

LOCAL

Daniel Gibson of Portland was in Houlton, Monday.

Janice Spence is having the roof of his opera house painted.

Dishes given away free at the New York store in St. Helens.

J. L. Truman of Goble visited Houlton on his wheel Sunday.

W. E. Belford started Tuesday for a business trip to San Francisco.

Yankton Grange will hold open meeting at their hall next Saturday.

School teachers are reported as somewhat scarce in different parts of the state.

We have received some very fine sweet corn from some of the Yankton people.

Mrs. Sobeski was a Portland passenger on the early boat from St. Helens Tuesday.

At Bailey & Brinn's you find a good quality of general merchandise, at the right price. New goods arriving daily.

County Surveyor Watts and Road Master Stevens were in Houlton Monday morning looking after the Stanwood road.

The smoky weather has made it bad for duck shooting, but it has been a shield to the hunter of grouse and pheasants.

Morgus of the New York store at St. Helens is offering special inducements for cash trade. See him for fine premium dishes.

The school teachers are all in Rainier, today. And a better looking, more intelligent class of people would be hard to find.

Tin, did you say? Yes, Well, Bailey & Brinn have the finest line of tinware in the county and at prices so low you will be surprised.

Mr. John Kearney, the gentlemanly clerk at Perry & Grahams' returned Sunday after a weeks vacation, which was spent at his home in Portland.

Velvets will be much worn this winter. See the sample patterns at Harry Oliver's. He also has a large line of fall and winter dress goods.

We acknowledge the receipt of a sack of potatoes, a box of apples and a dozen ears of corn on subscription. So you see we are not going to starve yet a while.

Andrew King has a gang of men at work on the St. Helens water line. They are laying a new main from Houlton to the tank on the hill above their town.

There is a terrible forest fire within a half mile of the town of Holbrook. It has already devoured 10,000 cords of wood and a sawmill, and a change of wind may drive it down into the town at any time.

Mrs. Ridley, who has just returned from the hop-fields at Salem, reports picking so plentiful that the price of picking was cut too low to make any money at it. The hop harvest was short, but sweet.

E. C. Dalton and Dr. Lock arrived in St. Helens from Chicago Wednesday, just in time to see the town in ashes. Dalton looks as well as he did at time of leaving St. Helens two years ago. Time has dealt gently with him.

Rev. Dr. Rockwell, presiding Elder of the M. E. church, and Rev. G. M. Thorp held the last quarterly conference for the Rainier circuit at Houlton, Tuesday evening. The annual conference will be held at Eugene, September 28.

Miss Ethel Mathews lead the Epworth League at Houlton last Sunday evening. The League is well attended and the young people pride themselves on their good behavior. Miss Lowe will lead the meeting next Sunday evening.

Prune picking is the next industry to be operated this year. The dry-kills will be fired the first of next week, and picking will begin. The yield will be light this year as compared with former years. The price for picking will be about the same.

Walter Blakesley, who just returned from his trip to St. Louis, says he visited fourteen states during his stay. At Tacoma he first learned of the St. Helens fire in which he is quite a heavy loser. He will probably erect a building at once.

Should the fires continue much longer there is danger of them getting into the Cooperage company's bolts and their loss would be considerable, as they have now about three thousand cords cut and ready to flume down as soon as water can be had to run them.

Joseph Dupont, of Valley, returned from the hop-fields Tuesday afternoon, and went out to his place. It is pretty bad for one to loose house and home, but he has one consolation. His family are all safe. His wife received several severe burns, but they are not dangerous.

Rainier is to be congratulated on her good luck in having the institute there this year. By the way during the hot dusty weather prevalent pretty much all over the county, just now, the teachers will be very thankful that the institute was called for Rainier. A more pleasant place in the county would be hard to find.

Shingle for sale at this office.

HOLOCAUST.

St. Helens Goes Up In Smoke.

At about 2 o'clock Wednesday morning the people of St. Helens were aroused from their slumbers by an alarm of fire. The alarm was promptly answered by the volunteer company, but owing to the lack of water they were unable to do anything toward putting out the fire.

The entire block in which was situated the post office, hotels and the principal business interests of the town was consumed by the fire. The total loss is estimated at \$40,000. A very small amount of insurance was carried, the rate being prohibitive—\$7.50 on the hundred dollars.

The fire is supposed to have originated in the rear of Richardson's saloon. Just how, is a mystery, but it is supposed to have been of incendiary origin.

Very little of the household or other effects escaped the flames.

