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**VALE TRADING CO.**



**School Department**

Under Direction of FAY CLARK, County School Superintendent

**INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHOOL OFFICERS**

Rooms Must Be Well Ventilated and Heated  
 --Playground

The county school superintendent's office is sending out the following letter to the officers of the different school districts, which information and advice will be of interest to every school patron as well:

Vale, Ore., Sept. 7, 1914.—To the School Board of District No. —, Gentlemen: As the fall term of school will begin soon, we wish to call your attention to the following matters:

Every school should be supplied with a closed drinking vessel, flag, crayon, broom, sufficient blackboard, library case, teacher's chair and desk, globe, wall maps, dictionary and shelf. Should you find your district in need of any of these necessities, it is our desire that you supply them before school begins.

During the year the walls and ceiling become covered with dust and it will be necessary to put them in a sanitary condition. If you will add a good coat of floor oil to the floor before school begins and another coat two during the year, you will have done much for the health of the children.

If you have not installed a heating plant, you should place the stove in one corner of the room and enclose it with a jacket. The jacket should extend several inches above the stove and come within six inches of the floor.

By having our school grounds clean and free from rubbish and by adding a little playground equipment, school life will be made more pleasant for our boys and girls. A recreation manual showing some easily constructed play apparatus can be obtained by writing this office.

The outbuildings should be put in first-class order. They should be painted inside and out so that all undesirable writing and pictures may be covered.

ed. Then you should give the children to understand that these buildings, as property of the district, are to be kept clean. If you let your teacher know that you are back of her in enforcing such a rule you will have rendered both the teacher and the children a great service. Both outbuildings should be well screened in front and at one end. If you are erecting new buildings, see that they do not face the public highway. Also be sure that the pits beneath these buildings are of sufficient depth.

As the well is not in general use during the summer months, it is very necessary to have it clean and the pump put in good condition.

With your cooperation, we hope to make this the most successful year in the history of the schools of Malheur County.

Very truly yours,  
 FAY CLARK,  
 County School Superintendent.

**WILL SING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

The county school superintendent is in receipt of the following letter from the office of the State Superintendent Churchill, which speaks for itself as follows:

"Salem, Ore., Sept. 2, 1914.—Supt. Fay Clark, Vale, Ore., Dear Supt. 'The Star Spangled Banner,' which is now our national anthem, was written on Sept. 14, 1814, and it is proposed that we celebrate the centennial anniversary of this event by having this hymn sung in all the schools of the State, both public and private, at noon on September 14th of this year.

We are asking the county superintendents throughout the State to urge their teachers to join in this splendid movement and lift their voices in patriotic service by signing The Star Spangled Banner at noon on the 14th of this month. I believe the newspapers in your county will be quite willing to co-operate in forwarding this movement.

Very sincerely yours,  
 J. A. CANNON,  
 Supt. Public Instruction.

**PIONEERS MEET**

(Continued from Page 1)

I remember it, the politics of these men was not considered, but the people seemed to have selected them, as being the best qualified to procure what was wanted at that time, thus initiating a custom which is followed to this day. Geo. Chandler, democrat of Baker City, was elected State Senator at the same time, and to these three men, Chandler, Lockett and Holland, all working together in the Legislature, are due our thanks for the actual creation of Malheur County, State of Oregon.

By the terms of the Creating Act, the temporary seat of Government was located at Vale, there to be held until the regular election in June 1888, the act requiring, that at this election, the location of a permanent County Seat, should be submitted to a vote of the people. At this election, five different places were contestants, viz, Vale, Ontario, Jordan Valley, Grove City and Paris. No one place receiving a majority of the votes cast, but Vale and Jordan Valley being the two highest, the question was again submitted at the regular election in June 1890, as between these two towns, Vale won. Grove City and Paris have gone the way of lots of new towns and now are no more. You all realize the fact that Jordan Valley is alive; and that Ontario is "on the map."

