

Unpacking the Bag



**MANY BIG REALY DEALS MARK YEAR  
NOW PASSING AS ONE OF LARGEST**

Realty deals and transactions in Morrow County farm lands during the past eleven months will go well over the three quarters of a million mark. The buying and selling was for the most part, done between people residing here, although there are a number of instances where outside people have been attracted by the excellent opportunities offered for cheap land and have come here to make their home. All of the larger deals however, were between farmers and stockmen who have tried the country out to their thorough satisfaction and are bent upon getting more money invested in Morrow county farm and grazing lands.

The largest deal of the season occurred during the month of October when R. F. Wiglesworth, Butter creek farmer and stockman, sold out his vast holdings of 13,000 acres in Morrow county. The buyers are all extensive sheepmen who are ever branching out and increasing their range lands in order to adequately care for their herds. Diminishing range in the government reserve each year also makes it imperative for the sheepman to protect himself. The buyers of the Wiglesworth properties were E. O. Neill, W. E. Wiglesworth, Antone Cunha of Butter creek and the Hynd Brothers Company. The various sales of this property aggregated \$150,000. The Wiglesworth plant is one of the largest in the west for the running of sheep and is considered one of the most up-to-date.

Another big deal in Morrow county sheep lands was the transfer of the Webb Brothers' big ranch of 4566 acres situated on Balm creek south of Heppner, to D. O. Justus and his son Nels H. Justus. These men also bought the Webb sheep and the entire transaction involved about \$90,000. The elder Justus is a pioneer sheepman of this section and the home ranch, which is one of the best plants in Eastern Oregon, is situated on Hinton creek, 13 miles east of Heppner.

Molihan Brothers were the purchasers of the Stanfield ranch on Rhea creek. They are extensive operators in sheep and this investment represents a value of \$60,000.

W. O. Minor and R. A. Thompson sold 960 acres of fine farming land south of Heppner to G. A. Wilcox and W. P. Cox. Mr. Cox later purchased the interest of Mr. Wilcox and is now owner of the entire farm.

Clive Huston, who formerly farmed in the Eight-Mile district, bought the 560-acre farm of R. W. Snider in Sour Dough canyon, north west of Heppner. Since moving onto the place Mr. Huston has built a modern house and made other improvements.

One of the big deals in farm lands was made when Harry L. Duvall bought the Newlon artesian well farm north of Lexington. The sale of this ranch indicates to some extent the rising realty values in this county. Mr. Duvall paid the Newlons \$50,000 for the ranch, and it had been bought by the Newlons about two years before for half that amount. The value of the place has been greatly enhanced by an artesian well which was opened there by Mr. Newlon. Mr. Duvall is putting in a system of ditches and is preparing to irrigate a large acreage.

In April N. S. Whetstone, retired sheepman, decided he wanted a nice farm home, so he bought the Summers place just below Lexington on Willow creek from Frank and Jeff Evans. The price paid was \$18,000.

Here is an ideal dairy farm and Mr. Whetstone's checks from the local creamery are the best evidence of that fact, that can be produced.

Other deals of which mention can be made are: J. S. Young to Nay Young, 1000 acres wheat ranch, \$30,000. Situated on Eight-Mile. Ray Young later sold to Joe Batty, an extensive wheat grower of that section. Messrs. Huldén & Brauer added to their holdings in the Black Horse district when they bought the Frank Moyer ranch. L. D. Neill bought the A. P. Culbertson farm on Butter creek, making him one of the finest alfalfa farms in Eastern Oregon. Frank Anderson bought the Stanton ranch, an Eight-mile from Chas. Stanton for a consideration of \$20,000. Frank Munkers of Lexington bought the Wm. Stauffer wheat farm in the Social Ridge section. Laxton McMurray sold his alfalfa farm at Jordan Siding to his brother Fred and bought the adjoining farm from Alex Lindsey. D. M. Ward, who farmed on Heppner Flat and later in the Black Horse section, bought one of the best wheat ranches in the lone section from the John Lentz estate. The ranch consists of 500 acres. Vane Jones bought the C. E. Jones farm at Eight-mile, H. A. Edmonds of Morgan purchased the C. H. Veight ranch of 1600 acres for \$40,000. C. A. Minor bought from W. G. Moore and his son Frank, the Geo. Dykstra ranch south of Heppner consisting of 960 acres. It is an excellent cattle ranch. Minor & Krebs purchased the J. W. Osborn ranch near Cecil and Ellis Minor, farmer and sheepman, bought the Wilcox ranch of over 1000 acres situated near Ione.

Another big deal which, while not directly affecting Morrow county lands, has an indirect bearing upon the success of the sheep industry here. John Kilkenny, one of the largest sheep operators in the Northwest, bought 13,099 acres of mountain land from the Oregon Lumber Company. This acreage is situated in Baker county and gives Mr. Kilkenny an abundance of summer range. The price paid by Mr. Kilkenny for this land was given as \$60,000. He is the owner of some 20,000 acres within Morrow county.

**May high wages,  
high spirits, and  
high ideals be  
yours in the  
coming year**

**The  
MEANING of  
CHRISTMAS**

BY REV. T. B. GREGORY

**B**UT for its great days, incarnating and flashing forth the ideal, humanity would have no more history than a flock of sheep.

Such days are the monuments of mental and spiritual achievement, the eternal reminders of the only true progress—the progress that enables us to perceive and admire the moral sublime.

