

## 1903 Nearing the End

The past year has been one of the most successful since we started in business, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to our many patrons. We wish you all a

MERRY CHRISTMAS—

==== AND A ====

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Next year we will strive harder than ever to supply our customers with latest and up-to-date line of goods and we solicit your patronage.

MINOR & COMPANY, HEPPNER

### The Heppner Gazette

Issued Thursday Morning.

Warnock & Michell.

Entered at the Postoffice at Heppner Oregon, as second-class matter.

THURSDAY, . . . December 24, 1903

OPEN RIVER—HOW TO GET IT.

Major Langfitt's letter to Governor Chamberlain several days ago shows the Oregon Legislature how to bring about early construction of the Celilo canal. The National Government will begin construction just as soon as it obtains ground and right of way free of cost. Such was the recommendation of the Board of Government Engineers, approved by the Chief of Engineers and the Secretary of War.

Here, then, is the opportunity that has been long awaited. By an expenditure of from \$50,000 to \$100,000 the state of Oregon can induce the United States to expend \$4,000,000 for the long-sought open river. If the Legislature of this state could appropriate money for a more profitable purpose, it has never yet done so.

Oregon may labor through the courts, state and Federal, to condemn ground for the portage; it may invest \$165,000 in that enterprise, and yet, when done, it may find the portage of no utility, since Three-Mile Rapids, leading up to the lower terminus of the road, would not be navigable. The state does not provide means for removing the obstructions in these rapids. The work devolves reasonably upon the National Government. The United States is ready to perform that duty. Its plans include removal of the obstructions. And it doubtless would make Three-Mile Rapids navigable whenever it began construction of the canal, inasmuch as that is naturally the first

thing to be done.

The Legislature, by appropriating the required \$50,000 or \$100,000, would insure the earliest possible completion of the waterway. The War Department has means to begin the improvement. It need not wait for further Congressional action before starting the work. Once begun, the improvement would continue as all other National work authorized goes forward, namely, by Congressional appropriations as the improvement would advance. It is believed by the engineers that the canal could be finished within four or five years.

Without the appropriation by the Oregon Legislature the opening of the Columbia may be deferred indefinitely. Nor need such action by the Legislature jeopardize the portage road. That road will serve its purpose while the canal is building. Portland by its own energy kept open its highway to the sea, and now the National Government helps the more willingly. Oregon by the same energy can open its highway to the sea.—Oregonian.

Weather conditions have certainly been very favorable so far this winter in Eastern Oregon. With plenty of rain and mild weather grass has made a good growth and stock is in good condition, in fact much better than at this time last year. While the stockmen are being favored, the farmers are also feeling good over the good growing weather. Wheat will get a good start. The new year is approaching with good prospects.

A young man in Chicago who worked for a salary of \$1.50 per day, just to even things up stole \$200 a day for a period of several months. He was not a very cheap man after all.

### LEXINGTON NEWS.

Lexington, Dec. 23, 1903.

Born, Dec. 19, to J. R. Johnson and wife, a son.

Nearly all the sidewalks ordered by the council have been built.

Mrs. E. D. Leach is very sick. She may go to the hospital at Portland.

The athletic club are preparing to give an entertainment in the near future.

Mrs. Jos. Burgoyne and children will visit relatives near Roseburg during the holidays.

The home mission society expect an excellent time at their entertainment Thursday evening.

A game of football between the Heppner and Lexington boys will be played here Christmas.

W. B. McAlister went to Heppner Tuesday to arrange for the painting of the curtain for the front of the stage in the Artisan hall.

Washington stockmen are taking steps toward the formation of a state organization.

The North Yakima Light and Power plant has been sold to Eastern capitalists for \$500,000.

Mrs. W. M. Bilyeu, one of the oldest pioneers of Linn county, died Friday at Scio, aged 82.

Mrs. P. M. Gray, of Salem, died Friday, aged 78. She crossed the plains from Iowa to Oregon in 1853.

The democrats of Washington will not make the single tax a plank in their platform this year.

Forty tons of raw silk valued at \$200,000, is on the Indrapura from China to Portland, for American consumption exclusively.

A clerk in the office of an importing chemist in Chicago, has received \$9 per week for four months, and during that time stole

valuable goods of his employer to the average value of \$200 per day.

The early run of steel head salmon on the Lower Columbia is very heavy and the price paid the fishermen is four cents per pound.

Germany, Mexico and Japan are installing their exhibits at St. Louis—the first foreign countries that have reached that stage with their exhibits.

W. W. Cotton, of Portland, has just been appointed a regent of the Oregon Agricultural College, to succeed Benton Killin, whose term has expired.

Butler, Pa., has 18,000 inhabitants, of whom just one-tenth either have typhoid fever now or have had the disease within the past six weeks.

As a result of French interdiction of religious orders, and secularization of their property, 6,000 monks and nuns have gone to England, 1,800 to the United States and 1,100 to Canada.

Travelers over the Trans-Siberian railway report a steady movement of Russian troops and munitions of war eastward into Manchuria, despite all denials on the part of Russian officials.

The 50 largest postoffices in the United States took in during November last \$5,402,580, an increase of 7 per cent over November 1902. The heaviest increase was at Los Angeles, 25 per cent.

Fur dealers of Victoria, B. C., who sent 14,000 sealskins to the annual sales in London this month received but \$15.53 each this year, compared to \$27.50 one year ago, a decline of about 15 per cent.

Thirty citizens of Winn parish, Louisiana, horsewhipped Peter Warner, Reuben Brown and Edward Warner, and compelled them to leave the parish. The 30 citizens will now have to dig up \$5,000 for each of the victims, by order of the state supreme court.

### GROSHENS & ZOLLINGER

Have just opened a new saloon at the corner of Esin and May streets.

Finest Liquors and Cigars

Pendleton Beer on Draught

Hot and Cold Lunches

Heppner, Or.

### Red Front Livery & Feed Stables

Stewart & Kirk, Props

FIRST-CLASS LIVERY RIGS

Kept constantly on hand and can be furnished on short notice to parties wishing to drive into the interior. First class : : :

### Hacks and Buggies

CALL AROUND AND SEE US. WE CATER TO THE : : : :

COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS

AND CAN FURNISH RIGS AND DRIVER ON SHORT NOTICE : : :

Heppner, - Oregon