

# The Athena Press

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## A BIG JOB, BUT ITS DEAD EASY

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## BEAN HARVEST TO BEGIN HERE SOON

### 10,000 Acres in Umatilla, Columbia and Walla Walla Counties.

Marion Hansell, field superintendent for the Eickhoff Farm Products corporation informs The Press that cultivation of the bean crop has been completed. Although crews of men and boys are yet employed in hoeing, the machines have been brought to town and stored in the warehouse. Two combine harvesters are being overhauled and repaired down at the warehouse, to be in readiness for harvesting the bean crop in the Athena-Weston district. Bean harvesting will begin in a short time.

Glenn Dudley is field superintendent for the corporation in Columbia county, with headquarters at Dayton, and the bean crop in that district is showing prospects that are satisfactory. An Eickhoff official states to a Walla Walla paper that on the whole the bean growing project is progressing quite favorably this year. Planting was intentionally delayed two weeks compared with the planting schedule of last year.

A cool period developed with some heavy rain in the latter part of May. Seed that was in a certain stage of germinating at this period rotted and necessitated re-planting about a thousand acres. However, it is now found that this replanted acreage has caught up with the growth of the other plantings.

The total acreage is about a month later in its growth than the seedings of last year. Then practically all the acreage was located in the lower elevations whereas this year they report that practically all is located at an elevation of 2500 to 3500 feet along the foot hills of the Blue Mountains.

The fields at the lower elevations this year are just now showing bloom and those higher up are now getting good vine growth.

Practically all the acreage has been cultivated the third time now. This, together with the hoeing crews who have been busy at work during the last three weeks have left the fields weed clean and in excellent state of cultivation at this time.

During the past week 77 men were at work in the Athena district. In the Walla Walla district 92 men were at work while in the Dayton district, Glenn Dudley employed 144 men to catch up with some hoeing work before the wheat harvest absorbed available labor.

Since the middle of June over 100 two-row cultivators have been constantly busy at work. Thirty-six of these are drawn by caterpillar tractors and the balance are drawn by horses, four to each cultivator. The horse cultivating was practically all done by farmers on a day basis. This added considerable revenue the farmers are getting in leasing their land and in preparing the land for cultivation.

### Youths On Long Canoe Trip

On an 18,000 mile "arctic to tropics" canoe odyssey, which began in the heart of northern Canada, Victor, Allan and Evans Fisher, brothers, and a fourth youth, Charles Bruder, are paddling up the Yukon to southeastern Alaska. From there they will portage between Canadian streams and rivers to the Mississippi headwaters and cruise down that river to the Gulf of Mexico.

### Road Progress Slow

Slow progress on the surfacing program of the McDougall Camp-Tollgate section of the Weston-Elgin highway through the Blue Mountains is reported at Walla Walla. The crew in charge of this work has been delayed in preparing the quarry from which the crushed rock will come. Holes for the blasting necessary have been completed but no shots have yet been fired.

### Catching Steelheads

Limit catches of steelheads weighing around seven pounds are now being made by the Dalles anglers at the mouth of the Deschutes river. The heavy run of the game fish, fresh from the ocean, is attracting anglers from all Oregon.

### First Forest Fire

The first forest fire of the season in the Ukiah district occurred Sunday, when lightning started a blaze in the timber in the Sugar Bowl. Fire fighters were rushed to the scene and Monday the situation was under control.

### Machine Running Nicely

The International Harvester recently purchased by Louis Berlin from Rogers & Goodman, local dealers, is doing good work in the Berlin field, northwest of Athena. "Pike" Miller is operating the new machine for Mr. Berlin.

## Honored



Samuel C. Lancaster, of Portland, regarded as one of the country's outstanding authorities on highway construction and engineering, who was granted the degree of Master of Arts in Public Service, at the University of Oregon at the 1930 Commencement exercises.

## Ten Acres Standing Grain Destroyed by Fire Caused by Header Spout Hot Box

Fire caused by an overheated box on the header spout of the George Gerking combine caused a loss of about ten acres of standing grain on the Kirk place east of town, Wednesday noon.

