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## A DISASTROUS FIRE

Two Barns Burn Tuesday Night—Draw Team Belonging to Burke & Son Cremated in Flames.

Fire destroyed two barns and cremated a fine team of horses on the West side at eleven o'clock Tuesday night.

The barns were the property of J. G. Burke and D. C. McIntyre, and the team was the one used by Burke & Son in the transfer business. The fire, which was of mysterious origin, started in straw in the Burke stable and when seen by Mrs. Burke, who was awakened by the glare on the window, had gained such headway that the flames were rushing over the roofs between the two barns which were located close together.

Both horses were probably dead when Mrs. Burke first saw the fire, and by the time the alarm could bring out the fire department, both buildings were practically in ruins.

People on this side, aroused from their slumbers by the fire alarm, at first thought the big flouring mill was on fire, so high did the flames and sparks soar, and the location of the burning buildings being in the vicinity of the mill and in line of observation, made it appear as though the mill were burning.

Burke & Son sustained a total loss, having no insurance on barn or team. The transfer wagon was badly damaged, though not beyond repair. A. B. McEwen circulated a subscription paper and in a short time had raised a fund of \$225 to be used in the purchase of another team by Mr. Burke.

Both horse teams responded to the alarm and were on the ground in short order, but so rapidly did the buildings burn that all left for them to do was to play water on the ruins and prevent the fire from spreading to adjoining property.

The morning following the fire, Mr. Burke was at work on the streets as usual, using N. A. Miller's team and wagon. He is deeply grateful to all persons who assisted him, including the members of the Athena Fire Department, all of whom accomplished what they could to save property.

## SWAGGART HOME DESTROYED

Household Goods in Lower Rooms Saved By Willing Hands.

Fire destroyed A. L. Swaggart's farm home north of town, yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Swaggart was alone at the time the fire broke out, and she notified neighbors by phone that her home was on fire.

In a short time several neighbors were on the scene, and turned their attention to saving household goods on the lower floor, the upstairs rooms being in flames. A number of men went out from town in automobiles and arrived in time to assist in carrying household effects to places of safety.

Mr. Swaggart was in Pendleton and the only persons at the house were Mrs. Swaggart and her little boy, the hired man being in the field. The lady had been ironing during the forenoon, but the coal fire had died down in the range so that she replenished it with wood to get the noonday meal. About 2:30 p. m. she heard a crackling sound and investigation revealed the upper rooms on the north end of the house to be in flames, with the window glass falling out. She gave the alarm by phone and quick response by willing help was the result.

Fortunately, the wind was in the north, otherwise the barn and other buildings may have been destroyed. As it was, the water tower, acetylene gas plant, and most of the contents of the smokehouse were destroyed.

Insurance to the amount of \$2500 on the house and contents was carried

by Mr. Swaggart in the McMinnville Mutual Insurance Co. Mr. Rice, the company's agent, was at the fire.

### Improving Property.

Charles Norris has purchased the four McElroy lots that join his residence property on the west. He has already commenced to make improvements. Several big poplar trees that took up more room than the shade they afforded amounted to, have been cut down and removed. The small house on the premises has been relocated and will hereafter serve as a hen house. The lots will be sown to alfalfa and will afford pasture for Mr. Norris' standard bred filly and a flock of Kellerstrass Crystal White Orpingtons and the old reliable Rhode Island Reds.

### HOW TO BECOME INVISIBLE.

A Sample of the Mummy Used in Ancient Witchcraft.

Some curious formulas of ancient witchcraft are given in Mr. A. E. Waite's "Book of Ceremonial Magic." Here is a recipe for becoming invisible:

"Begin this operation on a Wednesday before the sun rises, being furnished with seven black beans. Take next the head of a dead man. Place one of the beans in his mouth, two in his eyes and two in his ears. Then mate upon the head the character of the figure which here follows. (Omitted.) This done, inter the head with the face toward heaven, and every day before sunrise for the space of nine days water it with excellent brandy.

"On the eighth day you will find the cleft spirit, who will say unto you: 'What doest thou? You shall reply: 'I am watering my plant.' He will then say: 'Give me that bottle; I will water it myself.' You will answer by refusing, and he will again ask you, but you will persist in declining until he shall stretch forth his hand and show you the same figure which you have traced upon the head suspended from the tips of his fingers. In this case you may be assured that it is really the spirit of the head, because another might take you unawares, which would bring you evil, and, further, your operation would be unfruitful. When you have given him your vial he will water the head and depart. On the morrow, which is the ninth day, you shall return and shall find your beans ripe. Take them, place one in your mouth and then look at yourself in a glass. If you cannot see yourself it is good. Do the same with the rest or they may be tested in the mouth of a child."

