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# The Athena Press

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## IS RELATIVE OF ATHENA TEACHER

### Dean Smith Is a Pilot With the Byrd Antarctic Expedition.

There is at least one person in Athena who eagerly scans all reports from the Byrd expedition in little America, Antarctica. Miss Beulah Smith, English teacher in the local high school, feels more than a passing interest in the venturesome crew, for her cousin, Dean Smith, the young air pilot, is co-pilot with Balchen and June. And well may she be proud of her brave young relative, for it is well known that Byrd picked his men from among twenty-five thousand of "America's best."

And well may other Oregonians revel in Dean Smith's prowess and longing to blaze an unknown trail, for he was born at Cove, Oregon, the only son of Rhoda Harrison Smith who crossed the plains in a covered wagon, following the Old Oregon Trail from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Oregon.

Just fifty-eight years after this remarkable trip her son, then a young man of nineteen, completed the first transcontinental air mail route, opening the various landing fields from Omaha to California. After attending Principia college at St. Louis for a time, he left school to enlist as a private in the signal corps. He received his original training at Kelly Field, and instead of being sent abroad with the A. E. F., he was ordered to Fort Scott as flying instructor. After the war he went through a period of barnstorming, charging a dollar a minute for rides.

In 1920 he entered the air mail service, and like Lindbergh, was a born flyer. No weather was too bad, no trip too hazardous to be undertaken, and now the "Dean," as his friends call him, is considered one of the best bad weather pilots in the world. In a recent issue of the American Magazine the author relates several adventures that were close calls for the young pilot, one of which follows:

"This incident I doubt that you will find in any official record. It was on a beautiful sultry summer night. The Dean was flying his accustomed route from Hadley Field to Cleveland. Because of the closeness of the evening he had put an old shoe in the rudder to hold it firm, and was leaning his head out of the side of the plane to catch any chance breeze. All of a sudden, out of no where loomed up something that to Dean's startled eyes looked very much like a sky scraper.

"Pulling back his stick, Dean nudged his ship into the blue, missing the Zeppelin, Los Angeles, by not more than one hundred and fifty feet."

Miss Smith, in speaking of Dean's childhood tells of his love for books of adventure. His father, Cull Smith, worried over the boy considerably for he was not a student in any sense of the word. His greatest joy was to build a house in the branches of a tree, and there to dream his dreams of adventure. Lessons held no appeal for this lad and often when a wee boy he ran away to his grandmother's house to hear another covered wagon story.

No letters come from the Byrd party. Only messages over the air, but how eagerly they are awaited by the ones at home. Recently the grandmother, whose venturesome spirit the young explorer inherited, received an affectionate radiogram in commemoration of her birthday.

Shy and reticent, the Dean has never cared for girls; his one interest centering in a new trail to be found or another to be country explored.

#### Study Club

Mrs. Lew McNair was hostess Friday afternoon to the Athena Study club. Those present enjoyed studying Cambridge and smaller colleges of England. Mrs. M. W. Hansell and Mrs. McNair read interesting papers on the subject and these were followed by a general discussion. "Oxford" will be the subject of the next meeting which will be held at the home of Mrs. Fred Kershaw, December 13. Roll call will be answered by names of famous Oxford graduates.

#### To California for Winter

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Eager of Dayton spent Thanksgiving at the home of their son C. M. Eager in Athena. They have departed for Portland where they will visit for a time before going to California for the winter.

#### Bazaar and Dinner

The annual Christian bazaar and roast chicken dinner by the ladies of the Christian church will be held in the basement of the church Saturday, December 7th. Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 8:00 p. m. Children under ten, 25 cents. Adults, 50 cents.