So far as we have learned the losses were about \$40,000 as follows:

M. C. Gray \$4,500 no insurance.

John McKie \$1,500; ins \$400.

Florence Godfrey \$2000 ins \$1000

D. A. Richardson, saloon and fixtures \$800 covered by insurance.

W. H. Dolman, residence and store building, \$4,500 ins \$750.

Oriental Hotel, owned by Mrs. Lena Demming, Eugene and Walter Blakesley \$4,500; furnishings to hotel and house hold effects of A. T. Laws who was moving from hotel and of H. Vahdolah who was moving into hotel.

W. H. Powell law books \$400.

Dr. Ross drug stock, fixtures and damage to new building \$2,000.

Jacob George St. Helens hotel \$800.

Muckle Bros. four dwelling-houses, blacksmith shop, civic hall, and saw mill \$8,500.

E. E. Quick abstract office and damage to safes—the contents of safes were intact; \$600.

Capt. Goode, storehouse \$600.

Lope Brothers residence \$600.

The civic societies—Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Rathbone Sisters lost nearly all their paraphernalia, \$750.

There were no casualties and no serious accidents during the fire.

All was done to save the town that it was possible to do.

As to rebuilding the town there is some talk of putting up a stone or brick building or two but it is more than likely that a great portion of the town will not be rebuilt at least not soon. Some of the heaviest losers are unable to rebuild.

Had it not been for the earnest efforts of the citizens, the block in which the courthouse is located would also have been destroyed. If this had been the case, with the destruction of Mr. Quick's abstract books, the loss to the property owners would have been irreparable.

Many important historical landmarks have been destroyed with the burning of St. Helens. Buildings that were erected before their was any thought of a city where Portland now stands, went up in smoke this morning, and their loss is far greater than can be measured in money.

The St. Helens Hotel, building owned by Jacob George, was built more than 60 years ago, and was the first court house of Columbia County, the governmental seat of which St. Helens is. Later the building was used for store purposes, and of late years has become a hotel. It was at one time considered the finest building in the state of Oregon. Owing to the extreme age and approaching decay of the structure no insurance company would accept risks, and the \$3000 loss of furniture and fixtures will be total.

LADIES ATTENTION.

I will be at Houlton on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 28th, 29th and 30th inst, with a full line of up to date millinery, walking and dress suits, Tailor made suits, jackets, coats, and shirt waists which I will offer to you cheaper than you have ever bought before. Call and see me at Mrs. Ethel Matthews. Houlton Ore. September 28th 29th and 30th.

Mrs. L. SWETT.

Register and Journal (sent weekly) for \$1.75 per year.

TEACHER'S INSTITUTE.

Rainier, Oregon., Sept. 14, 1904.

The Institute this year is perhaps, the most interesting that Columbia county has ever had.

Supt. Copeland has secured, as instructors some of the most able men in the state.

Prof. C. A. Rice, of Monmouth, had for his subject to-day: Methods of Teaching Primary Arithmetic; and it was handled in such a manner as to meet the needs of a primary teacher.

Dr. Sheldon, of the University of Oregon, addressed the teachers on the kind of Literature they should read. Prof. L. R. Traver, Supt. of City Schools, Salem, in his talk on Methods, advocated very forcibly the advantages of the "phonetic system" in teaching reading.

State Supt. Ackerman is expected tomorrow. Those who hear his address to-morrow evening on "The Boy and What Shall We Do With Him," will no doubt enjoy a treat.

The weather is ideal for such a meeting, and the teachers are unusually attentive to the speakers. There are about 55 teachers present, and others are expected to arrive this evening.

VERNONIA.

E. R. Throop made a trip to Clatskanie the first of the week.

Wm. S. ewe lost all his buildings and orchard by fire Friday.

A. N. Early took two head of cattle to St. Helens Sunday.

Fire is still raging up Rock Creek, doing considerable damage to standing timber.

T. H. North came in from the Grove Monday with a load of flour for Grant Downing.

Arthur Johnson bought J. E. Dow's feed chopper and engine and is moving it up to his place.

Our road supervisor, Gust Gustafson, is doing some good work on the road east of town.

Tom Throop returned from the hop yard Tuesday.

KARL.

The Rainier school board believing that cleanliness is a cardinal virtue have caused the school grounds to be thoroughly cleaned, as well as having had the buildings scrubbed and put in order before opening school. The number of children in attendance is larger than last year and necessitates the employment of another teacher. The city council have granted the free use of the town hall for school purposes for this year, or until such time as the board can secure another building. Should the pupils increase at the same rate for another year or so it will necessitate the building of a new house with about four rooms. This should be built over in the west end of town, to accommodate the little folk of that locality.

