

Crook County Journal.

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NO. 48

A RABID LETTER.

All About Irrigation Matters.

It Scores Williamson.

Major Sears Aims His Views of The Situation in Crook County.

I ask the attention of my fellow-citizens to certain facts concerning the treasonable attack of Congressman-elect Williamson and his stockraising partners on the public interests of the state of Oregon. I refer to his Jesuitical machinations to defraud the state by preventing the settlement of the arid region, especially in Crook county, where the sheep and cattle of these men roam on free pastures, for which they are not paying the state or Nation one single dollar in return, and his robbery of the people through the public treasury by taking therefrom a bounty for coyote scalps to save himself and pals the cost of properly protecting their flocks and herds.

When a writer to the Oregonian returned from his trip to Prineville, made in the train of this man Williamson, some months ago, he told us, "the people here are opposed to irrigation." Although I had lately passed four months in the region referred to, between Prineville and the Upper Deschutes, and knew the statement to be incorrect, I had thought to let it pass, recognizing that the writer had been kept under the influence of and received his information from Williamson and his coterie of stock raisers; men who are personally interested in preventing the irrigation of all that vast territory, fertile beyond estimate, and closely tributary to the waters of the Deschutes river, and now occupied entirely as free cattle and sheep range by the men opposed to irrigation. But the continued assault of those men on the interests of the state, from the opening of Williamson's campaign to his shrewd organization of the "Irrigation Association," which he hopes to handle in the interest of himself and stock raising partners, for stealing pasturage from the state, has led me to lay before the people a fair statement of all the facts as I know them to exist and leave them to determine whether it is safe to intrust the irrigation work of a man who has personal profit to serve in robbing the state of a grand element of wealth, so long as he can keep us blind to his ulterior object.

These poachers on the public domain are wealthy men, living at and about Prineville, on the edge-vast plains, where their sheep and cattle range in free pasture, the property of the Nation. They are naturally opposed to leasing the land to men who are willing to pay for the feed of their stock, since it would force them to cease their practical system of quartering on the Nation's treasurehouse for the increase of their fortunes. They would be thereby forced to return to the people some part of the price of meats which they are now exporting from hungry men, without cost to themselves. Williamson is opposed to the acquisition of this territory by lessees who are willing to pay the state an income, because, as the thing now stands, quoted in the last sentence of the reported speech, "While these vast arid regions had better remain so indefinitely, the undeveloped heritage of all the people, than fall into the hands of large corporations," he can only enjoy the use of these hundreds of thousands of

acres for the free pasturage of his flocks and herds.

But, leaving for a moment the grotesque personality of this blooming patriot, let us look at irrigation under and by the Carey law as a business for the state, which has received an offer from the National Government of 1,000,000 acres of public lands lying within our borders, on condition of providing it with irrigation. This is the one condition of Oregon's ownership under the Carey act. The state of Oregon is not in condition to undertake so gigantic a work. It has, therefore, through Legislative enactment, provided a way by which it may contract with skilled men, who have the capital to build these works, and has agreed to protect them against loss by allowing them a lien on the income from the lands coming to the state, to be collected in small annual installments, with a fair margin for interest on the investment and profit. Now, after the state has selected its 1,000,000 acres, there are, according to Mr. Newell, the Chief of the Hydrographic Bureau, 2,000,000 acres left of arid, irrigable lands, on which the National Government may expend its money, leaving to the state just that additional amount of lands given to the state, which, it is supposed, will profit by about \$1.25 an acre, to be charged in addition to the amount paid the contractors for its irrigation. But of all the lands irrigated by National Government, not one acre, nor one cent of profit, comes into the coffers of the state. The state will profit solely by the settlement of those lands, for the colonization of which it must go into a grand system of advertising. This advertising, in the case of lands settled under the Carey act, must be done by the men who contract with the state to do the irrigation work. For only by the success of the state in selling the land can the contractor secure his pay. He is the party subject to risk, while under that dreadful act the state of Oregon can only gain, having been placed in position to be safe from any danger of loss.

The state has made contracts with men of reasonable character, who stand ready to execute their part of the bargain for the purpose and with the motives that lead all men into business transactions, namely, to make money. But they cannot own one acre of that vast domain; the Carey act protects the state and the people who settle on these lands. In the first place, not even the state can become the owner of the land until it has been irrigated and so approved by the National Government. After that it cannot sell more than 160 acres to any single purchaser, who must be a bona fide homebuilder. Under no circumstances do the contractors become owners of any part of the territory. The state concedes them a lien on the land for the collection of what the state has agreed to pay them for their work, with a margin for interest and profit on their outlay.

The contractor thus becomes an interested agent of the state, by every possible exertion to settle the territory on which he has built works and for which he is waiting to be paid.

The moderate installments distributed over a series of years will be assured by the certainty of crops under the influence of irrigation. This land will be redeemed from the piratical grasp of such men as Williamson and his pals, and become a source of wealth to the entire state.

Census bulletin No. 196 issued Continued on page five.

THE COUNTY NEWS.

Our Correspondents are Industrious.

News From all Quarters

Rain Has Been of Great Benefit to the Farmers all Over The County.

