

This Edition contains Four Pages

The Athena Press

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VOLUME XXIV.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1912.

NUMBER 22

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MALONEY SHOWS UP BRIDGE DEAL

ALLEGES COUNTY COURT MADE ILLEGAL CONTRACT.

Original Contract Was for \$7000, But Inferior Structure Cost County \$13,070.

Pendleton, Ore., May 29, Editor Athena Press: Permit me space to reply to a statement from ex-County Judge T. P. Gilliland, published in a Pendleton paper recently, in which my predecessor in office made an attempt to explain away statements made that the bridge at Umatilla was built contrary to law and at an excessive cost to the taxpayers of the county of several thousands of dollars.

In the first place I desire to relieve Judge Gilliland's mind of the thought that there has been an effort made before each grand jury called during the past 18 months to have him indicted. He says he has been "reliably informed" that such is the case. Had he taken the trouble to inquire of the foreman or of any member of any grand jury drawn during this time he would find that no attempt has been made to indict him. There is an old adage that a guilty conscience needs no accuser.

Here are the facts regarding the Umatilla bridge as shown by the official files which may be seen in the office of the county clerk, or certified copies of which may be seen in the office of the county judge. The public is invited to call and examine the files so as to satisfy themselves as to the truth of these statements.

The Umatilla Bridge.
In April, 1910, the old county court called for bids for the construction of a bridge across the Umatilla river near the town of Umatilla and the following proposals were received:
Minnesota Steel & Machinery Co. \$7469
Security Bridge Co. 7600
International Contract Co. 7285
Columbia Bridge Co. 7320
Atlas Bridge Co., by A. E. Eberhart 7000

These bids were for the construction of the superstructure and there was an additional bid from each company for the cement work and abutments. The court then, at this regular session, held May 6, 1910, awarded the contract to A. E. Eberhart, whose bid was \$7000 for the superstructure and \$10 per cubic yard for building three concrete piers, and entered into a contract with him for the construction of the bridge according to the plans and specifications then on file. Were it not for the extensive space it would require, I would publish the complete contract, but as stated above, the same may be seen by calling upon the county clerk or the county judge. It is simply to state here, however, that the original contract was signed by all three members of the court and that there is no question as to its legality.

On June 25, 1910, the above-mentioned contract was cancelled as shown by the following, which is a true copy of the records on file: In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County.

In the Matter of the Cancellation of Bond With Atlas Bridge Co.
Now in this day it appearing to the court that the Atlas Bridge Co. as heretofore given a bond to this county with the Pacific Surety company as surety for the construction of a steel bridge over the Umatilla river near Umatilla, Umatilla county, Oregon, dated May 26, 1910, for the faithful performance of a contract of May 6, 1910, between said Atlas Bridge Company and this said county in the construction of said bridge, and now on this day this court being fully advised, it is considered, ordered and adjudged that said bond be and the same is hereby cancelled and annulled and the contract for the same is hereby set aside and the surety on the said

bond is hereby exonerated from all liability thereunder on said contract agreement and bond.

Dated this 25th day of June, 1910.
T. P. GILLILAND,
County Judge.
County Com.
HORACE WALKER,
County Com.

It may be seen from the foregoing that the regular proceedings, and the only legal contract entered into was annulled by two members of the county court and an illegal contract substituted therefor. I have made sufficient investigation of this matter to warrant me in making these statements that the bridge built at Umatilla was constructed without authority of law at a cost of \$13,070, that this bridge could have been constructed for at that time, or at any time since, for not to exceed \$7500. That this bridge was built under a contract notwithstanding statements to the contrary by members of the old county court. That the bridge is far inferior to the one originally contracted for, and which would have been built if the original contract had been carried out for several thousand dollars less.

Just how many parties shared in this profit, I am unable to state. Investigation fails to disclose any of this irregular work as having been done at a regular, an adjourned or special session of the county court. The county court journal has no record of any meeting at which such business was transacted. The record of the Umatilla bridge transaction is now before the public and they may draw their own conclusions.
J. W. MALONEY,
County Judge.

