

# THE CROOK COUNTY JOURNAL

An Independent Newspaper

D. F. STEFFA.

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## CONCERNING THOSE LETTERS.

For the second time during the past month The Journal last week received through the mail a threatening letter. The first one directed against certain stockmen, whose names were mentioned, was not published as requested. First, because it was unsigned and there was no responsibility for its contents attached; second, because it was a direct threat against human life and property; third, because The Journal is not a purveyor of that kind of argument, and never has and never will uphold a man or body of men who advocate a reign of lawlessness as a means of adjusting difficulties.

The second letter is a threat not alone against stockmen, but also against The Journal because the writer imagines that this paper upholds "mob gang" rule, a very silly and groundless idea to possess.

Neither one of the letters is worthy of notice only so far as they contain personal threats. No responsible stockmen, whether a sheep raiser or a cattle grower, would be guilty of such work. If he was he in all probability would be manly enough to sign his name and face the music.

It is probably unnecessary to add that the author of the above mentioned letters has not only violated the postal laws in sending personal threats through the mail but he has also made himself criminally liable before a court in the country. That much concerning the letters is facts, and the charges contained in them are matters with which The Journal has nothing to do.

This paper has always handled the range difficulties with a delicacy befitting a local condition which everyone concedes is a matter which neither a day nor a year nor even some of the laws can remedy. It has taken sides with neither the sheepmen nor the cattlemen and is neither for nor against either party to the controversy. It has taken up the range troubles at different times, but only to present different phases of the situation and deplore the fact that trouble must and will come so long as both cattlemen and sheepmen are obliged under present conditions to utilize practically the same ranging districts. Further than that The Journal has never attempted to solve the problem or offer any advice. It has troubles of its own without dipping into territory with which it is only in a general way familiar.

So it stands that the two letters were uncalled for, and the writer in threatening vengeance for a fancied wrong and for the imaginary policy which he believed this paper was pursuing, convicted himself before the law. His ideas are wrong from the ground up, and although he may have suffered from the exigencies of present stock conditions, he has taken a poor way indeed to cure himself of the blues.

## WRONG AS USUAL.

The Review as usual got off on the wrong foot again last week. Its account of the proposed new road up the grade and the purported facts concerning the matter were so pitifully contorted that the whole article savored strongly of the pipe.

In the first place it was news to residents in this vicinity that the grade is "east of Prineville." Heretofore the grade has generally been conceded as being on the hill west of the city, but the earth's surface may have had other bumps in it last week according to the Review's way of looking at it.

Then again the article states that the old grade is three-quarters of a mile long and goes up the hill at an average of 25 per cent. Reducing the matter to figures, the Review states in other terms that the grade is three-quarters of

a mile in length and rises in height a distance of 990 feet. The editor states a little further on that it takes from half an hour to an hour and a half to make the ascent, "according to the load." It is just barely possible that the Review editor has on an extraordinary heavy load whenever he makes the ascent, which would partially account for the preposterous figures developed last week.

It was also news to the men backing the project of building the new road that the Bend people had subscribed \$700 toward completing the proposed grade. It was the first they had heard of it and probably the first time that the Bend people knew they had subscribed that amount. It is more than likely that they began feeling in their pockets when they learned of the sum which had so suddenly left them.

It is always a pretty good policy to gather together a few facts before starting in to write an article of this kind which interests nearly every resident of the county who has occasion to visit this city. A few minutes is sufficient time in which to get the details from a reliable source and get them straight. It takes a little energy, and isn't as easy as writing fairy stories while sitting in an easy chair, but in the long run, this course is better.

## SAME OLD TACTICS.

Evidently the word has gone out from Esopus and Democratic headquarters to ignore the money question entirely, the tariff question and other great issues of the campaign and devote the entire energies of spellbinders and editorial writers to pounding Roosevelt. This is not the first time by any means that such tactics have been resorted to. It will be interesting and instructive to go back to the campaign of 1864 when the war and Lincoln were called failures, and quote a plank from the Democratic Platform of that year which reads as follows:

"RESOLVED, That this convention does explicitly declare, as the sense of the American people, that after four years of failure to restore the Union by the experiment of war, during which, under the pretense of a military necessity, or war power higher than the Constitution, the Constitution itself had been disregarded in every part and public liberty and private right alike trodden down, and the material prosperity of the country essentially impaired, justice, humanity, liberty and the public welfare demand that immediate efforts be made for a cessation of hostilities, &c."

