

OVER THE VALLEY

Mabel E. Morton, Valley Editor
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Home For Weekend—Miss Leah Smith, who is English instructor in the high school at Athena was home for a visit over the weekend with her parents near Island City.

Organize Clubs—Two clubs were organized in the vicinity of Imbler when H. C. Seymour, state club leader was in the county last week, one a sheep club and the other a sewing club. The sheep club with Frank McKennon as leader, has the following members, boys and girls, Josephine Fisher, Evelyn McKennon, Elmer Gieser, Clifford Conkling, Clayton Fox and Bob Huron. Clayton Fox was elected president, Bob Huron, vice president and Clifford Conrad, secretary. Mrs. Watson was chosen leader of the sewing club with June Conrad, Juanita Conkling, Donna Watson, Opal Schilling and several other girls, who were not able to be present at the meeting. The girls are to meet with Mrs. Watson and elect their officers as soon as they all can meet together.

Re-elected—Miss Geneva Murchison of Cove has been elected for another year at the South High Valley school. Miss Murchison is having a very successful year this year.

In Hospital—Mrs. Arnold who recently came to this valley from Idaho and purchased the Ted Conkling place near Imbler has been a patient at the Gladwin Hospital suffering from pernicious anemia. A transfusion of blood was made during the past week, her son who lives on the Glenn place giving the blood.

Dr. to Boise—Mr. and Mrs. Ira Kennedy and daughter, Irma, of Cove avenue, drove to Boise Friday where they visited for a time and were accompanied on their return home Sunday by their daughter, Miss Velma, who is working in Boise.

Move—Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hulse and family who have been living on the N.E. West home place during the winter have moved back to the Woodell farm in the Lone Star district which Mr. West purchased last year, completely remodeling all the buildings.

Give Party—Mr. and Mrs. Ray Blokland and Mr. and Mrs. John Dahlstrom were the hosts and hostesses at a party given Friday evening at the Dahlstrom home in the Moss Chapel neighborhood, commencing Miss Edith Horton and Howard Smith. There were twenty guests and five tables were surrounded by rock. Some nice refreshments concluded the evening.

Recovers—Little Sally Ann Sutton of Brooks Lane has recovered from her recent attack of tonsillitis.

To Teach at Iowa—Mrs. Udel Hibbert who, it is reported, is giving the patrons of the Shanghai district a good school this year has been elected to teach the Iowa school for next year, according to announcement made by school officials there.

Builds New Building—Louie Reedley of the Iowa district has recently completed the erection of a fine new machine shed, 25x100 feet, a piece of work which he did himself during the less busy winter season. It makes another splendid addition to the improvements on the Standley farm.

Has Menches—Gifford Huber, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hulse of the Lone Star district is a late victim of the measles, the present epidemic in the valley.

Better—Miss Woodell of Pleasant Grove, who has been suffering recently from neuritis, the last few weeks in better, but expects to undergo a sinus operation in the near future, which, it is thought, is the cause of his trouble.

Leave for California—Mr. and Mrs. George Childers, pioneers in this valley, and sometime during the year, residents of every community in the valley except Union, left Saturday evening from La Grande for Woodland, California where they expect to make their future home. They already have two sons and three daughters living there, have spent considerable time, themselves, in Woodland and are expecting to feel more or less at home there. "This is the first time we have not called Union county home," said Mr. Childers "and I do not know how we will make it. But we can come back." Crossing the plains in 1845 and stopping in this beautiful valley and having resided here since it would seem as though transplanting might be rather hard on both Mr. and Mrs. Childers. They came to this valley from Missouri and settled in Summerville. They have leased their farm to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Robertson who have already taken possession.

Vacation Over—Spring vacation over, Marie Ledbetter left Saturday evening for Portland where she visited with relatives over Sunday and then went on to her school work at Willamette university.

Have School Meeting—Tax payers who live in the Island City school district held a meeting at the school house Saturday afternoon for the purpose of

further considering the teacher question. The matter of the number of teachers to be employed in the school next year was most thoroughly and carefully discussed and when the vote was taken it stood about three to one in favor of retaining the present number, four instructors. Island City has had a good school this year. It has been reported, with four teachers, Principal John Workman, Dorothy Smith, Ethel Hansen and Amelia Michaelson. Through its meeting, the community voted not to take any backward steps in their school program. The meeting Saturday was held to have been the largest school meeting ever held in that district.

Are Wed Sunday—Frank W. Gibson, of Wallawa county and Miss Melva Buchanan of Allele were united in marriage at the Baptist parsonage in La Grande Sunday afternoon, the Rev. B. Marcus Godwin officiating in a simple ring ceremony. The bride party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Buchanan, grandfather and grandmother of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Buchanan, father and mother of the bride, Otis Buchanan Jr., brother of the bride and Mr. and Mrs. Reed Taylor, brother-in-law, and sister of the groom. Both of the young people concerned are very well known in the valley.

