

The Athena Press

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

VOLUME 49.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 16, 1928

NUMBER 11

WORK WILL BEGIN ON SWIMMING POOL

Excavation Will Commence Monday If Possible, At City Park.

The swimming pool project for Athena which is in charge of Athena-Weston American Legion Post, has advanced to the stage where preparations for beginning the excavation work at the city park, next Monday morning are being made.

Practically all of the excavation work will be donated, it is understood. This will include manual labor, tractor and team service, and the force is expected to be large enough to rush the excavating through to completion in a short time.

Mr. Crawford, architect for the Tuma-Lum Lumber company, accompanied by Contractor McLeod was in Athena Monday, from Walla Walla, and submitted plans and specifications for construction of the pool to the committee. The plans call for a pool 40x75 feet dimensions and 9 inches to 8 feet deep.

Construction is to be of concrete throughout with steel reinforcement. At one end of the pool the plans call for a 40 foot space allotted for dressing rooms and showers. The entire pool is to be circled with a concrete walk, four feet in width.

Contractor McLeod submitted a bid of \$3100 for constructing the pool complete, exclusive of the excavating and plumbing.

Amnesia Victim's Story Interests Walla Walla

WALLA WALLA.—Charles Blewitt, of Pendleton, who claims to have lost his memory for 50 years and to have just recovered it, should have no difficulty in providing his identity, according to several pioneers Blewitt supposedly was killed by Indians in 1877. The body was exhumed and brought to Walla Walla for burial about six weeks later.

W. H. Ingalls, Waitsburg pioneer, said he knew Blewitt well when a boy: Joe Ed Painter and Harry Reynolds recalled him as a youth and Will S. Clark, who was with Blewitt in the fight against the Indians, remembers him well. Painter, Reynolds and Clark believe Blewitt was killed.

Registration Fees to Be Collected on the First Day at U. of O.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene.—Registration fees at the University of Oregon will be collected on the opening day of spring term, March 26, it is announced by Earl M. Pallett, registrar. Previously fees have not been collected until three weeks after the term has opened. The fee will be \$20 this term, and will include charges for student body dues, the \$5 building assessment voted by students last year, physical education fees, medical attention, subscription to the Oregon Daily Emerald, and other items.

An increase of \$1 in the physical education fee has been added, and in return students will not have to pay to play tennis on the new concrete courts. Three other courts are also to be opened up at once, it is announced. Previously there has been a charge of ten cents an hour for tennis.

In order to save confusion and waiting on registration day, the University has arranged to receive payments of fees on Saturday, March 24. Laboratory and other incidental fees will be paid as usual three weeks after the University opens.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene.—Amos Burg, Portland, junior in the school of journalism, has been elected to membership in the Seven Seers, campus humorous society. Burg is already a member of the staff of the Emerald, and is well known in Portland, where he has had considerable newspaper material published.

Bean After Nomination
R. E. Bean of Freewater has announced his candidacy for re-election as county commissioner with the following platform: "Present commissioner, continuation of business policy in county affairs." Mr. Bean has been a member of the county court for the past two terms.

In Needy Circumstances
A family named Grey, residing at corner of Fourth and Current streets, is in need of assistance. The mother was recently confined, and has been taken to a hospital for treatment. It is said the husband has work at Hermiston as soon as his wife recovers sufficiently for him to leave.

Clark and Woman Both Held Guilty Of Bidwell Murder

WALLA WALLA.—Preston Ray (Slim) Clark was found guilty of murder in the first degree, with death penalty, and Mrs. Bessie Mae Bidwell, his alleged paramour, was found guilty of murder in the second degree, which carries a penalty of ten years to life, by a jury in superior court yesterday. The jury took the case at 5:25 Monday afternoon, reached its verdict about midnight, and reported at the opening of court at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Both defendants took the verdicts in a seemingly composed manner. Clark glanced around, then looked down. Mrs. Bidwell did not raise her head. They were taken immediately to the county jail where later Clark had another "spell." Sentence will be imposed later.

H. B. Noland, one of the attorneys for Clark, stated that a new trial may be asked for his client. Lack of money may prevent an appeal, he hinted. E. L. Casey, attorney for Mrs. Bidwell, said he had not decided whether a new trial will be asked for his client.

Under the law, motion for a new trial must be filed within two days after the jury verdict is received.