Even McClellan, the Democratic nominee for President, could not stand this and absolutely repudiated the platform of his own party. The triumphal election of Lincoln of course followed.

Coming down to 1872 we find again the same condition of affairs. Grant was called a tyrant, a czar, an emperor, a king and the platform of that year contained the following plank:

"The President of the United States has openly used the powers and opportunities of his high office for the promotion of personal ends. He has kept notoriously corrupt and unworthy men in places of power and responsibility to the detriment of the public interest. He has used the public service of the government as a machinery of corruption and personal influence, and has interfered with tyrannical arrogance in the political affairs of States and municipalities."

But again such tactics failed and the Republican party reaped an overwhelming victory with the election of Grant.

It happens that this same Constitution which the Democratic party professes to love so well has provision for the impeachment of a President who does not obey the laws and who exceeds his prerogatives. That would seem to be the better course instead of simply denouncing in general terms a President who has simply done his duty where his duty has been

made plain to him, without fear of consequences and without fear of defeat at the polls.

## THE "SLAM" POLICY.

It would be well if Judge Parker would take up some of the issues of the day and make plain his views upon the money question, the tariff question, the Philippines and upon many of the lesser issues in which the voters of the country are interested. It would be well if the literature of the Democratic National Committee gave some attention to these great questions of the day instead of cheap tirades and meaningless denunciations.

The country awaited eagerly the letter of acceptance of the Democratic candidate for President to see if he will not before the campaign is over have a fuller realization of what high statesmanship may mean and upon what basis the American voter intends to make his decision when voting for Chief Magistrate of his country. The Republican Committee and the Republican speakers and editors of the country have no attack whatever to make upon the candidates of the Democratic party; they prefer to discuss the issues of the day; to point to the record of Republican legislation; to call attention to the promises and pledges fulfilled, and above all to emphasize the great prosperity of the people during the last seven years under Republican administration and a protective tariff. These are the questions that should be discussed and upon the result of this discussion and upon the merits of the arguments used, the people should decide whether we shall elect in November Judge Parker or Theodore Roosevelt.

There are four things that the Inland Empire needs, very much. 1. The State Portage Railway. 2. The general introduction of irrigation. 3. Help, co-operate and friendly feeling of the people of Portland, the Willamette valley and Southern Oregon. 4. Study of the map by business men and commercial bodies, who, as a class, cannot tell you whether Sherman county is east or west of the Blue Mountains, and imagine perhaps that we reach the Webfoot Metropolis via Huntington, Baker City or Pendleton. The same is true with nearly every section of this state. People living outside of Portland are far better informed with respect to the geography of Oregon than those living in Portland. The latest ORN map of this great wheat belt is a libel on Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla counties. Its physical features resemble Pikes peak far more than it does a country from which the company expects to haul NINE MILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT THIS FALL. Is stupidity like this excusable? how? It seems to be a fact that a range of mountains "divides a people." It has been so in the past. The west does not appreciate what the east has in store for it, and stands aloof—in spite of the kindly offices of The Observer and similar inland journals, whose editors wish that Portlanders might take an interest and cultivate friendlier feelings between the two sections.—Moro Observer.

It took twenty-five years to build three quarters of a mile of canal at Cascades with all of Eastern Oregon and Washington exerting themselves to hasten the work. We would like for those who are opposing the portage road and advocating as a preference the

canal between here and Celilo to figure out how long, at the rate construction work was conducted at Cascades, it will take to build eight miles of canal. At the same rate of construction, can the producers of Eastern Oregon hope for speedy relief from the canal? Hardly. Their only hope of speedy relief lies in the building and operation of a portage road.—Dalles Mountaineer.

## Additional Locals

W. R. Cook, of Haystack, began teaching the fall term of school at Montgomery last Monday.

The James Pelton place at the Big Meadows was sold this week to Ed Shonquist, of Bend.

Jas. T. Robinson was in the city from Culver this week looking after business matters.

Jerry Barber, of Haystack, who helped the boys win the ball tournament at Antelope, came up with a load of wheat yesterday.

W. P. Vandeventer and daughter, Miss Maude, were in the city yesterday from Lava. Miss Vandeventer was on her way to Salem where she enters Willamette University this fall.

