

# The Times-Herald.

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## HARNEY COUNTY RICH IN NATURAL RESOURCES

### Tour Covering Southern End Territory Discloses Great Crops and Wealth.

The manager of The Times-Herald has been out getting acquainted with Harney county. He spent six pleasant and profitable days (not profitably from a financial standpoint) touring the southern part of Harney county, calling upon many old time friends and viewing the crops, scenery and observing development. He comes back to his office with a much better idea of the country and with a much better opinion of Harney county in general than before and that's saying something as he has been a consistent booster for the entire territory for many years.

This story should be a complete resume of those six days, but it will lack many incidents of more than passing interest in a personal way in order that space may be given to other important matters in the paper this week. However, it is likely the trip just completed will furnish material for other stories that may follow from time to time as circumstances will permit.

In company with County Agent McDaniels, equipped with a complete camp outfit, the writer left Burns Wednesday afternoon, July 28. The first stop was at Narrows where Nathan Brown was consulted as to the road leading into Catlow by way of the Warm Springs. This was found to be a very good road but has some sand and a few rather steep hills to climb.

We had expected to find M. S. Davies at home on Jack creek and relieve him of any surplus sage hens that might be injuring his crops, but no one was found at the house, although the door stood ajar in a most hospitable manner, so the Ford was headed for Keg Springs where it was expected some sage hens might be found, but we were doomed to disappointment. Upon driving on down for a half mile or so the ranch home of Oscar Downs was reached and there no one was found at home and the party started on to find another place where the night could be spent without trespass, but just as the nearby hill was topped Mr. Downs and his young friend Mr. Nelson were met and they insisted that we turn back and spend the night at the ranch.

Mr. Downs has one of the most promising farms in that part of the country. He has not developed it to where it should be as yet for the reason that it not only requires time but also money. Keg Springs will furnish water for domestic purposes, although Mr. Downs has two good wells at shallow depth, but in addition to this he has a fine water shed that drains into his basin and which will eventually furnish him with ample water for irrigation when he gets it in shape. He cut some nice rye hay this season and has some white symra barley from the Experiment Station that matured well this season. Mr. Downs saved a sample of this barley for exhibition at the fair. He also has some alfalfa started. His potatoes are going to yield fairly well. The following morning we were up about four o'clock and made a hurried trip to the spring where several sage hens had come in for water and some birds were shot making breakfast all the more inviting and also some game for the neighbors.

Following breakfast which Mr. Downs cooked for us and after rolling up the camp bed which had been spread out by the side of an inviting stack of rye, we pulled out for Catlow where we found the mayor and general "factotum" F. G. Kelly, in the "bosom of his family" as he explained he had a birthday the day before and had been out late at a neighbor's celebrating therefore had not gone over to the post office and store early. Mrs. Kelly and the boy were found in fine health and as breakfast had not been served we were asked to partake—and McDaniels did—he simply can't resist an invitation to eat regardless of the hour or how soon after a meal the invitation comes. Mr. Kelly has a fine garden, especially of potatoes.

His alfalfa was coming on fine and he reported that alfalfa and sweet clover at the Meriglioli home near there were growing fine and were more than three feet high. We had expected to go down by Mrs. Meriglioli's but got on another road which took us into the valley east of the ranch. Enroute down we passed near Mr. Stoten's place and also Mrs. McCloud's and found fine stacks of rye at each place.

At Beckley another good garden was found which included peas, potatoes and other hardy vegetables. Mr. Beckley also has a fine stand of sweet clover near the store.

From this point the party drove east to the hills and stopped at the Roaring Springs ranch of the Eastern Oregon Live Stock Co. where Mr. Osborn is in charge. Several hundred tons of hay were being harvested there and a large crew of men were hauled.

An interesting feature of this ranch is what is known as the "poison field." This is where the springs rise on the side of the mountain and where a quantity of water hemlock is growing—commonly known as wild parsnip. There is wild parsnip there but it is not poisonous. The county agent showed Mr. Osborn how to distinguish the difference between the poison plant and that which is harmless. He also told Mr. Osborn that it was not a hard matter to get rid of the poison and thus save the company money by eliminating the possibility of poisoning valuable animals but also open up some fine pasture. Mr. McDaniels explained that the price of one cow would pay for digging out the poisonous plants.

