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POLK COUNTY MAKES GREAT SHOWING THIS YEAR

Sheep, Cattle, Goats, Hogs, Flax, Clover, Loganberries and Dairying Make Good Returns

We feel that we are not claiming any too much for Polk county and Independence when we claim the county leads in her sheep, goats, cattle, chickens, logan berry culture, clover, flax and hogs.

This county with its sheep leads at the state fair. John B. Stump, Riddell & Son, C. L. Hawley, F. A. Koser, of Rickreall, and others in this county excel in this industry. When the big flock masters of Eastern Oregon, the Andersons and Gwinn, the Smythes, and others come here for thoroughbred stock to improve their big herds on the ranges, it is because they know these are the best sheep the market affords. Sheep from Polk county go to Texas, California, the Dakotas, Idaho, Washington, and Montana, and wherever the rule is to raise the best. Every few days you see Polk county stock at the express station for shipment to some eastern state. The same is true with goats as with sheep. John B. Stump led at the state fair on his herd of Jerseys, taking almost all prizes open. J. L. Linn, of Perrydale, W. O. Morrow, of Independence, and C. P. Hembree and Frank Laughary, of Monmouth, make fine cattle a business. Thomas Brunk, of Eola, has fine hogs and helps keep up the pure bred stock of the county. Fine horses

are raised here and the state fair awards went to Burge & Evans, of Rickreall, Charles Black, of Dallas, and W. R. Coulter, of Monmouth, for their fine horses.

During the last year the new industry, "Loganberry Culture" has sprung into existence in Polk county, and a company has been formed to handle this fruit on an extensive scale. Large acreage has been purchased near Rickreall and plans are now well matured for planting this large tract. A plant will be built there to take care of the fruit, and the industry promises to be a leading one.

The raising of clover is commencing to be a more general plan and Riddell's have several hundred acres planted which is doing well. Enough is now planted in the county to keep several clover huller machines busy the full run of the clover hulling season and the crop proves very profitable.

The first flax was grown this year by H. Wunder, near Monmouth, who reports it a paying crop.

Dairying has become general and a number of large herds are kept in the county, the milk and cream going to the Polk county creameries.

This county is a leader in the best of every industry connected with the farm and is making improvement every year.

BUILDING IN THE DOWN TOWN DISTRICT AN INDICATION

Several Hundred Thousand Dollars In Improvements in This City During the Year

The new Lerona brick hotel built this year is a three-story structure, the upper stories being for hotel purposes exclusively, the lower story having bank room, dining room, hotel office, grill room and bakery, and cost about \$40,000 completed. Other new buildings erected during the year are the new Weatherbee & Jones store, built by H. Hirschberg, the new pool hall and cigar store, with a frontage of 30 feet on C street, and a depth of 90 feet; the new meat market of A. Nelson, built by J. S. Cooper on C street; the new auto garage on Main street; the new furniture store built by Mr. Brown on C street, all of which are new brick or cement structures. During the year have been announced a new moving picture show house

by Nelson & Henkle, which is to be of brick, and modern in every respect. G. A. Rich has started a new cement building 15x90, which has been leased by the Monitor, and which will be one of the finest printing offices in the valley. Just west of the Independence National Bank a 33x50 feet plumbing shop is being built, a large addition was built to the Seed and Feed Company building, being a corrugated iron store house for their hay. To the rear of the opera house building has been built an implement room for the new hardware store of Craven & Huff. These new buildings indicate quite an extensive growth in the business section of the city and auger well for the improvements in all lines of merchandising and trade.

