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EASTERN OREGON.

An Era of Prosperity is Dawning.

Crook is First to Feel It.

Owing to its Advantageous Situation and Easily Controlled Waters.

A new era is dawning for Eastern Oregon, an era of prosperity, of improvement and of settlement. Its vast areas now used for pasturage are being located by the homeseeker, and the big ranges will soon be a thing of the past. Crook county, owing to its advantageous situation and easily controlled waters is the first to feel the effect of the coming change.

Heretofore it has been looked upon as the larger portion of Eastern Oregon, as fit only for grazing purposes. There never was a greater mistake. Its soil is of the best, and the deficient rainfall is all that prevented it being settled long ago. The irrigation projects now under way, and those contemplated, will supply this deficiency, and make it the greatest county in the state.

Few people realize the magnitude of Oregon. A few figures on Crook county will serve to convey some idea of it, and yet it is not nearly so large as either Malheur or Harney, and is at least equaled by Lake and Klamath, says the Portland Journal.

Crook contains in round numbers 10,000 square miles. It is eight times as large as the state of Rhode Island; four times as large as Delaware; double the state of Connecticut; larger than Massachusetts, New Jersey or Vermont and almost as large as Maryland. It had in 1900 a population of 3896, and at this date has probably about 4500. Massachusetts smaller by 1500 square miles, has a population of 2,846,670. Connecticut, half its size, has 900,000, while if the county were as densely populated as Rhode Island it would contain 3,500,000 people.

Clearly Crook county has not reached the limit in the line of population, and the vast area devoted to stock raising, and indeed, much of it devoted to nothing, indicates the wonderful advancement that may be permitted it. Its 6,400,000 acres of land having running over them, and supported principally by the natural pasturage, 12,000 horses, 22,000 cattle and 180,000 sheep. This would give to each animal 30 acres. Clearly there is room for another cow or two and a few more sheep. Today each man, woman and child within its borders has two sections of land to turn around in. There are 1,147 school children, and if this county was evenly settled, it would have one child of school age for every nine sections, or four to the township. With an average of 36 pupils to the school district, it would be 18 miles square. The ditches at present under way from the Deschutes and Crooked rivers, will put water upon 125,000 acres of as fine land as there is in the state, and land too, that at present is practically unproductive.

There are ideal lands for alfalfa growing, and that will be the principal crop grown on them, though it is not improbable that a large tract will be devoted to raising sugar beets. Crook county contains probably one eighth of the semi-arid lands of the state, and when it is remembered that Harney, Lake, Klamath and Malheur are even more sparsely settled than Crook, and each as large

or a larger area of irrigable lands, one can get an idea of the possibilities the future holds for this vast region. Besides the possibilities in the agricultural line, it also has one of the largest, and what promises to be, one of the richest mining sections in the world. This lies largely in Baker, Harney, and Union counties, but Crook county also makes a fine showing in the Oregon King and other mines at Ashwood, while the Ochoco mines also give promise of permanency and large values.

Crook county is certainly great in her resources and will be "Greater Crook" when all her resources are fully developed. Crook is one of Eastern Oregon's splendid possessions. Lake county however, appears obscure in the Journal's editorial. Possibly because Lake has never trumpeted her great achievements (if she has made any,) or for the reason that her citizens have been content to let her "win her way as best she may." A spirit of enterprise in developing resources and making them known to the world has been a failing of our county's people—an apathy that needs rejuvenating. Here is Lakeview, the capital of Lake, central point for business covering a territory of 50 to 100 miles in every direction—a growing city only by reason of its location—built up and sustained by the stock and farming interests, the queen city of South Eastern Oregon. Paisley to the north with its magnificent contiguous valley of the Chewaucan; Warner valley, one of the greatest of our valleys for stock raising, to the east of us, and New Pine Creek, in the center of the great Goose Lake valley, a town with many rich possibilities and to be made important with the advent of a railroad from the south. Lake county remains too much in obscurity. She is the peer if not superior to any big county east of the Cascades. Irrigation by public expenditure and a little more enterprise by our citizens, with the resources we now have in cattle, wool, sheep and horses, will give this territory the name that will be known the world over.

Wonder if the next republican chairman of the house postoffice committee will think it a good plan to jump on the editors of the county papers and the letter carriers at one and the same time. One Mr. Loud of California conceived this brilliant plan and is now a humble citizen in private life scratching around for bread and butter just like any other common man. The county editors are a power in their own right, but when reinforced by the boys in blue who carry our letters to our sweethearts, they make an army that can knock the spots out of any two by four congressman that ever hustled for votes. If Mr. Loud's successor questions this assertion the editors and letter carriers stand ready to carry conviction to his doubting heart at any old moment and don't you cease to remember it.—Boise News.

