

**Enterprise, Oregon**

(Continued from Page Two)

of cheese of foreign and domestic make that can be had. And in addition they handle, as a side line, wood, coal and shingles, observing the matter of quality in these as well as in all other portions of their stock. When in Enterprise, don't fail to go down and see Riley and Riley.

**Payne and Sheets—Real Estate.**

Nobody can hope to corner all the good qualities of human life nor all the best things in human temperament. Did you ever meet Payne and Sheets, real estate dealers, of Enterprise? Don't let another moon come and wane, without meeting them. You will like both of them. L. B. Payne, the senior member of the firm, is secretary of the Enterprise Commercial Club—and he has the Wallowa county "fever." That is what brought him to Wallowa county. It makes no difference what portion of the county you ask this firm about, it is convinced that Wallowa county is the best, the biggest, the most promising, and the potentially greatest county under the sun—and of course Payne and Sheets are right about it. Being right about it is what gives them indisputable evidence to present to the homeseeker who wants to buy a house or a farm or a ten thousand acre sheep ranch. It makes no difference to this firm how little or how big the "buy" you have in mind—it looks after your interests any way. As we said, don't fail to run up and see Payne & Sheets, at your first opportunity. You'll have one of the best times of your life, whether you want to buy real estate or not. Its worth a week of any man's time just to get this firm to enthuse one and to point out how very much happiness there is in the world, that we ordinary mortals never dreamed of.

**Wallowa National Bank.**

One of the institutions Enterprise and Wallowa county is proud of, is the Wallowa National Bank. The immediate officers of the bank are G. W. Hyatt, president, W. R. Holmes, cashier, A. J. Boehmer, assistant cashier.

The name of W. R. Holmes, or "Billy" Holmes, as he is known to all eastern Oregon, is a name that has been associated with the bank since the institution has been established. It is a name, too, that has stood and that still stands for generosity compatible with safe banking. Nobody in Wallowa county but knows "Billy" Holmes and likes him. This for many reasons. His whole life practically, is identified with this section of the state, from the early days in which he ran cattle through here, to the present, when, in his later years, he presides over the institution his care and fidelity has built up. Another thing, "Billy" Holmes has that quality of charity defined by the apostle as "Yanneth not itself, is not puffed up, etc.," and is typical as well as a representative of an eastern Oregon man of affairs.

The bank has grown wonderfully under Mr. Holmes management. Its surplus has increased, its deposits have grown from year to year, its influence has widened annually. It has been an institution that has gone, and that would at any future time go, the safe banking limit for anything of interest to its big territory.

Recently Mr. A. J. Boehmer has accepted the position of assistant cashier. Mr. Boehmer, although compar-

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atively a recent resident in Enterprise, is a gentleman of long banking experience, one inured to the daily burden of financial banking matters, and acquainted through experience with safe banking methods. It is characteristic of Mr. Boehmer as with Mr. Holmes, that the hard world of finance has never left a callous in the nature of either of them. They have real blood in their veins, instead of ice, as well as safe banking principles, and neither have ever felt the necessity of permitting the bed rock of finance to congeal their lively sympathies.

Of this sort, too, is President G. W. Hyatt of the Bank, mention of whom has been made in connection with the E. M. & M. company. This trio is a big institution in itself, and an indispensable one to Enterprise and Wallowa county.

**Pace and Jordan—Real Estate.**

Pace and Jordan do not "keep" real estate to sell. They sell it. In addition this firm is just now handling some mining stock, and this, with a general insurance business, keeps the firm busy daily.

Pace and Jordan are among the oldest real estate men in the county. They know the lay of the land from side to side and from end to end of the county. Mr. Pace, of this firm, was for years county assessor and deputy sheriff, and has traveled perhaps every hill and canyon in Wallowa.

This gives the firm an exact personal knowledge of the land they handle, and gives the buyer the advantage of this knowledge.

There is probably scarcely a day in the year that this firm is not listing property for sale, or selling property that has already been listed. And they thus do a big business. The homeseeker desiring a minute knowledge of the land he is thinking of buying, can get this detailed knowledge by dealing with this firm.

