

"WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH OREGON?"

(F. C. Harley, Mayor of the city of Astoria.)

The next great political battle will be fought in Oregon. It will be a battle of deepest concern to every man, woman and child in the State. It will be a battle that will effect the development of our resources and industries; it will be a determining battle and the result will decide whether the State of Oregon shall take that proper position in the great family of States to which its tremendous physical and natural resources, as well as latent initiative and capacity entitle it, or whether it shall continue to be outdistanced in the procession of progress that is constantly growing on the Pacific Coast. Vital issues will be involved, and if the future welfare of our State is to be assured it will be necessary for us to take a deeper and more active interest, not only in the issues that are to be placed before us, but in the men whom we are to elect to solve them, and it is therefore imperative that we consider the election of our state senators and representatives with more than the passive indifference that has characterized our elections in the past. Oregon, through its misrepresentation has established for itself a reputation as an experimental station for all sorts of freak legislation from coast to coast. Laws essential to our economic expansion have been carefully and adroitly avoided, while so many needless, useless and throttling laws have been enacted that it would take a miracle to save our State from utter stagnation if they were all enforced. Inefficiency, timidity and undesirable influences have strangled the efforts of the progressive elements of our Legislature and have retarded our growth and hampered our progress. Our Legislative halls have been filled with young lawyers concerned more with their personal ambitions and the establishment of reputations, than with the welfare and requirements of the State. Men incapable of managing an enterprise requiring even mediocre executive ability have been delegated by our voters to manage the affairs of the State, and they have been moulding our destiny, not with a regard for our commercial and industrial expansion, but in that narrow, limited manner that always accompanies personal and selfish motives. Of course, here and there we have elected a few good business men and broad visioned representatives, men like W. P. Lafferty, Ollie Fuller, R. W. Rittner, Louis Hodjens and a few others who have done exceptional work in the way of initiating good constructive legislation—but their efforts have been nullified by the tide of "mossbackism" that has kept the State of Oregon behind her sister States in the past, and it is time corrective measures were adopted.

I suggest therefore that public spirited citizens of every County in Oregon, and every commercial club and civic organization interest themselves in the vital issues that are now more than ever confronting us, and see if we cannot by discriminating effort elect representatives who will not hesitate to legislate, not upon immaterial problems, but upon questions pertaining clearly to the welfare and development of the State and its resources. Let us select men who are not afraid to come out in favor of definite, constructive policies and let us compel them to commit themselves in advance. Let us, this year, concern ourselves with issues rather than personalities and see if we cannot by concerted and forceful action free Oregon from the rut she has been relegated to by the political legislation that has been

heaped upon her in the past. Never has there been a grander opportunity for State betterment and never has there been a more propitious season for beneficent changes. If we all put our shoulders to the wheel the next primaries should produce candidates that will make the next session of our State Legislature the turning point in our history and it is our plain duty to do so. For if we fail this year to elect men whose backbones are strong enough to support their convictions we can not hope to secure that recognition from without that should long since have been ours. The issue is squarely up to the individual. May his efforts be dauntless.

RHEA CREEK REAL ESTATE IS MOVED

Laxton McMurray Sells Out For \$65,000 and C. C. Rhea Buys the Jason Biddle Ranch.

Two important deals in Rhea Creek real estate were made last week. Laxton McMurray sold his what ranch consisting of 2000 acres to Dave Irwin of Prescott, Wash., for \$65,000.

The McMurray land lays nice and is a big producer of wheat. Mr. Irwin, who has made considerable money farming in Eastern Washington, will put one of his sons on the Morrow county ranch.

Another deal was the purchase of the Jason Biddle ranch by C. C. Rhea, the consideration being \$5000. Mr. Biddle bought this place a few years ago and the crop paid for the ranch the first year. Mr. Rhea recently sold his Rhea creek holdings to W. H. Padberg and since that time has been over part of Oregon and all the way back to Missouri looking for a suitable location. The fact that he returned to Morrow county and bought another ranch within a few miles of where he recently sold out, is proof enough that he considers land values here superior to any other section.

Hearing Will Be Held.

