

EARLY PIONEER CROSSES DIVIDE

Joseph A. Morton Was One of First Three White Men Living in Ontario

PASSES AWAY SUNDAY MORN

Settled in Grande Ronde Valley in 1862. Indian War Veteran

Joseph A. Morton, one of the first three white men claiming a residence in Ontario, and an early pioneer of Malheur county, died Sunday morning after a brief illness, aged 81 years.

Mr. Morton was born in Preston county, Virginia, on January 5, 1834, died June 27, 1915.

In 1843, he went with his parents to Dark county, Ohio, and from there to Howard county, Indiana. His education was gained in the log school house of those days and he had to walk a long distance to attend school.

Mr. Morton left the old home in 1852 to live for himself, going to Adams county, Iowa, where he and Miss Clementine Ireland were united in marriage in 1856. In the same year they went with ox teams to Coffee county, Kansas, and in 1862 they came with ox teams to the Grande Ronde valley. They were members of a large train and endured much hardship on the route, being six months in making the journey, fighting back the Indians many times.

In 1870 Mr. Morton settled on Lower Willow creek near Vale and engaged in the stock business. In 1872 he removed to Bully creek and two years later to the Snake river near Ontario. He spent the remaining part of his life around Ontario and in Malheur county.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Morton were born 11 children, of which five are still living. Mrs. Jane Davis, of Ontario, Leonard M., Mrs. Francis Sells, Mrs. Alma King, of Trent, Wash., and Joseph W.

In '78 Mr. Morton enlisted in the Indian war and served as a scout and did good service. Mr. Morton related that when he first came to this country the neighbors were few and about eight miles apart, but he has labored faithfully and steadily and has seen the country develop to its present prosperous condition, aiding materially in this good work.

Mr. Morton was one of the substantial, well to do citizens of the county, and will be greatly missed in the county.

The funeral services were conducted from the home of C. D. Davis of our city by Rev. D. E. Baker, pastor of the Baptist church and the body was interred at Jamieson where the wife and children are buried.

ESCAPE FROM JAIL CAUGHT AT DURKEE

George McAllister, who escaped from the county jail at Vale late last Wednesday evening, was captured at Durkee, about half way between Huntington and Baker, and was returned to the jail Monday evening by Sheriff Ben Brown. The man had been doing some janitor work around the office and when Deputy Soward went to put him back in his cell, the prisoner escaped by locking the jailer in a corridor. He stole a rifle from the sheriff's office before leaving. It is said the man stole a horse from the H. P. Davis ranch near Vale and rode to Huntington, where he turned it loose and stole another.

McAllister formerly lived in the Burnt River section, and headed back toward his home. He was captured at Durkee.

Wilmer Boyer is in San Francisco, a visitor to the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

FIRST BAND CONCERT.

The first open air concert of the Ontario band was held last Sunday afternoon in the city park. A large number of people visited the park and listened to the music. The band is making excellent progress and is now rendering some very good music.

ONTARIO HEADS THE PERCENTAGE COLUMN

Takes Game From Boise Last Sunday and is Now In The Lead

	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Ontario	6	3	.667
Nampa	5	3	.625
Caldwell	5	4	.556
Boise	2	8	.200

Inability to hit Bert Fitchener cost Boise another game in the race for the Idaho-Oregon league pennant Sunday and boosted the Ontario team one notch. The score was 4 to 2 in favor of Ontario.

Both teams fielded well and neither pitcher was hit hard but the Oregonians succeeded in taking their safeties when they counted for runs. Two timely hits by Phil Nadeau scored two of the visitors' four runs.

Ontario started the scoring in the first inning when Martin counted on his own single and hits by Alshire and Nadeau, coupled with a base on balls.

Boise came back strong, counting two runs. Chapman was passed, advanced to second on a passed ball and scored on Case's single to left field. Case took second on the throw-in, third on Chapman's bad throw to catch Brasted at first. With Crites at bat, Case and Brasted executed a double steal, counting the second run.

