

WALLOWA, TOWN OF 1,000, HAS A LARGE PAYROLL

Bowman-Hicks Sawmill Located in Progressive Community

PROSPEROUS ERA SEEMS AT HAND

Municipality Practically Out of Debt Despite Extensive Improvement Work of Late.

By JAY BILLINGS (Secretary, Wallowa Chamber of Commerce)

Wallowa is located on a branch of the O.W. & N. railroad, about 50 miles from La Grande and serves the western part of Wallowa county, an area as large as the state of Rhode Island. The region is fertile and beautiful in topography, changing from rolling hills in the south with a maximum altitude of more than 10,000 feet to the mid northern part with a maximum elevation of 12,000.

Wallowa is advantageously situated between two sections of the valley. The large Bowman-Hicks lumber mill, with a daily capacity of 75,000 feet of lumber, is located at Wallowa. This mill has operated steadily, until recently running two shifts a day and employs 150 men. The monthly payroll of the town is approximately \$25,000.

Wallowa is headquarters for the Wallowa national forest. This brings many stockmen, farmers and lumbermen to town to transact business. Wallowa also has a modern flour mill and creamery, which are other incentives for the farmers to come to Wallowa.

Heavy School Enrollment
School enrollment in 1926, a fine, new high school building, a grammar school and excellent gymnasium provide educational facilities. There are seven teachers in high school and nine in the elementary grades, and the school has been standardized by the state educational board.

The city has one National bank with a capital stock of \$100,000 and deposits of \$500,000; five churches, Presbyterian, Methodist, Christian, Nazarene and Catholic; three lodges, Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows; and post of the American Legion. The city is supplied with water from a neighboring canyon; the water system is paid for. Hydro-electric energy is supplied at a very reasonable rate.

Nearly Out of Debt
The city is practically out of debt; has three miles of concrete sidewalks, a modern sewer system, gravity water system and graded streets.

Two blocks of the business section are paved and all through streets graded, with one fine new store building of brick and concrete completed and a large brick and concrete addition to a garage now underway as well as several new and modern residences. Wallowa during the last year has enjoyed one of its most progressive years.

Population 1,000
The population of Wallowa has been maintained at the 1,000 mark with possible slight gains. And with farm crops this fall among the best in the history of the county an era of mortgage-lifting prosperity seems at hand. Real estate men seem to feel that this fall will see an unusual amount of real estate activity, the result of excellent crops and desire to locate in a prosperous section.

Wallowa is strategically located as a business town, drawing trade

ATTRACTIVE HOMES AT ENTERPRISE



Upper—Enterprise is a town which boasts of many fine residences. Not only that but property owners take considerable pride in beautifying their homes. This is a view taken from a corner near the Odd Fellows temple.

Lower—Another of the pretty residential streets in Enterprise, the county seat of Wallowa county. It is such scenes as this one, that have attracted many people to Enterprise.

Diversified Farming Abounds In Fertile Territory Near Lostine

The town of Lostine, situated between Wallowa and Enterprise, draws for its patronage on a fertile territory where diversified farming is followed. While the usual grain and hay crops because predominate, dairying here, also, is coming into being and more prominence, coupled with other lines of farming.

S. H. Crow, is the mayor of this little town of 300 inhabitants and he has associated with him working in the various capacities—John S. McKenna, recorder, Carl Childress, treasurer, Charles Bridwell, Oliver Woods, Elma Giff and M. O'Leary are members of the town council.

Lostine is proud of its school headed by Claude S. Frouitt, and with a corps of eight well trained teachers. The high school is fully accredited.

Two churches are maintained in Lostine, the Presbyterian and the Christian, each of which has the part time services of a pastor, who serves the churches jointly with some other stations. The Masons, Order of the Eastern Star, Odd Fellows and Rebekahs all have strong and active organizations. The women of the town are organized for social and civic purposes. The Community Club is a member of the State Federation of Women's clubs and follows various lines of helpful activity. The Ladies Aid of the Christian Church and the Neighborhood club of the Presbyterian church both justify their right for organization by the work which they do and

on a water grade from its tributary country. All of the principal valleys of this section open into Wallowa and as a result the town is headquarters for mail distribution, having two star routes and two regular and daily rural deliveries. The surrounding country is unexcelled for dairy purposes and this industry is steadily increasing, both as an important stock and meat and dairy crop are pastured in forest lands adjacent to the city.

ANNUAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE IS AID TO LOCAL FARMERS

One of the most important factors in the progress of agriculture in Union county in recent years has been the economic conference which has been conducted in Union county for the past four years with the most gratifying results.

The fourth annual conference was held last March and with the largest attendance since the agricultural conferences were started four years ago. A total of 1,500 persons attended the two days of the conference last year, including students of the county, who were in attendance at the vocational guidance conference, which was held in connection with the economic conference for the first time this year.

