

Malheur Enterprise

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THE MAJORITY WAS 80

The election carries in favor of taking over the fair grounds by a majority of 80. The levy is made and probably next season will see the try out. The county can run a fair and a good one. Will they? Not if some hot head can prevent it.

There is a new precinct to be formed. People living outside of the town limits of Juntura have no place to vote. It is suggested that a precinct be formed for the accommodation of these new voters and that its name shall be "Junctario." It's a good thought, appropriate, complimentary and deserved.

On the editorial page of an Ontario issue of Dec. 18 is to be found the following: "The burning questions of the day are: 'Who is Andy Jensen?' 'Did Mayor van Gils of Nyssa overstep his authority?' 'What did W. B. Hoxie of Nyssa mean when he said that Ontario and Nyssa were rival towns and what would be a benefit to one town would be a detriment to the other?' 'Is 18 an unlucky number?' 'How about 13?' 'Did the Vale people celebrate the destruction of the Malheur County Fair too soon?' 'Is it a bad sign to drop a dish rag?' 'Who struck Billy Patterson?'"

These burning Ontario questions should be answered in some sort, if for no other reason than to relieve the tension which constant speculation will likely strain the minds of the speculators.

Andy Jensen is a very successful farmer and large taxpayer living on Bully creek, who is not afraid to sign his name to what he thinks is right. Mr. Jensen is entitled to his opinion and claims that the TAXPAYERS of the county agreed with him in proof of which he points to the vote.

W. B. Hoxie was probably thinking of the Nyssa prune orchards which the Juntura Times credits to Ontario. This always makes a Nyssa man feel sore, in all other respects they claim that Ontario cannot rival Nyssa.

Thirteen may be an unlucky number, but it will be more fully determined when the famous thirteen are finally and solely located and may be the cause of depletion in the ranks of Vale knockers.

Eight is half of 16; the cube of 2 and not the square of any number. When Nyssa finds the immortal eight they will add them to the frightened 13 and the 16 taxpayers of Ontario making 37, a prime number divisible only by 1 and itself without a remainder, which, naturally is odd if not unlucky.

The Vale people did not understand the fact that the fair was destroyed if the election failed. Some of the ardent supporters of Ontario who lived in Vale (past tense) worked up to the limit of the corrupt practices act on the grounds that Ontario had insisted that the fair was a good thing and it would be a crime to take it away from them. It seems none of the 842 understood the matter, they thought they were helping Ontario to stay in. Its a darn shame that what it is.

It is a sign that company is coming to "drop a dish rag." Let Ontario decide whether its good or bad luck when the 13 from Harper, the 13 from Vale and the 8 from Nyssa meet there to make the final jump.

As to who struck Billy Patterson we understood that it was the man that stole Charlie Ross and that he is now being on the Payette Bench no-no, leading in Ontario.

THE QUESTION OF COMPETITION

Partisanship seems to be developing the West with relation to the relative merits of the Spitz, Jonathan, Edwin and Ben Davis apples and thoughtful people are disposed to look encouragingly. Competition among the growers is rather to be applauded than condemned.—C. S. Monitor.

However, among textile manufacturers. Good apples are a luxury in Boston and they should have them at a low price, while textiles are produced and manufactured in that growing community of bondholders.—Enterprise.

AS OTHERS SEE US

Boise, Idaho, December 22, 1913.—Malheur Enterprise, Gentlemen: I congratulate you upon the issue of the paper that I have received, and we are certainly entitled to a great credit for putting up a paper which is good enough for a town of 25,000 people, and I hope that your reward may be sufficient for your enterprise.

Happy Christmas and Happy New Year to you. Very truly yours, M. ALEXANDER.

TAX LEVY FOR 1913 COMPLETED

Average Percentage of All Counties 64 Per Cent of Cash Valuation. Malheur County Lowered for State Purposes---Several Counties Raised.

