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ATHENA, ORE., FEB. 4, 1910

Church union has been a topic of much discussion in Athena since the last issue of the Press, which contained an able article on that subject from the pen of Herbert E. Ryder, pastor of the Baptist church. To the laymen, unbiased by creed or denominational influence, the clang of church bells in rivalry grates harshly and inconsistently against the proclaimed purpose of soulsaving and evangelizing the world. To him it seems that centralization of effort in religious work could be made to prosper to a greater extent by virtue of unity of strength and purpose than is accomplished by the divided denominational bodies of today. His verdict is that the cause of Christ is hampered by the fallacy of creed bickerings to the point that the cause is dwarfed in comparison as to whether this or that denomination or sect is right in its teachings of the word. But the man who reads and thinks sees the possibility of amalgamation of effort in church work. The union of the church is being discussed more at this time than ever before. Locally, the Christian and Baptist congregations seem to be in a fair way of solving the problem of church union, and should they do so it is but reasonable to expect these churches in nearby towns to do likewise.

An instance of the advance of realty values in Portland during the past 50 years was brought up this week when the corner at Fifth and Morrison streets sold for \$405,000 and an additional \$110,000 was paid for the transfer of the leases. Peter W. Severson, who sold the property, owned it for 51 years. It was literally forced upon him as apparently of little value. He was then owed a week's wages by the owner of the property, who also borrowed Severson's shotgun and lost it. The man who held the lot offered the property in lieu of the week's wages and the missing weapon. Severson demurred but finally was forced to accept the lot to cover the double debt.

Information worth hundreds of dollars to the farmers of the state will be offered at the Oregon Agricultural College during Farmers' Week which opens February 14. Lectures and exercises, covering the most vital and important information which science and experience have gathered, will be given by experts. Ample opportunity will be offered for questions and discussions.

Modern commercial activity is emphasized by the progressive spirit of the Medford Commercial club. It has a membership at present of 562 and when one realizes that there is an initiation fee of \$5 in addition to the

monthly dues, one gets a better appreciation of the reason why the people hear so frequently of the Rogue River city. The importance of no town is so inconsequential but what it can be helped by united effort put forth by a live commercial association. Athena is a better town today than it was a year ago. And it has been made better through the activity of its commercial association.

Japan, showing its friendly feeling toward Oregon and the Pacific Coast, has sent 170 bushes of native roses to be set out in the parks and public squares of Portland on February 22, the official rose planting day, when the metropolis will make a holiday and hold special exercises. The gift is a gracious one and is much appreciated by Rose Festival officials. A number of foreign nations have been heard from, each contributing native roses to be planted there on Washington's birthday. It is expected by rosarians that the bushes will thrive in their adopted country as well as in their own clime.

Captain Amundsen is going to start for the north pole, taking with him a food supply great enough to last seven years. He evidently is determined to avoid any danger of being doubted, when he returns, because of the speed he had to make in order to avoid running out of pemmican.

A desire to enjoy the privileges of democracy and to be independent once in a while of the claims of royalty is the reason given by Princess Christian, the eldest surviving daughter of the late Queen Victoria, for joining a woman's club.

Sir Thomas Lipton says that it is luck to be born poor. It may be luck to be born poor, but it is hard luck to live so.

The Kaiser's new Dreadnought is said to be so fast that she easily outdistances even the criticism of the Socialists.

The discovery that cancer cannot live in the same place with limburger cheese is of particular comfort to folks who have either.

What has become of the man who used to say that his home was wherever he took his hat off.

The man who goes hunting and fails to get a shot may be the same chap who goes fishing and never gets a bite.

The only people in France who take no interest in duels are the undertakers.

The south pole is no doubt beginning to feel as if it were already lassoed.

Trouble never comes singly to a bigamist.

Idaho State Normal Leads.

Dean Hallowell of the Idaho State Normal school at Lewiston is authority for the statement that the student body there has a greater average mileage than in any other Normal in the United States. Of the 250 students they average 119 miles in going to school. If only the students living outside of Lewiston are counted the average mileage is much higher, being 221 miles. In brief, those students going to the Lewiston Normal from outside points make an average trip of 221 miles. Some go but twenty miles

some 500, and one over 1000 miles. This last is Miss Hammond of May, Idaho, her total mileage by stage and rail being 1022. The splendid reputation of the State Normal school at Lewiston has resulted in attracting students from all sections of Idaho, as well as from eastern Oregon and eastern Washington. The increase in enrollment, this year as compared with January, 1909, is remarkable, being 45 per cent.

**HON. THOMAS J. KIRK.**

From the Weston Leader.

Weston unites with Athena in its grief over the death of "Tom" Kirk. While serving in the Legislature Mr. Kirk was a strong and valuable friend of this community. He was a man of sound judgment and business probity. He was never lavish with his promises, but when once his word was pledged it could be relied upon as being as good as gold.

From the East Oregonian.

When T. J. Kirk died at his Athena home Wednesday, Umatilla county lost one of its patriots. Nearly 40 years ago Mr. Kirk arrived in this county and fled upon a homestead claim covering the land where the little city of Athena stands. At that early day the land along Wild Horse creek was not worth from \$50 to \$100 per acre. No wheat was grown and there were no wire fences to block the paths of the restless riders of the range. From the Blue mountains to the Columbia one could ride (and not open a gate or even catch sight of one).

At that time Mr. Kirk took up his home in this county and through industry and good judgment amassed a considerable fortune. He also was honored in politics and made a host of friends who regret his demise.

**SHOE SIZES.**

How the Standard of Measurement Was Established.

