

Crook County Journal

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POTASH COMPANY

Plant Will Be Built in Lake County.

An Oregon Industry

Have Contracted With N. C. O. to Build Railroad to Summer Lakes.

There is not the least doubt in the world of the reliability and substantiability of Oregon Potash Company, whose filings of land in the Summer Lake and Abert Lake section in Lake county have set people to wondering. In one day a few months ago there were filed in the County Clerk's office here by Chas. M. Sain, President of the Oregon Potash Company, something like seven hundred claims to lands in the localities named. For months past people who have spoken of this matter have done so with a smile, giving the impression that they had little faith in the gigantic proposition to follow as a result of the claims taken at the lakes.

Things have come to pass since the filings were made, however, that changes the aspect of the situation, and it is now a foregone conclusion that the Oregon Potash Company is an organization with millions of dollars at its back, and that it means business. No one has any reason or right to doubt the word or probity of Mr. Sain, president of the company, who has cast the lines of his company in this county to establish a big enterprise.

Mr. Conn was informed a few days ago that arrangements had been perfected and an agreement entered into with the Nevada-California-Oregon railway company, whereby that company will build their line to Abert and Summer lakes for the purpose of developing the properties of the Oregon Potash Company. President Sain says the railroad company "expects to build in next year, or at least to Lakeview."

Judging from present indications the Examiner believes that the Oregon Potash Company will establish plants and make improvements in this county within the next two years, that will fairly astonish the local public. The Examiner has been informed upon reliable authority that the company will build refining works on their property that will cost about a million dollars, and that five hundred and possibly one thousand men will be employed in the works. Offers have been made by president Sain to ranchers at Summer Lake for the purchase of their places at topnotch figures, but no sale has yet been recorded. The N-C-O will build a broad gage line from Reno North.—Lakeview Examiner.

The Cost of Strikes.

Jarroll D Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor, states that the cost of strikes and lockouts during the twenty years, ending with the year 1900 amounted to \$468,963,581, says the Bulletin. During this period there were 23,708 strikes and lockouts, the strikes largely predominating in number. So far

as losses could be actually traced, the cost to labor was \$26,000,000; to capital \$142,000,000. This is a loss without a gain that might have been acquired by mutual concessions. The interests of capital and labor are so nearly identical that no considerable percentage of the loss of one could be considered the gain of the other. Mr Wright's investigations do not include the indirect loss to the country—that is, to interests not immediately affected by the strike or lockout. For example, a farmer who depends upon the market created by factories for the sale of his product, lost indirectly in consequence of a strike by the diminished purchasing power of the people resulting from a suspension of labor in the factories. Every department of business is compelled to contribute to the cost of labor strikes. The causes of such strikes are mainly two in number—the employer tries to get a larger part of the products of labor and capital than his investment would justify, or labor wants a larger share than the employer can afford to pay. In nearly all cases the books of an employer would show about the rate of wages his business would justify him in paying. There have been cases in which labor has consented to a reduction in wages upon a showing that there was no profit left to the employer after paying current rate of wages. While no employer would consent to the submission of his books to public inspection most employers would submit them to a committee which would hold to both parties the relation of counsel to client. The waste of strikes and lockout adds its full amount to the cost of production, and to this extent handicaps the country in which the strike occurs in competition with other countries.

Lava Lore.

From our regular correspondent.

November 19 Major A F Sears, chief engineer of the Oregon Development Co, was surrounded by his friends at a dinner given in honor of his 72th birthday. One present expressed the sentiment of all when he said "How delightful, Lava, the Deschutes, the snow chapped Sisters, the climate, the people and real turkey (not bacon). The following were present: Major A F Sears, Portland, chief engineer; Philo Holbrook, Knox Huston, Alfred Sears and Robert Sears, assistant engineers, C N Scott, Richard Sears, Mr and Mrs Vandervert, Maud Vandervert, William Vandervert.

Mr and Mrs Hawthorn went to Prineville this week after their Christmas goods.

Andrew Prather, of the Dalles, has taken a homestead on the Deschutes and contemplates spending the winter here putting up a house and otherwise improving his property.

Ripe strawberries on the 15 of this month are an evidence of the most pleasant fall we have had for years.

Mr and Mrs Frank West have gone to Haystack after their winter supply of apples, potatoes, etc.

The crack shots of this place are busy every day now, but little George Vandervert carried off the prize by killing two large geese at one shot. Busch Grass.

STOCK MARKET

M E Bain returns After Five Weeks.

In the Willamette

He Says He Met With a Certain Measure of Success.—Had Hoped For Better.

M E Bain returned yesterday from the Willamette valley towns, where he has been for five weeks past, in the interest of the Overland Mining company, which enterprise he is promoting. He says that he met with a certain measure of success, but not to the extent that he had hoped for. He disposed for considerable stock to personal friends, who have been waiting for him to get something of real merit, which he undoubtedly has in the Overland. Mr Bain says he was surprised to learn of the large amounts of money that the valley towns have invested in eastern Oregon mines; that nearly every man he talked with on the subject of stock had already bought into one company or another. His estimate is that Oregon City alone has sent more than \$50,000 here; while several hundred thousands have come from Portland. The unfortunate feature of the business is that these people have acquired a peach of a collection of gold brick. The reason for this is plain and also characteristic of the region. They have been looking for cheap stocks and finding them. When you talk to them about five cents or over, they tell you of some unheard of company that is selling for one and a half or two cents. Portland is not yet the mining center of the northwest, and notwithstanding the noisy efforts of the newspapers to protect the lambs and the warning of the stock exchange to "buy only from us," it seems that several people there have nibbled a bait and swallowed a cruel hook. Mr Bain left for Chicago today.—Sumpter Miner.

