

CROOK COUNTY JOURNAL

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THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1905.

WASTED ARGUMENT.

Under the caption, "Railroad Building That Is at Once Called For" the Portland Journal deals to some length with the pros and cons of the proposed extension of the Columbia Southern. The Journal is sincere in its efforts to get railroad transportation for Central Oregon, but, be it said, it will take stronger arguments than those of the Journal, which are admirable to say the least to promote a single mile more of the C. S. The condition of that road would only seem to throw cold water on any discussion raised. 'Twere better to use the editorial wedge on the Corvallis & Eastern or some other more practical route. The Journal's argument of the matter is interesting, however and the following is extracted:

People have discovered that things are not always what they seem in these railroad enterprises and that the actuating motives for delay are sometimes widely at variance with the reasons which really influence such actions. All of this seems peculiarly true of the Bend enterprise. The road to Shaniko is now doing a big and very profitable business. It is about 98 miles to Bend and the right of way for about 70 miles has been already secured. The only portion of the road the building of which would be at all expensive is a few miles getting down to Trout creek, the cost of which would be \$15,000 to \$20,000 a mile, and for the whole distance it is doubtful if the cost would exceed \$12,900 a mile. The tributary country is in some respects better than that through which the road now runs to Shaniko. Crook county, through which it would run, has an area of 7,756 square miles. Its standing timber is estimated at 10,577,000-000 feet. Owing to the lack of transportation facilities its present industries are largely confined to stock raising. Last year it marketed 1,750,000 pounds of wool. Its people are well-to-do and prosperous. It is coursed over by many streams of water, among them the Deschutes river, which has been pronounced by experts to be the best river in the world for irrigation purposes, carrying as it does more water in summer time than all the streams that flow eastward from the Rocky mountains in the state of Colorado. On the eastern border lies the heavily timbered Blue mountains and on the west the Cascades with their great timber belts. Through it north and south flows the Deschutes, while east and west the Crooked river and other streams empty into it.

The proposed railroad extension runs through the Agency plains, formerly the great winter range for cattle. No cactus or other obnoxious growth curse the section. It has been estimated that the land north of the Crooked river susceptible of cultivation without irrigation amounts to 500,000 acres. In the neighborhood of Prineville 60,000 acres can be irrigated from the Crooked river; on the west side of the Deschutes between the river and the timber 50,000 acres; to the south on the upper Deschutes there is another large irrigable district. East of Deschutes and south of Crooked river one company has contracted for about 220,000 acres under the Carey law and has already spent \$50,000 in development work. In all of this we have not said a word about the vast acreage of grazing lands. The county has a population of 6,000 and notwithstanding the enormous handicap is growing rapidly. Prineville, the county seat, has a population of 1,200; Bend, 30 miles southwest, had a population of 70 a year ago, and today has about 700. There are other small villages and settlements scattered through the county. Not half the story is here told and the whole county is directly tributary to Portland.

Nevertheless the people are left to work out their own salvation in

the hardest possible way. They have no railroad and they get little outside help in aiding the development of their resources. The development of Oregon should occupy the interested attention of a development league. That is the excuse and justification of its being. The building of this at once is a matter of direct and downright interest to the people of Crook county, the people of Portland and the people of Oregon. If what is here shown does not justify railroad extension in the name of goodness what would be required in Oregon to induce a railroad company to undertake such a project?

The announcement of the Great Southern railroad, at present building from The Dalles to Dufur, that it will extend its line southward into Crook county, will furnish food for some time to come for the full fledged railroad optimists. It is to be hoped that the food will not be made up of 99 per cent air as has been the case many times in the past. There are plenty of good things in Crook county to reach for and consolation in the fact, notwithstanding the buffeting that the county has received from railroad rumors for three or four years, that eventually a railroad will come. Let us raise a fervent prayer that the Great Southern is it.

"James," cried Mrs. Timmid, "there are burglars downstairs."
 "Oh no, there ain't, my dear," replied Mr. Timmid.
 "I'm sure there are."
 "I'm sure there ain't."
 "I tell you there are."
 "I tell you there ain't."
 "Your husband is right mum," interrupted a low-browed individual who thrust his head into the room at this juncture. "We're upstairs."