The Agricultural Economic conference in Union county followed the idea started by the Oregon Agricultural college extension service, when Paul V. Morris directed a conference to consider the various commodities produced in Oregon and their adjustment to meet market requirements. This was held in 1922 at Corvallis and from that a general state program of agriculture was adopted.

One of First in State
Following this the same idea was taken up by the various county and economic conferences were organized, Union county being one of the first.

The first Union county economic conference followed a meeting called by H. G. Avery, county agricultural agent and representative of the extension service, of representatives of the Farmers union, the farm bureau, the grange, the chambers of commerce and the bankers of the county. It was at this meeting that the conference was organized and Dr. W. T. Phy was elected chairman, serving as such during the four years of the economic conference in Union county at the request of the conference.

Statistics Assembled
At this conference the agricultural conditions of the county were

considered, statistics were assembled showing the total production of all products in the county and committees, composed of leading farmers and others interested, were organized into five different commodity groups—farm crops, poultry, livestock, dairy and horticulture.

Men writing on these committees during the first economic conference were: farm crops—J. D. Johnson, A. R. Hunter, E. D. Jakes, W. D. McDonald, W. B. Leebetter and L. R. McKenna; farm dairy—Dr. W. T. Phy, Lee Reynolds, E. E. Anderson, Robert Withycombe and H. G. Avery; horticulture—H. H. Witherspoon, Ray Wilson, John Tamm, L. G. Vanta, Karl J. Stankland, Thomas Mett and Chris M. Stankland; poultry—W. B. Plekens, R. Jensen, R. A. Robertson and Rex Griggs; livestock—R. E. Miller and Lloyd Edwards.

Study Each Group
These committees discussed not only what was best produced in the county, but also what were the best methods to follow and what the proper markets were, and from these were formed a set of recommendations which comprised a program of agriculture for Union county. A thousand copies of this program were made up and distributed among the farmers of the county.

In these recommendations several significant things were pointed out, which have been followed and are in practice today in the county. The horticulture group recommended that prune acreage in the county should not be increased as there was at that time considerably more prunes than could be marketed at a satisfactory price. The dairy group was reported to be profitable in the county and increased planting was recommended. It is estimated that the planting of cherries is almost double since that time and very few prunes have been planted in the county.

Other recommendations varied according to the subject, and in-

WIDE WALLOWA STREETS



One of the business streets of Wallowa. In laying out the town, Wallowa people very wisely arranged for the wide streets which are much appreciated by all who drive through the town.

cluded such as replacing all spring wheat with Hard Federation, which was shown to be superior, the planting of certified seed, increasing the barley acreage in the county, replacing most of the hay acreage in the county with good grade of alfalfa, increasing the number of farm flocks of sheep and the encouraging of dairymen in the county, and eliminate grade and scrub bulls and instead use approved registered sires.

Addition Made
The following year the farmers of the county met again in the same kind of conference, this year a home economics division and boys' and girls' club division being added to the other five groups.

Another step forward was taken this year, when the vocational guidance conference was added for the benefit of the junior and senior high school students of the county.

During the four years the original agricultural program has been modified somewhat and added to, and each year an effort has been made to follow the program throughout.

Agricultural Barometer
The conference has become a kind of a barometer of the agricultural situation in the county and serves a very useful purpose in bringing forward new varieties of crops and new ideas in produc-

tion, and also each year calls attention to the changes in market demands.

Plans are to continue the conference as long as it is successful and it has been in the past years that some of the girls would now do credit to the first row of a Ziegfeld Follies. Most of the customers, therefore, approve the closer view which is afforded them by the greater intimacy of the modern showrooms.

One dressmaker has ripped out the little theater which has been a characteristic of his saloon, and substituted a long low runway which permits closer view of the styles. The change, made at the month's end of 30 seats as necessitated, he says, by the new models, who require very close scrutiny for maximum appreciation.

BUYERS HAVE CLOSER VIEW OF MODELS

PARIS (AP)—Beauty standards for Paris mannequins have been so raised in the past few years that some of the girls would now do credit to the first row of a Ziegfeld Follies. Most of the customers, therefore, approve the closer view which is afforded them by the greater intimacy of the modern showrooms.

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SOUTHPAW GOLF CHAMP

EAST LIVERPOOL, O. (AP)—The golfing Wells family of East Liverpool has another champion in the family. Arthur A. Wells holds Ohio's left-handed golf title. Joe Wells, his brother, was Ohio amateur champion for a number of years. He was amateur champion of West Virginia at one time and has gone far at various times in national tournaments.

Many a man who is capable of giving good advice isn't able to earn his bit.

Some of us don't believe in luck because we never have had any.

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