

THE MILTON EAGLE

Published each Friday by Charles Besserer. The files of the first year's publication were lost.

Jan. 6, 1888 found the paper published by W. L. Bowmer. In the new editor's first editorial, his concept of public relations was set forth in detail. An interesting excerpt is set forth here:

“We arrived a total stranger and have hardly as yet become sufficiently acquainted to know Col. Page Patterson from Honorable J. P. Wagner, or whether the surplus in the U.S. Treasury should be devoted to Milton's much needed water works or a new Courthouse in Pendleton.”

Locals and personals excerpts:

“Volume 2, Page 1, and the goose hangs high”.

“Shade trees should be planted from Milton to the depot as soon as the road is laid out. Where is the new Street Committee?”

“The party who swiped a copy of the City Charter and Ordinances from this office will please return them and no arrests will be make.”

“This is about the time of year when country newspapers change hands – and the retiring editor goes back to setting type for wages or teaching country schools.”

Advertisement of local businesses appearing include the following:

United States Mills, John Miller; Insurance, Hull and Evans; Books and Stationery, W. C. Starkey; Commission Merchant, N. Pierce; Shingles and Planing, Walter S. Brown.

Milton Nursery, A. Miller and Sons; City Drug Store, George Church; Notary Public, E. C. Walker; Physician & Surgeon, W. G. Albon; Boot & Shoemaker and Barber Shop, M. S. Patterson; Job Work, Milton Eagle.

Livery Stable, Feed & Sales, Hack to and from all trains, Pierce Bros. & Co., City Hotel, meals 34 cents, per week \$4.00, with lodging \$5.00 per week, F. J. Morie; General Merchandise, L. B. Plants and Co.

Furniture and Funeral Service, D. J. Phillips; Grain Dealer, E. C. Walker; “The California” Livery, Feed and Sale Stable, S. K. Coe; Lumber, Oregon Improvement Company, M. P. Snyder.

Land Sale, Wright's Addition to Milton, 140 lots at \$34 to \$60 per lot, W. T.

Wright; Drugs S. C. Stone, M.D.

General Merchandise, Will and Yates; Blacksmithy and Wagon making,
Berry Campbell and McEachery; Meats, Milton Market, A. Rouanzoin.

It is notable that most of the Milton ads appeared on the front page and that about half of the issue was made up of “patented” material. The 75th year of publication is now in progress. The Freewater Times was started in August 1890. The two papers were combined later and now are published as the Valley Herald.

Early History of the Milton-Freewater Area

Published by the Valley Herald, Inc.

Milton-Freewater, Oregon

1962