

The Athena Press

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ED. MANASSE

Sweeping Reductions

In all

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Agent for Butterick's Patterns.



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Mowers, Rakes, Binders, Deering Binding Twine; Machine Extras of all kinds. . . .

Hardware Stock is Complete.

THERE ARE TIMES

When all that is good in Groceries and Staple Provisions fail to appeal to you as appetizers. THAT TIME IS HERE, for the season of

Fruits And Vegetables

is at its zenith. Our FRUITS AND VEGETABLES COME DIRECT FROM THE RANCH and therefore are fresh and palatable.

DELL BROTHERS

CATERERS TO THE PUBLIC IN GOOD THINGS TO EAT

Athena, Oregon.

WILL NOT BE SHORT

NO EVIDENCE WHATEVER OF DISHONEST PURPOSE.

Sheriff Taylor Says, "There Will Be No Shortage Found In The Accounts of My Office."

"There will be no shortage in the accounts of my office, for should the experts find that any money is due the county treasurer from me I will pay the same to that official as soon as I am notified. Yesterday I was told that the sum of \$12,000 was due, and I at once gave my check for that amount. As to the alleged irregularities that have been reported in my office, I do not care to say much aside from the above until the matter has been fully investigated, for the reason that the real situation cannot be known until then."

The above statement was made by Sheriff T. D. Taylor when asked to say something regarding the wild stories of a "shortage" in the sheriff's office, says the East Oregonian.

How the rumor that first began to circulate originated is not known, for the county judge, the commissioner and the district attorney all state that no report has yet been made by the experts who are examining the books; that the work is not yet completed, and that no authoritative statement has been given out.

District Attorney Phelps stated that his attention had been called to the matter, but that he would do nothing in the case until the work was entirely completed, which would probably take two weeks more, and at present he knew of no shortage in the office, and that no one had any authority for stating that there is such a shortage.

While it is hard to get at the facts in the case owing to the unfinished state of the experts' work and the general desire of the officials to wait until more can be learned, it is apparent that there has been nothing fraudulent done on the part of Sheriff Taylor, and that the only offense, if any, is delay in turning funds over to the treasurer. Under the law a sheriff is required to turn all funds over to the treasurer each Saturday. However, it is said that there are few officers that follow this out to the letter, and that the same has never been done here. According to Sheriff Taylor, it has been the custom in the office to turn the money over to the treasurer when the rolls were balanced, and this could not be done every Saturday evening. The last

payment, before the one yesterday, was made on June 25.

Some wild and exaggerated stories have been told regarding the alleged shortage in the sheriff's office, and some have taken advantage of the opportunity to make political capital out of the matter and have consequently exploited the subject as much as possible, notwithstanding the great injustice they were doing the sheriff. However, the sentiment has been almost unanimous that no intentional wrong has been done by that official, and that when all is known his character will be without any stain of dishonor.

What is generally regarded as the most serious irregularity which the experts have found, is the alleged shortage of \$4,000 in the accounts of ex-Sheriff William Blakley, as there is no possible excuse why all funds collected during his administration were not turned over to the treasurer. However, no blame is believed to rest with Mr. Blakley in the matter, and it is said by his friends that should there be any shortage in his accounts they are unknown to him, and also that any amounts found to be due the county from his term will be promptly paid.

During Mr. Blakley's tenure of office, as well as that of Mr. Taylor, Chief Deputy C. P. Davis has been in charge of the office end of the work. However, there have been no charges made against that official, thus far, at least, and if there is anything connecting him with fraudulent work it has not yet been made public.

SELECTED HIS CLAIM.

W. J. Crane Says Williamson Chose Land to Be Filed Upon.

Crook county ranchers and sheep breeders are still occupying the witness stand in the federal court, in the trial of Congressman Williamson and his co-defendants at Portland. In the main their testimony is similar, and though rigidly cross-examined by counsel for the defense, their stories have not been seriously shaken. All testify that they took up timber claims at the instance of Biggs or Dr. Gesner, that the money with which to prove up the claims was advanced by Gesner, that they expected to convey the land to Williamson and Gesner as soon as patents were issued.

Testimony was given that Williamson himself selected the land on which one of the witnesses was to file and wrote the description of it. A feature of the evidence was a letter written by Dr. Gesner to another of the entrants, Christian Feuerhelm, in which Gesner advised him to relinquish his claim, and said:

"That claim of yours and all of the balance I have got to throw up. I am sure we would get into trouble over them before we got through with them and be turned down on them."