Sylvester Penoyer was Governor of the State in 1887, and appointed the following officers for the new County, F. K. Froman of Vale, County Judge; E. H. Test of Ontario, County Clerk; Henry C. Murray of Vale, Sheriff; L. A. Sevey of Vale, County Treasurer; William Ritchie of Westfall, Assessor; Thos. Elms, County School Superintendent; John F. Lacey of Nyssa and C. T. Locey of Ironside, County Commissioners.

Governor Penoyer, as you all know, was a democrat, and all the officers of the new County were of the same political belief, except our highly esteemed friend and neighbor, C. T. Locey, who was a republican, and I have often wondered how Ike Holland slipped this particular appointment "over" on the Governor.

Organization was perfected and the County began its official existence on April 7, 1887, with an inherited debt from Baker County, of \$30,000.00.

The assessment roll for 1887 (being the first) was less than one million dollars and the taxes levied for that year were \$21,186.00, which sum was deemed all that was necessary to conduct the County business for that year.—Compare these figures with the roll for 1913, which is \$11,399,335.00 and the tax levy \$337,477.00, and see how you have grown.

I have been requested at this time to furnish you with data, relative to some of the first most important events of our County, and in looking through the old records and files of the County Clerk's office, find:

That the first term of County Court was convened in Vale, on April 7, 1887, at which time the appointive officers were sworn in, assumed their respective duties, and Malheur County, as a County, first began to do business.

That the first Justice of the Peace appointed by the New County Court, was Judge B. C. Richardson, for Vale precinct.

That Thos. Elms, appointed by the Governor to act as School Superintendent, was not a resident of the County, therefore was not qualified to act and that on May 3, 1887, Wm. G. Thomson, of Vale, was appointed to this position by the County Court, thereby becoming first School Superintendent at a salary of \$300.00 per year, and he is still here to tell you that he earned every dollar of it.

The first liquor license granted by the County Court, was to D. C. Wells, of Vale, on April 8, 1887.

The first County Surveyor appointed was E. L. Brasley of Malheur, on May 3, 1887,—who did not qualify—and on November 10, 1887, the Court appointed John E. Johnson. Mr. Johnson assumed the duties of the office and thereby became the first County Surveyor.

The first Stock Inspector appointed, was Robert Boswell, of Lower Willow Creek. He was appointed July 8, 1887, served until May 11, 1888, when he resigned and our old friend A. W. Turner was appointed in his stead.

The first Deputy County Clerk was I. H. Holland, appointed April 9, 1887. Mr. Holland, as far as we have been able to learn, did not act in this capacity, except during necessary absence of the County Clerk. On October 6, 1887, Tom Jones was appointed Deputy and served until December 1893. During this time it was customary to have a Deputy County Clerk in Jordan Valley, for the convenience of the people in that vicinity. D. D. Munger was the first deputy at Jordan, his appointment being dated April 28, 1887. Mr. Munger served the people well and faithfully, for several years, when he resigned and J. R. Blackaby was appointed to the position.

The first Deputy Sheriff for Malheur County was Hiram Dorris, his appointment being dated April 16, 1887.

The first Marriage license issued by the County Clerk, was to Jeff Welch and Eva M. Selders and they were married at the home of the bride's parents, near Westfall, on September 8, 1887, by S. L. Payne, who was Justice of the Peace for Holly Precinct. It will be observed that it was just five months after the organization of the County before this first marriage ceremony was performed. Quite different job if they didn't come off as they

that. The second marriage license was to Frank M. Vines and Kittie Pritchett; and the third was to R. H. DeArmond and Emma I. Currey.

The first deed ever recorded in Malheur County is from the Oregon Short Line Railway Company, the Idaho and Oregon Land Improvement Company and James W. Virtue, by Robert E. Strahorn, Trustee, to John Nibler, conveying Lot 16 in Block 37 of the Town of Ontario. This deed was filed April 8, 1887 and the next deed was not filed until April 15, just one week afterwards. Quite different now. In those days one man could do all the recording with a stub pen. Now it takes two good stenographers with up-to-date recording machines to keep up with it.