J. H. Gibson of Rainier, while working in a logging camp near Knappa, on Tuesday of last week, had the misfortune to get his left hand caught in the rigging, thereby losing the ends of three fingers of his left hand. When his hand caught in the block his body was lifted clear and suspended in mid-air fully twenty feet distant from the ground. He retained presence of mind and signaled for the engineer to back He extricated himself from the rigging, while two Italians stood by without offering to assist in any manner. Mr. Gibson lately moved from Goble to Rainier and now occupies the Mitchell residence.

Higginbotham, who pitched ball for the Clatskanie team during the recent base-ball tournament at Clatskanie, was arrested last Saturday, at Hillsboro, and taken to Oregon City, to answer to the charge of larceny. It appears that he made a grand stand play while pitching ball for the University-Park club, and so captivated a Clackamas young lady that she loaned him her watch, which he afterwards refused to return to her. Verrily the ways of the grand-stand player are the cause of much trouble.

Sheridan Rice has opened out a butcher shop in the room formerly occupied as Newsum's water office in Rainier. This is the third meat market for the town of Rainier, and is probably crowding things a little in the butcher business, but Mr. Rice, who is an old settler and well known in the lower end of the county, will no doubt get a good share of the town and country trade.

The steamer Iralda was taken from the Portland-Rainier run and is now undergoing repairs, a new boiler is being installed. The new boiler will give 35 pounds additional steam pressure; which will increase her speed about a mile or a mile and a half per hour. This will be greatly appreciated by all the river travelers.

The institute programs were printed in Houlton at the Register office. They are a fair sample of work we do here.

Every day or two a car load of bolts for the stove factory is shipped in and dumped into the pond near the factory. When the rains set in and start Milton creek to running on full time and a full head of water the factory will start up and continue running right along.

G. R. Hyde of Yankton was a pleasant caller last Monday, and renewed his subscription to the daily Journal and the Pacific Homestead. That is the way a good farmer should do. Call on your local newspaper man and renew your subscriptions through him. It saves time for yourself and leaves the commission in your own hands.

Old papers 25 cents per hundred.

Parties desiring old newspapers should call at this office.

Remember that the REGISTER clubs with all papers of Portland.

W. D. Case of Pittsburg, visited Portland the last of the week on business.

Star A Star shingles for sale at the Register office. In small lots or by the car load.

The steamer Altona from the Oregon City run is making the Rainier-Portland run this week.

Wm. Symmons, the affable justice of the peace of Rainier precinct, visited Portland Saturday.

A special correspondent from Vernonia writes that that city is almost deserted. Nearly every one is gone hop-picking.

If you like the REGISTER tell your friends about it and induce them to subscribe. We have special clubbing rates with the Portland Journal, Oregonian and San Francisco Examiner.

James Timmony has rented a portion of his water front to Fred Teuscher for the construction of a wood flume and wood dock, just above Rainier.

Joseph Silvo and family returned last Friday from a three weeks visit to the Sound country. The air there seemed to agree with him as he looks like one who has renewed his youth.

Thomas Emmons has taken charge of the west end of the Vernonia-Houlton mail route, while John Rice operates the east end. Willard Tucker, the carrier for the east end has gone to visit his parents at New Port, Oregon.

W. P. Tucker who has been carrying the mail for the past four or five years from Houlton to Vernonia, has taken a short vacation, and is now rusticiating at his home near New Port, Oregon. He will be absent about three or four weeks.

Charles, the 18-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. B. McKee, of Hudson, died Sept. 6, of pneumonia. The funeral took place Wednesday, Sept. 7, Rev. G. A. Taggart conducting the services. Interment at Hudson cemetery.

George P. Brown arrived in Rainier on Tuesday of last week, and is now engaged as meat-cutter for his father—Joseph Brown, the popular market man. Mr. Brown has the reputation of being one of the best meat-cutters on this coast.

The getting out of stove bolts is a very particular job. The bolts after being cut and split in proper size must be covered so as not to be exposed to the sun, as sun checks and pitch seams destroy the use of the bolt for stove making. All bolts must be shipped in box cars.

The REGISTER man has houses to rent and houses to sell in the town of Rainier, the best school town in the county. A house and one block, two houses and one block, and also a house and lot for good business location. He has also two or three good locations for small fruit farms or chicken ranches.

A nice bright child started to school at the beginning of the year and was placed among the little girls, but the little girls concluded that the child was in the wrong side of the house, and the teacher asked: "Be you a boy or a girl?" The answer came quickly:—"I don't know, this is my first year in school."

