



# Malheur Enterprise



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## A BUSY SESSION OF CIRCUIT COURT

Grand Jury Returns Indictments Against 30 Persons, There Being 18 True Bills Found.

Eighteen indictments were returned by the Malheur county grand jury at Vale involving 30 persons on charges of horse and sheep stealing, gambling, bootlegging, forgery, assault with intent to kill, larceny, etc. Five of these indictments were for gambling and four for bootlegging. Thirteen men are indicted for gambling and six men are indicted for selling liquor without a license. These 19 men were captured in a big raid at Riverside in November by Sheriff Ben Brown and his deputies.

Fourteen of the 30 persons are in the jail here, the others are out on bond. The January term of district court with Judge Dalton Biggs on the bench opened Monday morning. It is believed it will require all of this week and next week to try the criminal cases.

**Four Men Plead Guilty.**  
Four men stood before Judge Biggs on the opening day and plead guilty on the opening day and plead guilty. Ralph Huff and Ray Motley both plead guilty to the charge of horse stealing. The penalty for this crime is one to 10 years in the state penitentiary at Salem.

Bert H. Stafford plead guilty to the charge of forgery, having forged a \$12 check on J. C. Beam, a farmer east of Vale. The penalty for this crime is two to 20 years in state's prison.

Roy Wetherly who was indicted at the last term of court on the charge of assault on his father-in-law, Albert Cox of Jamieson, last September, plead guilty to this charge. Judge Biggs assessed him with a \$300 fine. Made Immortal in Bronze.

William Ridings, who was indicted with Ralph Huff and Ray Motley on the charge of horse stealing, unlike Huff and Motley, who plead guilty, stood trial Tuesday before a jury of his peers. Ridings was captured in Boise and was turned over to the Malheur county authorities to stand trial. It is said Ridings has twice served time in state's prison for horse stealing. Ridings is one of the best known buckaroos in Oregon. He has been made immortal in bronze by Proctor, the well known Oregon sculptor, who used Ridings for his model in his famous statue "Let 'er Buck."

William Ridings of Boise, who was tried in the circuit court Tuesday on the charge of stealing two horses on Dead Ox Flat, this county, belonging to L. B. Huffman, of Weiser, was found guilty by a jury at 10:30 o'clock last night. The penalty is one to 10 years in state prison at Salem. He will be sentenced by Judge Biggs next week, together with any others who may be sent to the penitentiary at this term of court.

This will be the third time Ridings has been sent to the Oregon penitentiary for horse stealing. He and Ralph Huff, of Boise and Ray Motley of Walla Walla were particularly bold in stealing the Huffman horses, having stolen them at 10 o'clock on the morning of Sept. 19, 1915. Huff and Motley plead guilty to the charge. Each will be sentenced to from one to 10 years in the penitentiary. Ridings and Huff are brothers-in-law.

**The Indictments.**  
The 18 indictments returned by the grand jury are as follows:  
William Ridings, Ralph Huff and Ray Motley, horse stealing.  
William Kooser, James Morrison and Charles Wright, sheep stealing.  
George F. Moyer, sheep stealing.  
George Hickman, assault with intent to kill Margaret Arnold by cutting her throat in the Ontario hotel in December.  
Bert H. Stafford, forgery; plead guilty.  
Morris Powell, assault with intent to kill by shooting Elmer Moudy on Dec. 9, 1915, in Cow Valley, Oregon.  
Paul Claus, attempted larceny from a cash register in the Eagle cafe, Ontario.  
Horace Mayfield, negro, charged with soliciting for a female.  
Luvania Brown, negro, charged with conducting house of ill fame, Ontario.

**Big Raid at Riverside.**  
The following indictments were returned as a result of a big raid made by the sheriff at Riverside:  
Grover Wade, E. R. Schutter, W. P. Doyle, Jess Vernon, Peter Brackett, James Brackett, A. Fisher and James McClure, charged with gambling at Riverside.  
John Foster, Frank Lyells, W. P. Doyle, James Brackett and James Parker, charged with gambling at Riverside.  
James Brackett, W. P. Doyle and A. Fisher, charged with gambling at Riverside.