It is most difficult for many persons to remember the sizes of their different articles of wearing apparel. Collars, shirts and gloves are easy enough, because in the case of these it is a matter of actual inches. But the hat and shoe numbers are what puzzle most people, to say nothing of the mystery why a No. 11 stocking goes with a No. 8 shoe.

This last puzzle is, however, easily explained. Stockings have always been measured by the inch from heel to toe, but the numbering of shoes was fixed a long time ago by a Frenchman.

The Frenchman permanently fixed the numbers of shoes for all Europe and America. He arbitrarily decided that no human foot could possibly be smaller than three and seven-eighths inches. So, calling this point zero, he allowed one-third of an inch to a size and accordingly built up his scale. It follows therefrom that a man cannot find out the number of his own shoe unless he be an expert arithmetician. Even then he is likely to go wrong, because all the shoe experts allow for the weight of the individual and the build of his foot before they try to determine what size shoe he ought to wear.

As far as women's shoes are concerned the problem is still more difficult, because many of the manufacturers instead of keeping to the regular scale have marked down their numbers one or two sizes in order to capture easily flattered customers. For this reason most dealers ask out of town customers to send an old shoe with their orders.

The system of measuring hats is much simpler. Any man can tell what size he wears simply by adding the width and length of the inner brim and then dividing by two. Orders can also be sent to the shopkeeper by stating the circumference of the head. —Boston Globe.

**BURNED PAPER MONEY.**

Source of Great Profit to the Government and Banks.

At the redemption windows of the treasury and of the subtreasuries of the country any silver coin that has not been mutilated willfully and which still is recognizable as from the mints of the United States will be redeemed at face value, this in spite of the fact that the silver in the worn coin may not be worth half its face value. As to gold coin, the government stands only a small portion of the loss from abrasion; but, according to weight, these worn gold coins always are redeemable.

In the case of the paper currency two-fifths of a note must be presented if it shall be redeemed or a new note issued, and, no matter what the evidence may be as to total destruction of this paper currency, the government regards it as the holder's individual loss with which it is no further concerned. Fire may melt \$1,000 worth of silver coins and it is worth its metal value. It may melt \$1,000 in gold coins and the mint will pay \$1,000 in new twenty dollar gold pieces for the mass. But the ashes of \$1,000 in paper currency is without value.

In the thousands of fires over the country every year involving office buildings, factories, business houses and family residences an untold total of legal tender notes of all kinds are destroyed. Every piece of such paper lost is loss to the holder and gain to the government or to a national bank. It is a promissory note hopelessly lost to the holder. It is even more, for in many cases an individual man might redeem his debt obligation if he were assured by the holder of it that the piece of paper to which he had signed his name had been destroyed by accident and by no chance could turn up again against him. —Chicago Tribune.

# The Athena Land Company

Post Building, Main Street, Athena, Oreg.

## Farm Lands and City Property Listed for Sale at Right Prices

Good wheat land, 800 acres five miles Southwest of Pendleton—500 acres in wheat, which goes with the place. It all lies in one body and is level enough for any kind of machinery. Plenty of water. Price, \$24 per acre if bought within the next two months. A real bargain for some one.

480 acres of finest wheat land in Umatilla county and highly improved, can be had now for \$85 per acre—\$15 below adjacent lands. A splendid opportunity.

We have a first-class Stationery Steam Threshing outfit for sale cheap. Full equipment and ready for the field.

Should you want choice city property, see us. We have it. Property bought, sold and exchanged in all parts of Oregon and Washington. Box 274, Phone, 355.

Four sections of wheat land in Township One, Morrow county, can be had for \$25 per acre. Well watered and all fenced—2000 acres tillable and level enough for a combine. Owner will either sell or exchange for Portland suburban property.

**Opening Third Unit**  
of  
**U. S. Government Lands, Umatilla Project**  
at  
Hermiston, Oregon, February 10, 1910  
For the above occasion the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co. and Southern Pacific Co.—lines in Oregon—will make an open rate of  
**One and One-Third Fare**  
for the round trip from all points in their lines to Hermiston. Tickets on sale February 7th and 8th, with final return limit February 20, 1910.  
Free booklet, issued by the Government, containing full information as to cost, how to file, water rights, etc, may be obtained from O. R. & N. or S. P. agent or by Writing to  
**WM. M'MURRAY**  
General Passenger Agent.

**Foley's**  
**Kidney Cure**  
Cures  
All Kidney  
Bladder Diseases  
**Cure**

Foley's Kidney Cure will positively cure any case of Kidney or Bladder disease that is not beyond the reach of medicine. No medicine can do more.

If you notice any irregularities, commence taking **Foley's Kidney Cure** at once and avoid a fatal malady.

**A Merchant Cured After Having Given Up Hope.**  
Foley & Co., Chicago.  
Gentlemen:—I was afflicted with Kidney and Bladder trouble for six years and had tried numerous preparations without getting any relief and had given up hope of ever being cured when FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE was recommended to me. After using one bottle I could feel the effect of it, and after taking six fifty-cent bottles, I was cured of Kidney and Bladder trouble and have not felt so well for the past twenty years and I owe it to FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE. James Smith, Bentons Ferry, W. Va.

**A Veteran of the Civil War Cured After Ten Years of Suffering.**  
R. A. Cray, J.P., of Oakville, Ind., writes:—  
"Most of the time for ten years I was confined to my bed with some disease of the kidneys. It was so severe I could not move part of the time. I consulted the best medical skill available, but got no relief until FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE was recommended to me. I am grateful to be able to say that it entirely cured me."

**Refuse Substitutes**  
**Two Sizes, 50 Cents and \$1.00**