

SMALL STOCKMAN'S SIDE

A Reply to Mr. Lusk's Communication in the Oregonian.

The following communication, written by J. D. Fairman, of Malheur county, was clipped from a recent issue of the Oregonian:

"In your issue of June 21 I saw a letter from Mr. Lusk advocating leasing of the range. In your last week's issue I saw another letter from him, stating no stockman had presented any valid reason against the proposed measure. I have been asked to present the small stockman's side of the question, and with your permission will do so.

"First as to the much-talked of overstocking of the range. There are in Harney county 6,780,160 acres of land, of which according to tax roll of 1900, 54,457 acres are tillable land, of which the French-Glenn Company pay taxes on 105,931 acres and the P. L. S. Company on 82,689 acres. Deducting tillable land from total area. We have 6,725,703 acres of grazing on which (see tax roll same year) there range 78,876 head of cattle, of which 13,200 are assessed to F-G Company and 20,000 to P. L. S. Co., No. 10, 033 horses and 56,250 sheep. Now Mr. Lusk says in his first letter that his company pays taxes on every acre of land and every head of stock they own. The P. L. S. Company is a similar corporation, equally wealthy and I presume equally conscientious (and as they pay taxes on one head of stock to every four acres of land, while the ratio of the F-G Co. is one to eight, it seems a safe presumption), but the settlers (I know being one of them) are dead hard citizens, and no fonder of paying their taxes than the rest of the community, so we will double the number of their assessed stock, and with all possible apologies to Mr Lusk we will also double that of the companies; not that I doubt his statement at all, but simply that the advocate of the leasing system can have no possible objections to my figures. This counting 10 sheep equal to one cow or horse gives us 149,068 head of stock on 6,725,703 acres of land. Or 45 1-8 acres to each head of stock. For Malheur county, the figures are even worse. Total area 5,760,000 tillable land, 86,433; net pasture, 5,673,567. Cattle, 25,709; horse, 14,013; sheep 144,241. Applying same ratio for sheep to cattle, and doubling total results, as in Harney county, we have 108,282 head of stock on 5,773,567 acres of land, or 52 1-2 acres to the animal, an average for the two counties of 48 4 5 acres to each head of stock. If this be overstocking, better paint the map a desert and warn intending settlers to keep out. And while we are on the subject of acreage, I would ask Mr. Lusk, Secretary Wilson or any other advocate of the leasing system, how any small settler can lease, erect and maintain fences on nearly 79 acres of land to keep one cow during the nine favorable months of the year and then provide feed and shelter for three winter ones beside. And, understand me, I neither assert nor admit that there are this many stock in the counties. I simply put it so high that even Mr. Lusk must admit I have overestimated their number.

"Next as to the social aspect of the two systems. Take for instance the Island Ranch of the P. L. S. Co. This is a big hay ranch, situated in the forks of the Silvies river, below Burns. Mile upon mile, far as the eye can see, is one vast meadow, in the midst of which surrounded by a few outbuildings stands a large, white house, looking lonely and desolate as a coral island amid an ocean of waving grass. But go to the eastern end of the meadow, only a wire division fence marks the ending of the ranch. On the other side of every quarter section stands a comfortable farm house and outbuildings, the fields are dotted with the settler's cattle, and in the midst of the ranches stands the thriving little town of Lawen, with its stores and hotels, blacksmith shops and livery-stables, and close at hand a big white schoolhouse. Which is the most pleasing picture, the more profitable for the large and the country in particular, the vast lonely ranch or the thriving settlement? Turn to the census returns, and see the stationary condition of Harney county, dominated as it is by large companies, and the healthy growth of the Malheur county, controlled by small stockmen. I have not the figures by me, but if you will publish them they will bear out what I say.

Continued next week.

The Supreme Court of California has ruled that if work is resumed on mining location but not completed to the amount of \$100 before the first of January arrives which forfeiture would occur, the claimant by continuing the work into the new year, and working continuously until the \$100 value of work is completed, protects the claim against forfeiture. It is not required that assessment work continuous, as contemplated by the statute. The work so performed, however, is only valid for the year it was completed.

