

Warnock & Harlan.

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

THURSDAY.....August 25, 1904

To the people in Morrow county who are not satisfied with the country and environments, just a few words in relation to actual conditions might be interesting. It is human nature to complain and perfection has never yet been found by man. We measure almost everything by comparison and let us look at other places. Even in the far famed Willamette Valley, the present season has been so dry that crops are very short. Kansas has had great floods. In Minnesota this week a terrible tornado caused the death of almost 20 people and a property loss of \$2,500,000. Up in the great wheat belt of the Manitoba country the black rust is ruining the crops. A short study of the actual conditions ought to relieve somewhat the man with pessimistic views. Here in Morrow county we are enjoying prosperity and the anticipation of a bright future. Morrow county this season has produced more and will have more to sell than ever before in her history. This is a great country and our greatest need is more people to develop our resources.

The Morrow County Development League is now in a fair way for organization. Judge Ayers has been active this week in securing signers and has made good progress. A good working organization can do much good for Heppner and Morrow county. Just now there is plenty to do. The League should immediately take hold of the matter of gathering up Morrow county products for an exhibition at the Lewis and Clark fair next year. There will be always something to do. Let us get out of the old rut.

LEXINGTON NEWS.

N. A. Leach, of Walla Walla, was in town on business Friday.

Jack Lane, of Hardman, visited Tom Barnett last Friday.

Mrs. H. E. Burchell visited friends in Heppner Sunday.

Solomon Glick is quite ill with the mumps.

School will begin Monday, Sept. 5th.

Rev. O. B. Crockett went to Spokane Monday to attend the annual conference of the M. E. Church South.

Rev. H. S. Spangle preached at the M. E. Church South last Sunday.

Johnson and Fry have purchased a new separator. It will be here this week.

Mrs. W. O. Miller, of Heppner, is visiting friends here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Silas Beach and W. G. Scott and family went to the mountains last Tuesday.

Mrs. E. R. Beach's mother and sister, of Chicago, are visiting here. They arrived Monday evening.

Prof. R. B. Wilcox and Miss Ethel Eskelson were married at the home of the bride's parents Wednesday, Aug. 17. Rev. J. L. Jones officiating. Prof. Wilcox is the efficient and popular principal of our school. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Eskelson, of this place. They went to the mountains Wednesday afternoon for a few days' outing. We join their many friends in wishing them a long and happy wedded life.

LAND OF SNAKES.

Millions of Reptiles Swarm Streets of Klamath Falls.

Klamath county, Oregon, borders on California to the south and lies midway between the eastern and western boundary of the state. A range of mountains skirts the western border of the county, among them Mt. Pitt, 10,000 feet; Mt. Thielsen, 9,258 feet, Mt. Scott, 5,000 feet; and numerous elevations of lesser magnitude. It is also a country of fresh water lakes, among them Upper and Lower Klamath, the latter crossing the line into California. The distance between these two bodies of water is about three miles, and they are joined together by the Link river, a small and somewhat turbulent stream, dashing over many rocks on much of its journey from lake to lake. The town of Klamath Falls is located on this river, at the foot of Upper Klamath lake, and has a population of perhaps 1000—and a million snakes.

Snakes are there by the thousand and thousand, nice gentle fellows of a grayish hue, harmless as doves or a parrot in his cage. For some reason the reptiles migrate from one lake to the other, following the river in their journey, and at these times on sunny days the streets of the town are fairly alive with a crawling, squirming mass of life, apparently not at all offensive to citizens of the community, who depreciate injury to one of the harmless creatures. A snake in Klamath Falls is no more a terror to her people than is a chirruping sparrow an alarm to the good citizens of Portland, and the man habitually destroying them would earn for himself a social ostracism he would not enjoy.

The county jail of Klamath county is a favorite rendezvous of these snakes. There are holes beneath its foundation into which they crawl during the night, emerging therefrom at sunrise, when many manage to get up to the window sills and there bask in the sunshine for hours at a time. If one should wiggle its way into a residence the housewife chases it out with a broom and goes on with her work as if nothing had happened.

A speculative genius arrived in Klamath Falls some months since intending to make a fortune out of snake oil. He conceived the idea of catching the reptiles by scores, tying their tails together and hanging them over a line until the hot sun of that region fried the grease out of them and they dried to mere skeletons. But the populace interrupted the success of the enterprise by inviting the gentleman to leave, which he speedily did.

What is to become of the snakes of Klamath county has never yet, so far as learned, concerned anybody. They are most numerous when the springtime sun shines brightest. At times they may be seen in great balls as if plaited together by human hands, and in the branches of trees; or hanging head downward like monkeys by their tails. But with the older settlers they attract no more attention than would so many butterflies.—Portland Telegram.

Few and Far Between.

Thomas Jefferson is dead. Bryan knows this, and going back over the list of Democrats he is the first one they come to whose public record will help them. Polk, Pierce and Buchanan were pro-slavery presidents; and a Democratic supreme court decided that a negro had no rights which a white man was bound to respect. The party jumps from Jefferson to Bryan for its next liberal man.—White Salmon Enterprise.

SIX DAYS MORE of the GREAT REDUCTION SALE at MINOR & CO'S

Everything in Summer Goods reduced one-fourth to one-half New Goods arriving every day.

Keep posted, as the nicest and best things are picked up about as fast as they arrive. Read our ads.

MINOR & CO. | MINOR & CO. | MINOR & CO.

BIG WHEAT CROP.

Fields Along the Columbia River Will yield Well.

