

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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THEY "GREW" THEIR ONIONS

There's nothing like success. There's nothing that will better advertise the Vale and Owyhee irrigation projects than the \$60,000 onion crop of K. Morinaga. This farmer, who knew his business, produced a crop on 100 acres of land covered with sagebrush last February that will pay for his investment many times over in just one season. Morinaga paid from \$10 to \$30 per acre for his land. His crop is worth \$600 per acre.

However, the onion producers are not the only settlers who are faring well on the new lands of the Vale project. Last year a poultry grower at Harper sold turkeys worth \$2500. New alfalfa has paid well. Every farmer has his dairy herd.

Two units of land, 7700 acres, have been sold to farmers at desert land prices, \$5 to \$15 per acre. If more than \$15 is

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received, one-half the difference is returned to the land owner on paid up water cost. Settlers have 40 years in which to make their payments on construction charges.

It is reclamation under a new regime and colonization of the Owyhee will follow the Vale. There is no opportunity for the speculator, who does not buy a farm to make a home but to sell to a real farmer and break his back with debt. There is opportunity for the farmer with sufficient capital to purchase a tract of land and develop it.

Colonization of irrigated lands will benefit the Nyssa and Malheur country and the benefits will be far reaching. Farmers will use lumber to build houses and barns. Farmers will buy implements, furniture and clothing. They will provide a market for industries.

ANOTHER GRAZING PLAN

Should the stockmen of this country desire to take advantage of the grazing plan suggested by W. S. Boyer, chief of the field division of the Portland land office it will be necessary to petition for an act of congress covering the territory intended to include in the grazing area. Upon the passing of this act a local association or more than one, should it be carried to cover more than one such district, may be formed by the men interested.

Taking the statute, passed by congress in 1928 for a specific area in Montana, which permits the secretary of the interior to enter into a ten year lease of range lands, representatives of the land department tell stockmen that similar operation may be had in this state.

The Montana association has been found a success and it is said that California contemplates taking advantage of the provision and organize grazing districts.

The plan provides for an area being designated as a grazing district over which the local stockmen have full supervision, the U. S. Land department entering into the matter to the extent of restricting the number of animals that may be turned on the range. The government withdraws all the public land within the area from entry of any kind, retaining only the mineral rights, and the local association may make its own rules and regulations.

Development of water for stock purposes, fencing and other improvements are permitted and encouraged by the government and the district is restricted to stockmen owning surrounding land or land within the area.

Such an arrangement, it is pointed out, would be of great benefit to the stockmen of this region and, should it be acted upon favorably and found successful, might solve the range question in a satisfactory manner, rather than the plan that has been under consideration for some time of the government turning over the public range lands to the respective states.

At the age of five the average boy thinks Santa Claus lives at the North Pole. When he gets to be a man he thinks he lives in Washington City.

The wheat surplus might be reduced some by throwing it at weddings instead of rice.

The fact that a dollar now goes farther than it used to probably accounts for the wide open spaces between them.

The motorist who says the auto has come to stay may have occasion to change his mind if he misses a payment on it.

Another reason why the radio will never take the place of the newspaper is because a man can't tear off a corner of the radio and wipe his razor on it.

Next year will be leap year and let us all hope that business will do most of the leaping.

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Voice of the Press

BEYOND THE SUNSET

The last obituaries have all been written, now, and the last funeral orations and telegraphed tributes have been read and digested. But the race that Thomas Edison served will remember for a long time—for as long, perhaps, as it remembers Edison himself—that final, surprising little remark that came from his deathbed: "It is very beautiful over there."

Will there ever be a biography of the man that does not contain that quotation? Probably not; for it represents one of those strange hints that are tossed out to us now and then—those strange hints that a dying man can, on occasion, peer through the veil, see what lies beyond, and, seeing, be dazzled by the fulfillment of a half-trusted dream.

Now the interpretation of it, of course will vary. There will be plenty of people to assure us that the dying man was simply suffering from a delirium. In time, probably, some biographer will insist that the remark was never actually made. There is no surer way of arousing contradiction than to imply that visible reality is only a shadow to cloak something infinitely more profound that lies beyond it.

But there will be others who will not look at it that way. The world, after all is not so idyllic a place that mankind in general is content to see in death only the stopping of a worn-out machine. We have not yet outgrown the desire to pass beyond the sunset. Edison, at the point of death, looked into the sky and saw something beautiful; must we assume that fever was playing tricks with his brain—that brain which was never tricked before?

We can take it as we wish. Those to whom disbelieve is precious will look at it in one way, and those who feel otherwise will look at it in another. Only one thing is certain. It will be remembered for centuries.

For that, when you come down to it is the way the human heart is made. It questions, doubts and rejects—and then, at the last clutches at a chance to believe. Edison, the solver of mysteries, the worker of miracles, dropped at his death a remark to focus the attention of his fellows on the greatest and oldest mystery of all.

And he himself, now, has solved it.—Baker Democrat-Herald.

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