Fred Lasater was foreman of the jury. He handed a sealed envelope containing the findings of the jury to the bailiff who in turn gave it to Walter Kimmerly, clerk. Kimmerly first read the verdict finding Clark guilty of first degree murder, with death penalty, and the jury was polled, each of the members saying it was his verdict. Next the verdict against Mrs. Bidwell was read, and the same procedure was followed.

The case was a hard fought one. Mrs. Bidwell and Clark, who boarded at the Bidwell home, were accused of placing poison in the food eaten by Alpheus Bidwell, husband of the woman, on December 30, 1927. The following day, neighbors having called attention to the officers to certain matters, Mrs. Bidwell and Clark were arrested, and confined in the county jail.

A Larger Outfit For Athena Street Work

Mayor Stephens has demonstrated that a light grader is not sufficient for improvement of upper Third street from the end of the macadam surface, north to the O.-W.R. & N. tracks, and will have it finished by employing a larger grading machine, pulled by a caterpillar.

For several years the condition of the north portion of Third street, during the winter and early spring months has been so bad that traffic over it has practically been suspended.

To improve conditions there, Claud Dickenson was employed with a light grader and horses to do the work, but the equipment was found to be unsatisfactory. The street will be leveled up as best as possible for temporary use, until heavier machinery can be secured.

Rainfall Discloses True Grain Conditions

Steady rainfall of several hours duration has disclosed the real growing grain conditions in this part of Umatilla county, and to say the least the condition is a "spotted" one.

Some farmers who thought their growing grain had escaped the freeze find they will have to reseed, while others who thought the crop was gone, find they have a good stand. Other fields are hit here and there to greater or less extent. Some fields are not injured, apparently, in the least, while others are completely wiped out.

North of Athena, the freeze-out is slight while to the south-west, on reservation land, much reseeding will have to be done.

Funeral of Angus McKay
Angus McKay, stepfather of Mrs. W. J. Gholson of this city, mentioned of whose illness was made in the last issue of the Press, died at Walla Walla, and the funeral was held there Friday. Mr. McKay, who was 94 years of age, died as a result of a fall in which his hip was fractured. William Winship, brother of Mrs. Gholson, came up from Salem to attend the funeral as also did his daughters Miss Audrey Winship, and Mrs. Mildred Clayton who was accompanied by Mr. Clayton.

Hite Comes Back
Weston Leader: W. H. Hite, who has been engaged in railroad work for 39 years, is the new Union Pacific agent at Weston, and with Mrs. Hite is occupying the living rooms above the depot. Mr. Hite comes to Weston from Granger, Washington. He is no stranger to the old timers, having served as station agent at Weston 36 years ago.

Aviation to be Important Topic at U. of O. Meet



Above, Tex Rankin, head of Rankin Air School, Portland, leading aviation expert, who will address the session of Chamber of Commerce secretaries at the University of Oregon, March 19 to 24. Lower (left), A. L. Lomax, who with C. L. Kelly (right), will present a survey of all aviation facilities in Oregon. Mr. Lomax and Mr. Kelly are professors of business administration and are well known for previous business surveys.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene.—Aviation in all its phases will be studied intensively at the annual session of the secretaries of commerce of Oregon, it is announced by F. E. Folts, head of the school of business administration of the University of Oregon. The session will be held during the week of March 19 to 24 on the campus.

J. G. (Tex) Rankin, head of the Rankin flying school of Portland, will be one of the leading experts who will be present for the week, it is announced. Rankin will come down here in his new five-passenger plane, which will be placed on exhibition on the campus, near to where the school is being held. A talk by Rankin on Thursday, March 22, has already been scheduled, and the Portland expert is also expected to hold several conferences and give demonstrations.

A complete survey of flying fields and aviation facilities of the state will be complete in time to put before the conference, it is announced by A. L. Lomax, and C. L. Kelly, professors of business administration. In this report Mr. Lomax and Mr. Kelly will also include figures on estimates for passenger and mail lines in all parts of the state.

C. S. Dudley, secretary of the national Association of Commercial Organizations, will be present to give the Oregon men data on work in their groups. C. W. Tillingshast, of Sacramento, who is assistant secretary and treasurer of the national body, will also be present and have a prominent place on the program.

Importance of radio today will be the subject of Richard Haller, head of the Oregonian station, KGW, Portland. T. A. Stevenson, of Tacoma, will speak, and Jack A. Haread, of Boise, Idaho will be present again.

A record enrollment in the session is already assured, says Dean Folts.