The Home Creek ranch was reached at a little before noon and it was the intention to ask permission to go up the creek and try for trout, but Ross Dollarhide, who was in charge, would not give permission to fish until after lunch. Again McDaniels overruled the desire of the newspaper man to have a camp dinner by accepting Ross's invitation and we went over to the bunk house for a visit with some of the boys who had just come in from the hay field. Over 500 tons of hay will be harvested from this ranch this season.

After luncheon we went up the creek to try our luck at fishing but it was so warm the fish did not bite good and we soon tired of that mode of sport and resumed our journey. A short stop was made at Three Mile ranch but Mr. Green was not at home being on the mountain. The next stop was at the homestead of Katie Picken where one of the best gardens found on the trip was seen. It was well cared for with plenty of water for irrigation from a big spring; the garden included quite a variety of vegetables. The grain field just below it was also good and it is likely that this place can carry off the prize offered by Wm. Farre for the best exhibit at the county fair from an unpatented homestead.

From this point on south through Catlow Valley there was evidence of a cloud burst. The road had been damaged more or less all along that side of the valley, being washed out to such an extent that it was difficult to make any time over it. So far as observed the water had not damaged crops in the immediate vicinity, but there certainly was some water came down off the side of Steins Mountain. The road up Long Hollow was in fair condition, although even there the cloud burst had done some damage to the grade near the entrance of the canyon but a short distance up the road was not so rough and there were less rock.

Camp was made at the Wise spring where a reservoir is built to hold the spring water in a good sized pond for the range stock. This was an ideal spot for a camp as the water was pure and cold with good sage hen country surrounding. Many stock water at this spring and those around it at the time we were there showed they had good range on which to feed as they were in good condition. We were not disappointed the next morning at day light when we looked for sage hens for they had come down to the spring for water and it was not difficult to bag what we required.

It was but a short distance to Fields station and the Ford ran down there in a little while. The first thing to greet the eye upon coming in sight of the station is the fine new stone store building that Jack Mc-

(Continued on page five)

## EXPERIMENT STATION FIELD DAY PREPARATION

### College Heads, Congressman Sinnott and Judge Will R. King, Speakers.

The annual field day meeting at the Experiment Station tomorrow promises to be particularly interesting. Among those from the Oregon Agricultural college who will be present to take part in the discussions will be J. T. Jardine, new director of the experiment stations for the state with headquarters at Corvallis Prof. W. L. Powers, in charge of the department of irrigation and drainage for the college and others. Recent word from the party asked that four rooms be retained for their accommodation, but the other members were not named.

In addition to these gentlemen it is expected that Congressman Nick Sinnott will be present and take part in the program. Judge Will R. King, who has occupied the position of Chief Counsel to the Reclamation Service at Washington, D. C. is also in this vicinity, at present a guest of William Hanley, and he may remain over for this meeting and take part.

The writer has recently visited the Catlow Valley section and is informed that several farmers from that section are coming in for the field day meet and the farmers in this vicinity are sure to be there. Invitations have been sent out to 500 farmers and with the response the importance of the occasion warrants, there should be a goodly number there.

The usual picnic dinner will be served during the day. Each family should bring their basket of "eats" which should include a fork and spoon and if you desire, a cup. The lunch will be served cafeteria style. Seats have been provided for a large number and everything made ready for the comfort of the guests.

Inspection of the field crops will likely be in the forenoon as in the past and the speaking program will follow the luncheon.

The crops at the station this season have been a success and should be viewed by the farmers to fully appreciate what is being done at the station for the development of the country and for the direct help of the men engaged in tilling the soil. The successes and failures of the station crops are of vital importance to the farmers of this county. They should know about them. Attend the meeting tomorrow and see what is being done.