Judge Bennett, in cross-examining the witnesses, has sought to obtain admissions that they were coached, before taking the stand, by the government officials as to the testimony they should give. They were closely questioned as to the conversations they have had with T. E. Neuhansen, the special agent, who gathered the evidence at Prineville for the government, and with J. W. Burns, of the secret service. Judge Bennett has also endeavored to show that the timber claims were taken by the witnesses with a view of selling to the highest bidder and not necessarily to Williamson and Gesner.

Wilfred J. Crane, the first witness called, was asked by Mr. Heney whether he selected himself the land on which he filed. He replied that he did not. "Who did select it?" asked the district attorney.

"Mr. Williamson," was the answer, and in response to further questions Crane stated that Williamson wrote down the description of the land that Crane was to file on, and told him that was the claim he was to take.

He Helped Tracy

The Salem jury in the case of Charles Monte, jointly indicted with Harry Wright for murder in the first degree, under the charge of having furnished the outlaws Tracy and Merrill with the guns with which they effected their escape from the penitentiary June 9 1901, brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree. Monte and Wright are accused of having scaled the prison walls and having placed the guns in the prison shops where found by the convicts. As the result of their act three guards lost their lives. Wright is being tried today.

ANOTHER IRRIGATION SCHEME

People of Prosser and Vicinity Delighted Over Government Moves.

The people of Prosser, Wash., are feeling jubilant over the prospect of the federal government undertaking a great irrigation project in that vicinity, known as the Leadbetter scheme. It will reclaim 150,000 acres, beginning a few miles east of Prosser and extending to the Columbia river. Every acre of the land lies in the new county of Benton. It includes most of the 37,000 acres of state lands so-

lected under the Carey act. Until the conference at North Yakima on Wednesday of last week the selection of the state lands was standing in the way of this great project. Now, however, State Land Commissioner E. W. Ross and Governor Mead have agreed, with representatives of all the commercial clubs in the valley, to advise the secretary of the interior to withhold his approval of the state selection until he receives a report from the reclamation service.

It is confidently expected that that report will be to the effect that the proposed watering of these state lands under the tentative contract between the state and the Washington Irrigation company will prevent the government from undertaking the Leadbetter scheme. The way will be open, therefore for the government to proceed.

Like Oil Paving.

The citizens in a number of different sections of the city are discussing the proposition of forming local improvement districts for the purpose of having their streets paved with oil, says the Walla Walla Union. They have seen the success of oiling the streets as exemplified in the experiments conducted by the council a short time ago, and as there is a threatened shortage of water during August they are anxious to get the work started as soon as possible, that the dust may be eliminated before the water is gone.

Wagon Went Over Him.

E. A. Dudley met with a serious accident yesterday afternoon while engaged in hauling hay. He fell from the load onto the horses, and then to the ground. The wagon, which was a low one, passed over him, the running-gear pushing and tumbling him along the ground. He is injured to a considerable extent in the back and a couple of ribs on the left side are fractured.

Washington's Pen.

There are 744 prisoners in the state penitentiary, according to the monthly report of the warden, says the Walla Walla Statesman. This is an increase of 17 over the previous month. The expenditures of the institution were \$6232.56. The jute mill manufactured 151,450 sacks and 171,900 yards of burlap. The brick mill turned out 295,800 brick.

For Sale.

A Niagara Buffalo Pitts separator, 28-inch cylinder, 48 inch shoe fitted for horse-power or steam attachments, 1400 sacks daily capacity with steam-power, used only four seasons; a Richardson patent stacker; a 14-horse Pitts power, everything complete and in good order throughout, a bargain for some one; a Hodge header and 3 header boxes thrown into the bargain.

O. L. Chamberlain, Athena.

No Action Taken.

East Oregonian: No action was taken in the Martin case today, owing to the failure of Judge Fee to receive a reply from Chief Justice Wolverton, who was found to be absent from Salem when the message reached him yesterday. Consequently the matter will now have to rest until the return of Judge Ellis.

Policy Paid.

I. M. Kemp, guardian of the persons and estates of Dora E., Jesse J. and Henry F. Bennett through his attorneys Peterson & Peterson, has at last succeeded in collecting the \$2000 policy of which they were made beneficiaries by contract of the Modern Woodmen with Geo. W. Bennett, late of Stockton, Cal., father of the children.

