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ATHENA, ORE., MAR. 24.....1911


The permanent road system era in Umatilla county will commence in the next few days in this vicinity, when the work of macademizing the Athena-Weston highway will begin. The generous offer of the farmers to haul the material gratis, has been met by the county court in assuming the cost of preparing the roadway, crushing the rock and spreading it on the surface of the road. Rock for this end of the improvement will be taken from the city quarry. The work will be pushed from Weston and Athena, two working forces being supplied with material from the new machinery recently purchased by the county for road purposes. It is the plan of the county court to construct as much permanent road each year as possible, and the first highway to be improved under this method will be the road from Pendleton to Milton.

Pendleton will bond for a $100,000 high school building. Non-resident property owners were opposed to a new building, but the resident property owners, having an interest in the growth of education and permanent structural improvements, did not hesitate to vote the indebtedness necessary. The non-resident property owner is the one who generally stands in the way of public improvements. All he cares for the town in which he has property holdings, is the revenue he derives from property rentals. This money he draws to the town or city where he resides, and in his home town he is considered public spirited enough, as a rule. He can afford to be, for the reason that his property interests in other places put him in a position to be public spirited—in his home town.

Although the whole state has its full quota of new settlers who are taking advantage of the low colonist fares Central Oregon towns are especially busy welcoming the newcomers. Homesteads are being taken in large numbers, irrigation lands are being bought and new towns are building because of the rush of immigrants who are following the railroads into the interior. Trainloads of supplies, building materials and agricultural implements are going in and the long delayed awakening of Central Oregon has arrived, after that section has lain dormant for ages awaiting the whistle of the locomotive.

Stephen S. Wise in April Pacific Monthly, says a tendency in the Republic which threatens to obstruct a program of social reform has taken the form in our day of an unusual type of lawlessness. The most dangerous type of lawlessness is quasi-legal in form and therefore doubly insidious and endangering. The lawless sale of "delicatessen" on Sunday is not as serious as the legalized bestowal of pardons on Monday, or the outwardly legal sale of franchises, at special rates, on Tuesday. The confidence of the masses in the justice of law is impaired when it is felt that the forms of law are sufficiently pliable and plastic in the hands of hypershrewd and not underpaid legal counsel to cover any violation of the spirit of the law. The most dangerous form of lawlessness is that which seeks to win for lawless practices and anarchic concepts the name and sanction of the law. The history of the disenfranchisement of the negro embodies the peculiarly lawless endeavor to gain the warrant and sanction of the law for fundamentally anarchic courses.

A most remarkable political situation has existed during the past few months. The leaders of the republican old guard, or reactionaries, have been perfecting an organization to enforce the renomination of President Taft. Yet most of these reactionary leaders in private conversation admit the probability of Mr. Taft's defeat if nominated. This reads like a grossly inadequate report, because it would seem to be most improbable that men would seek the nomination of a candidate whom they believe cannot be elected, and yet that is precisely what has taken place.

Leon Cohen, the Pendleton merchant, has been elected president of the Umatilla Morrow county district fair. Mr. Cohen is a man who does things, and no better selection could have been made to head the board of officials. The dates of the fair this year will be the same on which the Roundup will be held, insuring large attendance and first class amusements and entertainment.

One of the largest English buyers of Northwest apples has strongly endorsed the proposed central selling agency. He says that such an organization would simplify matters considerably for exporters. This class of trade is important, because it is using more and more of the Northwest's high grade fruit each year.

We can walk into trouble with our eyes shut, but it is often impossible to back out with both eyes open.

The hen may not be well educated, but it doesn't take her long to scratch off a few lines—in the garden.

### A Mere Trifle.

The young lady had won the philopena. "Well," said the gentleman who had lost, "I've lost; what shall I give you?" "Your photograph, nothing but your photograph," she answered, "in a pretty little gold mounting set in a gold bracelet, with a sprinkling of emeralds and just one solitaire—one only, mind you—no more!"

### Smoking Before Meals.

People will persist in smoking, even after they have read the following from that eminent authority, the London Lancet:

Smoking just before meals is to be deprecated, because the pungency of the pyroligneus products contained in tobacco smoke renders the buccal mucosa insensitive to alimentary stimulation. In fact, the effect is to dull or abolish the olfacto-gustatory reflex, thus depriving us of what Pawlow calls "appetite juice."

### Self Confidence.

"Do you believe in all the views you advocate?"

"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum, after some hesitation, "I do, but I doubt whether a less skillful reasoner than myself would be able to convince me of the correctness of some of them."—Washington Star.

### His Conclusion.

Mrs. Gnaggs—I'll never forget the night you proposed to me. You acted like a perfect fool. Mr. Gnaggs—That wasn't acting.—Philadelphia Record.

