THE MORNING OREGONIAN, MONDAY, JULY 1, 1907.

Reclaiming the American Desert Without Irrigation-By A. H. Harris

S HALL the Great American Desert disappear from the face disappear from the face of the earth?

Will 70,000,000 acres of arid land be transformed into happy homes for prosperous and energetic people?

Stretching from Canada on the north to Mexico on the south, and from the Rocky Mountains westward hundreds of rolling sage-brush or cand-dune miles. land, lies that great blemish upon the fair face of nature, that great tract of worthless land known as the arid part of America. Twelve hundred miles north and south and hundreds of miles east and west, it comprises an area equal to one-fourth that of continental United States, exclusive of Alaska.

Six hundred millions of acres in extent, the public domain has lain dormant for ages, while all over the country men have been fighting for land like hungry bears. and finanlly discouraged at the fruitless search, the wisest of them have turned to this trackless waste as the scene of future activity and splendid achievement. Not all of this barren plain has been considered desert, but it has been held as arid by geographers since the first map was made showing the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. Besides the mor-mous area of Government land involved, great tracts of railroad grants and state lands area to be found, while fully 70,000,000 acres are held to be desert land with a blg D.

big D. Great stretches of this land are to be found in Southern Idaho, Wyoming, Colo-rado, Nevada Arikona, Utah and patches exist in Eastern Oregon. In Washington, particularly in Douglas County, the ef-fort to reclaim the land by dry farming

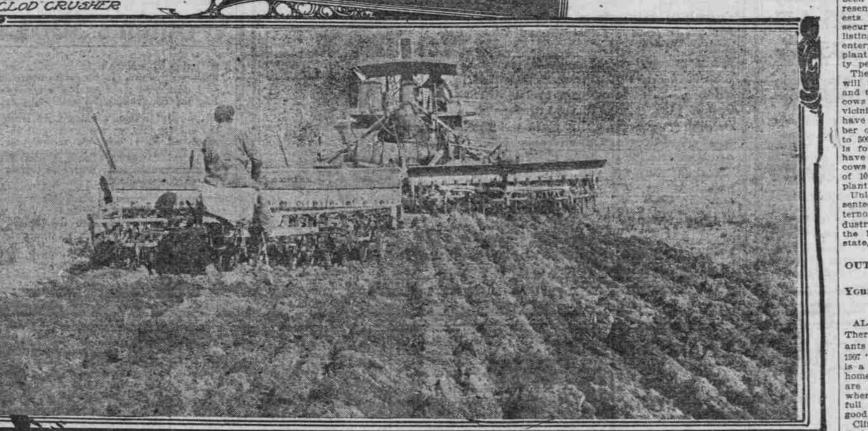


THE PARTY 10

DRED HORSE POWER . INE DIRECTLY CONVECTED COLLER, SEEDERS AND CLOD CRUSHER

methods has already proved successful, fair crops having been produced from land that has been held as arid for ages. Farms on Big Plan.

W. H. Babcock, known as the "wheat king" of the State of Washington, has bien operating a big outfit on the dry land plan for two or three years, with splendid results. An immense traction entine furnishes power for the work. In Southern Idaho the same methods are in use, while in Wyoming and Colorado great progress has been made in reclaim-ing the deserts by methods entirely dif-ferent from irrigation. In Eastern Ore-gon large tracts of land await the de-



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DRINK WHILE EFFERVESCENT. Sole Exporters: THE APOLLINARIS CO., Ld., London,

BAISES

mencing operations on their large tract of white pine consisting of approximately

of while pine consisting of approximately 100,000 acres. A committee of citizens was appointed by the club and negotiations commenced, a suggestion being made by Lewiston that a suitable bonus would be furnished by the city providing the com-pany would come to this locality. It was believed that an understanding with the big timber company would be speedily reached until the arrival of the party in Lewiston, when it was learned that all operations in this territory would be delayed until the question of the valid-ity of certain titles is secured either from the Supreme Court of the United States the Supreme Court of the United States

the Supreme Court of the United States or by an act of Congress. The greater part of the Weyerhaetter holdings in the Clearwater country was formerly held by the Northern Pacific Railread Company as a land grani from the Government and the transfer of the interests of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to the Northern Pacific Railway Company has brought up a question as to the validity of the title of the limber grant

makes a mulch through which rain and melted snow may percolate to rest upon the packed subsoil benesth, but through which no molsture will rise. The system demonstrates the law of capillary attraction, for molsture most easily passes through maigt channels, just as oil rises more quickly in a lampwick which has been saturated with oil these it does in a dry wick a It is generally conceded that the question is but a technical one and that the with oil than it does in a dry wick, a fact that everybody is conversant with. Lecturers, in demonstrating the thedeiay in operations in this section will be but for a few months. The situation is regarded as cheerful and it is believed within 12 months a definite announce-ment of the Weyerhaeuser plans for the Clearwater country may be expected, ory, have represented the damp sub-soil with a lump of loaf sugar sprinkled over with powdered sugar. When the lump is wet the powder will remain