Portland Demands Hogs.

W. T. Cross, who has just returned from Portland with a train of 10 cars of hogs for the Union Packing company, left this afternoon for Kearney, Neb., for another trainload of 10 cars. He states that hogs are in great demand in Portland.—La Grande Observer.

Bad Scare.

Some day you will get a bad scare, when you feel a pain in your bowels, and fear appendicitis. Safety lies in Dr. King's New Life Pills, a sure cure for all bowel and stomach diseases, such as headache, biliousness, constipation, etc. Guaranteed at McBride's drug store, only 25c. Try them.

Special Election.

The special election to vote on the sale of water bonds will be held on Monday, July 24. The former election was invalid for the reason that it was authorized by resolution instead of ordinance.

JOSEPH KEENEY DEAD

CAME TO THE COUNTY IN 1871 AS STAGE AGENT.

Was Elected Clerk of Umatilla County as a Democrat in 1878, Serving Two Years.

Joseph Keeney, former clerk of Umatilla county, and a widely known pioneer of Eastern Oregon, died at Walla Walla Tuesday. Death came as the result of old age and chronic troubles with which the deceased had been suffering for some time, says the East Oregonian. Joseph Keeney was clerk of Umatilla county in 1878 at the same time that the late J. L. Sperry was in the sheriff's office. Both men were democrats and each served two terms in office, and have died within a few days of each other.

Before coming to Eastern Oregon, Mr. Keeney was the division agent for the Hailey & Lockwood stage company at Boise, the line running from Boise to Kelton, Utah. In '71 he came here and took charge of this division of the stage line, the Hailey & Lockwood line having been purchased by the Northwestern Stage company. He then remained with the company until '78, when he was elected county clerk. At that time the stage line passed into the hands of Salisbury.

At the end of his second term as county clerk Mr. Keeney bought the old Commercial livery stable opposite the Hotel Pendleton and ran that business for a number of years. During that time and previously he lived in the house at the corner of Garden and Court streets, now occupied by Thomas Milarkey. It was there that the first wife of Mr. Keeney died.

Some eight or ten years ago he left Pendleton for some time was in charge of the Elgin-Joseph stage line and later moved to Walla Walla, where he was again married and has since made his home. At the time of his death he was about 73 years of age.

The deceased was a member of Damon lodge No. 4, Knights of Pythias, of this city, having become a member in the early days. At the meeting of the lodge held last night a letter written by Mr. Keeney a few days before his death was read and also telegram announcing his death. M. A. Rader, chancellor commander elect of the lodge, was delegated to go to Walla Walla to represent the lodge at the funeral.

Aside from the widow and one child at Walla Walla, the other surviving relatives are Mrs. Ben Morgan a daughter, of this city; Mrs. Farrow, another daughter, who is in the east; Joe Keeney, a son living at Elgin and Ed Keeney, another son.

Lewis and Clark Rates.

The O. R. & N. Co. announces the following rates from Athena to Portland for the Lewis and Clark fair: Individual tickets will be sold daily from May 29 to October 15, inclusive, continuous passage in each direction; final return limit 30 days from date of sale, but in no case later than October 31, 1905, for one and one-third fare, amounting to \$9.90.

Party tickets—that is ten or more persons—will be sold from May 29 to October 15 inclusive; passage in each direction; 10-day limit from date of sale, at one single fare per capita for round trip, amounting to \$7.40. Children one half fare age at half fare of the above rates. For further particulars call on M. W. Smith, O. R. & N. agent, Athena.

No Secret About It.

It is no secret, that for cuts, burns, ulcers, fever sores, sore eyes, boils, etc., nothing is so effective as Bucklen's Arnica Salve. "It didn't take long to cure a bad sore I had and it is all O. K. for sore eyes," writes D. L. Gregory, Hope, Tex. 25c at McBride's drug store.

Big Fire at Walla Walla

Walla Walla, July 14.—Special, 2 p. m.—At 12 o'clock, noon, fire broke out in the Daeres Hotel, Walla Walla's leading hostelry. The hotel is doomed to destruction and slight hope is entertained that the remainder of the fine business block can be

saved. The fire department is handicapped by lack of water. At this hour it is not known how the fire originated. The property loss will be heavy. The hotel is situated in one of the most costly business blocks of the city, and was one of the leading hotels of Eastern Washington.