

The Athena Press.
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Six and Eight Pages Every Friday.
F. B. BOYD, PUBLISHER.

Entered as second-class matter, July 5, 1907 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.

ATHENA, ORE., JULY 5, 1907

Seven hundred persons have been converted in a series of revival meetings in Spokane by Methodist Evangelists. The Spokesman Review says of the success of the meetings: "Even if the conversions were only half that number the churches would still have reason to congratulate themselves on the good that had been done. Every man and woman professing a change of heart adds to the moral sentiment of the city and, directly or indirectly, will exert an influence on others for the general good. It is a somewhat common remark that the conversions made in emotional revival exercises are not lasting and that in the course of a few months the effect passes away. This is true in some cases, but as a rule it is found that the good impressions created by the services are not entirely lost. There are lots of people who do not approve the methods of the evangelists and yet who are honest enough to admit they reach many who might not otherwise be brought under religious influence, just as the Salvation Army gets hold of many whom the churches can not reach. The revival services has long been a feature of the Methodist church, and to it that body owes much of the great numerical strength which it has in this country. To scoff at or belittle the revival does nobody any good. It may seem to some too sensational, yet for the good that it unquestionably does it should be admired."

Reading between the lines of the statement issued by the Japanese Chambers of Commerce assembled at Tokio, directed to President Roosevelt and also to the American Chambers of Commerce, the officials in Washington see clearly the implied threat of a boycott against American goods entering Japan. The boycott delivered by Chinese merchants against American products two years ago in resentment of the treatment accorded Chinese of the better class entering America in the course of their travels around the world was productive of better conditions, for the Administration exerted all of its power to ameliorate the rigors of the exclusion laws and to facilitate the entry of Chinese merchants and students. Therefore, it is assumed the Japanese merchants have decided to have recourse to the same method of showing their resentment against the treatment accorded to their people in San Francisco. Unlike the Chinese merchants, however, they have first served notice of their intention upon the American commercial interests so as to afford them an opportunity to avert the boycott by bringing pressure to bear upon the merchants of the Pacific Coast, now supposedly in need of Eastern assistance.

Three thousand men have been thrown out of work by the closing down of Puget Sound and Gray's Harbor logging camps, and half as many more have been released from the Columbia River camps. There has been times in the past when the throwing out of work of 5000 men would be regarded as a hardship, says the Oregonian, but with such an enormous demand for all kinds of labor in other pursuits it may prove highly beneficial to have a supply made available. Present prospects indicate a record-breaking wheat crop in the Northwest this season and thousands of men will

be needed to take care of it. More thousands are wanted on railroad work and for other industrial undertakings now under way in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

The Press sincerely believes that in electing Homer I. Watts to the principalship of the school, the board has made no mistake, and it is also pleased to note the selection of Miss Sharp and Miss Gibbons to serve the district again this year. The new principal is a young and capable man, and is known personally to a majority of the readers of the Press. Into his work he takes with him limited experience in teaching, but any lack in this respect would appear to be supplied by the splendid laurels he has garnered in his exceptionally successful school and college work. Surely a graduate from a Normal school; a two-year course in a preparatory college; a graduate of a state university and also of Harvard, coupled with indomitable push, common sense, energy, judgment—diplomacy and muscle to enforce discipline—should be sufficient credentials that the man possessing them is able to successfully conduct a graded school. Mr. Watts has all these, and the Press believes the Athena school will be heard from.

People generally have been waiting to see what the "reform element" in Spokane would do, since the new officers had been elected by the direct primary system, and consequently the officials come nearer representing the people's choice than any other set. It would seem that the power in control means business, as one of the first steps was to cut out box rustling, enforce the barmaid act, and order all taxes out. This order went into effect May 31, the owners of the places being given a "square deal," in that they might have time for the change. For that one reason the new administration starts off well, for it has set the mark over which the vicious element must not cross, and has also given ample warning. From the tenor of Spokane dispatches the new power means business from the start and future developments will be watched with interest.

The first number of the Inland Empire Magazine is at hand. The Inland Empire is to be the official organ of the Third District Development League and is published by the Promoter Printing Co., of Pendleton, H. C. Willis of "booster" fame being the founder. H. S. Swenson, for some time past, editor of the Milton Eagle, has been assigned the editorial management of the new magazine.

The question of "can a man die and still live" seems to have been settled in Texas. There a negro was hanged and legally pronounced dead. Then after he was cut down and delivered to his family for burial he came to. It is said that the state can do nothing as the man has been legally pronounced dead, and that suits the recent haugce.

