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NO. 16.

The Times-Herald.

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LEASING OF THE RANGES

WAS CONSIDERED BY THE CATTLE-GROWERS' CONVENTION.

Other Business Transacted by Association—Fight Over Constitution—F. C. Lusk Elected President.

Denver, Colo., March 6.—The question of the leasing of the arid lands of the open ranges to stock-growers, has come to the front among the subjects to be considered at the convention of the cattlegrowers, now being held in this city, although it was not mentioned in the call for the convention. The following resolutions, which were introduced by Colonel John P. Irish of California, and referred to the executive committee, were referred back from that committee at the morning session of the convention today:

"Resolved, By the American Cattle-Growers' Association, that the attention of the Federal Government be called to the rapid waste of its property on the arid ranges, and to the increasing aridity of that part of its domain, resulting from the extirpation of the vegetable protection of the soil, to the decrease in the number of cattle in proportion to the population of the whole country, and to the significant fact that vast regions wherein these changes are taking place are hereby being rendered less fit for agriculture and permanent settlement.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this association the remedy lies in lease hold control and protection of the public ranges, and in the expenditure of resulting revenues in promoting irrigation in the states and territories where it is derived.

Resolved, That such policy should be applied and carried out, by the Federal Government which should reserve the title to the ranges and the right to protect the agricultural settler and mineral prospector.

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the president to draft a bill for an act to effect the foregoing objects, to be presented to congress at its next session."

The committee on credentials presented two reports, the majority in favor of recognizing proxies held by delegates and the minority opposed to so doing. G. F. Patrick, of Pueblo; C. W. Carey, of Wyoming, and ex congressman Kerr, of Nebraska, now of Montrose, Colo., spoke against allowing proxies to be voted. Mr. Kerr declared that it was generally understood there were 60 proxies in the body to be voted in the interests of the sheepmen.

Colonel John P. Irish spoke in support of the majority report, in favor of proxies, which was finally adopted by a vote of 140 to 46. There are over 75 proxies in the convention, mainly from California and Nevada. This afternoon the question of admitting cattlemen who are also engaged in the handling of sheep was the subject for discussion. A test is being made of Henry Miller, of the firm of Miller & Lux, the millionaire cattle and sheepman of California, and I. P. Miller, the banker, of Wyoming, who handles both cattle and sheep.

After the adoption of the constitution and by-laws, over which there is to be a lively fight, the leasing question will come up, and if the convention is successful in getting through with that proposition without a split, it may be considered as firmly organized, but the feeling is very strong, and it is a question yet whether there will be an organization or not.

At the night session the only work done was the selection of a new executive committee. A committee man and an alternate from each state represented chosen. For Oregon, John Gilchrist is the committee man, and J. S. Devine the alternate. After the convention adjourned until tomorrow, the old executive committee met to finish its business. The Irish resolutions in favor of leasing public lands were discussed and, the committee decided to report them favorable to the convention tomorrow. F. C.

NEW APPORTIONMENT LAW

OF TAXATION IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF OREGON.

Duties of the State Officers—Proportion Based on the Assessments for the Past Five Years.

ORGANIZATION ACCOMPLISHED.

Denver, March 7.—The organization of the American Cattlegrowers' Association was completed today. The constitution as adopted permits men engaged in raising both cattle and sheep to become members, providing cattle raising is their paramount interest. Denver was made the headquarters of the association and annual conventions will be held here on the first Tuesday in March. The basis of representation is by individual membership, in person or by proxy. Each member pays an initiation fee of \$5. There may also be levied a tax of one cent a head on all cattle owned by each member of the association.

Officers were elected today as follows: President L. C. Lusk, of California; first vice-president, F. C. Goudy, Colorado; second vice-president, M. K. Parsons, Utah; treasurer, F. A. Keener, Colorado. H. H. Robinson, of Colorado, was elected member-at-large of the executive committee in recognition of his services in organizing the association. The secretary will be chosen by the executive committee.

The resolutions proposed by Colonel John P. Irish, of California, advocating the leasing of the public arid land by the government, were adopted after a prolonged discussion. Resolutions were adopted opposing the Grout oleomargarine bill and approving the action of the Bureau of Animal Industry in furnishing vaccine to stockmen.

Resolutions friendly to the National Livestock Association and congratulating the officers of that association in their success in defeating the Grout bill.

The convention adjourned sine die.

The executive committee held a meeting tonight at which J. C. Leary, of Salt Lake, was chosen secretary and traffic manager of the association. The following working board was named: A. J. Nisbit, Arizona; W. H. Howery, New Mexico; E. J. Simonson, Nebraska; Al Bowie, Wyoming; H. H. Richardson, Colorado; S. J. Gilmore, Texas; Conrad Schaffer, Colorado. It was decided to establish headquarters for the present at the Denver stockyards.

1901 Fair Indorsed.

Boise, Idaho, March 9.—It is probable that the legislature will not adjourn until Monday or Tuesday. Both houses worked hard tonight, but did not get through. The Senate today, by a vote of 11 to 7, passed the house bill establishing the county of Clearwater out of the southern part of Shoshone and portions of Nez Perce and Idaho.