## LEST WE FORGET

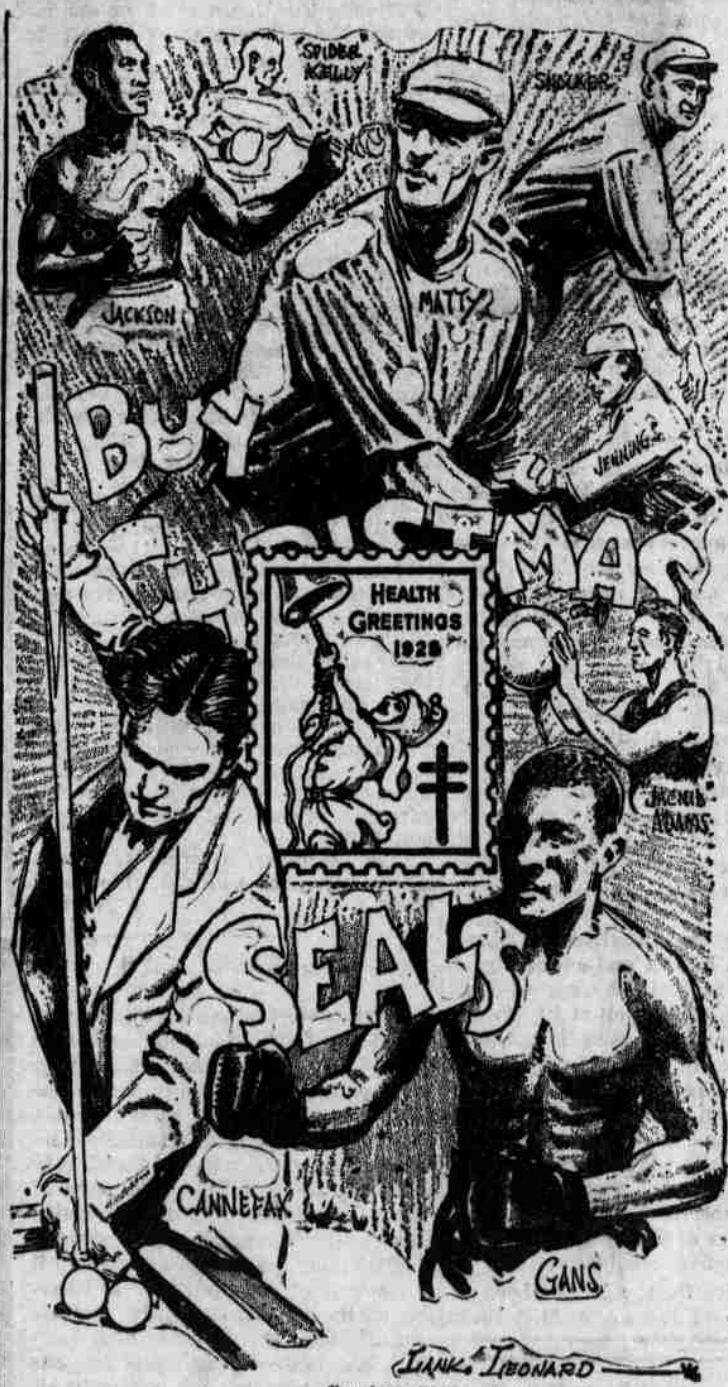
By "LANK" LEONARD

Just a minute, Mr. Sport Fan! Pause in your Christmas shopping while we ask you a question or two. How many Christmas Seals have you purchased to date? Isn't it possible for you to buy a few more between now and the 25th? They only cost a penny apiece you know. And they mean so much! In case you never took time to realize just how much, let us tip you off. It is something you should know. The sale of these seals, at this period of year, furnishes practically the sole support of the 1,400 affiliated tuberculosis associations of the United States in their war against this disease. That's worth turning over in your mind, isn't it? And what have these little seals accomplished to date? What have those 1,400 affiliated associations accomplished with the money realized from the sale of these seals? Well, here's the answer; and it, too, is worth more than a passing thought.

In the past 15 years the ravages of tuberculosis has been cut nearly in half and advance figures from 46 states indicate that the 1928 mortality sets a new low rate. That's the huge public service you can assist by the purchase of these seals. Certainly a sport fan should be anxious to help this cause. Tuberculosis has robbed the sports world of some of its greatest heroes.

Christy Mathewson, who helped lift baseball to a higher plane, who brought into the game the traditions of college spirit, was struck from behind by this dread specter. So was Hughie Jennings, one of the most beloved figures of the game. Johnny Miller, great infielder with Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Philadelphia, one of the first of the professional ball players to enlist for service in the World War, was another. Johnny died, like poor Matty, battling to the last at Saranac Lake, N. Y. Only recently baseball lost one of the greatest spit-ball pitchers of all time, Urban Shocker. Tuberculosis has taken heavy toll in America's national game.