Ontario gained a lead of one again in the third when Martin was hit, took second on a wild pitch, third on Alshire's out and counted on Nadeau's long single. This hit also brought in Druhot who was safe at first when Wyman tried unsuccessfully to catch Martin off third, and who stole second.

The last score was made in the fifth inning when Druhot doubled and scored on Fitchener's smashing drive down the first base line.

The score:

BOISE					
	AB.	R.	H.	P.O. A. E.	
Chapman, c	4	1	0	8	0 0
Ward, ss	3	0	0	4	5 1
Case, 2	4	1	2	3	2 0
Brasted, 1b	3	0	1	5	0 0
E. Horrie, cf	4	0	1	4	0 0
R. Horrie, lf	2	0	2	1	0 0
Crites, 3b	3	0	1	0	0 0
*Adams, rf	1	0	0	0	0 0
Bersing, rf	3	0	1	0	0 0
Wyman, p	4	0	0	0	0 0
Totals	31	2	5	27	8 1

Ontario.

	AB.	R.	H.	P.O. A. E.	
Smith, cf	5	0	1	0	0
Martin, c	4	2	1	9	4 0
Alshire, ss	5	0	2	2	3 0
Druhot, lf	3	2	1	1	0 0
Nadeau, 2b	4	0	2	3	1 0
Fitchner, p	4	0	2	0	0 0
Chapman, 3b	4	0	0	3	2 1
Higgins, rf	4	0	0	0	0 0
Koppel, 1b	3	0	0	8	0 0
Totals	36	4	8	27	10 1

*Batted for R. Horrie in ninth.
Score by innings:
Boise.....2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-2
Ontario.....1 0 2 0 1 0 0 0-4

Summary: Stolen bases—Druhot, Higgins, Case, Brasted (3), Crites. Two base hit—Druhot. Three base hit—Alshire. Double plays—Crites to Ward; Ward to Case to Brasted. Struck out—Fitchner, 10; Wyman, 7. Base on balls—Fitchner, 5; Wyman, 2. Hit by pitched balls—Martin by Wyman; Ward by Fitchner. Passed balls—Chapman, 1; Martin, 1. Wild pitch—Wyman. Time of game—1:40. Umpire—Soren.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our thanks to all those who so kindly assisted us during the sickness and bereavement of Mrs. Charles Stewart. Also for the floral offerings.

Charles Stewart
Mrs. Jessie McDonald
David McDonald
Thomas Stewart
Donald McKenzie
Miss Jamesina McKenzie

TELEPHONE CO. ASKS LONG DELAY

Would Postpone Final Hearing in Rate Case Until Late Next Year

MAY EFFECT A COMPROMISE

Oregon Railroad Commission Suggests Attempt Be Made To Settle

New light was thrown on the telephone rate hearing Monday by the receipt of Dr. J. Prinzing of a letter from the Oregon Railroad Commission containing the information that the telephone company has asked that the final hearing in the case be postponed until the latter part of next year, meaning a delay of over a year. The letter was presented at the regular meeting of the Commercial club Monday night, and was referred back to the Commercial club committee, handling the telephone rate dispute, which committee was instructed to take such steps in the matter as it saw fit.

The postponement of the final hearing was asked by the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph company, which is the owner of the Malheur Home Telephone company, on the grounds that officials and engineers of that company have been required by the Commerce Commission of the state of Colorado to furnish exhaustive inventories and data concerning the company throughout the entire state of Colorado, and the application sets out the fact that the company will be busy with this hearing until after the first of the year 1916.

The company expresses a willingness to allow the present arrangement of tolls to stand here as at present, until the latter part of 1916 when the final hearing could be held. The Oregon commission suggests in its letter that steps be taken to compromise the matter with the Malheur

CHELSEY BOYER INJURED.