AMONG STORES, BANKS AND HOTELS IS DEVELOPMENT

Many New Stores are Prospering, Old Ones Increasing their Stocks and Doing a Better Business

This year has seen more development in the town than has been recorded during the last two years. The most striking feature is the new Lerona hotel, a three story brick structure, which has taken the place of the Independence, the old two story wooden building on C and Railroad streets. Another addition worthy of mention is the opening up of a new bank in this city. The Farmer's State Bank was incorporated during the year and opened up for business in June, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The city shows a strong financial standing, the Independen-

ce National Bank, the old institution and the Farmer's State Bank combined, showing deposits aggregating \$400,000. The stability of a community is known by its financial standing and the business of that section has riches far in excess of most communities. We next turn to our mercantile line and here we see one new hardware store, two new dry goods stores, pool halls, confectionery stores, and many other improvements. The L. A. Cary store carries a well selected stock and is a needed improvement to the town. The Wm. Herzog store has enlarged its stock of

men's clothing and furnishings very materially. The new Weatherbee & Jones store is a credit to the town, while Drexler & Alexander and Conkey & Walker both added more room to their stores. The Craven & Huff hardware store had established a good store and stock during the year, while Hanna Bros. and J. D. Hibbs Company have made much improvement in their stores. Klyde's Kandy Kitchen, Gaines' Pool and Billiard hall, Tom & Bill's Cigar store, the Pantorium, are new stores opened during the year. We have during our short stay announced many improvements in a business way, all of which are a fair barometer of the year's development.

NEW COUNCIL IN OFFICE

Mayor Appoints Committees for the Year

The new council, consisting of K. C. Eldredge, mayor, P. H. Drexler, C. W. Irvine, J. L. Hanna, A. L. Sperling, J. H. Dixon, and W. H. Walker, councilmen, and B. F. Swope, recorder, were sworn into office Monday. No appointments were made to fill the office held by A. J. Tupper, or of treasurer, held by R. R. DeArmond, at this meeting. W. H. Walker was elected president of the council.

Committees for the coming year were appointed by the mayor as follows:

- Streets—Sperling, Drexler, Hanna.
- Finance—Irvine, Drexler, Sperling.
- Health—Drexler, Dixon, Sperling.
- Police—Hanna, Drexler, Walker.
- Fire and Water—Dixon, Walker, Irvine.
- Ordinance—Walker, Hanna, Irvine.

The reports of the recorder and treasurer were received and filed.

All business was postponed until the next regular meeting.

PUBLIC AND HIGH SCHOOL

Improvements and Growth is an Indication of Conditions

During the year the Independence schools have made decided advancement. Extra teachers were found necessary to take care of the school population and today 14 instructors are employed in the Independence schools. Prof. Chute, assisted by Miss Cate, of the domestic science department, and the board has made domestic science a strong department of the school, while manual training was added this year. The grounds are being planted by the department of engineering of the O. A. C. and will be laid out according to a plan outlined scientifically. A complete set of manual training tools have been purchased, and a room in the high school fitted up for this work. In the domestic science department a steel range and kitchen furniture has been purchased, a sewing machine bought, and the rooms for this work made as complete as the money available would permit.

This year the school census showed 600 odd children of school age in the district and a wealth in the district of over \$1,000,000, according to the taxable property in the district, a healthy increase over that of a year ago.

Notice of Installation

The Woodmen of the World and Women of Woodcraft give notice of a joint installation at their hall on the fourth Friday of this month, or January 24th, and all members of the two lodges and their husbands or wives are invited to attend. Visiting Woodmen and Ladies of Woodcraft in the city are cordially invited to attend.

By order of Secretaries.

THE MAYOR RECOMMENDS

Many Needed Improvements Outlined

MORE PAVING ONE OF NEEDS

Water and Light Systems Require Attention of City Council

Mayor K. C. Eldredge, at the meeting of the council Monday night, read a report to the new council, over which he will preside this year, making recommendations for the new council's consideration as follows:

First, and of most importance, more paving in the main thoroughfares of the city.

Second: An improvement in both our light and water systems.

Third: An extension of the city boundaries to take in residence districts not now in the corporation.

Fourth: An adoption of a new charter at a special election called for that purpose or at the next general election.

Fifth: The dividing of the city into more wards for election purposes.

Sixth: An ordinance requiring permits to be given from the city before old buildings can be moved through the streets of the city to new localities.

These are all important matters they should be considered carefully by the council. Just as much paving as the people can afford should be built, as good streets are a paying asset to a city. The monitor has thought often that the water and light questions were matters that should be planned now for the future and every care should be made to get the very best systems possible at the least cost obtainable. We believe in the city owning its own plants.