Joe Gans, rated by all but personal friends of Benny Leonard, as the greatest lightweight in the history of the prize ring, was a victim of the disease. Poor little Joe laid himself open to the attack by making weight for "Battling" Nelson in their memorable battle at Goldfield. Jim Driscoll, once England's pride, and one of the most clever boxers the game ever had, was counted out after a typical Driscoll fight against it. So was Frankie Calahan, of New York, who met every lightweight in the



Courtesy George Mathew Adams Service.

business a dozen years ago. Frankie won most of his engagements but he lost the last one. Peter Jackson, Rudie Unholz, "Spider" Kelly and Jack Dougherty were some of the others. Boxing's list is a long one, we regret to say.

Billiards suffered an irreparable loss with the passing of Bob Cannex, three cushion champion. Bob left the Broadway he loved in an effort to defeat the disease in the dry air of Arizona but without success. Then there was Jackie Adams. Basketball fans in the east still talk of him. Jackie was captain and star forward of the Cam-

den (N. J.) Eastern League team, one of the greatest stars the professional court game ever had. He was stricken in 1919 at the height of his career.

But why go on and on? These cases stand out because we, who follow sports, know what each man accomplished. Every profession has been hit equally hard. Medical science with the aid of funds derived from the sale of Christmas Seals is slowly but surely getting the upper hand. To use an almost forgotten slogan, "Do your bit." Buy Christmas Seals, Mr. Sport Fan. Fight tuberculosis.

### Gorgeous Scenes Shown in Colors in "The Dance of Life" At Standard

"The Dance of Life" is the ultimate in perfection in the motion picture medium. It has everything that makes for thrilling, gripping entertainment—a romantic love story of backstage life, burlesque sequences, dancing, a gorgeous "Follies" revue, in color. It is Paramount's master production made from the remarkably successful stage play, "Burlesque."

"The Dance of Life" will show at the Standard theatre, Saturday and Sunday night.

Hal Skelly, who originated the role of Skid in the stage production, continues in this part in the motion picture production. Nancy Carroll, red-headed beauty has the other featured role. The cast includes such stage and screen favorites as Dorothy Revier, Ralph Theodor, Charles D. Brown, Al St. John and May Boley. A spectacular revue scene, with lavish costumes, brilliant settings and eighty beautiful girls, is shown entirely in color by the Technicolor process.

The story takes one behind the scenes in a burlesque theatre and follows the love affair of two interesting performers throughout a series of events which takes one of them to the Broadway circuit and the big revues.

New dances, originated by the leading dance masters of the country, are seen for the first time in "The Dance of Life." Two of the greatest directors of stage and screen productions, John Cromwell and Edward Sutherland collaborated for this picture.

#### Missionary Society

The Missionary Society of the Baptist church met on Wednesday of this week at the home of Mrs. Fred Pinkerton, 26 members being present. A very beautiful quilt, which was a gift to the society by Mrs. Gholson one of the former members, was sold to Mrs. Zeltha McIntyre. A very interesting study was given by Mrs. Hiteman on "The Crowded Ways." Delicious refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

### H. M. Hess Suicides in a Pendleton Rooming House

H. M. Hess of Sunnyside, Washington, who has been delivering vegetables from Kennewick to Athena grocers for some time, committed suicide in a Pendleton rooming house Wednesday night of last week by taking strychnine, which he purchased at a Pendleton drug store, saying he wanted the poison to kill rats.

After taking the poison, he informed a roomer that he was going to take his life. The man immediately summoned police, but Hess would give them no reason for his deed and refused to take an emetic to save his life. He was dead within a half-hour after taking the poison. His brother Carl Hess of Richland, Washington, was notified.

Little is known of Hess in Athena, except that his dealings with local grocers had been satisfactory and he enjoyed a good business here. He drove a big truck and generally made the Athena territory in the evening, returning to Pendleton. He also delivered produce to LaGrande grocers.

#### Ulrey Presented With Cup

At a meeting called by the Weston Commercial Association for Monday night, D. W. Ulrey, Weston potato grower who won the championship cup for the best Netted Gems exhibited at the Pacific Northwest Potato Show, at Spokane, was officially presented with the beautiful trophy. A number of potato growers were present at the Weston meeting. Mr. Ulrey's exhibit won the championship over 500 entries from five Western states and British Columbia.

