

Crook County Journal.

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OUR NORTHWEST.

An Historical Sketch of Early Days.

The Early Settlements. Pioneer Days on the Coast With the Trappers and Indians.

The increased attention that is being directed to the northwest is shown in frequent editorial utterances of the large Eastern newspapers. Concerning President McKinley's trip to the Pacific coast and the unfortunate circumstances which compelled him to give up the trip to Oregon, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says:

The entire country will regret the affliction which has compelled Mr. McKinley to cut his tour at a time when only about a third of it was completed. In the case of the northwest this sympathy will be mingled with disappointment, although, of course, the disappointment will be lost sight of in the presence of sympathy. Historically, some of the most interesting portions of the country were still ahead of the president in the circuit which had been marked out. Mr. McKinley had already visited California's ancient capital of Monterey. He passed through part of the locality which saw, back in those memorable summer days of 1846, the raising of the flag inscribed with the star and the bear, in that "bar flag salute" which was designed to form the "Republic of California," preparatory to its annexation to the United States.

Mr. McKinley is still at an age which makes him one of the youngest of the presidents, yet the things which have just been mentioned, and many of the principal events in the history of the region which lies just ahead of him on the route which had been marked out for him to traverse, have occurred within his own lifetime. The great Northwest has become United States territory since his birth. What was called the "Oregon country" figured on the map for many decades before Mr. McKinley was born, but he was over two years old when, in the treaty with England in the days of Polk, it became part of the American domain. The Yankee skipper, Gray, discovered the Columbia in 1792, and Lewis and Clarke in 1815, sailed down from its headwaters to the Pacific. Astor put up his little fur trading factor at the spot which bears his name as far back as 1811. Wyeck, Kelley, Spaulding, Marcus Whitman, and many other Americans whose names are identified with the early annals of Oregon were in that country long before the president was born, but he is almost old enough to remember the day when England's joint occupation of it ended, and when, as undisputed American territory, the stars and the stripes were first raised over the region now comprising the states of Oregon, Washington, and parts of Montana and Wyoming.

If the president had been permitted to pass through the course which had been marked out before his affliction came, he would have seen many things which would

have revived his recollection of one of the most interesting chapters of American history. The map of the United States as it was at his birth in 1844 would look odd if placed beside the map of today. Not only did the earlier map not contain the region between the Rocky mountains and the Pacific, but Texas also was missing from it. Very nearly 1,000,000 square miles of territory in the far West, in the contiguous part of the United States was added to America's domain in the early days of Mr. McKinley's boyhood. This is about a third of the present area of the United States, exclusive of Alaska and the accessions of 1898. Swinging through the states of Oregon, Washington and Montana, on which he was to travel on his way east, he would have passed over territory ruled by England's Hudson's Bay Company until a time within the recollection of hundreds of thousands of persons still living. Ute, Sioux, Pawnees, Blackfeet and others of the fiercest warriors which civilized men ever encountered in the wild regions of the world held sway in the great northwest and along the country's northern border through a tier of states marked out in his itinerary as originally arranged, until long after he reached manhood's years. The names of Long, Lander, Bonneville, Stansbury, Fremont and other explorers would have risen in his mind as he rode through the country which they helped to bring to the world's attention. The names and personality of Kit Carson, Jim Bridger, John Colter, Jim Baker, Chief Joseph, Red Cloud, Sitting Bull and other white and red plainsmen and mountaineers would have gained concreteness and vividness for him as he swept across the vast expanses which they have made classic ground for all Americans.

Opposed to Pike or Pickerel.

Several commercial bodies in Eastern Oregon have made application to Master Fish Warden Van Dusen to have certain streams in that portion of the state planted with pike and pickerel. He was of the belief that the introduction of such fish would be detrimental to the salmon industry, and wrote to the United States fish commissioner about the matter. A letter has been received by him from Fish Commissioner George M. Bower, which reads as follows: "The commission is opposed to the introduction of wall-eyed pike, pickerel or any of the bass family in the streams along the Pacific coast, as it is believed it would result in serious damage to your important salmon fisheries."—Mountaineer.

