

WALLOWA COUNTY ENTERING NEW PROSPERITY ERA

TIMBER, AGRICULTURE
AND SCENERY AMONG
ITS LEADING ASSETS

Is Banner Hog County of Oregon—Five Billion Feet of Standing Timber in Forests; Two Peaks About 10,000 Feet Near Wallowa Lake; Livestock, Hay and Grains Grown.

A. K. Parker, cashier of the State Bank at Enterprise makes this statement: "I believe the farmers are rapidly getting on their feet again. The county is in the best shape it has been since the armistice. People are getting the stock loans, which were held in Portland, straightened out, and things are coming to a safe and sane business basis. I am expecting a great deal of liquidation this year. A crop of wheat amounting to nearly 1,000,000 bushels may be expected in Wallowa county this year. The price will undoubtedly be good, because of light crops in other sections. We raise lots of oats and barley but they are mostly consumed here. The alfalfa went fine, cutting about three and a half tons to the acre. It is of very fine quality. In fact this has been one of the best growing seasons we have had in years. The raising of livestock was much more profitable with sales reporting good prices. Wallowa county stands first in the number of hogs raised in the state. Dairying is coming into more and more prominence every year. Lambs brought 10 and 11 cents. We are having a good year."

Arthur Pace, cashier of the Wallowa National Bank, at Enterprise, makes this statement: "This should be a pretty good year for the farmers and live stock raisers of Wallowa county. This locality was very hard hit, but it is coming back in good shape. We are witnessing what may best be called, the survival of the fittest. The people, who after the hard experiences of the last few years, are still in the live stock and farming business, are getting in pretty good shape. Those who are left are succeeding. All live stock is bringing good prices. A bunch of steers sold here recently brought an average of around \$100 per head. Harvesting is well under way, and on the lighter soils, an average yield of 35 bushels per acre is being realized. A good price is indicated. Hay crops have been very good, with the best prospects for the second cutting in years. The lake is full. In fact, there is every indication, that the farmer should soon be in better condition than he has for years."

C. T. McDaniels, cashier and manager of the Wallowa bank at Wallowa, Ore., makes this statement: "Prospects are better here than a year ago despite the slowing down of the lumbering industry. The crops are much larger and prices for cattle are considerably better than a year ago. The price of sheep is well maintained and although hog prices are off, they are not enough so to do any damage. On the whole the prospects are pretty fair for this section."

With an era of prosperity looming for Wallowa county, and with all parts of the county progressing in rapid development, the outlook for the immediate future in the nearby area is described as very bright.

No small part in this advancement has been played by the high quality of produce, linked with the exploitation of the scenic Wallowa lake country and the natural timber resources of the county. Improved farming and especially the trend toward dairying has also made possible an upward step, it is pointed out.

Wallowa county, in brief, is located in the northeastern corner of Oregon, bordering on both Washington and Idaho. Its chief transportation facility is the O. V. branch line, which reaches to Joseph, near the head of Wallowa lake.

The lake—Wallowa Lake—state highway also serves as an outlet and link as does the road that stretches north to Lewiston, Idaho. Both roads connect with transcontinental highway systems. The county has an area of 2,129 square miles and the population in 1926 was 7,775, although present estimates place this figure much higher.

The annual rainfall is 20 inches and the altitude of Wallowa valley ranges from 7,000 to 12,000 feet. Two of the three highest peaks in Eastern Oregon are located in Wallowa county. Legion mountain which stretches up into the air 10,726 and Matterhorn, which is 10,851 feet high. Eagle cap, in the same range of mountains, but in Union county, is 9,675 feet high.