WILL HAVE MILK CONDENSER

American genius and modern invention have come to the relief of the dry-land farmer. Giant machines minimize the labor and save time for him. Across Big Plant Assured for Albany and Stock Is Subscribed.

the unbroken stretches of virgin soil a 190-horsepowar engine puffs away, pulling an aggregate of machinery that startles one. It leaves behind it a stretch of zbout 25 feet of brown, pul-verized soil, in which the seed is hid-ies the comment aron. The land ALBANY, Or., June 30 .- (Special.)-A milk condensing plant, to cost at least \$40,000, is assured for Albany. The stock for the industry has all been subscribed. and stockholders will meet in this city den for the coming crop. The land has been plowed, rolled, harrowed, The land at 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon to form

at a octock Tuesday alternoon to form the company to manage it. It is planned to erect the plant this Summer. The establishment of this industry has been promoted by H. H. Olmstead, rep-resenting Eastern manufacturing interests. For the past month he has been securing subscriptions of stock and en-listing farmers to furnish milk for the enterprise. Most of the stock for the plant has been subscribed by Lion County people

ty people. The plant, as it is proposed to erect it, will uslikes 80,000 pounds of milk a day, and to furnish this milk 5000 Linn County cows have been listed. Farmers in the vicinity of Albany, Lebanon and Scio have agreed to furnish a certain num-ber of cows each, bringing the total up to 5000 for the first year. If the plant is founded and succeeds, these farmers have promised to double the number of cows for the second year, making a list cows for the second year, making a list of 10,000 cows to supply milk for the the

unforeseen difficulties are

TIMBER VALLEY ADAPTED TO STRAWBERRY CULTURE. Without Irrigation, and With Little

SPLENDID

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Cultivation, Excellent Specimens Are Produced in This Section.

LYLE, Wash., June 30 .- (Special.)imber Valley, lying between this place and Camas Prairie, is unquestionably the coming fruit section of the Pacific Northwest. This is not an idle boast, for the horticultural products of this valley are eye-openers and suggest al-most unlimited possibilities for grow-ing fruit of all kinds. E. L. Smith, of Hood River, one of Oregon's ploneer horticulturists, recently visited Timber Valley and declared that owners of land here have but a slight knowledge of its value for horticultural pursuits.

A. E. Weber, who owns a small tract of land seven miles from here, was in Lyle a few days ago on his way to Portiand. He had several boxes of Ma-goon strawberries he had raised without irrigaton. He employed no ferti-lizer and says the land required but little cultivating. The berries were large, well flavored, and as is the case with all fruit grown without irriga-tion, were hardy and good keepers. They are especially suited for ship

ping. The land in Timber Valley, which embraces several thousand acres, is of the red shot compositon with a heavy clay subsoil. This combination is particularly adapted to fruitgrowing, apples, apricots and other tree fruits thriving equally well with strawberries and the smaller fruits. Land covered with the smaller fruits. Land covered with small timber and hazelwood, easily cleared, can be hought for from \$25 to \$50 and is considered an investment certain of substantial returns. The Weyerhaeuser Timber Company owns the heavy timber land surrounding the valley, but there are several thousand cores owned by ordere protons that valley, but there are several thousand acres owned by private persons that can be bought for horticultural pur-poses. Many new settlers are locating in the valley, which will be thoroughly exploited by the Timber Valley Im-provement Association, for the organzation of which initial steps have been laken by the farmers. This section has the advantage of

other fruit-producing districts since it is already supplied with ample facili-ties for getting its products to market. The Columbia Northern Rallroad passing through this place is but a few miles distant from the heart of this re-

velopment of dry land farming or irrigation, as conditions may warrant, and as the years roll on the demand for land will force people to resort to the scientific culture of at least a great part of the arid beit Between Uncle Sam's Reclamation Serv-