As he started down he was heard to say to his pal: "I always believe in helping a husband out wherever I can. I'm married myself."—Pittsburg Post.

A few months ago the insurance companies hooted the assertions made by Thomas Lawson in his story of Frenzied Finance. But Lawson pegged away and now the tangle of the Equitable Insurance company discloses more colossal rottenness than Lawson has ever hinted at. The game of graft became too strong among the company's own officers and the eagerness of each to get more of the spoils donated by the policy holders has resulted in disclosures of financial jugglery little dreamed of by the premium payers.

A rain like the one that descended yesterday is sufficient cause to make every farmer get up on his feet and shout.

'Ere's 'opin' they don't break their voices next Sunday. Play ball!

D. F. Stewart leaves this week on a business trip to Burns and vicinity. He will return by the way of Silver Lake and will be away several weeks.

Prof. Henry led the members of the band to the Athletic building Tuesday evening where the gymnasium was turned into a concert hall. The board of directors of the club has extended the band the privilege of using the hall Tuesday and Friday evenings of each week for practice purposes.

Evidence Worth Price of Admission.

Three Indians, who have yet to master the English language, a bottle of whiskey, which the expert, J. F. Spinning, pronounced upon investigation to be 5 per cent below the standard gauge, and an abundance of evidence, nearly every word of which was given to the court in Chinook jargon, furnished no little amusement for those who attended the hearing of Peter Hooper, arrested on a charge of selling liquor, last Monday morning.

Hooper was drawn into the coils

of the law upon a complaint filed by George Tomlie, a Warm Springs resident, and George was there, together with his wife and step-father. It was the evidence of these three—evidence which no one but the court understood, that will cause Hooper to board in the county jail until the grand jury has had an opportunity to investigate the case.

From 15 years experience as government agent at the Warm Springs reservation, Justice Luckey has acquired a wide familiarity with the Chinook jargon, and his application of the peculiar language makes the brain cells of an ordinary redskin whirl around in dizzy anticipation of what is coming next. Monday morning he acted as interpreter and asked the Indians questions for both the prosecuting attorney and the defense. The answers all came back in the primitive tongue, except the curse words. It seems that Hooper in selling his gin to the Indians had used some very strong expletives, the like of which, or their equivalents, are not found in Chinook, and when it came time for these to be said they were brought out in a very forcible manner with the strongest English at command. Attorney Barnes for the defense remarked that these words were the only ones in the evidence which he understood. The others in the court room concur.

With the evidence translated by

Justice Luckey, Mr. Spinning was asked to render an opinion as to the quality of the bottles' contents. This he did finding the par value somewhat understated as noted. The closing arguments were then said, Attorney Barnes asserting that in view of the expert's testimony the contents of the entire bottle were not strong enough to intoxicate an Indian or any other person. Nevertheless, Justice Luckey held the defendant to the grand jury in bonds of \$500 and his chances of selling a stronger mixture are thereby lessened for some time to come.

To Open Large Stock Ranch.

Representatives of a company in New York have been in Vale and vicinity for several weeks past making arrangements to engage in the stockraising industry in Malheur county on quite an extensive scale. The company is capitalized at \$100,000. Ten hundred and seventy-five head of cattle have already been received and counted for the concern, 250 head of which belong to L. B. Rinehart, of North Yakima, and the balance to Stacey brothers. It is understood that negotiations looking to the purchase of the big stock ranch of Stacey brothers, twelve miles above Vale, are in progress. George Thebo, of Payette, Idaho, is reported to have been selected as cattle foreman for the company.—Canyon City Eagle.

AN ACT

(H. B. 156.)