Quick response on the part of a large number of men who immediately went to the scene of the grain fire in automobiles and valiantly fought the flames, undoubtedly saved the entire field from burning up. Mr. Gerking desires The Press to say that he greatly appreciates the efforts of those who came to his assistance and by their hard work saved his grain.

The fire started near the west end of the field on the end of the last round the machine was making before the noon hour. The lighted chaff from the boxing dropped all in one lump to the stubble. Lee Crawford doused the contents of an extinguisher on the burning part of the machine, and Mr. Gerkins swung the team out on the summerfallow ground.

They then gave their attention to whipping out the flames in the stubble, but the fire was soon beyond their control, sweeping toward the uncut portion of the field.

Lee Crawford was overcome by his exertions in the terrific heat and will not be able to resume work for several days. Elmer Stockstill, who went with the crowd of firefighters from town, was also much the worse from becoming overheated.

Mr. Gerking carried fire insurance on his wheat crop, and his loss is fully covered.

## Mrs. Hattie Benson Dies Suddenly, Caldwell, Idaho

Mrs. W. P. Littlejohn was called to Caldwell, Idaho, Sunday by the sudden death of her sister, Mrs. Hattie Benson, 49, who passed away in a hospital there after an illness of only a few hours duration.

Stricken with a pain in her breast, Mrs. Benson was taken from her home to the hospital, and expired at four o'clock Saturday evening. Mrs. Littlejohn in company with her brother, Abe Molstrum of Pendleton, left at once for Caldwell, where the funeral was held Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Benson leaves five children, four daughters and one son, some of whom are nearly grown, her husband and several brothers and sisters. She was born at the Henry Molstrum farm home just north of Athena, and when a child attended school here.

### Make Fat Pork Of It

Feed the surplus wheat to hogs is the sage advice offered to grain growers by the president of the Portland Union Stockyards, backed by the following alleged facts: The Northwest has a surplus of wheat on hand, along with other grain growing sections of the nation. Prices are low. The northwest does not produce pork enough to supply its own people. Hogs are being shipped in from the middle west to supply the demand. Prices for hogs are good. Wheat is splendid feed for hogs. Wheat transformed into pork is worth nearly twice what it is in the sack.

### Washtucna Wheat Yield

Reports from the Washtucna, Washington, wheat producing district received here are to the effect that some acreage is yielding about 12 bushels per acre, while in other fields the grain is so low in average yield that it will not be harvested. Unfavorable winter conditions and lack of moisture is said to be the cause for poor crops there.

### Malheur Bank Closes

The State Bank at Harper, Malheur county, with capital stock of \$15,000 and surplus of \$1,000, has closed its doors. Deposits of the bank aggregated \$44,575.

## Ancient Tiger Skeleton Rebuilt at U. of O.



Top photo—Ancestor of saber-tooth tiger such as once roamed forests of eastern Oregon (photo copyright by American Museum of Natural History). Below—Saber-tooth tiger mounted from bones found in asphalt lake near Los Angeles. Sam Itzkowitz of Portland, who accomplished feat, is shown in background.

University of Oregon, Eugene. — "What pretty tusks you have, Grand-ma" may have made Mother Saber Tooth Tiger swell with pride, but all this time her poor stomach was shrinking for lack of food, it has been revealed by geologists at the University of Oregon, who now have a complete, mounted specimen of this denizen of the jungle of 500,000 years ago.

The saber tooth tiger roamed the Pacific coast, feared by all, but down through the ages its huge tusks kept on getting longer with each generation, until finally they were so cumbersome that the last of the animals actually starved to death, it has been established.

The specimen recently mounted at the university is the work of Sam Itzkowitz, pre-medic major from Portland, who put together several hundred bones found in the asphalt deposit at Rancho Le Brea, near Los Angeles. They were in a perfect state of preservation, and the entire skeleton, from the ferocious tusks down to the tip of the tail, has been reconstructed. It is about six feet long and three feet high.

The pool of asphaltum has been the source of many prehistoric animals now extinct. The old-time horse, wolves, camels and many species of birds have been found there. Dr. John F. Boward, now dean of the school of physical education at the university here, was a student in California when the pool was discovered in 1903, and he coined the name, "Smilodon Californicus," by which this species is known.

