

John “Jack” Hickey Peare

7th State Deputy of Oregon 1920-1922



J. H. PEARE

John Hickey Peare, the son of William and Matilda Hickey Peare, was born November 13, 1866, in Garrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary, Ireland. He attended Erasmus Smith College in Ireland. John married Catherine Halley on Sep. 19, 1889 in Ireland. Both migrated to La Grande, OR in October of 1890 and established a jewelry store located on Adams Avenue in La Grande in 1891. They had two children, Eillen and William.

John, or Jack as he was called, was one of the charter members of the La Grande Athletic Club, and an active participant in athletics. He at one time held three Pacific Coast records, viz., high jump, running jump and 120-yard hurdle race. Jack was captain and trainer of the La Grande Fire Department Hose Team that won the World Championship in 1898. He was also a member of the La Grande Fire

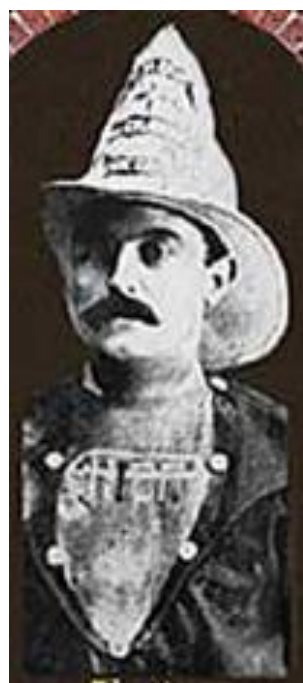
Department since its organization.



In 1912, his son, William, joined the family business as an optometrist and the business was then known as J. H. Peare & Son Jewelers & Optometrists. The store was opened for over 55 years.

In 1920 John Peare was the chairman of the Union county republican committee and went to Ohio to visit Warren G. Harding who was running for President. He was in the Third regiment of the Oregon National Guard and Register of land office at La Grande in the 1920's.

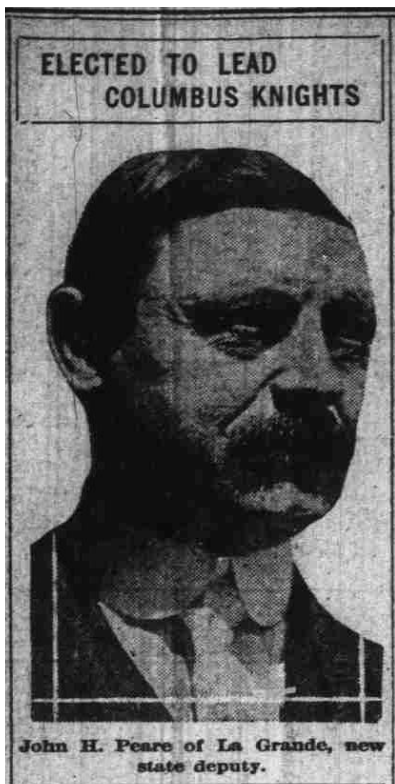
Jack once served as Exalted Ruler of the La Grande BPOE and was a member of the Knights of Pythias. John was a member of the La Grande council and State Deputy of the K of C 1920 - 1922 and District Master of the 4th Degree.



John H. (Jack) Peare died July 25, 1950, and is buried in the La Grande Hillcrest East Cemetery. Catherine, his wife, passed away March 29, 1956, and is buried next to her husband.



John "Jack" Hickey Peare sitting in his jewelry store in the turn of the century – La Grande, OR



"Every true Knight knows that that it his duty to help all mankind and from what I do know of the Knights of Oregon they are without exception endeavoring to perform that duty." John H. Peare - June 13, 1921, 10th State Convention, Portland, OR