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The Beauty of Rogue River Valley

Spring is in full swing! May-time is queen and rules in all the wealth and brightness of her glory. Did you ever see a more beautiful sight than the Rogue River Valley is just now?

Last Sunday a friend very kindly took the Herald man out for a spin in his machine. We skirted the western fringe of the valley where we could get a birdseye view of the level orchards in full bloom or nearly so, the alfalfa fields so rich in green tints, the farm homes and other buildings dotted here and there, and hemmed in on all sides by the beautiful hills bedecked in varied tints of green and buff and beryl that surround and guard the wonderful Rogue River Valley. To the writer's mind this valley cannot be surpassed in grandeur and beauty at this season.

A Reduction of the Water Rate

The matter of the high cost of water for use in irrigating the lawns and gardens in the city has come up since the local Food Preparedness Committee came into existence. Realizing that we are facing a food shortage in the not distant future, and realizing the importance of raising every article of food for home consumption that it is possible to raise, the problem of furnishing our citizens with sufficient water for raising gardens this year is one that we must consider at this time.

In the two meetings of the local Food Preparedness Committee this question came up. Some of those on the committee are of the opinion that the city dads would not consider a reduction at all. Others believe that it should be done, and that the councilmen would consider the matter favorably if presented in the right way.

The city council of Medford has reduced the water rate for irrigating purposes this summer to fifty cents per month on lots 50x100. This was done in recognition of the vital importance of raising every article of food possible on the city lots of Medford in order to be better prepared for the harder times that are bound to come.

Sugar Beets 15 Tons	
Plowing 1 acre.....	\$ 2.50
Harrowing twice at 25c.....	50
Floating.....	50
Harrowing again.....	25
Seeding.....	2.75
Thinning and two hoeings.....	11.00
Water rental.....	1.00
Irrigating four times.....	5.00
Cultivating five times.....	2.00
Plowing up beets.....	2.50
Topping 15-ton crop at 70c.....	10.50
Hauling 15-ton crop at 60c.....	9.00
Fertilizer 10-ton manure.....	10.00

Beet leaves, pasture.....	2.00
15 tons at \$7.....	\$105.00
Expense.....	55.50
	\$49.50 Profit
A 20-ton crop of beets increases your cost \$6.50 and your 5 tons additional is worth.....	\$35.00
Or an additional gain of.....	\$28.50
Added to.....	49.50
Profit.....	\$78.00

Wheat 30 Bushel	
Plowing.....	\$ 2.50
Harrowing.....	50
Floating.....	50
Drilling.....	50
Seed Grain.....	1.25
Irrigating.....	2.50
Water rental.....	1.00
Harvesting.....	1.00
Twine.....	75
Stacking.....	1.50
Threshing 30 bushels.....	2.10
To market 2½c.....	75
Fertilizer.....	10.00

Straw.....	4.85
30 bushels at \$1.25.....	\$37.50
Expense.....	\$20.00
	\$17.50 Profit
A 40-bushel crop increases your cost \$2.15 and your 10 bushels additional is worth.....	\$12.50
Or an additional gain of.....	\$10.35
Added to.....	\$17.50
Profit.....	\$27.85

Oats 60 Bushels	
Plowing.....	\$ 2.50
Harrowing.....	50
Floating.....	50
Drilling.....	50
Seed Grain.....	1.75
Irrigating.....	2.50
Water rental.....	1.00
Harvesting.....	1.00
Twine.....	75
Stacking.....	1.50
Threshing 60 bushels, 4c.....	2.40
To market.....	76
Fertilizer.....	10.00

Straw.....	5.85
60 bushels (1,920 lbs.) at \$1.75 cwt.....	\$33.60
Expense.....	\$20.00
	\$13.60 Profit
An 80-bushel crop increases your cost \$1.30 and your 20 bushels additional is worth.....	\$11.20
Or an additional gain of.....	\$ 9.90
Added to.....	\$13.60
Profit.....	\$23.50

When we consider the value of home gardens to a community at such a time as this, is it asking too much of the city council to reduce the rate? The present rate in Central Point is ten cents a thousand up to twenty thousand gallons; after that twenty-five cents a thousand per month. This rate is prohibitive for the ordinary use of the average family for garden purposes. The supply of water has seldom been taxed, from what we have been able to find out, and it is not probable that it would incur a shortage this summer. It would not add to the expense of running the city pumping plant to any great extent, and the good that it could do this year would, in our opinion, far outweigh whatever extra expense might be entailed.

From talking to a number of our leading citizens, we are of the opinion that a reduction of our water rate would meet with the approval of the majority of the city residents. What is your opinion?

The women of Central Point should bear in mind that the local Red Cross Auxiliary meets three afternoons a week to do sewing. These meetings have not been as well attended as they should be. What is the reason? What are the women doing who do not attend these meetings? Is their time taken up with nobler or better work than the faithful few have been doing who have come out to sew? Of course there are exceptions, for some mothers really have too much to do to look after their home and to care for the children or perhaps a sick member of the family; but it does seem like more of the women of Central Point could sacrifice at least one

afternoon a week to this noble work which the local Red Cross Auxiliary has undertaken.

Remember that the big Good Roads convention will meet in Medford soon. The dates of this convention are May 16 and 17. Governor Withycombe of Oregon and Governor Lister of Washington will be present and address the convention. The first day will witness the big patriotic parade, when the civic organizations, lodges, the Red Cross, Boy Scouts, the 7th Co. of Coast Artillery, and Co. I, infantry, of Woodburn, the city official heads and the Good Roads leaders will march through the streets of the convention city. Don't forget the dates!

J. E. Boswell
BARBER
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Schoolboys' Haircut 20c
Laundry, Clothes Cleaning and Pressing Agency.
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