ice and modern "Dry Land Farming" methods a great change is soon to come over the face of this great domain. fact there are now many evidences of the work done and to be done which show conclusively that the next decade will work wonders and give over to future generations a new subdivision of working onle and a new field of development. The Federal Government is spending \$50,000,000 in sending water over the waste places, in building reservoirs and immense canals, in constructing great concrete dams, in surveying millions of acres topo graphically, in educating the people in the proper manner of cultivation and care of proper manner of cultivation and care of the land after they have been induced to settle upon it. In addition to these mil-lions taken from the general treasury, the wise men of the West have gathered and expended millions in irrigation projects, in altering the face of nature, in

lding up projects amid the most un seemly surroundings. Still settlers have expended years and years of labor, some entirely unsuccessful, in an effort to try out the land and establish the fact that it made the home of human The expense thus far has been tre-

What will the harvest be?

Pioneer in Dry Farming.

To William H. Campbell, of Lincoln, Neb., proparly belongs the honor of be-ing the pioneer dry land farmer of the world. To him belongs the honor of having thought out a system by which moist-ure may be conserved, a system which removed the sage brush and planted in its place alfalfa, fruits and vegetables, Over 20 years ago, Mr. Campbell evolved the theory, and he put it to a practical in the older fields of the East and South, test. He experimented, and everywhere there are periods of idleness and caresuccess followed his efforts. Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, in turn sang his praises, and soon the people west of the turn his thoughts to barbecues, picnics Rocky Mountains heard of the new and the like, or simply go out under the inviting trees and follow James Whitcomb Riley's plan of seeing "jes' how lazy he sult followed. Other men became Camp-bell's disciples, and carried on the work, and still others are preparing to follow.

WELCOME ROAD BUILDING

OF RAILWAY.

LA GRANDE, Or., June 30.-(Special.)-

Cove, the fruitgrowing community on the

east side of the Grande Ronde Valley,

DISKING AND SEEDING- AT ONE PROCESS SOUTHERN IDAHO

In the wake of the disciples of William Campbell, the sturdy Westerners who have chosen the arid regions, the sage brush, the greasewood, the yucca, the Spanish bayonet and the cactus are rapid-ly disappearing, and wheat, corn, alfalfa, barley, grasses, fruits and vegetables are

> as if by the touch of the magician's wand. All very well, but will it last? It has

springing up in most lavish profusion. Homes, cities, towns, are coming to life cess as Napoleon ever felt.

never been done. Wrecks all along the pathway show how failure has preceded. The secret of success in the future lies in the one primary fact that the dry land farmer must never stop work. He is not to be given vacations, he will not ask for

holidays, he will not go fishing and ex-pect his crops to grow during his absence. He must work and watch continuously. He stirs it in this way a year before he plants it to grain or other seeds. He stirs the land while the seeds are sprouting until there is danger of injuring the plants by breaking up the tiny roots, and then takes up the work again and ceases only when the plants are large and strong enough to east a lessness that follow the "laying by" time, his fields.

kin be." Working irrigated or arid land is constant, hard work. It requires ap-

indefatig- | allows half his land to lie in Summer plication study. constancy, able care. But the harvest is sure. With irrigation, the hot wind has no failow each year, in this way accumu-lating enough moleture to assure a crop on part of the acreage every terrors, the dry, late Spring does not year without overworking the land. Even as sternal vigilance is the price of liberty and peace, so is sternal and tireless industry and care the price of prosperity to the dryland farmer. interfere. With a ditchful of water, a disposition to work and a handy shovel, the irrigation farmer feels as independent as a king and as confident of suc-

Must Conserve Moisture. arid land are being reclaimed is known as "dryland farming," and is quite But the dryland farmer must make 3.5

simple in principle. Its purpose is to conserve every drop of water, every particle of molature that falls during the best of conditions aside from the ditchful of water. The minute a few grops of rain fall upon his land he is out in the field with his harrow to stir the year, not in large reservoirs or lakes, but in the soll itself, in the fields awaiting the seed-sower. A year the surface of the soll and powder it so fine the moisture may not rise again. before the land is to be seeded it is plowed deeply with machinery special-ly made for the work. Great disc plows not only pulverize the soil but pack it into a firm bed through which the conserved water may not sink, and through which are large and strong enough to cast a which usually lie four or five feet be-protecting shadow over the surface of low the surface may not rise by evap-

The minute the crop is off the land a follows the harvester with the sub-oil plow, and the fields are made

FIGHT BETWEEN FACTIONS

DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

seeded and clod-crushed at one operation. A dozen or 20 plows in gangs, two immense rollers, seed rills, har-rows, clod-crushers and sometimes other implements, make up the load for the iron horse.