## JUDGE WILL R. KING VISITS BURNS FRIENDS

### Pleased With Progress Made Toward Irrigation Project; Suggests All Haste.

For the first time since he became Chief Counsel of the United States Reclamation Service, stationed at Washington, D. C., Judge Will R. King is paying his many friends in Harney county a visit. He arrived Wednesday night by auto with William Hanley from Portland by way of Bend.

Judge King was elected a delegate from this congressional district to the national democratic convention at San Francisco, receiving the highest vote cast at the primaries. Since attending the convention he has been taking what he deems his first real vacation for seven years and has spent some weeks in Idaho and Oregon.



Judge Will R. King

He resigned from the government service in June to resume the practice of law with offices in Washington D. C. where he expects to take care of western business before various departments, including business before the U. S. courts and matters of western importance in congress. His son, Captain Eldon King, was recently admitted to the bar and will become one of the members of the Will R. King law firm. Judge King states he will continue his legal residence in Oregon and will find it a pleasure to return to this vicinity when occasion requires. He expresses himself as highly pleased with Harney county and notes many changes and local improvements in this section. During

his many years of government service he has had occasion to become familiar with all government irrigation projects and as an illustration of what government reclamation or irrigation does for a section he cites Salt River Valley in Arizona, where in one county the taxable property in 1903 was but nine million dollars, while in 1919 the same county had reached the ninety million taxable property mark; all due to the building of extensive reclamation works. In his opinion Harney county has as bright a future in reclamation as any of the counties of the west.

"What this section needs," says Judge King, "is the early construction of the Silvies Valley and other reservoirs, thereby conserving the surplus water for needed irrigation which would result in the building of hundreds of homes on lands now unoccupied and in the increasing of the population and business of our towns proportionately."

He gives as his opinion that, as a result of the united action of the west now under way, that needed congressional aid is in sight for the entire west; that the U. S. reclamation work is only in its infancy and that further work in that line will make such rapid advancement as will surprise the world.

"In fact, the government can now give aid to private projects," continued Judge King, "but this work need not necessarily need governmental aid or await further appropriations, for there are numerous projects such as this in Harney Valley that can be successfully handled with private capital through the Irrigation District System."

In Judge King's opinion this valley loses more in crops every five years than would be required to build the reservoirs and necessary distributing canal required.

Judge King is the author of a work entitled "Handbook of Irrigation District Laws of Seventeen Western States," the manuscript of which he donated to the government. It has recently been published by congress for the use of the arid lands committee and reprinted by the U. S. Reclamation Service.

After attending the field day meet and picnic dinner at the Experiment Station tomorrow Judge King will go to Ontario and Boise preparatory to returning to Washington.

## MAKING LONG TOUR IN AUTO

Dr. C. E. Wyatt, a dentist of Independence, Kansas, arrived in Burns on Thursday evening in his big touring car accompanied by his wife and son. Mr. Wyatt is making a tour of the west during the vacation and up to the time he stopped in Burns he had driven some 4,200 miles since June 12 when they left their home in Kansas. They toured the Yellowstone Park, have gone up into B. C. as far as Vancouver, came back to Pendleton and from there came this way toward California. Dr. Wyatt has real estate interests in the Catlow Valley region and expected to go out that way and see it on his way to the southern state. Dr. Wyatt has been a subscriber to this paper for several years.

During a visit at this office yesterday morning Dr. Wyatt stated that he had found the best roads on the trip through this interior country. He said the paved highways were fine, of course, but the best dirt roads were found in this vicinity. This statement should encourage the local people and give them food for thought. We complain about our roads but perhaps we have not informed ourselves as to conditions elsewhere.

## NEW FRONT IN BUSINESS HOUSE

A. A. Traugott of the Inland Empire Realty Co. is having a new front put in his place of business. It is a very attractive front with plate glass and a fine plate glass door. Mr. Traugott recently purchased what is known as the Jorgensen property and is now located permanently in his own building where he will make some very modern improvements in the immediate future. He is now conveniently domiciled and has adequate quarters for his growing real estate business.

Mrs. G. Meriglioli was a visitor from Catlow the other day and called at this office. She had not been in for some time previous and her many friends were glad to see her.