#### Etude Club

Mrs. Lloyd Michener and Mrs. Penn Harris were hostesses for the Etude club Tuesday afternoon when they met at the Michener home. The Russian composer Leschetitsky was the theme for the afternoon's study. Mrs. Michener read an interesting paper followed by a vocal solo by Mrs. Otha Reeder. Miss Betty Eager gave two piano numbers, "Donnybrook Fair" and "Shepherds' All." Mrs. Lester of Walla Walla, club chorus director was detained by the bad condition of the highway and chorus practice was dispensed with. The hostesses served dainty salads at the tea hour.

### Mac-Hi Alumni and Athena in Tilt Tonight

Tonight at the local gym, Athena high school and Mac-Hi alumni will appear in the first basketball game of the season. The alumni of Mac-Hi comprises a strong aggregation of star players on former winning teams of that school. Wayne Pinkerton is on the Mac-Hi team.

"Pike" Miller has been giving the Athena team hard workouts with the result that rough spots are fast disappearing with the prospect that the players will be rounded into form by the time the scholastic schedule of games begins.

The starting lineup tonight will probably be Jack Moore and Lowell Jenkins, forwards; Walter Huffman, center; Emery Rogers guard, with his running mate to be chosen from Pickert, Hansell, Jenkins and Myrick. Ralph Moore and Crowley will be on the bench to replace the two forwards, while Thurber and Hansell will be in readiness to take over the pivot position.

Miller says the subs are showing up exceptionally well and are pushing some of the letter men to exert themselves to hold their positions. The girls' team is showing up well, and will play into the curtain raiser, which starts at 7:20, to be followed by the boys' game at 8 o'clock.

#### Ill With Ptomaine Poisoning

Partaking of some portion of food served at a recent lodge supper, Mrs. H. H. Hill became ill from ptomaine poisoning, which resulted in her being taken to the General Hospital at Walla Walla, where at last accounts she was recovering. Others were made severely ill. Mrs. Hill suffered a severe illness from ptomaine poisoning several years ago, and since has been susceptible to relapses as a result.

#### Cold Wave Waves Here

A cold wave waved throughout this part of the state the fore part of the week, causing alarm among the farmers over conditions that may result to seeded acreage on account of moisture shortage. Predictions made of rainfall as an aftermath of the storm which brewed off the Hawaiian Islands failed to materialize.

### Pheasants Found To Be An Aid to Farmers Instead of Being Nuisance

Oregon State College—China pheasants have been largely cleared of charges of being more of a pest than a benefit to Oregon farmers as the result of a study of the feeding habits of these game birds made by the Oregon State college experiment station at the request of the state game commission. Birds were captured by the game commission all over the state on July 1 and August 1 and sent to the college where the contents of the stomachs were analyzed by specialists in the departments of entomology, farm crops and veterinary medicine. Weed seed and insects were found to constitute by far the major food of the birds with only small amounts of field crops. Animal food was mostly grasshoppers, sundry beetles, chitins and various small insects in adult or larval forms. Small amounts of rye grass, wheat, vetch, barely, oats and blue grass were balanced by quantities of weed seeds such as buttercup bindweed, bull thistle, bachelor button, wild blackberry, rat-tail fescue, dandelion, cornflower, wild turnip, wild rose, cow thistle, wild mustard, buckhorn, knotweed, trefoil and sedge.

### Athena Turkey Shoot Takes Place December 8

The Athena Gun club will hold its annual turkey shoot over the traps on the local shooting grounds, next Sunday, December 8. The shoot will start promptly at 10 in the forenoon. Everything possible is being done by club members to make the shoot a success in every particular. Should it be cold, there will probably be a rousing big fire on the sideline as in the past—that is, if Bert Ramsay, official fire builder and attendant does not coax up a grouch on the day of the shoot.

An especially fine lot of turkeys has been secured to add zest to the different entries and to pep up the scaltergun artists. Remember the date, time and place. "A fine opportunity to get your Christmas turkey, and a good one," says one of the boys.

#### Wood-Charlton

Relatives and friends are surprised to hear of the marriage of Clifford Wood and Miss Roma Charlton. Announcements have not been received and the date of the marriage is not known at this time. It is understood that Mrs. Wood will continue teaching school at Merritt, Wash., and that Mr. Wood has a position with the Great Northern railroad at that place. The young couple have a host of friends here. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Charlton, and the groom is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Wood. Both are graduates of Athena high school, and Mrs. Wood is a graduate of Cheney Normal school.