SENATORIAL CANDIDATES MEET

Lane and Selling to Debate on Issues at Milton Strawberry Day.

A joint debate between Dr. Harry Lane and Hon. Ben Selling of Portland, democratic and republican candidates respectively for Jonathan Bourne's seat in the United States senate, will be the principal attraction on the annual strawberry day program in Milton on Thursday, June 6.

The committee in charge of arrangements now has the plan for the days events well in hand. The morning program will commence at 10 o'clock in Nichols' grove in the south part of the city with musical attractions by the Columbia College 30-piece orchestra and the College Place band.

In the afternoon the joint senatorial debate, a base ball game between the Milton-Freswater nine and the Waltsburg league team, together with foot races, tug of war and other athletic contests will furnish entertainment for the visitors.

More than 100 acres of strawberries will be used to advertise the luscious fruit grown in that vicinity.

Decoration Day.

Decoration Day was appropriately observed in Athena. A large number of people both from near and far, visited the cemetery, where the graves of loved ones were reverently decked with flowers. Members of the G. A. R. were present and a short tribute to the dead was given by A. M. Meldrum, who on Sunday delivered the memorial address. How far more fitting seems this quiet observance of the day, than that perverted idea of "celebration," which has become prevalent of late years. Let us not forget the meaning of this one day dedicated to the memory of departed friends.

Rosenzweig-Ruppenthal.

Announcement of the wedding of Mr. Harry Jacob Rosenzweig and Miss Mary Elizabeth Ruppenthal, was received by the Press this morning. The wedding took place in Spokane, on Monday, May 27, and the couple will be at home on the Rosenzweig ranch, near Eltopia, Wash., after August 1st. The groom is a well known young man who spent his early manhood in Athena and the bride is a successful teacher at Eltopia, where she has been employed for several years. The Press extends congratulations.

Successful Basket Social.
Last Saturday evening a basket social was held at the new school house in District No. 113, south of Athena, and the sum of \$84.50 was realized for the library fund. This is the second social of the kind held there this season, the receipts of the former one being used to purchase a bell. School ends for the year today, and Miss Morris, the teacher, has been very successful in her work.

June Meeting.
The June meeting of the C. W. B. M. will be held in the parlors of the Christian church, next Wednesday at 2:30 o'clock. This meeting was to have been held at the home of Mrs. George Gerking, but owing to sickness among her children, the place of meeting has been changed. All interested are invited to attend.

Curious Power of Charcoal.

It has been found that the power of charcoal to absorb gases is vastly increased at very low temperatures, so that it can be employed for exhausting incandescent lamp bulbs and Crookes tubes and also for separating mixed gases. Experiment has shown that at the freezing point of water and at normal atmospheric pressure one gram of charcoal absorbs four cubic centimeters of hydrogen and eighteen cubic centimeters of oxygen, but that at 152 degrees centigrade, the temperature of boiling air, one gram of charcoal absorbs 155 cubic centimeters of oxygen. When several gases are mixed the charcoal absorbs some of them much more freely than others, so that by multiplying the operation gases can be separated from mixtures in sufficient quantity for industrial uses.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Pieces of Eight and Doubloons.

The pieces of eight and the doubloon are indissolubly united with the traditions of the Spanish main and the old buccaners. Pieces of eight were more properly called "plasters"—from the Greek and Latin, emplastron, "a plaster," in the Romance languages, "anything spread out or flat, as a plate, a coin." The piece was silver and worth about \$1. Being divided into eight silver reals, it was termed a piece of eight.

Doubloons were gold pieces, originally double the value of a pistole, and formerly coined in Spain and Spanish America. The name is derived from the Spanish doblon, "double." Prior to 1848 the doubloon was worth \$15.75. The doblon de Isabel, coined in that year, was until 1808 equivalent only to \$4.90.

Hereditary.