PROF. SCUDDER ON CORN

Field Corn in Eastern and Central Oregon

Why Grow Corn: The work of the Experiment Stations at Corvallis, at Moro, and in Crook county and Harney county, as well as hundreds of co-operative trials with farmers carried on by the college for the past four years, has demonstrated conclusively the value of corn throughout the state. The success of the Experiment Station work is nowhere better shown than in the results obtained with corn. Oregon has been universally considered a state with too cool a growing season for the successful production of America's leading field crop, and the Oregon farmer has, for the most part, accepted this conclusion. The results obtained at the various Oregon Experiment Stations show convincingly that this is true for those varieties of corn which are the leaders in the corn belt of the central states. Those famous varieties, the Reid's Yellow Dent, Leaming, Boone County White, and the like, in every case proved failures under Oregon conditions. It was upon trial of these great varieties that the Oregon farmer based his conclusions and the majority of farmers in this state today, who try corn, send back to the seed growers of the corn belt for their seed. This is the cause of the discouraging results obtained. Coming to Oregon from a corn belt state some six years ago, the writer felt considerable enthusiasm over the possibilities for growing corn, not only in humid Western Oregon, where it is so much needed for silage and as a tillage crop in rotation, but more especially in the dry farming sections of Eastern Oregon. Here, for a number of seasons, corn was peculiarly needed. In the first place, corn is one of the more drought resistant crops, so that it is one which the writer believed could be substituted for the "summer fallow" in favorable years in nearly any part of the dry farming belt, and be one of the regular fallow substitutes in those sections where the rainfall was 18 inches or over, one where other conditions were favorable, such as in Umatilla county.

SECOND Corn grown as a raw crop permits of as much summer tillage as does the "summer fallow" itself, so that the weeds may be thoroughly destroyed and a moisture conserving mulch maintained as readily in the corn field as on the "summer fallow" itself.

THIRD In the new system of diversified farming advocated by the Experiment Station, corn offers a special advantage in its utilization for livestock production more especially for hog feeding, or hogging off."

FOURTH Corn fits peculiarly well the dry farmers requirements from an economical standpoint. It can be grown in fairly large fields under Eastern Oregon conditions without unduly heavy expenditures in labor, preparation and handling of the crop, nor does it require an expensive outlay in special machinery for cultivating and harvesting, or in buildings for storage. In this connection, it should be remembered that the writer does not recommend that corn be grown and handled in the same way that it is in the corn belt. The dry farmer could not afford such methods, and the college distinctly advises against them. The college system eliminates check rowing, practically all row cultivation, and heavy expenditures in harvesting.

FIFTH Corn has a peculiar value in a rotation, in that it makes better utilization of excess nitrogen than nearly any other crop the farmer can grow. In other words, where alfalfa sod is plowed or applications of barnyard manure made, the excessive amounts of nitrogen formed would be injurious to small grains because of the excessive straw growth produced. Corn, however, has a special requirement for nitrogen and makes the best use of it, hence, is one of the most desirable crops to follow alfalfa or applications of barnyard manure in the rotation. Further, the weeds that commonly infest the small grains may be readily dispersed by growing a corn crop.

Utilization of the Corn Crop. The use of the corn crop which the Experiment Station advocates for the dry farmer is for pork production through what is called "hogging off," and this is for three reasons, namely, it is the most profitable use that can be made of the corn crop; it is the cheapest means of hog fattening; and finally and most important, it is the cheapest method of harvesting a crop. While the dry farmer may erect a small silo and put up sufficient corn

The wind up of taxation information prior to the levy comes in the statement from the state board giving the summary for all the counties of the state.

Many of the counties were raised, notably the counties of Multnomah raised \$21,000,000, Yamhill \$4,000,000 Clatsop \$3,000,000 and Washington \$5,000,000. Some were lowered, Malheur \$1,800,000, Baker \$3,000,000, Douglas \$6,000,000.

These are by no means all of the changes but are the notable ones and these changes are to be understood as simply for state purposes and have no effect on the assessment as equalized by the county board which stand as made. Malheur being \$12,941,216.33 after having the public utilities added by the state board.

The percentages of cash valuation as determined by the state board and used by them in distributing the county apportionments varied from 50% in Yamhill and Washington to 74% in Malheur and to 80% in Curry, 84% in Morrow and 90% in Lincoln. Repeating the Malheur county figures: Assessed valuation as equalized by the county board \$11,397,355. Public utilities added by the state board \$1,543,881.33. Total \$12,941,216.33. Cash valuation as determined by the state board \$15,491,804.05. Cash valuation of public utilities \$2,086,226.15. Total \$17,488,130.20 Final total as equalized by state board \$11,139,407.70. Examination of the figures given by the state board shows that the entire state is assessed at 64% of the cash valuations determined by the state board.