High School Students To Be Informed of Life At University

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON.—Students in the Athena high school, and in schools all over the state of Oregon will be given first hand information on university life by members of the Greater Oregon committee of the University of Oregon during the coming spring vacation, March 18 to 24. Final appointments to committees in twelve districts of Oregon were made by Ronald Hubbs, Silverton, chairman of the group, at a recent meeting.

In many cities programs and exhibitions will be staged for the students while full information on what the university has to offer will be made available.

High school principals throughout the state have shown a willingness to cooperate in the work and are arranging dates and details for student speakers and programs.

Ray Dudley, of Athena, is a member of the committee working in the fourth district, which is composed of Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties. Others in the group and the towns in which they work are Vawter Parker and Marjorie Clark, of Heppner; James Raley, Pendleton; Harold Blackburne, Arlington; Ivan Neal, Condon; Nan Cray, Echo; Harper Barnard, Fossil; Wilber Shannon, Helix; Florence Woughter, Hermiston; Elva Balseiger, Ione; Harold Johnson, Freewater; Terrence King, Mitchell; Harold Kester, Pilot Rock; Virginia Key, Weston; and Sylvannus Smith, Jr., Stanfield.

"The World War" Coming
The Standard Theatre has been donated to Athena-Weston American Legion Post for the evening of April 11th, when the Legion will present the thrilling and authentic camera record of the greatest war in history, "The World War," as filmed through the courtesy of the United States War office and the navy department. The great picture comes in nine reels, and the Post will devote the entire proceeds of the evening to the swimming pool fund.

Boy Scout Summer Camping Grounds Have Been Selected

An incentive to increase in membership of Boy Scout Troops under jurisdiction of the Blue Mountain Boy Scout Council, is the selection of summer camping grounds on the Walla Walla river above Milton.

An inspection of the camp site was made Wednesday afternoon by the Blue Mountain Council officials and delegations representing the different troops of the district.

Representing Athena Boy Scout Troop No. 19, were Scoutmaster LeRoy, Messrs. O. O. Stephens, E. C. Rogers, C. L. McFadden and A. W. Logsdon, and these gentlemen were greatly pleased with the location of the camp.

Returning to Milton, those who had inspected the camp were entertained at dinner, and after the dinner hour discussion pertaining to the Boy Scout movement took place.

It will be an easy matter to install a swimming pool at the new camp, utilizing the flow of water from a small stream on the grounds. A mess hall will be built this spring, and later it is expected communities will finance the construction of a cabin for its home troop. By this method eventually the camp would be provided with full housing facilities for the troops.

The Camp Fire Girls Planning a Big Affair

WALLA WALLA.—All Camp Fire Girls of the city will take part in the annual Grand Council Fire, March 17, at 8 o'clock at the Armory. This affair will be given in celebration of the sixteenth birthday anniversary of the national organization of Camp Fire.

It is expected that 400 girls of Walla Walla and other groups in this district will take part in the ceremonies at the Grand Council Fire are expected from groups at the following places: Prescott, Pomeroy, Waitsburg, Dayton, Lowden, Touchet, Pendleton, Athena, and Milton-Freewater.

Miss Florence Craven, Camp Fire executive, will have charge of the ceremonies, and will be assisted with the program, by the 22 guardians, and six Bluebird leaders. Miss Edna Hanna of the Malen Burnett School of Music will have charge of the music.

A patriotic pageant will be presented by a group of torch bearers, and fire makers as a part of the program. Approximately 100 new members will be initiated into Camp Fire, at this time, and several hundred national and local honors will be awarded to those qualifying for them.

Wet Grounds Halting Work At Ball Park

Wet grounds has halted work of putting the baseball diamond in condition for the season's games there. Weather that has not propitious for practicing has retarded all teams lined up in the Big Six League circuit, so that when the opening games are played on April 8th the players will be but little advanced in form.

Otis Lueallen of Adams, says the players there have little practice, and the same is true of all teams in the league.

Catcher's mask, mitts, shoes, bats and other paraphernalia for the Athena team, was received the other day at Rogers & Goodman store, and all that is needed to put them in use is favorable weather.

A New Bridge Club

A new Bridge club of twelve members was organized last week, when the ladies were invited to the home of Mrs. E. C. Prestbye, where the organization took place.