Sunday Guests—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Herman and family of the Island City-Cove highway had for their dinner guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Diet Smith, Mrs. Lee Smith of Island City and Miss Beulah Smith of Athena.

Receive Charter—Members of the Still-In-Time club of Union, with Mrs. Cecil H. Griggs as leader have recently received their charter for the present year's work. The charter is issued when the program for the complete year's work or ten meetings has been sent in and approved by the proper authorities. The charter bears the signature of the secretary of the United States department of agriculture, the state superintendent of public instruction, the director of the extension services of the state college and the state club leader.

Some Problem—The size of the squirrel problem in this state may be indicated by some figures from a recent report by E. L. Ballard, state county agent, which says that the agents of 29 counties in Oregon mixed 29 tons of poison grain for squirrels during the months of February and March. Authorities state that this is the most effective way now known for controlling this pest.

Student Elected—Miss Ruth Smalley a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Smalley of Island City, and a student at the Eastern Oregon Normal school, has been elected as teacher for the North High Valley school near Union.

Imbler P-T. A.—A splendid meeting of the Imbler Parent-Teacher association was held at Wade hall Thursday evening, with Miss Larson of the Eastern Oregon Normal as the speaker. The association is working on a one-act play under the direction of Miss Audrey DeLapp, and also some other stunts to be put on in the near future to make a payment on Wade hall.

Want Row Change—A row of farmers of the Willow creek and Pampin Ridge section met with the county agent Saturday to see about changing some of the market road in the Willow Creek neighborhood. Brooks Lane is anything but a speedway now, with the big grader at work, getting ready for gravel next year, as the grading is all they can do this year.

Visit—County Superintendent and Mrs. E. A. Saylor and daughter, Ethel, and their home guest, Mrs. Saylor's sister, Mrs. Blackburn, of Low Angeles, drove to North Powder Sunday and spent the day with their relatives, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Riggs who live on a ranch near that place.

Important Meeting—There are a number of very important things to be considered by the members of the Blue Mt. range when they meet at their hall near La Grande tomorrow. This will be the time for the taking of the final vote for state range officers. W. M. Pierce is high man in the state as a member of the state executive committee. Degree work will be given to a large class of candidates whose petitions have been accumulating during the last few meetings and all who have not received the full degree work are being notified to attend. The dinner is to be served by section one. The lecturer, Mrs. Grace Groat is preparing an interesting program for her hour.

Staying in Town—Miss Elizabeth Huron Sutton is staying in La Grande during her aunt, Mrs. P. R. Robinson with the new trip at the E. O. N.

Have Pic Club—During the recent visit in the valley of H. C. Seymour, state club leader, a pic club was organized in the Wolf Creek neighborhood, near North Powder, J. A. Nice being the leader—not a new experience to him. The club has 11 members with Owen Goshorn as president, Malcolm Nice, vice president, Virginia Nice, secretary. The rest of

the membership consists of Audrey Goshorn, Charles Glenn, and Paul Nice, Vernon Groat, Quentin Roseman, John Hand and Forrest Rowman. **Gets Checks**—Mrs. John Dowers of Island City has recently received the baby chicks, barred rocks, which are making a splendid start in the brooders.

Gets Milk—Julius Fisher of the Lower Cove road who is in the dairy business on a large scale has recently installed two Sarge milk machines, to assist in carrying more expeditiously for gigantic task of milking.

Clearing Land—Jim McKinnis of near Summerville has a crew of four men at work grubbing out brush and clearing some land on his place on Willow creek.

Move Sheep—Cap Tuttle and Forrest Scroggin have moved their band of sheep from their feeding place over by Echo to range on Willow creek in Umatilla county. They report a good percent of lambs.

Given Charities—The entire Allele community went together last evening to give Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gibson, married Sunday, a genuine old-fashioned charity. Over one hundred people gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reed Taylor in Allele and provided with plenty of sheep bells went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan where the bride and groom were for the present. The evening was filled with games for the younger people while the older folks enjoyed radio programs. About 11 o'clock refreshments were served and cigars passed out to the men. While every one was there from Allele there were also guests from as far away as Wallawa.

Meeting a Success—The third of the series of poultry meetings held at Allele, will be this evening at 8 o'clock at the school house. The attendance last week was quite creditable and it is announced today the series will be carried on. The meetings have all been very interesting. Prof. Tom Stewart, Harry G. Avery and Mrs. Twin Moss are in charge.

Elections Reported—County Superintendent of schools, E. A. Saylor reports the following teachers as having signed contracts for teaching next year in the county, in addition to lists having been previously given public schools: Miss Katherine Buckley, this year teaching in district No. 24.

