

## THE INDEPENDENCE MONITOR

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G. A. Hurley, Publisher & Proprietor

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Independence, Oregon, Thursday, August 1, 1912

### OUR FIRST ISSUE IN INDEPENDENCE

If the editor was a stranger he would greet you with a time honored introductory telling you what he intended to do and what the people might expect, but as the editor of the Monitor is an old acquaintance of the people here, was a student in your old hotel school house before the present public school building was built, and before a high school building had even seemed a remote possibility, played shinny and town ball with your leading merchants and bankers, swam in the river and played in the sand with your farmers and hop men until their backs were blistered, he hardly feels like speaking in the formal time honored custom. It is Bill and Tom and Jim and John and Harry to the editor and will probably always be so. The editor has been on the firing line at the church lobby waiting his turn to see you home with the rest of the boys now business men, most of whom like the editor are married and have children that will soon be following the steps their fathers and mothers took. This is past history and known to all.

When but 12 years of age the editor cast his lot with the good people of Independence and for 18 years he was one of you. Then like all of the home grown products he saw the golden fleece at the end of the rainbow and so crossed the mountains to make a home. He is back again and is here to give to the people of Independence and those old acquaintances of his a paper replete with local news, not over colored, exaggerated, unreasonable and unseasonable news, but facts embellished with plain words so that those who can read may know.

We shall not claim for Independence everything in the decalogue but we shall try to give it fair mention and keep abreast with the times. As a railroad and transportation center we shall often mark it down with a double star because every indication leads us to believe it has transportation facilities unequalled in the valley and every promise is given of the very best service possible to conceive. Dairying, better stock, more small fruits, larger hop yards, more intensive cultivation, and the improving and clearing up of the farms are just incidents that impress one returning after several years absence in other sections.

The main feature is that this paper is now here with you, a part and parcel of you, to tell others what you are doing and you what they are doing; what you grow, and how you grow it; your successes and failures; your prospects and promises. We have no enemies to chastise, no pets to pumper, no quarrels to pick, and no complaints to make. We wish to be on friendly terms with everyone, and expect our business relations with the Independence Enterprise to be friendly, and hope to work in harmony for the development of Independence.

We want your help and we promise you the best that is in us. What more is there for us to say?

### TO SATISFY INQUIRIES ABOUT MALHEUR

Since coming to Independence many have inquired regarding Vale and the great interior of Oregon of which Malheur county is part. Malheur county is approximately 60 miles in width and 160 miles in length. A mountainous section of Oregon, with rich valleys, and streams intersecting them. It will always be a large stock country on account of its rough, mountainous lands, which comprise its greatest asset. There is some government land there yet open for settlement that will produce crops when irrigated, but the land nearest the main settlements and under present projects is pretty generally settled and only now and then is a claim found of any value. It is a section that needs money for actual development, and as large reservoirs are necessary to further develop it, it requires immense capital and that must be secured from the money markets of the world. Several projects promise to be built in a short time, the one most liable to be pushed to completion within a short time is the reservoir of Bully creek, which will irrigate a large tract of land just west of Vale. Several pumping plants have been established and electrical power is used to irrigate large tracts along the Snake river by this method. Regarding the oil situation, no actual discoveries have been made of any quantities that would justify any heavy investment in the field, although one of two companies are legitimately promoting oil wells. There has been considerable wildcatting in the field and it has done some damage to the companies that really are trying to secure oil. Vale has a population of over 1000 people, is the county seat, has natural hot water, natural building stone, and is at the entrance of the canyon for the Oregon Short Line road across the state, and will probably be on the Hill line when it builds from Weiser across Oregon to the coast. If the irrigation goes forward Vale will probably have a population of 5000 people inside of ten years time, and possibly many more. Like all arid sections water is a necessity, but when land is once under water it will produce ten per cent interest on \$150 per acre in crop returns.

### OREGON ELECTRIC TO REACH EUGENE

The effect of the Oregon-Electric extension from Portland, through East Independence to Eugene is not fully appreciated by the people of Independence. A competitive line here, like a competitive line anywhere, means better service and connections to all sections. The old line improves its connections and replans its service because it wishes to hold the business; the new line gives good connections, the best it can, because it is out after new business. Property values increase because great sections of land are brought to the market by railroad transportation coming to the very door of out of the the way places.

