

Crook County Journal.

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COMING NORTH

Railroad Will Reach Lake County.

N-C-O R. R. Company

Appearances indicate that South-eastern Oregon's Trade Will go to Frisco.

The following appeared recently in the Oregonian: President Charles M. Sain, of the Oregon Potash Company, writes from San Francisco a personal letter to a Portland stockholder in the corporation, saying that he has made a deal with the Nevada-California-Oregon Railroad Company for the extension of its line from Termo, Cal., to Summer and Aber Lake properties," says the letter. "and will extend their line northward to the lakes, I have the contract for the railroad in writing and I have every reason to believe it will go ahead. They expect to reach the property next year, or at least as far as Lakeview. This, of course, means a great deal for the development of Southern Oregon. It may also lead to the Dalles. I tried to interest the Columbia Southern, but they were slow. They might have had the same layout the N C O has and it would have been a good thing for Portland. It would still be a good thing for Portland to have the Northern line build.

The Nevada-California-Oregon Railroad starts from Reno Junction on the Central Pacific railway in Nevada, 306 miles from San Francisco, and runs northward, crossing into California and terminating at Termo, which is 130 miles from Reno. Eighteen miles of new line are under construction between Termo and Madeline, and it is said trains will run on this extension before the end of this year. From there the distance to Abner Lake is about 120 miles, and to Summer Lake it is 30 miles farther. About half way between Madeline and Abner, on the direct line, is the town of Lakeview Or. Which has a large trade from the upper Goose Lake Valley and an extensive agricultural, grazing and mineral region in Southern Oregon.

This road is of narrow gauge and all the traffic going over it to the outside market must be transferred into standard-gauge cars at Reno junction. This adds to the cost of transportation. For many miles from Reno it passes through a country that yields almost no local business. It gets into a productive country only after crossing the range into California, and the country improves toward Oregon.

Hitherto that region has been known almost exclusively as a stock country. Lack of transportation facilities prevented the development of general farming, there being only the local market to supply. Horses and cattle and sheep could carry themselves to market, and the grazing interests thrive. It is a famous horse country. The region produces such uncommon minerals as borax and carbonate of soda in abundance. It is estimated that there are 30,000,000 tons of salts at Summer and Aber lakes. Since carbonate of soda is

worth \$26 per ton in San Francisco and potash \$130 per ton, it is evident that these commodities alone would be profitable business for a railroad penetrating that county. Not only is the available quality large but the price makes a high-class freight, the kind that enables a railroad to pay dividends.

Ancient Mail Routes.

Editor JOURNAL: It seems that there is always some way to attempt to beat the laws of the postal department in regard to the bidding of eastern men on the western mail routes. The Department has ruled that all parties who bid on these routes must live on or contiguous to the routes on which they bid. In the face of this ruling Mr Travis, of Salt Lake, represented by E H Beggs of Boise City, Idaho, who came to our little town of Prineville and got in with P B Poindexter, of the Poindexter Hotel, and got him to put in bids on all the routes that leave this town, except the Prineville and Mitchell route, and they had a bid on it at the Mitchell end of the route. Now I ask all reasonable, thinking people what is his object? Is it a money consideration? If so is there much money in it for a hotel keeper? Now there are plenty of local bidders here who want these routes and who are willing to do the work for just and reasonable wages. Why is it not better for the country, and is it not more satisfactory to the postal department, yes to the business men and to the people at large for the local bidders, who live here and spend their money here, to have these routes?

JOHN ELDER.

Proprietor of the Sisters-Prineville stage.

Another Big Enterprise.

A movement is on foot for the reclamation of 100,000 acres of the semi-arid land of Harney county, Oregon. The Harney Valley Irrigation Company has been formed for the purpose, and has expended several thousand dollars in making preliminary surveys. About half of the land in the Harney Valley is vacant government land, and the improvement company has made application to the state land board to have all the land in that vicinity set aside as an irrigating district, under the Carey irrigation act, which allows the state to furnish water for irrigation purposes on government land and then sell actual settlers the land for the cost of placing it under irrigation. This movement is opposed by the Pacific Land Company, who have the use of thousands of acres of government land for grazing privileges by reason of their having title to about an equal quantity in that vicinity. The water for use on these lands will be obtained by the construction of large reservoirs in the heads of Silver and Silvies Creeks.—Public Land.

Tacoma Bank Closes.

A Tacoma bank, the Metropolitan, has closed its doors because of a misunderstanding on account of depositors. The bank was the depository of the school children of Tacoma who had deposits amounting to \$10,000, though they are secured by a bond. To all appearances the bank was solvent, and will be able to pay all its deposits amounting to \$500,000.

ANTI-LEASING

Stockmen of Lake County Are Interested

Watch-Word Organize

North Warner Stockmen Have Set Example for Other Organizations

The Harney county press republish from The Examiner the resolutions passed by the North Warner Anti-Land Leasing Association of this county and are joyful that Lake county has at least got into line. North Warner should not be the only precinct in this county to form an association against the leasing proposition. Every precinct should likewise get into line. What is the matter with our neighbors of Paisley, Summer Lake and Silver Lake? And we might add, what is the matter with Lakeview, the headquarters of a large number of small stockmen? Should the stockmen of the north combine and form one association, and Lakeview, Crooked Creek and Drews Valley another, and South Warner another, with North Warner already organized we would have four. Then call one big meeting of the four organizations to select an executive committee which will begin active work in the campaign against leasing the public lands. The Examiner is of the opinion that this is the only way to make the work effective, and in order to do so every section in the county should organize for the purpose. There is no time to be lost in this matter, either. It should be done at once—before winter comes on, and the heavy snow interferes with the success of the meeting of all the local organizations. North Warner stockmen have set an example for other portions of the county to follow, which they should lose no time in doing. A trifling exertion on the part of a few anti-leasing men in each locality will insure the success of a complete organization in Lake county, and with an executive committee that fully understands what to do, and is alive to the issue, there is no doubt of the success of our cause, for with Harney, Crook, Malheur and nearly every county of Eastern Oregon in line and in opposition we can present a solid front to the enemy who seek to destroy our best industry and take from the American citizen the rights and privileges given him by the Constitution.