#### Christmas Bazaar

A Christmas Bazaar and dinner will be held at the Christian church tomorrow afternoon and evening. Several booths featuring candy, cookies and fancy work will be in evidence. Attractive comforters will be for sale among the articles in the fancy work booth and at six-thirty an autograph quilt will be auctioned to the highest bidder. Dinner will be served from five to eight o'clock at popular prices, adults, 50 cents and children 25 cents.

#### Wedding Anniversary

Art Douglas was pleasantly surprised Thursday evening when a group of friends called at his home. The occasion was the twenty-second anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas. Following congratulations, two tables of bridge were in play. Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Pinkerton making high score. Supper was served by Mrs. Douglas who arranged the affair. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Eager and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Logsdon.

#### Death of Father

Word has been received by J. E. Jones, rural mail carrier to the effect his father, Jeremiah Jones passed away November twenty-seventh, at his home near Lovilia, Iowa. Mr. Jones had reached the advanced age of eighty-two years and had not been well for some time. Mr. Jones of Athena did not receive the news in time to make the trip to his boyhood home at attend the funeral.

#### Walla Walla Party

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McRae of Walla Walla planned a pleasant reunion Thanksgiving day when they invited a group of friends for dinner. Those present were C. L. McFadden and family of Athena, Mr. and Mrs. Fiske and family, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and family and Mr. and Mrs. John Banister, of Weston.

#### Here From Genesee

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Rogers of Genesee, Idaho, were here for Thanksgiving, being entertained at the "E. C. Rogers home." Mr. Rogers contemplates going to the Bonners Ferry farming district to locate.

### Mrs. Minnie Willaby Died Thursday After Only Few Days Illness

Athena friends were grieved to hear of the death Tuesday evening, December third of Mrs. Minnie M. Willaby. Mrs. Willaby who visited at the home of her son Virgil near the State Line, returned home about two weeks ago because she was not feeling well. Her condition remained about the same for a week but became alarmingly worse. A consultation of doctors pronounced the malady as septic poisoning and gave no hope for her recovery.

Mrs. Willaby was born in Lynn County, Oregon, June thirteenth 1860. She came to Umatilla County in 1870 and eight years later married A. J. Willaby who preceded her in death in 1911.

Three sons survive, Clyde and Virgil who reside near the State Line, and Dean of Spokane. There are five grand-children and two great grand-children. Mrs. Willaby was an active member of the Christian church and was also affiliated with the Rebekah Lodge here.

The funeral occurred yesterday afternoon at one-thirty at the Christian church and was attended by a large number of friends.

### Cat Fish Have More Lives Than Any Cat

Salem.—A "Believe it or Not" that is worthy of the attention of Ripley occurred last week when the game commission of California shipped a crate of blue cat fish taken from the Sacramento River to the Oregon state game commission. Usually fish are shipped in cans or tanks, but not these cat fish. They arrived in a crate with no more water than a few gunny sacks would contain and they are now alive and well in the ponds at the McKenzie hatchery.

Matt Ryckman went to the depot in Portland a few days ago expecting to receive some cans containing catfish as he had been informed a shipment had been made. To his surprise he found the crate, similar in appearance to a chicken crate and in this thirty-six catfish were alive and wiggling. They were three days out of water before being finally released in the McKenzie hatchery. They will be used to start fish of their type in sloughs of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers.

#### Young Peoples Conference

A conference for the young people of the Baptist church was held on Tuesday in Athena. Interesting and helpful talks were given by Miss Louise Hundrop who directs the state Sunday school work, and by Miss Hodge who has charge of the girls' guild work of the state. Following a potluck dinner at six o'clock in the dining room of the church, an illustrated lecture was given by Rev. O. C. Wright state secretary of the Baptist Association. Mrs. Kohler Betts was appointed leader of the group of girls organized here to be known as the "World Wide Girls' Guild."

#### John Kirk Is Host

John Kirk was host to a group of friends last week at the home of Mrs. Lilla Kirk on South Third street. Games were followed by a supper made up of the dainties that are favorites among young people. Guests who enjoyed John's hospitality were, Betty Eager, Marjorie Douglas, Myrtle Campbell, Mary Tompkins, Esther Berlin, Rhoda Nelson, Arleen Myrick, Goldie Miller, Arthur Crowley, Eldon Myrick, Stafford Hansell, Wayne Pinkerton, Don Thurber, Lee Foster and Jim Wilson.