## NYSSA-ARCADIA DRAINAGE DIST.

Rumors of some dissatisfaction in re the appraisements of benefits on the Nyssa-Arcadia Drainage District have been rife at the county court house and the Enterprise called on Mr. John Rigby, one of the commissioners in company with Messrs. Trow and Mallett who made the appraisal and requested some light on the subject.

"The dissatisfaction, if any exists," said Mr. Rigby, "probably arises from misunderstanding or from some cause extraneous to the appraisal; if the former it will probably be removed upon the hearing sometime before Jan. 25. One thing is certain and that is, the drainage of this district is a great necessity and if it fails through outside causes or through any misunderstanding it will be great misfortune and will certainly result in later legal complications which will cost far more than the cost of making that entire section a prosperous community. Money was never more easily obtained. Several bond buyers have already made inquiry and examination of the proposed securities and a splendid rate of interest is assured.

"Further," said Mr. Rigby. "Several large holders will be compelled to drain their holdings in any event or cease raising crops, as has some 2000 acres already inundated, the cost being fully as great and perhaps greater than under a complete system. Late court decisions are likely to cause individual land owners whose property has been destroyed to successfully compel some method to be taken to prevent such damage and to remove the cause. This litigation will be expensive and will cost as much as will an immediate completion of the drainage system. The district is a splendid one and the system laid out is excellent and will certainly perform its functions fully as well as is expected by the engineers.

"As to the cost," said Mr. Rigby, "the commission has nothing to do with that matter. The law requires the assessment of benefits and damages. The cost per acre will be assessed against the land in proportion to the benefits as appraised. This cost can only be known on completion. The commission took the trouble to show the cost per acre under one of the estimates of the engineer which may or may not be the estimate under which the system is built. That matter is to be determined by the board of supervisors of the district. I understand they have a very excellent and careful board which is well for the district.

"It will be unfortunate," continued Mr. Rigby, "should anything interfere with this important work. Several other sections requiring immediate action will be greatly influenced by the outcome of this work and it means far more than the success or failure of the present enterprise. There are no differences in the district which should be important enough to delay the work and I am sure the commissioners did all in their power to follow the law and justly appraise the benefits."

**George Donaldson, charged with gambling at Riverside.**  
**Ernest Brackett, charged with gambling at Juntura.**  
**George Donaldson and M. V. Hart charged with selling liquor without a license at Riverside.**  
**Dick Gray and M. V. Hart charged with selling liquor without a license at Riverside.**  
**E. R. Schutter and C. F. DuPre, charged with selling liquor without a license at Riverside.**  
**Tom B. Nordale and C. F. DuPre, charged with selling liquor without a license at Riverside.**

Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock the nine men caught in a raid at Riverside stood before Judge Biggs and pleaded guilty, one for selling liquor without license and eight for gambling. M. V. Hart plead guilty to the former charge, George Donaldson, Grover Wade, E. R. Schutter, W. P. Doyle, A. Fisher, James Brackett, Ernest Brackett and James McClure plead guilty to gambling and Judge Biggs will impose their fines later.

Fines to the amount of \$750 were assessed and all released upon the payment of same.

## Standard High Schools, Says State Board

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 12.—Supt. Fay Clark, Vale, Oregon. My dear Miss Clark: You are hereby notified that the following high schools of your county have met all of the requirements prescribed by the State Board of Education for standard high schools.

District No. 26, Nyssa.  
District No. 8, Ontario.  
District No. 15, Vale.  
Very truly yours,  
**JAMES WITTHYCOMBE,** Governor,  
**BEN W. OLCOTT,** Secretary of State,  
**J. A. CHURCHILL,** Supt. Public Instruction,  
State Board of Education.

## U. S. NATIONAL BANK DECLARES DIVIDEND

At the meeting of stockholders of the United States National Bank last Monday the old board of directors was re-elected, as was also the former corps of officers, the board of directors consisting of Messrs. T. W. Halliday, Geo. E. Davis, B. W. Mulkey, I. W. Hope and M. G. Hope. A ten per cent dividend was declared, making 45 per cent in dividends paid the stockholders of the United States National Bank since that institution was taken over by the Hope Brothers a few years ago.

