

The Athena Press circulates in the homes of readers who reside in the heart of the Great Umatilla Wheat Belt, and they have money to spend

# The Athena Press

Entered at the Post Office at Athena, Oregon, as Second-Class Mail Matter

If this notice is marked RED, it signifies that your Subscription expires with this issue. We will greatly appreciate your renewal—\$2.00 per year

## FIRE MARSHAL FILES REPORT ON A SURVEY OF CONDITIONS HERE

Observes That No Interest Taken in Fire Department or Fire Fighting Organization.

Following is a portion of the report made by deputy fire marshals to the state department, relative to conditions as found in Athena when the survey was made by them recently.

The city is built on level ground and the surrounding country is almost level open farming land. The streets are wide and all paved in the business district, and graded in the residential district. The sidewalks are mostly cement. There are alleys one way in the business district.

Practically sixty per cent of the mercantile buildings are brick, five are two story. The chief conflagration danger exists in the frame range consisting of six frame buildings which are on Main street. The residential district is slightly scattering and buildings frame. The special hazards consisting of flouring mill, warehouses and food mill, are so far enough removed from the city to practically eliminate exposure hazard.

The police service consists of a day marshal, no night service. The fire loss for some years has been comparatively small. Inspection revealed electrical wiring to be generally defective, house-keeping and other conditions fair, some rubbish in back yards and alleys.

The water system is owned by the municipality and is a gravity system. It flows from springs by gravity to the reservoir, which has a capacity of 360,000 gallons and is located three miles southeast of town at an elevation of one hundred and twenty feet above Main street. Additional supply comes from a well ten feet square and twenty feet deep located at pumping station near the flour mill.

The fire department is composed of volunteers twenty-four in number, eight men to each of the two hose companies and eight men to the truck company. The chief is Sam Haworth. There is no interest, however, manifested in the organization as neither meetings or drills are held.

The equipment consists of one hose cart, Main and Railroad, carrying five hundred feet of 2 1/2 inch hose, two open play pipes and one ax; Fourth and Main, one hose cart and five hundred feet of 2 1/2 inch hose and one open play pipe, 3rd and Current, one village hook and ladder truck. The fire alarm bells are located at each station.

We recommend that the city use its police authority to cause the removal of the old frame buildings on Main street. If such a policy is adopted and followed out with discretion, owners can be in most instances persuaded to improve the property by the erection of fire resisting buildings. If not willingly, the city can require it. This action will very greatly improve the city in every way and will eliminate the conflagration hazard.

We recommend that the city purchase a small motor car with chemical tanks, hose bed, ladders, etc. There is no chemical equipment at the present. A city the size of Athena cannot afford to be without up to date equipment. The old hand reels have served their purpose but are now entirely inadequate. The motor rig should carry all necessary fire fighting equipment and paraphernalia and be ready to respond to a call at any moment. Athena's fire protection cannot be considered adequate until such a car is installed.

We recommend that the city immediately proceed to reorganize its fire department. Without a trained department, Athena is surely taking great unnecessary risks. Water supply and fire equipment are of only limited value unless men are trained to use them. The department should be active and have regular drills, in order to know the use of apparatus and be able to cope with the emergency when it arises.

**SHEEPSHEARING PROGRESSING**  
Sheepshearing is progressing throughout Umatilla county this week, and from reports received, an average clip of wool of good quality is being realized by growers.

## Roosevelt Highway Traverses Continent From "Portland Maine, to Portland Oregon"

Representatives of the Oregon Tourist and Information Bureau, an organization created by legislative act, were in the city Tuesday in the interest of the proposed Roosevelt Highway. They were: Jos. P. Jaeger and Sydney B. Vincent. The party left during the forenoon for Milton. The gentlemen were on a soliciting visit, desiring funds to defray cost of advertising the highway an apportioned Athena's share at \$25.

A branch office of the Oregon Tourist and Information Bureau will be opened in Pendleton, May 15th, according to announcement made by the party while in Athena. The following concerning the Roosevelt Highway is from the Oregon Journal.

