

A Christmas Surprise



THE MORROW COUNTY FAIR WILL ENLARGE UNDER PROPOSED STOCK COMPANY

By F. R. Brown, Secretary of the Morrow County Fair Board.

The Morrow County Fair as it has been for the last five years would have been more correctly named had it been called the Annual Harvest Carnival or some similar name. It has been, in fact, little more than an annual carnival or three day picnic. It has furnished the people of the County an opportunity for getting together, visiting and enjoying themselves. There have been times during the past five years when the exhibits entered have, perhaps, justified the title of County fair but for the greater part it has been little more than an exhibit of garden and orchard products.

Although livestock raising is one of the principle industries of our County, the showing made at most of the fairs has been decidedly weak. One of the main reasons for this is inadequate buildings. Stockmen cannot be expected to bring valuable animals to expose them to the weather, the risk of injury and poor care which must go with temporary sheds such as have been provided in the past. Under these conditions it has not been possible for the County fair to take a leading part in the development of the livestock industry.

The wool and grain exhibits have been made up largely by one person going out, collecting, preparing them for show, and placing them in the exhibit hall. Thus while they represent the best stuff in the County they could not be looked upon as a fair representative of what is produced in the County. In a section where two of the principle industries are wool and wheat there should be keen competition for the first prize. This, as a rule has not been the case in the past. Many of the best growers are more or less indifferent towards the competition and have made little or no efforts to enter their products in competition with that of their neighbors.

The producers of wool can find many lessons in an exhibit. In very few products in its history as well written as appears in a fleece of wool. Close observers can see where the sheep had been poorly fed, another place in the wool shows where the sheep had been improperly housed, while breeding is plainly shown in every fleece. The wool-grower ought to find at the County fair the extra quality fleeces and learn how they were grown.

The wheat grower has not found the samples of wheat especially helpful and has gone on year after year thinking his sample of mixed wheat is just as pretty and just as valuable as that of the other fellow who has kept his seed pure. The entries of threshed grain have been such that the visitor would be justified in thinking this was not such a wheat section as reports indicated.

The one section of the fair which has always brought more competition than any other one department is that of the fruit and vegetables. In this department there has always been a keen rivalry for individual honors. The result has been that visitors at the fair are always pleasantly surprised at the variety and quality of the garden and orchard products which can be produced in this County.

Although not a fruit county the exhibits have always compared favorably with that of other fairs. Opportunity has also been offered for the community making a specialty of those products to advertise its products.

The ladies' division has generally been one of the prominent features of the exhibit hall. The showing made in this division would be a credit to any fair and has always afforded an opportunity for the ladies of the county to spend many pleasant hours in comparing the various articles placed on exhibition.

There has been little variation in the amusements and entertainment features during the five years of the County fair. With grounds entirely too small to care for even the ordinary sports and entirely unsuited for

holding horse races and similar sports, the entertainment features have consisted almost entirely of band concerts, dancing, and the usual street carnival features. Each year the fair board has presented some free entertainment features such as airplane flights, and acrobatic stunts. Naturally with little to offer for the entertainment of the visitors our fair has drawn very few outside of the County and many within the county spend only one day on the grounds and feel that there is nothing to induce them to return a second or third day.

In spite of the many handicaps it is generally agreed that the Morrow County fair has been very successful. In addition to furnishing the people of the County a real play-time it has been an important factor in stimulating interest in the County's products. Credit must be given the County fair for showing to the outside Counties and to the entire Northwest some of the possibilities of our own county. At the time the first fair was held the people of Oregon generally, and to those living west of the mountains particularly, Morrow County was little more than a name. Few people outside of the County itself and perhaps a few adjoining counties realized the wonderful possibilities for development that were open in this County. Dating almost from the time of the first Morrow County fair we find an increasing interest in Morrow County and Morrow County industries. Each year the products from Morrow County are taken to the State fair and have been able to hold their own in open competition with the other counties, in fact, the record of the Morrow County products at the State fair and Land Products shows has been a very enviable one.

The time has come, however, when our County fair has outgrown its present grounds and has reached the limits of its developments under the present plan. If it is to continue to play a leading part in the development of our industries it must be carried out on a larger and more comprehensive scale. If the Morrow County fair is to take the lead in encouraging better livestock it must provide suitable grounds and buildings for the showing of much livestock. It must set its standard far ahead so that as the county develops the County fair will still be the leading factor in blazing new paths and encouraging progress along the various lines prominent in the county.

New kinds of entertainments and sports must be provided in the future so as to get away from the old rut in which we have been traveling for the past five years. Good clean wholesome sports are necessary if we are going to keep the interest of our own people and draw from those outside our County.

The entertainment features must be such as will furnish amusement for everyone. Such as will allow the crowd to leave the grounds looking forward to the next day and its program. Such that we will want to invite friends from outside the County to share our good times. And such that the finish of the last event will find us tired and happy but enthusiastic over the Morrow County fair.