Chelsey Boyer was the victim of a motorcycle accident which occurred early Friday morning on Oregon street near the residence of Dr. J. Prinzing. Mr. Boyer was coming down town on his motorcycle when the wind blew his hat over his eyes and he lost control of the machine. He was thrown and rendered unconscious in which condition he was found a short time later by men who were passing. He was taken to the Holy Rosary hospital where it was found that his injuries were not serious, and he is fast recovering.

MORTON BARROWS VISITS ONTARIO

Prominent Attorney of St. Paul Comes to Look Over His Big Orchard

Morton Barrows, a prominent attorney of St. Paul, and owner of the famous Barrows orchard located nine miles southwest of Ontario, arrived here Monday morning. This is the first visit of Mr. Barrows to Ontario this year, and he is well pleased with the aspect of the country. Mr. Barrows is an enthusiastic booster for Ontario and the surrounding country and says this is one of the most promising sections of the United States.

Mr. Barrows left Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Fred O. Mahan, enroute overland in Mr. Mahan's auto, for Salem. Mr. Mahan has charge of the Barrows orchard and is superintending the building of what will be one of the largest and finest commercial orchards in the country. Mr. and Mrs. Mahan will be gone about a month.

Home Telephone company, in an endeavor to come to peaceful agreement, and thereby eliminate the necessity of any more hearings of the case.

The dispute with the local telephone company came about the first of last April when the company endeavored to charge a toll rate of 15 cents for calls to Nyssa or Fruitland, and also attempted to raise the rental for telephones of rural subscribers. When the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company purchased the local system a few years back, an agreement was entered into whereby free tolls to Nyssa and Fruitland were

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WATER RIGHT CLAIMS UP

Superintendent Geo. T. Cochran Sets Dates For Inspection of Claims

WILL LAST NEARLY A MONTH

Is Expected Hundreds of Lawsuits Will Result With Long Litigation

Dates upon which claims may be inspected, for water rights along the Malheur river and its tributaries, have just been announced by Superintendent Geo. T. Cochran of Water Division No. 2. According to the dates, the first inspection will be held at Burns from July 28th until July 31st. The next inspection will be granted at Riverside on August 2nd. Another at Juntura on August 3 and 4. At Vale from August 6th to 17th, and at Ontario from August 18th to 21st.

All claims for water rights along the Malheur river and its tributaries, have been filed with the water superintendent. It is claimed, however, there are many conflicts, and it is expected there will be hundreds of contests which will mean years of litigation in the courts.

There are many small streams which flow into the Malheur river, and a demand for more water than is contained in the streams, has brought about the adjudication, of which this will be a part. Many long disputed water rights along the Malheur river will now be carried into the courts for settlement.

W. H. Cecil who was operated on for appendicitis last week, is gradually improving. Mrs. J. L. Robinson of Walls Walla is here on account of his illness.

MANY GO TO BOISE.

A large number of Ontario people went to Boise last Thursday to see the exhibitions of Barney Oldfield and aviator Thompson, who were at Boise fair grounds in the afternoon. Nearly everyone from here made the trip in automobiles, and all were pleased with the exhibition.

AUTO TURNS OVER NEAR THE HOSPITAL

Large Overland Touring Car Turns Over But Occupants Unhurt

Five persons narrowly escaped serious injury last Sunday afternoon when a large Overland touring car turned over on the hill near the Holy Rosary hospital. The car belonged to J. J. Conclmo, of Nyssa, and in that car were three men and two girls. All were uninjured. Two of them were thrown clear of the car, and the other three were pinioned underneath and the car had to be raised before they could escape.

J. Patterson of the Malheur Mercantile company, and W. L. Caldwell a traveling salesman, were driving in a single rig, going up the hill near the hospital. The car was coming toward Ontario, and it is claimed was running at a high rate of speed. The horse became frightened at the car and attempted to turn around, jumping immediately in front of the oncoming car. Mr. Caldwell was driving, and he managed to get the horse straightened back into the road just as the car flew past.