Ashwood Items.

Hon. C. M. Cartwright was in town a couple days this week.

U. S. Commissioner Max Luedeman, was in town Thursday attending to land business.

We have had a fine rain this week and it still rains. Everyone says "let it rain."

Rev. Hornbrooke will preach here at the school house, Saturday night and Sunday.

Bud Cram and Leslie Friday, prominent cattlemen from Cross Keys, were in town last night. They are gathering their cattle.

Alex Lehman, book-keeper at the sawmill, Jim Rice and Lyn Nichols, of Hay creek, were visitors in town this week.

Ed Eggleston and Billy Kelsay arrived from Shaniko yesterday loaded with freight for Irvine & Co. and others.

W. S. Thomas, superintendent of the Oregon King mine, who has been sojourning in Utah this summer is expected back in a few days. His numerous friends will be glad to see him.

Milo Wood and Frank Anderson are going to do the assessment work on the Dixie. This claim is an extension of the Dexter and is owned by J. W. Robinson and Milo Wood.

Frank Shambau, the veteran logger and freighter, arrived in town last night from the sawmill with two four-horse teams loaded with mining timbers. He discharged his cargoes at the lumber yard of J. W. & M. A. Robinson.

J. W. Robinson and Wade Huston returned from a prospecting tour on Thursday. During their trip they went as far as Shoofly. When asked what they found they looked wise and smiled.

Swanson and Finnell who had a contract to sink 100 ft on the Dexter group finished their work on Tuesday. The ledge has improved steadily from the surface down and everyone predicts that it will make a great mine.

PICK & DRILL.
Nov. 8th 1902.

Culver Cullings.

Plenty of wind and rain.

Mrs. Emily Cline, of Prineville, was trading in one of our stores Monday.

Several parties from near here have gone to Agency plains to do some plowing for a newcomer.

Ed Cox and wife have gone to the Mountains where Ed intends trapping this winter.

Mr. Moore traded for and purchased a nice lot of horses and started for his home one day last week.

The rain Thursday found several lumber haulers on the road with lumber which caused many to unload and come home empty.

Mr. Colver commenced to enlarge his store Monday. He will make it four feet wider and some longer and put a hall over his store for lodge purposes.

The Thanksgiving ball in Hahn's hall will be on Wednesday night Nov. 26, this will allow parties

who so desire to attend the ball at Prineville also. Good music and plenty of turkey. Come everybody and have a good time.

Mr. Killingbeck arrived from Shaniko with a load of fruit trees for this vicinity. Several parties are intending putting out extensive orchards.

News came one day last week that Ward Lamson, who taught school here last winter, died of typhoid fever in the Willamette valley where he had been clerking in a store. Father and Mother Lamson, who are getting old, have the sympathy of this community.

There is considerable sickness in this part of the country several cases of typhoid fever, two deaths on Monday one man by the name of Gillmore, who came to this part of the country about two months ago, and a girl who came here with her parents about two weeks ago, and were camped in a tent near Mr. Osborn's house. We have not learned their name.

HAYSTACKER.

JOHNSON CREEK SCHOOL.

Mr. Cox has rented the Birdsong place and is busy getting ready for the winter.

We have two new pupils in school, making 20 now in attendance.

Mr. Henry Stroud has been very sick during the week, but we understand he is getting better.

Mr. Watkins and son are camped out cutting wood. We do not envy them their fresh air these cold and frosty mornings.

Mr. Henry Beard, who has been tending camp for Mr. Wakefield, is taking a lay off with the intention of building a house. We didn't learn whether that was his only intention or not.

Mr. Ray will occupy Henry Beard's house for the coming winter, formerly occupied by Mr. Jones, while Mr. Jones will occupy the vacant house on Mr. Mark Powell's place north of Prineville.

Hurrah for Lamonta and the new school house! Others should follow the example. There are several districts in the county that need new school houses and more need to get rid of the old homemade back-breaking instruments of torture called seats, putting improved seats in their places.

THE COMMITTEE.

Thanksgiving Programme.

To be given at Union church Nov. 27, 1902.

Programme will begin at 6:30 p.m. National Hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee"

Invocation, Rev. Childs.
Song, America, Lizzie Ketchum.

Oration, Sammie Newsom.
Quartette, Roy Foster, Gertie Hodges, Ceola Smith and Birdie Morris.

Thanksgiving, Leola Estes.
Essay, Guy Lafollett.

Recitation, Hazel Howard.
Chorus, "Carve That Possum."
Recitation, Celia Neims.

Primary Song
Recitation, "The Girls Thanksgiving"
Violin Duet, Georgia Hodges and Winnie Cline.

Recitation, Van Brink.
Duet, Fay and Gertie Hodges.
Recitation, "Thanksgiving" Ruth King.

Song, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."
Everybody invited.

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NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There

Some Stolen, Others Not

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

Deschutes Project Must Wait.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—A. M. Drake, president of the Pilot Butte Development company, which has made a contract with the state of Oregon to reclaim a large tract of land on the Upper Deschutes river, under the Carey act, had a conference with interior department officials today, and urged them to take early action on the state's selection of the lands desired by him.

