

Builders of business, mercantile, real estate, hotel, restaurant, news and novelty, drug and druggists' sundries, the barber, the butcher, the baker, fur dealers, blacksmiths, garages, pool halls, feed stores; we insert none; do well when they advertise in the Malheur Enterprise.

# Malheur Enterprise

The Malheur Enterprise Delivered to your home or mailed, \$2.00 per year, in advance. The Leading Paper of Malheur County.

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VALE, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1913.

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## ONTARIO ON THE SNAKE

Ontario, the Metropolis of Malheur County, is Situated in the Center of the Great Fertile Basin at the Confluence of the Six Rivers, has the Best Railroad Facilities in Eastern Oregon, and is Surrounded by Fruit and Alfalfa Farms.

Ontario, Oregon, is a city of over 2,500 inhabitants. It is located on the Snake river in eastern Oregon just across the line from Idaho. Five rivers enter the Snake river at or within fifteen miles of Ontario. These rivers are the Malheur, Owyhee, Payette, Weiser and Boise. Each has a separate valley containing thousands of acres of land under irrigation with Ontario in the center of the six valleys. Railroads are built up each one of these valleys and Ontario is expected to be a great railroad center when the various roads now building are completed.

Ontario is on the main line of the Union Pacific system from Omaha to Portland, Oregon, and is 440 miles southeast of Portland. To reach Ontario by the most direct route, buy your ticket via Omaha. Ontario has two national banks with deposits of over half a million dollars; three hotels, one of them a five story brick building; seven churches, nearly all denominations being represented. The Catholics have a \$40,000 hospital and a private school. Ontario has one of the best high schools in the state of Oregon, as well as two graded schools. Seventeen teachers are employed and there is an enrollment of over 600 pupils.

Ontario has fine railroad facilities with splendid brick and stone passenger depot with ten mail trains daily. Ten passenger trains stop at Ontario every 24 hours. The city is lighted with electricity, with continuous current for light and power. Telephones run in all directions, and nearly all of the farms throughout this section are connected with the Ontario exchange, with long distance to Portland. A new creamery has just been installed, as well as cream shipping stations for shipping elsewhere.

Within 40 miles of Ontario there are 500,000 acres of land under irrigation or under projects to water it. Twenty acres of this land will keep twenty cows the year round. That means that within a few years there will be a family on every 20 acres of this irrigated land and that Ontario is going to be the center of a great population and it should grow into a big city within the next few years.

The elevation of this valley at Ontario, Ore., is 2,143 feet. There

is no better climate to be found in the northwest than here. We only have about 12 inches of rainfall during the year and consequently have a great amount of sunshine the year round. The winters here are very mild, the thermometer seldom reaching zero. During the past seven years there have been only three winters when we have had zero weather and not once in the seven years have we had three days in the same winter when the thermometer was below zero.