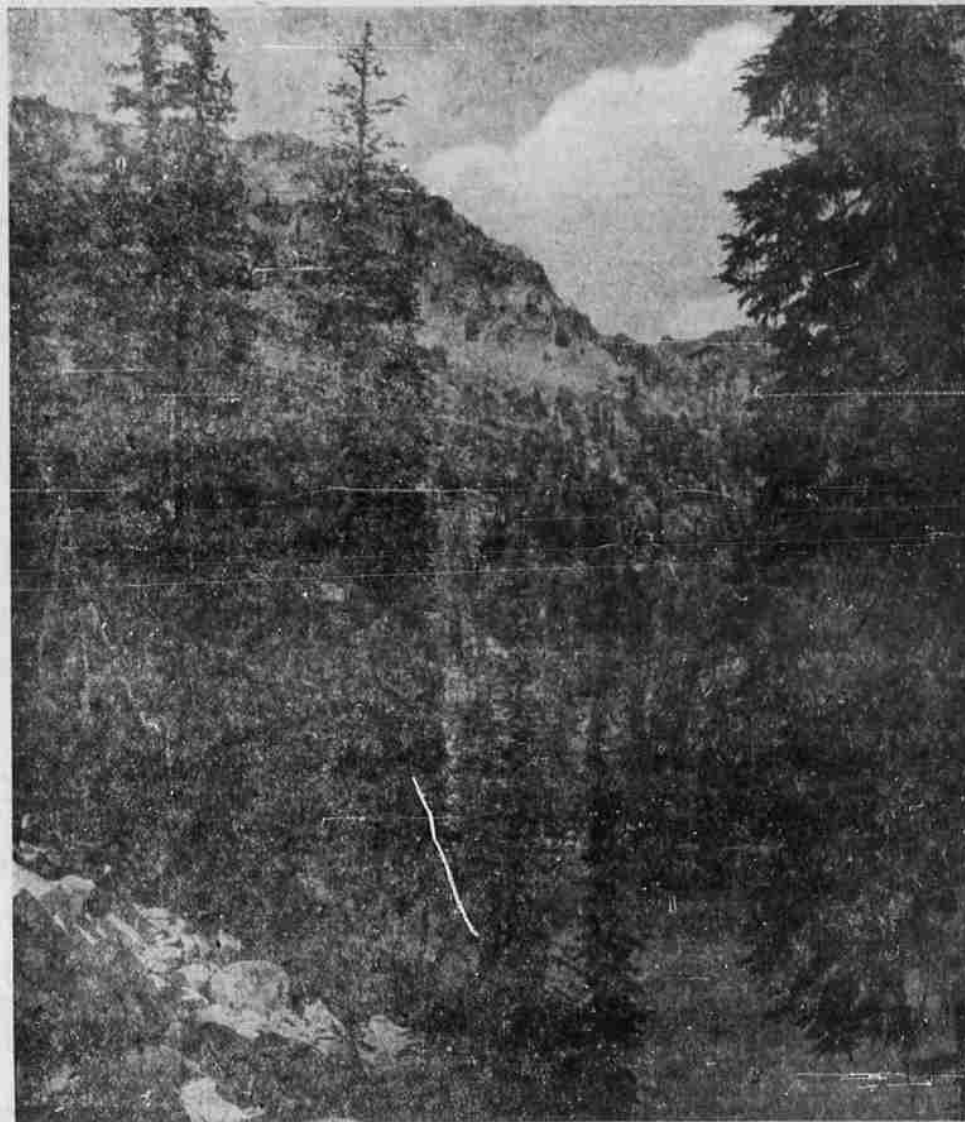
Five Billion Feet of Timber. In the mountainous districts five billion feet of standing timber exist, and the mineral resources of the mountains are hardly explored, although a remarkable deposit of black marble has been found and will be developed. Extensive forest reserves also exist in the county and practically no government land is open to homestead entry.

The chief products of Wallowa county are livestock, hogs, cattle, sheep, wool, grain, lumber, hay and black marble.

Three large sawmills are in operation, supplying pine which is sold chiefly in the east for saw and lumber and interior finish. Some fir and hemlock are also cut.

Farming Big Factor. Farming is probably the greatest factor in the county's growth. Wheat, barley, oats, alfalfa, clover, timothy and field peas are grown on irrigated land and all grains are grown on dry land farms. Dairying is a big item in all districts. Sheep, cattle and horses run on range in canyons, in forests and in the mountainous regions. Wallowa is the banner hog county of Oregon and fruits of all kinds are grown for home use.

BEAUTIFUL ICE LAKE IN WALLOWA MOUNTAINS



One of the scenic lakes of the Wallowa Wonderland region, which includes Wallowa lake and the majestic country in the south, is pictured above. Ice lake, only a few miles from Wallowa lake, is annually visited by thousands of sportsmen because of its large fish and charming scenery. A party of University of Oregon geologists, who visited this region this summer, declare that the ice lake crater was formed when a large mountain peak was blown off by volcanic action thousands of years ago.