Mail Letting.

The following extract from a letter handed us is self-explanatory: "I beg to enclose a letter from Hon. C. F. Stone, acting second assistant postmaster general from which you will note that an order has been issued, contracting with W. E. Claypool, of Sisters, to carry the mail on route no. 73,481, Garrison to Sisters and back once a week, including the delivery of mail into boxes along the route from June 1 to November 30 in each year from June 1, 1901 to June 30, 1902."

Very truly yours,
(Signed) JOSEPH SIMON.

OUR OIL FIELDS.

Baker City Company in Crook County.

Prospecting for Oil. Wells Will Soon be Spouting and Wealth Will Soon be Rolling In.

In support of the claim made by the JOURNAL that this county is rich in undeveloped resources we append the following from a Baker City paper.

There are good prospects of oil in Crook county, some little distance from Prineville, and already there are three companies from Baker City in the field looking for a suitable location where they expect the oil to flow in large quantities.

McNamara & Frame have been engaged to survey the government land, and Mr. Frame, who is now in that part of the state, writes that the outlook is most satisfactory to those who have put their money into the venture. Of course little is known regarding the matter at this time, more than that there are indications of oil, but the people are said to be considerably enthused, and the moment a strike is made there will be a rush for locations that have not already been preempted.

Sometime ago a prospector thought he saw signs of oil exuding from the ground and brought the matter to the attention of a number of people in Baker City. They engaged an expert from Kern county, California, and he made an investigation of the premises with the result that he reported favorably and advised the men to go ahead with the enterprise and bore for oil. The land will be located on and the companies now in the field will begin operations at once. Others are keeping a close watch on the developments in that part of Oregon and should the promised success be realized, it will be the scene of lively operations.

Light Plant For Burns.

Hon. H. V. Gates, of Hillsboro returned Thursday, from a trip to Burns, taking his departure early Friday morning for Shaniko via Mitchell, says the Blue Mountain Eagle. Mr. Gates made the trip to Burns to look over the field with a view of establishing an electric light plant and a new system of water works at that place. He found Burns so situated as to make it practical for the use of standpipes in the construction of reservoirs, which are in common use throughout the country. He looked upon the metropolis of our neighbor county as a good location for the establishment of both a lighting and a water plant, and will soon make the town a proposition that will likely be accepted. While in Canyon City Mr. Gates looked over the field with like view here, but found some obstacles that would prevent proceeding farther at the present time. Yet he was free to state that Canyon City and John Day offered an excellent field for an electric light plant.

Notice to Contractors.

A contract to cut and put up in stack 250 to 300 tons of hay will be let to the lowest responsible bidder for spot cash.
C. W. ELKINS,
Prineville, Oregon.

He Wanted The Place.

Some time ago the following advertisement appeared in the columns of an Astoria paper: "Wanted—Clerk in insurance office, with some experience in fire and employers' liability business; salary, \$480. Address, in own handwriting, stating age, past experience and where at present employed. X 69, this office." One of the replies received to the advertisement is worthy of publication, and is herewith given:

"I reply to your advertisement and beg to offer you my services. I have made a special study of insurance law in all its branches. In addition to my vast knowledge of insurance work, I converse fluently in many languages, among which I may mention French, Latin, Greek, Gum-Arabic, Boer, Germano, Sausage, Italiano (Gorgonzola), Billingsgate, Hindoo and Doodoo. I write shorthand (200 words), long-hand, left hand and right hand, and can write with both hands at once; thus getting through a vast amount of work in my working day of twenty-three hours. I am willing to devote my whole time to your services and give my life if necessary, if you will adhere to your generous offer of \$480 per annum. I am only 27 years of age, but feel quite capable of taking the position offered. If agreeable to you, my wife would be pleased to clean your office regularly without extra charge. My references are irreproachable; and if you consider my application favorably I would forward them to you per goods train. The cost of postage for your answer to me can be deducted from my salary."