## NEW LAW FIRM

Col. R. G. Wheeler, the pioneer lawyer of Vale, and Robert D. Lytle, recently from eastern Montana, have formed a partnership, and will occupy the office of Col. Wheeler in the Nelson building.

Col. Wheeler needs no introduction to the people of Malheur county. He established a law office here when Vale was a very small village, and is well known and well liked by everyone. Mr. Lytle formerly made a specialty of Land Office practice, and will continue in that specialty here. He will also take care of the firm's collector work, while familiarizing himself with the Oregon code prior to taking the examination before the state board. He is a genial gentleman, a good mixer and distinctively Western in his manner, and it goes without saying that he will meet a hearty welcome in Malheur county.

You hear more about Oriental splendor than about Oriental poverty, although there is a great deal more of the latter.

## THE WARM SPRINGS BEST

Warm Springs Project Pronounced Cheapest and Most Feasible in Oregon.

What state engineers think of the Warm Springs project may be gathered from the following excerpt from the paper read by state engineer Lewis at the Oregon Irrigation Congress held at Portland last December. Reports of this character and such as were sent out by the government engineers last spring coupled with the present state of the money market indicate that now is the time for the formation of a district and building the dam at Warm Springs. The report appears in full in the Oregon Voter of Jan. 8.

The report on the Malheur project reads as follows:  
Perhaps the most attractive project in the State for immediate construction is in Malheur Valley. It is generally known as the Malheur Project; climate and soil conditions are good, and transportation facilities are already available.

Between Ontario and the mouth of the Malheur canyon, 14 miles above Vale, 9 ditches divert water from the regular flow of Malheur River for the partial irrigation of approximately 13,000 acres. Much additional land under these canals is not irrigated at the present time for lack of water. The stream goes dry in the Summer time when water is most needed.

By enlarging and extending these canals, 31,600 acres can be irrigated by gravity flow, at from \$20 to \$40 per acre. The 13,000 acres having a partial water right can be provided with a full water right at from \$1 to \$10 per acre, depending on location.

The key to this situation is the Warm Springs reservoir site on the middle fork of Malheur River, 3 miles above its juncture with the main stream. A dam at this point with spillway crest 85 feet above low water will store 159,000 acre feet. This, together with the regular flow of the stream will deliver 2.6 acre-feet of water to 39,000 acres of land with only a shortage of 11 per cent one year out of 12 for which records are available. The cost for stored water will be approximately \$4 per acre-foot at diversion. That is, under a constructed canal of

## Malheur County in Grip of A Snowstorm

That Malheur county and Eastern Oregon is now in the grip of the worst snow storm ever known in years before, is evidenced by dispatches from over the country. In Portland, Oregon, the city hired all its unemployed yesterday morning to shovel snow from the sidewalks. At that place ten inches of snow fell within 24 hours.

At Vale 8 inches of snow fell Thursday night, and the storm is still in progress. From Ontario and Nyssa comes the same report. The following dispatch from Ironside gives the story of the conditions existing there: Ironside, Ore., Jan. 13.—Owing to the heavy snow which is falling here, snowing and drifting, the roads are almost impassable. Even for a day they cannot be kept open because of the severe winds and because every day the snow keeps piling up deeper. The stage from here to Brogan has been having great difficulty in making three trips a week, being delayed until a very late hour. On Tuesday the stage did not arrive until the following day at 12 o'clock.

The children are being kept from school owing to impassable roads. Although not ranked among the best sellers, the hotel register frequently contains some interesting fiction.

adequate capacity, a water right of 8 acre-feet at diversion could be had for \$12 per acre.

In addition to the 31,600 acres mentioned above, 4,800 acres in lower Willow and Bully Creek Valleys can be served by a gravity canal diverting water from Malheur River about one mile above the mouth of the canyon, at a cost of \$62 per acre. This canal will cross Willow Creek 7 miles above Vale. Two thousand acres lying immediately above this canal can be served by direct connected pumps at \$68 per acre.