The latest candidate for presidential honors from the south is Governor Beckham of Kentucky, who his friends declare is one of the greatest democratic leaders. He is now by the votes of the people nominated for United States senator, but the Waterson "dark horse" may be an obstacle in his path to higher honors.

SENATE IN NEED OF A POET.

The country will hardly approve of the attitude of Oregon editors in piling contempt and ridicule upon Joaquin Miller, poet, because he wants to come to the United States Senate from that state. Is a poet a monstrosity, that he cannot share in the thrill of office-seeking? What is there intrinsically wrong with Joaquin Miller, that he is to be laughed and scoffed away from the Senate? Report has it that Joaquin has made a lot of money out of his mines, and is ready to spend a part of it in achieving an honorable ambi-

tion to figure among the treaty-makers and President-baiters. What is there wrong about this? Surely the members of the Oregon Legislature can have no objection to the judicious distribution of the fruit of the mines.

One of the Oregon papers suggests that if Joaquin is really anxious to part with his easily gotten wealth, he could not have chosen a more efficacious and expeditious method than to run for Senator from Oregon. It appears that since Oregon adopted the primary election law, thereby practically providing that Senators should be chosen by the people, only rich men have a ghost of a show. A mining magnate or a timber baron can spend his tens of thousands in electioneering while the poor but honest statesman is left in the lurch. But this is no reason why Joaquin, the bold champion of the glorious climate of Oregon, should not get in the race if he likes. He is rich. This, in itself, is an anomalous position for any poet, and serves to simplify the situation. Necessarily Joaquin must lose his dollars or the gift of song, for no rich poet has lived and sung since the world began. If he is fated to lose his money, it might as well be distributed among the toiling voters of Oregon as in any other kind of dissipation. Then, when it is gone, the golden voice of the poet will be restored, and the glories of webfoot climate will be chanted in sempiternal lays. Or, if the golden voice of Joaquin's pocket-book is more potent, he will land in the Senate, and the world will gain a statesman where it has lost a bard. There is really no reason, therefore, why the newspapers of Oregon should be flippant with Joaquin Miller and his ambition. Let him run the race, and if he wins it there will be joy in Washington.—Washington Post.

THE GREATEST OF FOOLS.

The person who kills another whom he hates is a fool, even from his own viewpoint of the desirability and satisfaction of revenge. For he cannot thus wreak revenge. He makes others, innocent persons, against whom he probably has no grudge, to suffer, and not the person he suddenly kills. Sudden death is no punishment for the victim's suffering is instantly over. If a person wants to execute vengeance upon another, he should plan not to kill him, but rather to make him miserable in life. Life is dear to the person killed, but we cannot contemplate him suffering after death, for the loss of life. Suffering must be conscious. For all we may know death may have been a benefit, a cause of joy to him. The soul cannot be killed or tortured by killing the body. Many a person thinks he has avenged himself upon another by killing him instantly, but he is entirely mistaken; in such a case the intended victim did not have even a minute of suffering. The surer the murderer's physical aim, the greater his miss of his mental aim.

Not only so, but the person who kills another because of hatred of him punishes himself along with innocent people. Almost invariably, as soon as the heat of his passion has passed away, he is filled with regret, he is tortured by remorse, he would fain change places and conditions with the dead, whose face haunts and horrifies him. Perhaps he is tried and hanged, or imprisoned for the act, and if so doesn't he suffer infinitely more than his victim could have done in the brief space between the shot and dissolution? And even if the law excuses the act, conscience will not, and must there not be lifelong regret for the suffering caused mother or wife or sister or children of the dead man's people who had never done the avenger any wrong, and to whom it is as impossible to make reparation as it would be to fly to heaven with wings of his own construction?

What folly, then, it is to kill a hated person, even if it were wise for one to hate another and wish to wreak vengeance upon him. Take any case of sudden, passionate killing, and ask, who suffers, the person killed or the one who killed? Laying aside both the moral and the statute law, the murderer through hate is the world's greatest fool.—Portland Journal.

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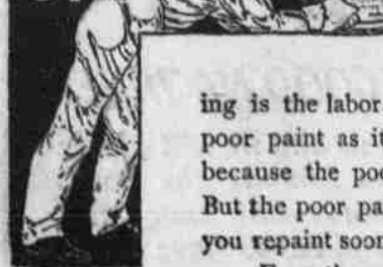
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