This week an expedition will leave Portland for Eastern Oregon cities. Its mission is to increase interest in the Theodore Roosevelt national highway. It will be headed by representatives of the Oregon Tourist and Information Bureau.

It is impossible to estimate the motor travel which would be attracted to the West by such a highway. Multitudes would traverse such a route the first season.

It is intended that ultimately the Roosevelt highway shall be such a paved thoroughfare. Its distinctive importance above other named highways is that it leads from "Portland, Maine, to Portland, Oregon." Its constant influence is to define Portland, Oregon as the destination of all Western-seeking travel.

The route of the Roosevelt highway is international. It leads through the placid and semi-rugged vistas of New England. It threads the Great Lakes, now on the American, now on the Canadian shore. It reaches to the rim of the horizon in the Mid-Western wheat zone, crosses the Rockies and via Spokane, Lewiston, Walla Walla, Athena, Pendleton, Umatilla and the Columbia river highway, reaches Portland.

## WILL REGULATE CUTTING HEREAFTER AT CITY PARK

Members of the Civic Club, who have interests of City Park in charge were disappointed to find that trees had been cut from the west end of the park and removed for fire-wood purposes.

On investigation it appears that Charles McFarland was given permission to fell the trees, and to convert them into stove-wood for his use. It further developed that trees of healthy growth were among the number authorized for removal, a committee from the club, who met with the board of aldermen found, Monday night.

Inasmuch as a tree is a tree, in the estimation of the committee, and the depletion going on at the park does not meet with their approval in the least, the council gave the committee to understand that no more trees would be ordered cut at present.

The Club committee made it known that their organization had in mind permanent park improvement, and that it was contemplated by their members to add trees to the park. The committee was informed that water would be piped into the park and two hydrants installed.

## NEW RADIO MAGAZINE

Radio fans will be glad to know of a new magazine on the subject called "Radio Broadcast," which has just been placed upon the tables at the county library. The May issue, which is the first one to be published, gives a great many helpful articles, including the "Commercial Side of Radio." "How to Build and Operate a Very Simple Radio Receiving Set." "A Compact Portable Wireless Set." The title of yet another, and radio notes from home and abroad are given.

## FRANK BOLING MARRIED

Frank Boling, well known blacksmith of Athena, and Minnie Wickard of Pendleton, were united in marriage at Pendleton, Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Boling will reside in Athena.

## OPENS PENDLETON OFFICE

Dr. F. D. Watts has opened his office in Pendleton, for the treatment of eye, ear, nose and throat. His location will be in rooms over the Taylor Hardware Co., which have been overhauled and equipment installed.

## IDAHO ENGINEER IS DROWNED IN PAYETTE

Ralph E. Thompson, engineer in charge of construction of the Black Canyon dam near Emmett, Idaho and representing the United States reclamation service, was drowned in the Payette river Thursday afternoon. With one of his workmen he undertook to cross the river in a small skiff.

In mid-stream, the skiff was overturned by the rushing current and was hurled violently against an iron pipe casting of a test hole. The workman caught hold of the pipe and clung there until a fellow workman crawled out on a cable and threw a rope to him. By this he was drawn to shore.

Thompson, a strong swimmer, struck out for the shore, but was drawn under by his heavy clothes and disappeared 20 feet from shore. His body has not been recovered. The drowned man was 36 years of age. He is survived by his wife and four small children. Their home is at Middleton, Idaho.

## MAY DAY ACTIVITIES

The program for the May Day exercises at the school building are being carried per schedule. A large number of people attended the exercises and greatly enjoyed the dinner served under supervision of the Parent-Teachers Association. This afternoon Athena and Milton are contesting in the first ball game of the season between the two teams. This evening, beginning at 8 o'clock in High school auditorium, the evening program will be given.