"I know what irrigation will do in our valley," said Mr. Fisher to the Baker City Democrat. "I had a 50-acre field in wheat for a number of years. It raised 30 bushels to the acre and upwards. Last year I thought the ground was getting thin, and decided to put in grass. This year I got two cuttings of 200 tons at \$4 per ton cash in the field. That was better than the wheat. I shall keep that field in grass a year or two. It costs only \$1.25 per ton to raise hay, cut and stack it.

OUR STOCKMEN MEET.

Supervisor Langille's Address.

Sheep In The Reserve.

Cattle Will Have Same Rights And Be Subject to Same Conditions.

On last Saturday a representative crowd of Crook county stockmen gathered at the courthouse at the appointed hour to hear what Mr. H. D. Langille had to say to them regarding the matter of grazing in the Cascade forest reserve. Promptly at two o'clock the meeting was called to order by T. H. Lafollett, president of the Crook County Stockgrowers' Association, and who then introduced Mr. Langille. After a few preliminary remarks he opened with his address, which dealt with the conditions now existing in the reserve, and with those in other reserves throughout the United States. He spoke at length of the government's intentions in the matter of grazing privileges, on the why of the reserves being set apart and that the government would not entertain any propositions for the reclamation of arid lands in those localities that are removed from the source of water supply, that the reserves have been created for the purpose of conserving the water supply and for the preservation of the primeval forests of the country. His talk removed any impression that may have been entertained that the general government had anything but the good of its citizens to heart in the matter of granting grazing privileges. Mr. Langille made a close inquiry into the conditions prevailing in the reserve last fall, when the sheep were removed to winter range, for the purpose of finding out whether there was room for more stock than had been pastured there during the past year. This inquiry resulted in establishing the fact that there was plenty of range for all the sheep pastured therein by Crook county men, but there does not seem to be any to spare until such time as trails are cut to some of the new inaccessible pasture grounds. This the government will do at the earliest possible moment and there is no doubt but that some of the sheep men will aid in cutting the trails in order to get to these grounds, which are said to be of the best in the reserve. Some of our people were crowded out of their allotment and had to take other range, which in some cases resulted in giving them as good or better than they had had allotted to them; others were crowded on account of conflicting allotments and by sheep men from the outside ranging their stock on the range allotted to our people. No trouble was raised by Crook county people who gave way to these outside sheep in order to prevent any trouble, or to have the matter reported to the supervisor, as they had been ordered to settle their differences among themselves and not to report the same to headquarters under penalty of having their range taken away from them and they forced to get off the reserve and keep off in the future.—This order was countermanded by Mr. Langille, who said that the department wanted all such matters reported at once, and if there was any collusion between the forest rangers and outside sheepmen that the rangers would be summarily removed from their position. He also stated that there were being radical changes made in the method

of appointing rangers for the reserve; that formerly it was supposed to be a picnic on a grand scale to get an appointment on the reserve force, as the appointee generally took his camp outfit into the woods and found a nice place alongside some little lake or trout stream where there was plenty of fish, with deer over in the swamp and grouse on the hills, and there he would stay for the summer, having a fine outing and drawing good wages from an over-indulgent government. These conditions are now so changed that in most cases the ranger is the hardest worked individual in the employ of the interior department. He also inquired into the conditions confronting the cattle men, who must have the summer pasturage on the reserve and said that certain portions would be set apart for their special use and that they would be subject to the same restrictions as were the sheepmen. He also recommended that stockmen should sow a little seed each year in such places as were not at present well stocked with grass. This, he said had been tried in many places with good results and it should be encouraged in all parts of the reserve. There are many places in the Cascade reserve, where a little seed scattered at the right time would in few years produce an abundant pasture where there is none at present and many thinly grassed regions would be made splendid pasture grounds. This will have to be done in order to get all the advantage of the summer range in the reserve.

Mr. Langille also spoke of the gradual reduction of the number of cattle and sheep in this county as the area of home pasturage decreased there would be of necessity a curtailment of the supply of stock to such an amount as could be supported with ease in the reserve in the summer, and by that time conditions would be such that there would be a definite series of lines established to the ranges and no trouble would be encountered by any one in the reserve, by overcrowding the range or by the overlapping of allotments as at present.

One ever present trouble in the matter of allotments is that there are some who will wilfully make a wrong description of the range applied for in order that they may overlap other parties and others describe the same range, but give different names to natural objects, which are now the only means of determining the boundaries of the different ranges. With the coming years some method will be devised to overcome this trouble and then there will be no necessity for mistakes, wilful or otherwise. Another matter that has caused more or less trouble in the past is the fact that the range follows the sheep and not the former allottee. In other words if Mr. A has a range in the reserve for 2000 sheep and he sells the sheep to B, he cannot hold the range as it goes with the sheep, nor can he buy more sheep and get the same range the next year if the sheep he formerly owned are still in the country and the owner desires to range them in the reserve.

Another point that was cleared up by Mr. Langille, was the fact that the sheepmen of this county had heretofore been laboring under the impression that lambs were sheep. The government expects the sheep man, who applies for range in the reserve, to take his shearing tally as a basis on which to make an application for range in the reserve; that is to say the lambs of the flock that are

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.