To tax all foreign sheep coming into the State of Oregon for the purpose of pasturage, or being driven through the State.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. That all sheep, whose owner or owners residing outside of the State of Oregon, shall bring or cause to be brought into the State of Oregon, any such sheep, for the purpose of pasturage, or for the purpose of driving such sheep through the State of Oregon, such sheep shall be liable for, and the owner thereof shall pay, the following tax upon each and every head of sheep: 20 cents per head for the purpose of pasturage by the year or any fractional part of a year, and when any such sheep shall be driven from the State or any county of the State, such sheep shall be taxed, and the owners thereof made to pay, 5 cents per head for each and every county through which such sheep shall be driven; and taxes herein specified shall be a preferred lien against any sheep liable to such tax, and the stock inspectors of the several counties of this State may take into their possession any of said sheep and keep and retain such possession until such taxes are paid; provided, that if such tax so due is not paid within thirty days after the same has been assessed, any inspector of stock having any such sheep shall sell the same, by giving ten days' published notice in the nearest newspaper to where said sheep is held, of the time and place of such sale. And the sale, as herein provided for, shall convey an absolute title to any and all sheep so sold; provided, that the owner of any sheep so sold may, within ten days thereafter, redeem such sheep by paying all charges incurred in the keeping and sale thereof, together with the tax due thereon, and ten per cent interest and damages thereon, on the whole amount of taxes and charges.

SECTION 2. The stock inspectors of the several counties of this State are hereby empowered to collect the taxes mentioned in section 1 of this act; and it shall be the duty of such inspectors to collect all taxes and fines hereunder, and to keep careful watch that all foreign sheep shall pay all the taxes and fines herein provided for; and when any such sheep shall come or be driven into any county of this State it shall be the duty of the stock inspector of such county to immediately take such sheep into his possession and to keep and retain possession of the same until the taxes and fines due thereon are paid, or until the sale thereof, as herein provided for, has been made; and all taxes and fines collected under this act shall be paid into the general fund of the county where collected. The stock inspector shall be allowed \$3.00 per day for each and every day actually employed, and said wages to be paid by the county for which such services are rendered; provided, that when the inspector or any county has to take any stock in charge and sell the same, in order to collect the taxes and fines due thereon, then such per diem charge of \$3.00 per day shall be a charge against any sheep so held and sold for taxes and fines, as herein provided for.

SECTION 3. When any tax shall be paid by the owner or owners of any sheep, the stock inspector to whom such tax is paid, shall issue a tax certificate to the party so paying, which receipt or certificate shall state for what purpose the same was issued whether for pasturage or driving, provided, that under no condition shall any stock inspector issue any certificate, permit, or receipt, whether for pasturage or driving, for any diseased or unhealthy sheep, but shall immediately cause all diseased or unhealthy sheep to be taken beyond the limits of the State at the point where the same sheep entered the State. The owner or owners of any sheep who shall fall or refuse to immediately remove any diseased or unhealthy sheep (when brought into this State) when ordered to do so by any stock inspector, shall be fined \$25 for each and every day that such stock is kept within the State after having been notified to remove the same by the stock inspector of the county wherein such stock is located.

SECTION 4. The provision of this act shall not apply to any of the heretofore mentioned stock that shall be brought into the State for the purpose of being fed through the winter months of November, December, January, and February, of each year or to any stock being shipped to market.

Approved February 21, 1905.
 Filed in the office of the Secretary of State, February 21, 1905.

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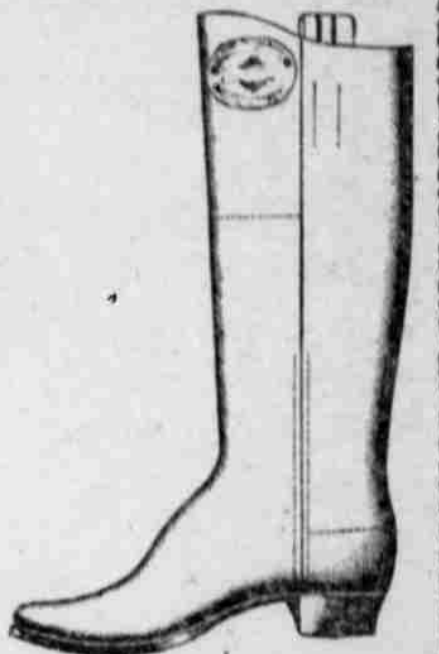
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