This week the line is expected to reach Eugene and from there the extensions are not known to the editor at this time, but will undoubtedly reach the coast, probably at Coos Bay and connect with a main line connection through central Oregon. This new service gives Independence four additional trains to Portland and the same number to Albany and Eugene. It puts this section of the county in direct connection with the whole of the east side of the Willamette, which heretofore was reached only by boat service. Besides the electric connection we have close connections with Salem, Dallas, Airlie and Moumouth through the motor line service with headquarters in this place. We have the promise of the electrification of the whole west side of the Southern Pacific and the building of a branch line from Independence to Salem. These are important factors in the development of this town and if our internal affairs are managed judiciously, carefully, without graft, and for the public good, the development of Independence will know no bounds for several years to come.

### BRIDGING THE WILLAMETTE RIVER

The Salem Statesman says: "Within a few years possibly two, there will be seventeen bridges spanning the Willamette river between Portland and the head of navigation. Of this number three are in prospect and work will be started on them in a few months. At Salem was built the first wagon bridge across the Willamette in 1886." It is a long stretch of country, and a rich, fertile section, from Salem to Albany, a distance probably over 30 miles with no wagon bridge across the Willamette between these two points. Independence is the logical location for a bridge spanning the Willamette and a movement for a bridge at this point would undoubtedly meet with the favor of both Polk and Marion counties. A free ferry is now sustained at Independence by the two counties but a bridge would be a paying investment as it would cause an increase in property values that would more than offset the expense of building.

### BUSINESS COLLEGES BECOMING PRACTICAL

"Speaking to the members of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce, President Morton MacCormac of the National Commercial Teachers' association, said that business colleges were no longer looking forward to taking the boys from the farm only to make clerks and bookkeepers of; rather they are seeking to get them back on the soil and be more useful.

This is an encouraging sign. Any boy who was raised on the farm can remember dozens of boys who "went to business college so they could keep books and not have to work". One result of this was a wrong view of life on the farm and another was the production of more consumers than producers. Even the very stronghold of the enemy is beginning to weaken. When the business college sees the light, the victory is almost won."—Spokesman Review.

A good Commercial College course added to a public school course is a great incentive for education in any community and is worthy of investigation.

### INDEPENDENCE FAVORABLY SITUATED

Almost one fourth of the wheat exported from the United States during the last year was shipped from the port of Portland. As a market for the products of the country Portland takes a leading position. Independence is so near this world market that any good manufacturing industry or productive commodity would be a money making proposition if produced or manufactured in quantities sufficient for shipment.

A woman's Civic Improvement League will secure more internal improvement in a town in a month than a Commercial Club will secure in a year. Women become inoculated with ideas and leave business worries alone long enough to get things started. They secure libraries, build parks, clean up the streets, remove nuisances and make the town attractive.

Every town should have a clean up day when everybody should get out and cut down the weeds, thistles and grass; remove the rubbish and have every thing hauled away. A pretty lawn is literally spoiled if you don't keep the grass down from your sidewalks.

Addison Bennett, while in Independence said "don't put all your eggs in one basket, raise diversified crops." A good idea to keep in your mind all the time.

The Monitor has samples of Eastern Oregon soil on display but we left the Eastern Oregon wind storms behind.

Independence is going ahead and new buildings are being erected on every corner

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Catalogue and illustrated literature mailed free on application. Address, Registrar, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.  
School Year Open September 20

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Want a Clerk  
Want a Partner  
Want a Situation  
Want a Servant girl  
Want to Sell a Piano  
Want to Sell a Carriage  
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Want to sell your groceries  
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Want Customers for Anything  
Advertise in Independence, Monitor  
Advertising is the way to success  
Advertising brings in customers  
Advertising keeps customers  
Advertising insures success  
Advertising is Energetic  
Advertising is Plucky  
Advertising is "Bla"  
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Advertise Strong  
Advertise Well  
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THE MONITOR

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