Black Marble and Lime Company
To Be One Of Big IndustriesProject Originates in City
of Enterprise—Deposit
in Wallowa County

The Black Marble and Lime Company, while it is one of the ever newest business projects originating in the city of Enterprise, holds promise to be one of the big industries of Eastern Oregon, according to the present outlook which, its promoters say, is very promising. While it is only about two years since the company was organized, the finished product or products which it expects to put on the market on a large scale very shortly, have been making a mark for themselves and the promoters believe that by the time the plant is completed it will be some task to supply the demand.

The company of which Charles A. Henderson of La Grande is the president, has associated together business men from the towns of Wallowa and Union counties, in the list of stockholders appear the

and churches and the local business facilities of banks, stores, warehouses, industries, etc. Wallowa county was at one time a part of Union county but was separated many years ago, shortly after the white man drove the Indians from their "happy hunting grounds."

Its real progress did not start until early in this century when the Union Pacific system extended the Elgin-La Grande branch line to Joseph. Several years later a modern state highway was built from La Grande to Wallowa lake and since then the progress of the county has been exceptionally rapid.

Present building operations are confined to the city of Enterprise, which the completed plant will work on there is being pushed so all possible speed. The remaining two will be built in the future. A force of men are also at work on the foundation, which in itself will be quite a wonderful task. From this quarter down to the city of Enterprise there is a considerable distance, which makes the trip apparently the

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logical means of transportation of the material. The officers of the company are: President, Charles Henderson, La Grande; Vice President, J. E. Jordan, Enterprise; Secretary, L. A. Barleigh, Enterprise; Treasurer, F. H. Gault, Joseph. Board of directors, Ross Leake, Joseph; S. D. Keltner, Enterprise; William Bouslog, Elgin; John Dean, Elgin; H. McGinnis, La Grande; Mr. Henderson, Mr. Barleigh and Mr. Jordan.

As extensive is local use of limestone that it has created a new state industry, C. E. Dietz, assistant state geologist, points out.

Wyoming has several asbestos deposits, chiefly of the valuable chrysotile variety, but a dozen million tons. In other large producing states, like Texas, commercial deposits are generally confined to one small area.

The United States is the largest consumer of asbestos products in the world, but it imports 95 percent of the mineral—largely from Canadian mines and over the Vermont line.

Farm Crops Thrive On Artesian Water. PORTALES, New Mexico, (AP)—Irrigation is the back of the country of farmers in this region. More than 100 artesian wells provide moisture for crops.

A shallow water "cistern" underlies the Portales valley and provides water for the crops. Pumps or windmills naturally and more here in the future. One of the wells has been pumping for 15 years and shows no sign of stopping.

Finds Asbestos;
Used in Chimneys

CASTER, Wyo., (AP)—Two thousand chimneys of Caster homes are built of cement and asbestos, because the asbestos mines are near and the material is cheap.

Lower Prairie Creek country in Wallowa county is reported to be one of the most prosperous sections of the county and was also one of the earliest settled sections. It has been settled since 1884, but was not entirely farmed until about 1904, when irrigating ditches of later date were completed. By the time of the completion of the ditches, practically all of the land was broken on the original land, and the section has been farmed continuously ever since. The land has been under irrigation—ditch irrigation—all that time.

In early years of farming in this locality, alfalfa was extensively raised and fed to the cattle and sheep that were raised on the wheat hills. In the year 1911, the foothill range country was homesteaded by dry land farmers and the number of sheep was greatly reduced. Since then, Lower Prairie Creek has grown wheat and other grains quite extensively. Now, dairying has been taken up and present is being carried on extensively. In more recent years, livestock, especially hogs, have been fattened during the winter season for the Portland market.

Crops this year in this section have been fine. In fact, in 27 years there have been but two or three years, when the crops have not been very good. There are no small farms in this locality, but the land is raised in very large acreages.

There are a number of places grown in this vicinity.

A Part of Enterprise's Business Section. The business section of Enterprise looking west from the Court House corner. This is but one business street in this little town—there are several such there.

Some men know how to make money. But there is another class of men who know how to make money and how to keep it. Middle class is that period to a man. He will find that with hard work and brains will think up must be his second.

A group of men who can add to the line when there is nothing there.

GOLDEN HARVEST IS
BEING REAPED THIS
YEAR IN WALLOWA

Crop of One Million Bushels Is Expected with Wheat Yielding from 35 to 40 Bushels An Acre—Era of Good Fortune Foreseen by Farmers in That Part of the State.