Talebearers are just as bad as talemakers.—Sheridan.

With the installation of service on the new North Coast road, it is now possible to leave Athena at 7:40 a. m. and arrive in North Yakima at 3 p. m. Returning, you leave North Yakima at 8:45 a. m., arriving in Athena at 4:10 p. m. North Coast service was ushered in with a big excursion Wednesday from Walla Walla and way points. A splendid train was made up in the garden city by the railway officials, the equipment coming from the Southern Pacific for the occasion.

## BOILED BANKNOTES.

### Caustic Soda Used to Destroy Worn Out French Currency.

Everybody knows that wornout banknotes in this country are destroyed by maceration at the treasury department, but the manner in which the notes of the Bank of France are destroyed is probably not so well known.

At the head office of the Bank of France there is a permanent tribunal before which all doubtful paper is brought. The tribunal writes "anule" on the faces of the banknotes. The judgment is countersigned by the treasurer, and they are taken to the cellars in which the printing office is situated. In the presence of the bank's official they are brought out for annihilation. Distributed one by one into baskets, the condemned notes are emptied into a great cylinder half filled with water and caustic soda.

The orifice of the cylinder is then locked and set in motion. It turns for two days, at the end of which time the officials who presided at the beginning of the operation return to witness the end of the notes.

Furnished with a long spoon, a workman thrusts into the depths of the cylinder and withdraws a thick, steaming liquid, which he pours into a thin basin. Another workman approaches with a similar spoon, with which he stirs the stuff around to make sure not a remnant has been left of the notes. When the banknote soup has been reduced to paste it is sold for $1 a hundred kilos, about 200 pounds, although the paper at one time cost $5 for two pounds.—Washington Herald.

## KIND CAPTAIN KIDD.

### His Wickedness and Buried Treasure Both Said to Be Myths.

Doomed to an infamy undeserved, his name reddened with crimes he never committed and made wildly romantic by tales of treasure which he did not bury, Captain William Kidd is fairly entitled to the sympathy of posterity and the apologies of all the ballad makers and alleged historians who have obscured the facts in a cloud of fable.

Fate has played the strangest tricks with the memory of this seventeenth century seafarer, who never cut a throat nor made a victim walk the plank, who was no more than an amateur pirate in an era when this interesting profession was in its heyday and who was hanged at Execution dock for the excessively unromantic crime of cracking the skull of his gunner with a wooden bucket because, forsooth, his majesty's officers were unable to prove their charges of piracy.

As for the riches of Captain Kidd, the original documents in his case, preserved among the state papers of the public record office in London, relate with much detail what booty he had and what he did with it. Alas, they reveal the futurity of the searches after the stout sea chest buried above high water mark. The only authentic Kidd treasure was dug up and inventoried more than 200 years ago, nor has the slightest clew to any other been found since then.—"Romances of Buried Treasure" in Metropolitan Magazine.

### The Snail and the Screw.

It is no doubt true that nearly all human inventions have been suggested by natural objects. M. Charles Fremont of the French School of Mines points out an interesting example in the case of the screw, the fundamental idea of which, he believes, was suggested to primitive man by the spiral shell of the edible snail. It was not the shape of the shell that suggested the screw, but the spiral motion which it is necessary to give to the body of the snail in order to withdraw it from the shell. This at once showed that an object of a screw shape embedded in a solid powerfully resisted attempts to withdraw it by a straight pull. The hint was enough, and the screw became one of the earliest of man's inventions.—Youth's Companion.

### Real Accommodating.

Olga, Swedish maid of all work, had curiously defined ideas regarding property rights, although she had no intention of being at all dishonest. On one occasion when it was Olga's afternoon out her mistress said to her when she was about to depart from the house:

"Olga, I can't find those handsome silk stockings of mine. Have you seen them?"

"Yes, ma'am. I have them on. I know you stay home today and do not need them. You can have a pair of mine to wear yoost around home if you haf none."—Minneapolis Journal.

### He Wanted the Job.

To the colored man who made application for work he listened and awaited the finish of the tale of the applicant's qualifications for the job, then stalled in this manner: "Well, I'd like to give you the place, but I'm afraid I can't for you tell me you are married. I have special reasons for wanting to give this position to a single man." "Why, boss," exclaimed the willing worker, "if dat's de on'y trouble, Ah kin git a divohce between now an' when you all's ready foh me to start in."—Argonaut.

### An Insulting Addition.

An irate citizen started for the office of his local newspaper for the purpose of clubbing the editor. One of his friends asked him what the editor had done to him, and he said:

"I sent him a letter signed 'Honestas' and he printed it, but added another 's.'"—Minneapolis Journal.

Difficulty is only a word indicating the degree of strength requisite for accomplishing a particular object.