

# THE HERMISTON HERALD

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## STEADY ADVANCEMENT INDICATED BY CROP CENSUS

The operation force of the local office of the reclamation service has just completed the 1919 census of the Umatilla project. The total value of crops grown was over \$600,000. The average value per acre cropped was almost \$75. Of the total acreage irrigable, 10,500 acres, over 8,700 acres are in alfalfa. Approximately 6,900 acres of mature alfalfa stands produced a crop valued by farmers at \$486,000. The apple crop was valued at \$68,000. The highest crop returns were obtained from one quarter of an acre of muskmelons, which netted \$300, or at the rate of \$1200 per acre.

The total value of livestock, poultry and bees on the project is \$330,500. The farm equipment was valued at \$100,500. The returns from the stock, poultry and bees was not obtained, but is estimated at \$400,000.

There are 507 farms, over 400 of which are operated by the owners. There is a total project population of 2500, over half of which are living on the farms. Of the total irrigable area of the project, 28,100 acres, practically 12,000 are cleared and leveled, 10,500 irrigated, and 8,500 cropped. The total land investment, including cost of putting land in shape and to crop, cost of farm buildings and permanent improvements, government charges paid for construction, and purchase price of land, is over \$2,200,000.

There was a steady, satisfactory growth on the old East Side project. An increase over the previous year was recorded of over 500 acres irrigated, and almost 1000 acres cropped, or 8 per cent and 17 per cent, respectively. The total crop value increased \$147,000, or 33 per cent. The total value of stock increased \$11,800, or 5 per cent.

The growth under the West Extension was highly gratifying, indeed phenomenal. There was an increase over the previous year of 900 acres irrigated and 700 acres cropped, or 46 and 56 per cent, respectively. The total crop value increased \$85,700, or 158 per cent. The total value of stock increased \$33,300, or 71 per cent.

The crop census reveals many individual cases of unusual achievement. This information, however, is confidential, and cannot be published. There are many "stories" which should be told. They would hearten the discouraged and confound the croakers. There are "no such animals" on this project, but it might do good in other quarters.

## OREGON BUTTER GOES TO SALT LAKE CITY

The Portland Telegram takes a decided rap at the Oregon Journal for an article appearing recently in that paper, in which is related a tale about huge shipments of butter into this state by the Mutual Creamery Co. of Salt Lake City. In refutation of such a statement the Telegram gives these facts:

"Today the Estes-Dixon company is shipping to the Mutual creamery at Salt Lake City one carload of Oregon butter. If butter was so plentiful in Salt Lake City as to enable this creamery to ship several carloads within a week to their creamery here, why is the Mutual buying butter in Oregon to supply their Utah patrons?"

"While it is true that the Mutual is not paying as high a price for butterfat to the dairymen of Utah as they are to those of Oregon, this does not indicate that there is any surplus of butter in Utah or in Oregon. Competition is keen here, while there is virtually none in Utah. The difference in price paid by them is something like 6 to 7 cents a pound, and, of course, their Utah butter sells for less money than their Oregon. But they are buying butter in Oregon and paying the price for it, and it goes to Salt Lake City. Why?"

"Facts are sufficient for all fair-minded persons. Others don't count."

Take your cream to the Creamery, even if you have but one or two cows. Better than making butter. Talk to the Creamery man.

### Directors Organize

The organization of the board of directors of the Hermiston Irrigation District took place in this city last Tuesday. Col. J. F. McNaught was chosen president and W. J. Warner secretary. Lots were cast to ascertain which member of the board should serve the one year term, which the two year term and also the three year term. The result was that E. L. Jackson drew the one year term, Col. McNaught the two and Frank Waugaman three years. As soon as the bonds of the above board of directors have been passed on and filed, steps will immediately be taken to enter into a contract with government similar to that of the West Extension Irrigation District.

### Likes The Herald

In sending his yearly stipend to The Herald, Geo. C. Ellison, former well known rancher of the project now in the automobile business in Dallas, Oregon, says: "We have received the weekly issue of your paper every week either on Saturday evening or Sunday morning, and always look forward to its arrival. Mrs. Ellison devours the contents of it before she will let me read it. We are always glad to learn how our friends are getting along in Hermiston."

### Monthly Fire Meeting

Nearly all members of Hermiston's Fire Department were present at the regular monthly meeting of the organization Monday evening. At that time a proposition was put forth to purchase motor cars for power attachment on the hose carts for quick conveyance of these and the hook and ladder truck to fires. These machines would be in possession of the department at all times and would be stationed at the hose houses on both the east and west side. More data on the price of the machines will be furnished by a committee at the next regular meeting of the department. Fire hydrants were ordered examined to ascertain if they are all serviceable after the recent cold weather.

