

# THE GAZETTE-TIMES.

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WALTER CRAWFORD,  
Editor and Proprietor.

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### MORROW COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Thursday, June 18, 1914.



### SPECULATION AND FARM DEVELOPMENT.

Under this heading, and writing particularly of land speculation in the Willamette Valley, the Eugene Register well describes a condition that is prevalent all over the state. It is particularly pertinent to Morrow county. The Register says:

From all over the Northwest come reports that the volume of land sales has decreased greatly during the last two years, and those who are prompt to howl calamity find in this situation occasion for lifting up their voices in a mournful chorus the burden of which is that this country has reached and passed the high tide of prosperity and is now slowly receding. This is a false cry, and to prove how false it is it is only necessary to trace its source. When this is done it will be found that the howl is emanating chiefly from speculative holders who bought land with the intention of making money by selling it to someone else instead of developing it. They find that they are unable to sell promptly at a considerably increased price, and they howl. It is noticeable that the man who is developing his land and is making his money by working it is having very little to say.

It is even possible to find an extremely attractive silver lining in this cloud that is troubling the speculators. When land prices are booming actual development is very likely to lag. This is in response to an automatic commercial law. When more money is to be made by turning around and selling to the other fellow at a considerably increased price, there is small inducement to spend any energy and money in development. Easy money is the natural foe of industry, and the man who buys a piece of land and sells it in a few weeks or a few months and thereby makes a larger profit than would have been possible if he had worked it is not likely to spend any more time in actual farming operations than he can help. Boom times during which the price of land increases rapidly are never times of great agricultural development. On the contrary, the real business of farming is usually at a standstill while such conditions prevail. This is only natural. When a man can make his money by sitting in an easy chair and selling and reselling his land it is hardly to be expected that he will follow the plow and milk the cows and give his orchard the painstaking care it needs.

The decline in land speculation is by no means an evil in the Willamette valley. When those who have bought land for speculative purposes find that they cannot sell it immediately for a large profit, they will be compelled to work it more intensively and more intelligently in order to pay interest and taxes. Thus they will become producers where before they were only scalpers.

Land speculation can never make a country of homes, for the man who makes his money by speculation spends his time and his energy in selling again, rather than in making two blades of grass or two cows or two chickens or two hogs or two orchard trees grow where but one grew before. The legitimate business of land selling is only in its infancy in the Willamette valley, for there are thousands of unproductive acres to be sold to men who will develop them and make homes of them, but we need feel no regret if the speculator has been driven to other fields.

Heppner people are returning from Portland in large numbers and pronounce the Rose Festival the best ever. That city, dressed in holiday attire, which means there, roses and more roses, was turned entirely over for the entertainment of its visitors, and yearly it is proving one of the big events of the West.

Yes, gentle reader, Heppner can be made the prettiest little city in Eastern Oregon, that is, providing we have your co-operation.

Ninety degrees in the shade this week, but that is mild compared with some other sections of the Northwest.

Now, all together for the Second Morrow County Fair.

### ABOLISH THE SENATE.

Salem Messenger.

A young man whose time might be better employed has been in Salem circulating an initiative petition to place upon the ballot for the voter's consideration at the November election the question of abolishing the State Senate.

Here is another piece of experimental legislation, of which Oregon already has more than her share. The government of the State has become one of experiment, and that to the detriment of the good people who make up the population.

Some of us have somehow got the idea into our heads that the more new-fangled legislation we enact the nearer the government is to the people, and there are some who actually believe that if the upper branch of the legislature can be abolished, much good will result.

Slowly but certainly we are getting away from representative government. It is all very nice and sounds well to say that the people shall rule, but the only sensible way for the people to rule is through representatives, and to abolish the State Senate is not going to bring the government any nearer the people than it has been. If this agitation for something new in government continues, government will eventually be a one man proposition or it will be a free for all affair entirely lacking in anything like a responsible head, either form being much less satisfactory than that which we now have. In any event, it is hoped the people will deal this latest fancy a death blow in the November election. A few rebukes in the way of defeats will teach the agitators a lesson which nothing else ever will.

It is about time to begin to get ready for the Second Annual Morrow County Fair.

### Anybody Can Beat the Editor.

Assuming the popular idea that anyone else on earth can run the home paper better than the editor himself and always have things right, especially the things in which he is most interested, to be the correct one it is not amiss to explain how a why reporters and editors err, admitting unreservedly that they do.

A newspaper staff in a weekly is working against time with every issue, no matter how little or how much news and new advertising there is to set and print. The paper large or small has to be in the mail at a certain hour on a certain day, a railroad accident, some one returned from "abroad" and a hundred other things worthy of mention, all of which the readers are entitled to an accurate account. There has been at least seventeen different accounts of the tragedy rehearsed on the streets by the goods box warmers and when the paper comes out with an entirely different account as given by someone who knows, it is pronounced a muddle and only something to fill up space. If in the account of the distinguished one returning from "abroad" we neglected to mention that she passed close to the home of an aunt of the father of one of the chief butlers in the King's court, and that she left her finger print on the bust of some old geezer in the Westminster Abby we have made a "horrible blunder" and we are expected to apologise in our next issue. Often however, the grief is tempered by joy when on the morning of press day when the copy hook is full and the editor, foreman, and type setters are working their heads off to keep up with the schedule, one of the merchants drops in with a whole or half page ad, which he explains, had "entirely slipped his mind" and asks if we can spare an hour to edit it and set it at our leisure. On occasions like that the editor leaves the foreman to cuss and dares not say a word to the type, but feels an imaginary hump in his flat pocket book. We always "drop" for the whole page ad and forget our troubles until we get in bed with the postmaster.