Will Come to Oregon.

Governor Geer secured, or was the recipient of a good piece of news at San Francisco, Saturday. The president told him would he return to the Pacific coast, complete his tour and so visit Oregon before the expiration of his term. This promise allays much of our disappointment. In fact, it may turn out for the best. When the President comes next time, in 1902 or 1903, he will have more time, perhaps, and can be induced to stay longer in Oregon than his itinerary allowed him to do on the occasion. And we shall be somewhat greater and better Oregon to visit. The people of Oregon are obliged to the President for this promise, and he may rest assured that he will not be allowed to forget it.—Telegram.

Monday evening a number of happy young people gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Cohrs for the purpose of aiding Master Lester in commemorating the 13th anniversary of his birth. After several hours spent in games and happy converse refreshments were served. After wishing Master Lester many happy returns of the day the young folks wended their way homewards having spent one of the pleasant evenings of their lives. Those present were: Misses Bernie Morris, Maida Barnes, Irene Barnes, Beulah Hyde, Freda Lippman, Bernie Poindexter, Nellie Summers, Louise Summers, Stella Hodges, Georgia Hodges, Anna Solomon, Linnie Foster, Stella Young, Tom Ward, Dida Cohrs; Masters Horace Belknap, Wilford Belknap, Ralph Poindexter, Newt Poindexter, Edward Draper, Stanley Morris, Lawrence Hyde, Roy Foster, Sichel Heukle, Lester Cohrs.

GENERAL NEWS.

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There.

Some Stolen, Others Not

Cullings From Our Exchanges. News Notes of the Week. Timely Topics.

P. A. Harris, a prominent physician of southern Oregon, dropped dead on the road to attend one of his patients near Glendale May 30.

Sheepshearing is about completed in Wasco county and owners say that their fleeces are about 5 per cent lighter than last year. This is owing to the absence of dirt in the wool.—Mountaineer.

A systematic search for the remains of E. A. Starr, supposed to have perished in the Greenhorn mountains last November, was commenced Sunday, the searchers including people of Prairie City and Sumpter.

Sheepshearing is in full blast throughout the county. The wool is of excellent quality, being clean and of long staple, there being no breaks in the fiber caused by severe weather during the winter in Grant county.—News.

One of the largest mineral finds ever made in Eastern Oregon has just been made in Union county near the town of North Powder. The ledge is simply enormous being over two-hundred feet wide and can be traced for several miles.

Wagner post office, Wheeler county, has been discontinued, and hereafter the people of that neighborhood will receive their mail from Spray and Winlock. Wagner received about as much mail as the other two offices combined, but no one in Wagner would accept the office of postmaster.

One of Bach Bros. and J. A. Tiller came through Antelope bound for Prineville on their way to California with supplies for camp. They were overtaken by a waterspout on Trout creek, and barely escaped with their lives, says Tiller, but only lost a few things, such as a pup, a collar and a few articles of supplies.—Antelope Republican.

Most alarming reports come from the growing wheat fields of Washington county, says the Hillsboro Independent. One careful observer finds that on the north plain three straws out of five are tenanted by the Hessian fly in the larva state. It is feared that there will be no wheat harvested in the district affected.

A relic of "ye olden days" was found a few days ago in Calif Gulch by John Whelart, which is indeed a valuable one, historically. An old flint-lock rifle bearing the brand of Earnest, 1818, with the barrel cut off about 20 inches and the stock rotted off, otherwise in good condition, is this relic and it is thought was lost or thrown away by some member of the old Hudson Bay Co who was trapping in this country before the emigrants ever crossed through here. It is on exhibition at Robinson's store where everybody can see it.—Ashwood Prospector.