So far this season the Wisconsin deer hunters have killed six and wounded six of their fellows. Fortunately, most of the deer escaped.

Patent No. 1 for the Boy Mining Company of Crook county was received at the U. S. land office today, being the first mineral entry patented in the district.—Dallas Chronicle.

"Colonel" Tom Ochiltree is dead, and thus passes the unique and somewhat celebrated character. He was an entertaining body, but like all mortality he lasted but a little while. He gained some fame and considerable fortune, and let us suppose deserved both.

A San Jose capitalist who died this week bequeathed \$25,000 to a woman, who, as his landlady had been kind to him while he was sick. This is a hint to land ladies generally, and is another illustration of the truth that kindness pays in more ways than one.

The Los Angeles Express complains that the City Council recently raised the salary of patrolmen to \$100 a month, but pays the drivers of sprinkling carts only \$75 a month. But if Los Angeles is anything like Portland, as to precipitative weather, it hasn't much use for sprinkling-cart drivers now, anyway.

Government officials at Washington look upon Oregon with mistrust because of timber frauds and conflicting representations regarding forest reserves and the Cary land irrigation projects, and it is stated as doubtful whether any early action can be had on these irrigation schemes.

A company has been incorporated at Pendleton for the manufacture of fanning machines. They propose to put up a mill that is superior to anything before put on the market at a price one-half less than the present price of similar machines.

The prune crop of Oregon for the year 1902, according to men whose business requires them to know the size of the crop, will be in the neighborhood of 13,000,000 pounds. It is estimated that the entire crop sold for an average of 3 1/2 cents per pound to the grower or a total of \$487,500.

Freewater is now becoming known far and wide as the place for the thirsty. A great rivalry has sprung up between the two dispensers of liquor there. As a result the thirst of the "old toper" can be quenched for five cents. The best whiskey on the market can be purchased there now for that price.

Over in Washington they do things up in style. Prisoners are taken to the penitentiary in a special car, that is when there is a large enough crop of "cons" to justify. The Union reports the arrival of a special car at Walla Walla last Saturday with an invoice of 17 from King and Snohomish counties.

Pathological specimens from horses, of which nine died in an Eastern Oregon stable within a short

time were examined in the bacteriological laboratories recently. The ailment was found to be a kidney disorder, and prevented these organs from performing their usual function. As a symptom of the disease in cases where one kidney was badly affected, the body of the ailing animal on that side was constantly wet with perspiration.—Corvallis Times.

Charles Cunningham, of Pendleton, sometimes styled the sheep king of eastern Oregon, has sold his interests to John Garrison and Gus La Fontaine, well known stockmen of Umatilla county. In the deal are included 19,000 high grade sheep, 10,000 acres of farm and grazing land, 15,000 tons of hay 50 head of horses and a vast amount of farming machinery, vehicles and other equipments of farms and sheep camps. The consideration for the transfer of Mr. Cunningham's property was \$175,000.

Portland papers this week have been flooded with items and pictures about a big irrigation convention. The ditch has fairly run over until the whole state has been well wet down. So far as this valley is concerned no irrigation law is needed. We have all the water in our soil desired, in fact we often have too much, but we are a very unselfish people in the valley and put ourselves out to favor eastern Oregon. We have just seen the effects of this spirit in a scalp bounty bill that was of no earthly use to any part of the state but Eastern Oregon but we helped to pass the bill and did more than our share toward paying the taxes. We even came within an ace of sweetening the mess with a sugar bounty bill exclusively in the interest of Eastern Oregon. Well, the irrigation part is all right, but the others are very doubtful. As members of a state we must assist in building up all parts of it, but must draw the line against anything of a graft nature.—Albany Democrat.

Dutch Thanksgiving.

Probably no editor in the valley looks forward to Thanksgiving day with the zest displayed by the Salem Journal man. It is on this day when he has his great feast of spare ribs and sauer kraut, coming after a long fast and intense expectations. We make this statement coolly, realizing that we will invoke the resentment of the critic on the Dallas Observer.—Albany Democrat.

Sentence Commuted.

Governor Geer has commuted the sentence of John Campbell, who is serving a life sentence for the murder of J. L. Swearer in Crook county in 1896. Campbell has served six years and Governor Geer has commuted the sentence to 12 years. Campbell is well known in Linn county, where he was raised and has a number of relatives.—Albany Herald.

Struck By Albany Local.

Bradford Boynton, of Woodburn, was struck by the Albany local at 8:30 Monday morning, and so badly injured that he may not live for 24 hours. He was going over Young street crossing, and being quite deaf did not know of the close proximity of the train until it was within five feet of him, when he jumped, but was caught by the engine and thrown thirty feet. His skull, right shoulder, arm and leg were fractured.—Albany Herald.—He was a brother of C. T. Boynton, formerly of Crook, who now lives in Malheur county.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.)