

The Weekly Chronicle.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF WASCOCO COUNTY.

COUNTY OFFICIALS.

County Judge..... Geo. C. Blakeley
Sheriff..... T. A. Ward
Clerk..... J. B. Crossen
Treasurer..... Wm. Mitchell
Commissioners..... Jas. Darnelle
Assessor..... Frank Kincaid
Auditor..... J. W. Kootz
Superintendent of Public Schools..... E. F. Sharp
Coroner..... Troy Shelby
N. M. Eastwood

THE HOMESTEAD POISONING.

Dispatches from Homestead yesterday reveal a condition of things existing at the time of the strike, least expected. That the strikers had so far criminated themselves as to enter upon a scheme to destroy the lives of men who were willing to work by poisoning their food, is brought out. It has no parallel in the history of crime. The next thing to this in the criminal proceeding of strikers was that outrage at Buffalo, when two strikers were caught in the act of displacing a switch, and when the police had just enough time to set it right before a lightning passenger express went thundering by. If it had gone thundering through the misplaced switch to destruction, with its train-hands and passengers, the whole nation would have shuddered at the infamous crime.

It is in such crimes as these in connection with labor troubles that the gravest menace appears. It is a serious matter to contemplate the spectacle of a mob arrogating to themselves the right to defy laws nominally created by the sovereign people; but when the terrible act is performed by taking human life by unsuspected methods, when poison is resorted to, the violence presages an element of danger which stuns the sensibilities of law-abiding people, and calls for the most excessive punishment devised by man, and where there may have been an expression of sympathy for the misguided leaders and the common worker whose scanty wages perhaps were not affected, but who obediently submitted to strike and starve, the sentiment turns to bitter hatred and the cause, if they had one, suffers.

In this strike at Homestead history repeats itself. It is invariably the few who profit and the many who suffer. The Homestead strike has resulted in a loss to the workmen in wages alone nearly \$2,000,000; in a loss of human confidence which can now never be restored to them; in a loss of the last spark of honor remaining among them. Their gains are only dishonor, disgrace and starvation staring them in the face. Verily have they "reaped the whirlwind" from their sowing. It has been a most unfortunate affair for the many engaged in it. There is perhaps no other trade in which the distinction between the aristocracy and the commons is so strongly marked as it is in the iron mills. In some of these labor unions the general tendency is to discourage excellence and to keep the skilled workmen down to the standard of the unskilled, and it is here that is found the shrewd schemer, living upon the wages of the industries, assuming despotic power, and the greatest suffering upon the classes least able to bear it. The outcome of the strike at Homestead should teach lessons of obedience to the laws of God and man, but will it? Let the rulers of the amalgamated association answer.

It can scarcely be expected that the answer will be favorable, so long as such bodies of men are organized with a total lack of the principles of right. They make no restriction for nationality, morality, sobriety, loyalty or efficiency. They no sooner organize than they presume to dictate a code and a rate of apprenticeship to perpetuate their leaders in the highest places for preformation of wages, and thus it is by such rules that our native born youth is prohibited from learning trades, by organizations composed largely of foreigners, many of whom are unnaturalized and but recently imported. This latest event at Homestead reveals these evil effects which will readily be understood, and which need but to be suggested to make an impression upon an intelligent public of the extent and magnitude of the criminal effect of labor unions generally.

Judge Bradshaw sentenced Ed. Hahn, who was convicted in the circuit court in Portland, for attempting to kill his best girl, Miss Quinn, to two years imprisonment in the penitentiary. Much surprise is manifest at the light sentence. It ought to have been to the limit of the law. The courts of the land show too much leniency in administrative justice. T. P. Cochran, a son of a wealthy St. Louis lawyer, is in jail in Portland, for defrauding various citizens out of thousands of dollars by fraudulent checks. On the same hypothesis of reasoning that a Pendleton man got one year for stealing an \$8 overcoat, Cochran may go clear.

Some of our contemporaries are publishing back numbers, on the Columbia river dating to John Maginnis report on Wilkes chart of 56 years ago. Come and talk of it as it is now. Aid us to open it up to free navigation. It was all right then, to be sure; but what we want now most is the modern methods of business. Push applied.

TO EXCLUDE IMMIGRANTS.