In looking over the old records, I find that the first contract for keeping the County Poor, was let to Sam Hess, November 11, 1887, at \$6.00 a week "per."

I also find that on the same day, this same Sam Hess, was awarded a contract for five cords of willow wood, for the purpose of heating the Court House and Jail that winter. I want to tell you about that wood; I'll never forget it; I don't know whose land it was cut from; I don't suppose Sam does either; but it was as green as a "punkin vine in July" and we couldn't find boxes nor kindling nor coal oil enough in town to keep it burning. I think I spent at least half my time that winter trying to make a fire. Consequence was, all the County officials came out next spring smelling like smoked salmon and about the same color.

As I remember it, Mrs. Hess fed the paupers; the paupers cut the wood; we tried to burn it and Sam got the money. But when the grass came and the fish began to bite in the spring of 1888, everybody was happy.

The first term of Circuit Court for Malheur County was convened in Vale, on Monday, June 27, 1887, with Judge Luther B. Ison, of Baker City, presiding, and Morton D. Clifford, District Attorney.

The first Grand Jury was composed of the following well known citizens, Wm. L. Logan, Charles Becker, William Shelby, W. G. Pennington, Isaac McCumsey and J. S. Hunter. Mr. Hunter was foreman of this, the first grand jury, and all of these gentlemen are living except Wm. Logan and Wm. Shelby.

The first criminal conviction in the Circuit Court, was that of Merquis Stewart, for the larceny of a horse and saddle. Stewart was sentenced on June 27, 1887, to serve three years in the Penitentiary.

Jonas Wicklund was the first person to take out naturalization papers in Malheur County. The order making him a fully naturalized citizen is dated June 29, 1887.

The next two were Thos. J. Brosnan and Wm. O'Brien, who were made citizens on November 21, 1887.

The second term of Circuit Court, held in November 1887, owing to the illness of Judge Ison, was presided over by Judge G. W. Walker of Pendleton.

At this term of Court was held one of the most, if not the most celebrated criminal trials ever heard in Eastern Oregon.

I refer to what has since been known as the "Strode case."

During the summer of that year, John Strode, the wealthiest cattle man in the Jordan Valley and Succor Creek countries, whose home was in Boise, Idaho, together with John J. Thurman, who was interested with him, were arrested and charged with the murder of one Samuel Rich, a sheep herder in the employ of Bob Aikman and E. P. Junor, who were the most well to do sheep men in that part of the County. The complaining witness was Ora B. (commonly known as Jim) Haynes, who had been in Strode's employ, but had been discharged. Strode and Thurman were brought to Vale; their preliminary examination held before Judge B. C. Richardson, who was at that time Justice of the Peace. Upon the testimony produced, the defendants were held without bonds, to appear before the Grand Jury in November and the prosecuting witness, Haynes, was also held for his appearance. Strode and Thurman were held in the little wooden jail and as I remember it, Haynes was kept at Baker City, until the trial came on. An indictment was returned by the Grand Jury, charging the defendants with the crime of murder in the first degree. The first indictment was set aside upon demurrer, and the case remanded to the Grand Jury, who promptly returned a second, and upon this the defendants went to trial. The case was ably conducted by both sides. Prosecuting Attorney Clifford was assisted by Joseph Huston, one of the best lawyers of the State of Idaho, as well as by a brilliant young attorney from Caldwell, by the name of Negley and H. E. Courtney of Vale. The defense was conducted by R. Z. Johnson, of Boise, who had for a long time been recognized as the most able trial lawyer in this part of the country assisted by Olmsted and Anderson of Baker. The trial resulted in an acquittal on December 3, 1887. A great deal of interest was taken in this trial and during its progress the Court Room was packed at all times, but those of you who were here will remember that it was not so much the trial that excited us but the fear that at any moment, something awful might happen. We came nearer to having an out and out battle between the cattle men and sheep men during that trial than we ever have, before or since. The cattle men and cowboys were here from Harney and Malheur Counties, in force and all armed. The sheep men with their herders were here in almost as strong force and equally well prepared. But

providentially, nothing was "started" during the trial and when the verdict was rendered, cool heads among the sheep men took matters in charge and they all quietly left town.

