

EASTERN MEN BUY GRANDE RONDE LAND

EACH MEN OF COLORADO SPRINGS INVEST IN THE GOOD STUFF.

PURCHASE M'KENNON LAND

Means That A Large Commercial Orchard Will be Planted in the Spring—George L. Cleaver Made Sale—Apples From the Valley Considered the Finest that Land was a Good Buy.

Another large commercial orchard is to be planted this spring three-quarters of a mile from Imbler as a result of the transfer of the Floyd McKennon 160 acre farm by Geo. L. Cleaver, through the Geo. H. Curry Real Estate Agency, to Messrs. Shark and Spurgeon, bankers, of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Cleaver will set the tract out to trees this spring according to the latest ideas of expert fruit men. While the bulk of the trees will be Rome Beauties, the rows will be alternated with York Imperial, Johnathan, the idea being advanced that the Rome Beauties will partake in a measure of the deep red color of the York Imperial and Johnathans.

This tract of land lays beautiful and within a few years will add materially to the general appearance of that section. The soil is deep, prolific crops have always been the rule on this farm, eighty acres of fine fall grain now covers half of it.

Few of the present residents will know the Sandridge in the vicinity of Imbler during the next five years. This point promises to be one of the great fruit centers of Eastern Oregon. The depth of soil which the moisture responds is one of the features that is just becoming recognized by the many. A few close observers have been aware of the qualities of the land for the past ten years and as a result have done remarkably well on their investments. The consideration of the above transfer was \$16,800, being \$105 per acre. Considering values adjoining land is very reasonable.

IGNORE OREGON DECISION

COMMISSIONER FINDS IN FAVOR OF W. J. TOWNLEY'S CLAIM.

Case is Based on a Piece of Land a Few Miles From La Grande.

The Commissioner of the General Land office has reversed the action of the local land office in finding in favor of Leven D. Loudermilk, the homesteader who "discovered" what he took to be a 88 acre farm within 9 miles of La Grande, about two years ago. This decision, if sustained by the Secretary of the Interior on appeal, will operate to give the State of Oregon a title to the land, and through it, W. J. Townley, of Union, who now holds a deed from the State to what interest it has, will get full title to the land in controversy.

In 1872, the state claimed the land as swamp land, but nothing was ever done to identify it or re-survey that it be identified as swamp land until after Loudermilk had filed his Homestead and after 30 years had elapsed. The local office, following a decision of the Oregon supreme court, held that any swamp land does not pass to the state as such until identified and approved as that class of land

by the Secretary of the Interior, and in effect ignored some decisions of the Commissioner of the General Land Office which the Oregon Supreme Court did not follow. The Commissioner followed his own decisions and in effect ignored the Oregon decision.

The effect of the Oregon decision is so far-reaching that it is said by some attorneys that even if Loudermilk does lose his case in the interior department, possibly can go into the Oregon courts to raise issues made in about three years understood.

MARTIAL LAW OVER CHIHUAHUA Revolution in Mexico Causes Officers To Act.

El Paso, Jan. 18.—Dispatchers today considered the report authentic from Chihuahua, Mexico stating that the national government had decided to remove Terrazas and place the state under martial law. Colonel Cueller, of Diaz' personal staff, will be in command. It is said the government is much alarmed over the progress of the revolution.

SOLONS CLASH AT THE CAPITAL

"OREGON SYSTEM" IS BASIS FOR A POLITICAL ROUGH AND TUMBLE.

Senator Abraham Defied Both Houses to Go on Record.

State Capitol, Salem, Jan. 18.—The biggest fight yet held in the legislature started today over the Kellagher resolution which asserts that the "Oregon system is the best on earth."

Contrary to expectation bitter attacks were made on the resolution. Senator Abraham defied both houses to "make fools of themselves by saying we have the best system." Adjournment without settlement this afternoon guarantees there will be more fight.

As the resolution is in the nature of advice to other legislatures all over the country who are considering the the Oregon system its defeat would mean, according to adherents of the present plan, a hard blow to the initiative, referendum and recall.

Senate Ratifies Income Tax.

State Capitol, Salem, Jan. 18.—The Oregon senate today ratified the income tax amendment to the federal constitution. The house took a similar action yesterday. The vote in the senate was 25 to 2. Senator Sinton speaking for the measure said it would do much to equalize taxation, making it possible to force the rich to bear their share of the burden of taxation.

Lawmakers to Eat and Drink.

State Capitol, Salem, Jan. 18.—All arrangements are complete for a banquet by the board of trade to the legislators tonight. Other prominent men will attend. Plates will be laid for 200 and Senator John Carson will be toastmaster.