There should be no hesitancy in the matter, for it's a fight to the death the strong against the weak; capital against the poor man's heritage and small income. If they will it so the small stockmen of the West can stand as solid phalanx against this robbing scheme and defeat the purpose of the cattle barons with their millions by showing their representatives in Congress that they have God given rights that must not be molested and must be respected.

The ruination of the business of the small stockman, particularly in Lake county—and all of Eastern Oregon, we might add—means the ruination of the merchant and many other business men. The

Examiner would like to ask what Lakeview would be were the small stockman and rancher to go out of business? Is it not probable that in such a calamity there would be one merchant here instead of a dozen or more? The Empire of Eastern Oregon would become the cattle baron's paradise to be trodden only by himself and his vaqueros and his great herds. Think it over—Lakeview Examiner.

Wigle-Neims.

John H. Wigle, of Prineville, and May Neims, of Corvallis, were married on Tuesday, November 19, at 8 p. m., at the residence of F. M. Johnson, 1215 East Taylor street, Rev. William S. Gilbert officiating.

The above is from the Sunday Oregonian and refers to our esteemed townsman, J. H. Wigle. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents and was witnessed by about thirty relatives and intimate friends. Mrs. Wigle has been employed in the schools of Corvallis for the past six years and is highly esteemed wherever known. The presents were many and elegant. Mr. and Mrs. Wigle and daughter arrived Friday and will make their future home in their handsome new dwelling on First street as soon as it is completed. The Journal acknowledges a slice of delicious wedding cake for which the happy couple has our thanks. May their sun of happiness ever shine.

Would be a Public Calamity.

Commissioner J M Martin of Silver Lake, in discussing the question of leasing the public lands, says that if such a calamity should fall upon the country it would prove the utter ruination of the West, and particularly the insolated regions similar to the entire eastern part of Oregon. It would be a death blow to the business interests of Lake as well as adjoining counties. Mr Martin believes that all parts of Lake county should join with the Association formed North Warner, organize an association in each end of the county, and then have one big meeting to select a committee to take the question in hand and have it intelligently presented to Congress.—Lakeview Examiner.

Sensation at Walla Walla.

Walter Lingenfelder, editor of the Walla Walla Statesman, was horsewhipped Monday by Mrs Mattie Schumaker, a wealthy and beautiful society woman. Her husband, Walter Schumaker, assisted in this interesting operation by grappling with and holding the unlucky editor until his wife could satisfactorily complete the job. Lingenfelder and Schumaker had had a fierce fight a few days before, which resulted in a "roast" in the Statesman, and the sensational episode noted above. The feeling is very bitter, and other developments are expected to follow. The injured editor publicly accuses Schumacher of beating his old mother and compelling her to sign him her property. The Schumachers are worth \$75,000.

Nearly 125,000 head of horses and mules have been purchased in the United States by Great Britain for her army since October, 1900. The cost of these animals was about \$10,000,000.

GENERAL NEWS.

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There

Some Stolen, Others Not

Cullings From Our Exchanges
News Notes of the Week
Timely Topics

A. F. Shultz, of Jefferson, has taken the bid off the hands of J. Bronstein & Son for the purchase of the Eagle Woolen Mills at Brownsville and will move to that city and run the mills.

Professor Ackerman says that it has been decided to postpone the annual session of the Western division of the Oregon State Teachers' Association from the week between Christmas and New Years to the middle of next July, when it will be held in Eugene.

The Oregonian of Monday gives a description of the men who killed James Morrow recently in Portland. They were captured Saturday and have confessed. Their names are John Wade and W. H. Dalton, and the pictures that adorn the page of the Oregonian would do credit to the worst thugs in Christendom. They claim that they were laying for a wealthy gambler. Swift justice will no doubt be meted out to them.

It is not generally known that there are in the United States unutilized land to the extent of 600,000,000 acres. There are times when we are apt to think that the country is getting a trifle crowded, and we welcome the opening of little tracts of a few hundred thousand acres as affording opportune relief to a condition of almost dangerous congestion. But all Europe does not possess the area which is included in the arid region west of the Mississippi.

John W. Consideine left the King county court house shortly before 6 o'clock last Friday evening a free man. According to the verdict of the jury he was not guilty of the murder of Seattle's ex-Chief of Police William L. Meredith. The verdict was read in the court room at 5:35, exactly three hours from the time the jurors were locked up for deliberation. It was received by the defendant, his family, friends and counsel with every evidence of joy and relief. There was no demonstration of any kind from the big audience, the only movement being toward the doors.

While en route to the penitentiary the other day I. N. Moore, who was sentenced to one year for stealing brass from the O. R. & N. Co., gave his version of the transaction for which he is now serving time. He stated that he never stole a pound of brass; that it was stolen by another party, and that he, with the knowledge that it was stolen property, had agreed to haul it to town and deliver it to the junk dealer, Mathews, for which service he was to receive four dollars. When he saw he was caught Moore said he would not "peach" on the real thief, but would take the punishment inflicted upon him. His story may or may not be a fairy tale.