### ESKIMO WIDOWERS.

Six Weeks is the Limit They Will Wait Before Remarrying.

In civilization it is said that a wife does not always add to her husband's ease or render his life more supportable, but up on the barren grounds the worst of wives would be better than none.

There, among the heathen tribes, if a man's wife dies—provided he is not a polygamist, in which case, says the Wide World, there is less need for hurry—he often marries again within the week.

Even the Christian Eskimo widowers are with difficulty persuaded by the Moravian missionaries to allow six weeks to elapse between the death and remarriage. On the very day after the six weeks have lapsed the hunter presents himself with a new bride and asks that the marriage service may be speedily read.

The reason is not far to seek. It is said in civilization that "a woman's work is never done," and far more is that true of the helpmate of the savage and the semi-savage, the woman of the barren grounds or of the ice edge. She makes and breaks camp, cooks, cuts up and carries to camp her husband's kill. She dresses the skins of deer and seal.

She is responsible for the fashioning of footwear and clothes. On a journey she often paddles the canoe, and on portage she carries a heavy load. In fact, it is easier to write down the duties not expected of a squaw than those which by immemorial custom she must perform.

### A Turkish Love Story.

A Turk knocked at his beloved's door, and a voice answered from within, "Who is there?"

Then he answered, "It is I."

Then the voice said, "This house will not hold thee and me."

And the door was not opened.

Then went the lover into the desert, where there is nothing but Allah, and fasted and prayed in solitude.

And after a year he returned and knocked again at the door.

And again the voice asked, "Who is there?"

And he said, "It is thyself."

And the door was opened to him.

"Why are you breaking up house-keeping?"

"My wife's florist says she'll have to take the rubber plant to a different climate."—Washington Herald

Nature knows no pause in progress and development and attacks her course on all inaction.—Goethe.

## UMATILLA'S CROPS

Report Made By H. H. Cohen, Commercial Editor of Journal and Crop Expert.

H. H. Cohen, Commercial Editor of the Oregon Journal and crop expert of the Pacific Northwest, visited Athena and the Umatilla county grain district last week. He was on his annual trip gathering statistical data relative to agricultural products of the Inland Empire. The following is excerpted from his articles appearing in the Journal, which is of interest to Press readers:

"Within a very few days Umatilla county will be in the midst of its greatest harvest. The indications, after examinations of fields in all sections of the county, would indicate a yield of from 5,500,000 to 6,000,000 bushels. The lower estimate would be considered very conservative at this time. With favorable weather from now until the grain is in the sheaves, it is probable the higher estimate will hold.

"That this year's crop of wheat in Umatilla county promises a yield of practically 1,000,000 bushels more than a year ago, is due to two conditions: First, the greater acreage and second, excellent growing weather at the time the season started.

"Not only will there be a greater production of the cereal, this season but indications are the grain will be cleaner than in recent years. While there is smut to be found in portions of Umatilla county, there is less complaint on this account during the present year than for many harvests. It is generally noted that the fields that show smut this year usually do so each succeeding season owing to the sowing of smutty seed. As long as this condition exists reappearance of smut is natural.

"While there are stretches that will harvest 60 bushels an acre in the Athena vicinity, it is a common sight to see fields that will range between 45 and 50 bushels. Sixty bushel yields of by gone years have only been shown in spots, but the percentage of such production is greater this year than ever before. Therefore, taking the yield field for field, the average this year will be the greatest ever known in the banner wheat county of Oregon.

"Warm weather is needed safely to ripen the wheat and harring hot winds or a wet harvest, the crop is practically made at this time. There is not likely to be any scarcity of labor this year. This alone solves one of the greatest problems of harvest times. At present there are more men than needed but the supply will just about equal the demand when the combines get into swing.

"A survey of the wheat fields of the county immediately surrounding Athena shows a splendid collection of grain. On the Umatilla reservation the showing is especially fine.

"While definite figures of the total Umatilla yield can not be forthcoming until the grain is in the sack, Oregon's premier wheat-growing county will have a total output of between 5,500,000 and 6,000,000 bushels.

"Only the most adverse weather conditions from this time could bring the total down to the level of last year, while under perfect conditions there is a possibility that even the 6,000,000 bushel estimate will prove slightly low.

"As a milling proposition too, the possibilities of Umatilla county wheat are remarkable. Some of the crop of recent years has been dooked from one to three cents a bushel owing to the presence of smut but such will not be the case to any extent this season.

