriages, The very Best.

Hardware Stock is Complete.

**Groceries, Crockery,
Gents' Furnishings**

THE DELL BROTHERS

South Side Main Street,

Athena, Oregon

AFTER THE SWEDES

**CONFIDENCE MEN WORK THE
GRAPHOPHONE GRAFT.**

Made to Disgorge Four Iron Clad
Contracts Before Leav-
ing Athena.

Two grafters, working a well defined confidence game, suddenly on very short notice decided Saturday night to shake their shoes of Athena dust. They came to this conclusion after Attorney Peterson and David Still, one of their victims, made them disgorge a contract to which Still had affixed his signature.

They left the hotel and took the night train for Walla Walla, but while in the car, and before the train left, Peterson was again on hand, and in company with Trajan Tucker and a couple of Weston mountain ranchers, demanded and received three more contracts which had been signed by the farmers.

The two grafters arrived in town during the week. They did not state their business, but repaired to King Bros. livery stable and made arrangements for the hire of a team. The rate asked for the team was satisfactory. Everything went with the smooth pair, and the only question asked was where they could find a German or Swede settlement in this locality.

They made several trips into the country, and it was noted by the livery stable employes that the team was driven each time to a side street, and on returning the rear end of the barn was the favorite entrance. Main street was studiously shunned by the pair of strangers.

The bubble of mystery surrounding the individuals was probed and punctured by Attorney Peterson at the instigation of David Still, who came into town with a contract he had signed up with the men in the purchase of what he supposed was a graphophone and 20 records at a liberal discount from the price stated in the contract. The contract in question contained a mass of subterfuge, wholly, of course, in the interest of the grafters.

Verbally, it was explained to the victim that as agents of the "American Supply Co.," they desired to place at least one of the machines, valued at \$15, in his particular neighborhood, and as an inducement they would let him have the machine and 20 records at a liberal

discount. But the contract was different—slightly.

The contract, which is a voluminous affair, is cleverly worded and legally binding on the purchaser. Where the fakirs land the victim is the clause in the contract which reads that at \$15 each a machine and 20 records is to be delivered at his nearest railroad station by the "American Supply Co." Who, what or where the "American Supply Co." is, for reasons best known to the men working the scheme, is left out of the contract and leaves one signing the contract without any recourse whatever.

Thus one signing the contract would at first thought believe he was getting a \$15 machine and 20 records at a discount price, when the negotiable paper with his signature attached, and in the hands of the fleecers, states that he is up against it for the sum of \$315.

How many were caught on the fraudulent contract is not known. The four men who received their contracts back consider themselves lucky, but of course there are others who will have to face the provisions of the contract.

From Arkansas.

A. D. Mauer and L. N. Freestone, with their families, arrived in the city Saturday from Siloam Springs, Ark. They are in search of a location somewhere on the Pacific coast and are favorably impressed with Umatilla county and Athena in particular.

MYRICK MITES.

Myrick, March 20.—Miss Ella Hudeman returned to her home here after an extended visit to her sister, Mrs. Krebs, in Washington.

Mr. Momford, of Wallowa, spent part of the week here visiting relatives. Miss Bertha Baker started her second term of school in the Henry Lorenzon district Monday.

The Myrick school closed Friday with a program, given in the evening.

A number of young people were entertained at the Rosenberg home Saturday evening. Dancing was a feature of the evening.

Mrs. Stamper and two children spent Sunday here at the home of Mrs. Myrick.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Montgomery of Helix, spent Sunday at the home of J. E. Montgomery.

Mrs. Laura Griswold came out from Helix Friday to take the school picture, also remaining for school exercises in the evening.

Miss Dickson, of California, arrived here Tuesday and is the guest of her sister, Mrs. L. Le Doux.

Mrs. J. E. Kennedy spent Saturday in town.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Fanning start Tuesday for Alberta where they will remain permanently.

Mr. LeDoux left Monday for Alberta, where he expects to invest in land.

TWO MILLION ACRES

PRICE WILL RANGE FROM \$1.25
TO \$12 PER ACRE.

Large Tract of Southern Pacific Railroad Lands in Oregon On the Market.

A Portland dispatch says that in about two months a large tract of the Southern Pacific railroad lands in Oregon, comprising the public land grant to the Oregon & California railroad company, will be offered for sale to settlers. The Southern Pacific company has a large force of legal talent at work clearing up a mass of legal technicalities affecting titles, and strenuous efforts are being made to get the remaining lands, about 2,000,000 acres, ready to be thrown on the market by the time the crest of this year's immigration reaches Oregon.

Charles W. Eberlein, acting land agent of the company, took charge of the task some months ago. It was found that a very large amount of legal work would have to be done before the lands could be offered for sale. Hundreds of titles to small and large tracts were defective, and contracts had elapsed by reason of non-performance by purchasers at the time of the previous sale. G. W. Morrow was appointed tax commissioner, and he has had a large force of men examining tax records in the various counties through which the land grants extend, from the Columbia river to the California line. The legal end of the task proved far too great for the legal department of the Southern Pacific in Oregon, and other attorneys were engaged to assist the force in W. D. Fenton's office. The work has been rushed with the greatest speed. At the office of Mr. Fenton it is said the undertaking is not yet completed, but the number of men now engaged is as large as can be worked to advantage.

