

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

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TO TEST PUBLIC SENTIMENT, HOSPITAL PROJECT PUT UP TO COMMERCIAL CLUB

To test the sentiment of the business men of the community regarding the proposal to convert the Methodist church building into a Protestant hospital, Pastor Lowther appeared before the Commercial Club at its monthly meeting, Tuesday evening, and addressed the members on that subject.

Mr. Lowther stated that the proposal to devote a portion of the church property to hospital purposes was originated by him and that the enterprise now was merely in a stage of discussion, in order that the sentiment of the community toward the project might be ascertained. He stated that on this community sentiment would wholly depend the success of the venture.

He said his state superintendent would visit Athena shortly, and he desired to be in a position to present the hospital matter to him in definite form on his arrival here. In connection with his appearance before the Commercial Club, Mr. Lowther said that the different lodges, clubs and societies of Athena would be interviewed by him prior to the arrival of the superintendent, and he suggested that the Commercial Club, lodges and societies have representatives at a meeting to be held during the superintendent's visit to Athena.

President Ferguson of the Commercial Club appointed Dr. C. H. Smith and M. L. Watts to represent the club in the investigation of the hospital matter so far as concerns that body, and to participate in the deliberations of Mr. Lowther's meeting.

Hall of Fame for Freewater Soldier

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, killing a flock of Germans and routing five machine gun nests during the war is heroic enough to entitle Hursey A. Dakin of Freewater, a student at the college, to the honor of being Oregon's representative in the "Living Hall of Fame," Corvallis ex-service men believe.

The hall will be created at the convention of the Disabled Veterans of the World War at San Francisco.

Each state will be permitted to name a member for the position, choosing the ex-service man who has been most outstanding in heroic service during the war and whose qualities of patriotism and bravery entitle him to the honor.

Three veterans' organization of Corvallis are unanimously backing Dakin for the designation, the college chapter of the Disabled Veterans of the World War, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. The election will be held in Portland, June 22, by ex-service delegates to the convention.

The distinguished service cross is worn by Dakin and he also carries a French citation. He served in 11 divisions during the war, fighting most of the time with company F, of the First gas regiment. He enlisted in June, 1918, waived disability for previous service, and sailed overseas the same month.

The story of Dakin's bravery is related in a few lines by the war department citation. During a hot attack in the Bois Jure, near Gercourt, France, September 26, 1918, he volunteered, with another soldier, to attack a machine gun nest which was holding up the advance. Under a hail of fire from the "typewriters" the two men advanced, cleaned out five machine gun nests, and routing several of the enemy and routing the gun crews.

ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED FOR K. OF P. CELEBRATION

Committees having in charge the celebration in Athena on July 4th by the Knights of Pythias of Umatilla county lodges of that order, have about completed arrangements for the event.

Big lithograph posters have been distributed throughout the county, and the program of entertainment for the day is being taken care of jointly by the lodges.

The Milton band of twenty-five pieces has been secured for the day and prominent speakers will deliver addresses. Sports and games in plenty will be readiness for entertainment of the youngsters, and a real picnic dinner will be enjoyed at the park.

In the evening the Dokies will give a dance in Legion Hall. The Dokie patrol of Walla Walla will participate in a drill, and there'll be spiffy doin's all the time.

HEADSTONES FOR SERVICE MEN

Athena-Weston Post has application blanks for headstones for soldiers, sailors and marines, and whose graves are unmarked. These stones will be furnished by the government, upon receipt of name, rank, company, U. S. regiment, state organization or vessel, date of death, name of cemetery. Applications may be left at McFadden's Pharmacy or Dr. Smith's office up to July 15.

ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING

The annual school meeting will be held next Monday, June 19th at 2 o'clock, p. m. in the school building. One director and a clerk is to be elected. Charles Kirk is the member of the present board of school directors, whose term expires, and the term of E. A. Zerba, clerk, also expires. Property qualifications are not necessary to vote at election of director or clerk, if the voter has children of school age.

OFF ON HIS VACATION

J. E. Jones accompanied by his better half is on a two weeks' vacation trip in the mountains. Olin McFerrer is delivering mail on the rural route during Mr. Jones' vacation. J. E. is after the elusive trout, and unless he brings back something other than a pocket full of tracks, the Press proposes to ostracize him from its list of real hunters.

PATENTS A PUMP

M. L. Akers, formerly a druggist of this city, now part owner of the Pendleton Iron Works, has patented a pump of the submerged type, designed for irrigation purposes.

