

FAIR BOARD HOLDS A BUSINESS SESSION AT LEXINGTON

The Morrow County Fair Board held a meeting at the picnic in Lexington Saturday. The first business that was transacted was the appointing of a finance committee to get out and hustle in the stray cartwheels. A. M. Phelps, M. C. Clark, J. L. Wilkins, T. J. Mahoney and Gleen Wells were designated to look after this.

The Secretary was instructed to get a five year lease on the Fair Grounds for \$30 per year with the privilege to purchase the property for \$500 with the lease money to apply on the purchase price. The secretary was also instructed to write to the Agricultural College at Corvallis and secure the assistance of a judge for the poultry and live stock.

Mr. John Vaughn was asked to assist and serve with the Fair Board. It was decided to have a pioneers meeting which is surely a wise provision. Who ever heard of a good fair without the pioneer day. The Secretary is going to get some ribbons and buttons for them to wear.

The prices are fixed low enough so that you can bring your whole family and enjoy a pleasant and profitable time. Twenty-five and fifteen cents admits in the daytime, fifteen and ten at night.

This will be the biggest fair in the country, outside of the Panama Fair at San Francisco, and we have heard it whispered that it will "fair-ly" open the eyes of the most skeptical. The fair is like the open road, it belongs to the people. Better prepare to go to the fair.

IRRIGON ITEMS.

Miss Birdia George is now here from Pendleton where she attended the Sister's school last winter. She intends to stay with her sister, Mrs. Baucom for a few weeks when she will depart for the mountains.

Dewberries are ripening fast around here and we have the promise of a bountiful crop.

Earl Rand spent last Sunday at the Doble home.

Misses Carrie McCoy and Eleanor Corey with Guy Corey rode out to Kicker's ranch last Sunday for a short visit.

Roy Minnick came down from Umatilla last Tuesday and spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Minnick, before leaving for the harvest fields in Washington.

J. L. Egbert, who went to Minnesota with his wife last spring has returned to Irrigon for the summer. He reports his wife's health much improved.

Mrs. Lapham drove down from her home a mile or two this side of Umatilla one day last week to look over some places here.

George Caldwell and Roy Minnick went to Umatilla last Wednesday evening to take in the boxing bout there. They thought the fun worth the trip.

Carrie McCoy spent a few days in Umatilla last week visiting with her aunt, Mrs. Carl Brownell and friends.

Walter Caldwell has returned from Baker, but will leave in a few weeks for the harvest fields.

Robert Crooks was down from Castle Rock last Monday for a short visit with friends.

Our apricots and peaches are coming out well now and we have been shipping for a week or more. The Roadruck and Garver firm will handle the most of them this year, at least of the early varieties.

LEXINGTON ITEMS.

Reverend Crutchfield held services at the Methodist Church last Sunday evening. A large crowd attended and the service was enjoyed by all.

Lexington was guest to the Farmers Union on Saturday. A large crowd of farmers and citizens from all over the county flocked into the city to visit with their friends and listen to the band and speakers.

Mr. Clyde Gentry arrived from Umatilla on Thursday night.

Mr. Wilbur State came in Saturday night from Emmett, Idaho.

Mr. John White and daughter, Effie arrived Sunday night from Portland to visit friends and relatives.

Miss Ramona Bissell returned Wednesday night from a short visit with friends in Bend.

Mrs. Harry McCormick is very ill again.

Mr. Joe Ausborn returned from a visit with friends and relatives in the East, Friday night.

Mrs. W. F. Allison and family arrived Tuesday evening from Seattle to visit several weeks with relatives. Mrs. Allison's husband, who is head of the Civil Engineering department of the University of Washington, is a brother of Dr. Allison's.

... A ... Deathknell

By F. A. MITCHEL

In Andalusia, Spain, stands a ruin in which there are the remains of a tower that dates back to the beginning of the fifteenth century. At that time clocks began to be used, and this old tower was built to hold one of the then new devices for marking time. The timepiece that was set up in the top of this ancient fortress was cumbersome, as all mechanical contrivances are when they are first invented. There was a great deal of heavy iron and oak supports, but these conduced to its long life.

For 300 years it struck the hour, but after the expiration of the third century of its being it got out of order and was not repaired. For half a century longer it remained in its perch, and those inhabiting the castle dared not go under it, fearing that at any time it might come down.

The last person to inhabit this Andalusian antiquity was one of the dukes of Veragua, a descendant of Columbus, the discoverer of America. It had been given him by one of the kings of Spain as a reward for the services of his distinguished ancestor. The clock had struck for the last time on the day the duke was born. It was the next day—so runs the legend—that it got out of order. A man was sent up to fix it, but returned without doing so, reporting that the damage had been done by one of the supports rotting away and letting down one side of the clock. Later the staircase leading up to it fell, and from that time the clock remained out of reach.

The duke lived to enter upon his eightieth year. During this long period the clock remained upon the tower, its heavy iron parts rusting away. Now and again a rotted landing or a piece of staircase would fall, but the iron parts of the clock remained entire. The minute hand finally rusted away and fell to the ground. It was longer than the tallest man. Persons gathered about it and wondered at its size and weight.

One night after the duke had entered upon his eightieth birthday those inhabiting the castle and those surrounding it were awakened by the deep toned stroke of a bell. To those within the castle walls the sound seemed to come from above; to those round about it seemed to come from different directions. One said from the east, another from the west, another from up on the heights above, another from the valley below. Every one listened for a second stroke. It came, and another and another, till there had been twelve wheezy clangs which seemed to come from the throat of some monster, such as one reads of in ancient lore.