With the exception of 8,400 acres out of the 39,000 acres for which water is available, the cost will therefore range from \$20 to \$40 per acre. Drainage for a part of this land is essential now, and perhaps 60 per cent or more will require drainage in the near future. While costs for this feature are not as yet completely determined, it will probably range from \$15 to \$20 per acre.

By utilizing the more expensive reservoir site near Beulah, and by diverting water above the Harper Ranch, 20,000 acres in addition can be served on Vale Bench, Bully and Willow Creeks, and on Dead Ox Flat at approximately \$125 per acre.

## PLENTY OF MONEY FOR INVESTMENTS

Harney County Cattle King Comes Home with Glad Tidings of Good Cheer--Interesting to Malheur.

### MOYER FOUND GUILTY

George F. Moyer, who was indicted for stealing sheep at Juntura, was found guilty by the jury Thursday morning and will be sentenced with others when criminal cases are completed. The penalty is one to ten years imprisonment.

### FIRST NATIONAL BANK ELECTS OFFICERS

At the meeting of stockholders of the First National Bank Monday, the following Board of Directors was elected: C. W. Nelson, L. G. Willis, J. T. Logan, E. I. Brogan and J. E. Lawrence. There were only two changes in the board, L. G. Willis and J. T. Logan, of Brogan, succeeding J. W. Graft and T. W. Halliday. The officers remain the same, J. E. Lawrence as president and A. J. Selover cashier.

### MALHEUR CO. WATER PERMITS

J. M. Swanson of Payette, for the irrigation of 19 acres, diverting water from an unnamed stream in Sec 5 T 16 S R 47 E. H. H. Camp of Harper, for the irrigation of 35 acres, diverting water from Malheur River in Sec 23 T 20 S R 41 E. A. Zehner of Bonita, for the irrigation of 24 acres, diverting water from Liman Creek in Sec 28 T 15 S R 40 E. Lola McDougall of Westfall, for the irrigation of 14 acres, diverting water from Brush Creek in Sec 14 T 17 S R 39 E. D. P. Murphy of Beulah, to store 156 acre feet of the waters of Hunter Creek for the irrigation of 86 acres of land. Wm. Melcher of Payette, for the irrigation of 20 acres, diverting water from Boulder Creek in Sec 4 T 14 S R 39 E. Joe Grass of Westfall, for the irrigation of 67 acres, diverting water from unnamed gulches in Sec 25 T 19 S R 38 E. Eulah Wilber, Drewsey, for the irrigation of 272 acres, diverting water from E branch Stinking Water Creek in Sec 27 T 22 S R 35 E. B. V. Fellows of Vale, for domestic supply, diverting water from springs in Sec 14 T 20 S R 44 E. W. S. Cooley of Beulah for the irrigation of 112 acres, diverting water from Warm Spring Creek in Sec 2 T 19 S R 37 E. A. V. Clark of Crowley, for the storage of 38 acre feet of the waters of unnamed creek in Sec 12 T 28 S R 40 E for the irrigation of 10 acres of land. R. B. Copeland of Harper, for the storage of 265 acre feet of the waters of Butte Creek for the irrigation of 115 acres of land. C. E. Fretwell of Jordan Valley for the irrigation of 80 acres, diverting water from Owyhee River in Sec 24 T 31 S R 41 E. E. A. Reynolds, for the irrigation of 65 acres, diverting water from Sheep Springs in Sec 26 T 30 S R 46 E. L. Urquiga of Jordan Valley, for the irrigation of 100 acres, diverting water from Jordan V. Creek in Sec 6 T 31 S R 43 E. W. Wiederman of Jordan Valley, for the irrigation of 90 acres, including domestic supply, diverting water from Owyhee River in Sec 13 T 31 S R 41 E. E. L. Loy of Nyssa, for the irrigation of 5 acres diverting water from Cherry Springs in Sec 35 T 21 S R 44 E. J. M. Dinwiddie of Jordan Valley, for storage of 2 acre feet of the waters of Indian Fort Creek in Sec 32 T 32 S R 45 E.

