

The Athena Press.
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
TWICE-A-WEEK — TUESDAY AND FRIDAY
F. B. BOYD, PUBLISHER.

Entered as second-class matter, March 1, 1904, at the postoffice at Athena, Oregon Under an Act of Congress of March 3, 1879

Subscription Rates:
per year, in advance \$2.00
Single copies in wrappers, 5c.

Advertising Rates:
Special reading notices, first insertion, 10c per line. Each subsequent insertion, 5c.

All communications should be addressed to the PRESS Athena, Oregon

ATHENA, JUNE 19, 1906

With only \$877.58 standing between the Athena school district and freedom from debt, it surely bespeaks much for the wise policy of a high tax levy during a period of prosperous times. For several years the school levy of this district has stood at 15 mills. Now that the indebtedness has been nearly wiped out, it is safe to reduce the levy and still maintain a good school. The policy of taking in and combining with this district, surrounding rural districts, should now be agitated. With no indebtedness on this district, a lower levy for school purposes, better facilities for acquiring and centralizing the combined effort of a proficient corps of teachers, would seem to us to serve as an inducement if properly taken to the right sources, whereby the adjacent rural school districts could be induced to see where all is gain and nothing lost by combining with District No. 29. In other localities where the country school districts have given up the burden of trying to keep the little school house open for a few months during the year, and combined with the town and city school districts, it is found that the result is wholly satisfactory. Taxes for school purposes in the territory once embracing the country school is much less, to which is added, the great material advantage to the farmer's children of having equal opportunity with the city and town pupil of doing educational work in a graded and high school. With debt hanging over this district, in truth, there was little inducement to offer in combining with the country districts, except the advantages of the graded school and the high school department; but now it is different, and the matter should be investigated at once, so that if such a combination can be consummated, it may be accomplished in time for the coming school year.

Free alcohol of the denaturalized kind will work to the benefit of the farmer in more ways than one. First, in giving a cheap power and illuminant. But in addition to this, the making of it will afford an increased market for his products. Many things unsalable will do to make alcohol out of. The production of the enormous quantities of alcohol that would be used if the tax were removed would create a new market for the surplus crops of corn, potatoes or the waste products of the beet and cane sugar industries, etc. Tax-free alcohol would give the farmer a sort of balance wheel by providing a market for crops not otherwise marketable, since a crop partly spoiled could be made the source of cheap alcohol for industrial purposes.

"A country that used up its trees." The article under the above title, in the April magazine number of the Outlook, is one which, if the enemies of the forestry were amenable to argument, might well be commended to their consideration. In all their thousands of years of history, the successive races which have dominated the soil of China seem never to have grasped the idea that the preservation of the forests were necessary to the permanent welfare of the country. As a result, with all its population and with all the intensity of application shown by its people in their industrial pursuits, the whole country shows an appearance of decay. Thousands of years ago the forests were swept from the face of the earth except on the mountains. Then the mountains were denuded, first of the forests, then of sod, then of soil. With the disappearance of these came rushing floods in the place of slowly distributed rainfall. The water table of much of the country was so lowered that irrigation by pumping became the only dependence for saving the crops. From denuded hills and from bottoms strewn with sand by the floods now blow dust-storms which impart a deathly hue to the landscape of the whole province. That's the sort of fate to which the shortsightedness and greed of Americans who oppose forestry would consign our now beautiful land.

There should be no "faction" in this little city of ours. Every improvement made enhances the value of all property in and surrounding the town. We should live as one big family, and we believe few towns can show up a more progressive and intellectual family. We have a few "black sheep" in our place as any flock in the state. When there is discord in the family there is little progress. When there is united pull there is little we cannot accomplish. Envy, jealousy and hatred pulls us all down. Envy is the canker and gnaws at the heart and makes one sour, disgruntled and unhappy. Jealousy makes one unfair in passing judgment; hatred does not pay even from a sordid point of view. Let us all be friends and pull together and show our neighbors what a large harmonious family can accomplish.

James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railroad, is attempting to promote scientific farming in Minnesota and the Dakotas by offering prizes aggregating nearly \$7,000. The only condition in connection with the competition for prizes is that the farmers must keep two kinds of live stock in connection with their crop farming. The first prize is \$500, the second \$150 and the third \$75. Judges will visit the farms and make their awards upon the system of rotation of crops, the character of cultivation, cleanliness, crop yield and the number and character of live stock.

The head of the great financial institution, discussing the proposal to give national banks the privilege of loaning on farms, presents the following considerations of the probable results following such a policy: If the

recommendations become a law it will turn a great stream of money to farm loan investments. Some of the great insurance companies in the past have been buyers of farm loans. Should national banks and the large insurance companies enter the field it will have a tendency to lower rates on farm mortgages, at least temporarily, and, owing to this, the sale of farm loans is apt to concentrate into the hands of institutions able to make it profitable, owing to their ability to place farm loans in large quantities.

Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the Agricultural Department, is a sharp thorn in the side of the adulterators of food and drink. The other day he went before the committee of Congress having the matter in charge and showed them how to make "whiskey" without the aid of corn, rye or other grain; without a still or washtub or other agency supposed to be indispensable in the manufacture of this drink. Dr. Wiley used only certain chemicals, coloring matter and ingredients to influence the taste, yet he was able to turn out a complete duplicate of the "blended whiskey" which is sold in vast quantities all over the country. The committee was amazed, but it was noticed that nobody asked the doctor for a drink.

Dr. Wiley, having knocked out so many frauds in his capacity as chemist of the Agricultural Department, is now sighing for other worlds to conquer. At present he is training his guns on what was supposed to be the innocuous cranberry, but in which the doctor's sharp eyes have detected benzoic acid, whose continued use is extremely injurious to health. Now, if benzoic acid is added to embalmed turkey, the kind that the cold storage people are handing out. It is easy to see that danger lurks in the popular Thanksgiving and Christmas dish, and it begins to look as if nothing is safe from the inquisitive iconoclasts.

If the editor of the Milton Eagle thinks "jealous vaporings" gets him out of the "squeeze," he is welcome to the think. There may be some things we are envious of, but certainly not the position the Eagle occupies.

The German and Austrian emperors recently met and hugged and kissed each other. This may mean trouble. A king kissing a bee is ominous of evil.

The czar is damning the douma and douma is denouncing the bureaucrats in language equally sulphurous. Russia is having the time of her life.

The talk is that the democrats will renominate Bryan and the republicans will name Roosevelt as their presidential candidate in 1908.

The peckers must give the people good meat or down goes their meat house.

For Sale.

The O. C. Beck place near the school house is offered for sale. Good house, two and one-half lots for sale cheap. A span of good work horses will be taken in trade. O. C. Beck, Athena.

Whose Say-so is Best?
With nearly all medicines put up for sale through druggists, one has to take the maker's say-so alone as to their curative value. Of course, such testimony is not that of a disinterested party and accordingly is not to be given the same credit as if written from disinterested motives. Dr. Pierce's medicines, however, form a single and therefore striking exception to this rule. Their claims to the confidence of invalids does not rest solely upon their makers' say-so or praise. Their ingredients are matters of public knowledge, being printed on each separate bottle wrapper. Thus invalid sufferers are taken into Dr. Pierce's full confidence. Scores of leading medical men have written enough to fill volumes in praise of the curative value of the several ingredients entering into these well-known medicines.

Amongst these writers we find such medical lights as Prof. Finley Ellingwood, M. D., of Bennet Medical College, Chicago; Prof. Hale of the same city; Prof. John M. Scudder, M. D., of Cincinnati; Prof. John King, M. D., late of Cincinnati, Ohio; Dr. Grover Coe of New York; Dr. Bartholow, of Jefferson Medical College, of Pa., and scores of others equally eminent. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures the worst cases of female weakness, prostration, nervousness and irregularities, irregularities, cures painful periods, dries up disagreeable and weakening drains, sometimes known as pelvic catarrh, and a multitude of other diseases peculiar to women. Bear in mind, it is not a patent nor even a secret medicine, but the "Favorite Prescription" of a regularly educated physician, of large experience in the cure of woman's peculiar ailments, who frankly and confidently takes his patients into his full confidence by telling them just what his "Prescription" is composed of. Of no other medicine put up for women's special maladies and sold through druggists, can it be said that the maker is not afraid to deal thus frankly, openly and honorably, by letting every patient use the same and know exactly what she is taking.

Sick women are invited to consult Dr. Pierce, by letter, free. All correspondence is guarded as sacredly secret and womanly confidences are protected by professional privacy. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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ATHENA, OREGON

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Umatilla Lumber Yard

Special Announcement.

Beginning on Monday morning, June 11th, we will place on sale a line of lace curtains never before equaled in our history. It is entirely different from the usual sale, in that it involves the richest, handsomest, as well as the cheaper styles. The collection includes Renaissance, Real Arabian on French net, Cluny, Duchess, Point de Lux, Milans, Swiss Points, Nottingham and Scotch nets. These can be had in either white, ivory or beige. The most important feature of this sale will be the price reduction, which will range from 25 per cent to 40 per cent less than regular.

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ARRIVE Daily.	TIME SCHEDULES ATHENA, ORE.	DEPART Daily.
9:42 a. m.	Walla Walla, Dayton, Pomeroy, Lewiston, Colfax, Pullman, Moscow, the Couer d'Alene district, Spokane and all points north.	9:42 a. m.
12:30 p. m.	Mixed, Walla Walla to Pendleton.	
4:53 p. m.	Fast Mail for Pendleton, LaGrande, Baker City, and all points east via Huntington, Ore., also for Umatilla, Heppner, The Dalles, Portland, Astoria, Willamette Valley, Pollock, California, Tacoma, Seattle, all Sound Points.	6:53 p. m.
	Mixed, Pendleton to Walla Walla.	7:05 p. m.

M. W. Smith Agent, Athena