"Umatilla county is this year producing a very large percentage of home-propagated seed in the Dale Glory variety, discovered in the fields of Mr. Dale. The new wheat was so much more attractive than the rest of the field, which came true to the club type, that samples were taken and investigation showed that they had excellent milling properties. This together with ability to produce more bushels to the acre than the regular club variety makes Dale Glory exceedingly valuable. As a native of Umatilla county it seems to have found a suitable home and forecasts are many that it will within the space of a few years entirely supplant the little club for seeding purposes in this locality of Oregon.

"Observations made with the Dale Glory have indicated that it thrives best in the heavier soil, although as few experiments have been made in the lighter lands, there is no telling what it will really do there.

"Taking Umatilla county as a whole, all grain crops are satisfactory from the viewpoint of the producer. There are spots of course in the west end of the county that will not harvest a big yield this season, but this is more than counterbalanced by the showing generally.

"As in other sections of the state the yield even in the lighter lands to the west are much better where proper attention has been given to the concentration of moisture than where the grower simply took chances on

getting what rain his growing crop needed.

"Had the rains arrived but two weeks earlier, even the neglected places would have given forth a crop that would have shamed the production of other years, but little complaint can be registered even though the rainfall was slightly less than needed."

### Akers' Patent Draper Clamp.

M. L. Akers of the Pendleton Iron Works, was in the city Monday and Tuesday, taking orders for header and harvester drapers equipped with his patent draper clamps. With the use of these clamps there are no rivets to wear off and there are no split draper sticks. The clamp is first riveted to the belt and canvas, the rivet heads being counter sunk. The beveled stick is then put in and the jaws of the clamp are firmly set up to the stick. There are four brads struck up from the face of the jaws which are driven into the stick when the jaws are set up, and the stick is held as if in a vise. Mr. Akers has taken orders for a large number of drapers this season, all being equipped with his patent fasteners. The clamps are no experiment, having been on the market several years and the first complaint is yet to be made.

### Masons at Helix.

A number of Athena Masons drove out to Helix Saturday evening and visited the Masonic lodge there. Third degree work was conferred, after which a splendid banquet was served. A number of Pendleton Masons were in attendance also. Those going from here were: A. B. McEwen, James Henderson, S. F. Wilson, Jacob Boeber, Wm. Boeber E. R. Cox, Sam Pambrun, Ralph and Roy Cannon and Charles Kirk.

### A New Officer.

C. O. Henry has been added to Athena's police force. He is now assistant to Marshal Gholsen in keeping peace in the city and looking after the city waterworks. At the council meeting, Marshal Gholsen's salary was increased to \$75 per month.

## A REAL AUTOMOBILE MARVEL

Liberty-Brush Runabout Will Sell for \$350.

The biggest gun ever fired in the automobile industry was set off recently by the United States Motor company, when announcement was made that the company has produced a guaranteed efficient automobile to sell for \$350.

The car is named the Liberty-Brush, and in some respects it resembles the Brush runabout. It is capable of every service which can be expected of a runabout and is built with a power plant that will travel 35,000 miles.

This makes the cost one-half a cent per passenger mile and in addition to being the cheapest form of transportation, it means the arrival of the automobile which every one can buy.

The Liberty-Brush is expected to find its greatest use among salesmen, solicitors, collectors, R. F. D. carriers, physicians, contractors and dozens of other lines of business; in fact, every one who uses a horse and buggy can get cheaper, quicker and greater service from this runabout.

The announcement marks an epoch in the motor car industry and the salvation of the horse, to say nothing of the increased radius of action which it supplies to the individual. The Liberty-Brush is built in the Detroit factories of the United States Motor company and will be marketed through the vast selling organization which the company has built up. The design of the car is based on the wisdom acquired from many years' experience in building utility runabouts. It has ample room for two passengers and baggage, the utmost ease of control and a range of speed equal to every demand of pleasure or utility.

### Threw Red Pepper.

Mrs. Charles Stanton of Helix, for the reason that Railway Agent Hainsworth interfered with her plans to have a brakenan make a purchase for her at Pendleton and deliver the parcel to her at Helix, threw red pepper in the agent's eyes and nearly blinded him. Hainsworth was but performing his duty in the interest of the express company, which is in the business of delivering parcels. Mrs. Stanton has apologized to Hainsworth, and no prosecution will follow her act.

### A New Ordinance.

A new ordinance was passed at the last meeting of the city council which regulates the licensing of dogs in Athena. By the new ordinance provisions, payment of dog tax must now be made to the city recorder, instead of to the city marshal as heretofore, and the payer must call at the recorder's office on August 15 to secure his license. In other words, the recorder is not expected to hunt up the dog owner and collect the tax. To obtain a license to permit a male dog to live in Athena, costs the sum of \$1.25, and a female \$2.50.

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