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The Athena Press

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VOLUME XX.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1908.

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STREETS AND ROADS

Substantial Improvement Completed—
Over 500 Yards of Rock
Was Crushed.

The city rock crusher is again silent, Marshal Gholson having laid off his crew of workmen. Over 500 yards of crushed rock was the result of the recent run.

One hundred and thirty-one yards of crushed rock was used on improvement of lower Main street. The improvement extends from the O. R. & N. and Northern Pacific tracks westward, and macadamizes a strip of thoroughfare which has heretofore been nearly impassable during the winter and spring months.

With this improvement, Main street, for its entire length, is now macadamized and in first class condition. The work has been well done and is in keeping with the high standard for which Athena is noted in street construction.

The county took 256 yards of crushed rock for covering the county road from the new steel bridge, across the Wild Horse flat to the hill north of the McArthur place. A portion of this road had been macadamized, but a new covering of crushed rock was used.

The rock was spread on the road grade to an average depth of six inches. Instead of sprinkling sufficient soil on the surface to cause the rock to settle, it is understood that the road supervisor in charge of the work used scrapers to cover the surface. Those who have had experience in macadamizing, criticize this method of covering. It is alleged that it is better to have but little soil on the surface than too much. A superfluous amount of soil counteracts the macadamized smoothness and permanency of the roadbed and causes the rock to shift and work upward and in wet weather loblolly of mud is the result. More than enough soil for the surface purpose is worked into the roadway through ordinary travel, and in the case of Athena streets a surplus quantity is removed each spring.

About 100 yards of crushed rock which will be used in filling up low places in the streets is now on hand at the quarry.

37 YEARS IN THE COUNTY

Many Changes Have Been Wrought
During That Time.

The following, relative to a pioneer citizen of Athena, appeared in Sunday's Pendleton Tribune:

Hon. T. J. Kirk of Athena was in the city yesterday making arrangements for his regular winter migration to Los Angeles. For several years he has attended to his extensive farming operations in Umatilla county and spent his winters in southern California among the orange groves and eucalyptus trees and says he intends to follow this plan as long as he lives.

Mr. Kirk is one of the best known of Umatilla's pioneer farmers. He came here in the fall of 1871 with the intention of going into the stock business.

The hills in every direction stretched away almost endlessly and were covered with the best bunch grass ever seen in the inland Empire. There was little attempt to raise grain though a few men were beginning to experiment along these lines. He rode up the Wild Horse from Pendleton until coming to where Athena now is and decided to locate there. He bought 160 acres of the land which is now a part of his magnificent farm adjoining Athena and paid \$800 for it. It was deeded and cost him \$5 an acre. A man whose land adjoined his had just threshed a small patch of wheat and Kirk, who had been a farmer in Lincoln county, decided that the straw indicated good land. He had taken his

bed ticks over to the man's stack to get them filled, after the custom of those days.

Soon afterward he bought another quarter for \$1,600 and began to both raise wheat and secure more land, and for a number of years has been among Umatilla county's most extensive and prosperous grain raisers. He says his land produces more to the acre than it did twenty or thirty years ago and for his farm of 450 acres adjoining Athena he has been several times offered \$100 an acre. For many years he hauled his wheat to Pendleton and sold it to Mr. Byers, other times taking it to the terminus of the branch railroad into Walla Walla. When he settled on his home in 1871 there was no town at Athena nor any prospect for one.

Mr. Kirk has a good residence home in Los Angeles and says he can live as cheaply there as in Athena and with much more pleasure in the winter months. He and his wife will leave for their California visit on Monday or Tuesday.

BOOSTS HIS HOME TOWN

Believes Athena Will Profit From
Building of Electric Road.

T. M. Taggart, a prominent young merchant of Athena, was in the city yesterday and while here spoke very optimistically of the prospects in his section of the county, says the East Oregonian of Saturday.

"Athena is just a trifle quiet as it always is just after harvest," said he. "But business in general has been good and there is no doubt but that our section of the county is going ahead. In the course of time the big farms in our neighborhood are going to be divided up, to an extent at least, and the town will benefit."

"I believe," said Mr. Taggart, "that the building of the interurban line from Pendleton to Walla Walla will help Athena more than any other town in the county. This is because Athena is in the center of the county and will not be in such close competition with Pendleton and Walla Walla as will the other towns. But the electric line will help the other towns also because it will produce a closer settlement all along the line."

Little Folks Enjoy Party.