From a cursory examination of the charter, we believe there is much need of many changes, or of a new charter in its entirety. A good method of handling this matter would be for a committee of business men to work in connection with an attorney and formulate a complete charter, such as would meet the needs of the present day.

MASONS DECIDE FOR HALL

New Building to Join the Present Building

Lyon Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at a meeting Saturday decided not to dispose of any of their property and to erect on their tract of land at the end of Monmouth street a new building 40x112 feet. This building will be built at the same time the Nelson & Henkle bungalow will be erected and work will begin on both in a very few weeks.

The Masons will rent the lower story while the upper story will be made into a fine lodge hall. The building will be modern and up-to-date and a valuable addition to the city.

Instructions were given by the lodge for work to be commenced at once and the trustees have full charge of the matter.

FIRST AT PARCELS POST

Also a Few of the Packages Mailed or Received

Miss Etta Welch received the first parcel; E. E. Paddock mailed out the first parcel and Mrs. O. Floyd sent out the largest pack-

age, a suit case weighing exactly eleven pounds, and which was the full capacity in size. Two loaves of bread and a dressed chicken were among the parcels mailed this week. Postmaster Merwin said the only time he was ever tempted to rob the mails was when that chicken was brought in for mailing.

TO CITIZENS OF INDEPENDENCE

Notice is hereby given that unless all cigar stands and confectionery stores, and all other places of business are closed next Sunday, January 12th, we the undersigned business men purpose to open our places of business as usual.

signed,
Davis and son,
Thos. H. Brinkley,
R. L. Gaines

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

Monmouth Training School a Big Factor for Teachers

The Monmouth Training School located on the second floor of the new \$25,000 high school building east of the Normal, is used by the Oregon Normal School to train the teachers in giving to the pupils the proper instruction. The state, and the school district of Monmouth pay the critic teachers who oversee the work of the student-teachers and correct the mistakes they make. The first and second grades have for their critic, Miss Ruby E. Shearer, a graduate of the Normal, and a teacher of wide experience in the primary department. The third and fourth, or intermediate grades, are taught by Miss Grace Davis, who is in her second year's work in that department of the Monmouth school. Miss Todd, formerly of the Wisconsin schools, has charge of the fifth and sixth grades, and Miss McIntosh, also of Wisconsin, is critic-teacher of the seventh and eighth grades. The attendance this year in the Training School is over 200 pupils, which is less than half the total school population of Monmouth. The pupils of the school are fortunate in having for their teachers, normal students who are studying the latest methods of instruction, and many of them have had several years of experience in school teaching. The critics, in teaching the student-teachers give to the pupils much more and better knowledge of the common school studies than they would otherwise receive. The Monmouth district in giving to the state the permission of access to the Training School further aids in the advancement of practical methods in teaching by having experiments tried out in the school in order to help solve problems that confront those who engage in the profession of school teaching. The state, in return, helps hire critics of rare ability that could not otherwise be obtained, and gives the pupils of Monmouth splendid facilities of training. Each is an aid to the other in the advancement of educational methods and their practices.

A great concert and entertainment will be given at the opera house, Wednesday, January 15, at 8 p. m. Everyone is cordially invited to come and encourage by his presence our home talent. The program will be divided as follows:
Piano Solo, Miss Louise Berndorfer.
Song, "Will the Roses Bloom in Heaven?" L. Davis.
Selections, Dr. McIntire.
"Mother Goose," a drill for children.
Piano Solo, Miss L. Berndorfer.
"The Rosary," Mrs. E. E. Paddock.
"La Cinquantaine," cello, Miss Emma O'Blasser.
Selections, Mrs. A. L. Johnson
"A Cup of Coffee," a comedy in one act.
A pleasant evening is promised to all.

RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT DURING THE YEAR 1912

Polk County Has New Lines and New Plans Worthy of Notice by People

With the completion of the Oregon Electric to Albany and Eugene during this year the east part of Polk county secured its first competing line of railroad and had opened to it the prospect of several lines of feeding electric railroads through different parts of the county. The proposed line that is attracting the most attention is that from Newport and the Siletz Basin, through this county, which will have its terminal at Independence where it will connect either with the Oregon Electric opposite this city, or with a West side extension from McMinnville. This line has been located, surveyed, and most of the right of way has been purchased. In this connection it might be worthy of note to state that the Falls City Lumber Company have a survey for a logging road into this same section from Independence. Later during the summer there came the announcement of extensive plans of electrification by the Harriman system. The Portland, Eugene and Eastern Electric was incorporated, rolling stock and equipment was purchased, and lines of survey were made throughout the valley. Three of the important announcements made by these

people for Polk county was the bridging of the Willamette at Salem, the cut off from Albany to Wells and the cut off from Independence to Salem, the latter being a part of the new main electric line from Eugene through Monroe, Corvallis and Independence to Portland. To the farmers of the valley near this city the new freight line built from Independence to the Wiggins-Richardson hop yards is of great value, giving the American Bottom section an easy market for their crops.

Ever another year shall pass the Monitor expects and hopes to be able to announce the completion of the different lines that have been proposed this year, as well as those not officially announced, but which we have every reason to believe will be built during the first half of the coming year.

The Portland, Eugene and Eastern Electric is reaching this way with their work of electrification. The latter part of last week they distributed rails through Independence. These are heavy steel rails and will be used in place of the present rails. The road bed will be overhauled and new poles to carry their electric wiring is being placed, and will be in Independence in a few weeks.

THE YEAR IN AN INDUSTRY WAY IS MARKED PROGRESSIVE

The Saw Mill Announced for Early Completion

The main announcement made during the year, and the one that takes the leading place in an industrial way is the decision of the Falls City Lumber Company to put in a saw mill in this city with a capacity of at least 100,000 feet daily in a day of ten hours; coupled with this is the building of a railroad to the timber of the Cobb & Mitchell people in the Siletz. With the above permanently located other wood working factories will come, making this a center not only of the lumber industry but of the associated industries in connection. This city already has an excellent flour mill, the Independence Milling Company; a creamery, the Independence Creamery that holds first position in the state for its butter making, while it exceeds all valley creameries in the quantity of cream it handles in a year. At this plant are operated a first class ice factory and ice cream plant, both of which do a fine shipping business. The Spaulding Logging Company, besides their lumber yards, has leased the Bohannon Sash and Door Factory, and are doing good business in their lines here. A steam laundry is well equipped here. A chop and feed mill is operated by Geo. E. Brey, that handles quite a quantity of wheat, oats and other cereals every year. These are the beginnings of better things for this city. The Edwards Garage and Machine Shops is a new industry that is attracting considerable business, and was established during the year. So in an industrial way Independence has made decided improvements in the last twelve months.

FINE GROWTH IN RESIDENCE SECTION IS DESERVING OF NOTICE FOR THE YEAR

Beautiful Homes Built During the Year and Many of the Best in Process of Construction at this Time

Nothing helps a town's appearance so much as neat homes, newly built, modern and up-to-date. No town in the valley can boast of the improvements in this line during the year that Independence can. A year ago there were practically no bungalows or late styled buildings while this year they can be counted by the dozen. The south Hill addition has practically been newly built during the year; thousands of feet of new cement walk have been laid and the old houses that had not been improved for the last ten years, have all been rebuilt and made modern.

W. H. Craven finished during the last few months one of the finest homes in the city as did M. Merwin, J. G. McIntosh, Homer Woods, Mrs. M. M. Porterfield, Dane Purvine, Prof. Chute, K. C.

Eldredge, Dee Taylor, A. B. Taylor, Shelly Clodfelter, Contractor Bise, Northwest Building Co., O. A. Macy, Frank Coquette, J. A. Martin and George Graves. New bungalows and residences in the process of construction include the J. S. Cooper home, the J. R. Cooper residence, the C. A. McLaughlin bungalow, the Contractor McHenry property, and the new Bures Estes home. W. S. McCready is remodeling the L. V. Baker property recently purchased; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Henkle greatly improved their property on Railroad street; E. T. Henkle improved his place materially, while additions have been made to quite a number of other properties.

In North Independence several new homes have been built and improvements made that have been needed.