The exclusion of foreign immigration from our shores is being discussed with a good deal of earnestness in all sections of the country. The wholesale dumping of Europeans on this country is looked upon with concern, especially so since the late strikes. The country has been flooded with the refuse of all nations, which, as a class, have no respect for our laws or our institutions. They come here as a place of refuge from crime committed in their own land, and as soon as the first opportunity presents itself follow their former instincts. They are the first to make the strike on any labor question, and first to resort to riot.

It is well that the government sees the importance of calling a halt. Senator Chandler has presented a bill to the senate to totally exclude all immigration for one year, which has been in the hands of the senate committee on immigration several days and will be reported favorably on. The immigration problem has been a vexed one for the last thirty-five or forty years. Extremists have urged an amendment to the constitution whereby the naturalization laws should require an actual residence of twenty-one years before citizenship should be bestowed on a foreign subject. This was a plank in the old American party platform, and the same idea prevails with a very large portion of all parties. It is believed by many great statesmen that were this requirement a law, that it, within itself, would prove a check, and virtually stop, to a large degree, the influx of the objectionable class of foreigners. The great clamor for reform has already sounded the alarm and it has been heard at home and abroad. All Europe looks on it with dread and regret. As it is deprived of ridding itself of its paupers, its socialists, its anarchists, and lastly its overpopulation, it is not to be wondered that it trembles at the agitation of the immigration question in America.

The United States calls for a halt, and a check must be put on promiscuous foreign immigration. Our shores should not be the dumping ground for all Europe and Asia.

Following is a list of topics upon which resolutions were offered yesterday, in the Philadelphia meeting of the Federation of Labor: On the saloon question; mustache question; standing of the Knights of Labor in the federation; political action, granting charters to central bodies; compulsory arbitration; interference of courts and military; Chinese sailors on the Pacific Mail steamers; assisted immigration; calling out armed bodies during strikes; to amend alien contract labor; an universal label; to establish a sinking fund; for the partition of the Chicago Haymarket anarchists; for a national eight-hour law; for the inauguration of education by the federation; favoring the abolition of trusts and speculation in commodities; for organization of international bodies of unions of freight-handlers and broom-makers; and a number of others of minor importance. It was agreed to take up the question of the celebration of Homestead day at the afternoon session today.

The Panama canal scandal is becoming a very serious matter in France. Minister of Finance Rouvier has resigned as a result of the letter by Clemenceau in Le Figaro implicating him with Reinach and Herz in the Panama canal scandal. The political situation is very critical, and another government crisis is extremely likely. Le Grulois publishes the story in detail, professing to give the story of the last hours of Baron Reinach. It says that, after his visit with Clemenceau and Rouvier to the Panama canal, and finding Herz would do nothing, he realized there was no escaping the results of his acts, so he went home at midnight, wrote a number of letters, destroyed the compromising documents, and at one o'clock took the poison.

Despite the earnest protests of those who favor the preservation of at least a remnant of the noble game of the northwest, the ruthless slaughter still goes on. In northern Idaho, it is said hunters are killing deer, elk and mountain sheep in the most wanton manner, while other parties are hunting deer under contract with meat dealers. Even the little spotted fawn is not exempt from their cruel rapacity. The law is strong enough but somehow it is not enforced.

There is a curious typographical error in Harper's Magazine for December, just issued, by which Charles Dudley Warner is made to say in his Editor's Study, that "the great mass of Christian literature is no longer believed." This, says the Boston Herald, would be a startling assertion, indeed, were it not evident by the context that what Mr. Warner wrote was that "the great mass of Christmas literature is no longer believed."

Walla Walla claims all the requisites for a beet sugar manufactory. Practical tests by the late S. M. Wait, made many years ago, demonstrated the fact that beets containing a large percentage of saccharine matter may be grown in all parts of the valley. The city possesses all the other advantages, as outlined by Claus Spreckles; cheap fuel, cheap lime, cheap transportation and cheap packages. The last named of these are the jute bags, sugar makers having decided that sacks make better packages than barrels.

THE CHRONICLE ANNIVERSARY.