A. N. Earley who owns a ranch up at the head of Coon creek near Vernonia, was in Houlton the first of the week with some beef cattle for market. He reports the top of the prairie from Coon creek to East fork as pretty well burned over. He says that the fires are not hurting the green timber very much, and burns very slowly except where there is a wind-fall or a slashing.

Legal enactment is suggested providing that county assessors shall furnish to the county courts of their respective counties full lists by precincts showing the names and the total value of the property of each person, company, association and corporation assessed. The court shall cause such lists to be published in the newspaper published nearest such precinct. By these means the public may know the extent of the possessions of all business concerns, whether corporate or individual, and with the passage of law with the requirements stated will tend to removal the general uncertainty so frequently felt with regard to incorporated concerns and their assets. The proposed measure has received approval from many sources.

CIRCUIT COURT OFFICERS:

THOMAS A. McBRIDE, District Judge

HARRISON ALLEN, District Attorney

COUNTY OFFICERS:

R. S. HATTAN, Judge, St. Helens

H. HENDERSON, Clerk, St. Helens

MARTIN WHEELS, Sheriff, St. Helens

CASPER LIBBE, Commissioner, St. Helens

H. L. COLVIN, Comm'r., Marshland

EDWIN ROSS, Treasurer, St. Helens

A. T. LAWS, Assessor, St. Helens

I. H. COPPELAND, School Supt., Houlton

W. T. WATTS, Surveyor, Scappoose

H. E. CARP, Coroner, St. Helens

COUNTY COURT

Bills Allowed.

In the matter of claims against the several road districts were examined and allowed by the Court and the clerk ordered to draw warrants in payment of same:

ROAD DISTRICT NO. 1.

Geo W Grant \$12 00

Scappoose Lumber Company 25 32

F Kammeyer 9 80

A Newman 13 80

J B Duncan 28 00

R W Grant 16 40

A Lange 8 00

G Lange 20 00

D Cooper 12 80

Nelson & Reed Co. 36 24

D F Grant 10 00

R W Grant 4 00

D Cooper 5 00

H White 21 80

G Lange 6 00

A Lange 5 00

H Bartel 16 00

C Allen 12 00

ROAD DISTRICT NO. 2.

K F Larson 5 25

Brinn & Stanwood 34 88

A M Laprach 20 00

Ed Hazen 28 00

Perley Crouse 48 00

Frank Kelley 19 00

A Lops 1 80

Chas Wallis 6 00

W Cooper 4 00

James Cox 17 00

ROAD DISTRICT NO. 3.

M J Engert 60 75

Wm Brought 27 50

J Archibald 7 50

John Winters 4 50

J Dupont Jr. 1 00

Park Mitchell 5 00

W E Smith 10 65

John Boyd 25 50

Chas Merz 55 00

John Larson 21 50

Chas Crouse 68 50

Dd Larson 10 00

A N Clark 40 50

Herman Usher 132 00

Perry & Graham 5 75

ROAD DISTRICT NO. 4.

C J Lindholm 2 00

Klas Johnson 3 00

E Mott 2 00

Dupont Bros. 6 00

C H English 2 00

O Olsen & Son 25 81

C E Olsen 20 25

C E Olsen 53 00

ROAD DISTRICT NO. 5.

Fred Langner 58 50

W Bishop 43 85

Dd Black 65 25

B Hosford 2 00

C C Keasey 21 80

Wm Dereberry 4 00

J Chetella 5 00

J Reel 11 00

C W Mellinger 12 00

A Parker 5 89

Perry Mellinger 30 10

A Wood 15 70

Ray Mills 20 00

C McCauley 16 80

W Magil 18 70

H Redmond 1 00

ROAD DISTRICT NO. 15.

Ruben Ward 15 40

D W Keasey 8 00

A G Hotchkiss 5 00

John Pringle 1 00

T Throop 4 00

E W Sheeley 15 00

C B Armstrong 16 60

T B Adams 6 80

O G Hult 10 60

W M Wilson 14 60

E G Shannahan 40 50

W M Wilson 13 00

C B Armstrong 15 60

Louis Seigert 12 80

O G Hult 10 40

R Seseman 3 20

Gust Gustafson 29 00

R Seseman 8 00

S B Richards 80

Geo Engelke 4 00

Haus Christensen 10 20

John Smith 7 50

J P Sheeley 8 80

East Fork Shingle Co. 7 88

A Johnson 4 00

John Edholm 2 20

In the matter of claims against the county allowed