Game Hogs Galore.

ED JOURNAL.—In the issue of your paper dated Nov. 7 1901, your score the parties who hunted on Harney Lake, chronicled by the Weston Leader. I beg to state that you have been misinformed as to the cause of the "fast vanishing flocks." In springtime when the ducks and geese are laying on the Harney and Malheur lakes, the settlers gather the eggs in sackful and haul to their respective homes and feed them to hogs and chickens. Some these vandals, but let the hunters shoot all they please. Where the hunters kill one these—well they a e namelasse—stroy a hundred. I write from pure friendship for you. I have seen the people haul the eggs away in wagon loads, but Harney county is too deeply interested in irrigation problems to uphold the laws of the state.

Sincerely, A FAIRBANKS.
Silver Lake, Nov. 12, 1901.

The writer of the above would have added a great deal more force to his article if he had signed his name. We are not in the habit of publishing anonymous communications, but as this has a personal

bearing we will also answer it. We were not misinformed as to the cause of the fast vanishing flocks, but judging from the above letter we were only partially informed. While we believe no punishment too great to inflict on the individuals who would be guilty of the crime of collecting the eggs in above manner and feeding to hogs and chickens, yet we do not retract anything in our former article as to the hunters. Nor do we believe that the citizens of Harney county are so taken up with irrigation problems as to relax the enforcement of the laws of the state. We respectfully call the attention of the State Game Warden to the allegations in the above communication and earnestly ask an investigation of the same.

The plea of the writer for the game hogs who would slaughter the birds is out of place and sounds bad along side of his righteous outburst in the remainder of the letter.

Circuit Court Decision.

The case of Jim Means against the county has been decided upon by the circuit court and referred back to the county court says the Pendleton Tribune. Means applied for a liquor license to open a saloon at Echo. Following the terms of the law he secured 84 signatures of residents of the precinct to his petition which were published. Later a remonstrance was circulated. It secured 93 names, 20 of which were on the petition. The county court at its September term removed the 20 names that appeared on the petition and remonstrance from both, which left the number still on the petition less than a majority of the voters of the precinct, for which reason the county court refused to grant the license. The circuit court held that the 20 names must be counted upon the petition as published and could not be counted on the remonstrance. It is now left to the county court to grant the license or appeal the case.

Mining Case Comes up.

The trial of the famous Oregon King mining suit will begin in the United States District Court at Portland, on Tuesday, December 10th. The Plaintiffs, Brown and Maddox, will be represented by Attorneys Gearin, Abrams and Riddell, and the Oregon King Company have for their attorneys, Mr W H Wilson of the Dalles, and Messers W W Cotton and Ralph E Moody of Portland. Owing to the value of the property in litigation, this case has excited great interest throughout the state. In this camp there is more than a passing interest in the outcome; the camp has been retarded in its development, and much valuable property lies there in idleness, owing to this suit. It will be a most acceptable Christmas gift to the camp, should this litigation come to an end next month.—Proper or.

Last Tuesday evening the young people of Powell Buttes, gathered at the residence of Miss May Moffett, where a very pleasant evening was spent. After a merry time was had in making candy, games were indulged in until a late hour when all departed for their homes declaring they had spent the evening very pleasantly.

GENERAL NEWS.

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There

Some Stolen, Others Not

Cullings From Our Exchanges
News Notes of the Week
Timely Topics

A violent dispute with Paul Les-sar, Minister to China, over the Manchurian treaty, appears to have been the immediate cause of the death of Li Hung Chang

Hon H W Corbett has started the Lewis & Clark centennial subscription with the sum of \$30,000, one-tenth of the entire amount that is to be subscribed by the stockholders of the corporation.

Hon B A Booth of Eugene and J H Booth of Roseburg have bought the Douglas County Bank at Roseburg from O F Godfrey & Son Messers Booth have been interested in the banking business in Grants Pass for a number of years past.

State Treasurer C S Moore is in receipt of a letter from District Attorney Frank Menelee, of the Seventh District transmitting \$580,-85, a portion of the estate of the late Elias Davis, of Crook county, escheated to the state. There is still a farm of 480 acres to be disposed of, the fund to be transferred to the State Treasury. The land is valued at \$2000. Salem Statesman.

It is reported from Fort Stevens that a workman there recently unearthed 58 slugs of the \$50 denomination. The discovery is said to have been within the fortifications. Whether the gold was in a box or lying loose was not learned. Similar discoveries have been made at Fort Columbia by workmen, who have found a number of \$50 pieces.

H R Neil exhibited in Pendleton a sample of salt bush, which he raised on the Wild Horse says the East Oregonian. He has been experimenting with the bush to find if the Australian feed will grow in this country. The experiment was successful for the bush grew without irrigation on alkali land. Those who are authorities on the subject say that the problem for the future feeding of sheep has been solved. Mr Neil will plant two acres of the new bush next year.

H H Swartz, of Spokane and L Sharp, of Ellensburg, two special agents of the land department are in this section on orders from the general land office to examine the No. 16 and 36 sections of government lands in this part of the state. Messrs Swartz and Sharp have about eighty sections to report upon and expect to remain in Eastern Oregon several months.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

The register and receiver of the United States land office have recently receive notice from the commissioner of the general land office to the effect that one hundred and eight sections of the first land district has been withdrawn from entry for a period of one year on the strength of a petition presented to the department by various individuals who are prospective buyers of the tract in question.