Although no true "saber tooth" tigers have been dug up in Oregon an ancestral form once roamed the wilds of eastern Oregon. This tiger had not yet developed the fatal tusks, however.

The specimen mounted here by Itzkowitz is his first work but it is unusually well done, said Dr. Earl Packard, professor of geology.

## Plan Hearings On Overcharges For Grain Rates

Portland.—Frank J. Miller, chairman of the public service commission, announced the commission expects to open hearings within thirty days on alleged overcharges made by railroads in grain shipments from Eastern Oregon and upstate points to Portland.

Recently the commission decided intra-state rates instead of interstate rates should apply on shipments made by producers to Portland as the consuming market. The intra-state tariff is considerably cheaper than the interstate rate.

The railroads, however, contended interstate rates applied on a number of contested shipments, and collected interstate charges on these shipments. Shippers now ask a refund.

### Candidate Will Be Named

A candidate for governor will be named at Portland today by the republican state central committee, which is meeting in the metropolis for that purpose. Three prominent men of the state have come to the front in seeking the nomination. They are Tom Kay, state treasurer, Phil Metschan Portland hotel owner and politician, and Julius Meier, Portland merchant.

### Will Address Dairymen

Marshall Dana, associate editor of the Oregon Journal, who investigated the dairy industries of New Zealand and Australia will visit Eastern Oregon this month and on Wednesday evening, July 30, at 8 o'clock, will address dairymen of Umatilla county at a meeting at Hermiston. He will discuss dairying in New Zealand and Australia and offer comparisons with the Oregon dairy industry.

## LEGGE IS BRANDING OPPOSITION "JUNK"

### Senators From Four Wheat Growing States Calling For Action.

Chairman Legge's statement that criticism of the farm board's policy is mostly "political bunk" has not stilled demands for the board to take action to increase the price of the grain.

Senators from four wheat growing states, led by Senator of Kansas, called on him to urge the board to broaden its present program, which is chiefly centered on crop reduction. Pine of Oklahoma; Allen, of Kansas; Howell, of Nebraska and McMaster of South Dakota accompanied Capper.

In a statement Legge said he was fighting in the open and not hiding behind President Hoover. He added he would make a report to the chief executive soon on the progress of the board's campaign for a reduced wheat acreage.

"The farm board," he said, "was created to assist the farmer and not for politics. The farmer's problem is an economic one that will never be solved by any political remedies. The president has not interfered with our program and we have gone ahead sawing wood. I expect to report to him soon on the acreage reduction campaign, but I am not hiding behind his skirts."

Legge went on to say he was prepared to tell Mr. Hoover he expected cooperation in the acreage reduction program from the farmers of every state in the winter wheat belt. He described the purpose of the campaign as to show the farmer he must reduce production or accept a lower price for his wheat.

## Harvesting Grain Crop Is Clicking Right Along Here

The second week of harvest operations in the Athena wheat belt is clicking along with satisfactory weather conditions and with nearly every available machine at work. Practically all of the grain being threshed this year is being delivered to storage in bulk, and but few sacking outfits are in the fields.

The first grower to finish harvesting his crop in this vicinity is W. S. Ferguson. The Barney Foster crew completed harvesting the 220 acre crop from Mr. Ferguson, Tuesday evening. The Ferguson crop was a good one, averaging 50 bushels per acre.

Marion Hansell estimates his crop at 50 bushels per acre, except on ground which last year was planted to beans. The bean ground is averaging less.

There are few horse-drawn machines in the Athena fields this year, the majority being handled by caterpillars. From some parts of the county the stores of gasoline bought by farmers at low prices has been attracting attention from thieves, and various amounts have been taken.

With a continuance of good weather, the latter part of next week will see the grain in this part of the county nearly all harvested. This is made possible by the number of machines available for the work and competent crews to operate them.

### 40 Fires In One Day

Seventy-six fires were set in the Williams creek district of Josephine county within a period of three days, according to Lynn Cronemiller, state forester. Forty of the fires were set in one day. Cronemiller said that most of the fires had been extinguished, while those still burning were under control. Grazing interests were blamed for the incendiarism. Hazardous conditions also were reported in Coos county, where the rainfall is 20 inches below normal. Conditions in other parts of the state are satisfactory, Cronemiller said.