Taxes as levied and distributed by the county board are as follows: General Fund.....6.8 mills School Tax.....1.3 State Tax.....3.6 To take over fair.....1.6 Total.....12.7 Special Road Tax.....4.0 Total county.....16.7

Vale city tax.....15 mills Ontario city tax.....11 Nyssa city tax.....14 Jordan Valley.....5 Total tax of all kinds: Vale.....37.7 mills Ontario.....34.7 Nyssa.....33.7

It is to be noted that the heavy state tax of 3.6 mills has made the tax higher than last year. On the same basis as 1912 the board levied eight tenths of a mill for the state. Deducting the difference of 2.8 mills the county levy would be 13.9 mills and deducting the 1 mill for the fair grounds the levy would be 12.9 mills. This is a good showing for the county board.

ment that the crop be grown on the dry farming lands, for where corn gives yields of only 20-30 bushels the ordinary system of harvesting reduces the profits too much. 20-30 bushels of corn, together with much of the fodder of the plant in the green stage gathered by the hog himself in a very different matter, and distinctly a profitable branch of dry farming.

The Variety Nearly six years ago the writer secured varieties of corn from nearly every section of the United States, making a special effort, however, to secure early varieties that were sufficiently early in maturing to succeed in the most northerly portion of the corn belt. With these varieties, from all portions of the country, each year have been included the seed of many local varieties that were found growing successfully in any part of the State. From out of these trials there are two varieties which have, in practically every trial in every part of the State, excelled—the one, a yellow dent, for the production of silage or forage corn, and the other, a white dent, for the production of matured ears. These two varieties today are the results of five years of selection and ear-to-row tests at the Oregon Experiment Station. The varieties which formed the foundation stock of these two strains were the Minnesota 13 yellow dent, and the Minnesota 23 white dent, both of which were developed by the Minnesota Experiment Station for the cool, short season of that state, where they have, as in Oregon, excelled all other varieties. Either for "hogging off" or for silage up to an elevation of 3,500 feet, the writer would recommend the Improved Colossus 13 as the best variety to use. Above that elevation, if any dent variety will succeed, the Improved Colossus 13 white dent is the one recommended. Another variety that is giving excellent results both at Corvallis and at the Moro stations is the Northwestern dent, but it does not

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NO SPECIAL SESSION

Salem, Ore., Dec. 22—Efforts to get Governor West to call a special session of the legislature, which have been apparent during the last week, have failed. The governor declared there could be no greater calamity than a special session of the legislature.

He called a meeting of the emergency board last Thursday and requested that a deficiency of \$50,000 be authorized in the state highway fund to provide means for giving employment on the state highways to hundreds of men now out of jobs. The labor situation is said, by Labor Commissioner O. P. Hoff and representatives of the Portland labor council, to be worse now than it has been in this state for years.

By a vote of five to one the board resolved the governor's request. C. N. McArthur, speaker of the house, T. L. Perkins, chairman of the senate ways and means committee, and J. D. Abbott, chairman of the house ways and means committee, all members of the emergency board, urged the governor to call a special session of the legislature to make an appropriation to meet the situation. State Treasurer Kay and Secretary of State Ben W. Olcott also voted against the governor's request, but they did not favor calling the legislature into session.

A special session of the legislature has also been urged on the pretext that such serious conflicts exist in the election and registration laws, since the supreme court declared the permanent registration law to be unconstitutional, that great confusion will result at the primary election to be held May 15 unless something is done to straighten out the apparent tangle. It is pointed out by Speaker McArthur and others that the old registration law, now in effect, provides that the registration books must remain open until the close of business on May 15, which is the date for the primaries as provided in a law enacted by the last legislature. They assert that it is obviously a physical impossibility for the county clerks to have the registration books open and permit them to be in use for election purposes on the same day. Speaker McArthur says he sees no way out of the dilemma except through a special session of the legislature.

"The thing to do is to use a little horse sense," is the way the governor sizes up the situation. "When 15 days before the day of the primary election arrives close the registration books, and those who have not registered by that time may swear in their votes on election day. There could be no greater calamity than a special session of the legislature."

The governor has not given up his idea of affording assistance to those who are out of employment. He has started negotiations with the Multnomah county court with the idea of securing the cooperation of Multnomah county in putting several hundred men at work on the Columbia river highway. If that fails, and the situation grows worse, he says he will adopt other methods of meeting the situation.

County assessors, in annual session here last week, adopted a resolution recommending that the next legislature enact a law providing for more deputies for the assessors, and fixing a graduated scale of salaries, beginning at a minimum per month for the first year and increasing to a maximum in 10 years, the salaries to be based on the nature and quality of the work.

Another resolution was adopted favoring a law which would relieve the assessors of the duty of taking the census in 1915 and making up the list of those eligible for military duty. Another resolution favored a law restricting the county school district boundary board from changing school district boundaries except between January 1 and March 1, on account of the confusion said to be caused in the office of the assessor when district boundaries are changed later in the year and it is necessary to enter a special tax levy.