The reporter or editor often, has to compile an obituary without the least aid from any of the relatives of the deceased, putting together the few facts he can find, means of elimination and deduction about some fellow whom we never heard of before. The family had not thought of the obituary, but if an error occurs in it, the editor gets the d—.

The editor never lived who would not frankly admit that anybody in town can run his paper better than he can, but it would take a powerful microscope to find the instance where anyone had tackled the job.—Ex.

### What became of the creamery?

Talk is cheap. Doing something is alone commendable.

It is beginning to look like the Ritter road may finally become a reality.

Show Ione that you have the right spirit by attending their big 4th of July celebration.

The latest application of oil on Main street comes as a proof that the former ones were O. K. The citizens have become thoroughly convinced that this is the best method of keeping the dust down that can be obtained for a reasonable amount of money. A few more weeks of oil application will make Heppner a dustless town in fact as well as in name.

The people of our sister city, Ione, are making extensive preparations for the proper celebration of the nation's birthday. They are preparing for three days of enjoyment and this paper hopes to see Heppner represented there in large numbers. We know this will be so. They did this last year and they will show the same spirit this year. Dr. Withycombe will deliver the address on July 3, at 11 o'clock, and this day will be one of the big days of the celebration. A fine program of races has been arranged for the three days. These races will be run on Main street which is now being put in fine shape as a track, and numerous other amusements are being provided so that all who attend can be assured of a good time.

### IRRIGON ITEMS

Mrs. Tom George is in town visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Baucom. Mrs. Col. Newport came down from Hermiston to call on Mrs. L. C. Roadruck.

George Caldwell was in Umatilla last Wednesday on business, returning Thursday.

Mrs. Carl Brownell was down from Umatilla Sunday to spend the day with Mrs. McCoy.

New school officers were elected for this precinct Monday at the election held in the school house.

It is very warm down in this neck of the woods at present but we have hopes that a little breeze or rain will cool off the atmosphere soon.

George Susbauer and nephew, Lester, returned to their home in the valley Monday. George has been visiting his brother here for the past few weeks and Lester attended school here last winter.

Earl Rand is home from the O. A. C. where he has been attending school the past winter, to spend the summer with home folks. Earl is one of the O. A. C. cadets and therefore will have the privilege of attending the World's fair at San Francisco next year, practically free of charge.

### Stockman Buys Yearlings.

Ben Colvin, one of the biggest and most successful stockmen of the middle fork of the John Day, is in Pendleton today enroute to Walla Walla where he will purchase 200 head of yearlings from the Drumhellers. Conditions are so good upon his range, he declares, that he has more grass than he has cattle and he is buying up more to profit from the abundance of food. He refuses to buy anything but first class range stuff, declaring a few scrub cattle in a herd pulls down the standard of the whole when marketing time comes. He will have a bunch ready to turn off in a short time.—E. O., June 11.

### Miss Hager Loses Valuables.

Miss Sybil Hager arrived from Eugene Saturday, where she has been attending the University of Oregon. She will spend the summer at her home in this city. Miss Hager spent the evening coming through Portland at the home of J. E. Werlein. While there, Miss Hager suffered the loss of her purse, which contained her trunk checks, some jewelry and twenty dollars, making a total loss of about \$100. It was while the members of the house were over in the city taking in the gala scenes of the evening's festivities, that the house was broken into and ransacked and all jewelry and loose change and other valuables were taken. Since Miss Hager has been unable to get her trunks up to this time, she has been somewhat inconvenienced, but she hopes that the guilty parties may come to justice before long.

### Fair Headquarters Moved.

The headquarters of the Morrow County Fair Board have been moved from the Wherry building to the Scribner building. Likewise the official sanctum of the Heppner Commercial Club has been moved to the same building. Rev. W. T. Goulder who for the past three months has been secretary of the Commercial Club, has been selected by the Fair commission to fill the vacancy caused by the sickness of W. W. Smead, and being "cut out" of office room in the Wherry building found it necessary to hunt a new location. The new quarters are larger and will afford ample space for the handling of advance displays for the county fair. In this regard, the Board urges that all citizens of the county so interested should send in such exhibits as they now have and will get in the next few weeks. This helps in working up an interest in the fair besides advertising our resources to the stranger within the gates. The secretary will be pleased to offer his assistance to anything of interest to the fair and to the county at large. And don't forget that as secretary of the Commercial Club, Mr. Goulder finds it a pleasure to lend assistance to all matters of interest coming up under that body.

E. F. Averill, deputy game warden residing at Pendleton, has been in Morrow county for several days this week visiting different sections and looking after the screening of the irrigation ditches. He finds the laws governing these matters quite well complied with here. He also states that Morrow county is soon to receive another planting of fish from the state hatchery at Bonneville. This will be a carload, and he hopes to have another delivery made later in the season. A shipment of 40,000 was planted in the streams of Gilliam county the past week, and Morrow county is to get the next consignment.

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### TARIFF OFF.

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1m. J. L. YEAGER.

Walter Hayes arrived home from Eugene last Saturday. Walter has been attending Eugene high school the past nine months. He expects to remain in this vicinity during the summer vacation.



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