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As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked. . . Turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?—Ezekiel 33: 11.

STEALING FARMS

Erosion is annually taking twenty-one times as much plant food from our farm lands as the crops which are produced on them, according to H. H. Bennett, writing in the New York Times. He says:

"In America last year 3,000,000,000 tons of soil washed out of fields and overgrazed pastures. Fully 100,000 acres of farm land were made hopelessly poor. Under the normal price conditions this would have cost our farmers \$400,000,000.

"Our original wealth in soil has served to prevent any general realization that all land is not permanently fixed. Unrestrained soil erosion is rapidly building a new empire of wornout land in America—land stripped of its rich surface layer down to poor subsoil, and land gullied beyond the possibility of practical reclamation. This wastage of the nation's basic asset is speeding up.

"Three-fourths of the agricultural area of the nation is sloping enough to invite ruinous cutting away. Already more than 100,000,000 acres of the 350,000,000 in cultivation have lost all or most of the original top-soil.

"Bedrock has been reached in countless places and deep gullies have torn asunder millions of sloping acres. All of this has been abandoned; yet, all of it could have been saved.

"Probably no other nation or race has permitted such rapid depletion of large areas of its agricultural lands.

"We have looked upon our vast domain of agricultural land as limitless and capable of enduring forever. What are the menacing aspects of this evil of erosion?

"The area of the more favorable soils is steadily diminishing. Acreage yields are declining.

"Cultivation is more difficult and costly. Water flows across the impervious clay exposed by the stripping of the mellow, absorptive top-soil more rapidly to augment floods.

"Stream channels are silting up and overflows are becoming more frequent and destructive. Vast areas of extraordinary original productivity are being covered with infertile sand and gravel."

A LESSON FROM THE NAVY

Rear Admiral Bradley A. Fiske, U. S. N., who retired some years ago after long and distinguished service in the navy, believes that the republic as a whole right now is going through the same difficult sort of transition period that the navy went through in Admiral Fiske's youth.

When Admiral Fiske was a stripling officer, back in 1880, the American navy was composed largely of ships in which old-time sailors like Nelson could have felt quite at home; wooden sailing ships firing muzzle-loading smooth bores by broadsides, manned by men to whom steam power was anathema.

"Within a decade all that was changed, and with what difficulty," says the admiral. "The officers had to learn, or invent, rather, a new profession. The ships and guns had to be built, they had to be handled and a strategy for them had to be devised. A whole new method of thought had to be created. Do you see the analog?"

"That was our material improvement. We've had that in the country, too, now. We've gone from the little wooden ships to the steel monsters, literally and figuratively."

The parallel is a good one; and the way in which the navy accommodated itself to radically changed conditions may, Admiral Fiske believes, point a moral for the nation as a whole.

Those old-time navy officers, who, in Admiral Fiske's words, "loved their beautiful white sails and spotless decks, and could not bear the thought of smoke and machinery," are not unlike the modern politicians and business men who look back to the social and economic order of a by-gone day and wish to bring it back again.

Mechanical developments made a change in the navy as inevitable as the sunrise. The problem wasn't solved until the navy officers stopped wringing their hands over the decline of the old ways and set to work to bring the service into line with modern inventions.

Worthless information: Foreigners owe America, in private and public debts, about \$28,000,000,000. What are we bid for the lot?

TODAY IN BRIEF, IN AND AROUND OREGON

AS CHRONICLED BY THE DAILY LEASED WIRE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEGRO C. C. MEN ARRESTED ALBANY, Ore., July 14 (AP)—Seven negro members of the Quartzville camp, civilian conservation corps, in the Willamette national forest near Lebanon, were in jail here today as the result, police said, of a disturbance at the camp. Water Watkins, one of the workers, was charged with assault and the other six were held on charges of disorderly conduct.

Sheriff's deputies on guard at the camp prevented what they said threatened to be a riot. Seventeen negro workers were taken to the jail at Lebanon, where state troopers helped keep the men in custody. Ten of the men were later released.

JUDGE ROHNER BURIED BAKER, Ore., July 14 (AP)—Funeral services for Judge John Rohner, pioneer Baker valley resident, were held in the United Methodist church Thursday afternoon with a capacity congregation in attendance. Rohner, who was justice of the peace at Wingville for 20 years, died in a hospital here Tuesday. He was born in Herisau, Switzerland April 27, 1865 and came to the United States when he was nine years old.

ROAD CONTRACT AWARDED SALEM, July 14 (AP)—Award of the third unit of the Canby-Aurora-Brooks section of the Pacific highway widening project was awarded by the state highway commission here today to the low bidder, Northwest Roads company, Portland, at \$103,415.