## DISCHARGED GUN KILLS

The accidental discharge of a shotgun which he had propped between his knees while riding in a wagon caused the death Friday afternoon of Trafton Doan, aged 25, a resident of the reservation for the past 18 months. The load of shot tore a hole in the victim's neck, almost severing the head from the body and causing instant death, according to Coroner J. T. Brown.

## MORE CINDERS PLACED

Another consignment of cinders was placed on the school grounds this week. This makes the second shipment of cinders received for this work, which was instigated by the Parent-Teacher's Association. When completed, the west and south portions of the grounds will be covered with cinders.

## ALFALFA IS FLOURISHING

Reports are to the effect that alfalfa fields have been greatly benefited by the winter and spring moisture, and an unusually large crop is expected by growers in every section of Umatilla county.

## AUTOMOBILES CRASH TOGETHER, INJURING HERMISTON DENTIST

Car Driven By Ray McCarroll of Pendleton Swerves into a Collision, Head-on.

Dr. F. V. Prim of Hermiston, was seriously injured Friday evening on the highway east of town, when a car driven by Ray McCarroll of Pendleton collided with the doctor's automobile head-on.

The smashup from all reports is attributed to reckless driving of McCarroll, who was accompanied by Bruce Bender and Jack Miller of Pendleton. McCarroll claims that Bender who was drunk, grasped the steering wheel and turned the machine into Prim's car.

Both machines were badly wrecked, Prim's car was brought to the Zerba garage in Athena, and McCarroll's car was taken to Pendleton. Dr. C. H. Smith of this city found Prim's injuries to consist of a cut over one of his eyes, scalp wounds, one at the base of the skull and a cut on one wrist, besides various bruises. Mr. Bennett of Salem who was riding with Dr. Prim was not seriously injured.

McCarroll had one of his shoulders jammed up in the wreck, and Miller had a cut across the bridge of his nose. Bender fled after the collision. Earlier in the day he was fined \$25 in Judge Richards' court for speeding, having been caught at Weston on complaint of the traffic officer and brought to Athena for his hearing. A Pendleton paper says he was but recently released from the county jail after serving a term for bootlegging. He formerly drove the Troy Laundry delivery car.

McCarroll has been in trouble before for reckless driving, and a year ago had his driver's license revoked at Pendleton. The district attorney's office announces that McCarroll will be prosecuted for driving the Bender car with only one light.

## KEEP YOUR LIGHTS BURNING

State Traffic Officer Lieualten was in the city Wednesday. He called at the Press office, and for information of the public issued the statement that hereafter all automobiles will be required to have two head lights and one tail light, as provided by law.

## LINE OF FISHING TACKLE

R. A. Thompson has put in a line of fishing tackle at the Thompson garage on Main street. Dick says that he does not have time to do much fishing himself, but he has friends who have the time, and these are the fellows he likes to talk "tackle" to.

## Athena-Weston Post American Legion Has Completed the Organization of Rifle Club

## MAY DAY EXERCISES ARE IN PROGRESS TODAY

The Athena High School May Day exercises are in progress today in the gymnasium of the school building where there is a large crowd in attendance.

Practically the entire community was on hand at 10 o'clock this forenoon, when the exercises began, and everyone enjoyed the dinner served in cafeteria style by the Parent-Teachers Association at noon.

The May Day decorations are elaborate, and members of the different classes took especial pains and devoted considerable time in the work. Evergreens from the mountains greatly freshens the decorative scheme throughout the gym and every detail of the program is a success.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock, Athena high school plays Milton high school in their first conference baseball game of the season on the local grounds. Tonight at eight o'clock the evening program, as published in last week's Press will be given in the auditorium.

## YAKIMA FRUIT CROP

It is said that the Yakima district did not feel the recent depression—and no wonder. Money is coming in for something or other, all the time. The forecasts of the 1922 crop, made by H. A. Glen, agent of the Northern Pacific at Yakima and a recognized authority, are as follows: 13,155 cars apples, 480 cars grapes, 334 cars prunes and plums, 2540 cars pears, 154 cars peaches; total, 18,263 cars of fruit to be shipped during the year.