Indecency in marriage is one of those offensive things of frequent occurrence which mark the decline of virtue in luxurious times. Roman annals are full of them. Our own time furnish many of these instances of the prostitution of marriage. Here for example, is an old fool, Flagler, one of the Standard Oil magnates, past seventy years of age, who has married a young fool Kenan, to whom Elagler's wealth is attractive. The grievance of the public is that the news reports takes notice of it. Flagler owns all the east coast of Florida, from St. Augustine to Miami, some 300 or 400 miles. He owns land and timber and railroads, and great hotels at every station. The legislature of Florida, his obsequious servant, passed a law at his dictation or purchase to enable him to get rid of his old wife, who had become insane. Now he marries a young wife, and the country must be told of it. Youth wedded for money to the palsied old is not an inspiring spectacle, even if the old man's special train in care of youth and vigor, did make sixty miles in fifty-five minutes.—Oregonian.

A preacher, raising his eyes from his sermon, was paralyzed with amazement to see his little son in the gallery pelting the hearers below with horse chestnuts. But while the good man was preparing a frown of reproof, the young hopeful cried out: "You 'tend to your preaching daddy; I'll keep 'em awake."

Hamilton Stables

and Redby Feed Barn.

Stock boarded by day, week or month. Fine saddle horses and livery turnouts. Rates reasonable. Good accommodations.

Remember us when in Prineville, and we guarantee that your patronage will be appreciated and deserved.

P. B. DOAK, Proprietor.

THE DALLES Street Carnival

And 13th Annual

Second East Oregon District Agricultural Society

TO BE HELD AT

The Dalles, Oregon,

...SIX DAYS...

SEPTEMBER 30th - - - OCTOBER 5th

Positively the Biggest and Grandest Attraction Ever given in the Inland Empire.

There will be many Special and Rare Attractions every day, worth hundreds of miles of travel to witness.

\$1500 will be distributed in PREMIUMS for Stock, Agricultural and Art Exhibits.

Five Days of Good Racing

On the track] completed.

Several Thousand Dollars will be given in purses for Trials of Speed.

Special Rates will be made on all transportation lines, and ample accommodations are assured for the thousands who will visit this splendid Fair.

Remember the Dates and take advantage of the low rates; visit The Dalles and see the combined big attractions. For particulars a free J. S. FISCH, Secretary, The Dalles, Or.

This Space is Reserved for Ed Harbin's

New Planing Mill

—AND—

Bicycle Repairing Shop.

South End.

PAINT YOUR FLOORS

—WITH—

RUBBER CEMENT FLOOR PAINT DRIES QUICKLY WEARS LIKE IRON

Send for Color Cards to W. P. Fuller & Co., Portland, Ore.

CHAMP SMITH.

ISOM CLEEK.

SMITH'S RECEPTION.

Wines, Liquors, Domestic and Imported Cigars.



The Celebrated A. B. C. Beer Always on Hand.

Proprietors of the Prineville Soda Works.

Two Doors South of First National Bank.

PRINEVILLE, ORE.

Prineville Planing Mill.

John B. Shipp, Proprietor.

Manufacturer and dealer in all kinds of rough and dressed lumber, shingles, brackets, mouldings, turning and band sawing. House Finish made to order.

Agent for Rambler and Ideal Bicycles and Sundries.

Mill opposite Prineville Flour Mill.

Yard, 24 St., opposite I. O. O. F. Hall

Prineville, Oregon.

A. H. Lippman.

Furniture and Undertaking...

Carpets, Matting and Linoleum, Doors, Windows, Glass, Paints, Oils, Tar, Building and Carpet Paper, Ser'n Doors and Screen Wire.

All kinds of Lumber.

Remember, I deliver in the city

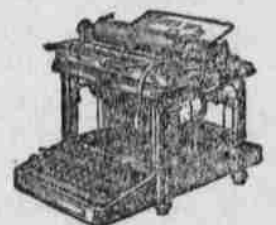
Rough Lumber, per 1000 \$12.00

Flooring and Rustic 25.00



Coast Agency Co.

Pacific Coast Agents for Jewett, Sholes-Remington and Oliver Typewriters.



Expert Repairing.

Platens and parts for all machines. Duplicating goods and office supplies of every nature. Rubber stamps and seals a specialty. Write us. Long distance phone in the office.

266 1-2 Stark St., opposite Chamber of Commerce, Portland, Oregon.