### Ye Old Time Dances

A neighborhood party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kern's last Saturday evening. The sky was cloudy and the air crisp with frost, but this only added to the spirit of the North Ridgers, who had been waiting for the weather to moderate, but thought if winter had come to stay they would have their fun anyway. The music for the evening was furnished by Mr. Brown of Hermiston and Mr. Lenheart of Columbia. All joined in the fun of the old time Virginia reels, quadrilles, polkas, etc. A delicious lunch of sandwiches, pickles, cake and coffee was served at 12 o'clock. There were about 60 present.

## CHALLIS DISPOSES OF GROCERY BUSINESS

R. C. Challis, owner and operator of the City Market and Grocery, sprung a surprise on his grocery customers Wednesday morning when they began to come in to make purchases for the day. This was caused by empty shelves drawing their attention on that morning, where the day before rested tier upon tier of grocery goods and canned commodities.

The transformation scene was enacted Tuesday evening after a short conference between members of the firm of the Kingsley Mercantile Co. and Mr. Challis, at which time the Kingsleys purchased all of the grocery stock and removed it that evening from the City Market to their store.

Mr. Challis will from now on deal exclusively in meats, and vegetables and fruits in season. He figured that by disposing of his large grocery stock he could give the public better service in the meat line. The elimination of the grocery will also give him an opportunity to enlarge and standardize his market, room for which improvement was urgently needed.



## GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED WEST EXTENSION CONTRACT

A telegram was received Wednesday from Washington, D. C., by Project Manager H. M. Schilling advising that the contract between the government and the West Extension Irrigation District had been accepted and approved at Washington.

Ratification of this contract must now be made by the voters of the West Extension Irrigation District. To do this an election must be held, the call for which will appear in next week's issue of The Herald.

Under this contract, which pledges the district to reimburse the government to the extent of \$1,100,000, a way will be opened for the doing of big things in the irrigation line on the West Extension. One of these is that the ratification of the contract authorizes the board of directors, consisting of Col. E. Callahan, J. G. Camp and A. E. McFarland, to execute the contract with the government, thus assuming the water right loan and immediately become accessible to participate in the federal farm loans.

## TWO GOOD ENTERTAINMENTS COMING

The Student Body of the high school announce two high class attractions for the people of Hermiston and vicinity. The first one is Dr. Sherman L. Divine, a well known lyceum orator, who will deliver his popular lecture on 'Americanism' at the Baptist church Thursday evening, January 22. This is a ringing appeal for loyalty and patriotism, is handled in an able manner, and deals with a very vital subject. The Girls' Glee Club will sing several selections before the lecture.

The second number is a concert to be given Monday February 2, by the Willamette University Glee Club, which is composed of 18 young men who are good musicians. This organization appeared here two years ago and delighted the large audience with their splendid music. The club is better than ever this year, and will entertain with solos, quartets, glee and stunts. See the high school students for tickets.

### Takes New Position

Art Burkenbine, formerly with the City Meat Market, has taken a position with the Kingsley Mercantile Co. of this city and will look after the delivery of groceries to customers of that establishment. "Genial Art" always did his best to accommodate customers at the meat market, and it goes without saying that he will give the same good service to patrons of his new employers.

### Dance

Don't forget the dances at Stanfield on February 3 and Hermiston February 4 by the American Legion. They have gone to a big expense to secure Bowker's orchestra from Portland for the music so as to insure the dancers a good time. The boys are not so much after the money as to show the people they are still behind them, and assure everybody attending a good time.

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## FAIR CHANCE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SISTERS HOSPITAL

### Chinook Strikes

The mild weather of the week, added to a chinook that struck this section of Eastern Oregon Tuesday, has again created havoc with railway tracks, and has been the means of isolating Hermiston from mail or train service on account of washouts between Rufus and Day on the west and at Stanfield to the east. Stage Gulch has gone on another rampage, and the snow waters pouring from it has been the means of inundating the town of Stanfield for the second time this winter.

Water Superintendent Maurice D. Scroggs assembled a force of men yesterday and went to the scene of the flood at the mouth of Stage canal in order to protect the feed canal from breakages as far as in his power.

### Gold Bearing Sands

A new mining district seems to have been discovered in Jefferson county, for, according to E. J. Kingsley on his return last week from a holiday visit in Central Oregon, there are millions of yards of black sand there that carry gold and platinum, but of such a low grade that until very recently it could not be handled. This last fall one unit of a 200 unit mill was started at Culver, and by spring the owners expect to have the tests made and work far enough along to build the other units. If it's a success, we may have another Klondike in our state.

### Former Resident Dead

In Tuesday's Oregon Journal the following item appeared: "Miss Vera McCarty, aged 26, a native of Centerville, Arkansas, and a resident of Portland since 1914, died Monday morning at the Broadway Court apartments. She is survived by her parents and a number of brothers and sisters in Arkansas. One sister, Mrs. W. A. Club, resides in Portland. The body was taken to Centerville for interment."