WRESTLER KILLED HEPPNER, Ore., July 14 (AP)—Luna Costa (Billy) Severo, 240-pound wrestler of Kansas City, was killed Thursday when his automobile got out of control and overturned near Boardman. Walter Podolak, another heavyweight wrestler, of Syracuse, N. Y., riding with Severo, was badly hurt. The two had appeared on a wrestling card at Walla Walla the previous night.

Grande Ronde Valley News of Interest

Fleishman Fire—The number of neighbors who were busy with haying yesterday and had haying crews in their fields was possibly all that saved the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Fleishman in the Willowdale neighborhood yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Fleishman were at home alone at the time, and immediately after their dinner the fire was discovered around the kitchen chimney. Neighbors in the vicinity were called by phone and in less than ten minutes, 15 men were there, fighting the flames and that number was greatly increased in a short time. The damage was confined to the roof of the kitchen, which was completely burned off and a small damage from the water. The Fleishmans carry insurance with the grange, and the loss will be covered. It is stated, it was one of those fortunate fires for members of the family are confident the house would have been completely destroyed, had it not been for haying, as there are comparatively scattered neighbors in that vicinity.

To Baker—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grandy, of the Ladd Canyon district, drove to Baker recently to attend the funeral of Mr. Grandy's cousin, Charles Palmer Jr.

Visits Parents—Mrs. A. J. O'Donnell, of Duluth, Minn., is here visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Smalley, of the Moss Chapel district and with her sister, Edna Stonebreaker. Mrs. O'Donnell expects to spend about six weeks in this locality.

Returns Home—Mrs. Kenneth LaViolette and her baby daughter have returned to their home at the Cove from the Grande Ronde hospital. Mr. LaViolette is the principal of the Cove school.

Have Fine Trip—Mr. and Mrs. Ray Baker, who are

Get Up Nights? Make This 25c Test Use this easy bladder physic to drive out impurities and excess acids which cause irritation that results in leg pains, backache, burning and getting up nights. BU-KETS, the bladder physic, containing buchu, juniper, oil, etc., works on the bladder pleasantly and effectively, similar to castor oil on the bowels. Get a 25c box (5 grain size) from your druggist. After four days, if not relieved of getting up nights go back and get more money. You are bound to feel better after this cleansing and you get your regular sleep. Sold by Moon Drug Co. —Adv.

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ered a very helpful discourse on "Faith." The regular minister of the church had been out of the city the week preceding and was out of his pulpit.

In Dry Creek—Mr. and Mrs. Sid Vaden and their family, Josephine and Chase, are quite busy at their recently acquired ranch, the former Auclair ranch, in the Dry Creek neighborhood. The Vaden family were for many years prominent at Union where they have many friends.

Move to This County—That the North Powder district is attracting men who formerly farmed in that rich valley is evident by several recent moves. The depression, which really started in 1920 for the farmers, drove many from their farms to seek opportunities or work elsewhere.

Robinsons in Visit Here—Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson arrived in La Grande yesterday for a two-day visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Robinson, before going on to Portland tomorrow.

From California—Mrs. Gladys Hornish and two children and Mrs. Jack Radcliff, of Venice, Cal., arrived in the valley last week and will spend about a month visiting among relatives and friends in the section north of Elgin. Mrs. Hornish's mother, Mrs. Martha Cope and her brother, Ray Cope and other relatives, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Parks at Cricket Flat.

To Chicago—Dallas Norton, teacher last year at North Powder and well known in this valley, has gone to Chicago to take in the fair.

Elected Head—A. R. Shumway, of Milton, who has made frequent visits to this valley in the interests of the North Pacific Grain Growers, Inc., was re-elected president of the organization, at the annual meeting held at Spokane, according to word received here.

Until this year University of Iowa tracksters had never finished lower than sixth in team standings of the N. C. A. A. track and field meet.

Cricket Flat Grange—Members of Cricket Flat grange met for their regular session Saturday evening at the Highland school. One application for membership was presented. An invitation was extended by the members of the Rockwall grange to attend their meeting on Friday evening, July 14, at which time district deputy master, Charles Wicklander will present the pictures illustrating the four degrees of the order and will also conduct an officers school. The H. E. C. chairman announced that the next meeting would be held at the home of Mrs. J. E. Witherspoon Tuesday afternoon, July 18. The next regular grange meeting will be held Saturday evening, July 22.

At the Liberty—Zane Gray's twenty-eighth story to reach the screen, "Sunset Pass," comes to the Liberty theatre Saturday, with Randolph Scott, Tom Keene, Kathleen Burke, Noah Beery, Harry Carey and Kent Taylor playing the roles originally outlined in Gray's novel.

Among the dramatic highlights of the film are a raging prairie fire, consuming thousands of acres; the mad stampede of an enormous herd of cattle; and plenty of hard-riding and thrilling gunplay.

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We challenge the world to produce a finer and more luxurious face powder than the new Mello-glo. The new Mello-glo formula is the formula used by the most exclusive cosmeticians in New York and Paris.

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