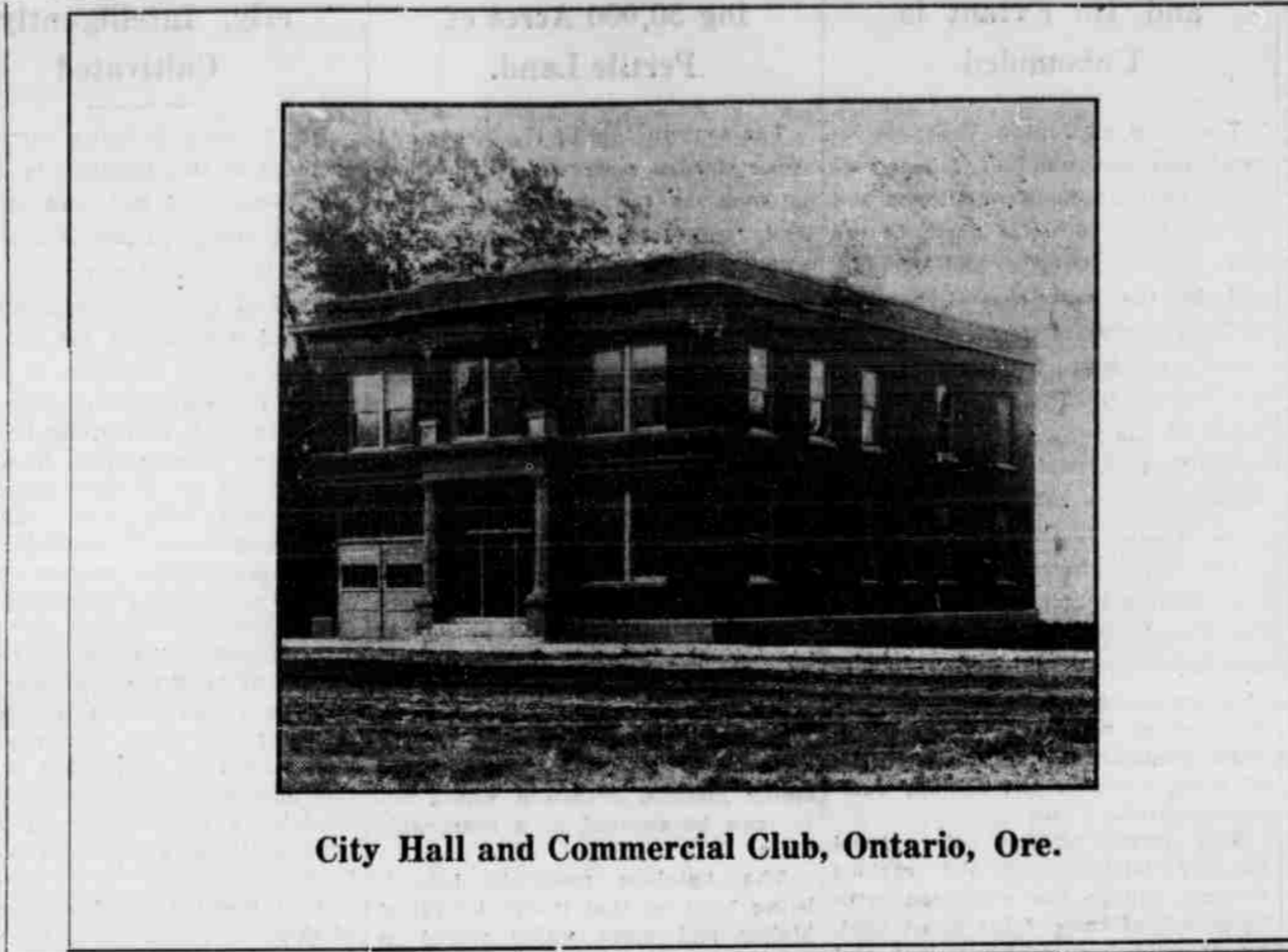
It seldom snows here before the 15th of December and the snow is usually gone before the first day of February. Some seasons we do not have snow on the ground for more than two weeks it rarely being more than six to eight inches deep. There is no wind here during the winter months and snow has been known to drift here but once in the past seven years. It does not get excessively hot here in the summer.

The best irrigated lands around Ontario are held at from \$125.00 to \$200.00 per acre. The average price of good improved places is \$150 to \$200 per acre, according to location. Good raw land with paid-up water right sells from \$85 to \$125 per acre. These lands are equally as good for fruit as for alfalfa.

There are six rivers and six different valleys within 15 miles of Ontario. There are railroads leading up all of these valleys. There is scarcely an irrigated farm within 20 miles of Ontario that is not within four miles of a railroad station. We have good wagon roads in all directions. We have the best of drinking water.

The price of dimension lumber is \$16 to \$20 per thousand, according to length desired. Wheat, oats and barley bring an average price of \$1.25 per hundred pounds. Clothing, groceries and other supplies are about as cheap here as in the east. Farm implements cost a little more here on account of the freight. Alfalfa seed brings about an average of 12 to 14 cents per pound. Many of our farmers have made from \$75 to \$125 per acre raising clover and alfalfa seed, both of which yield wonderful crops here.

Ontario has natural gas, and oil in small quantities has also been



City Hall and Commercial Club, Ontario, Ore.

found in the well of the Ontario Oil company, which is now down to a depth of over 4200 feet. The gas pressure is now about 800 pounds to the square inch and 40 feet of oil sands have been encountered. This well is the property of local people who have furnished most of the capital to develop it. Approximately \$55,000 has been spent to probe the oil fields and there is every indication of striking oil in large quantities and if it is not found the gas will pay big returns to the company.

We are going to make the broad statement that there is no valley in the United States that is superior to this section as a producer of deciduous fruits of all kinds. Within 15 miles of Ontario there were shipped out to other markets last year over 1,000 cars of various kinds of fruits and melons. We raise here peaches, pears, apricots, nectarines, cherries, apples, prunes, plums, quinces, almonds, grapes (both foreign and domestic varieties) cantaloupes, watermelons, strawberries, raspberries, dewberries, loganberries, blackberries, currants and gooseberries.

We have apple orchards here that have been paying the growers from \$500 to \$1,000 per acre net; prune orchards that are paying \$200 to \$300 per acre net; pear orchards which have paid from \$700 to \$800 per acre, while some seasons our peach growers have done as well as the apple men. There is one man here who has 35 acres in raspberries which have netted him an average of \$250 per acre after all expenses were paid, for the past four years.