There was not more than 20 buildings in the town at that time, all "shacks". I don't suppose there were over fifty extra beds; with three or four hundred men here you can imagine conditions; it was extremely cold, the thermometer stood at just about zero and we had just commenced in Sam Hess' willow wood, with not a ton of coal to be had. Men slept in chairs, on tables and the floor wherever there was the least bit of warmth. I honestly believe that there were dozens of men here, who did not have their boots off for two weeks. One night one of our hotel keepers sold his own bed to twenty different men, got the money from each one of them, then was afraid to go home and slept on a billiard table. As to who this was, draw your own conclusions.

The first Newspaper printed in the County, was entitled "The New Atlas" and was printed and issued from a little wooden shack on the corner where the Odd Fellows building now stands in the Town of Vale. The first edition was issued in October or November 1887 and the first editor and proprietor was Sidney D. Ross. Mr. Ross only ran the paper a very short time and sold to W. J. Cuddy, who is at present Editor of the Weekly Oregonian. Shortly after purchasing, Mr. Cuddy removed the plant to Ontario, ran the paper there for several months, then brought it back to Vale.

We have been unable to procure a copy of the first edition, but have a copy dated June 16, 1888, which contains, in tabulated form, the returns of the first election held in the County, showing who were first elected to office, and the result of the election on location of County Seat.

Here it is; it is old, yellow and faded by the 26 years which have passed since it came from the press, but is still legible.

The old election returns and the news items, now 26 years old, are interesting, but one thing that interests me more than anything else, is a short article concerning the probabilities and possibilities of irrigation, in Malheur County and I am going to read it to you:

**WHAT THIS REGION NEEDS.**

Snake River, June 12, 1888.—To the Editor of The Atlas: In taking a geographical view of the country by which we are surrounded, I find by close examination an area of sagebrush land lying between the Owyhee river and the Slide on the Snake river, a distance perhaps of thirty miles, and the above mentioned land might be irrigated from a ditch on Snake river, taken out of the Owyhee a few miles above its confluence with Snake river. The Snake river valley will average more than a mile in width for a distance of twenty miles or more on each side of the river. Well, twenty square miles would make eighty farms of 160 acres each. This land is very rich soil and I believe it would produce at least 1,500 bushels of wheat to each 160 acres of land. Now if a small colony of men would unite and locate the vacant land on the southwest side of the river and dig a ditch to irrigate it, each farm would be at least worth \$2,000, which would increase our taxable property to \$160,000 over and above what our county is collecting on at the present time. I believe that good men should investigate this matter and I think they would come to some definite conclusion that would better our county and our citizens.

There are thousands of men of family who are now traveling on railroads from one country to another in search of homes. Now, if those men knew of these vast sagebrush valleys, I am confident they would come at once and take up the vacant lands and make valuable farms of them, which would increase our county property to more than twice the amount of taxable property than we have at present, and if our hay lands were irrigated I am satisfied that every acre would produce 100 per cent more hay.

Our county is in its infancy yet and it wants enterprising men with capital to take hold and bring out ditches which could be made real estate; and the ditches would increase in value yearly and every ranch could pay the ditch its proportion of money, to make at least 19 per cent, which I consider would be a good permanent, safe investment for capitalists. There are millions of dollars now lying in eastern banks, the owners of which are not realizing interest on, and if they knew of such an opportunity they might be glad to invest, which would help them and us, too.

I did not know Mr. Cole and have been unable to find anyone who remembers him, but this man's suggestions have been followed and his dream more than realized.