**And—Other Important Matters.**

But no one can really cover, in its entirety, the city of Enterprise, in a small newspaper article. The Observer realizes this, although it is crowding out much important news in order to serve Wallowa county even in a measure approximating that county's merits.

Enterprise has a wide-awake Commercial club, at the head of which is S. L. Burnaugh, with L. B. Payne as secretary. This club is accomplishing wonders for its city.

The city has fine water. The water—pure, clear snow water from springs—is piped directly from the big springs to a large reservoir on a hill near the city, and the water distributed from this point.

Few localities in the entire northwest present such attractive places for investment and residence as Wallowa county of which the city of Enterprise is the county seat. In that city will be found the foundation of a most modern metropolis; the public utilities, the well built buildings including a new court house; the business lines well represented and a complete school system. There one will find good churches, good homes and splendid people.

Being the hub of Wallowa county it is of more than ordinary importance for every person having any official business transaction must at some time visit the city of Enterprise where the county machinery is located and where officialdom holds forth.

In speaking of Wallowa county it is very hard to find truer and better words to express one's feelings than the following which flowed from the pen of that able newspaper writer, W. H. Dilworth, now deceased.

There is some law that levels human life—up or down. The banker is pleased only when he finds a community where good banking is possible; where there is a promise of deposits; where investments are gilt-edged.

The mercantile man, the wheat raiser, the fruit man, the stock man, the man of whatever bent of mind,—these all move through a sort of maelstrom of events until they reach their proper opportunity. Then each feels the pull of his mission and the consciousness of being a distinct entity in the shaping of human events in a locality.

This satisfaction can come only through opportunity, and opportunity is found only where development lies in the future.

**Wallowa County New.**

Wallowa county is new in point of development. It is the birthplace of opportunity—where opportunity not only knocks on your chamber door, but slips a message under the door before you can arise. It is the place for every one, any one, with a healthy desire to work and a strong inclination to be "square." In fact this "square deal" policy of Wallowa county residents preceded Roosevelt's famous saying by generations. It is the



ONE OF THE STRONG BUSINESS FIRMS OF ENTERPRISE.

very place for the man of ideas—new ideas. In Wallowa county, too, new ideas seem to be born of the sublime surroundings, the excellent climate, the rich, fertile valleys and bench lands, the magnificent mountain scenery, the thousands upon thousands of acres of splendid forests, the clear streams of water, the unnumbered lakes and the general physical supremacy of the whole country. Here a brand new idea never went begging. And here no man can linger without generating some new ideas.

It is remembered by Captain Smith of Enterprise, one of the first pioneers to enter the valley, that the river, valley, lake and the county took their name from an old Indian legend. Mr. Smith is an authority upon the history of the county. He states that the name "Wallowa" literally taken means fish-trap, and that it was first applied to the river, lake and valley by Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce braves. According to Mr. Smith the Indians came from the Imnaha and from Lapwal, Idaho, in the early summer, each year, to hunt and take fish in the Wallowa valley in and about Enterprise. And that upon one occasion the Indians placed a fish trap in the river, but not a fish was taken. The superstitious red men therefore concluded that the Great Spirit was angered at the subtlety of the Indian for trying to ensnare the fish in a trap instead of spearing them. They therefore never removed the trap from the river, but left it to be decayed or washed away by the floods. It lingered long enough, and the occasion was deeply enough impressed upon the minds of the Indians, that forever afterwards the river was designated as "fish-trap" river, the Indian word for which is "Wallowa."

From this origin the river, valley, lake and the town of Wallowa as well as the county took the Indian name.

**The Different Altitudes.**

It will be difficult to convince the eastern settlers of the fact of varying climates in Wallowa county. There are as many distinct climates in this county as there are altitudes; and there are altitudes ranging from two to three hundred feet above sea level to what is popularly believed to be 12,000 feet, on top of Eagle Cap mountain.