Business of Producing Commercial Eggs in Oregon is, as a whole, a profitable one, returning to growers a clear profit above all costs, depreciation and interest on investment.

This is the conclusion reached by poultry and farm management specialists of the Oregon experiment station who have just issued a preliminary progress report following completion of a three-year research project into the cost of producing commercial eggs in Oregon. This survey, one of the most complete ever made of the poultry industry in the country, included 124 poultry farms in all major sections of the state and for the three years of 1924-1925 included 441 complete farm records.

Profit and loss to poultrymen during the period was found to vary greatly according to methods of management and ranged from an average profit of \$1.32 per hen each year to a loss of \$2 per hen when all elements of cost including labor and interest were included.

The average net price received by the farmers for all the eggs of the three years—nearly four million dozen—was 25.7 cents per dozen, and the average net cost for producing these eggs was 25.1 cents, the survey shows.

On the basis of these facts, the poultry business as a whole paid back to Oregon producers in cash all of the cash costs, all depreciation suffered, good farm wages to the operator and his family for all time expended, a profit of five per cent interest on total investment, and a clear profit above this of six cents per dozen. This report points out:

"The term profit as here used means, therefore, a clear profit or 'net' as business men sometimes express it. It will be observed that a small group made an average clear profit of \$1.92 per hen. This is a profit of 60 per cent above the cost of production of this group. A large group made a clear profit of \$1 per hen, or 29 per cent above cost of production for that group."

Cost of production was found to be the determining factor as to profit and loss, and yield per hen one of the greatest single factors in reducing this cost. The farms on which the hens produced an average of 140 or less eggs a year each, had a net production cost of 24.5 cents a dozen, while farms with an average of 200 eggs or more per hen had the per dozen cost reduced to 25.8 cents.

About 18 per cent of the farms studied constituted a group that was losing from 75 cents to more than \$2 per hen each year. These were producing eggs at a cost of more than 40 cents a dozen and obviously cannot stay in the business unless drastic improvements in management are made, the survey points out.

While some of the factors discussed by affecting profit or loss are

at Lower Cove; Lola Martin at Hillard; Lydia Cleaver, Thorny Grove; Udel Hibbert, Iowa; Geneva Murchison and Ruth Smalley at South and North High valley respectively.

Raymond DeLong, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hall of Grange Hall has been out of school of late due to illness. He is a student at the La Grande high school.

The average of tame hay and potatoes will not be changed in Oregon, but all spring wheat acreage will be increased 32,000 acres if Oregon farmers carry out their intentions expressed in the annual March intentions to plant report of the Oregon crop reporting service. Spring weather conditions, price changes, farm labor supply and this report may influence those intentions to a varying degree. (The June average survey made by the service through the cooperation of postmasters' rural carriers and contract carriers in Oregon will show how completely the present expressed intentions have been carried out.)

The principal feed grain crops have increased. Corn acreage in 1929 will probably show no change unless some important factor between the current date and planting time changes present intentions very materially. Oregon farmers intend to plant about 12 per cent more oats in 1929 than they harvested in 1929, or 240,000 acres, compared to 204,000 acres last year. Hay acreage in 1929 will show an even greater relative increase if present intentions are carried out. The present estimate is for 123,000 acres in 1929 compared to 116,000 acres in 1929, or a 15 per cent increase.

Complete acreage of all tame hay crops is roughly about one-third of the total acreage of the principal field crops and will show no change in 1929. Winter wheat acreage down last fall has been previously estimated at 295,000 acres, or the same as the 1929 harvested acreage. The fall rye estimate also showed no change from the harvested acreage of 1929.

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RESULTS OF THREE YEAR STUDY OF EGG SITUATION IS GIVEN

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Pioneer of This Valley Is Dead At Eugene, Ore.

Mrs. Bettie Shaw Humphrey, who came to this valley with her parents in 1852, a sister of Mrs. J. H. Standley of the Iowa district and Angus Shaw of Summerville, died last week at her home in Eugene. Relatives in this valley were unable to attend the funeral. The account of Mrs. Humphrey's life: 16 years of which were spent near Summerville, was given as follows:

Mrs. Bettie Humphrey, resident of Oregon since 1852, died at her home here yesterday. Bettie E. Shaw was born in Stark County, Illinois, on July 15, 1852, and came to Oregon in 1852 with her parents, who settled near La Grande. Her mother, Elizabeth Shaw, died in 1857 and her father, Angus Shaw, died in 1909. She leaves as her surviving relatives her brother, John Shaw, Pasadena, Cal.; a sister, Christina Standley, and a brother, Angus Shaw, La Grande, and an only child, her grandson, John Schanbacher, 14, who resided with her grandmother at Eugene.

