

La Grande Evening Observer

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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FLORA ITS EDITOR.

One of the Most optimistic statements coming from Flora, Wallowa county, is worded in an editorial of the Flora Journal. For downright vim and "git," Mrs. Skaggs, the Flora editor couldn't improve much on the following:

Flora now has two all-right general merchandise stores, a good meat market, two good blacksmith shops, a competent physician, two live churches, two good hotels and feed barns, a drug store, a millinery shop, a flouring mill we have need to be proud of and a two roomed school house. We have telephonic communication with the other end of the county and our rural line, owned by the North End Telephone Co., between this place and Grouse and have no doubt but that this is just a beginning of what will follow.

Flora has improved much in appearance in the last year of two. Improvements on surrounding farms and in the other communities have also been made much more attractive and substantial.

The lack of transportation has kept us from a greater prosperity than we otherwise would have enjoyed. The flattering prospect of a logging railroad up Whiskey Creek brings transportation nearer. The Nibley-Minnigh Lumber Co. has holdings on this way and the railroad will of course come on and we cannot help having great hopes that it will finally come on to our town of Flora. And then the M. M. & P. Co.—how it mean business? Well, the North End is prosperous now and feels that with the advent of a railway it will be the country.

An increased wave of prosperity is sweeping over the United States according to that usually accurate barometer of prosperous conditions—the gross postal receipts. The receipts at 50 of the largest cities for the month of March last showed an increase over the same month last year of \$1,178,921, or 14.50 per cent, the normal increase being about five per cent. Similar statements show increases for January last of 6.09 per cent and for February of 4.73 per cent over the same months of last year.

Postmaster-General Hitchcock declares that while the boom in the business of the department is very gratifying to him, it will not materially reduce the anticipated deficit for the fiscal year.

FINISHED SURVEY AT NOON TODAY

Three days sooner than anticipated, the permanent survey of the Beaver Creek project was completed early this forenoon. While Mr. Pickler had planned on Thursday as the finishing day, Tuesday proved the day.

The pipe line will end at the reservoir and will come down the mountain side through Mill creek canyon with a fall of 1300 feet and in addition to that, has a fall of a little over 500 feet from the intake in Beaver creek to the summit of the mountain above the reservoir. This makes 1800 feet fall from the intake to where it empties into the reservoir in South La Grande.

The crew composed of Assistant Engineer Eckleson, T. Williamson, rodman, Hughes the packer and G-band the cook, rode into La Grande this noon, having done the last bit of work in connection with the survey. Now the line is actually surveyed, office work on field notes is all that remains.

WILL LIGHTS REMAIN

At a meeting of the Merchant's Protective Association tonight the matter of arranging to make permanent the carnival street lights will be taken up with the Grande Ronde Electric company. It is known that Mr. Pierce has made the association a proposition, not yet public, but which will be discussed and possibly modified at tonight's meeting. The date of the monthly dinner will also be settled this evening. It will probably be held Friday evening, the 21st.

MANY AFTER HOMESTEADS

Business is picking up rapidly in the matter of 320 acre homesteads. Though the first application was made in the local land office yesterday several were made today and will soon be as common as timber and stone claims were when they were at their height of interest. Close to half dozen applications were made today.

PAY UNCLE SAM'S DUES

In the neighborhood of \$700, first payment on government water rights on Hermitian land, were paid into the land office today by a group of Hermitian people who visited La Grande. They pay for every acre of irrigated land they own.

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The \$1.00 bottle contains 2 1/2 times as much as the 50 cent size.

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