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We carry the best  
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Our Market is  
**Clean and Cool**  
Insuring Wholesome Meats.

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Home of  
**QUALITY**  
Groceries

## A Merry Christmas To all

If we are to have the pleasure of assisting you in getting up that exceptionally fine

## Christmas Spread

You will be justified in inviting Santa Claus himself. He is a great Champion of Quality.

TRY THESE--THEY'LL PLEASE!

Celery Bananas  
Cranberries Oranges  
Sweet Potatoes Dates  
Lettuce Figs  
and  
a good assortment of Candy & Nuts

DELL BROTHERS, Athena, Oregon  
CATERERS TO THE PUBLIC IN GOOD THINGS TO EAT

## RURAL DISTRICTS ARE INTERESTED

SUCCESS OF PARCEL POST WILL DEPEND ON RATES.

Scheme Is An Experiment With Chance of Developing Into Marvelous Sphere.

The Parcel Post created by act of Congress August 4, 1912, to begin operation January 1, 1913, has awakened great interest all over the country, especially in rural districts. Other countries enjoy the benefits of this cheap and convenient method of sending small packages; and our government, in treaties agreed to deliver parcels sent in this manner from such countries to persons in the United States. There seems no reason therefore why we should not use the system to the advantage of a large proportion of our people. The scheme is yet only an experiment, but will probably become a valuable institution. Its success will depend upon the rates charged, in comparison with those of express companies.

It is learned that at the Post Office Department, while a large part of the office force is busy perfecting plans, there are still important details yet unsettled.

The act creating the parcel post is briefly as follows: Fourth class mail is extended to include everything not now included in other classes; provided the packages do not weigh more than 11 lbs. nor measure more than 72 inches in length and girth combined; and further provided they be not of a shape or character to injure other mail, or to spoil before delivery in a reasonable time. This is practically the whole bill except as to rates. It is easy to regulate the size and weight of parcels, but not easy to decide what may be too perishable for each distance, or too dangerous to other mail. These questions are being a special commission, which in conference with Senator Bourne, the author of the bill, is now trying to settle such details.

Shall live animals be admitted? and such things as butter, eggs, milk, live pigs and whiskeys? It is the evident intent of the bill to provide for dressed poultry, butter, eggs, and liquors, for farm and factory products are especially mentioned. But such articles must of course be put in safe containers which may possibly be sold like envelopes.

Dangerous explosives cannot be accepted, and live pigs and turkeys will usually be excluded by weight. But live chickens for short hauls, may become a common part of the postman's delivery.

For the purpose of fixing rates, 8 zones are created, based upon units that are about 30 miles square, or half a degree of latitude. But for practical purposes we may say that the first zone includes all points within 50 miles of the sending office; the second, points between 50 and 150 miles distant; the third, 150 to 300; the fourth 300 to 600; the fifth 600 to 1000; the sixth 1000 to 1400; the seventh 1400 to 1800 and the eighth all areas beyond 1800 miles from the sending office. The rates proposed are as follows:

Zone.	Miles.	1st lb. or fr.	Each add. lb. or fr.
1	50	5 cents	3 cents
2	150	6 "	4 "
3	300	7 "	5 "
4	600	8 "	6 "
5	1000	9 "	7 "
6	1400	10 "	8 "
7	1800	11 "	9 "
8	over 1800	12 "	10 "

For small parcels and short distances this is much cheaper than present express rate or fourth class mail. But for parcels of five lbs. they closely approximate the usual express charges; and for larger packages and longer distances exceed them. But both express and postal rates on small packages, are likely to be lowered in the near future.

### Sunday School Social.

A most pleasurable social evening was passed last Saturday evening by the members of the young people's class in the Christian church Bible school, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Gerking west of town. A hay wagon, drawn by four horses, was chartered for the occasion, and the party of young ladies and gentlemen set forth with Mrs. J. T. King, teacher of the class, as chaperon. All who could be seated in the hay rack were crowded in, the overflow going in other rigs. The class alone, exclusive of other guests numbered 30. They were met at the Gerking home with a warm welcome, and the evening was merrily spent in games and social converse. Refreshments, the bulk of which were furnished by the visitors themselves, added to the enjoyment, and the young people arrived home near midnight.

### Agents Wanted.

Men and women to represent the Farmers General Trading Co. of Walla Walla. Write C. R. Harvey, 614 Baker Bldg.