PIERCE NOT HERE

Walter M. Pierce, democratic candidate for governor, will not be here to address the gathering at the 4th of July celebration, as was intended. On that day Mr. Pierce will address the people of Biscan, Oregon.

Railroad Rumors Set At Rest By Information Sent Out From Seattle

The results for which four different surveying crews out of Athena for the past 90 days have been working, are at last definitely made known in the following article, copied from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer of June 9th:

The Union Pacific apparently has started preliminary work for building a direct line from the East into Seattle.

Almost conclusive evidence of this, Seattle railroad experts say, is in the survey the company is making east of Pendleton, Oregon.

This survey is over a stretch of from forty to sixty miles from Wallula to a point on the main line. When the tracks are laid the road will have through connection to Yakima. Then there will remain about thirty-five miles to be built to Ellensburg. From Ellensburg to Seattle Milwaukee tracks will be used.

With these two links completed, the through line will have been established and the detour via Portland over Northern Pacific tracks eliminated.

Three direct advantages will accrue as a result:

1. Shortening of the line of 117 miles by eliminating Portland on the Eastern run.
2. Putting Seattle on a closer line to the Orient from Midwestern cities, especially in the rich district between Kansas City and Salt Lake.
3. Giving another line to Seattle from Ellensburg and Yakima.

That surveyors are at work and that the survey can have but one purpose to complete the broken line to Seattle, was conceded by railroad officials here. However, J. D. O'Farrell, vice president of the road, would not discuss the project, he said, inasmuch as it was being conducted from general offices in Portland, under J. P. O'Brien, general manager.

Said Mr. O'Brien over the long-distance telephone last night:

"Further than to say that the survey is for the purpose of ascertaining what work will be required to lay lines in this district, we cannot authorize a statement on the project at this time."

How simple the project is and what a really insignificant amount of new construction is required compared to its far-reaching importance is shown in an article which will appear today in the Railway and Marine News, edited by Kenneth Kerr.

"Figuring sixty miles as the length of the new line from Wallula to the main line, and thirty-five miles between Ellensburg and Yakima, there will be less than 100 miles of road construction necessary," Mr. Kerr pointed out.

"The point of intersection with the main line will be near the station of Duncan, thirty-two miles east of Pendleton, a careful study of the Oregon districts indicates."

Taken in connection with the survey, much significance is attached to the proposed new steel bridge across the Columbia River near Kennewick to take the place of the wooden one. The change to steel construction at this time points to certain expansion of the road, it is pointed out.

The Union Pacific is well equipped in Seattle for a terminal. It has besides its new rail freight and passenger terminal the Union Pacific docks, constructed during big overseas shipments of 1917.

The above, coming from Puget Sound, sounds good to Athena. The Post-Intelligencer sets at rest all rumors, wise and otherwise, and while

still on paper, the fact that less than 100 miles of new construction will give the Union Pacific direct connections with Seattle, and a saving of three hours time between that port and Omaha, over its present connections via the S. P. & S. out of Portland, stamps the project as being a master trump in the game of Northwest railroad building.

The territory tapped by the new line is the most highly productive on the Pacific slope. The line will drain for transportation, lion's share of wheat produced in this part of the Umatilla wheat belt. It will give the great Yakima fruit section another direct outlet to the markets of the Middle West, the East and the Southeast. In addition it will afford a new through passenger train service between the East and Seattle.

The survey gives the new line less than one per cent grade between Thorn Hollow station on the Umatilla river, through Athena, to Wallula, Wash.

The line leaves the O. W. R. & N. at a point near Thorn Hollow, runs in a northwesterly direction across the reservation, and strikes the Wash. division tracks west of Athena, utilizing these tracks for a distance of approximately three miles, and leaving them at the upper end of Fifth street. From there the line will pass through the Schubert and Sheard farms, on to the head of LaMar Gulch, and on through the old Zimmerman place, finally intersecting the O. W. R. & N. tracks between Touchet and Wallula.

From there the traffic goes over the O. W. R. & N. tracks to Yakima, where new construction of approximately 35 miles connects with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul tracks.

GRAIN DISCOUNTS OF YEAR'S CROP DISCUSSED

Fred Bennion, agricultural agent of Umatilla county, and Roy Rimer of Pendleton, representing the Umatilla county farm bureau, are in Portland this week, meeting with the merchants' exchange to discuss grain discounts and smutgage charges on this year's crop.

"In the past these discounts have been arbitrarily fixed by the merchants' exchange," said Bennion. "This year they have invited representatives of the growers to sit in with them on arriving at what the discounts should be. We are advocating operating on the one-half point rather than the point last year the discount was cent per bushel for each point below No. 1 or 60 pounds. The growers want one-half cent discount for each one-half point below 60 pounds. They also want lower smutgage charges."