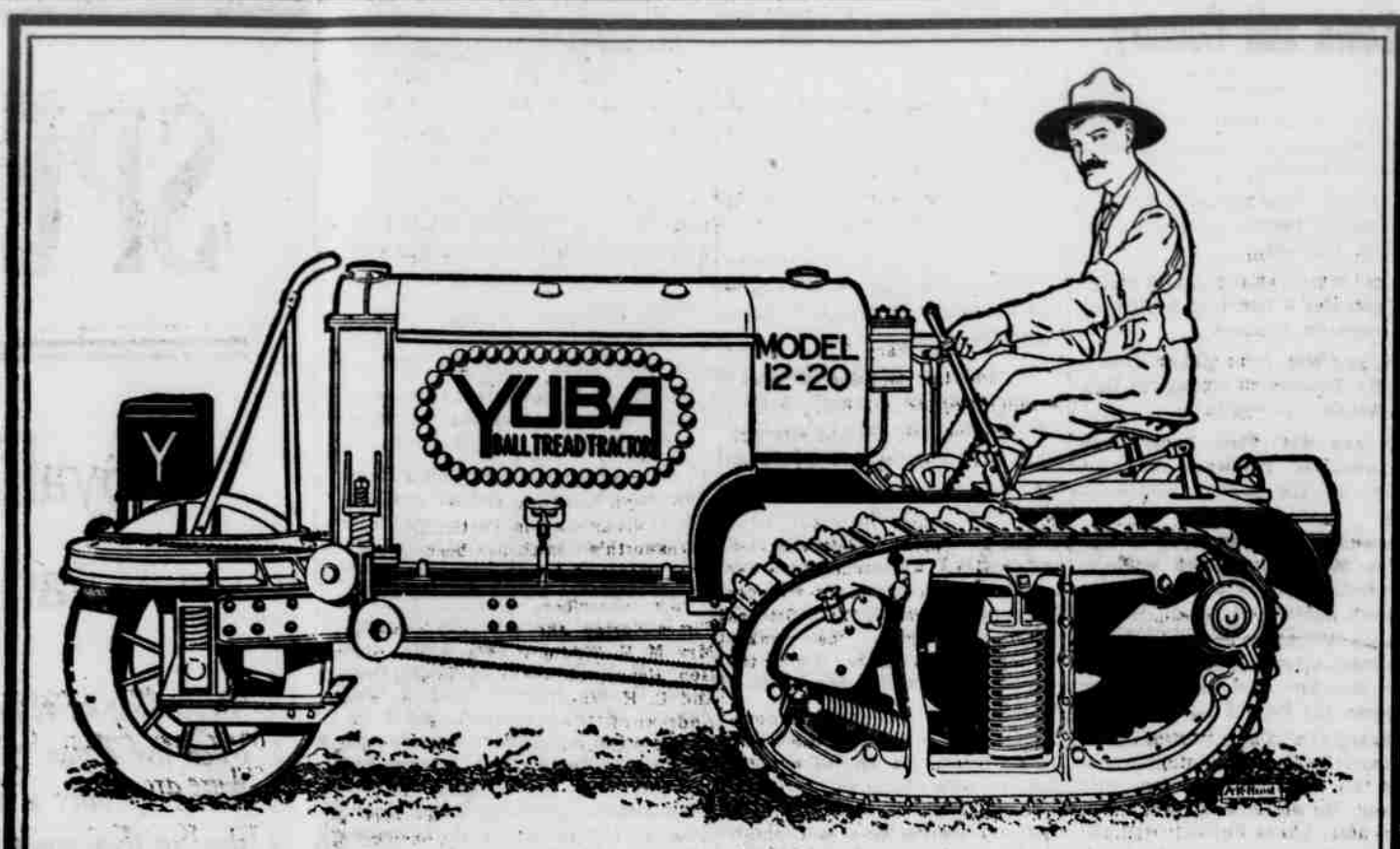
The city of Heppner has been notified by the Public Service Commission of Oregon that a meeting will be held in Portland in the matter of rates, charges and regulations of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. It seems as though there has been some complaint made from Heppner and other towns on account of charges made by the company for long distance telephone messages. The notification is as follows:

Salem, Oregon, February 7, 1918.
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF OREGON.