Consequently the occupation of the people here and their production varies in harmony with this altitude. There are slopes of sugar beets, vast fields of timothy, clover, alfalfa, large apple, peach, prune, pear and other fruit orchards, big herds of sheep, cattle and horses dotting the hill ranges, and thousands upon thousands of acres of wheat, rye, oats, barley, waving in the ripening breezes and under

the ripening sun. There are fields of corn in the corn altitudes and corn climates, within the same county; melons and squashes, cucumbers and pumpkins, down in the bench lands of the Imnaha. In fact, the settler can find almost any climate he desires right in Wallowa county—from a hot California climate to the cool mountain climate of Enterprise.

The early Indians took advantage of this great change in climatic conditions in the county. They retired to the warm or lower district in winter, where forage for their ponies grew during the winter, and in summer they returned to the higher altitudes and fished and pursued the chase where the cool mountain breezes prevented oppressive weather in the hot season.

Aside from the Imnaha district, many districts in the north part of the county are very favorable to fruit and melon culture. The Grouse country, the country about Flora, Paradise, Promise and about Troy, on or near the Grand Round river, all will be found excellent fruit sections. The country is broken, and the higher lands are devoted to wheat raising and range lands, while the richer bench lands, rising up from the water courses, are devoted to fruit and vegetable culture.

In this district, too, some of the finest hogs ever produced in the nation are raised, fattened and shipped. As an instance of the truth of this statement, one farmer from this district hauled two loads of hogs to the Enterprise market. The hogs were eleven months old and averaged 290 pounds each. They were fed both upon barley and corn.

**Land is Sub-Irrigated.**

Practically this entire north section of the county, in the south of the Grande Round river, is subirrigated. Between Enterprise and this section of the county there extend thousands upon thousands of acres of the finest pine and fir timber in Oregon. The traveler will drive for nearly twenty miles through this one forest. It is filled with "game of all kinds—bear, cougar, quail, grouse, pheasant, bobcat, pine squirrel, plenty of deer and an occasional elk though the latter are very scarce. The black bear are extremely plentiful.

The big unmolested forest catches and holds the snow precipitation during the winter season. And during the crop growing season these snows melt, sinking into the ground, and subirrigating the rich slopes which run downward to the Grand Round river.

It is almost impossible to even hint of the wonders of Wallowa county in a brief newspaper article. The faithful writer should have an entire "spec-

ial edition" to himself, if he would do justice to the theme.

**Imnaha Is Named.**

Just as with Wallowa, so the name Imnaha sprang from Indian origin. Imna was the name of a Nez Perce brave. Members of another tribe—or so the legend runs—at one time stole Imna's ponies and departed with them for Idaho, going by way of what is now called the Imnaha river. Imna followed, overtook and slew the marauders, and came back laughing the laugh of the victor. Imna's "ha-ha" or laugh, gave the river the name of Imnaha.

Neither Imna nor Chief Joseph nor yet any of the early Nez Perce would recognize their former fishing and hunting grounds now. They would recognize the famous Imnaha country, where today some of the best fruit in the world is raised. The Imnaha peach, apple, cherry, plum, melon, apricot or fruit of whatever kind, is the most perfect that ever went to market. The writer has seen 36 Royal Anne cherries, each as big as an eastern wild goose plum, on a sprig of cherry limb eighteen inches long and about half an inch in diameter.

The present absence of railway transportation is the solitary drawback to Imnaha, but this was at one time the drawback in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and all eastern as well as middle states.

No settler who hopes to win in Wallowa county should expect nature to have already laid a railroad at his doorstep. Nature never does those things in Wallowa county, any more than she did those things back in New York state. But the settler who will come to Wallowa county and work just about half as hard as his grandparents did when they migrated to Ohio, he will get rich—with just half the energy expended.

**No Fool's Errand.**

Too many persons are knocked breathless by the appearance of a new and undeveloped country. But it is no fool's errand to go into undeveloped resources and get those resources exposed for the benefit of the world. No man can do it, who expects to wear silk shirts and have his plowing and seeding and harvesting done by miracle while he sits around enjoying the good fishing in Wallowa county. While the struggle for bread and for competence in Wallowa county is not nearly so hard as it is in the thickly populated, just the same. And laziness never won that struggle either in Wallowa county or in any other section.