The Owyhee Ditch has been constructed; large planting built to water Dead Ox Flat and each 160 acres of land under these irrigation systems, instead of being worth \$2,000.00, is now worth \$16,000.00, or \$100.00 per acre instead of \$20.00. Instead of being worth \$160,000.00 for taxable purposes, I would estimate their value at nearer Two Million.

Development and progress of this kind, is just what has raised the assessment roll of Malheur County, from one million dollars in 1887 to twelve millions in 1913.

With relation to other large bodies of land in our County, the same conditions exist that Mr. Cole mentioned in 1888.

(Continued on Page 6)

**A Frank Talk with the Voters of Eastern and Central Oregon**



Eastern and Central Oregon have been wanting and needing a United States Senator for a long time.

A Senator at Washington who would work for their interests and would get something for the great, big undeveloped interior of Oregon.

Who would protect their wool and farm products; get Federal money for irrigation and roads, and bring in people to occupy the land.

Who would collect some of the debts of Oregon already long overdue, like the \$8,000,000 due Oregon's irrigation fund.

I want to talk frankly to the people of Eastern and Central Oregon.

NOVEMBER 3rd will be your opportunity to elect such a man.

**You All Know William Hanley.**

Most of you call him "Bill."

It's about time that you people of Eastern and Central Oregon were waking up to your interests, abandoning party squabbles and party prejudices, and ELECTING YOUR MAN TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

It's about time to stop electing bankers and lawyers to the United States Senate.

Why not elect your own man? The man you know, a farmer and a stockman.

A man who knows your needs and is your friend. A doer and a getter.

"BILL" HANLEY.

Isn't it the wise thing to do?

Please think it over and talk it over with your friends and neighbors.

Read his platform.

If you want a seat on the Hanley bandwagon, please write me.

CLARKE LEITER,  
 Campaign Manager  
 1404 Yeon Building  
 Portland, Oregon

(Paid Advertisement by Hanley Campaign Committee, Clarke Leiter, Manager.)

**VALE LADIES ARE INITIATE CAPTURE OF BERLIN**

Ontario Society Ladies Are Witty, as Well as Original

Russian General Declares Austria is No Longer Factor

It really is too good to keep! There is no reason why it should be kept, provided no names are mentioned. A party of prominent ladies visited the neighboring city of Ontario. They were well received, well treated and entertained, as the delightful ladies of that beautiful and growing town well know how to entertain.

The visiting ladies were driven over the city in the splendid autos owned by the fortunate residents of this fortunate town. Up and down the beautiful streets, to the new city hall (not the one to be donated) to the beautiful library, promoted by the energetic and beautiful ladies of Ontario, to the Holy Rosary hospital (which may later make a splendid county hospital with some few thousands expended on it) to the Moore hotel, (by far the best, as well as the best managed, hotel in eastern Oregon,) and over fine roads, oiled and free from dust, out a couple of miles to an agglomeration of fences and shacks. "There" said the directing Ontario spirit of the party. "There is the Christmas package we handed you last Christmas! That is the county fair grounds."

Immediately the whole distressed party came back to town at once resorted to the Moore Grotto to drown their sorrows in lime freezes and ice cream sodas.

Petrograd.—Declaring that Austria is no longer a factor in the war, Lieutenant General Yanushkevitch, chief of the Russian general staff, announced that the main object of the Russian offensive, the capture of Berlin, has been initiated.

While he refused information regarding the plans, he stated that the armies selected for the invasion of the German empire, under the direct personal command of the Grand Duke Nicholas, have already started on their march. They will number 20 army corps of the first regular line of the active army, about 800,000 men.

With all of eastern Galicia dominated by the Russians, and the Austrian-German invasion of Russian-Poland checked, it is expected that the Russian armies will move in a solid line toward the first chain of the defenses along the Oder river, where it is expected the Germans will make their first real stand.

Of the total Austrian forces in Galicia—probably 12 army corps—at least four army corps of 200,000 men have been practically put out of action, anyhow for some time, and 150 of their 800 guns captured.

Vale is the county seat.

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Phone 44 Opposite Light Office.