From the unbroken land to the seed. bed is but a minute on many a dryland farm. In this quick way the soli is farm. In this quick way the soil is left in the best possible shape to re-ceive and germinate the seed. This The method by which large areas of

makes a mulch through which rain

Glant Machines Do Work.

dry

giant equipment prepares and seeds from 25 to 75 or 100 acres a day, according to conditions of land and work necessary to leave the land in perfect order. The cost is held to the mini mum, for but few men are needed to handle a very large acreage. method would require the The old many horses and men, with food sup-plies an item of heavy expense, and the work would drag over many days, the seed reaching the soil after the first molsture had left it.

In harvesting, the same quick meth-ods are employed, the same engine doing the work, using largely straw for fuel. In the early development of a section, sagebrush is used largely for fuel, thus assisting in clearing away troublesome natural incumbrance This | of the ground.

sented at the m eeting next Tuesday afternoon, the plant is assured, and the industry, which may ultimately be made the largest plant of the kind in the state, will be founded here at once.

OUTLOOK GOOD FOR HUNTERS

Young Chinese Pheasants Are Plen-

tiful This Summer.

ALBANY, Or., June 30 .- (Special.)-There are plenty of young China pheasants in Linn County fields this year. The

ants in Linn County brus did game birds is a good one. Linn County is the first home of the birds in America and they are yet more plentiful here than anywhere else, so the fact that the fields are full of young birds this Summer is a od omen for sportsmen. Climatic conditions were the best this

Spring that have been experienced in many years for the hatching of the birds. The weather gave the young birds svery opportunity to grow. Crows, the birds.

every opportunity to grow. Crows, the traditional enemies of pheasants' nests, were also scarce this year, and fewer of the eggs were desiroyed than usual. The only thing that can now prevent a bountiful supply of the birds when the open season begins next Fall is illegal hunting. It is generally known that hundreds of birds were killed out of season last Summor and there was so much hunting done that the birds were much hunting done that the birds were both scarce and wild when the season This

Will Hasten Bridge Work.

opened.

LA GRANDE, Or., June 30 .- (Special.)-Since early lnat Spring, people living above Perry on the Grand Ronde have been unable to reach La Grande with teams except by a roundabout way, owing to the destruction of two county bridges during the high water. The bridges during the high water. The County Court has become impatient at the delay in construction of the new bridges, and a few days ago set July 5, as the limit for the contractors to finish their work, and declared their intention to claim the forfelt of \$100 per day after

that date, according to the conditions of the contract. The construction company agreed to have the bridges completed by that time. . The County Court has advertised for bids for the construction of thed for bids for the construction of a steel bridge across the Grand Ronde at a point about three miles west of Fighn. This will be the fourth steel bridge to be built in the county this year.

New Sturgeon Fisheries.

SOUTH BEND, Wash., June 30.-(Spe-cial.)-A new fishing industry is being established at Bay Center in the catching of green sturgeon for the markets. Two tons are shipped daily to the citles and the Indians, instead of going to the Co-lumbia River to fish through the season, are running fishing boats at the mouth of the Willapa and are averaging \$40 to the boat per night. The green sturgeon are said to be superior to the white sturgeon for eating, and this promises to become an important industry and is one which has heretofore been overlocked.

New Mill for Long Beach.

SOUTH BEND, Wash., June 20.-(Spe-cial.)-J. A. Kennedy is building a shingle tou Commercial Club some time ago when it was learned that the Weyer-hereter people were looking toward the Clearwater country with a view of com-

markably productive fruit country, and the North Bank Road, in course of con-struction, will pass through the valley and aid greatly in its development. Other than rail transportation, farmers have the advantage of a good steam-boat service down the Klickitat River to The Dalles and Portland.

RECORD CROP OF CHERRIES

Yield at Eugene Is Much Heavier

Than Was Expected.

EUGENE, Or., June 30.-Special.)-The prophesy made earlier in the year that the cherry crop of Lane county would be light has been completely overturned by the great quantities the fruit-growers are bringing into the cannery and pro-duce houses for preserving and shipping. The crop is a heavy one and the quality of the cherries is fine. The yield has probably never been better on an aver-age than this year, and the tonnage will run higher than for any previous year, owing to the increased acreage.