But the man who is built of the stuff that spells industry and patience, can make a pocketful of money in Wallowa county to a scant existence in the eastern sections of the country. Men have started here without a penny, ten years ago, and today they are big sheep and wool growers, or big wheat ranchers, or cattle men, or fruit men, with wide credit and with an everlasting independence around them. A man who is simply a man—not an instable follower of every whim, but simply a man,—can get any help within reason from the very undeveloped condition of the county's resources. He can draw from the soil, from the timber, from the mineral, from this and from that, a competence. And he can spend his declining years watching his children enjoy and conserving his competence, while he goes each day catching trout from the mountain streams on after deer, or what he will.

**Still Men to Settle.**

There are hundreds of thousands of acres in Wallowa county, still waiting for the settler. In times these acres will be dotted by the homes of happy, prosperous settlers.

In the hill lands such settlers may get from the soil from forty to sixty

bushels of wheat to the acre. Forty bushels of eighty cent wheat from a farm of 100 acres means a gross income to the farmer of \$4800. This is vastly in increase over the acreage yields to the farmer of the middle states, where an average of about \$12 an acre is counted on.

That there are thousands of acres of this wheat land still open to settlement now, does not mean that this will be the situation for any length of time. Settlers are coming into Wallowa county on almost every train, and homestead houses spring up within twenty-four hours.

The prospective settler needs to get on the ground here at once, if he hopes to have a tremendous acreage to select from.

Wallowa county now is easy of access. It is penetrated from La Grande by a branch of the O. R. & N. railroad. This branch at present terminates at Joseph. In addition there is what is believed to be the work of final location at present being made by two corps of engineers up and down the Grande Round river, and it is confidently expected that this railroad will be laid in a short time comparatively. This road, if laid, will connect with the O. R. & N. branch at Elgin, extending down the Grande Round river to Lewiston, Idaho. This will tap the whole north section of Wallowa county.

**The Sheep Industry.**

At present there are approximately 200,000 head of sheep in Wallowa county. Two train loads of 24,000 head were shipped out of the county to Montana during the present season.

The wool clip of the county, although light during the past spring, was over 1,000,000 pounds. Nearly all of the clip was stored in the Wool-growers' Warehouse at Enterprise, from which place it was sold.

The income from this sale aggregated about \$180,000 cash—a neat sum to be poured into the channels of trade in and about Enterprise, and to find its way to every town of the county.

Space forbids the mention of every sheep man in the county, but some of the prominent ones are as follows: Falconer Brothers, whose clip the past spring sold at the highest figure of any in eastern Oregon, bringing 17 3-8 cents for the coarse and 16 3-8 cents for the fine. E. O. Makin who, in addition to his sheep industry conducts a large shearing plant near Enterprise. Litch and Funk, a firm also conducting a shearing plant near Enterprise. Holmes and Craig, F. and Omar Stubblerfeld, Graves Brothers, J. Dobbin, P. Bodoin, D. Tucker and a score of others.

These sheep men create a large retail market for camp supplies and this increases the retail business volume of the entire county.

The cattle industry also is a big county item. In the hill lands north and east, on Horse Creek, Joseph Creek, the Imnaha and tributaries, and along Snake river, cattlemen still run their cattle, and have a better grade of stock than in the early history of the county.

All the stock industries of the county find a ready cash market in Enterprise, where Hotchkiss and Combes buy for shipment. These shipments vary in frequency with the readiness of the stockmen to sell.

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"My darling," said he, "it can not yet be,  
Though it does break my heart to postpone it.  
A year or two more, perhaps three before,  
I can furnish the house, though I own it."

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"Why George," she replied, "his ad. should decide  
If you're anxious to wed why delay, dear?  
They'll furnish our home from cellar to dome,  
And give us our own time to pay, dear."