The company is very anxious that the lands be ready for sale in time to meet the demands that will come from home seekers that will visit Oregon in the exposition season. When the work was begun it was thought the lands would be ready for the market this spring, as published some time ago, and that people who were to be brought to Oregon on the colonist rates now in effect would be able to purchase. It is understood the company will not wait until the lands of the entire grant are reviewed but will first list those located most conveniently to the railway lines, adding sections as fast as they are ready.

There will be a considerable increase over the figure at which the lands were last offered, when prices ranged from \$1.25, the government rate, to \$12 an acre, according to location and soil. Since that time most of the desirable government land has been taken by settlers, the value of Oregon hill lands has advanced, and besides, the company is rolling up a bill of expense in the present work of relisting and checking up the titles of every quarter section in the entire grant. All these things will enter into consideration.

Was Garfield Fooled?

Washington, March 19.—Public men in Washington who are anxious to see the Government curb the trusts are anything but pleased with the report which Commissioner Garfield made on his investigation of the beef trust. Officials do not care publicly to criticize the commissioner of corporations, but privately they make comments which would not sound well to Mr. Garfield. It is hard for the average man, the thinking man, to believe that the beef trust is making a profit of only 2 per cent, as reported by Mr. Garfield. The average man is unable to figure out what legitimate expenses can be worked in between the stock yard and the butcher shop to consume the large margin between the price paid for beef on the hoof and beef ready for consumption.

Strikes Hidden Rocks.

When your ship of health strikes the hidden rocks of consumption, pneumonia, etc., you are lost if you don't get help from Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption. J. W. McKinnon of Talladega Springs, Ala., writes: "I had been very ill with pneumonia, under the care of two doctors, but was getting no better when I tried Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose gave relief and one bottle cured me." Sure cure for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs and colds. Guaranteed at McBride's drug store. Price 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

WALLA WALLA'S VERSION OF SURVEY

Athena Line May Go to Grand Ronde
—Pendleton Line to Heppner.

Walla Walla, March 19.—Two surveying parties of nine men each left this place today for Athena and Pendleton respectively, presumably sent out by the Northern Pacific to run lines in Eastern Oregon territory. No information will be given out by local officials, however, but it is rumored that the party going to Athena will run a line across the Umatilla Indian reservation through a rich farming country, and the party at Pendleton will run a line from there into the Heppner coal fields. It is believed here that these lines will be built and ready for operation in time to handle this year's grain crop, although it is utterly impossible to induce any one connected with railroads to confirm or contradict this impression.

In referring to the proposed schemes the Walla Walla Union says:

"The facts are two large and well equipped surveying parties are now in the field in Eastern Oregon, both of

which will begin work on railroad surveys either Tuesday or Wednesday. It is certain that both of these parties have been sent out by the Northern Pacific railroad and that they plan the construction of lines into O. R. & N. territory. Just how far these branch lines will be run no one but the officials themselves know, but it is believed that the haste and the secrecy which attaches to their operations means the building and equipping of certain lines in the immediate future.

"It would seem most likely that the line starting out from Athena would have to be built about 25 miles in order to tap the most of the wheat belt which it is evidently to be built to serve, unless it is extended over the Blue mountains, which is not contemplated at this time, and that the road from Pendleton will extend in the direction of the Heppner coal fields, which is rumored have recently come into possession of Northern Pacific people."

Grand Jury Soon to Grind

Portland, March 20.—Francis J. Heney is expected to arrive in Portland about March 28. He left Washington last Monday, and was due in San Francisco yesterday. The land frauds investigation has not been suspended during his absence. Thomas B. Neuhauen, of the secret service, has been pursuing the government's inquiry into the fraudulent land entries, and a mass of evidence has been secured which will doubtless be laid before the federal

grand jury when it reconvenes about April 1. The grand jury must complete its labors by April 10, when the present term of the federal court ends. If the work is not completed at that time a new grand jury must be impaneled. It is believed, however, that ten days will suffice for the presentation of such further evidence as the government desires to submit, so that it will be unnecessary to call for another jury. A number of new indictments are expected.

Aeronauts Plunge to Death

Walla, Idaho, March 19.—V. A. Middlekauf was killed and L. M. Odell seriously injured by falling 200 feet from a balloon while giving a double ascension here this afternoon. The men were seated in a parachute and when they had ascended 200 feet the lower part of the balloon tore away. The parachute would not open and both fell among the spectators with terrific force. As soon as the balloon left the ground, to the

horror of the nearby spectators, the lower part of the bag could be seen ripping away. Warnings were shouted to the two unfortunate men, but they could not hear the alarm. The thud made by the two men when they fell could be heard for over a block, the ground being indented where they alighted. They struck the ground near one another and at the same time, both barely grazing the furnace where the balloon was inflated.

Death From Tuberculosis

Pendleton, March 20.—Claude E. Carlisle of Weston, died at St. Anthony's hospital last evening at 7 o'clock of tuberculosis. He had been in the hos-

pital two weeks. The funeral will be conducted at the home at Weston tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, Rev. Walter Payne officiating.