## TRI-STATE LEAGUE CHAT'ER

Walla Walla Bears Have Nucleus of Four Men.

With other clubs signing men right and left, the Walla Walla Bears are ready for the season with just four players, Catcher Brown, Third Baseman Childers, Pitcher Kelly and Outfielder Martini. There you are, and that's all, too, writes Otto B. Schott in the Walla Walla Bulletin.

Here's where they are: Mauser is gone, beyond recall, from this league. Leonard and Strand will never come back, they will go up, the latter to the Boston Nationals. Bridger will not report, and if he does it will be to Spokane. First Baseman Cecil Thompson is practicing surgery on horses and cows in Dayton. Second Baseman Buddy Jones is in Spokane holding down a good job, and he was no crack second sacker anyway. Shortstop Bobby Davis will report to Spokane, Joe Cohn says, but there's little danger, now that Cooney is gone from the Indians, that Davis will not be back here.

In the outfield, "Cotton" Harmon is married and will take to the farm. Eddie Johnson, will report to Spokane and if he plays there like he did here, he will stay.

There is a chance to land Jimmie Menor, the loquacious little outfielder who played such a sensational game with both Pendleton and La Grande. Menor is some tall player and under Big Bruin Brown would make a good center fielder. Shader, the lad who tried with the Bears while Bridger was laid off, is making a great record in the California brush this winter, and wants to try here.

### Killed in Auto Wreck.

Louis Sharpestein, son of Attorney Frank Sharpestein of Walla Walla, was killed Saturday night in an automobile accident about two miles this side of Dayton while returning to Walla Walla, when an axle of the machine he was driving broke throwing the auto against a steep bank and then overturning, pinning the driver beneath. Glen Gilliam and Jack Snyder were riding in the car and escaped with minor injuries. The two were taken to a Dayton hospital. The accident happened about 10 o'clock while the boys were returning from a hunting trip. Snyder said they were coming down a steep hill when the machine suddenly swerved against the bank and then toppled into the road. He said he thought the right front axle broke. Louis was driving the car and Snyder was also in the front seat, while Gilliam was in the back seat.

### Weston Civic Club.

A civic improvement club was organized last Saturday by the women of Weston, with the following officers: Mrs. Minnie Walker, president; Mrs. Alice F. Price, vice president; Mrs. Luella B. Pinkerton, secretary and treasurer. As its name indicates, the objects of the club are related to civic betterment. The women, some sixty in number, first assembled at the United Brethren church. They then marched through Main street to the Methodist church, headed by the Ladies' Band, and made a goodly showing. The object of the meeting was stated by Mrs. Alice Kirkpatrick, and Mrs. G. W. Probstel, Sr., was called upon to preside as temporary chairman.—Weston Leader.

### To Fight Fruit Pest.

Fruit Inspector Campbell states he is going to call upon the orchardists of the county, and the Commercial clubs of the towns in the county, to assist him in eradicating the disease called hold-over canker, and for their support in enforcing the law pertaining to the cleansing of orchards of this menacing disease. Those not interested in the fight on pests should be shown the danger that lurks in procrastination, and asked to clean up. Harmonious and concerted action will do more at this time than many thousands of dollars after the disease once gets such a hold as to ruin the industry. Mr. Campbell will visit any orchard where called and show how to find and work out the blight. His motto is, "Make yourself an expert in your own orchard."

### Sunshine Club Meetings.

The Sunshine Club still continues to give cheer in the country neighborhood west of Athena. The meeting of November 13 was held at the home of Mrs. Otha Reeder, with three officers and five members present. Refreshments were served by the hostess, assisted by her mother, Mrs. W. J. Ghoslen. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent by all present. On December 5, the club met at the home of Mrs. Henry Schmitt. The usual delightful hospitality was enjoyed with Mrs. Schmitt, dainty refreshments being served after the business session.

### County Treasurer Recovering.

County Treasurer G. W. Bradley, who was seriously cut about the forehead last Tuesday when the window of his office crashed in during a violent wind storm, is able to resume his duties after being confined to his home for several days, says the East Oregonian. The wound proved to be more serious than was at first supposed and inflammation setting in made careful attention necessary.