The deceased lady was well known here prior to 1914. Her name then was Mrs. Bert Cole, she having later divorced her husband and resumed her maiden name. Part of the time of her residence here the lady and her husband were assisting H. M. Sommerer on his Columbia District ranch in its early stages of development. Deceased still retained many friendships in the Hermiston valley that will grieve when they learn of her death.

### Tubercular Tests Made

All of the herd of 11 dairy cows belonging to Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Garner have been tested by the state veterinarian and found free from tubercular troubles of any kind. A clear bill of health was also given the herds of H. J. Ott, H. M. Sommerer, Frank Waugaman and J. H. Reid. State Veterinarian Lytle was assisted in all tests made in this neighborhood by his resident deputy, Dr. J. A. Peed.

## COUNTY AGENT ADVISES TO HOLD OFF ON PRUNING

County Agent Fred Bennion was here Wednesday examining the extent of damage to fruit trees done by the hard frost of December. He took samples of twigs and wood, and after thoroughly looking them over sent them to the horticultural department of the O. A. C. for further observation. In the meantime he advises those owning orchards to hold off on pruning until it is ascertained the extent frost has injured the trees. It is necessary to conserve all fruit buds this year, and in order to do so it is probable that a new style of pruning will have to be inaugurated. Mr. Bennion expects return from the samples sent the O. A. C. not later than Monday of next week, the results of which he has promised to let fruit men know through these columns.

The Westland Irrigation District held its annual election at the Westland postoffice building Tuesday. J. M. Prindle was elected to succeed himself on the board of directors.

Another phase of the hospital proposition came out at the noonday luncheon at the Hotel Hermiston Tuesday when Father Butler spoke of Hermiston having a fair chance for the establishment of a Sisters' hospital. He explained that he had been making investigations, and found that a number of eastern sisters were to come west early in the spring to start a hospital at Bend and also one in another town in Central Oregon. He was of the opinion that possibly on recommendations he had already advanced it would be decided by the sisters to install a hospital here at the time they propose establishing their Central Oregon institutions.

A report of the Red Cross roll call showed that Hermiston was second highest in membership percentage in the county, Umatilla having led all towns in the county in the membership drive.

It was reported that the county court had given its promise to substantially improve and repair the Sheridan bridge over Butter Creek, which nearly went out during the recent freshet.

Preparations are to be made by the Club for the reception of the Willamette Glee Club, which is to give an entertainment at the high school auditorium on the second day of February.

The committee that met with the railway officials the latter part of last week made a report to the effect that their recommendations for additional trackage in the yards and more help at the depot was now being considered and would be acted upon shortly by the railway company.

A committee from the Columbia District asked what could be done with regard to having the telephone company improve its rural service. This committee stated that telephones in that district were continually going out of order on account of the bad condition of the poles. It developed that the company is contemplating the rebuilding of the lines this spring, but nevertheless a committee was appointed to look into the matter in order to hasten the company to action as quickly as possible.

## MEN PLAN GET-TOGETHER SUPPER AT COLUMBIA

Some of the men of the Columbia District met Tuesday evening at the home of E. E. Graham and planned a get-together supper, to be given at the school house on the 23rd, at which the women and children are to be guests. The following committees were appointed:

Cooks—Messrs. Haddox, Haines, Waugaman, Linder and Tabor.  
General Arrangements—Leonard Rogers, Henry Ott, Henry Sommerer, Mr. Fisher.  
Waiters—Burdette Graham, John Haddox, Herb Hall, Ted Hall, Childs Barham and the Warner boys.  
Dishes, Etc.—E. E. Graham.  
Social Committee—Henry Hooker, Claude Haddox, Walter Felthous, Walter Blessing and Prof. Bensef.  
Program—F. P. Phipps.  
Publicity—M. R. Gallaher.

All the people of the Columbia District are invited to make this another time when they all meet for a real good evening. Don't eat your supper before leaving home. Bring your family and appetite, for these men mean business, and with Tom Haddox as head chef you are to have a feast royal.

The Columbia Sunday school was reorganized last Sunday with the following officers: Supt., H. J. Stillings; Assistant Supt., Henry Hooker; Missionary Supt., Frank Waugaman; Sec., Leonard Rogers; Treasurer, Burdette Graham; Chorister, Mrs. Carstens; Librarian, F. P. Phipps; Pianist, Laura Phipps. These officers assume their offices next Sunday. The school is wishing a good growth, and invites all citizens of the community to attend.

J. G. Camp, secretary of the board of directors of the West Extension Irrigation District and operator of a fine ranch west of Umatilla, was here Saturday last on business.