

THE CITY

Engineer Stebbins of the Oskar Huber force, spent a short time in Prineville Wednesday. He reports that work on the big grade west of town will begin again in a few days and then will be rushed to completion. The camp there has been shut down for several weeks.

Dr. Virgil Belknap and his two children from Prairie City arrived in Prineville Sunday morning. They drove through in their car and expect to make quite a visit with friends and relatives here. Dr. Virgil Belknap is a brother of Dr. H. P. Belknap of this city.

American Legion Post No. 29 will meet Monday evening, July 12 in regular session, at the Court house. At this time they will elect two delegates, and two alternates to attend the state convention at Astoria held at that place on July 30, 31 and August 1. The purpose of this convention is to elect state officers.

Mr. and Mrs. P. McD. Fuller returned from The Dalles this week where they had gone to supervise the moving to Prineville. Their household goods and farm machinery arrived Wednesday morning by train and they will soon be at home in the property recently purchased from Jesse Yancey.

Corbin, assistant training officer of the Division of Rehabilitation is in the city from Seattle. Mr. Corbin is a former resident of Prineville and is well known among the business men of this city. He is working for the interest of the disabled soldiers who have had a year of vocational training.

Due to the able management of several citizens of Prineville the sale of Chautauqua tickets has been rapid work as well as successful. Special credit has been given Mrs. Babcock, who, with the booth that was under her supervision, sold tickets amounting to \$205. Norris Bixby personally sold tickets amounting to \$117. Edith McMurry also has a high standing in the sale of tickets.

Mr. and Mrs. Winnek left in their car for Portland Tuesday morning. They have been visiting their daughter, Mrs. Hugh Lakin of this city for the past three weeks and are now looking for a location where they can start a new business. Mr. Winnek has been in the mercantile business for many years and after the sale of his place in Klamath Falls resolved to seek another location. They expect to return to Prineville in about ten days and from here they will drive to California.

NOW FOR A JUNIPER RESERVE

Interest is renewed in the omnipresent juniper tree of Central Oregon by the statement that leadpencil manufacturers have at last become aware of its virtue as a provider of pencil slats. The manufacturers of pencils, we are told, have sent more orders than can be filled—not that juniper is not plentiful but that men cannot be found who will cut the bolts.

Possibly it is not wholly a shortage of labor that is the present trouble. And it is a mistake to designate the juniper as "long despised" as a contemporary does. The juniper is one of the most prized possessions of your Uncle Samuel. He owns a vast area of land in Central Oregon, land that is not particularly attractive to the settler because of its dryness, or its rocky or hilly character, but it is dotted with juniper. The juniper is not particular about moisture or quality of soil. Like the sage brush, it will grow to larger proportions in fertile soil, but also like the sage brush it will struggle successfully for existence in lava beds or in a sprinkling of dust on the bed-rock.

Time was when the juniper belonged to anybody and everybody who wanted it. By the stockmen of central Oregon it was never despised. It provided them with fence posts that never rotted, and it gave them a firewood that was the envy of distant neighbors who on wintry days and nights had only the flashy sage brush to keep them warm and were alternately too hot or too cold, depending on the industry with which they stoked the air tight heater. Farmers and stockmen went out and cut the juniper without hindrance. It supplied the trading centers with fuel. Prineville for years ran its electric lighting plant with juniper

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cut from open and unappropriated government land.

The esteem in which it was held was first brought to attention when a juniper tract was segregated for irrigation under the Deschutes project. A contest was instituted to determine whether the lands were in fact agricultural or timber lands. The irrigationists won the case.

But soon thereafter the government became doubtful as to the exact nature of the juniper. A stockman near Burns was in need of fence posts, filed on a quarter section of juniper land at the base of Buck Mountain. It was an agricultural filing. A discerning government department rejected the appli-

cation on the ground that the land was more valuable for timber than for agriculture. So the stockman thereupon filed a timber claim on it. Another discerning government department, or perhaps the same one, ruled that juniper was not timber and the application was rejected. What the stockman did for posts is not historically recorded.

But the government has, nevertheless been firm in the conviction that juniper while not timber was at least wood. An enterprising citizen of Oregon conceived the idea of draining a great swamp and of using the waters thereof to irrigate a tract of dry land in all about 100,000 acres. At the time the nearest railroad was 150 miles away. To operate the dredger, fuel was required and coal or wood was out of the question. So he sent his men far up on the slopes of Stiens mountain to cut juniper, which was little more than brush. He was indicted for stealing wood from government land. He got out of it by paying for the wood. It did not matter that he was the only possible user of the wood, that unless the lands he was working on were reclaimed there would be no settlers, and that without settlers the juniper would forever grace the sides of a mountain known only to sheep herders. He had to pay a round price for it.

In the same year in Lake county times were hard. Two men, in need of bread and butter, applied to a stockman for work. He agreed to buy juniper fence posts from the men. They went out on a lava bed and began to cut. Thereupon the stockman was also indicted.

Such incidents marked the change from a free and open juniper range to a valuable asset to the government. With this history before us we may well doubt whether lack of men willing to cut juniper is the whole trouble in failure to supply the pencil manufacturers. Where would they cut? It is no doubt possible to buy juniper from the government as wood. But there are formalities to be observed and there is money to pay. The man who works at day labor does not have the means to buy nor can he await the tedious processes of the government. His wants are immediate. Presumably some logging company, adequately financed, must attack this problem. But they would better proceed quiet-

ly and speak softly. For capital to attack a national resource is risky. These are days of conservation. What difference if the present day pencil users be required to unroll a strip of paper to find the point of his pencil if future generations are assured the satisfaction of whittling for it? If the history of timber lands is repeated, one day we shall gaze with awe upon a great leadpencil reserve comprising most of central Oregon. —Portland Oregonian.

LOST—One Hampshire ewe lamb. Finder please notify W. D. Rea, R. F. D. No. 1. 42-43c.

SUMMONS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR CROOK COUNTY
Jerry Leppard, Plaintiff,
vs.
John T. Leppard and Bernice Leppard, Defendants.

To John T. Leppard and Bernice Leppard, the above named defendants: IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed in the above entitled suit against you on or before the 29th day of August, 1920 and if you fail to so appear and answer or otherwise plead, for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the above named court for a decree as prayed for in the complaint filed herein, namely: That the contract between said parties described in the complaint herein for the Southeast quarter of Section twelve, and the northeast quarter of Section thirteen in township sixteen south of Range sixteen East of Willamette Meridian, in Crook County State of Oregon, be cancelled, forfeited and declared void, and that the defendants and all persons claiming by, through or under them, or either of them, be forever barred and enjoined from claiming or asserting any right or claim under contract to said real estate, and for such other and further relief as to the court may seem equitable in the premises, and for his costs and disbursements herein.

This summons is published pursuant to an order made and entered herein so to do by the Hon. N. G. Wallace, Judge of the County Court for Crook County, State of Oregon, on the 29th day of June, 1920.

LAKE M. BECHTELL,
Attorney for Plaintiff.
Residence and Post Office address: Prineville, Oregon.
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42-49c.

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