The prices are good, and many ions of the green fruit are being shipped north and to California points. The Royal Annes form the principal crop here, and the raising of this variety has come to be an important industry in this section on account of the ease with which a spiendid cherry can be raised and the profit to be derived from the sale of the fruit, either in the home market or through shipping. There are a number of orchards from which an average of of orchards from which an average of \$15 to \$20 per tree is the common income, and the best of cherry land can be bought for \$30 to \$50 per acre. The cherries raised here are so much

in demand for canning and packing, on account of their quality, that the prices in the local market are kept up well, and In the local market are kept up when and the whole crop can be profitably disposed of. The fact that there is little risk to run in the marketing of this fruit is causing a number of fruit growers to give considerable land over to this pur-

Seek Location for Library.

ALBANY, Or., June 30,-(Special.)-ALBANY, Or., June 20,-(Special)-Albany's public library will be started as soon as a suitable location can be found for it. Arrangements are com-plete for instituting it and as soon as temporary quarters are rented the li-brary will be opened. Nine directors have been elected and their election have been confirmed, in accordance with the state laws governing public libraries, under which this institution was formed by the City Council. These was formed by the City context. House directors are Frank J. Miller, Mrs. J. K. Weatherford, H. H. Hewitt, Fred P. Nutting, Mrs. H. F. Merrill, Mrs. S. E. Young, M. H. Eilis and Miss Lucy Gard.

To Create Drainage District.

COLVILLE, Wash., June 30 .- (Special.)-The effort to create a drainage district to include the lands in the Colville Valley immediately west of town, will be renewed at an early date. It is proposed to restrict the area to the actually overflowed lands of the valley. The project which was recently voted down included nearly half its area in uplands, and acreage that needed no drainage. The new plan is receiving much encouragement and will doubtless carry when put to a vots, and when adopted the work will be executed according to the survey made under direction of the Government last year.

the town. The road is so narrow that the machine taking the lead will need make COVE WILL CELEBRATE ADVENT LITTLE TOWN OF HERMISTON no effort to keep it, for two machines annot pass. Trains will be run over the Oregon Central from Union, a distance of nine miles. Miss Violet Hancock has been chosen to represent the Goddess of Liberty, and Four-Days' Frolic Planned for First Week in July-Citizens Happy Miss Claudine Kelly as Angel of Peace. Over the New Line.

kin be

days.

Much Building at South Bend.

with Island City, Perry, La Grande and

Union in the order named, on different

Automobile races are being arranged

for; to take place on the highway east of

SOUTH BEND, Wash., June 30 .- (Special.)-Messrs. Cressy and Kleeb, have purchased two lots from John Drissler, joyous over the advent of rail connection with the main line of the O R. & N., is buily preparing for a monster celebra-tion, to last four days, July 1, 2, 3 and 4. July 1 is to be "Ploneer" day, and Joaquin Miller will address the old settlers. Hon, T. T. Geer, ex-Governor, will deliver the address of welcome. The Cure baseball pasm, as yet unbeatan this year, will play

Moving of Buildings Across Dividing Line Leads to Lawsult Brought in Courts. PENDLETON, Or., June 30 .- (Special.) -The town fight which has been waged

others are the promoters on the cast side of the fighting line. The rivalry between these two artificial divisions became intense several months ago, and reached one climax recently when a member of the east side fraternity purchased the blacksmith shop which nity purchased the olackamith shop which was located on the west side and pro-posed to move it over to the other. A small war nearly ensued, but the build-ing was finally moved in the wes small hours of the night, with Deputy Sheriffs and Constables taking part. Now it seems that the Newport people have again invaded the ranks of the

salts.

Now it seems that the vanks of the have again invaded the ranks of the enemy with their money, and this time it is the Newter store buildings, one of the largest in the little town, which has been purchased and is to follow the way of the blacksmith shop. Fearing this master

the excessive



Suit in the Courts to Determine the Validity of Land Titles Will

LEWISTON, Idaho, June 30.-(Special.) -The hopes of the Lewiston people for the early installation of mills in this vicinity by the Wayerhaeuser people has been set back a pace by the visit of Fred-erick Weyerhaeuser, A. J. Humbrid and a party of stockholders in the Weyer-

neuser companies. The matter was taken up by the Lewis-

Be Necessary.