One of the first changes necessary to improve our fair is to get a larger number actually interested in it seeing that it is made a success. Another is to place it on a definite basis so it can be run in a business like manner. And a third important factor is adequate grounds. The people of Morrow County can effect these changes by forming a Joint Stock association, buying new grounds where a good race track can be maintained and then put up permanent buildings. Plans for this are already underway and shortly after the beginning of the new year the residents of Morrow County will be given an opportunity to boost for our fair by subscribing to stock in the association.

If you have enjoyed the County fair in the past, and believe in it as an institution just remember that with your help it can be made better still. If there have been features

you haven't heard or changes you should like made get your stock and have a voice in the policies of the association. Morrow County has the products, which if rightly shown will make an exhibit worth going miles to see. With this as a foundation and the booster spirit of a live people to build with there is no reason why we cannot make the Morrow County fair the magnet with a drawing power that reaches the Inland Empire and an argument so strong that many will become convinced of the opportunities still open here and remain to become in turn strong boosters for Morrow County and "OUR FAIR."

Sale of Timber on the Santiam National Forest

Seventy million feet of timber on the Breitenbush River within the Santiam National Forest has just been put up for sale by the District Forester. This is the largest tract of National Forest timber to be put on the market for several months in this district of the Forest Service.

The timber lies on both sides of the Breitenbush River a short distance above Detroit, Oregon, largely within the drainage of two small creeks known as Canyon and Hansen Creeks. The tract contains sixty million feet of Douglas fir of medium size and fair quality, and about nine million feet of sugar and western white pines, noble fir, western red cedar, hemlock and silver fir.

The minimum prices named in the invitation for bids are \$1.60 per M board feet for Douglas fir, noble fir and cedar, \$3.00 for the pines and \$50 for the other species. The timber is fully mature and, like a crop, is ripe for harvesting.

Since the Breitenbush River is a favorite for fishermen and vacationists, the contract for the sale of the timber will contain special stipulations to prevent the logging operations from marring the natural beauty of the banks of the stream or destroying all the splendid virgin forest which the scenic road sometime to be built up the north bank of the river will traverse.

It is the established policy of the Forest Service in granting permits to log nature within the National Forest to do so with the least possible injury to the natural beauty of those localities which may be visited by tourists and recreationists, that the National forests may attract tourists and function as National playgrounds.

EASTERN OREGON BOYS HAVE A GOOD CHANCE

There has never been a better chance for an eastern Oregon boy to win an appointment to West Point or Annapolis than there will be this month, at the competitive examination being held for Congressman N. J. Sinnott by the U. S. Civil Service on December fifteenth in the following eight cities: Baker Lakeview Bend Ontario Klamath Falls Pendleton La Grande The Dalles Congressman Sinnott writes us that he will have an opportunity to designate from the successful candidates at this examination—two cadetships and four alternateships for 1920 vacancies in the Military Academy and for the Naval Academy he will have the designation of three principals and nine alternates. These designations will be made on the basis of the grades made in the competitive examinations held at the post office in the eight cities named beginning at 9 o'clock A. M. December 15th.

Those who compete for the Military Academy will be examined in the following subjects:

Algebra: Covering ground of first year high school Algebra.

Geometry: Covered by first five books of Wentworth or Hills Plane and Solid Geometry.

Grammar and Compositions Covered by eighth grade grammar school work, also composition of one hundred words on one of two given subjects.

United States History: Covered by eighth grade school histories, such as Barnes, Montgomery or similar works.

General History: Covered by any high school history, such as Myers, Swinton, Barnes, or similar works; including Ancient, Medieval and Modern History and English History from 1066 to 1800.

Candidates for the Naval Academy will be questioned on Algebra Geometry, Grammar and Composition and United States History, as above, and in addition on the two following subjects:

Geography: Covered by any eighth grade school geography.

Arithmetic: Covered by any eighth grade school arithmetic. Problems in fractions, decimals mensuration, percentage, interest and proportion.

Time allowed for Military academy examination five and a half hours, for naval Academy, six and a quarter hours, or for combined examinations seven and a half hours.

A Senator's Lunch. Being addressed by a smirking head waiter as "Senator," means nothing to the gay life of Senator McCumber of North Dakota.

Instead of dining at the senate restaurant, where senatorial dignity and fitting white-apron garbed waiters predominate, when night sessions prevent him from going home, the senator repairs to a nearby cafeteria, collects tray, napkin, knife, fork, spoon and other implements of table warfare, nestles his liver and bacon and other seasonal delicacies on the tray, walks over to a table and lays out his spread.

BUY YOURSELF A XMAS PRESENT

and something that will be a gift to the entire family as well.

A Creek and Grain Ranch, 827 Acres, two miles from town. Price \$35.00 per acre.

I have a number of good buys for a short time in alfalfa, wheat and grazing land.

Now is the opportune time to buy Morrow county land. It will never again be as cheap.

With Greetings of the Christmas Season

Roy V. Whiteis

GREETINGS

TO MY MANY PATRONS of the past year and all the years I take this time to thank one and all for their kindness. My best wishes go out to you for a *Very Merry Christmas and a Most Happy and Prosperous New Year.*

OSCAR R. OTTO