

CROP PROSPECT AT METOLUS IS FINE

After Four Seasons of Partial Failures Farmers Foresee Prosperity.

WATER PROBLEM SOLVED

Merry Fight on Now to Take County Seat Away From Culver—Big Mill and Elevator Asset.

District Is Thriving.

BY ADDISON BENNETT.

METOLUS, Or., June 26.—(Staff Correspondence.)—Metolus is the division point of the Oregon Trunk Railway, and it is here that the crop and round-house of that road are situated.

The land hereabouts is in the dry-farming class, there being no irrigated tracts in this neighborhood; and, as there has been a partial crop failure here on dry land for the last three or four years, this section has suffered about the same as other portions of the dry-farming area in Central Oregon.

Settlers around Metolus, as well as the citizens of the town, are of the class generally that overlook the hole in the doughnut and keep nibbling at the rim. Hence there is here now a feeling of optimism for the crop outlook in this section was perhaps never so bright at this season of the year.

With the ground full of moisture, the grains looking fine, with excellent stands as a rule, there is here to be a record crop this year, which certainly means as much to Metolus as to any other town.

Still Considered Big Asset.

Metolus, however, has one advantage over most other places, for there has been erected a large flour mill and a mammoth grain elevator. The latter is to handle the wheat and other cereals in bulk, thus saving the buying of sacks. In addition to the bulk warehouse, there is in connection with the plant a warehouse for handling grain in sack. These great plants belong to John Seethoff & Sons.

They came here from New Salem, O. They looked all over interior Oregon before selecting Metolus as their field of operations and finally selected this point because they could not find a better one of a great wheat area. The mill now has a capacity of 200 barrels of flour a day, but the building is arranged for a 400-barrel plant. It is going to mean a whole lot to this section to ship out trainloads of flour instead of trainloads of wheat.

It would be futile to dodge the domestic water problem of this entire section. It is a serious question. In many neighborhoods it would cost the value of half a section of land to get a good well of water to serve for domestic use alone. Then the great depth would entail a power pumping plant, the cost of fuel for which would be a heavy tax. Everybody who knows anything about dry-land farming knows that hauling water is about the most unsatisfactory labor that any landowner was ever up against.

Water Is Syndicated.

Last winter about 25 farmers living west of Metolus, between the railroad and the Deschutes River, banded together and put in an automatic pumping plant at the river and several miles of pipe leading to their farms. Now these people have plenty of good water for their dwellings and stock and sufficient to irrigate a big garden patch. The scheme has been so successful that similar plants will soon be installed in other neighborhoods.

No Doubt the Lands Thus Served Have Been Doubled in Value.

Not only that, but think of what it means towards keeping the families on those lands. If the waterless area hereabouts, say 100,000 acres, were supplied with water in that way it would soon double the price of land and greatly increase the population and their prosperity. As to the cost, it is a trifle compared to the constant expense of hauling water—and then usually having none when needed worst.

County Seat Fight Warm.

The Metolus people think their town will be the county seat of Jefferson after the Fall election. As the Metolus folk tell me, they had by far the best show for the new courthouse, and, as I have yet to visit Culver, the temporary seat of government, where the

UNCLE SAM OPENS COLVILLE INDIAN RESERVATION

WASHINGTON

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350,000 acres of desirable agricultural lands of the south half of the COLVILLE INDIAN RESERVATION—located in North-Central Washington—will be subject to homestead entry. Lines of the Great Northern Railway encircle the Reservation. "Go Great Northern" to your choice of five registration points. Omak station is the only railroad point actually on the reservation and is reached only by the Great Northern Ry.

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C. W. MELDRUM, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agt., G. N. Ry., Seattle, Wash. Send Colville Map Folder.

Name _____ Address _____

Private Detective Accused.

Meivin Peterson, a private detective, 20 years old, was arrested last night by Detectives Craddock and Smith on a warrant charging him with embezzling \$3 from Fred W. Wagner, 303 Stark street, who formerly employed Peterson.

Boy Found in Boxcar.

Edward Dorman, 15 years old, was locked in a boxcar at Hood River, Ore., by a trainman who discovered the lad there with a man named William Martin and both were arrested by Special Agent Woods of the O-W. R. & N. Company, when the train arrived in Portland last night. The lad says he "beat" his way to Oregon from his home in Oklahoma.

DRINK AND DRUG HABIT TREATED

At Sixty Neal Institutes in the Principal Cities of the World. Portland has a Neal Institute which has been established at the corner of Broadway and College street for five years. During that time hundreds of drink and drug-wrecked men and women have been restored to normal, sober, sane lives. Only three days' time required at the institute or at home to remove the craving for drink. No hypodermic injections! Call or write or phone Geo. W. Derr, Manager, for full information. Phone Marshall 2469. All drug habits treated.

INTEREST KEEN IN DISBARMENT CASE

Well-Known Chehalis Attorney Accused of Circulating Libelous Documents.

J. E. WILLIS IS DEFENDANT

Real Issue Declared to Be Personal Controversy With Judge Rice. Review of Attorney's Earlier Activities Is Made.

BY SHAD O. KRANTZ.

CHEHALIS, Wash., June 26.—(Special.)—Disbarment proceedings were started in the Superior Court here today against J. E. Willis, a prominent local attorney, who is accused of circulating libelous documents against Alton E. Rice, Superior Judge of Lewis County. The case against Mr. Willis is being prosecuted by a committee of attorneys representing the Lewis County Bar Association.