The Oregonian's staff correspondent in writing a letter from Ione, gives some interesting figures in relation to the wheat crop of the counties along the Columbia. The figures are very conservative, in fact at the present time there is every indication that the figures given for Morrow county are too low by at least 200,000 bushels. The correspondent's estimate for Morrow county places the number of bushels at 1,110,000.

Some time ago, the Gazette made an estimate of the wheat yield of this county, placing the yield at 1,300,000 bushels. This estimate was based on the very best information obtainable. At the present moment the harvest is now at its height and the Gazette believes that the yield will come up fully to the former estimate of 1,300,000 bushels. The greater portion of this immense crop will go in as first class.

The Oregonian correspondent says: "The river counties of Oregon are this year turning off the largest crop of wheat that they have ever produced. When it is remembered that there have been many "fat" years in the past in which some of these counties individually showed remarkable yields, this statement may seem broad.

It is a fact, nevertheless, that never before has the aggregate yield of Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam and Morrow counties reached the handsome totals that will be shown by the final returns this year. Not the least interesting feature of this pleasing situation is the fact that much of the increase in the yield is from new acreage. This is particularly noticeable in Gilliam and Morrow counties, where some surprising returns have been made on land now turning off its first crop. Twenty to 30 bushels per acre on sod land are reported from a number of farms in Gilliam and Morrow counties, while on the older cultivated lands in Wasco and Sherman counties, 40 to 45 bushels per acre is not uncommon.

The yield of Wasco county is well on the safe side of 1,000,000 bushels, and aside from fairly good climatic conditions, was largely due to a heavy acreage made possible by a wet spring, which admitted of the plowing and seeding of considerable land which otherwise would have gone over into summer fallow.

There was a slight increase in the acreage from new land that this year turned off its first crop, but the increase from this source was less pronounced than in the counties lying further east. Wasco county farmers, on account of their river outlet, are now being offered very remunerative figures. A number of them in the Dufar district have formed a pool embracing about 200,000 bushels, which they are now hauling to the boat landing at The Dalles.

Sherman county is a little late with her spring-sown grain, and for that reason accurate estimates are not so easy at this time. Enough is shown by the threshing returns and by the acreage in fall grain to indicate a yield approximately of 2,250,000 bushels. There is some new acreage in the districts tributary to Grass Valley, and highly satisfactory yields are reported.

While Sherman county will have at

least 500,000 bushels more wheat than last year.

Gilliam county, which just at present is enjoying the latest thrill of excitement caused by promises of railroad connection, will break all former records both as to yield and acreage. Estimates of her crop this year run all the way from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 bushels, and exact figures will be unobtainable for a long time. Some of the crop, notably in the Condon and Mayville districts, where the heaviest yields are reported, may be held until the railroad is built, and will not come out to be counted this year.

"Morrow county, like its near neighbor, Gilliam, is to the front this year with a wheat crop that is easily the largest ever produced in the county. Early estimates of 1,000,000 bushels are now believed to be much too low, and from the returns now coming in, there will be fully 1,000,000 bushels for shipment. There are some phenomenally large yields on the new lands in the county, and as some of this land was sold as low as \$10 per acre, the returns for the money invested are larger proportionately than in the higher priced lands in the other counties. Dozens of new land farmers in Morrow county have this season sold their first crop for a sum in the aggregate much greater than the cost of the land. The heavy increase in Morrow county's crop is not due so much to phenomenal yields as to a heavy increase in the acreage.

Thousands of acres which have for years been used only for sheep range, are this year yielding their first crop of wheat, and the 20 to 30 bushels which are being turned off is a high testimonial to the judgment of the men who have made the change.

"Another contributory factor to the big crop is the improved methods of farming. It has at last dawned on even the lazy farmers that one acre properly cultivated will yield twice as much as one that is scratched over. Even in the driest years Morrow county has ever

experienced, the farmers who plowed deep and worked the ground with care, reaped fairly good crops. They have since had imitators, and Morrow county by such methods, is steadily drifting away from the danger of crop failures.

"On account of its scant population, a very large proportion of the crop of Morrow county is available for shipment, and Ione, the wheat metropolis of the Heppner branch, will handle fully 500,000 bushels, with possibly 200,000 bushels at Jordan's Siding, a short distance above town. The success of the farmers in producing good crops on land which for so long has been practically wasted for sheep range, will result in a general rush for these long-neglected lands, and in anything like a favorable season the wheat yield of Morrow county will be susceptible of enormous increase.

The national and state central committees are sending out to the country editors mail sacks full of prepared brains in the way of cut and dried editorials for the fool editors who do not know what to say to publish and pretend like they wrote it. It is something like the Eagle brand of condensed milk, compared to real cream, said to be better for babies than the real stuff. There are no directions as to how to dilute it or how often to give it. How would it do to send each country editor a dollar and tell him to pitch in his best ticks as long as he felt the influence of that dollar?—White Salmon Enterprise.

KEEP COOL Ice Cold Beer at Palace hotel bot. doz. Celebrated Budweiser 35c \$3.50 Hop Gold 25c 2.50 ALL ON THE ICE

Call at the Gazette office and learn of our clubbing offer with the Weekly Oregonian.



This Polished Oak Center Table regular price \$3.00 one week only \$1.75

Cotton warp matting 15c and up
Strictly all wool carpet 50c
Wall paper at your own price
House lining 4 1/2 c

Are attractions which are fast making business at this store

S. J. WING
Dealer in New and Second Hand Furniture.