Miss Zola Keen gave a party Saturday evening to her little friends. Games were played and delicious lunch was served. Those present were: Hazel McFarlen, Myrtle Hodson, Lillian Tompkins, Hazel Saunders, Ferol McBride, Hazel Parker, Katherine Froome, Frederica Kershaw, Gladys Smith, Helen Bannister, Veranita Watts, Gladys Kidder, Mildred Winslip, Edna Schubert, Alice Gaines, Martha Hutt, Eva Wilson, Valma Wilson, Alta Peeler, Helen Frye, Audra Winslip, Rex Payne, Ross Payne.

9,000 Tons of Timothy.

Walla Walla hay buyers are trying to secure options enough on timothy hay in eastern Washington to enable them to bid on the government contract of 9000 tons now being sought by the war department, presumably for shipment to the Philippines. Announcement is being made by the government that the large shipment of hay must be made during the months of December and January, and tenders must be made by the middle of this month.

Sudden Death at Weston.

Mrs. M. A. Bryson, prominent and highly respected pioneer woman of Weston, died there at 8 o'clock Saturday morning. Her death came suddenly and was due to a hemorrhage of the brain. The deceased was 48 years of age and spent 40 years of her life at that place. She was a daughter of the late J. S. Morgan, a well known early settler of the county. By her death Mrs. Bryson leaves her husband, a well-to-do farmer, and two daughters, Mrs. J. B. Gross and Mrs. B. F. Dupuis.

Death of Mrs. Barger.

Mrs. Emma Barger died Saturday at her home near Helix. The funeral services were held at the Christian church in this city Monday forenoon and was largely attended. Interment was made at Walla Walla, where the remains were taken by train Monday afternoon. Mrs. Barger was formerly Miss Emma Green, and was a successful school teacher. She leaves a husband and two small children.

Drunkenness Increasing.

Six drunks arrested by the police Saturday and Sunday forfeited bail in Judge Fitz Gerald's court this morning. They make a total of 19 drunks in the police court during the present month, drunkenness having for some reason increased greatly since the recent election, says the East Oregonian.

Mind Your Business!

If you don't nobody will. It is your business to keep out of all the trouble you can and you can and will keep out of liver and bowel trouble if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills. They keep biliousness, malaria and jaundice out of your system. 25c at Palace Drug Co's store.

HIS VAULT IS READY

Workmen Constructing Last Resting
Place For Benjamin F. Mansfield, Oregon Pioneer.

In a short time, workmen will have completed the first vault to be erected in the Athena Cemetery. Its location will be in the Odd Fellows department of the cemetery, and it is the property of B. F. Mansfield, Oregon Pioneer and Indian War Veteran.

The preliminary work on the vault is well under way. The iron lining has been riveted into shape down at McEwen's hardware store and is now ready to be encased in walls of solid concrete cement. The iron shroud, which in time will contain his coffin and be his last resting place, has been made in strict accordance with Mr. Mansfield's specifications, and daily he has visited the McEwen workshop, that he might view the progress of construction.

Next in order will be the removal of the iron lining or hull, to the cemetery, where it will form the interior of a vault and be enclosed in concrete of a desirable thickness on bottom, top, ends and sides to insure lasting perseverance in the long battle with time and elements.

Encased in the concrete will be a marble slab to be used for suitable inscription.

The whole will form an attractive monument; a sensible one, and one that will remain permanent throughout the ages. The idea is by no means new, nor is it original with Mr. Mansfield.

In conversation with a Press reporter, Mr. Mansfield said the thought of burial was always horrifying to him and when he observed that the concrete vault was being used extensively at Walla Walla and other places, he decided quickly that he would be laid away in that manner, hence his preparations, with that object in view.

Mr. Mansfield's health is about normal with what it has been in late years except that he is afflicted with rheumatism. He resides in this city at the home of his twin brother, Frank Mansfield. He is an Oregon pioneer and a veteran of the Rogue River Indian war, in which he served two years without ever coming into contact with a hostile Indian. Although his company saw active service in the battles of Big Meadow and Cow Creek, during the war Mr. Mansfield was on detail duty as an escort to travelers passing up and down Rogue River. He was born in Knox County, Illinois in 1835, and crossed the plains to Lane County Oregon, in 1853, where he learned the trade of carpenter. As contractor and builder he devoted the labors of his life and many of the buildings erected in this city, to which he came in 1872, were constructed by him.

In 1878 he was united in marriage to Miss Emma Mosier, who died, in the year following and whose last resting place is at Walla Walla.

Mr. Mansfield, who is a democrat, has always been interested in politics, though he never sought or held office.

Returns From the East.

Dr. Spangle has returned from his Eastern visit. He went east two months ago and spent much of his time at his old home in Huntington, Ind., where some family estate matters engaged his attention but which cannot be finally disposed of until further legal proceedings are had.