"Is genius hereditary?" asks a scientific journal. An editor replies: "We have not time to investigate the subject, but we are inclined to think that it is. At all events our youngsters are wonderfully smart."

Gold is proved with fire, friendship in need.—Danish.

MYSTIC ALGIERS.

It Is Not a City For Women Visitors to Explore Alone.

No foreigner knows what the Arab does. To few has it been given to understand what he thinks. Within his house he is as much master in Algiers as he is in Mecca, so long as he avoids the appearance of what the infidel calls evil and so long as he complies with certain demands, equally foolish and outrageous to him, in respect of registration, vaccination, sanitation and the like.

To any one who has ever seen for a moment behind the veil of native life there is something almost terrifying about the impenetrable mystery of these silent houses. Things happen there and human nature assumes aspects there of which the western world never dreams. I confess to being uneasy when I see careless and ignorant westerners—certainly when I see western women—walking alone in the native quarters of eastern towns.

Suppose one of those dark doors should open suddenly, the stranger be dragged quietly within and the door shut! That stranger might disappear forever without leaving a single trace. It would be useless to search unless the authorities were prepared to ransack every house to its most private apartments in a whole district, and to do that would be, if not to provoke a revolt, at least to stir up such dangerous unrest and hostility as to make it impossible.

What might happen to that stranger is best not considered. If his or her captors so chose there would be no more trace than marks the spot where a stone has fallen into the sea. Such an event is, of course, very unlikely, but it has horribly happened and might happen again.—Sir Henry Norman, M. P., in Scribner's.

A ROMANCE OF TRADE.

The Start and Rise of the Famous Krupp Gun Works.

The famous cannon foundry of Krupp, at Essen, was established in 1811 by Frederick Krupp, who abandoned a successful grocery business at the instigation of two brothers named Von Kechel in order to devote himself to the manufacture of cast steel.

The process was then unknown in Germany, and the article itself went under the name of "English steel" because it was imported from England. Krupp had money, and the Kechels had or pretended to have technical knowledge. The firm started its operations in an old water power mill at Altenessen. The experiments of the Von Kechels were unsuccessful. For nearly two years they did their best, but all their efforts to produce "English steel" failed. In the end Krupp decided to get rid of them after having spent one-half of his fortune in experiments and took over the management of the work himself.

For a long time he had no luck, and it was only after some years of disappointment and labor that a satisfactory metal was produced. It was under his son Alfred that the business first really began to flourish. His exhibit at the London exposition of 1851 revealed to the world that a little known German firm was producing iron and steel that could not be bettered by the industry of any other country. Orders from the Prussian government followed, and the name and fortune of the firm were made.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Built in Blood.

The winter palace of the czars was built in blood. Almost every stone of the walls and every square yard of the plaster lining them cost a life. Nicholas had given the order that the palace must be rebuilt in a year, and what was human life against the despot's will? Six thousand men were kept at work day and night, with the palace heated at 30 R. to dry the walls rapidly, while the temperature outside was often 30 degrees below zero R. The men could only work with ice packs on their heads, and, experiencing a daily change of 60 degrees, they died by the score every day. By the end of the year the death roll was some thousands, but the palace was finished.

A Wise Woman.

"Now, for \$2," announced the star gazer, "I will furnish you with a philter which will make your husband love you to the exclusion of all others."
"I don't think I'll invest," decided the practical housewife. "But if you have a philter which will make him bring home some of his salary on pay day I'll allow you a percentage on all sums realized."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Purely Speculative.

"I have always been interested," said little Binks, "in the utilization of all these burst tires go in the end?"
"I don't know," said the genial philosopher, "but if they go where most people consign 'em there must be a terrible smell of rubber in the hereafter."
—Harper's Weekly.

Consideration.

"Do you think women have a sense of humor?"
"Yes," replied Miss Cayenne. "But I think they have become accustomed to restrain their laughter through a fear of hurting some man's feelings."
—Washington Star.

Pretty Near It.

Gibbs—One gets no diplomas in the school of experience. Dibbs—I don't know. The marriage certificate comes pretty near being one.—Boston Transcript.