### ENTERS CONTEST UNDER NOM DE PLUME

Miss Peg L. O'Neal, Box 397, Vale, has entered the "Beauty and Brains" contest being conducted by the PHOTOPLAY MAGAZINE in conjunction with the World Film Corporation. The proposition is to send eleven young women to the studios at Fort Lee, New Jersey, across the river from New York City, where they will be given a thorough tryout as film actresses. All of their expenses will be paid on this trip and if they show any talent they will be given contracts for a period of not less than one year at regular salaries paid to stars. No effort will be spared to make film stars of these young women. Miss Lillian Russell and William A. Brady are among the judges of the contest. Their experience and reputation alone assures contestants of every possible consideration based solely upon ability.

Bill Hanley, Harney county stock king, passed through Vale Tuesday enroute from the eastern centers to his home in Harney county. Mr. Hanley feels greatly elated with the financial situation in the east and predicts an immediate resumption of prosperity throughout the whole country.

"Money," said Mr. Hanley, "was never more plenty than at present. The general settlement seems to have been made and investors are ready to lend their surplus on any first class security. If your Warm Springs project was in shape or could be put in shape at an early date I think there would be little doubt but that you could get funds at a low rate for the completion of the project.

"Railroads have more tonnage than they can handle and passenger traffic has increased in a marked degree over that of a few months ago, and nothing indicates prosperity more than tonnage on railroads.

"The tendency of the entire country is to municipalize all local affairs and draw from centralized county government," continued Mr. Hanley. "The district plan for irrigation systems is directly in line with this. This plan is viewed with great favor by investors and such bonds as those of your Malheur valley district, should you form one, will sell readily on the open market or at private sale. The further advantage of districts having municipal power is that all road building becomes localized and funds may be secured with greater readiness at a lower rate of interest. The Oregon district law is considered as one of the best and any district organized under it with a good water right will find favor with the investing public."

## AN IMPORTANT DRAINAGE DECISION

An interesting decision in re Drainage has been handed down by the Oregon Supreme Court in the case of Mallett v. Taylor, administrator. In that decision it is laid down that where percolating or underground water can be traced to its source the owner of the high land must take measures to prevent further or any damage to land which is being damaged by such underground flow.

The supreme court decision was a confirmation of the opinion of Judge Biggs of the Malheur county circuit court.

## NEWLYWEDS ESCAPE PRACTICAL JOKERS

The following, from the Jordan Valley Express, fully explains an announcement made in the Enterprise some time ago.

"Though kept a profound secret, word leaked out Sunday morning that Miss Kate Driscoll and Mr. Ben Swisher were to be married that morning. Many betook themselves to church for the occasion, expecting to add their quota of good wishes. But this time the newlyweds were 'pulled one over' in the very eyes of the expectants.

"Quietly and unobtrusively, only by their immediate friends they were married in the church at 9:59 by Father Marshall. Though unattended by pomp or ceremony the marriage was truly impressive and memorable. The participants having arrived a town in time to attend to their religious duties before taking the serious step in life. The fathers of the young couple, Messrs. Driscoll and Swisher, pioneers and exemplars of the community, acted as witnesses. Mr. Driscoll giving the bride away. "The newlyweds, by their charming ways, have won the friendship of Jordan's people. Hence it is with a feeling of perfect confidence, we wish them a Happy New Year and a life of peace and contentment."

### ATTEMPTED LARCENY

Paul Claus was found guilty Wednesday morning on a charge of attempted larceny.

He tried to tap the cash register at the Eagle Cafe in Ontario, but the Japs in the kitchen heard the bell ring and rushing in caught Claus with his hands in the till. He did not get any money, but was convicted for attempted larceny, the penalty being 6 months to 10 years in the pen.

## FATHER GOES TO SCHOOL

BY BART



SONNY HAD A LITTLE DAD--SOME FLEECE HE HAD AND DOUGH; SON LEARNED SO MUCH AT THE O. A. C. THAT FATHER WENT A-L-S-O