He was told that this selection, with others, is now under investigation to determine whether the land listed is arid and subject to reclamation under the Carey act. No report has yet been received, and until this is at hand, the secretary will not act.

State Delegates Named.

Governor Geer has appointed the following delegates to the Oregon Irrigation Association meeting to be held at Portland, November 18 and 19:

William Hall, Grant; E. E. Young, Multnomah; C. M. Idleman, Multnomah; Alfred F. Sears, Sr., Multnomah; J. A. Burleigh, Willamette; W. T. Wright, Union; George Chandler, Baker; Henry Ankeny, Jackson; W. J. Furnish, Umatilla; D. C. Ireland, Sherman; A. C. Palmer, Crook; J. Robins, Baker; W. R. King, Malheur; J. W. Virtue, Josephine; J. F. Adams, Klamath; Virgil Bonn, Lake; H. C. Levins, Harney; Ed Test, Malheur; Chas. Hilton, Wheeler; C. A. Minor, Morrow; George L. Dillman, State Engineer; C. A. Danneman, Gilliam; J. D. Lee, Polk; J. N. Burgess, Wasco.

Irrigationists Organize.

Last Saturday evening according to advertisement the people of this county met in mass convention for the purpose of organizing an association for the preservation of the arid lands of this county from wholesale grabbing and to aid the state organization to gain for this state the inauguration of government irrigation works at an early date. Permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers: M. E. Brink, pres.; G. W. Barnes, vice pres.; Wm. Holder, secy. T. M. Baldwin, treas. An executive board consisting of the following was elected: T. H. Lafollett; C. Sam Smith; C. M. Elkins, D. F. Stewart and J. H. Gray. The delegates to the state convention in Portland were instructed to support all measures tending to secure for Crook county the irrigation of her arid lands by the government. A letter from C. E. Lytle was read making an all round rate from Shaniko to Portland and return of \$7.10 for the delegates. A committee of three, consisting of W. A. Booth, W. A. Bell and John Combs, was appointed on transportation and the meeting adjourned. The constitution and bylaws of the association have been drawn up and nearly every man in this city and vicinity has signed them.

Idaho's Great Pig It.

One of the most agreeable results of the election was the victory for the republicans in the fair young state of Idaho. Ever since the silver craze started, it has been the

hotbed of political heresies. In the elections of 1896 and 1898 the republicans were overwhelmingly defeated. They scarcely possessed sufficient numbers for an organization. In 1900 they gained important grounds but failed to elect a state officer. During the period of populism, silverism, Couer d'Alene riots, Duboisism, and democracy the republicans lost both senators and the one congressman. The state's finances were corruptly managed, taxes became high, capitalists were afraid to invest money in mines or farms and the growth of the Gem of the Mountains was set back 10 or 15 years. The fight of the few faithful republicans has been long and hard and many sacrifices have been made, but the state was finally brought back to the old republican majority. No man has been more faithful, more earnest nor has accomplished more in the struggle than John T. Morrison who was elected governor. Twice he accepted the nomination for Congress when there was not a glimmering hope of election and canvassed his state for the "gold" republicans. He was state chairman for another campaign which must fail but which succeeded in keeping republicanism alive in the state. He deserves the honors he has won and will make a very able governor.—Pendleton Tribune.

MARRIED.

HELFRICH—WRIGHT.—Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 6, 1902, Mr. Benjamin B. Helfrich and Miss Ruth Wright were married in the parlors of the Poindexter Hotel, Judge Booth performing the ceremony.

The wedding was a very quiet one, only the immediate relatives of the two families and a few relatives of the two families and a few intimate friends being invited.

The bride is the pretty and popular daughter of J. W. Wright, of Howard, at which place she has grown to womanhood known and admired throughout Crook county for her pure, true character and charming disposition. The groom, the youngest son of John Helfrich, Sr., of Lamonta, is a Californian who has lived in this county but a few years but who has made many friends here who congratulate him on winning one of Crook county's fairest daughters.

The young couple were the recipients of many elegant wedding gifts from friends and relatives who wish to be remembered in the pretty home of the groom, "Lady-smith," near Lamonta, to which he took his bride the last of the week.

Those present at the ceremony were: Mr. Claude Wright, Miss Ruth Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Helfrich, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Miller, Miss Katherine Helfrich, Miss Ada Taylor, Mr. Frank Taylor, Dorothy and Ralph Miller.

Irrigation Week.

The Oregon Irrigation Association and the Oregon Bar Association meet in Portland, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 18 and 19. Reduced Rates on All Railroads.

Special Entertainment for All Visitors—Free theatre tickets; a ball or concert; a steamboat ride on the Willamette and Columbia rivers; an observation car ride over the street railways; a visit to the Portland Crematorium, to the \$1,000,000 Custom House, to the Public Library, to the 500,000 City Hall, the wheat ships in the harbor, to the rooms of the Oregon Historical Society and other places of interest.

An inspection of the Armory and Gun Drill by Battery A is to be one of the features of entertainment of visitors. A cordial invitation is extended to all to visit Portland in Irrigation Week.