### Springs Drying Up

Scarcity of water in the forests and on the ranges is a problem foresters and stockmen are facing at this time. Many springs that have been used for years have dried up and the forest service is devoting its energies to developing new springs to replenish the dwindling supply. Danger from fires is increasing as the forest area becomes drier.

### Wheat Equal To Barley

Ground wheat has practically the same feeding value, pound for pound, as barley, and Oregon farmers can profitably turn their cheap wheat into high priced pork—providing they have the hogs, says A. W. Oliver, assistant professor of animal husbandry at Oregon State college.

### Loses His Foot

Dwight Rocks, an itinerant tourist fell beneath the wheels of a freight train he attempted to ride at Pendleton. His foot was crushed so badly that amputation was necessary.

### Autos Collide

Two tourist machines collided in front of Gallagher's Garage, Monday. A car backing out of the garage obscured the view of the tourist car drivers. The smash resulted in but slight damage to the machines and no one was hurt.

### Fly To Cheyenne

George Baer, Round-Up manager, and Richard Rice, secretary, flew from Pendleton by airplane to Cheyenne, to be present at the "Frontier Days" show.

## Freiburg Players Present Passion Play At Walla Walla—Large Production

Walla Walla.—In 1922 60,000 Americans traveled to Freiburg, Germany, to witness the world's oldest Passion Play. In 1930 residents of the Inland Empire need travel only a short distance for on August 4, 5 and 6 the Freiburg Players will present the Passion Play at the Walla Walla stadium under the auspices of the Walla Walla park and Civic Arts club. The players are now in Seattle and it was only through friendship of their musical director, Harold Loring, for Walla Walla where he lived 31 years ago that arrangements were made for bringing them here on their way east.

In 1264 the inhabitants of Freiburg first presented a Passion Play and have given it periodically in Freiburg as well as nearly every city in Europe. The company was brought to America to dedicate the great Krug Park bowl in St. Joseph, Missouri, in August 1928. In eight evenings more than 100,000 people paid admissions. They next visited St. Louis where in eight evenings more than 80,000 people attended. Walla Walla will be the smallest town in the entire world where this play will be presented.

The production begins with a prologue depicting Adam and Eve in the Garden and the Fall of Man. This is followed by a tableau of the Glorification of the Cross. The great drama of the Passion of Christ closes with the Resurrection and the singing of the mighty "Hallelujah Chorus" from "Messiah."

The production is colossal, with hundreds of persons participating, including a large chorus and orchestra recruited from Walla Walla musicians. In order truly to make the presentation an Inland Empire one, members of the cast who will support the German players as citizens, soldiers and the like, are being drawn from all parts of the Inland Empire. The principals have been trained from childhood for their parts and Adolf Fasenacht, who portrays the Christ, represents the seventh generation of his family in this role.

## Government Rescues Cattlemen In Lake County

Portland.—The United States government has come to the rescue of thousands of cattle facing death from thirst on the ranges in the Wagonfire Mountain district of Lake County, Oregon.

A cattleman who protested against the action of Frank Dobkins in fencing in the Wagonfire Mountain water supply has received word the government has reaffirmed cancellation of the Dobkins homestead lease.

In an effort to get access to water and to avert bloodshed which it was feared might result from the cattle war now being waged in that district Governor Norblad sent telegraphic request to President Hoover and to Commissioner General C. C. Moore of the federal land office urging immediate action.

The governor acted after a conference with T. L. Cross and B. G. Skulason of Portland, field representative and attorney respectively for the Oregon Humane Society.

Telegrams received by Gross from livestock raisers said cattle were dying for want of water, which they were unable to reach because Frank Dobkins had filed on 16 "forties" of land entirely surrounding the water holes, the only sources for stock watering in a wide area of range country.

### Country Club Opens

Pendleton's new country club and golf course, completed at a cost of more than \$30,000, was auspiciously opened for play Saturday, when Sam R. Thompson, president of the club, shot a little white ball down the fairway. Pendleton has one of the finest golf courses in Eastern Oregon as a result of the loyal support of townsmen in subscribing liberally to the enterprise.

