

**MsSC 80**

**Harry Garrity, papers. 14 letters**

**Abstract:** Harry Garrity was an absentee landlord who hired J.M. Sitton to manage his wheat ranch near Washtucna, WA, 1905-1914.

**Biography:** Harry Garrity was a resident of Murray, UT, who hired J. M. Sitton to manage his wheat ranch near Washtucna, Whitman County, WA, early in the twentieth century.

**Scope and contents:** The collection contains thirteen letters from J.M. Sitton to Harry Garrity discussing difficulties of wheat ranching in eastern Washington, from failed crops and scarcity of labor, to weather and tumbleweeds. There are also various bills detailing the cost of farming. The collection is fragmentary.

**Inclusive dates:** 1905-1914

**Restrictions:** None

**Volume:** 14 letters

**Accession number:** 1995.108

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	1	1 August 1905. Herbert Bell (Stromsburg, NB) to Harry Garrity (Spokane, WA). Timber claim and details on timber and homestead claims.
		12 October 1912. Sitton to Garrity. Weight tickets for wheat and selling wheat.
		28 November 1912. Sitton to Garrity. Copies of letters to and from bank.
		23 December 1912. Sitton to Garrity. Payments of notes. Can't farm Garrity's land this year.
		27 January 1913. Sitton to Garrity. Accounting. Cannot find a renter for Garrity's land. Discouraged farmers. Blowing land.
		8 May 1913. Sitton to Garrity. Hired people to burn weeds and plow. Payment.
		28 June 1913. Sitton to Garrity. Accounting. Weed problems. Inability to find labor for hire. "Farmer buster" year. No rain in time for crops. Some farmers "blowed out."

24 November 1913. Sitton to Garrity. Can find no one to clear weeds. Weed problems. Seed wheat anyway. Hoboes hate to work in weeds. Workers undependable. Will break thistles (tumble-weeds) so they will roll off. Accounting of expenses.

23 April 1914. Sitton to Garrity. Bank notes.

6 May 1914. Sitton to Garrity. Cost for plowing. Needs money.

18 May 1914. Sitton to Garrity. Guess on wheat yields. Leaving blowing hillside unplowed. Weeds. Growing rye. Fencing. Not really a stock-raising country, but people being forced to. Mustard bad this year. Blowing and drifting. Need rain.

6 July 1914. Hard to find renter. Weeds. "Weeds don't wait on anybody."

19 July 1914. Frank letter about rotten crops. Rotten farming. frost, hot winds. "Come and farm it yourself." Weeds.

Undated. Jordan Brothers' bill.