In the matter of the Rates, Charges and Regulations of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company. (Investigation of Commissions on Motion.)

TO THE CITY RECORDER, Heppner, Oregon.

Dear Sir: You are hereby notified that hearing in the above entitled matter as to rates, tolls and charges made and imposed by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company for the conveyance of long distance telephone messages will be held at the offices of this Commission in the Multnomah County Court House, Portland Oregon, on Wednesday, the 20th day of February, 1918, at the hour of 10



IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

YUBA Ball Tread Tractors, Model 12-20, are now being delivered.

To relieve the shortage of labor—to hasten the planting—to insure the work done now, order a Yuba 12-20 for immediate delivery.

The price is \$2750.00 cash (f. o. b. Benicia, California) — the number ready for shipment is limited—wire your order and put one to work.

PEACE—the only way to get it is to fight for it. We're doing our all—three shifts—every hour of the 24—turning out tractors for you.

Get one, put it to work—it will keep going day and night and rarely need repair.

Quick action in securing one of the Yuba Tractors means sure crops for you—and food for our soldiers.

YUBA MANUFACTURING COMPANY

DEPARTMENT HO1
433 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

HEPPNER FARMERS ELEVATOR CO.

Manufacturers and Distributors of

White Star Flour

and Dealers in

Flour, Feed, Grain, Stock and Poultry Supplies

CLUB ENDORSES PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY

The following resolution was recently adopted by the Heppner Commercial Club favoring the establishing of Military Roads paralleling the Pacific Coast, as a means of national defense.

"Whereas it has been called to our attention by the Pacific Coast Defense League, that the Pacific Coast is inadequately defended, and

Whereas it is our belief that a complete system of Military roads, as suggested by the map prepared by said Pacific Coast Defense League, would be the best protection possible to obtain for the Pacific Coast. That preparedness for the Pacific Coast means ample preparation for the quick mobility of troops and supplies up and down the coast.

Now therefore be it resolved, that we endorse the action of the Pacific Coast League in its efforts to obtain a survey by the Government of the United States, of a system of Military Roads paralleling the Pacific Coast, and

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the secretary of the Pacific Coast Defense League at Seattle Washington.
W. W. SMEAD, Secretary.
Attest: C. L. SWEET, President.

Nils Johnson, north Lexington farmer, was in Heppner Monday. Mr. Johnson says conditions are good out north and many of the farmers are getting ready to put in the spring crops.

HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN SUBJECT ISSUED

Why War Gardens Sometimes Failed, and How to Insure Success This Year, Brought Out.

Corvallis, Ore., Feb. 6.—The first of a new series of bulletins dealing with the home vegetable garden has just been published and is ready for distribution to all who appreciate the value of the garden as a means of economy in war time. The series is being prepared by A. G. Bouquet, of the O. A. C. vegetable garden section of the horticultural division.

Factors that were wholly or partly responsible for failures with war gardens in past years receive particular consideration in the first bulletin, together with suggestions for remedying the troubles. Emphasis is also laid on the present seed shortage and the possibility of the use of some of the 1917 seed stocks, especially if a simple test be made at this time.

A practical planting plan for the home garden is given, together with a suggestive list of the horticultural varieties of each vegetable.

Methods of soil preparation and fertilization are described, and a list of all bulletins of benefit to vegetable gardeners, published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and the Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, is given.

The new College bulletin should be in the hands of all those who are endeavoring to make their gardens count for the utmost.

ALBERT WILLIAMS WOOD AND COAL

I have taken over the fuel businesses of both the Heppner Wood Yard and C. H. Goldsmith, and can furnish fuel of all kinds in any quantity desired.

Leave orders with A. Z. Barnard or phone Main 393

YOUR BUSINESS SOLICITED.

A 6000-MILE TIRE THE LANCASTER WIREGRIP

The Tires With a Thousand Claws

Insures greater mileage and costs but little more than ordinary tires.

L. E. HILL, Agent

Willow Street, Heppner, Ore.

Wanted—Second hand baby carriage. Must be in good condition. Pullman preferred. Inquire at the Gazette-Times office.

Edwin Gonty came up from Portland the first of the week to take charge of the shoe store during the illness of his brother, E. N. Gonty.