### Pee-Wee Golf Courses

Pee-Wee golf courses which started up in the larger cities as a fad, with improvement have become the source of well patronized amusement and practical as regards practice for the regulation courses. Walla Walla adherents of the sport are giving two of these courses continuous patronage.

### Two Sisters Drown

Two young sisters stepped into a hole and were drowned while wading in the Yakima river at Richland, eight miles northeast of Pasco, Wednesday. They were Merna, 13, and LaVelle, 16, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Austin DeCrece of Nebraska City, Neb.

### Pioneer Woman Dies

Mrs. Martha A. Fuller who came to Umatilla district in 1882, died in a Walla Walla hospital Wednesday evening at the age of 75. She is survived by one son and four daughters.

## SAYS PRESTBYE IS THREAT TO KIDDLE

### Oregon Voter Thinks Democratic Candidate Has Good Chance.

C. C. Chapman in his Oregon Voter says that E. C. Prestbye of Athena, democratic candidate for joint senator from Umatilla and Union counties, has a good chance to nose out Fred Kiddle, republican candidate for reelection, for the senatorship. Chapman is a keen political observer and his writings in the Voter are read with interest and often carry weight and accuracy as to election results. Mr. Chapman says:

That E. C. Prestbye of Athena will give State Senator Fred Kiddle of Union county a real race is the report we receive from the joint Umatilla-Union district. Kiddle was unanimously nominated for reelection. He is one of the big republican figures of the state, and is discussed for the pending governorship nomination.

Prestbye is a Montanan, about 38 years old, and is a law partner of Homer I. Watts, one of Oregon's leading wheat growers, for many years known as a leading attorney of his part of the state, and a prominent figure in state affairs, well known in political, business and financial circles. Prestbye was born on a farm, graduated from University of Montana, and came to Athena about ten years ago. He is recognized as a capable, forceful character, and the general excellence of his reputation as an attorney and citizen is vouched for by leading citizens of Umatilla county.

That he is a "George W. Joseph" democrat is asserted. His home county is all agog over the hydro-electric situation as it may relate to development of the Umatilla rapids project. This circumstance, the fact that Umatilla contains a large bloc of democratic voters, and the further fact that it has twice as many voters as Union and Morrow combined, make it probable that Prestbye will poll a large Umatilla vote. Union county contains nearly as many democrats as Umatilla, with ex-Governor Walter M. Pierce at their head and itching for a chance to retire an outstanding republican like Kiddle. These circumstances make the race a real contest, with a possibility that the outcome may introduce into the state political arena a young democrat who is rated as having outstanding qualifications for leadership. As Kiddle ranks high in state republican councils, is a younger man even than Prestbye, and is rated as of governorship and U. S. senatorship caliber, this battle will be watched with more than ordinary interest.

## Thirty Indians Dancing Weirily To Gain Health

Pocatello.—Thirty Indians, their half naked bodies fantastically daubed with paint, continued their frenzied dancing to the sun god.

Weaving back and forth and shrilling a weird tune on whistles they moved round and round a willow enclosure, their eyes fixed constantly on a buffalo head elevated on a pole in the center.

Without stopping for food or drink until they drop from exhaustion, the tribesmen dance to the cadence of crude drums beaten by squaws who accompany their movements with shrill chanting.

Of the 60 dancers of the Shoshone, Bannock, and Lemhi tribes who began Monday night about half continued to defy fatigue, thirst and hunger.

About them squatted the older members of their tribes, hoping to benefit from the supplication for health and strength which the dancers were seeking.

The dance was terminated yesterday noon to be followed by a time of feasting.

### Work Stopped On Well

Excavation work on the well at Legion natorium has been temporarily stopped, at a depth of about 20 feet. The new well on which work commenced a couple of weeks ago, is 14x14 and lifting a large amount of dirt from the bottom was exceedingly difficult. "Pike" Miller who was in charge of the swimming pool and John Hoey, local well digger, were in charge of the work. It is presumed that the well will be completed after the harvest season is over, when donation labor may be available.

### St. Louis Plane In Air

In a cheery mood and feeling confident, Dale Jackson and Forest O'Brine kept their endurance plane, Greater St. Louis, cruising leisurely over Lambert-St. Louis field in the third night of their projected 30-day flight to regain the refueling endurance record.