Conspicuously radiant among these gala days is the Christmas, standing as it does for the nativity of One who, all theological quibbling aside, was the living embodiment of the most beautiful and, at the same time, the most helpful manhood that this world has ever seen.

The one who is foremost in our thoughts at this time was pre-eminently hopeful. From the harp over which he swept his hand there came no pessimistic strain, no note of despair.

He gave us the gospel, the "Glad Tidings." To all his word was "Be not afraid." The Supreme in whose embrace he ever rested, like the babe in mother's arms, was supreme love. Hence that other word of his, which he was so fond of repeating to the multitude, "Let not your hearts be troubled."

Religion, so-called, is responsible for a vast amount of mental misery. It has crazed many a mind, broken many a heart, driven countless thousands into the throes of despair, but let it be remembered that the Beautiful One who is commemorated in the Christmas season authorized no man, or combination of men, to speak in his name the word of gloom.

He who was born in Bethlehem, or in Nazareth, for it makes no difference where he first saw the light of earth, grew up to be the most uncompromising optimist that ever walked the ways of earth. Wherever he went, along with him went gladness, and from his radiant presence despair fled as the darkness flees before the rising sun.

He was like the wonderful river in the sea, warning and encouraging all that he touched. The Gulf Stream of humanity, he put new life and courage and joy into the cheerless, sorrowing world to which he came.

And he was able to do this because he was so gloriously hopeful, so staunchly committed to the belief in the best.

Looking up, he saw, instead of the "black, bottomless eyesocket," the living, loving glance of the "Father," whose "eternal goodness" would never do him harm.

Looking ahead, this man saw no spooks or bogies, no devils or fiends in the way. The path was clear, and over it hung no dark clouds of impending disaster.

If Jesus had written a poem we may be sure that it would have been very similar to Whittier's:

I know not where his islands lift  
Their fringed palms in air;  
I only know I cannot drift  
Beyond his love and care.

And so beside the silent sea  
I wait the muffled oar;  
No harm can come from him to me.  
On ocean or on shore.

Now it is just this sort of spirit that every one should feel within the soul at this Christmas time—the spirit of a brave trustfulness, of a rock-firm confidence and hope.

Be not afraid of anything. To be afraid is to be a sham, a cringing mental, a nobody; while to be able to believe in the best and to trust that, no matter what our evil genius may suggest to the contrary, the light awaits us on ahead, is to be a hero and a conqueror, a friend and helper to all mankind.

It is well, then, that in obedience to old custom we should throw about the Christmas season the parti-colored mantle of joy and wreath it with the heart's most exuberant gladness.

It would be a shame not to be glad, and not to try to make everybody else glad, on Christmas day!

On Christmas day to be a cynic and to curl the lip of scorn at sight of the rosy festivities about us, would be an unpardonable crime, the very abyss of the mean and contemptible. It is a part of the unwritten law of every healthful heart that when Christmas comes we are to "put our best foot forward," cast all care to the winds and be as full of gladness and good will as an egg is of meat.

And right here in this unconquerable optimism we find the only true and genuine Christianity. The one whose birth the Christmas signalizes came to replace tears by smiles, sorrow by happiness, worry by confidence and despair by the "hope that maketh not ashamed," and in his name I wish you all a "Merry Christmas!"—not merely an abundance of turkey and plum pudding, but an extra abundance of "good will to men," with no lack of the disposition and resolve to make everything else as happy as yourselves.

**Joy in Conquest.**  
Life's master-key does for its possessor what is impossible to those who do not have it. No future is too forbidding for men of the right mental fiber to fear. Weaklings falter and right channels delight in meeting what has brought failure to the many. It offers to them a chance to try the really hard things. They alone test the skill and prove the mettle. Such men bring wealth out of defeat, and rejoice in the struggle. It's no wonder they step forward and try what has brought failure to others. It's the mental sense of conquest that crowns effort with success and makes man king in the world. It's your right—Exchange.

**Take Advantage of  
Our Farm Service**

**Which Means:**

1. Farm Loans at 6 per cent interest.
2. Assisting you in selecting a ranch and financing the deal.
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4. Conducting your auction sales.

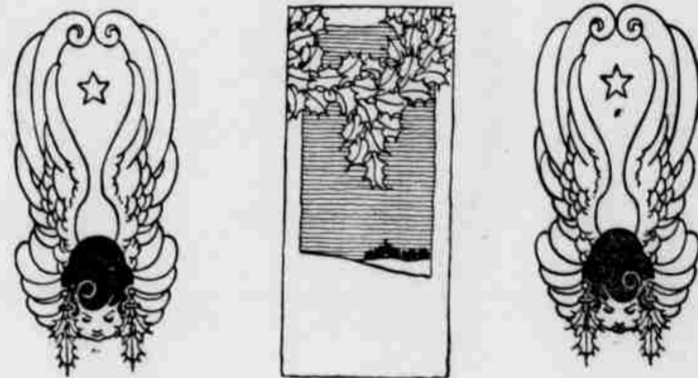
**The First of the Year Is at Hand**

You should have careful and competent assistance in preparing your income tax statement.

**Brown & McMenamain**

Roberts Building, Heppner, Ore.

Real Estate Insurance Auction Sales Income Tax Statements



**Christmas Greetings**

and sincere good wishes are extended to our friends and customers.

At this season of the year, when good cheer reigns supreme, it is not amiss, we feel, to assure you of our appreciation of past favors and we trust we may merit a continuation of your valued patronage.



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