## ONTARIO ON THE SNAKE

The Panorama Shows Ontario, the City of Fine Dairy Cattle and Rich Corn Fields

It will probably be a surprise to eastern men to know that corn can be raised as successfully here as in the east. This is owing to the fact that while we do not have hot nights here, yet we have a very long growing season and our soils are of a sandy loam nature and retain the heat. A few years ago men from the east began planting corn in their orchards between the rows of young trees. They found that they could raise just as big crops here as they could back east. Today there are thousands of acres of corn raised throughout this section, mostly in the young orchards, and there have been many yields of from 75 to 100 bushels per acre. The corn picture shown in the fold-out was photographed August 22, in a field two miles from Ontario. The corn was then from 11 to 13 feet high. It made a yield of 96 bushels per acre. We can easily

average 20 tons of corn per acre here for silage purposes.

Wheat will average 60 bushels per acre on our irrigated lands here. It is seldom that it ever yields less than 50 bushels and some men have raised as high as 75 bushels from a single acre.

Barley yields from 65 to 90 bushels to the acre. Oats 70 to 110 bushels per acre. One five acre patch here last year actually produced 126 bushels per acre. There is a cannery near Ontario which canned 40 carloads of table peas last season. The growers make from \$50 to \$100 an acre from this crop. Harry Lewis grew 32,000 pounds of Prize-taker onions on one acre last year.

W. B. Gilmore, who lives six miles from Ontario, won the \$250 cash prize offered by the Oregon Short Line railroad for the greatest yield of potatoes from a single acre. This acre produced 37,476 pounds of marketable potatoes, making nearly 19 tons to the acre. Tomatoes are raised successfully on all sides of Ontario, while the growing of cabbage on a large scale is proving a very paying investment.

Ontario holds an annual poultry show at which hundreds of birds are exhibited. The climatic conditions are exceptionally favorable for poultry raising, especially turkeys.

## ONTARIO ON THE SNAKE

All Roads Lead to Her.--She is the Center of Cheap Irrigation and Good Wagon Roads.--Natural Gas From a Well 4400 Feet in Depth, Will Soon Be Piped Through the City.--A Sewerage System Has Also Just Been Completed.

Butterfat for the past five years has been worth an average of three to five cents per pound more in the state of Oregon than has been paid by the eastern creameries. The price of butterfat at the time of printing was 37 cents per pound in Ontario. Butterfat during 1912 has been bringing as high as 40 cents per pound in Oregon. The reason for prices being higher in Oregon than in the east is that \$7,000,000 was sent to eastern states last year for dairy products by Washington, Idaho and Oregon because they could not get enough of the raw product at home.

While butter fat has been bringing these high prices the best alfalfa hay grown has been selling in Ontario, Oregon, for the past five years at an average price of \$5.00 per ton. Within 20 miles of here 150,000 tons of alfalfa are raised annually, enough alfalfa hay to feed 25,000 cows for a full year yet today in this valley within 20 miles of this city there are not more than 1,500 milch cows.

The reason we do not have more cows here is that until within the last few months we have not been able to get any of our farmers to milk them. Most of them have been selling their alfalfa hay to large cattle and sheep owners for the past ten years at \$5.00 per ton in the stack on the farm. They could average seven tons of hay to the acre and no work attached to farming except irrigating and cutting and stacking the hay three or four times a year so they preferred this to the dairy business.

For years Ontario was the largest cattle shipping point in the northwest, as high as 30,000 head being sent out annually. Owing to the high prices of beef, nearly all of the cattle have been shipped out of this section with the result that the farmers have the alfalfa hay and nothing to feed it to. This has caused a number of them to go into the dairy business and while in many cases their milch cows are of inferior quality they have found that they can make over \$20 a ton out of their alfalfa hay by milking cows. This does not include the profit they get out of calves and hogs.

Within the last few months a creamery has been established at Ontario as well as cream stations.

A cheese factory has been started here and is paying \$1.40 per hundred pounds for milk.

### A Rapid Increase in Postal Receipts

Statement of postal receipts at Ontario, showing increase since 1901.

Dec. 31, 1901	\$1,956.21
Dec. 31, 1902	2,410.07
Dec. 31, 1903	3,068.51
Dec. 31, 1904	3,401.63
Dec. 31, 1905	3,742.37
Dec. 31, 1906	3,444.24
Dec. 31, 1907	3,993.80
Dec. 31, 1908	4,259.45
Dec. 31, 1909	5,019.23
Dec. 31, 1910	5,594.85
Dec. 31, 1911	7,682.70
Dec. 31, 1912	8,291.29
Eleven months of 1913	8,696.77

Money orders for one year ending Nov. 30, 1913:  
Issued \$30,664.34  
Paid 17,326.51  
—A. L. Sproul, P. M.