CHOSE A HORRIBLE DEATH

W. T. Bunnell Lies Down On Track
In Front of Walla Walla Train.

W. T. Bunnell, a laborer employed on the Frank Steen ranch in the Walla Walla valley, chose a horrible method of suicide at Spofford station, the man deliberately lay down in front of Passenger train No. 7, Pendleton bound from Walla Walla. At first the engineer thought the object between the rails was a hog. He blew the whistle and then recognized a man's form. He instantly applied the air, but the train was under such headway that it was impossible to bring it to a stop before striking the man.

Although horribly mangled he was still living when the body was found by the train crew, a moment after the injury, and lived long enough to be taken to St. Mary's hospital where he died about 4 o'clock.

Bunnell had been brooding over the death of his wife, and the breaking up of his home, and it is believed that these reasons determined what the authorities believe was his suicide.

The man left no notes explaining his act, and had in no way indicated his intention, but the circumstances surrounding the incident give every indication of a most horrible method of suicide.

Almost at the same instant air was applied Bunnell's purpose seems to have failed him. From the injuries the man received it is evident that at the last moment he raised himself from the track and attempted to hurl himself from under the wheels. In doing

so he seized the rail with his right hand which was crushed into a shapeless mass, and saved himself from decapitation, but was struck on the head by the engine's pilot, receiving a freightful hole in the top of his head, while his chin was split and the entire front of his mouth crushed in.

He formerly resided in Wallawa county, and was about 35 years of age.

Knights Templar Entertain.

Pendleton commandery No. 7, Knights Templar, has accepted an invitation from Washington commandery No. 1, at Walla Walla, and will make a visit to that city on the 18th of this month to attend one of the most notable Masonic gatherings ever held in this section.

"Gus" Got There.

Gustav Vollmer, one of Waitsburg's prominent citizens, was successful at the polls Tuesday. He, with his co-worker, H. D. Eldridge, will represent the 13th district at the session of the state legislature which convenes in January.—Waitsburg Gazette.

CANTON ATHENA ORGANIZED

Twenty-two Members Take the Degree
of Patriarchs Militant.

Monday night Lilley Encampment, No. 21, of the I. O. O. F. had an unusual gathering. A class of five subordinate members were exalted to the Encampment degree—and with the other members partook of a bountiful repast. Twenty-two Patriarchs then took the Degree of Patriarchs Militant and were instituted into Canton Athena, No. 6, of the Department of Oregon. Following were the officers installed:

Captain, J. E. Stanfield; Lieutenant, S. P. Wilson; Esquire, J. F. Kershaw; Clerk, Earl E. Dudley; Accountant, William MacKenzie; Steward, Bearer, H. O. Worthington; Guard, S. A. Barnes; Sentinel, S. E. Darr; Picket, John T. Ogle.

The Canton was installed by Prof. Wm. Crowhurst, Colonel on the Staff of the General Commanding and a representative of the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

FOR MAKING SPURIOUS COINS

Baker City Boys Led Into Crime By
An Adventuress.

Two young men, neither of them perhaps realizing the gravity of the charge against them, slept in the Multnomah county jail last night, for the first time behind prison bars says a Portland paper. They are accused of having attempted to counterfeit United States coins and the complainant is the United States government.

The men are brothers—Ed and Harry Newton of Baker City—arrested several days ago by Chief of Police Jackson, who made an investigation, finding counterfeiting tools and molds in their own home, it is alleged. The Newton boys have lived in Baker City more than 15 years and their arrest caused no end of surprise to the people of the city and vicinity. Their father is well known in the town and is highly respected.

The molds, with which it is alleged that the Newton boys intended making \$20 gold pieces, were found in their bedroom. Among the effects was an unfinished counterfeit dollar of tabbitt base.

It is a long story, that of the downfall of Ed and Harry Newton. Several years ago Ed, the older of the two, nearly died from a dose of poison. He said at the time in Baker City that the poison had been given him by an enemy, but it was common talk at the time that in reality he had attempted suicide because of a love affair and in which he had played the part of the rejected suitor.

Early this year, it is alleged, one of the Newton boys got acquainted with a designing woman in Baker City who revealed to them the secret of manufacturing money. She put them in communication, so it is said, with a professional counterfeiter in Denver.

In this way the boys got their start. They received their instructions by mail and then started, in a roundabout way, to make money easily. Their arrest is the result. It is understood that the authorities have had the boys under surveillance since last May.

The Newtons were brought to Portland by Deputy United States Marshal Clyde Nicholson. They arrived on the late train from the east and were taken directly to the county jail, where they are to remain prisoners until the federal grand jury takes action in their case.

The two were arraigned before a United States commissioner Friday in Baker City and waived examination. The amount of bail was placed at \$1,500 in each case. This the brothers were unable to give, and owing to this fact they were brought to the Multnomah county jail.

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