

STATE WATER MASTER'S LETTER TO THE CITY COMMISSIONERS

Following the letter from the new state water master, J. J. Brewster, to the board of city commissioners, read at their weekly meeting, regarding the pumping of water from the Grande Ronde River for city use:

August 11th, 1919, to the Honorable City Commissioners of La Grande, Oregon:

You may or may not know that the determination made by the State Water Board on the Grande Ronde River is now in effect, and that a water master has been appointed to enforce said determination.

I am the water master appointed by the State Engineer and in that capacity I made a trip to Beaver Creek Sunday, August 10th, for the purpose of inspecting the city's water supply.

As you all know, the city has been in the habit of pumping water direct from the Grande Ronde River, and this, as you probably know, is adverse to the rights of various users from the Grande Ronde River. I am placed here to divide the water in accordance with the rights and I intend to insist on all users respecting the determination and the rights of the water master, and I cannot expect the farmers to obey my orders unless I make the City of La Grande do the same. Therefore I have notified your chairman, Mr. Collier, and Mr. McKennon that they may pump this year, but under no circumstances will the City of La Grande be allowed to do so another year, when such pumping will take water from prior rights.

Your supply on Beaver Creek is a part of the Grande Ronde River and that is the reason I made the inspection last Sunday. I was unable to determine at that time, and will be unable to determine until I have had a chance to study the subject more, whether or not the water of Beaver Creek would reach the Grande Ronde River.

If that water would reach the Grande Ronde River you would not have as much right to use that as you would to pump. Of course, if it would not reach the Grande Ronde River you would be allowed to use it, but in that case there would not be sufficient supply for the city. I am informed by Mr. Collier that the city needs at present two million gallons per day. This is in excess of the second feet, and I know that three second feet will reach the Grande Ronde River.

I am not in any way trying to advise the commission, but it is self evident that if there is water enough for the city, that water will have to go to the Grande Ronde River, and the city would be without water.

Mr. Collier and Mr. McKennon have both told me that you have an engineer retained to give a report to the city on what you should do. They say that the engineer has been given until January first to make this report.

If the engineer should not make his report, until January first, it would be impossible, because of weather conditions, for the city to remedy their trouble before the next irrigation season, and the city would find that they would have to pump from the Grande Ronde the same as in former years, but as I have already stated, this will not be allowed and you will find yourselves cut off from water for city purposes.

The need for prompt action on the part of the city is so urgent that I would like to advise that you do something at once.

As to the condition of the reservoir on Beaver Creek, and also as to the condition of the water, the city is better informed than I am, and I am not trying to advise in those particulars at all, but only as to the source of their supply as it affects the rights of prior users on the Grande Ronde River.

Respectfully yours,
H. J. BEWSTER.

August 11th, 1919.

Many Marshfield ranchers who raise sheep are complaining of losses due to coyotes. Seven years ago the posts were scarcely known in Coos County, but recently sheep raisers of both Coos and Coquille counties have suffered. Some of the livestock men say they think the coyotes are now ranging over the mountains from Douglas county, driven by the heat.

Wax Figures of A. castro.
Many Mexican families in England have stored away the size figures in wax of their ancestors, some at the time of the original's death. The Duke of Norfolk has the figures of three wives of one of his ancestors, which are kept in a glass case at one of his country seats.

Her Last Social Function.
My small son on cycling home from school one noon said to me: "Mother, I'm going over to Bundy's home this afternoon." On my asking what he was going for he replied: "Why, don't you know his grandma is having her funeral this afternoon?"—Chicago Tribune.

The Biggest Mummy.
The largest mummy in the world is that of an animal, the Boreasika mammoth, in the Peabody museum. The species has been extinct for thousands of years, and the Boreasika mammoth—which was found embedded in the frozen earth near the Boreasika river, in northeastern Siberia—probably lived fifty thousand years ago.

