

Historical Society

LEXINGTON GROWS WITHOUT WATCHING

LEXINGTON WHEATFIELD

VOL. II

LEXINGTON, OREGON, THURSDAY APRIL 4, 1907

NO. 37

MORROW COUNTY

ONE OF THE BANNER COUNTIES OF THE INLAND EMPIRE FOR ALL CROPS.

Oregon has for the past few years, is now, and will continue for several years to be the objective point of thousands from the Eastern and Middle states, who find it desirable or necessary to establish new homes.

Morrow is one of the best counties in Eastern Oregon, or the country east of the Cascade Mountains, known as the "Inland Empire."

The growing scarcity of good lands that may yet be purchased at a low figure has stimulated a desire on the part of many to come to this part of the country and improve their condition. One writer says: "Nature modeled Oregon after plans furnished by the Goddess of Plenty, who sought to form a land where the tiller of the soil and the garnerer of grain might

live happily and peacefully, with every want supplied."

Morrow county has for its northern boundary the great Columbia River, which forms the separating line between Oregon and Washington. From the Columbia the county extends south 60 miles and has an average width from east to west of between 35 and 40 miles, the surrounding counties are Umatilla, Grant, Wheeler and Gilliam. About two-thirds of the land in the county is capable of being brought under cultivation, the remaining one-third being high hill and mountain lands, valuable only for pasturage and timber.

The soils of Morrow County are basic in their nature, being composed largely of disintegrated lava and volcanic ash. In the valleys the soil is a

loam, dark and rich, with a clay subsoil. On the wheat producing plateaus and hills it is a clay loam, very fertile and easy of cultivation.

It was only a short ago that Morrow county was looked upon as a stock country and nothing else, but a few practical farmers came and demonstrated the fact that it is one of the best agricultural counties in the state of Oregon. Now the largest part of the tillable soil is under cultivation yielding from 20 to 45 bushels of wheat per acre, with a failure never known. You may think, from the above, that wheat is all that is grown here, which is a mistake, as nearly all of the cereals are grown in this county. Along Willow creek, which traverses the entire length of the county, a large amount of fruit, vegetables and alfalfa is grown.

The climate of this beautiful county is not to be excelled any place in the United States. Winter, practically speaking, is only a name, seldom go-

ing below the zero mark. The summers are not so hot that you cannot work, none of those hot, sultry days, with not a breath of air stirring, and the nights are always cool so that the tiller has a chance to sleep after his hard days work.

LEXINGTON is situated on the Heppner branch of the O. R. & N., thirty-five miles from the main line, is located on the most beautiful spot on Willow creek and is in the center of the best wheat producing section of the county. Lexington has a population of 350, an excellent graded school, 2 churches, splendid water system, electric lights, creamery, flouring mill, good hotel, newspaper, numerous secret societies and a number of good substantial business buildings.

Investors who are seeking profitable and safe investments cannot do better than cast their lot with the people of this little community, as is shown by the following:

W. E. Leach, manager of the gen-

eral merchandise firm of Leach Bros., came to Morrow county 22 years ago with his parents, who took up Government land. Mr. Leach has worked as a farm hand, and as he grew up in the country he could see the advantages nature provided and grasped them. Seven years ago he formed a partnership with R. A. Nichols, under the firm name of Nichols & Leach, and embarked in the general merchandise business, their stock was small as well as their capital. As the country grew their business and stock increased, additions were made to their store building each year. Two years ago N. A. Leach purchased the interest of Mr. Nichols, and today Leach Bros. own and occupy a large double front store building and carry a \$30,000 stock of General Merchandise.

This is only one incident. There are hundreds of others that we can and will cite to the benefit of those seeking safe and profitable investments in the best town in the best county of the best state in the Union. That's Lexington.

M. E. Church South

Preaching every second and fourth Sundays, both morning and evening. Sunday school every Sunday at 10 a. m. Epworth League at 6:30 every Sunday evening. Every one cordially invited to attend these services.

REV. T. P. GRAHAM, Pastor.

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Wm McMURRAY, G. P. A

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