The meeting is informal, and the actual discount and smutgage charges will be fixed at a meeting to be held in Spokane June 20.

RENEWAL OF REGISTRATIONS

At this time of the year all physicians, dentists, druggists and others permitted by law to sell, dispense or prescribe narcotic drugs are required to renew their registrations by filing application therewith with the Collector of Internal Revenue and paying their tax. Blanks and instructions were sent out to all registrants by the Portland office on May 20th.

VERNON MILLER IN HOSPITAL

Vernon Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miller, is in a hospital at Pendleton where he was operated on Monday by Dr. Hattery. It was found that the boy was afflicted with an abscess, and since the operation, has been getting along as well as could be expected. He is in a serious condition. Dr. Sharp accompanied the patient to Pendleton.

NEW MEN ON TEAM

With three new players on the Pendleton team that aggregated defeated the Walla Walla team of the Blue Mountain league, by the score of 8 to 0. Milton-Freewater defeated Dayton, 8 to 3. Saturday an all winning game was played at Weston, Milton-Freewater winning by the close score of 4 to 3.

GROUP MARKETING OF FARM PRODUCTS HIT BY A DECISION OF SUPREME COURT

Weston Normal Girl Murdered

The young lady mentioned in the following dispatch from Jackson, Mich., was a graduate from the Weston Normal School at Weston, and will be remembered by classmates who reside in this part of the state. The dispatch from Jackson, giving particulars of her murder, follows: under date of June 9th.

"The body of Miss Alice Mallett, 30 years old, until six years ago a resident of Oregon, and prominent in welfare work there, was discovered in a vacant field her head battered in with an ax, throat cut and most of her clothing torn off. Miss Mallett was graduated from an Oregon college, police have learned. She formerly was a resident of Ontario, Or."

"The ground in the vicinity where the body was discovered has been roped off to prevent destruction of any clues, and today bloodhounds from the state penitentiary here were employed to scent out the slayer. The retained ax was near the body."

"Miss Mallett was assistant matron of the Florence Crittenton home here. Before that she was with the Y. W. C. A. Nothing was seen of her after she left the home of a friend about 10 o'clock Thursday night to return to the Crittenton home."

"That she was not killed where the body was found is indicated by the fact that residents nearby heard not the slightest sign of any struggle during the night. Miss Mallett was a large woman and would have been able to put up a bitter fight. Police believe she was attacked somewhere nearby and her body dragged to the place where found."

"Robert Brokie, who reported the finding of Miss Mallett's body, was arrested on suspicion this afternoon, but police said later he would be released, investigation failing to connect him with the crime."

MR. STONE REPLIES

S. C. Stone, ex-city marshal requests the Press to publish the following self explanatory statement written by him, relative to the extra expense account of the marshal's office for the month of April:

"A reply to the last issue of the Press. To the people of Athena. About \$100 extra expense on April—The Mayor and city council issued help themselves to do extra work, and then kicked about it, saying nothing about doubling salaries of the Recorder and Treasurer."

And oblige,
S. C. STONE.

THE STORY OF A DOG, A GIRL AND A MAN

"The Silent Call" First National's Super production, dealing with a wonderful photoplay that depicts the sterling character of three, a dog, a girl and a man. The dog in the cast is one of the leading characters and undoubtedly in the most highly educated and trained canine in the world today. This picture was held over for an extra week's run at the People's Theatre in Portland, recently, and the management of the Standard Theatre, which presents it tomorrow, Saturday night, recommends it as being the greatest outdoor production ever shown in any theatre at regular admission prices. A Century comedy and International News as usual.

The "Sporting Duchess" will be filmed Sunday night. This is the famous Drury stage success, the humor and pathos trickling through the theme of the story that for years packed the largest theatres in the land with longest runs of any play on record. Pathe Review and one reel comedy completes the program.

Tonight the Northwest Mounted Police, the world-famous man trackers are a thrilling and exciting performance at the Standard. From an educational standpoint their expose of the dope traffic and its attendant evils is receiving public commendation wherever the Red Coats have appeared. The theatre has been rented to the Mounted Police for their appearance here.