### Asylum Official.

Dr. A. E. Tamiela, present second assistant superintendent at the state asylum at Salem, has been named as first assistant superintendent of the

## BRUSHING UP THE OLD HAT.



—From New York World.

branch hospital in Pendleton, according to the East Oregonian. The appointment was made Saturday at a meeting of the state asylum board and carries with it the privilege of returning to his present position at Salem if he finds that he prefers that position to his new one. The selection of the other assistants at the branch institution will be left to Superintendent McNary. Information has also been received that the board decided to send twelve or fifteen of the best working patients and several assistants to the Pendleton institution by the middle of the present month in order to prepare the building for occupancy.

### Sues to Enforce Payment.

The Preston Shaffer Milling Co. has commenced suit against J. F. Bagan to secure a judgment for \$394.25, alleged to be due for sacks and feed purchased by the defendant. Homer I. Watts is attorney for the plaintiff.

### Favor Iron Pipe.

The vote to install iron pipe replacing the present pipe, by bonding

the city in the sum of \$1200 was evidently favored by the electors, the vote standing 64 for bonds to 11 against. The municipal officers were elected without opposition as follows: Treasurer, R. E. Bean; council, W. Lloyd Jr., C. B. Miller and H. S. Murray. We understand that when the bonds are sold the council will probably have the work done by day work instead of by contract, giving the preference to the labor of our community.—Freewater Times.

### S. Platt Jones, Entertainer.

Wednesday evening of next week, the third number of the lyceum course will be presented, when S. Platt Jones, entertainer, will appear at the opera house. Advance press notices proclaim Mr. Jones to excel in kindly humor and pleasant mimicry of the order that secures for him the affection of the audience as well as its applause. He is considered one of the best on the circuit, in fact an entertainer, all that and more. After Jones' appearance, two numbers remain to complete the course.

## SCHOOL OFFICIALS ANNUAL MEETING

DIRECTORS AND CLERKS MEET ON DECEMBER 21ST.

Welles Says It Is Important That All District Officials Should be Present.

County Superintendent Welles has just issued an official call for the annual meeting of the school directors and clerks of the county. The meeting will be held at the court house in Pendleton, on Saturday, December 21, beginning at 10 o'clock.

In speaking of this meeting, Mr. Welles says:

"The work of the school district officers is very important. Every year they expend more than \$200,000 of the public funds; they employ over two hundred teachers and have direct control of the education of several thousand children. This is a great responsibility, and the school officers should take advantage of every opportunity to keep themselves informed regarding their duties. This is the principal object of the school board convention. As the session lasts only one day, I feel that it is the duty of every district officer to attend. A splendid program is being prepared, the principal speaker being State Superintendent L. R. Alderman."

The O. W. R. & N. company has made a reduced rate for this meeting. In order to take advantage of the rate the delegates and visitors must take receipts from the ticket agents when buying their tickets to Pendleton. These receipts will be signed by the secretary of the meeting and will entitle the holders to purchase their return tickets at one-third the usual rate. The tickets may be purchased on the 20th or 21st, and will be good for returning on the 22nd.

### Rode to Bingham Sunday.

Principal Drew, H. O. Starr and Floyd Payne rode to Bingham Springs last Saturday, going by Ryan grade and returning took the cut off via Weston. They report about eight inches of snow on the foothills.

# We Contend It's a SNAP To Satisfy You Here

An inspection of our splendid stock of Holiday goods will convince you of the truth of our contention, for your own judgment of selection of presents will tell you that our stock comprises the dependable kind—the kind that spells "your money's worth," for every cent.

Something Beautifully Artistic and Servicable

ASSORTED BRASSWARE—HANDBAGS—PURSES—MUSIC ROLLS  
SHAVING SETS—SAFETY RAZORS—FOUNTAIN PENS—PERFUMERY—MANICURE SETS—TOILET SETS—LATEST STYLE HAND MIRRORS—BOOKS, latest fiction—PARISIAN IVORY ARTICLES  
PEN KNIVES—XMAS CARDS, BOOKLETS—CALENDARS—MILL TARY BRUSHES—PHONOGRAPHS—LINE of EASTMAN KODAKS  
CANDIES—STATIONERY—GAMES OF ALL KINDS—FINE CIGARS  
HARMONICAS—THERMOS BOTTLES—RUBBER DOLLS, ETC. ETC

## Shop Early

while the stock is unbroken, and you are not rushed.

B. N. HAWKS, The Rexall Store, ATHENA, ORE.