Has Narrow Escape.

Jack McCarthy is today congratulating himself that he was not cremated last night, while asleep at his home at 2104 Third street. Before retiring for the night, McCarthy placed an oil heater at the foot of his bed and after he had become sound asleep the bed clothing caught on fire from the heater and burned fiercely. Mrs. J. Nibler and daughter, who reside next door, were attracted by the howling of a couple of dogs which were locked in the house and by the flames through the window of the bedroom. They immediately raised the alarm and the fire was put out by water carried in buckets and cans.

Little damage was done except the ruining of the bedding and the curtains in the room.

WHO SENT EAST FOR THE GERM TO INOCULATE GROUND SQUIRRELS

If This is Known, Some Light Will Be Thrown on the Cause of Wallowa County Coyotes Going Mad

Who sent east for germs to infect the ground squirrels in Wallowa county?

Answer this question correctly and you will have conferred a lasting favor on the people of Eastern Oregon. To a great extent will have solved the mystery surrounding the coyote situation which is now not only claiming the attention of the county and state officials, but that of the federal government as well.

Since rabies have appeared among the coyotes of Wallowa county all sorts of stories have been started as to the origin of the disease. State Veterinarian W. H. Lytle has made several trips into the extreme locality regarding the mad coyotes. On one occasion he went in by way of Lewiston to a ranch on the state line where a mad coyote had been operating. The trip was so long and required so much time that by the time he reached the ranch the mad coyote had been killed and everything that had been bitten by it had also been killed and buried.

On another occasion he entered the country around Flora, where it was reported that a mad coyote had bitten two dogs, sheep and hogs. He took two dogs which had been bitten to Portland to await developments, but neither of them showed signs of rabies. The hogs, however, went mad and so did a sheep which had been bitten by the same coyote.

But What is the Cause?
According to the men of medicine rabies do not occur without infection. Then, how did the coyotes in Wallowa county become infected?

A theory has been advanced that last summer Ringling Brothers circus in touring California spread rabies all over that state; that diseased animals have worked north until they reached Wallowa county. But this is scouted at by a great many and a closer cause seems to be probable.

Developments Occur Here.

Yesterday there was a committee of strangers in La Grande. It was found that some of them live in Paradise valley in Wallowa county and that they are extensive stock raisers. They were here to follow a clue, in all probability that has been traced from an eastern laboratory.

While it was impossible to get any of them to talk to any extent, it seems that some residents of Wallowa county had been bothered with

squirrels. There was a desire to exterminate the pest and to this end an order was sent east for rabies to infect the little animals so they would bite each other and thus cause death.

After giving this infection to the ground squirrels for some time with satisfactory results, it was discovered that coyotes were showing signs of the rabies. The coyotes had eaten the infected squirrels and thus acquired the disease. The movement had some past recall and the only thing for the promoters of it to do was to remain silent, which they are doing, according to what can be gained today. The committee from Paradise is trying to unearth the whole affair and ascertain who it was that sent east for the infection.

Mad Stone a Joke.

When Dr. Lytle was asked why he did not send back to Missouri for a gross of mad stones he laughed. "Don't you know that a mad stone is merely a relic of superstitious days. There is no merit in such a stone and there never was. But speaking of mad stones," he continued, "reminds me of the time when I was coming out of Wallowa county with the two dogs which had been bitten by the mad coyote. I met an old gentleman who ascertained my mission and he wanted me to get a mad stone. When I told him there was none available in this northwest country he thought there should be, for the old fellow stoutly proclaimed that a mad stone came from the stomach of a deer and therefore this country should be full of them."

Will Fight It Hard.

From the way the state and federal government are taking hold of the coyote matter, it would seem that a hard fight will be put up to exterminate the mad coyotes. Stockmen are living in daily fear, however, for they have no way of telling how many of their herds have been bitten.

GRANDMA CLARK VERY ILL

Aged Lady Has Symptoms of Pneumonia, It is Said.

One of the pioneer characters of La Grande, Grandma Clark, is reported very ill today at her home in South La Grande. Physicians say indications of pneumonia show in the case, but the hope is entertained by all that she may be spared a campaign with this dreaded ailment.

DELAYED.



—McBride in St. Louis Republic.

WILL INVESTIGATE THE CAUSE

Government Organizes Board of Inquiry At Once.

Washington, Jan. 18.—Although there is hardly hope that the real cause of yesterday's explosion on the Delaware will be ascertained, the government today began organizing a special board of inquiry.

Commission Delays Action.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The interstate commerce commission today decided to postpone until March 15th the effectiveness of the increased rates on western roads.