But in order to miss the horse, the driver of the car was compelled to run out of the road and close to the ditch at that point. It is probable the car skidded some and went into the ditch, landing bottom side up. Both men in the buggy saw the accident and went to the rescue, expecting to find some badly injured people. But no one was hurt. It is said the damage to the car was not great.

PURCHASES INTEREST IN MOORE HOTEL

Another change has been made in the ownership of the Moore hotel this week, when it is announced that C. E. Wilson of Sheridan, Oregon, has purchased a controlling interest. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson arrived in Ontario Sunday and will make this their permanent home but it is stated there will be no change in the management of the popular hostelry, and that W. D. Torrey will continue in charge.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT PLANS COMPLETED

The tennis tournament to be held in Ontario Sunday and Monday, July 4th and 5th, promises to be one of the most important events of the Fourth of July celebration. Plans for the tournament are now practically complete. Promptly at 9 o'clock Sunday morning the tournament will open with teams from Vale, Weiser, Payette and Ontario, and will continue until the semi-finals are reached. The semi-finals will be played Monday morning, starting at 9:30 o'clock. The finals will be played Monday evening commencing at 4:30.

All games will be played on the Oregon club court, which is now in excellent condition. Some highly interesting games are being looked forward to.

HOSPITAL NOTES.

Mrs. Carter, from Juntura, is at the hospital with her 11 year old son who is receiving treatment for an injured leg.

Mr. W. H. Cecil was operated on last week for acute appendicitis. His wife and daughter are with him at the hospital.

Mr. McLeod, from Juntura, is convalescing.

Walter Levers was removed to his home in New Plymouth Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Jake Gregg and baby were visitors at the hospital this week.

BIG NITRATE DISCOVERY NOW PROVED VALUABLE

A. M. Lackey Who Found Potash Deposits Tells for First Time About the Find. Big Company is Incorporated and Takes Over the Holdings of Ten People.

The first authentic story and history of the discovery of the potash mines were given out by the discoverer, A. M. Lackey, of the vast beds in Malheur county near Napton, to the Argus yesterday. Many wild and varied reports of the discovery have been circulated throughout the county, but Mr. Lackey has steadfastly maintained silence as to the discovery and the subsequent developments until such time as it was thoroughly established that the deposits were of such nature and in such quantities as would prove them valuable.

A deal has now been consummated whereby the holdings of Mr. Lackey and associates have been sold to a Chicago corporation known as the American Nitrate company and capitalized at \$1,500,000.00. This company has already made its first payment on the property, after spending approximately \$40,000.00 in experimental work and has now reached that stage in its development where they are sure that the deposits are there in such quantities as will make their purchase of the property and the investment of a vast amount of money, secure.

The first discovery of the nitrate was made by Mr. Lackey May 12th, 1914. Mr. Lackey and his son Fred had been on a prospecting trip in the hills and mountains of the central and

southern part of the county, being out with the expectation of locating gold. They were unsuccessful and were returning to Ontario with their wagon and camp outfit. They pulled in at the George Huntley ranch for water, and while talking with Mr. Huntley were told about the two Huntley boys discovering some kind of rock down the canyon which would sputter and burn when set afire. Mr. Lackey says he knew nothing about potash or nitrate deposits, and could not imagine what the rock could be. Out of curiosity he sent Fred Lackey down the canyon to get some of the rock, but he never dreamed at that time, that it might prove to be valuable.

Fred secured a ten gallon pail full of the deposit, having located it under the direction of the Huntley boys. The rock was placed in the wagon and brought to Ontario. After reaching home, Mr. Lackey made some experiments with the rock, and it was such a curiosity that he showed it to some of his friends. It was about this time that he began to think it might prove valuable, and took a sample to Mr. Watson and to Mr. Withycombe of the Ontario Pharmacy, to find if they knew what it could be. Mr. Watson expressed the opinion that it was some sort of a potash, and at his suggestion samples of it were sent to Salt Lake for analysis.

The first analysis, however, did not prove very flattering, and finally Mr. Lackey became discouraged with the attempt and was about to forget his find and pass it up as a lasso. In the meantime Dr. Prinzing was told about the rock and became interested.