## FERGUSON AND REID

Two fine pictures will be shown at the Standard Theatre on tomorrow and Sunday evening. Elsie Ferguson will play "Sacred and Profane Love" tomorrow night, a Paramount picture in a flourishing condition, and the prospects favorable for a good wheat crop in his section of the county. He estimated that the growing grain was further advanced in his neighborhood than here.

## EDITOR O'GARRA HERE

Editor O'Garra, of the Ililix Advocate was in Athena Tuesday on business. He reported his town to be in a flourishing condition, and the prospects favorable for a good wheat crop in his section of the county. He estimated that the growing grain was further advanced in his neighborhood than here.

## GETTING READY FOR SHOOT

Members of the Pendleton Rod and Gun Club are making preparations to entertain shooters in the Northwest Tournament, which will be held in Pendleton, May 12, 13 and 14.

## VONDERAHE ON TRIAL FOR THE MURDER OF MAT JEPSON HERMIT

Apparently No Direct Evidence is in Possession of Prosecution--A Woman Juror.

The prosecution in the case of Charles Vonderahe, charged with the murder of Matt Jepson, recluse of Government mountain, last August, came into the open last Tuesday and began forging the chain of circumstantial evidence it hopes will lead the jury to vote for conviction of the accused.

In the opening statement for the state Monday night, District Attorney F. I. Keator gave no inkling of the character of the evidence which has been amassed against the defendant. Tuesday it was made plain that no direct evidence was in the possession of the prosecution which would link Vonderahe with the crime and that the effort to convict would be based entirely upon circumstantial case. The jury consists of the following persons: Percy E. Haskell, Harry Ballou, Frank Garrett, Herman Roehlk, M. Hanns, Bessie Wyrick, William Purchase, Norman A. Humphrey, Ed Schnapp, Sterling Parris, Joe F. Fisher and Hugh Bell.

## BUILDING ACTIVITIES

New residences to be built in Athena in the near future are one by A. A. Foss, who recently purchased a tract of two acres, adjoining city park on the south. Jim Ashworth of Weston, has the contract to construct a modern home for Mr. Foss. F. B. Radtke will probably begin the construction soon of a fine home on upper Fourth street, in the near future.

## 10 ACRES PER DAY

Bert Honkins plowing for Sheldon Taylor, thinks he is making a fair plowing record with a two-bottom gang and 10 horses. Since beginning, Bert says he has averaged 10 acres per day.

## ADDITION TO BUILDING

A corrugated iron addition has been built on the north end of Bert Logsdon's meat market building on Main street. Other recent improvements have been made to the premises by Mr. Logsdon.

## RAIL STRIKE THREATENED

800,000 Shop Craft Workers Asked to Ballot on Walkout.

Chicago, Ill.—Threat of another railway strike was indicated here when the railway employes' department of the American Federation of Labor (shop crafts employes) voted at its biennial convention to send out strike ballots to its 600,000 members. Seven unions are involved, including the six federated shop crafts and the Switchmen's Union of North America. The chief grievance of the men, according to B. M. Jewell, president of the department, is over the alleged violation by the railroads of rulings of the railroad labor board through the "farming out" system of handling railway shop work. The unions charge that the roads, by contracting with outside shops to do railway repair work, are in reality resorting to subterfuge to evade the rulings of the board.

## COLD LIGHT IS PRODUCED

Princeton Professor Succeeds in Imitating Luminous Insects.

Princeton, N. J.—Professor E. Newton Harvey, after eight years of experimental work with luminous bodied insects, has discovered the means through which cold light may be produced. It was announced Friday at Princeton university. A form of light giving a continuous glow, like that in bodies of the insects, has been developed by the professor. He is making an effort to intensify and perfect the light so that it will be of practical use.

## Will Pay Pensioners Monthly.

Washington, D. C.—After July next everybody on the government pension roll will be paid monthly instead of quarterly. The house agreed to senate amendments to the bill ordering the change.