## POINTS OUT EFFECTS OF RABBIT BOUNTY

### Judge Farre Calls Attention To Conditions Should It Be Passed at Election.

Burns, Oregon, August 3, 1920.  
As County Judge of Harney County may I be permitted to express my opinion on any matter which affects the taxpayers of the County.

Last winter upon the representation of Messrs. Gabrielson and Horn of the United States Biological Survey that rabbits and other pests could be controlled and eradicated by poison properly administered, the County Court entered into a contract with the State for the employment of a County Agent, competent to proceed with an effective campaign for the eradication thereof, and has provided the wherewith for him to proceed at the proper time.

A petition is now being circulated by a "rabbit bounty committee" to initiate a rabbit bounty law, providing: that the County shall pay a bounty of five cents on each rabbit killed in Harney County.—Without criticizing the action of such committee or signers of the petition, the bill if enacted, will in a way double the taxpayers of the county, and judging from the number of visible rabbits now within its boundaries, together with those lured by such bounty and liable to immigrate here as a result thereof from the State of Nevada, and the Counties of Lake, Deschutes, Crook, Grant, Baker and Malheur, no one can estimate whether the taxpayers will be compelled to pay \$25,000. or \$75,000.00 annually, and owing to certain limitations and mandatory levies, it must be at the expense of other needed improvements, especially roads.

If the proposed bounty is for the purpose of increasing production in Harney County and the result will justify the outlay, it may be all right, but if it will only result in revenue for certain classes and a means for barter and trade, it is all wrong.

I believe any bounty is wrong in principle. In the eternal fitness of things one pest regulates another, and eliminate one the other becomes a scourge. Nature provides its own remedies:

"No ordinance of men shall override  
The settled laws of Nature and of  
God;

Not written these in pages of a book,  
Nor were they framed today, nor yesterday;

We know not whence they are; but  
this we know,

That they from all eternity have  
been,

And shall to all eternity endure."  
Respectfully,  
WM. FARRE  
County Judge.

## ONE OF FIRST SETTLERS HERE TO VISIT OLD SCENES

Ed Kiger, a brother to Doc Kiger, for whom Kiger creek and the gorge in the Steins Mountain was named, was here with his wife during the week. Mr. Kiger recently disposed of his home and land interests in Idaho and is traveling through the country in his car during the warm weather. He came to this section to revisit old scenes of the late 70's and early '80's when he was a resident of the county. Ed Kiger formerly owned what is now the C. R. Petersen home ranch on the Malheur and was for a period associated with the Venators and their mother in the stock business. Mr. Kiger found many of his old "tillicums" here among them being W. Y. King, Dora Poudjau, Mrs. Mahon and Mrs. Jones and others. He has gone over to the Kiger creek to see if he can catch some fish and while in that neighborhood will visit with his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Rye Smyth and may come back around by Petersen's and look up Joe Gill.

Mrs. Lester Hamilton and her daughters are guests of friends in this city. They recently came up from North Bend for a short vacation and visit with home folks. Mr. Hamilton accompanied them but has returned to their new home where they are engaged in the drug business with Roswell Hamilton.

**COME RUNNING**

The BIGGEST consideration with the average country shopper is the matter of PRICE.

PRICES asked for merchandise in this up-and-down town and community of ours will be found to compare MOST FAVORABLY with prices anywhere—but there is an added incentive for trading here—

Our merchants rarely CUT prices, because they are not in the habit of INFLATING them.

They look for their profits along far-sighted LINES—through holding their customers on QUALITY and good honest SERVICE.

The SPIRIT of this town of ours is to PLAY FAIR and foster FRIENDLY FEELING.

Your dollar will GO FARTHER here. Make the TEST and see for yourself. You'll be dealing with a body of business men who will treat you in a manner that will make you FEEL LIKE COMING AGAIN.

They'll make your SHOPPING TRIPS to our town easy on the POKETBOOK—and PLEASANT FOR YOU.

So hook up or crank up and COME ON IN—to this town of ours—the natural HUB of this region.