Wallowa county this year is reaping a golden harvest—a harvest of wheat and grain which in quantity and quality has been unequalled for many years in that section of Eastern Oregon. The irrigated crops are good, and the hay yields are proving high. At present the wide fields of the valley are the scene of busy harvesting, and work will soon be completed on the second alfalfa crop.

Wheat, which is Wallowa county's principal cash and dry land product, is producing from 35 to 40 bushels an acre, and a crop of 1,000,000 bushels is expected. The number of acres of improved farm land has increased during the years from 1890 to 1926, from 15,594 to 128,760 acres. The total of improved and unimproved farm land has increased in average from 118,189 to 556,722 acres, and the land property has increased in value from \$1,622,460 to \$14,276,918.

The oats and barley, produced yearly are all consumed in the valley for the feeding of livestock. Barley is an exceedingly good fattening feed for hogs and lambs, and yields nine pounds of feed per acre than either wheat or oats under irrigated conditions, as found by investigation of a committee of the Agricultural Economic conference last March.

Exports 550,000 Bushels. According to railroad records, the county exported last year 550,000 bushels of wheat. The hogs are shipped east to Chicago and Denver, and to Portland markets. The hogs and beef cattle are sent to Portland.

The work of the O. A. C. Extension, headed by Mr. O'Connell, is proving valuable for the agricultural development of the county. On March 17 and 18, 1927, the Agricultural Economic conference met, drawing itself up into committees, each of which after thorough investigation of its specific problem, made a report suggesting remedies concerning crops, stock raising and farming in the county, and making recommendations.

The eight granges in the county are also very active. There are a number of boys' and girls' clubs in the rural districts, with a total membership of about 100. Each of them is under the leadership of a local person. The clubs include sewing, and cooking clubs for the girls, and livestock and farm products clubs for the boys.

Rides Hay Rake To Wallowa From Walla Walla, 1872. WALLAWA, Ore.—Tossed head over heels on a roadbed by the rocky tumbles that abounded in the hay fields of the untilled soil of Wallowa county in 1872, J. A. Talley, first white settler of this valley, first white settler of Wallowa, could stand the punishment no longer, so he resolved to get a real hay rake and hay as others have.

Such is the story as brought out at the annual reunion and picnic of the Wallowa county pioneers at Wallowa lake recently.

In his kindly, humorous way, Mr. Talley related the incidents of the period inaugurating white settlement in the Wallowa valley, as follows:

The elder Talley, now residing at Elgin, he said, and came over the Wallowa mountains in '71 and looked the valley over and decided it was a desirable location. In 1872 they returned, bringing in the first wagon and moving machine with which to make hay.

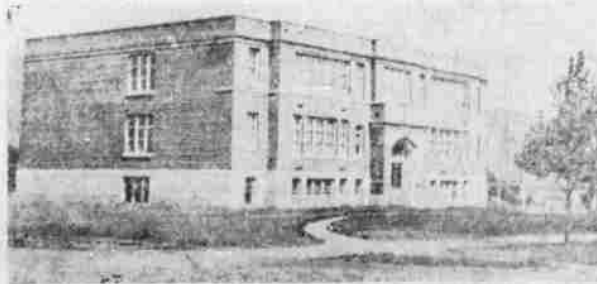
It was during this first hay-making season, while trying to make with a good-cut and being pitched onto his head when the machine-shift rakes struck a tumble, that Mr. Talley resolved to get a real rake.

Mounting his horse, after trying on a coat and harness to the way, he rode to Walla Walla in the year 1872 and bought a 10-foot rake. Lifting on his horse, he mounted the rake as a rearing driver would his gaily and began an endurance drive over the rough, practically unbroken tracks, a drive probably without parallel in the history of this valley. Two days later he had successfully crossed the Blue and Wallowa mountains and arrived safely in the Wallowa valley despite the lines and banterings of skeptics along the way who tried to dissuade him from his effort.

MAGAZINE FOR ROYALTY. TOBY, the prince and princess of Japan, an exclusive set when the common people look at it as a magazine, have taken a monthly magazine, containing news and stories of travel and history—it will be only for the royal family.

The special privilege she demands in a woman's equal rights.

WALLOWA HIGH SCHOOL



Wallowa has quite an educational center, with its different schools, including the high school, grammar school, and one block. This picture is of the high school with the other buildings immediately beyond.