#### Antiquated Chariot

Edwin and Ralph McEwen freshmen at Whitman college were visitors at the home of their parents Thanksgiving day. The twins made the trip in their recently acquired Ford, which being a real antique, of the vintage of 1919 has been christened "Agamemnon." True to the prowess achieved by its ancient name's sake the antiquated chariot "gets there" and in time too, perhaps due to the flashy colors applied by its new owners.

#### Entertain Friends

Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Pinkerton were charming hosts Friday night when guests sufficient for three tables of bridge were bidden to their attractive country home. Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Eager made high score and Mr. and Mrs. Archie McIntyre received the consolation. Others who enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Pinkerton were Mr. and Mrs. Justin Harwood, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Logsdon and Mr. and Mrs. Art Douglas.

#### Woodcraft Session

The Neighbors of Woodcraft lodge Circle No. 10 held their regular session Tuesday evening. Following the meeting they enjoyed lovely refreshments prepared at Kilgore's Cafe. Those who were present were: Mesdames, Moore, McKay, Harden, Kibbey and Payne. It is requested that all members be present at the next meeting as there will be installation of officers at that time.

## CO-OPS IN OREGON ADVISED TO EXPAND

### Farm Board Men Tell Leaders State Organizations Sound But Small.

Oregon State College—That cooperative marketing in Oregon is on a sound basis but in need of both expansion and consolidation to eliminate competition among producing groups was the opinion gained by representatives of the federal farm board last week in the first visit of any members of that body to this state.

Charles S. Wilson, the board member representing fruit and general farming interests, and James H. Howard, organization specialist for the board, conferred personally with more than 135 officials of Oregon's 152 cooperative associations at a meeting in Portland called by the Oregon Cooperative council.

The policy of the board, as far as it is yet formed, is to encourage federation of local groups within commodity lines into large enough regional associations so that a unified program of marketing can be carried out for the benefit of the entire industry concerned.

Only through formation of such large-scale operations, founded of course on locally controlled units, can the federal farm board render effective assistance, financial or otherwise, in forming machinery for orderly marketing, Mr. Wilson explained. "With Oregon alone having 152 separate organizations doing business here, and other states in much the same situation, the funds allotted the farm board would soon be frittered away with no permanent results if that body started allocating it as loans to small local organizations, he said.

The board is already making material progress in encouraging such sound reorganization along definite commodity lines, the representatives said. The latest development is the national and northwest regional wheat marketing cooperative, working of which were explained.

That the state college extension service will coordinate its work fully with the plans and policies of the farm board was announced by Paul V. Maris, director, who offered the services of his entire staff in aiding to carry more complete information on marketing plans to the people of this state.

### High School Conference at University of Oregon

University of Oregon—The annual Oregon High School conference will be held at the University of Oregon this year on January 10 and 11, it was announced here. Four different groups will convene for the purpose of threshing out problems affecting high school activities.

The Oregon High School Press conference will be made up of editors and managers of high school newspapers, monthly magazines and yearbooks, who will gather at the school of journalism to gain points on publication. The Association of High School Student Body Officers will also meet, as will the Girls' League Officers, and the faculty supervisors of student activities.

#### Garage Closed Temporarily

The Thompson Garage, recently acquired by A. L. Cornell in exchange for property in Malheur county, was temporarily closed Saturday, as a result of Mr. Thompson being unable to adjust financial matters involving the transfer of the property. However, satisfactory adjustment was made Wednesday evening and Mr. Cornell was given possession yesterday morning.

#### Illustrated Lecture

Colored slides showing views of the forests in the Northwest were shown at the school auditorium Tuesday morning. The pictures were unusually beautiful and were shown to impress upon the audience the importance of forest preservation. Warning against forest fires was made, and the lecture was most helpful and interesting.

#### Ontario Druggist Here

O. M. Castleman, Ontario, Oregon, druggist was a Thanksgiving day visitor at the J. F. Kershaw home. Mrs. Castleman and daughter Barbara, were here also, having come from Seattle. Mr. and Mrs. Castleman proceeded to their home at Ontario, and Miss Castleman returned to University of Washington.

#### Pendleton Here Dec. 13

Pendleton high school basketball team has been scheduled for a game with Athena high school on the local court, Friday evening, December 13.