The assessors affected a permanent organization this year, electing officers and appointing several standing committees.

Events have been moving rapidly during the last week in Governor West's scheme for state and federal cooperation in taking over the north canal project in Crook county and completing it. The governor has taken the matter up with E. G. Hopsen, supervising engineer of the reclamation service in this state, and his written to the supervising engineer of the reclamation service in this state, and has written to the secretary of the interior, outlining his

THE PASSING OF A GOOD MAN

Wednesday, at Portland, at 6 s. m. John Elliott, father of Mrs. John Rigby, passed to the great unknown. What that unknown is, or may be, did not trouble Mr. Elliott. He lived a just life while among men and the future was to him as it might be.

Wrongs no man and at all times giving the other man his just dues he deemed that the future could hold nothing that was evil for either himself or others.

Mr. Elliott was born in Pennsylvania 85 years ago. Coming to the great middle west in early life he located and afterwards abandoned the ground on which the city of Pueblo now stands.

He was in the sawmill business in Missouri for some years and left there to go into the Black Hills in 1876. Settling up one of the first mills to crush ore in Central City, Dakota, he handled many thousand tons of ore for the famous DeSmet company and later some 4000 tons of the Golden Terra ore for the Homestake Co.

He and his friends then bought the "High Lodge" on what was called the cement deposit channel. They moved their 20 stamp mill and added ten stamps paying for both mills out of the first months run besides paying for the mine.

Mr. Elliott was one of the number connected with the going of George Hearst to the Pacific coast. He spent some years in southeastern Alaska.

Mr. Elliott was a free trade democrat and voted the democratic ticket except when Bryan endorsed free silver and other heresies.

In this world honesty, generosity, gentle kindness, quick perception, wit make a good man, John Elliott was such a man.

1913 CROPS NOT THE BEST

Secretary Houston tells of the crop for 1913.

"Very brief space is allotted this year to a discussion of the crops in the United States. Special emphasis is laid on the fact that the figures quoted are estimates, and it is pointed out that this fact should be constantly kept in mind. From the estimates at hand it appears that the production of crops in 1913 was materially below the average, the yield per acre of all crops combined being smaller than in any year in the past decade with the exception of 1911. The corn crop, the most valuable product of this country, according to the estimates fell below 2,500,000,000 bushels, which is smaller than any crop since 1903. Wheat production, with an estimated total of 753,000,000 bushels, is the largest ever recorded in this country. This crop was matured before the drought became effective. Brief mention is made as to crop conditions throughout the world. From the estimates it appears that there were increased areas sown to wheat, oats, barley, rye, and corn, and that the wheat acreage has probably yielded a record output. Barley, oats, and rye are bountiful crops, but corn will probably give the poorest result in 20 years."

Geo. Otis Smith, director of the United States Geological Survey, took the matter up with Olcott, insisting that under the contract the state must abide by the rules of the government, and they allowed money for tips. But Olcott refused, saying he had put a ban on tips when he first came into office and that he would not change his attitude until the legislature enacted a law authorizing tips.

AWARDED SAFETY MEDAL

In competition with all the steam railways of the United States the Southern Pacific Company was yesterday awarded the Harriman Memorial Safety Medal founded by Mrs. Mary Averill Harriman, widow of the late railroad builder, for the best record in accident prevention and hygiene affecting the public and its personnel during the current year, 1913. The award was made by the American Museum of Safety, under the auspices of which the competition was conducted.

If all the carloads of material used annually by the Southern Pacific Company, and it requires 15,000 cars to transport this material annually, for the single items of maintenance and operation, were strung out one after the other, they would extend over a distance of 108 miles. This comparison gives a fair idea of the great quantity of supplies required every year by the company for upkeep and to insure the safe and steady movement of trains.

STORM DELAYS BUT LITTLE

Work on the derrick of the Alaska Oil and Gas Co. continued until the heavy storm of Sunday night and Monday. There will be delay until weather is again settled.

Information comes from G. F. Willey that matters are extremely favorable for the commencement of work on several of the other wells notably the Great Western and possibly the East-west Oregon.

Mr. Willey is expected to arrive in Vale sometime in January.

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The Auckland Weekly News states that the strike in that country has destroyed vast amounts of property and is daily spreading, completely stopping the shipment of freight and sailing of passenger steamers. Much violence is being used and the power of the authorities is set at naught.

BARREN VALLEY has seen great improvement in 1913.