ALL IN READINESS FOR THE BIG PICNIC

A SPECIAL TRAIN COMES FROM PENDLETON IN FORENOON.

Parade Starts On Main Street Proceeding to Park, Where Program Begins at 10.

All is in readiness for the annual Farmers' Picnic in the Athena City Park tomorrow, and weather permitting, there will be a large crowd of visitors here to participate in the occasion.

Today the state board of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America are holding business sessions, and prominent members of the organization are in attendance, all of whom will remain over for the purpose of attending the picnic tomorrow.

Special excursion rates have been granted by the O. W. R. & N. company, and it is announced that an excursion train will be run from Pendleton to bring people from that part of the county to the picnic.

A parade will be formed at 9:30 a. m., headed by the Athena Band, with W. R. Taylor as grand marshal. The procession will pass along Main street thence to the City Park where the regular program of the day will begin at 10 o'clock. The following is the official program:

- Song—America - Led by Jack Keefe
- Invocation A. M. Meldrum, Athena
- Address of Welcome
- Hon. E. E. Keontz, Mayor, Athena
- Response
- Hon. Fred W. Kruson, Grass Valley
- Selection - Holdman Ladies Quartet
- Athena Commercial Club
- Prof. W. W. Wiley, Athena
- Progress of the Farmers' Union
- F. A. Sykes, Milton
- Duet - Misses Helen and Vera Sykes
- Co-Operation E. S. Norris, LaGrande
- Solo Mrs. Swingle, Pendleton
- Selection By the Band
- Medley
- Mr. and Mrs. Ringold, Holdman
- Marketing O. W. Nelson, Seattle
- Quartet - Athena Male Quartet
- Initiative Bills C. F. Strain, Pendleton
- Selection - Holdman Ladies' Quartet
- Legislation - A. R. Shumway, Milton
- Solo Jack Keefe, Pendleton
- Scientific Agriculture
- Prof. Souder, Corvallis
- Selection by Band
- Director, 12 to 1:30 p. m.
- Base ball, 4 p. m.

Indians Commit Suicide.

A double suicide took place in Pendleton Tuesday evening, when Isaac Parr and John Willestie, Indians, took their lives by compact, by drinking poison. It is presumed they were dependent over their inability to control their desire for liquor. Both had been before the police court frequently, and for years were hard drinkers. That the ending of the two Indians was premeditated, is evident from the following, written on a card by Willestie: "Today I will say goodbye to everyone, my friends and one heart also. And I am going and going. This all John Willestie." Parr left no message to his family. Willestie was an educated Indian, being a graduate of Carlisle, and during his college days won international fame as full back on the Carlisle foot ball team. The grief of his aged Indian mother and hunchback sister was said to be pitiful in the extreme. Parr's family live in Adams.

Elevator Building Burned.

Fire, the origin of which is unknown, destroyed the old Puget Sound elevator situated on the Northern Pacific tracks in the northwest part of town, Wednesday night, at 10:30. The huge structure burned with a roar and no attempt was made to fight the flames, as it stood outside the limits of the fire department, no hydrant being near enough to bring hose into action. Arrangements had recently been made to tear down the building, the heavy timbers to be shipped to a point in Washington, and the shingles had been removed by workmen, who were encamped near the building when the fire broke out. They were awakened by the fire bells, but could do nothing to check the flames.

Prospecting for Water.

The work at the intake of Athena's gravity water system is progressing under the supervision of W. J. Gholsob. The pipes have been cleaned from root growth and the trees along the pipe line have been cut down so that the roots will give no further trouble. Excavation of a trench across the water course, with the hope that a sufficient flow will be encountered to justify the construction of a cement retaining wall is now under way. This trench is to be sunk to bedrock, where it is supposed there will be found a copious stream of water. A retaining wall would back this flow up so that the pipes would feed into the reservoir.

Strawberries.

Come to my place two miles north of Gear Springs for your berries; picking every day. R. C. Tull, Freewater.