Rev. Z. W. Commerford, pastor of the Presbyterian church of this city, has received a very cordial invitation to supply the First Klickitat Presbyterian church at Goldendale, Washington.

J. W. Boone left in company with Ed Bradford the first of the week for Portland. Mr. Bradford, who has been in poor health for several months, will take treatment at the Portland hospital.

An American newspaper published in Paris, recently contained the following advertisement: "A young man of agreeable presence and desirous of getting married, would like to make the acquaintance of an aged and experienced gentleman who could persuade him from taking the fatal step."

The shower baths for the gymnasium at the Athletic club were ordered this week and will be installed as soon as the apparatus arrives from Portland. The baths will make a very acceptable addition to the club and the total expense of installing them will be \$115. A big dance is to be given by the club about the first of next month and plans are also on foot to give a comedy, the proceeds from both it is expected will cover the cost of putting in the new showers.

J. L. Windom was in the city from Culver yesterday attending to business matters. Mr. Windom this week purchased from Wallace McCamant, of Portland, 440 acres of land near the ranch which he recently sold to his brother, J. H. Windom, and will turn it into a wheat farm. Mr. Windom had decided to try his luck in the Alberta country but came to the conclusion that Crook county is about as good as any other place.

Evangelist J. E. Snyder has been conducting meetings here for over a week with good results, and the prospects are that the coming week will be more successful than the past. The first four nights the meetings were held in the Union church but on Sunday the new Presbyterian edifice was used and the meetings will continue there until the close. There has been a good attendance from the beginning and this week the new church is well filled every night. Rev. Snyder is a clear and forceful speaker, presenting the Gospel in a way that appeals to man, a fact evidenced by the large attendance of men at the men's meeting Sunday afternoon.

To the Patrons of the Oregon Nursery Co.

I will canvas Crook county during the months of October, November and December.  
Dwight Roberts, Agent.

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" " "	3.75	for	2.90
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" " "	5.00	for	3.75
" " "	4.80	for	3.10
" " "	2.75	for	2.00
Children Shoes	2.50	for	1.80
" " "	2.00	for	1.45
" " "	1.75	for	1.25
Gentlemen's Hats	3.00	for	2.25
" " "	2.50	for	2.25
" " "	1.50	for	.90
Gent's Underwear Suits	2.50	for	1.50
" " "	2.25	for	1.75
" " "	1.50	for	1.10
Ladies Underwear Suits	2.75	for	2.00
" " "	2.00	for	1.45
" " "	1.75	for	1.25

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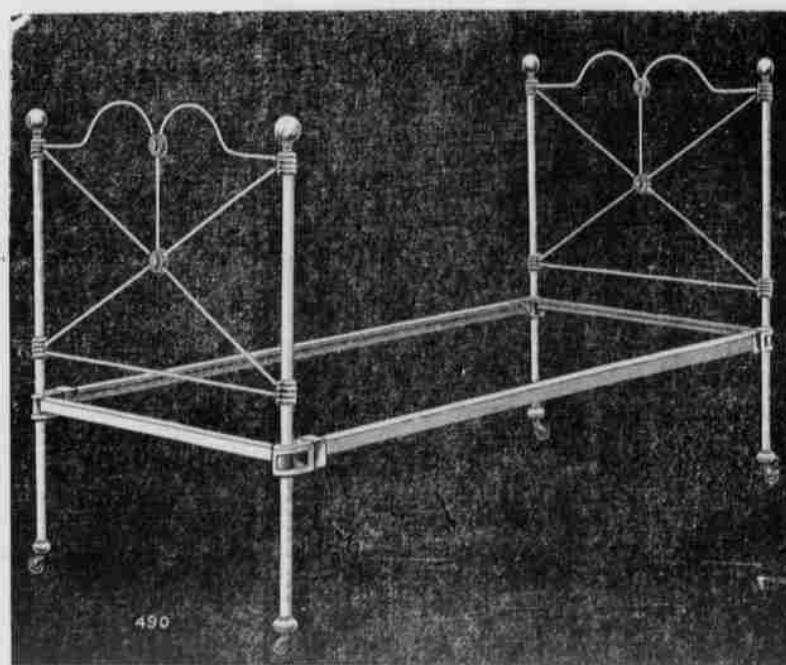
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