

SMALL STOCKMAN'S SIDE

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

Concluded from last issue.

"As to the bloodshed of which Mr. Lusk makes such a point, he speaks merely from hearsay, for we have nothing of that kind in this section. Some years ago when the sheep and cattle war was at its worst, the papers were filled with the doings of one particular band of sheep, the owner, the herder and several cowboys were killed, and Snow mountain ran red with the blood of slaughtered sheep. The sheep were headed for Malheur county, and I being stock inspector at the time, with considerable interest went to meet the noted band at the county line. The owner, a Portuguese, was a very healthy looking corpse, the herder (a cripple) had been with the band since they started, and looked none the worse for his trip; some half a dozen sheep showed the effects of bullet wounds and eight had been killed. Now if the worst case on record has for a foundation \$10 worth of sheep killed, what must the minor ones be? This was the only band reaching here in the three years I was inspector which had had any trouble, and I firmly believe that had they not been owned by a Portuguese and herded by a cripple, they, too, would have come through unharmed.

"If the leasing system is so good for Oregon, why don't Mr. Lusk get some corroboration from his own state instead of going to the Antipodes for it and if it is the unmix-ed blessing for Australia Mr. Lusk would have us believe, why have the sheep decreased \$4,000,000 in nine years as shown in June Crop Reporter? And it was most unkind of the Oregonian to follow Mr. Lusk's letter with the Carpenter articles, with their accounts of sheep farms as large as the New England States. That wasn't what Mr. Lusk wanted to prove at all.

"Many people cry over the ruined range. They should remember that the famous grass land of 20 years ago are the famous wheat fields of today, and that the stock industry is now crowded back into the rimrocks, the sage brush and the desert. We do not pretend that the present system is perfect. We are simply doing our imperfect best on a very rough and rocky range. We understand perfectly that our reign here is only temporary, that the homes we have built and the ranches we have made will pass into the hands of others, when we shall go our various ways and our place knows us no more; but the welfare of the state demands we should be succeeded by smaller farms and better methods, and not by a renewal of the conditions we are supplanting. I have no personal fight with the companies. I have always found them honorable on the range, and most courteous and hospitable on their ranches, but it would be infinitely better for the state if their larger holdings were cut up into small farms, and it is a shame that anyone out side of the interested parties can be found advocating a system which would turn the greater portion of Southern Oregon into an outlying cow camp of a California cattle company.

"Mr. Lusk says that the small stockman will be fully protected, but what representation have we on the committee formed to draft the bill, and why the gentleman from Boise? There are no government lands in the state! And what must be the wisdom of a committee that can devise a plan that will work equally well on the luxuriant grass lands of Montana, the cactus plains of Arizona, and all the intermediate stages between the two?

I see many of our Senators think the time has arrived to turn the remaining land over to the various states. If this leasing system is necessary for some states, would not this be an opportune moment for the change? Could they insert some "option" clause, giving the various states control over their grazing lands, that they may frame some measure suitable to their particular conditions? If this could be done, the vote in Harney and Malheur counties would stand 19 to 1 against leasing.

"As for the irrigation part of the scheme, it is the most pitiful bait ever cast for suckers. After the office expenses, and cost of policing the range and enforcing the law are taken out of the rent money their will not be enough left to irrigate a Chinese garden"

Hon. Binger Hermann, Commissioner of the General Land Office, is in Oregon taking a much needed vacation. When interviewed in regard to the creation of more forest reserves, Mr. Hermann said: "No, I do not think there will be any more additions to forests reserves soon. The present law is so shamefully abused, and the Government is so shamefully imposed upon that it seems to us no more reserve should be made until the law shall be changed so as to require indemnity sections to be of the same value, approximately, as the base surrendered. In all these exchanges now we require the selections to be made when the base is surrendered. This makes a cleaner transaction and avoids the criticism that lies against the method of accepting base and leaving the lieu selection for settlement at some more convenient time."

Cattle for Sale.
I have for sale 200 head of stock cattle. About 75 head of cows with calves, balance young cattle. Address or call on me at Prineville, Oregon.
S. R. SLAYTON.

SUMMONS.
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE State of Oregon for Crook County.
The State of Oregon, Plaintiff,
vs.

W. A. Booth, Administrator of the Estate of Elias Davis, deceased, and all heirs of said deceased, if any there be and all persons interested in said estate, Defendants.

Now at this time is presented the information in the above entitled cause of Frank Menefee, District Attorney for the Seventh Judicial District of the State of Oregon, for which it appears to the court:

That Elias Davis died in Crook county, Oregon, on the 17th day of August, 1900, intestate and without heirs, leaving property therein described as follows:

N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 18, T. 16 S. R. 18 E. W. M., E $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 13 T $\frac{1}{2}$ S. R. 17 E. of W. M., all in Crook county, Oregon; containing 480 acres of land of the value of \$2500.00, 24000 pounds of wool of the value of \$1750.00 and cash now in the hands of W. A. Booth, administrator of the estate amounting to the sum of \$5234.32, and all of said property being of the value of and amounting to the sum of \$4984.32.

That W. A. Booth is the duly appointed qualified and acting administrator of the estate of said deceased and as such has the possession of all of said property; that the state of Oregon has right by law to all of the property of said deceased.

Now therefore, IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You the said defendant, W. A. Booth, administrator of said estate and all heirs of said Elias Davis, deceased, if there be any, and all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified and required to be and appear in the Circuit Court room in the county court house in Prineville, Crook county, Oregon, on or before Friday the 20th day of October, 1901, then and there to show cause if any there be, why the title to all of the property belonging to the estate of said Elias Davis, deceased, and the hereinbefore described property, should not vest in the state of Oregon.

Dated at Chambers in The Dalles, Oregon, this 11th day of September, 1901.
W. L. BRAIDSHAW, Judge.

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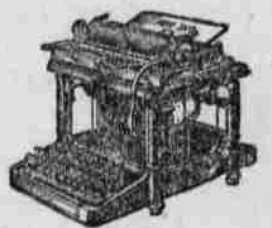
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