A bill of much importance was passed at the night session of the senate last night, the house bill providing a bounty of 1 cent a pound on beet sugar.

The Senate today concurred in the house resolutions in behalf of Oregon's Centennial Exposition. W. S. Duniway, Portland's representative, left Boise tonight and expects to reach home tomorrow.

Dead Horses in Snake River.

M. C. Fuller is over from Rock creek and states that Mr. Butz, who lives at the mouth of Shumack creek, saw eight dead horses floating down Snake river about ten days ago. These were possibly drowned animals from the band of stolen horses which were recently seized at Huntington, and would seem to bear out the theory, offered for the shooting of five head of the animals in a gulch on the Oregon side, that two carloads were started across the river and so many drowned that there remained a small surplus over one car and these were killed. —Weiser Signal

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ORGANIZATION ACCOMPLISHED.

Salem, Or., March 8.—The following is the new law relating to apportionment of taxes among the counties:

By the first Monday in January of each year the county clerk of the several counties in this state shall prepare upon a blank form prescribed and furnished by the Secretary of State, a concise, tabulated statement of all the expenses of his county for the preceding year, except expenses of his county for the and highways, which statement shall be certified to by him as such county clerk, and forward to the Secretary of State, and a duplicate thereof placed on file in his own office.

The Secretary of State shall immediately record such statement in books provided and kept in his office for that purpose, and shall supply the several county clerks with the necessary forms for making such reports, as provided for in this act.

It shall be the duty of the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer, acting jointly, on the first day of March in each year, to ascertain by computation as hereinafter provided, the total amount of revenue necessary for state purposes and to apportion the foresaid total revenue among the several counties in the manner hereinafter provided.

The aforesaid state officers shall proceed as follows:

First—Prepare a tabular statement consisting of all the items of expense given separately to which the state will be subject under existing laws for the fiscal year next after that year for which the last preceding state levy of taxes was computed and declared, also all items of deficiency, including interest on unpaid warrants left over from the previous year, the payment of which has been authorized by law; and also the sum provided by law for the current expenses of the Oregon National guard, the sum of \$47,500 for the support of the University of Oregon, and the sum of \$25,000 for support of the Oregon Agricultural College, and also, when such levy is made on the assessment of an even year, the estimated expenses of one biennial session of the Legislative Assembly; and also, when such levy is made on the assessment of an even year, the estimated total cost not exceeding \$200,000, of such additional public buildings and improvements of public buildings of the state as the said state officers shall believe it to be necessary to make during the fiscal year for which such levy of taxes is computed.

Second—From the sum total of the aforesaid items shall be deducted any surplus in excess of \$5000 remaining in the treasury from all funds however derived, if not applied by law to some special purpose.

Third—The remainder so obtained shall be the total amount of revenue to be raised the next ensuing year for state purposes which are not provided for by a special tax duly authorized by law, and said remainder shall be apportioned among the several counties in the manner hereinafter provided, and be levied and collected in each of said counties in the manner other taxes are levied and collected, and be paid over to the State Treasurer.

Fourth—In order to ascertain the proportion of such taxes to be paid by the several counties, said state officers shall ascertain from the report of expenditures of the several counties on file in the office of the Secretary of State, the average amount of expenditure in each county during a period of five years, and each county shall pay such proportion of said state taxes as its average amount of expenditure for said period bears to the total amount of expenditures in all of the counties of the state, such com-

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District, No. 1.

shall be entitled to one joint representative and one joint senator, in the Legislative Assembly of the state of Oregon, to be chosen as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. The county judges of the counties of Marion, Benton and Lane of the state of Oregon, are hereby constituted a Board of Advisors for said legislative district No. 1, comprising the above named counties of Eastern Oregon. Said Board of Advisors, shall, on the date of each general election in the state of Oregon, select two persons, who shall be residents of legislative district No. 1, and qualified electors of the state of Oregon, and shall not own any property situated in said district No. 1, one of whom shall serve for a term of two years as representative, and one of whom shall serve for four years as senator, from said district in the legislative assembly of the state of Oregon.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of said Board of Advisors to make a biennial report to the legislative assembly of the state of Oregon, setting forth the exact amount of money saved to the taxpayers of the state, in mileage and per diem, by virtue of the decreased representation from the distant counties of Eastern Oregon, by the operation of this act, and said Board of Advisors, shall, biennially, appropriate all of such money so accruing to the state, pro rata, among the schools, colleges and universities

now located, or that may be here-

after located, in the Willamette valley.

Sec. 4. Inasmuch as there is urgent necessity for better schools in the Willamette valley, an emergency is declared to exist and this act shall go into effect immediately upon its approval by said Board of Advisors, consisting of the county judges of the counties of Marion, Benton and Lane, in the state of Oregon.

Tornado in Texas.

Willis Point Texas, March 9.—A tornado passed through the west side of this place at 11 o'clock this morning, demolishing everything in its track. Four persons are dead and about 20 injured. Fourteen dwellings were entirely ruined and a number of others are badly wrecked. The public school building is a total wreck. The cotton oil mill is damaged and the largest gin plant is in ruins. Wires were blown down and poles and fences leveled. A freight car was blown off the track.

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