The first meeting will be at Mrs. Ravella Lieuellen's Thursday March 22nd with the following members: Mrs. E. C. Prestbye, Mrs. Arthur Douglas, Mrs. Lawrence Pinkerton, Mrs. Sheldon Taylor, Mrs. Dean Dudley, Mrs. Glenn Dedley, Mrs. Forrest Zerba, Mrs. Ravella Lieuellen, Mrs. James Lieuellen, Mrs. Max Hopper, Mrs. C. L. McFadden and Mrs. Paul Lieuellen.

Steve's Anniversary

A goodly number of the patrons of Steve's Grocery were on hand Saturday between the hours of three and eight o'clock p. m., when they were served cake, fruit and coffee in honor of Mr. Stephens' eleventh anniversary of engaging in business in Athena. An interesting event of the evening was the awarding of the prizes given to several lucky customers.

Campfire Girls

The "Wauna" Campfire Girls met at the Boy Scout Hall March 12. They talked of Birthday Week and decided to go to Walla Walla March 17, leaving Athena at 6 o'clock p. m. They will take part in the Grand Council Fire which is to be held at the Armory at 8 o'clock.

YAKIMA SHERIFF HAD JOHNSON CAR

After Three Months Lost, Chevrolet Is Recovered By Owner.

Alvin Johnson is now the owner of two Chevrolet cars, and has use for only one. Just before Thanksgiving, his Chevrolet, driven by his daughter, Mrs. Mantague, was stolen at Pendleton. Within a few minutes after the car was stolen, Mrs. Mantague reported the theft to officials, and that was the last of it until the other day, the Sheriff's office at Yakima, Washington, notified Mr. Johnson that the car was there. In the meantime Mr. Johnson had purchased a new Chevrolet.

But that is not all. According to Lee Johnson, for over three months the Yakima officials who found the car four days after it was stolen have been working to find the owner.

They traced the license plate found on the car to Klamath Falls where it had been stolen. Then they learned from the factory that the machine had been assembled at the Oakland plant and sold to a Milton dealer, but the Milton dealer had went out of business. Thrown off the trail again, but Milton was the clue that caused the Yakima sheriff to write Secretary of State Kozier, who found in his files a letter written by Mrs. Mantague reporting to him the theft of the machine, and he in turn gave the information wanted by Yakima.

Evidently the car had been driven straight from Pendleton to the point near Yakima where it was found in some brush, on the fourth day after the theft. When found there was sufficient gas to run the car into Yakima and when recovered by Mr. Johnson, it was in good condition.

Lee Johnson highly praised the efforts put forth by the Yakima sheriff to find the owner of the car. He says the Yakima office was never notified of the theft, and that Walla Walla had no record of it from the Pendleton officials.

A Clinic For Well Children In Athena

Parents are invited to bring their children to the clinic that is to be held in Athena on the morning of March 22. The clinic will begin promptly at 9:00 A. M. The local physician and dentist will have charge of the examinations.

The clinic will include all well children up to six years or school age. Especially are the children, that are entering school next year urged to come. These clinics are being held all over the county and State and any child within the age limit is welcome at any clinic.

All children must be accompanied by either the mother or father or some other responsible person. These clinics are for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the parents any possible remedial defect that might exist. The parents are then urged to take the children to their own family physician for advice and treatment. Remember the date March 22 in the morning and continuing on as long as necessary.

The clinic is to be at the school house, in the Domestic Science room, and in the meantime those wishing information may call on Mrs. E. C. Rogers, the local chairman.

General Hospital Benefit

Enter Madame, the play to be given in the Mac-Hi Auditorium March 22nd at 8:15 P. M., is being sponsored by the Womens Improvement Club of Milton, and the Pilgrim Class of the Federated Church. This play is offered by various groups in creating a worth while entertainment for those who contribute "their small bit" to the Valley General Hospital. The schools represented in this play are: The Hazel Teall Reynolds School of Expression and Dramatic Art, with local artists; also the Adah Losh Rose's Wonderful Italian Ballet, a real treat; and the Wa-Hi Orchestra of 14 pieces led by Hal Tilley. Last but not least, the satisfaction of giving to a worthy cause is given everyone.

The New S. D. Club

The members of the new S. D. Club met at the home of Goldie Miller March 13. At the business meeting the club's constitution was read. The girls decided to add two new names to the membership roll, the two members to be taken into the club at the next meeting, which will be held at the home of Mary Tompkins, March 22. Refreshments were served and table decorations were carried out in green to conform with St. Patrick's Day motif.