Two years ago today THE CHRONICLE unfurled its banner to the popular breeze in the Inland Empire and launched forth upon the sea of journalism with no misgivings as to the future. The course of the paper, and its present liberal support fully attest its worth and appreciation. It is not necessary at this time to enter largely upon a review of the past years work, nor make any glittering promises for the future. The fact is apparent that THE CHRONICLE is established in the hearts of the people, and we have a proud sense of the situation which prompts us to untiring efforts in the promotion of the interests of all classes for whose benefit the paper was founded, and so long as the people remain with us we shall remain with them, without prejudice or partiality, laboring under the banner of onward and upward, the greatest good to the greatest number.

OUR LAND OFFICE MUDDLE.

By reason of a ruling, made at the instance and dictation of United States Inspector, Harbison by name, the receiver at United States land office, The Dalles, Or., refused on Saturday last, to issue any more final receipts to entrymen offering proof as required by law; assigning as a reason the sickness of the register, Capt. Jno. W. Lewis. It will be remembered that during the first session of the present congress, efforts were made to secure an extension of time in which claimants, under act of September 29th, 1890, were allowed to offer proof and pay for lands embraced within the law, generally known as the Railroad Forfeiture act; but notwithstanding the combined efforts of the Oregon delegation, the democratic house could not be induced to allow said extension to embrace only such entries as where claimants were actually residing upon such land at the time of the passage of said act, and the time allowed for all other claimants was restricted to February 28, 1893. This was a small concession by a large democratic house, and was a gracious boon to a righteous few only, as nine-tenths of the claimants under the act of September 29th, 1890, were either living on other lands, or had exhausted their rights under the general land law, then in force.

Our object in calling attention to the provisions of the forfeiture act, is to show the "condition" which "confronts" entrymen, now ready and anxious to make final proof; and to show the grounds of complaint which the general public are now making of the way business in the U. S. Land office at The Dalles is now conducted; and to show the manner in which this important branch of the public service is being run, through the over-officiousness and domination of a U. S. Land office inspector, whose assumption of authority, is "cheeky" to say the least, even in the "wild and woolly west."

To say that this man has made himself obnoxious, in his official capacity, with the general public is putting it mild, and the sooner he is ordered and directed to seek other fields of labor and pastures new, the better it will be for the splendid record of the U. S. Land office department under Mr. Harrison's administration. We of the west had a surfeit of insane circulars and arbitrary rulings from the general land office in the days of Andrew Jackson Sparks; and we vigorously "kicked" just at the close of a well spent life, to be subjected to the idiosyncrasies of this "government official."

But a few days since a number of citizens from Sherman county came to The Dalles, bringing their witnesses with them for the purpose of making final proof on entries under the forfeiture act; but upon application at the land office were informed that the receiver would not issue them final certificates (receipts), but that the receiver would issue them a receipt dictated by Mr. Harbison, which in effect can only be construed as a personal receipt. In this connection we call attention to the decision of Secretary Vilas, in the case of Mathieson and Ward, upon application to purchase, from which we quote: "The receiver has no authority to receive money except when tendered in payment upon an application made to the register for the purchase of lands upon which the local officers having authority to act," etc., and farther: "A payment received by the local officers in advance of the time when they are ready to act upon an application and allow the entry, is not in pursuance of any duty enjoined by law."

We believe enough has been said to show the necessity of calling the attention of our delegation in congress to the conditions which now obstruct entrymen upon forfeited railroad lands, and in urging that the attention of the commissioner of the general land office be called to the situation; to the end that some definite instructions may be given, looking to the relief of this class of entries.

The press of Valparaiso say that the McKenny silver mine near Iquique is played out and its title is clouded by lawsuits. It is owned by an American syndicate, said to be composed of Messrs. Higgins, Mills, Senator Jones and F. Lynde Stetson, President-elect Cleveland's law partner.

The American Remedy company of Portland have filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state for the treatment of the opium, liquors, and tobacco habit. Capital stock \$25,000.

American Cholera.

From the DAILY REVELL, Whiteoan, Wash. "T. C. Burnett, the democratic candidate for sheriff, was taken violently ill at Clearbrook. He had all the symptoms of Asiatic cholera, and for an hour or two it was feared he would die. They finally gave him a dose of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which revived him until a physician arrived." That is precisely what the manufacturers of that medicine recommend for cholera. Send for a physician but give their medicine until the physician arrives. If cholera be some prevalent in this country, next summer this preparation will be in great demand because it can always be depended upon. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton, druggists.

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