

EAGLE VALLEY NEWS

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RICHLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1917

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OUR COUNTY'S FIRST FLAG

The article reprinted below appeared in the Oregonian of Nov. 11th, and was written by Prof. J. B. Homer, Dept. of History O. A. C. It is of direct interest to the residents of Baker county for at the date mentioned Union county comprised all that portion of Oregon laying east of the Blue Mountains, and to Eagle Valley residents because the Miss Martha Koger who patriotically gave up her riding skirt for the good of the cause, has been a citizen of this section for many years and is well known to all as Mrs. Martha Clark.

Oregonians Raise Flag When Patriotism Required Courage

It was in 1863 that Lincoln set the negroes free and the civil war feeling was so intense in some parts of Oregon that the people were closely divided on the question of patriotism. Many of the settlers, who had lost their fortunes in the South, kept the Confederate flag in their homes, cherishing it as dearly as ever.

It will also be borne in mind that at this time law and order did not always prevail out West, where justice was frequently administered more promptly with a six-shooter than with a law book. Therefore, to avoid controversy and ill feeling in Union county on the Fourth of July, 1863, the Stars and Stripes was not hoisted at Hendershott's Point, where the celebration was held.

A Fourth of July celebration without a flag is so unusual in America as to be subject to criticism as unpatriotic. Hence there was so much discussion of the incident that occurred at Hendershott's Point that women from Cove and from Union took the matter in hand, and in order to correct the error as well as to relieve the situation, Mrs. Harriet Hendershott and daughters Minerva and Josephine, Mrs. Mary E. Babington and daughter Lenora, Mrs. Elizabeth Koger, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Godley, Mrs. Fred Nodine and some other women assembled at the home of Mrs. Harriet Lewis, of Union, to make a flag for the celebration of 1864, which had been announced to take place in that town.

As cloth had not been provided Mrs. Hendershott offered to contribute a red merino dress belonging to her little daughter Grace. None had white cloth nor blue. Fortunately they were able to purchase red merino and white linen at the town store, but not blue for the field. To aid the cause the minister's daughter, Miss Martha Koger, generously donated a portion of her blue merino riding skirt for that purpose, and the field and stripes were sewed together. As the

women were unable to make a pattern for a five-pointed star, E. C. Bralnard (afterward Judge of Union county) came to their assistance.

Upon the completion of the flag prominent citizens of Union, among whom were A. C. Craig, Peter Coffin, Fred Nodine and E. H. Lewis, assembled at Wilfony's Hotel—later known as the Stanton House. Here they formed in procession and marched to Chatman's store, where the "Star Spangled Banner" was sung and the home-made flag raised amid impressive ceremonies.

A few days later the flag—new from the hands of the patriotic women of Grand Ronde Valley—was unfurled at the Fourth of July celebration, where it was announced that this was the first time the United States flag floated to the breezes of Eastern Oregon at a patriotic meeting of that kind.

RED CROSS

At a meeting of the Red Cross held at the K. P. hall last Saturday it was voted that Mrs. Winter Wright have charge of all sewing, including the making of the towels now on hand. Those wishing to assist in this line of work should see Mrs. Wright.

Mrs. J. F. Herr was elected to have charge of the knitting. Any one desiring to knit should consult Mrs. Herr.

Mrs. J. O. Tuttle was elected to take charge of all entertainments given for benefit of the Red Cross.

Mrs. J. C. Bowen was elected to have full charge of all work at New Bridge.

It was decided that the members meet each Tuesday at the different homes for the purpose of knitting, etc.

Mrs. Joyce Reddick, Sec'y.

"DICK" MAKINSON DEAD

R. W. Makinson, a former resident of Richland, died at his home at Turlock, Calif., at 7:15 Tuesday morning, as a result of paralysis. His daughter, Mrs. Kendall, received word last week that her father was in critical condition and in company with her daughter Lulu, left Friday for California, arriving at Mr. Makinson's bedside before he passed away.

The deceased had a large number of friends in both Eagle and Pine Valleys and we shall endeavor to give a sketch of his life in next week's issue.

Elvie Herr, who is well known and has many friends in this section, was recently married to Joe Daly at Lovelocks, Nevada.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Ladies Aid Society of the Christian Church will give their Annual Bazaar

Friday, Dec. 7th, at K. P. Hall
Afternoon and Evening

We will have on sale

Ladies' Gowns, Combination Suits,
Corset Covers, Table Runners,
Dresser Scarfs, Fancy Bags of all Kinds
and many other articles

Do not buy your Christmas Presents until you see what the Ladies' Aid have on sale

GRANDMA COBLE DIES

Margaret M. Coble died at the home of her stepson, C. W. Coble near New Bridge, on Friday, Nov. 23rd, aged 75 years, four months and 20 days. The funeral services were held Sunday at the house, Rev. Wixom officiating. Interment in Eagle Valley cemetery.

Mrs. Coble came here from Missouri in July and her death was due to the effects of old age. She had been a member of the Christian church for many years and passed away fully confident of a better, happier home beyond.

Although she had no children of her own, she was a kind, true mother to the seven stepchildren who survive her and who are sorely grieved at her demise.

C. W. Coble and G. W. Coble, both respected residents of Eagle Valley, were at the death bed, their two brothers and three sisters residing at such a distance that their attendance was practically impossible.

Primary Election.

A meeting of the voters of Richland will be held at the town hall on Saturday, Dec. 1st, at 7:30 p. m., for the purpose of nominating a Mayor for one year term, three Councilmen for two year term and one Councilman for one year term.

As the election will be held next Tuesday, Dec. 4th, it is important that everyone who desires to see the affairs of the town properly looked after, be present. Wake up! You have to pay the taxes so you should take an interest in choosing those who look after the expenditures.

Services at Christian Church.

At the Sunday morning service Miss Ralston will represent the "4-Minute Men." In the evening Miss Ralston and N. B. Ashcraft will speak at the regular services.

New line of corduroy pants just in at Saunders Bro's. Our stock of hats and caps is complete.—ad

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