Motion Filed for New Trial.

Attorney Chas. Cochran, counsel for Jess Parker, yesterday filed a motion for a new trial in the case of Jess Parker, convicted at the last term of court of killing his father-in-law, William Porter. New evidence has been brought to light by the finding of Henry Worthan, who, it is said, is the man that saw off the barrel of the gun that was found in the road where the shooting occurred. The motion will not be argued until the return of District Attorney Ivanhoe, who is now in Salem.

DEATH SENTENCE PASSED

PLOT TO ASSASSINATE MIFADO IS LAID BARE.

More Than Twenty Anarchists Convicted of the Crime.

Tokio, Jan. 18.—Death sentence has been passed on twenty-four of twenty-six anarchists today who were convicted of a plot to assassinate the Mikado. Two were given long prison sentences, but it is believed some of the others will be pardoned.

When sentence was passed upon Kotoku and his mistress, Kanno, each calmly bid the other goodbye and then farewelled fellow companions. Following this all began shouting devotion to their principles and the outburst was only stopped by officials acting severely. While the government generally dubs the band as anarchists, the public looks upon them as socialists. Kotoku imbibed his socialism in America where he lived for six years.

BASKET BALL FRIDAY

Summerville to Play the High School in Their New Gym.

Summerville will have the distinction of being the first opponents of La Grande High after their occupancy of the new building. The first game of basket ball will be played next Friday evening and all indications point to a very close contest. Manager Neubauer has reason to expect a large crowd and unless for some unseen reason the game will well warrant a large attendance, besides the additional feature of its being the first game in the new building.

EXAMINATIONS TOMORROW

Last Two Days of Week Taken Up With Mid-Winter Examinations
Thursday and Friday of this week will be the period devoted to examinations in the schools of La Grande. The students have been burning the midnight oil for some time to be prepared for the tests that will be put on their intellectual development during the past semester. Next Monday the second semester begins and new starts will be taken in the various branches of study.

Dr. Hubbard Returns.

After a visit of several weeks with relatives at Soda Springs, Idaho, Dr. Hubbard has returned to the city and resumed his practice. He reports the Idaho country all right, but he is glad to be back in the Grande Ronde valley.

LODGE WINS HARD FIGHT OF HIS LIFE

RE-ELECTED TO UNITED STATES SENATE TODAY TO SURPRISE OF MANY.

INSURGENTS ARE DEFEATED

Generally Admitted that Lodge Would be Re-elected but His Opponents Failed to His Support and He Felled Through with 146 Votes When Only 141 Votes Were Really Necessary Prominent in Senate for Years.

Boston, Jan. 18.—Henry Lodge was re-elected United States senator today. By claiming this victory he has won the hardest battle he ever fought during his long political career. When the vote was counted Lodge had 146, Sherman Whipple, democrat, 125, Ames, flyer, scattering five. Necessary to elect, 141.

Since so many of the old guard had fallen before the onslaught of insurgency this year it seemed fair to believe that Lodge would also go, for he is one of the stand pat republicans in the senate who has been a great factor in national affairs for over fifteen years.

Carrying the personal animosity of Governor Foss, with an ambitious congressman by the name of Ames cutting into his strength at every opportunity, all of which opposition was backed and stepped in the insurgency wave Lodge cleared the decks in his state and engaged in what was almost a hand to hand conflict for his old seat in the senate.

While he was antagonistic to many Roosevelt ideas, yet the ex-president was a strong friend and plead for his re-election.

Iowa Failed to Elect.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 18.—On the first ballot for United States Senator today republicans were divided. The vote stood: Porter, democrat, 53; Young 32; Funk, 21; Kenyon, 22; Byrs, 14; Garst, 6; Feeley 7; Frak, 2.

PETTY THIEVING REPORTED

ALL PARTS OF THE CITY SEEM TO BE INFESTED WITH THIEVES.

Coal and Wood Grabbed After the Sun Goes Down, is Claim.

That La Grande is to get a reputation for being infested with petty thieves seems certain, if the present conditions are continued. According to reports from almost every part of the city petty stealing is going on, and the woodpile and coal bin are the principal goals for the night time worker.

In most cases people are not screaming their heads off about the loss of a little fuel, a few cans of fruit or other prepared foods, but if this keeps up the time will come when concerted action must be taken to rid the community of this unpleasant proceeding.

It is very common now for a man to be "panhandled" a couple of times on the way from the postoffice to his place of business by some of the army of unemployed who drift into La Grande. Although there seems to be a good deal of work; yet the unemployed increases almost daily, due largely to the fact that most of the travelers make for a division town before parting company with their favorite box car.