

**The Hermiston Herald**

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**THE PROJECT FAIR**

Prospects are looking bright for the Umatilla Project Fair October 4 and 5. Last year saw a decided improvement over the shows of former years and the board of directors for the present undertaking is going about the work of providing for a fair of unusual merits. Capable and enthusiastic workers have been appointed as heads of the various divisions and with the proper amount of cooperation from the people of the project, there is no reason why the 1929 fair shouldn't develop into an enterprise more extensive and wider in its scope than ever before. The show is over two months off! There remains plenty of time for everyone to plan on taking some part in it. When enough of us find ourselves individually interested, that interest will communicate itself to the community, thereby solving one of the secrets of real success in such an enterprise.

**THEIEVERY OF A SORT**

There are various kinds of despicable people in this old world. Witness for example the proverbial mean fellow who stole the pennies from the baby's bank. It seems that he might have been one of the claimants to the title of "the meanest fellow in the world."

However, if the choice were left to the melon growers around over the project, their vote would undoubtedly be cast with one accord for the fellow who sneaks around stealing melons and trampling down the vines until the entire season's crop is practically ruined. A melon stealer intent upon getting one big juicy melon can wrought more destruction than a band of cattle roaming around the patch. Just why melon stealing in the minds of some peculiar personalities stands outside the pale of thievery is a question for a psychologist and his corps of assistants, but such evidently is the case and this warped turn of mind causes a lot of grief, worry and expense to the man who is trying to earn an honest living by producing the melons. The average melon grower isn't stingy and crabbled about sharing his melons, although he is, after all raising them for a market and not usually for the fun of it. But he does object to having a bunch of vandals sneak in and destroy a large proportion of the crop merely because in their feeble minds, such action constitutes a "lark."

The real pleasure of talking over the battles of the World War will be in the Legion convention of forty or fifty years hence.

California must have been practically deserted by her native sons and daughters this summer. Judging by automobile license plates most of them are vacationing in Oregon.

Yes, it has been a little warm but what can one expect of a normal climate in the so-called temperate zone long about July and August.

Arthur Brisbase says that anything men can imagine they can do. Then pity the fellow that inadvertently says he can't imagine his wife keeping her mouth shut.

**MINNEHAHA NEWS NOTES**

Mrs. M. T. Matott, Correspondent

Minnehaha's watermelon crop has been late in coming on but is getting into full swing now. Walter Garner has picked about forty already, and C. M. Jackson has also marketed some and there are other patches coming into bearing. There has been a case or two of watermelon swiping during the past week and while the patch owners make no fuss about the loss of a melon or so to the cause of the hungry, they plan on using stern measures against those who needlessly tear up the patches and destroy many of the future melons. To many of the farmers who make a large part of their living in melons, the ruthless destruction of their patches is equal to having several pay checks stolen.

The U-Go-I-Go club held a picnic at the home of Mrs. R. E. McFalls on August 1. This is an ideal place for such a gathering because of the lovely lawn banked with shade trees and the wonderful spring which everyone enjoys both scenically and thirstily. After the picnic lunch topped off with two kinds of ice cream, the ladies decided it was too warm a day to work and so spent the remainder of the afternoon visiting. Seventeen ladies were present.

Mrs. W. E. Putnam and daughter, Nona Miriam, left for their home in Portland last Thursday evening after visiting at the W. A. Hinefine home. Mrs. Putnam and Mrs. Hinefine are sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Jackson and sons Billy and Bobby motored to McKay dam July 31 to visit with Mrs. Irwin T. Swain who is here from Colorado visiting with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Elder, who live at the dam. Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Swain have been friends for many years.

Mrs. W. G. Rodda was hostess to the girls 4-H club August 2 and served fresh strawberry ice cream. The next meeting will be held August 16 at the home of Mrs. M. T. Matott.

Miss Bessie Calkins of Gresham is visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Wiley Pearson. Miss Bessie attended school at the Junior Academy of Portland last year.

Mrs. Jessie Hesser and her brothers, Clare and John Lemon, who are visiting here from Pittsburg, Kas., left August 2 for the upper John Day country where the visitors hope to catch some of the famous Oregon trout.

Visitors at the F. B. Penock home during the past week were Mr. and Mrs. Swanner and their sons Lawrence and Monroe, Prof. A. C. Voelker and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Waghorn. Prof. Voelker was superintendent of Hermiston Hi a few years ago and Norman Penock was a student in the high at that time.

Dick Thom threshed his barley the first of this week. He had about 25 acres planted to this crop.

Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Matott and daughter Rosella, motored to Pendleton on business July 31.

F. B. Penock has been trying out Sudan grass for pasture this season and while his stand wasn't all that he hoped for, he believes that it is a good pasture crop for this project. It maintains a good growth while being foraged off and he has found plants with as high as 75 stalks. At present he is pasturing six cows on the two acres he has, but hasn't sufficient data as yet to state how many cows can be pastured per acre. Sudan grass is an annual.

Miss Georgia Thom returned from Pendleton last week and reported a most enjoyable vacation spent in the Wallowa country where she was successful at fishing and also enjoyed swimming in Wallowa lake.

Miss Rosella Matott left for La Grande August 3 to go on a camping trip on upper Catherine creek with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. B. Oral and her sister Janice, who has been in La Grande for about a month.

Mr. W. V. Garner displays a broad smile these days all because of four acres he has planted to potatoes, which are not only bearing well but are of excellent quality and the paper quotations indicate that potatoes will be a good price this year. He dug one hill of 25 potatoes, 24 of them of marketable size.

Uncle Johnny Thom, who lives in Columbia district at present, but is well known to most everybody and his dog on the whole project, left for Desolation creek and Olive lake for an extended fishing trip and to recuperate from his long illness of last winter. He seems to stand ace high in the estimation of the fish for they always flock to his hook. He expects to be gone about a month.

Roe McFalls has been doing some active experimenting with his alfalfa and from his data, it would seem his experiments have been all to the good. Three years ago he had about a half crop of alfalfa and a dandy crop of cheat. This year he had a first cutting so good that much of it lodged and had to be cut one way and the cheat was just nil. His second cutting is stacked so high that some of the neighbors had to help him down from the stack with the

Jackson fork when he got through. Some of his ideas follow. "Don't pasture alfalfa, but particularly not in the fall when the protecting leaves are eaten away from the crown which causes freezing out. In the spring don't water the crop until you are afraid to let it go any longer, then let it go awhile longer, and it will have killed the cheat's best intentions. The cheat not only saps the ground but eventually kills out the alfalfa." He found that where the ground was burned over the crop was noticeably better, but very little of his land was so burned. His crops for the last two years as well as his previous poor crops indicate that his theories are making good.

Mrs. W. A. Hinefine has been appointed to teach home economics in the Hermiston high school for the coming year.



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