About this time Harry Wilson, a mining man who was experienced with nitrate deposits, visited Ontario and became acquainted with Dr. Prinzing, who told him of the discovery. Mr. Wilson immediately became interested and after several days spent in talking with Mr. Lackey, followed by a visit to the deposits, Mr. Wilson took an option on the holdings of ten people and departed for Chicago.

The ten who held claims there and have now sold to Mr. Wilson, who in turn has sold to the American Nitrate Company, are Dr. and Mrs. J. Prinzing, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Lackey, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Allison, A. Jaquish, Fred Lackey, Miss Sheila Lackey and George Huntley. Mr. Wilson apparently had very little difficulty in interesting Chicago capital in the venture.

It is claimed this is the only extensive deposit of nitrate found in the world, outside of Germany, and the deposit here has caused wide-spread interest. Mr. Wilson is now in charge of the development work for the American Nitrate Company.

ALL IS READY FOR THE FOURTH

Entire Program is Announced For Best Celebration Ever Held Here

BIG CROWDS ARE COMING

Railroad Company Arranges For Special Trains And Equipment

Everything is now in readiness for the big Fourth of July celebration to be held in Ontario Monday, July 5th. The chairman of each of the various Fourth of July committees, reported at the meeting of the Commercial club Monday night, and every detail is now arranged for the largest and best celebration ever attempted in Ontario.

Reports from nearby cities and towns point to record breaking crowds, and the entertainment arranged for them here will not be disappointing. Residents of Homedale have taken steps to secure a special train, and it is said about 200 people are expected from that section. Reports from Nampa say there are between 800 and 1000 people coming from there. Weiser reports state that the entire section is coming to Ontario to celebrate.

The U. S. L. is making arrangements to secure special accommodations for visitors to Ontario. In nearly every instance the regular train schedules are adequate for the handling of the crowds, but at many places additional cars will be needed, and the company has given assurance that plenty of cars will be provided.

The complete program of the events and happenings of the day has been arranged and is as follows:

- 6 a. m. Grand Salute.
- 9 a. m. Band concert at City Park.
- Weiser and Payette bands.
- 9:30 a. m. Semifinals of Tennis tournament.
- 10 a. m. Parade (four bands).
- 11 a. m. Oration at City Park by Hon. Dalton Biggs.
- 1:30 p. m. Ball game at fair grounds. Ontario vs. Nampa.
- 2 p. m. Band concert at city park.
- Ontario band.
- 3:30 p. m. Sports on Main street, as follows:

- 100 yard free for all, \$5.00, \$2.50.
- 50 yard free for all, \$3.00, \$1.50.
- 50 yard girls 12 to 16, \$3.00, \$1.50.
- 50 yard girls 6 to 11, \$2.00, \$1.00.
- 25 yard girls under 6, \$2.00, \$1.00.
- 100 yard kog race, \$3.00, \$1.50.
- 50 yard boys 12 to 16, \$3.00, \$1.50.
- 50 yard boys 6 to 11, \$2.00, \$1.00.
- 25 yard boys under 6, \$2.00, \$1.00.
- 50 yard sack race free for all, \$4.00, \$2.00.
- Tug of war, 10 men to side (spikes)

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LAND COMPANY MAKE DONATION TO CLUB

A donation of \$50.00 was presented to the Commercial club by the Eastern Oregon Land company, at the regular meeting of the club Monday night. In a letter accompanying the check, the land company suggests that the money be used for supplying fresh fruit and farm products at the Malheur county exhibit at the Panama Pacific Exhibition at San Francisco County Agriculturist W. W. Howar was delegated by the club to supervise the collection of the products, and he stated the would attempt to make shipment each week until the money had been expended.

The meeting of the club Monday night was well attended, and, aside from the transaction of regular business, the coming Fourth of July celebration was discussed. Everything in readiness for the event. One member to the club was secured, the application of A. Simon being received.