World's Largest Crater.
Dr. B. F. Gilbert, who has been exploring the volcano of Mt. Katmai, in Alaska, for the National Geographic society, announces that this is the greatest crater in the world, less than nine miles in circumference and 3,900 feet in depth.

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State News

The Dallas Chronicle is agitating for another hotel in the little city. Travelling men arriving in the town are up against it for accommodations.

"All honor to Oregon," writes Noel Negley in the Cow-Tasting News letter for July, issued by the U. S. division of dairying. "The fame which Viva la France, Old Man's Darling 2d, St. Maves Poppy and the many other Jerseys have brought Oregon is increasing. This month she takes all the honors for individual high fat producing cows and for high herd production."

A wireless telephone apparatus has been installed at the lookout station on the summit of Mount Hood and has been successfully used in communication over a distance of eight miles. The new apparatus is regarded as a long sought for source of protection against the spreading of forest fires, a guard with an eye that can see over a hundred miles and a voice that can shout, if necessary, all over two states.

100 acres of wheat near Dufur, which it is estimated would have yielded between thirty and forty bushels an acre, burned up Thursday.

afternoon, Clifford Chase was the owner and he had his crop insured.

Baker is complaining of a scarcity of dwelling houses and home accommodations for school teachers and others who come to town. Teachers engaged for the coming term have arrived and being unable to find suitable lodgings have threatened to leave the town.

F. C. Oxman, of Baker, who was attacked by a recent mass meeting of labor representatives in Portland, declares "the state highway commission is capable of taking care of its own business and does not need any direction from organized labor." The commission let to Oxman the contract for the building of the Baker-Haines road.

Pendleton veterans of the world war, interested in the formation of a post of the American Legion in their city, held a meeting last night at which it was expected the first steps toward organization would be taken.

Pendleton is expecting to entertain during her roundup celebration the Finnish plenipotentiary extraordinary to the United States, A. H. Saastamoinen. The Commercial Association has extended the minister an invitation, after learning that he contemplated a trip east to take in the event.

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A Fine Stock Ranch

2100 acres, about 250 acres under cultivation, new hungalow house, two good barns; well fenced and sub-divided; water in all sub-divisions. This is a real stock ranch, and the price is only \$15 per acre. Outside range and near forest reserve. Good road, 13 miles from La Grande.

320 acre stock ranch, 80 acres in cultivation more can be; several living springs, fair improvements, fenced, adjoining land can be purchased. The price is \$3500. terms.

640 acres, six miles from La Grande; fair improvements; 60 acres in cultivation, 25 in fall grain, 35 in timothy; crop goes with place, if taken immediately. Price \$7000, and only \$2500 cash required; \$5000 will include all of the stock and implements. Well watered.

160 acres, two miles from La Grande, well improved; new hungalow, modern house, new good barn; well fenced. Price \$15,000.00, first payment only \$5000.00

80 acres, six miles from La Grande, sub-divided land, water right. This place is worth more money than the owner is asking.

I have other splendid values in farms in all sections of the county. If you are in the market I would be pleased to show you my listings.

La Grande

City Property

If you are interested in a rooming house, I may have just what you want.

Acres tract, well improved, just outside city limits; \$1500. terms.

Four acres, well improved, just outside city limits. Owner will consider taking in a modern five-room house as part payment. This will bear investigation.

Splendid property on the corner of Second and Adams. This property must be sold. Here is an opportunity to make your money talk. Come and see it.

House and nine acre near Palmer mill for \$1400. terms; good land, and a creek runs through it, which makes a good garden even in dry years.

Six-room house on Spruce, good plumbing, wired, electric house and parlor; modern walks, place for car; yard filled with choice flowers. Price \$2700, just a few hundred down, balance like rent.

Modern five-room house, opposite high school; full basement and fireplace. Investigate.

Large house near high school, two big lots, fireplace; well built house. Investigate terms.

I have clients who desire good modern homes on payment. If you have real property, priced right, and want to sell, I can get you results.

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