

The News-Record

H. A. GALLOWAY,
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EDITORIAL PAGE

Reasons For County Seat Removal.

In a pathetic, almost heart-rending appeal to Joseph and Lostine citizens to put their John Hancocks on the county seat election petition -- which rumor says has only a little over half enough names after weeks and weeks of house-to-house canvassing--the Wallowa Sun gives its wonderful reasons why Joseph and Lostine residents in particular and others in general should sign.

Is it because Wallowa is a more central location than Enterprise? Oh, no! Enterprise while not in the exact geographical center of the county, is far nearer to it than Wallowa.

Is it because Wallowa is easier of access to a majority of people than is Enterprise? Oh, no! Three-fourths of the people can reach Enterprise by better roads and easier grades than any other town. The county has recently appropriated thousands of dollars to make possible roads to Wallowa, and a sum greater than the cost of the county high school building will be spent before certain districts close to Wallowa can reach that town over grades as easy as lead out of Enterprise in all directions.

Is it because a court house can be or would be built more cheaply in Wallowa than in Enterprise? Oh, no! There would be practically no difference in the cost.

Would there be any decrease in county expenses in any direction so that the tax burdens would be less? Oh, no! The taxes would in all probability be heavier, for there would be the cost of moving the offices, and as a victory for Wallowa would mean a county court wholly devoted to Wallowa's interests, it would also probably mean a much more expensive court house than any county court that can be elected would build in Enterprise. Also, having the whip hand, Wallowa would need to put up no bonus or even site, while Enterprise already has a bona fide \$15,000 offer up, or half enough to pay for a first-class county building, and the offer is on file in the county clerk's office.

Now if the Jonas county seat "fight" is not based on any of the foregoing reasons, which are surely the only ones that can appeal to residents of the county outside of the two interested towns, in the name of common sense, you ask, what are his reasons?

We are going to tell you, and if you think because they are so ridiculous and improbable that we misquote, you get a copy of last week's Sun and convince yourself.

First: Kill Enterprise.

Second: Enterprise gone, Joseph will have undisputed sway in the south half of the valley, which will be good for--Joseph. (Maybe.)

Third: Revenge. Joseph is supposed (by the Sun) to have a heart black with hate of Enterprise because the latter town exists.

Fourth: Enterprise gone, Lostine will gain Alder Slope trade! (Notice: Joseph has already been given the trade benefit of no Enterprise, which means Alder Slope trade, and now he also gives it to Lostine. A little thing like that is easy for a logician like Mr. Jonas.)

Fifth: Wallowa being built up big and strong helps Lostine. Two towns can't flourish in the south and largest end of the Wallowa and Prairie creek valleys, but two in the north end flourish all the better because there are two.

Sixth: Because the people voted for a county high school.

Seventh: Because the county court (consisting of one Wallowa man, one north country man and one Alder Slope man) after asking for bids from all the towns, located the high school in Enterprise. (Because the people here put up the most money and thereby decreased its cost to the taxpayers over the county.)

Eighth: Because this same county court, in its wisdom, or its folly, as you may regard it, or in the courage of its convictions, knowing it was signing its own political death warrant, added enough to the levy to pay off the county debt.

Now, honest, those are the reasons advanced by the Sun. Is any comment needed? Don't they answer themselves to the mind of every disinterested, intelligent reader.

Does the editor of the Sun assume that the farmers, whose votes will decide the question, are fools.

Let Our Light Shine.

A number of extra copies of the News-Record were purchased and sent East by local subscribers last week. "There are facts about this valley in every issue of the News-Record that will appeal to home-seekers," said one who sent six copies to Nebraska and Iowa friends.

This week's News-Record with the high school article and the glorious news of rushing the building of the railroad is a good settler bringer. Quite a number of copies have already been engaged for that purpose, but an extra number have been printed and will be sent upon request. The price per copy is 5 cents, or six copies for 25 cents, sent to any address in the United States. Just enclose the names and addresses and the papers will be sent direct from the office without extra charge for postage.

The News-Record will endeavor to have something each week this winter that if it reaches the eye of any person anywhere looking for a better location, he will investigate the resources of and opportunities in Wallowa county. An additional supply of papers will be printed each week, many of which will be sent to distant points by the publisher, but plenty kept on hand for those who wish to aid in the work of upbuilding our county.

Further announcement along this line will be made as soon as certain plans of the paper are matured.

Big Job On His Hands.

The great secret is out. "The Mystery of the Sun, or Why Put the Court House on Wheels," is a mystery no longer. Brother Jonas let the cat out of the bag last week.

In a column and a half editorial in his paper, The Wallowa Sun, he gave the truthful reason and moving cause for the effort to get up a county seat fight in Wallowa county--TO WIPE ENTERPRISE OFF THE MAP.

Now isn't that a truly virtuous and patriotic reason?

We ask, seriously, the hundreds of residents of the Prairie creek and Imnaha valleys; the hundreds who have homesteads on the fertile,

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hills extending many miles east and north of this town, on Trout creek Crow creek, at Chico, the Buttes, Zumwalt and on the Chesnimus; many in the Leap, and yea even the Whisky creek sections; scores and scores in the north country, and practically all of the prosperous farmers on Alder Slope--all the foregoing of whom have better roads of easier grade to Enterprise than to any other trading point, and who now benefit by the competition of the Enterprise mills and the Enterprise merchants--we ask you, isn't it a truly splendid thing that Brother Jonas and a few others have set out to do--wipe Enterprise off the map?

Poor Enterprise!

But say, isn't it a pretty big job even for so versatile a man and great logician as Mr. Jonas?

Shortage of Eggs.

W. B. Glafke, a member of the board of governors of the Portland Commercial Club, has put before the club some intensely interesting figures on the poultry and egg business, for general circulation throughout the state. One hundred carloads of eggs alone were shipped into Oregon during the past five months. These would average the year around \$2600.00 per car. Oregon growers supply the chief demand for turkeys, ducks, geese and chickens, but four times the present production would find a ready home market, while in eggs we might multiply by ten and still the prices would pay as well as any product grown either on the farm or in the orchard.

Poultry and eggs will be another source of wealth to Wallowa county after the railroad is completed. At present, ranches raise only enough for the local market, but with comparatively trifling additional expense the output can be increased many fold. It doubtless will be when commission houses or dealers give an unlimited market, which they can do when shipping facilities give them access to city markets.

The Portland Commercial Club's weekly bulletin says lecturers throughout the East are demanding slides showing views of Oregon. The lecturers will have only the second best unless they secure slides showing views of the Wallowa valley, and adjacent mountains. Here is the prettiest scenery, mountains, vales, streams or waterfalls, in the United States. It is well named the Switzerland of America.

Forty and fifty bushels of wheat to the acre on land selling from \$10 to \$30 an acre must sound "good" to the farmers back in Iowa who are tickled half to death when they can get 18 to 20 bushels to the acre on their \$100 land.

Come to the country where one year's crops pays for the land. That has been done in Wallowa county in this year of our Lord, 1907.