Mr. Willis, who is more than 65 years old, but vigorous and aggressive, is acting as his own counsel. Judge P. F. Sullivan, of Spokane, is presiding, as Judge Rice is disqualified on account of his personal interest.

While the case nominally is directed against Mr. Willis, the real issue behind it all is a personal controversy between Mr. Willis and Judge Rice.

Sensations Are Scented.

This issue kept cropping out all day long and towards the last neither side tried to conceal it. The attorneys only got warmed up to their task when court adjourned tonight. The case promises to grow more interesting as it progresses through the next few days.

On account of the prominence of all the interested parties, the proceedings have attracted wide attention throughout the county. People gathered from near and distant points to hear it. The little courtroom was crowded and hundreds of others were unable to gain admittance. So far as the proceedings themselves were concerned, they failed to develop anything that was not already known in every cigar store and on every street corner in Chehalis, trials and other places in Lewis County, yet every one was anxious to hear the story retold, and no one, after coming to the trial, left it until court adjourned.

Early Activities Recounted.

But to get into the real issue of the case, the personal controversy between the judge and the attorney, already referred to, it is necessary to go back a few years into history. Mr. Willis is admitted to the bar and began practicing before Washington was admitted to the Union. During the first years of his practice he served as Postmaster of Chehalis. He has a reputation as a controversial, contentious person and seemingly is hard to get along with. He is said to have quarrels with nearly all of them. His quarters, though, have merely been the outward sign of his temperamental result of any jealousy, rivalry or ambition to hold office. He was a candidate only once for an elective office and that was more than 20 years ago when he was defeated for Probate Judge after a bitter campaign.

Willis Once Rice Supporter.

After quite a little activity in politics, Willis always in the past has been somebody rather than to elect the other fellow, he jumped most actively into the campaign of 1900 when H. E. Elliott, a Democrat, defeated the Republican, was a candidate against him. Mr. Willis, himself a Democrat, had had his usual quarrels with Elliott and openly and actively supported Mr. Rice.

While partisan politics apparently had nothing whatever to do in assisting Mr. Willis in forming his likes and dislikes for public officials, this circumstance is related merely to show how non-partisan he has been in his opposition to men in office.

Jurist and Lawyer Estranged.

Well, that campaign of 16 years ago resulted in Mr. Rice's election. He has since elected three times since and is now serving his fourth term. He is a candidate for re-election again this year.

But in the 16 years that Judge Rice has been on the bench he and Mr. Willis have become estranged. It is hard to point out just the precise incident that led to the parting of ways, but the gulf between them has grown perceptibly wider and wider with the last few years.

No one in Lewis County paid much attention to their quarrel. As a matter of fact it is doubtful whether many people knew it, for it is so customary for Mr. Willis to be at odds with the incumbent officials that his unfriendly relations with Judge Rice attracted little notice.

Willis Document Stirs.

But along in the latter part of March something happened that caused the people here to stand up and rub their eyes. A 28-page pamphlet, entitled "Crimes and Misdemeanors of Honorable Alton E. Rice," made its sudden appearance on the streets. It was generally circulated throughout the county. The title page, in large letters, proclaimed that J. E. Willis was the author.

The subtitle reads, "Grand and Pettit

Home and Shop Tools That are Tested and True

These tools are right. They are tested before they leave the factory—tested for adjustment and quality, to make assurance double sure.

KEEN KUTTER

tools work true, because they're made accurately from first grade live steel and thoroughly seasoned wood. They have the KEEN KUTTER spirit because they stick to their job and get there.

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DEAF MEN DRIVE CARS

WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL HAS UNUSUAL FEATURES.

Pitcher of Baseball Team Has Just Signed Contract With Coast League for \$175.

YANCOUVER, Wash., June 26.—(Special.)—Two teachers, both deaf, at the Washington State School for the Deaf, own and drive their own machines. This is the record in the United States.

Out of 42 employees at this institution, 17 are deaf. One of the teachers nearly doubles his salary by raising prunes. This is the only school of its kind having an officer from the regular Army giving instruction to the pupils in physical improvement and scoutcraft.

Three of the graduates from here have just received degrees from Gallaudet College, in Washington, D. C. A Washingtonian had played football for the Gallaudet College football eleven for five years, with another formidable one preparing to enter for 1917.

Rural Routes Established. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, June 26.—Rural route free delivery will be inaugurated at Stanfield, Or., August 1 on a three-times-a-week basis to serve 30 families. On the same date three automobile routes will be established in Idaho, at Jerome, Oakley and Rupert, each to serve upwards of 200 families. August 2 rural free delivery will be inaugurated at Hancock, Sand Point, Idaho Falls and Richfield, Idaho, on a three-times-a-week basis.

THE DALLES UNIT ORDERED. Sergeant Lemison to Be in Charge of Recruiting Work.

THE DALLES, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—Sergeant Ed R. Lemison, a Spanish-American War veteran, who is now at Camp Withycombe, has been asked by Adjutant-General White to form a militia organization at The Dalles immediately.

Sergeant Lemison, who is a leader in local military affairs, was away on his vacation when the Mexican trouble arose, but went immediately to the mobilization camp at Chickamauga. He has written the local Chamber of Commerce, asking its members to cooperate with him and advertise for recruits. Numbers of young men are planning to join the organization here and it is believed that not less than a full company will be formed.

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Advertisement for Keen Kutter tools, featuring an illustration of a man using a tool and a list of dealers across Oregon.

Advertisement for deaf men driving cars, detailing the Washington State School for the Deaf's achievements.

Large advertisement for the Ladd Estate Company, featuring a detailed floor plan of a home and promotional text for F.N. Clark & Co.