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CLIPPING FROM

PORTLAND (Ore.) OREGONIAN
MAY 29, 1912.

John Walatsie

TWO INDIANS SUICIDE

CARLISLE GRADUATE AND HIS
COMPANION TAKE POISON.

Walatsi, One Time Noted Athlete,
and Parr Found Dead Near
Pendleton Depot.

PENDLETON, Or., May 28.—(Special.)—A double suicide was enacted near the O.-W. R. & N. freight house today, when two prominent reservation Indians, John Wallatsi and Isaac Parr swallowed strychnine. A partially empty bottle containing the poison was found with them when the bodies were discovered. Both braves had been drinking quite heavily during the afternoon, according to reports from townspeople who had seen them shortly before the tragedy.

This is one of three Indian suicides on the Umatilla Reservation in the history of the county, which affects the three tribes of Walla Walla, Cayuse and Umatilla. Suicides are almost unknown among the redmen. Wallatsi was a Carlisle graduate and one of the finest all-round athletes the reservation has ever turned out. At the time he entered Carlisle and after finishing there he starred in football and was also splendid in track work and baseball. Of late the young brave, but 26 at the time of his death, had become addicted to the excessive use of "firewater" and had fast lost the vigor and strength of his former years. Wallatsi is a full-blood Indian of the Columbia River tribe. An incoherent note signed by Wallatsi was found by the Coroner.

Parr had a strain of French blood in him, his father being one of the old French voyageurs, who still is living on the reservation. Both Indians are allottees on the Umatilla Reservation. Parr is survived by a wife and family.

John Wa-Lat-Zi, Great Carlisle Fullback and Trackman, Again Reduced to Semi-Savage State by "Firewater"

Though Now a Sot He Still
Treasures Medals Won in
Big Meets East.

2104
(Special to The Journal.)
Pendleton, Or., April 20.—Redeemed from a state of semi savagery and fitted to become a useful citizen, only to sink back into degeneracy through the medium of "firewater," John Wa-lat-zi, a full blood Indian and a graduate of Carlisle, exemplifies perhaps better than any Indian on the Umatilla reservation the tendency of his people to "go back" once they have been equipped for the responsibilities of life and thrown upon their own resources.

Less than a decade ago, Wa-lat-zi was winning renown as one of the greatest athletes that ever entered Carlisle, six years ago he was following the trade he had learned at that institution and today he is as wild, as indolent and as "cultus" as any member of the three tribes living here.

Wa-lat-zi Great Fullback.

Wa-lat-zi was sent to the famous Indian college when he was a boy and was graduated from there eight years ago. He was taught the blacksmithing trade and before he left was recognized as an expert at the hammer and anvil. His prowess on the gridiron and athletic field is still talked of. As fullback on the Carlisle team, he fought many battles against Harvard, Yale and other big eastern institutions, and though by no means a heavyweight, was recognized as one of the fiercest plungers in the game at that time. As a track athlete, he brought more honors to his school, for he was a premier shot putter and hammer thrower in the intercollegiate world. In the high jump too, he was a point winner and the medals which he won in the big eastern meets he still treasures.

"Honest John" Given Him.

At his graduation, the great athlete came back to his old home and devoted himself to his trade. For two years he was blacksmith for John Crow, one of the wheat kings of Umatilla county, and during this time there was no Indian about Pendleton more respected than he. His integrity was so widely known that the sobriquet of "Honest John" was applied to him and still clings. In those days he was wont to ride into the city during the spring to assist in coaching the high school track athletes and many of these students have since made names for themselves as members of Oregon college teams. His ability to clear the bar at five feet in riding boots and chaps is still one of the memories of the high school track.

Takes First Drink; Goes Down.

After two or three years of hard work, "Honest John" began to taste of "firewater" and from the day of his first drink his retrogression was marked. Soon he quit his trade and began spending his time in the past-times of other young braves and during the past few years his life has been the life from which the government sought to save him. What time he is not in jail on a drunk and disorderly charge, he is on the back of his cuitan dashing about the reservation. As a broncho buster, he has acquired much the same position as he held in Carlisle athletics for he is without a peer among his tribesmen in the gentle art



Photo Copyright by Major Lee Moorhouse of Pendleton, Or.

of sticking to the back of a bucking broncho.

His ability in this line came to general notice here last fall just prior to the annual Roundup when he was used to "try out" the many "outlaw" horses which were brought in for the wild west contests. No broncho was too wild for him to mount and many anticipated that he would be a strong bidder for the northwest championship in the Roundup contests but unfortunately for his hopes and their beliefs, on the night before the opening of the frontier carnival he imbibed too freely from his bottle, was arrested and his jail sentence of three days prevented him from appearing in the list of contestants.

6033

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.
DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.

NUMBER 2624	ENGLISH NAME John Malletic	AGENCY Umatilla	NATION Umatilla					
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS Miss Mollie Gaither, Umatilla, Ore.						
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.
FATHER, Dead	MOTHER, Living	Full	20	5-10	180	39 1/2	35	m
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL Nov 15 1900		FOR WHAT PERIOD 5 years		DATE DISCHARGED July 1st, 1902		CAUSE OF DISCHARGE Ran from Country		
TO COUNTRY	PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS					FROM COUNTRY		
June 14, 02	Lambert Warman, Stockton, N. J.							
Daily Report Book shows:-								
Ran 12-2-00						Ret'd 12-4-00		
Ran 6-4-01						" 9-10-01		
" 7-1-02								

SHAW-WALKER MUSKOGON 547B

Months in school before Carlisle, 48.....

Grade entered at Carlisle, 2nd.....

Grade at date of Discharge, 5th.....

Trade or Industry, Blacksmith.....

Church,

Umatilla, Oreg.

Record of Graduates and Returned Students.

U. S INDIAN SCHOOL, CARLISLE, PA.

NAME John W. Waller ^{Sept 7} 1910.

1. Are you married and if so to whom? no
2. What is your present address? Pendleton Oregon
3. Did you attend or graduate from any other schools after leaving Carlisle? no Give names of schools and dates if possible.

4. What is your present occupation? Farming

5. Tell something of your present home. I have a two story house and a Barn holding 15 hhd of horses and land all in cultivation

6. What property in the way of land, stock, buildings or money do you have? 80 acres

7. Have you been in the Indian Service? In what positions? How long in each? I was assistant farmer for one year

2104

Carlisle, Pa., September 14, 1910.

Mr. John Wallatsie,
Pendleton, Oregon.

Dear friend:

I have received the blank which was sent to you to be filled out, and am glad to hear that you are doing well. W

I understand that you own a comfortable home, and would be very glad to get a photograph of it. I hope at some time to publish a pamphlet showing the homes of returned students, and hope that you will be willing to send us the photograph of your home. I will be glad to reimburse you for whatever it costs you to send the photograph.

Thanking you in advance for this, and wishing you continued success in your work, I am

Very truly yours,

Superintendent.

(ABR)