NO FEAR OF HOLDUPS

The inhabitants of Athena should rest perfectly easy tonight, and be able to enjoy one real night's sleep, without fear of burglars or holdup men bothering them, for on that night we will have the Famous Northwest Mounted Police with us, and with their ability to always "get their man" no self-respecting criminal would take a chance of operating the night they are in town. They will appear at the Standard Theatre tonight in what is claimed to be the most educational, novel and entertaining performance ever given here. You will hear in detail just how the "Mounties" work, and why it is that they seldom fail to capture the man they are after. You will be taken on a 10,000 mile traveling thru Canada, Alaska and the Arctic Circle with the Mounted Police, and see some of the most famous captures, and the terrible hardships these sturdy men of the north sometimes have to endure.

COST \$1.61 PER BUSHEL

A survey recently concluded by R. V. Gunn, farm management demonstrator of Oregon agricultural college, shows that on 135 farms in Sherman county in 1920 the cost on the average, was \$1.61 to produce a bushel of wheat. Of this amount, interest and taxes or rent of land made up 58 cents, direct labor 42 cents, machinery expense 21 cents, seed and sacks 19 cents and overhead 2 cents. The average yield was 21 bushels.

INTO FEDERAL COURT

The East Oregonian reports that a petition was filed in the circuit court by McCammant & Thompson, Portland attorneys, asking that the record in the case of the city of Athena versus Keeler Bros. be filed in the federal district court. The step is an action to have the case transferred from the state court to the United States court because the defendant company is an out of the recovery of money by the city of Athena, from Keeler Bros., bond dealers, who handled a portion of the improvement bonds.

THE PIONEER PICNIC

Saturday the Pioneers' picnic at Weston, was largely attended. The crowds came from all parts of the county and greatly enjoyed the program, and pioneer met pioneer. Friday's rainstorm interfered with the attendance on that day, but Saturday was all the brighter and better for it.

Farmers have been working hard the last few years to perfect a system of group marketing which would insure the producer a just and fair share of what the ultimate consumer must pay.

Economic conditions, says the Oregon Journal, brought about by the methods of speculators who do not take into account any consideration for the producer, has been largely responsible for this widespread movement that has swept the country. Self preservation is a first law of nature and cooperation is but one case where in similar conditions of individuals have made grouping together for the accomplishing of a given purpose imperative.

Although a few co-marketing organizations have failed in their purpose, because of poor business management or because of pressure brought against them by antagonistic influences, yet the spirit of cooperation lives stronger in the hearts of farmers today than ever before.

Can this spirit be held in check or drowned by interests which desire to continue purchasing from individuals so that the process of exploitation may be continued? Will a decision of the courts upon a technicality of law stop all future attempts at cooperation or will it but crystallize this movement further giving it power to sweep aside all obstacles.

Farmers are watching with interest news dispatches which state that cooperation is threatened by a recent decision of Chief Justice Taft regarding the liability of labor unions to employers when strikes are held and the opinion of leaders of the farm bloc that this will apply to organized agricultural as well as that in cases where the organization refuses to accept a farmer's crop and he can prove that he suffered financial loss as a result he would be entitled to sue for damages.

The Taft decision, it is said, virtually wipes out the immunity clause contained in that paragraph of the Sherman and Clayton laws which specifically set forth that labor unions and farmers' unions are not liable to the federal provisions contained in it.

Experts are of the opinion that this decision is a body blow to organized agriculture.

In such a decision upon a technicality to stand in the way of farmers grouping together to seek markets for their crop? Are farmers to be forced to "go it alone" while every other "Big Business" is allowed to cooperate under at least "gentlemen's agreements" to exact enormous and unscrupulous toll from the producer?

Are the producers to be downed and again held under the heel of profiteers where they have been held for many years?

Some big business interests which have felt that their program of money making is threatened by the very act of cooperation by farmers, have declared war upon organized agriculture. No doubt these interests are jubilant over the decision just made.

The question now is: Will organized farmers sit idly by and allow a decision upon a technicality of law which was designed and intended to exempt them from its penalties—to eliminate the only method they have ever been able to put into effect for the purpose of securing justice. Organized agriculture might wake up some day.

CHARLES KIRK AND FAMILY RETURNED SATURDAY FROM AN AUTOMOBILE TRIP INTO BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Charles Kirk and family returned Saturday from an automobile trip into British Columbia. They went as far as Prince George. Mr. Kirk made the trip in view of securing land, but found none which he considered suitable for farming purposes. Generally speaking, the portions of British Columbia visited, did not appeal to him in the least.

CHARLES BUSHMAN JR. WAS FINED

Charles Bushman Jr., was fined in Judge Richards' court Saturday for driving an automobile while intoxicated. He drew \$100 fine or 60 days in jail; his selection being the jail.

Commencement Time



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