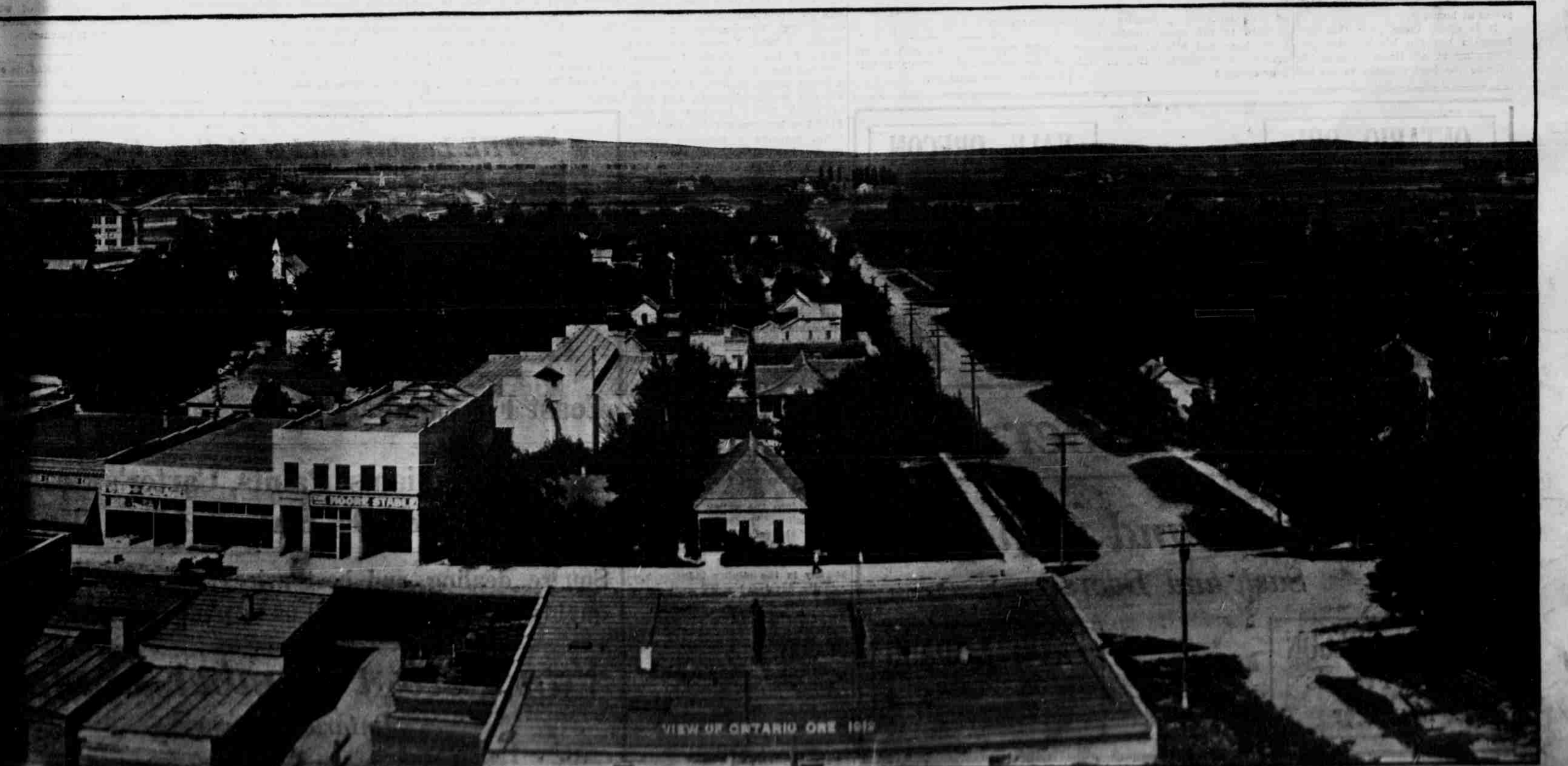
**ITEMS.**  
MAYOR A. W. TROW breaks the record by being nominated and elected mayor three times without an opponent.

ED FRASER, of the Malheur Mercantile company, is the greatest rustler that Ontario has within its limits. He can paint pictures at which the sheep grower looks and can see nothing but Ontario for weeks after, yes months.

J. R. BLACKBAY, banker at Ontario and merchant banker of Jordan Valley, is one of Ontario's conservative citizens that knows a good thing when he sees it. Therefore he has entered Jordan Valley.

POSTMASTER SPROUL has so ably conducted the office at Ontario that he too would be elected by acclamation if the citizens had anything to say.

T. H. MOORE, the builder of the Moore hotel and constructor of many business houses in Ontario, having sold the hotel is now looking for new fields to conquer. He will find them, in Malheur county.



VIEW UP ONTARIO ORE 1913