Mrs. Humphrey had two married daughters, Hazel Bentrice, who married George H. Schanbacher and who died in 1918, and Edna Claire Humphrey, who died in 1927.

Mrs. Humphrey came from La Grande to Eugene when she was 29 years of age and entered the preparatory department of the University of Oregon, where she studied and taught until her graduation in 1874. She also taught for one year in the Eugene schools, being employed at the old Central building, which is now the Knights of Pythias hall.

She married H. Clay Humphrey at San Francisco, April 18, 1885. Mr. Humphrey died November 15, 1895. Mr. Humphrey was a brother-in-law of Mrs. A. G. Hovey, whose children, Mrs. C. A. Burden and Hattie and Guy Hovey, live in Eugene.

Mrs. Humphrey was a member of the Presbyterian church.

County Agents Are Favoring Better Plans

Every county agent in the 28 Oregon counties employing them took an active part in the past year in development of better farm marketing and in other phases of agricultural economics, according to the annual report of E. L. Ballard, state county agent leader, filed with the extension service.

Summarizing the purely marketing activities, Ballard says that eight county agents cooperated with the marketing specialists in developing marketing plans for fruits and vegetables; eleven gave active assistance in employ marketing; four aided in egg marketing and two helped launch the North Pacific Grain Growers cooperative.

In four counties the agents assisted with live stock marketing and in five counties marketing assistance was given with bulbs, hay, huts or lading clover seed.

"The efficient marketing of agricultural products is both a state and national problem of generally recognized importance," says Mr. Ballard in his report. "In the solution of this problem county agents are assuming their full measure of responsibility."

More attention has been given by Oregon county agents to work with rural organizations such as the grange, and farmers' union than before, he reports. This work has been facilitated through the employment of an additional part time specialist.

Another phase of economic work emphasized by the county agents during the year is that of collecting, interpreting and a distributing timely economic information in order that farmers may be kept advised as to the crop and market conditions elsewhere so that production and marketing plans may be adjusted accordingly.

By Mrs. William Wiggins (Observer Correspondent)—A county road is being built in the Leap district connecting with the Enterprise-Flora road at the east and the Pampin gravel road at the west. The machinery was moved to the place of construction last week and the work will be pushed to the utmost.

Mrs. Floyd Hammock mailed her leg and foot very severely Thursday morning when she dropped a hot pot of coffee.

Mr. and Mrs. Esterer have moved into their new home recently purchased from James McGill.

The Neighborhood club met in regular session at the home of Mrs. Carrie Caudle with a fine attendance. Mrs. Mark Crow had charge of the devotional services, after which the program was a backward program, spelling match and a number of other interesting stunts. At 7:30 the hostess served a lovely lunch, assisted by Miss (Kate) Leonard. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Floyd Hammock Thursday, April 18. The women will serve an Easter dinner in the church basement April 17.

Dear Nell has been suffering from slight trouble and has been receiving medical aid the last week. Mrs. George Warr spent last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gail Crow on Hurricane creek.

Wallowa. Mr. Hall is the first candidate to campaign this county, it is said. Veteran's jewels in the K. I. Lodge were presented to Ben Weathers and George Gally, both of whom have been members of the fraternity and of the Enterprise lodge for 25 years. H. E. Dixon of La Grande made the presentation at the meeting at Wallowa.

Edgar Marvin, of Joseph, was a visitor in Lostine Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Crow spent the weekend at Summerville from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Lewis returning home from Long Beach, Cal., where they spent the winter. They made the trip in their car and report no trouble on either trip. The community club met Friday evening at the home of Mrs. George Dodge.

A force of men is busy cleaning out the Peley-McGill ditch west of town. According to all indications spring has arrived at last. Farmers are plowing and the lambing season is about finished. The hillsides are green and it has been reported that the grass in the lower ranges will soon be turning their range stock out.

George Tilton has sold his hand of 100 sheep to Bruce Fisher who lives on the S. L. McGill farm west of town. Harley Caudle has been doing some fencing on the Charles Knowles farm.

Pauline and Ellen Bentley spent the weekend at Wallowa visiting at the home of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Evans.

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"The Basset Fox" is the name of the play which the Lostine Betsch lodge will present in the near future. The cast is Pat, Roy Swartz, Nancy, Minnie Bradley, Laura, Ruby Leonard, Charles Livingston, Lloyd Chapman, Major Puffelbeck, Wesley Leonard.

The Rev. W. L. Yarns, of Portland occupied the pulpit of the Presbyterian church Sunday morning.

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Wear-Every
ALUMINUM
At SPECIAL Prices
from March 27th to April 5th

1 qt. Stew Pan
Special price 39c
Regular price 45c

5 qt. Tea