Then when there came no more strokes every one in the castle turned out into the court, and there was a babel of voices discussing from whence the sounds could have come. An old man, whose youth had been passed in superstitious times, ventured to assert that either angel or devil had resuscitated the old clock and some momentous event had been foretold. A younger person maintained that the sound had come from the sky and was a voice from heaven calling sinners to repentance. There were many theories, but it was generally believed that the sounds were from some ordinary cause and their importance had been magnified by the imagination.

The only person who did not come out to discuss the phenomenon was the duke. He was a bachelor, and, having no family to minister to him in his old age, no one knew whether or not he had heard the strokes of the bell or what interpretation he put upon them. The door of his chamber remained closed and all was quiet within. A woman who attended him, followed by some one who loved the old man, listened near the door, but bearing nothing, told the others to go to bed. The duke had slept through the clanging, and it would be a shame to awaken him.

Within an hour after the stroke of midnight all were in bed and many were asleep. But some there were who could not dismiss from their minds an occurrence so strange that it surely must portend some calamity. A few sat up till dawn debating whether, if it were a warning, it came from angel or devil. When it was light enough to see clearly they went to the old tower and looked up. A support had given way during the night, and the clock was tilted on its side.

"I told you so," said one. "It was the clock that struck by being tilted."

"Fool!" replied another. "How could such tilting have caused twelve distinct strokes?"

"Have a care!" cried a third as a gust of wind swept through the ruin.

Scarcely had the last words been spoken when the old clock came tumbling down and lay a heap of rotted wood and rusty iron at the bottom.

"The duke is dead," came a voice from another part of the castle.

All turned and went toward the speaker.

The duke's door had been opened, and by the pallor on his face it was known that something had happened. A surgeon was called, who declared that the old man had been dead some hours. Then it came to be believed that the old clock tolled his knell as he was dying as well as its own.

After the duke's death the inhabitants of the castle scattered. It was never again occupied and soon fell into complete ruin.

HEPPNER-MONUMENT MAIL SERVICE MAY BE STOPPED

Mr. Emmet Cochran and Mr. Joe Putnam were in Heppner from Monument last evening and met the committee of the Commercial Club with other men of Heppner to discuss the Monument mail service which it is understood might be discontinued. Bids have been asked for by the Government for carrying the mail from Parker's Mill and Hardman. This indicates that the Government might leave off Monument which is south of Parker's Mill. To retain the service, therefore, from Monument to Heppner is the purpose of this activity.

It is very evident that the people living in the Monument district and south of there can be served much better from Heppner. If this stage was discontinued the mail would have to go round by the way of Baker and Canyon City, a distance of nearly five hundred miles and considerable of this by stage. These places are not over forty or fifty miles from Heppner and it would be the height of folly for the government to change the present service.

A petition will be circulated at once in the city of Heppner and by all the postmasters of the towns affected, Hardman, Monument, Hamilton, Beech Creek, Fox, Longcreek and others. These petitions will be sent to Washington. In addition, every farmer and business man in the above mentioned towns is requested and urged to write a personal letter to our congressmen to see to it that the mail authorities understand what they are about to do, for when it can be so easily shown that those placed can be served more economically and quicker from Heppner, the present arrangement will undoubtedly be continued.

While you are thinking about it—write your letter.

IONE NOTES.

While riding a bicycle down main street last Wednesday evening, George Cochran had the misfortune to get his trouser leg entangled in the chain breaking his leg just above the ankle. At this writing the break is healing rapidly.

Alex Runyan was an Ione visitor this week.

Jake Young and son were transacting business in Ione this week.

D. M. Ward returned to Ione last Wednesday after making a business trip to Heppner on Tuesday.

The Dryfork and Hardman baseball teams played a close and interesting game of ball last Sunday, the score ending 18 to 19. It was anybody's game from start to finish, Hardman being the lucky team. Hardman will play at Dryfork next Sunday.

Earl Puyear departed Monday morning for Portland where he will spend several days visiting relatives.

O. D. Forbes left Wednesday morning for Shipherd's Hot Springs to join his wife who has been there for some time.

Dr. F. B. Dye of Heppner was down last Sunday to visit his brother, Dr. J. B. Dye.

Miss Edna McNabb left Tuesday morning for Pendleton where she will visit friends for some time.

Mrs. J. W. Puyear and children returned from Portland last Tuesday evening after spending several weeks visiting relatives in Portland.

While trying to pass J. H. Bryson on a rocky grade between Ione and Lexington last Saturday, Howard Lane ran into Bryson's car tearing the fender almost off and bending an axle and the frame considerably. Howard escaped with but a bent axle. The occupants of both cars were unharmed.

A large number of people from Ione attended the Farmers Union picnic at Lexington last Saturday. The band furnished the music for the occasion.

CECIL NEWS.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Franklin are at Pendleton on a ten days visit.

Mrs. J. W. Osborne has been sick of late with heart trouble. Dr. Chick was called twice to attend her.

Herbert Everett and bride, who was Miss Millie Loshbaugh of Pendleton, arrived in Cecil Monday to make their home.

L. E. McBee shipped three cars of cattle from Heppner to Portland Saturday.

Mrs. Boyd Logan went to Arlington Saturday to visit several days.

Mrs. C. W. Fulton and sister, Miss Curtis, were up from The Dalles Sunday visiting at the M. V. Logan home.

Licenses to wed were issued this week to James B. Cox of Lexington and Miss Edna O. Ayers of Galloway. Mr. Chan. O'Conner and Miss Cosby A. Shockley, both of Ione, were issued the papers also.

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