

La Grande Evening Observer

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Boise valley melons will soon be on the market.

It was our alfalfa and sugar beet growers that prayed for this rain.

The popular song around the camps of the outing parties these evenings, is "Home Sweet Home."

With two but almost successful attempts to sail across the English channel within the past ten days and the Wright Bros complying with the test experiments existing by our government the day of the air ship being a competitor of the auto seems to be all but here.

For years the people of Central Oregon did everything within its power to attract the attention of railroad building, but their efforts were in vain. It seems to be different now. It may yet require a few weeks to ascertain whether all of this unusual and unexpected activity is business or bluff.

The Alabama Legislature convened in special session yesterday at the call of Governor B. B. Comer, to consider legislation to strengthen the liquor laws. An attempt will be made to declare locker clubs illegal. Governor Comer will also endeavor to have passed a compulsory education bill, a measure to prohibit the carrying of concealed weapons and a juvenile act to prevent the imprisonment of children under 14 years of age. Forstry preservation is likewise included in the legislative program of the executive.

Nebraska will have no state primary election this year, though three supreme court judges and two regents of the state university will be elected this fall. Today platform conventions are being held, for the promulgation of platforms and the selection of state committees of the various parties. The omission of the state primary election is due to the new Donohue non-partisan judiciary and regents bill, which provides that candidates for these offices shall go on the ballot without party designation.

MILLION MINERS MAY GO OUT.

Great Britain is threatened with the most serious labor trouble that the country has experienced in years, because of the desire of members of the Miner's Confederation to go on a national strike in support of the Scottish miners who are resisting a wage reduction of six pence a day. Balloting among the million members of the confederation was completed yesterday and the executive committee of the organization will meet tomorrow to take action on the result. The present feeling seems to be in favor of the stoppage of all mines, a condition which would entail practically the complete paralyzation of the British industry. In view of the consequent expected shortage in the coal supply any factories already have served notice to their employes of the termination of contracts.

Senator Stone Case Dismissed.

BALTIMORE, July 28.—The charge of assault against Senator Stone of Missouri, preferred by a Negro porter of a dining car, whom he slapped, was dismissed this afternoon by the court.

Read the Observer.

Stealing Baseball Signals

"The lengths to which clubs will go to secure the signals of the opposing teams is astonishing to those not familiar with the game," says Hugh S. Fullerton in the August number of the American Magazine. He continues:

"To catch a signal legitimately, by observation, by quick thinking, is part of the sport. Marshall of Brooklyn, Kane of Chicago, Doolin of Philadelphia, are past masters of the art of seeing what the opposing batters are trying to do before the effort is made. Efforts have been made in the past to steal signals by the most brazen trickery and unsportsmanlike methods.

"Perhaps the worst case of this sort ever revealed was that of an old Philadelphia club of the National league. Here was the greatest aggregation of batters ever assembled on one team, but not satisfied with their natural hitting ability they wanted to know in advance what kind of ball the pitcher was going to serve so as to increase their hitting. One of the cleverest men at interpreting signals who ever played in a baseball game formulated the plan. Stationing a confederate in the club house in center field, he had him armed with a powerful pair of field glasses with which to watch the hands of the catchers. At first the confederate signaled the batters by raising one arm for a fast ball, the other for a curve, then when the opponents grew suspicious he worked from behind a blind and gave the

signal by raising or lowering an awning. If the awning was raised a few inches and held in that position a fast ball was coming, and if it was raised and then dropped the signal was for a curve.

"The awning worked well, until it was discovered, and then the catcher and his associates invented something new in baseball. They put electric wires underground connecting the club house with the coaches' box at third base, and buried a small wooden box under the ground, the box containing a 'buzzer.' A certain hoisy, obstreperous player was stationed at third base with one foot on the box containing the 'buzzer' and as the signal was sounded the player stationed over the 'buzzer' could feel the tapping under his foot, and by calling in a secret word code he warned the batter what the pitcher was going to pitch.

"Not a regular player on the Philadelphia team batted under 300 per cent, while the 'buzzer' was in operation, and several of their pitchers and catchers were among the leading batters of the National league.

"Not satisfied with having that much advantage on the home grounds, the man who planned the thing followed his team around the country, renting windows overlooking the grounds in each city, and wigwagging signals to the batters. He was caught at Brooklyn by some of the Brooklyn players, and trounced, and after that the method of spying gradually was abandoned.

young horse thief. Prosecution would be hard as the two men allege Hawley was injured by a fall from his horse, while it is stated Hawley said he was injured by the two men.

Hawley is a horse thief and was caught by the two prisoners about four miles from Copperfield on a stolen animal. Monday morning he sold a horse to John Stevens and after remaining in the camp for a couple of hours, during which time he spent some of his money, he quietly got the horse and struck out along Snake river toward the Willowa country.

Soon a posse of well mounted citizens was in pursuit of the outlaw (Continued to Page 8).

PAGE HAWLEY IS NEAR DEATH

IN FACT IS THOUGHT TO BE DEAD NOW.

Man Known Here Mortally Wounded by His Captors.

While there has been no definite announcement to that effect, it is almost a certainty, according to advices from Baker City this afternoon, that Page Hawley died at Copperfield last night. People coming from Copperfield where Hawley was under arrest, say it was impossible for the fellow to survive the past night. Telephone communication from Baker this afternoon say the county officials left there last evening and will reach Copperfield some time today to look in to the story told by the two men who captured Hawley after a long chase.

Acting Chief of Police McLaughlin, scouts the idea of accidental bruises. He has known Hawley for several years, and is firm of the opinion that the fractured skull was sustained at the hands of Hawley's captors. Others who know Hawley say he was too good a horseman to fall and sustain such injuries as he did at the time.

The following from Baker City explains the incident in this connection: BAKER CITY, July 27.—Latest news from Copperfield this afternoon states that Page Hawley is still alive, but that his death is but a matter of hours. By people in Copperfield it is believed the death of Hawley will result in the charge of murder being preferred against J. J. Burns and G. Pratt, the men who captured the

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