

THE SMALL FARM

TENDENCY TO CUT UP
THE TRACTS IS STRONG

Smaller Holdings Are Conducive to
Higher Cultivation—Variety of
Products and Industries Pay Better
Than One Crop from Larger
Acreage.

Washington, Dec. 28.—On the great
desert of Colorado, in southeastern
California, a marvelous work of re-
clamation is in progress. Ultimately
half a million acres will be fertile but
today only a few acres are under the
most productive agricultural land in
the world.

The present tendency in this dis-
trict is toward a large farm unit—250
or 400 acres, since this portion of the
public domain is passing into private
ownership chiefly by means of the
desert land law. Under this law, a
single individual may acquire 160 acres
or a man and his wife twice as much
which is a full square mile.

It is so much land reasonably necessary
for a prosperous home on rich
irrigated land, where crops never fail
because insured by the flow of a
great river, and in a climate where
things grow every month in the year
and where the wonderful forage
crop, alfalfa, may be harvested eight
times in 12 months.

There are some good business men
in the United States who answer this
question in the negative, and who
even go so far as to say it is unfor-
tunate for a settler of small means
to try to subside that amount of desert
soil.

One of these men is a Chicago
manufacturer who is deeply interest-
ed in the colonization problem.
He declares that 20 acres are quite
sufficient for a good home in that
locality. He insists that alfalfa and
cows are the surest money makers
for the settler of small means. Each
acre of alfalfa will support one cow.
One good man will take care of 2
cows. Hence, the 20-acre farm is the
thing.

The Chicago man has faith enough
in his idea to advance enough to nu-
merous settlers so that they may get
a start. They will repay him in la-
bor applied to other lands which will
be later subdivided and sold to other
small settlers. Creditors will be good
to take the product of these small farms.
The Chicago man will build the creameries
as fast as he is required.

It is a most interesting experiment
both in its economic and its social
aspects.

It will be interesting to compare
the prosperity of these small farm-
ers with that of their neighbors who
are trying to till from 15 to 30 times
as much land, and it will be interest-
ing again to see how these settlers
are able to succeed with borrowed
capital to be repaid by devoting a
part of their time to the cultivation
of other land. Perhaps the experi-
ment will furnish a good deal of
light for the problem of making
homes for poor men in the desert.

The Chicago capitalist makes no
pretense to philanthropy. It is purely
a business proposition with him.
He thinks the enterprise offers good
security and promises to return a
reasonable profit.

But, in the meantime, the nation is
squandering its land by permitting
it to be taken up in big blocks by those
who will later sell it to actual
home makers or to syndicates which
are making great stock raising. And
so it will be until the present
land laws are repealed in favor of a
true homestead provision. It is
claimed that the desert land act can
be enforced. Experience in every
Western state has shown that it gen-
erally cannot, but even in those
cases where it can be enforced, the
reclamation provisions are complied
with in good faith, an abnormal
amount of land is allowed the set-
tler, and there has been a boom to
American homesteaders—William E.
Smith.

GAME LAW TOO FIERCE.

Carter Bill for Protection of Game
Died in the Senate.

After an interesting and amusing
discussion, a bill proposed in the sen-
ate by Senator Carter, providing for
the protection of certain species of
game, particularly deer, in Klamath
and Lake counties, failed to see the
light of day, having received but 15
votes.

The bill provided for the protection
of game during a closed season
prescribed, which was quite satisfac-
tory to all or a majority of the mem-
bers, but the chief objection, which
resulted in the bill's defeat, was that
the bill was the character of the punish-
ment imposed for its violation.

Only minor fines and imprisonment
in the penalties were provided for
the slaughter of small game out of
season, but other sections prescribed
that in case of the violation thereof,
that is, the willful killing of deer out
of season, upon conviction for the
second offense, the violator thereof
would be subject to a fine of not less
than \$200 or more than \$1,000, or im-
prisonment in the penitentiary for a
term of not less than one year nor
more than three years. This punish-
ment seemed too severe to a majority
of the members and was the source
of the bill's defeat.

NOW IN PRESS.

C. P. Strain Publishes a Book on
Taxation.

C. P. Strain, county assessor of
Umatilla county, is just having issued
from the press of the East Oregonian.

SAMPLE BARGAINS

In Real Estate

3200 acres good wheat land
Well watered and improved.
\$12.50 per acre.

1000 acre stock ranch. All
fenced. Raises 200 tons of
hay; has running water, open
range near by. \$5000.

10 room house and two
lots. Modern conveniences.
\$2500.

All on Easy Terms.

E. T. WADE & SON

P. O. Box 24
Phone Black 1111 Office in E. O. Bldg.

a 15-page booklet, containing his
argument in favor of a high valuation
of railroad property, made before the
county board of equalization, last
August.

The book contains the entire argu-
ment made by Mr. Strain, and in ad-
dition several pages of statistical
tables and data, in support of his con-
tention, to place all railroad property
on an equal basis with other property
in the county.

Those who read the press reports
of Mr. Strain's argument at the time,
will recall the seemingly unan-
swerable array of facts which he
gathered from reports of the inter-
state commerce commission, to sup-
port his assessment of the property
of the railroads in Umatilla county.

In making the first high assess-
ment of this character of property
ever attempted in the state, it was
necessary for Mr. Strain to build his
own foundations, from volumes of re-
ports included in the records of the
inter-state commerce commission, from
the time he was elected, until he
began making the assessment, he
labored diligently, searching through
the mazes of figures to get a basis
for a correct assessment.

Mr. Strain had no trail blazed
through the maze of assessment in
Umatilla county. All his predecessors
had placed the railroads on the
assessment rolls at their own figures.
It was necessary for him to build a
basis and support it by facts and figures
and the taxpayers of Umatilla county
have the result of his labors in that
direction in this little book.

The tax agents of the O. R. & N.
made eloquent and able pleas before
the board of equalization in support
of a lowest assessment. Mr. Strain
was prepared to support his stand,
and the board of equalization in-
dorsed his values of roadbed and rolling
stock, entire, the only reduction made
by the board being in the value of
the depot grounds in this city, and in
removing the assessment from ma-
terial on hand.

Mr. Strain is already in receipt of
dozens of letters from Washington
and Oregon assessors, for copies of
the book, and its popularity is as-
sured in advance. Nearly every as-
sessor in Eastern Oregon signified
his intention to follow the example
of Mr. Strain in raising the value of
all property, now that the ice is
broken and a precedent set for them
to follow.

So complete and exhaustive are
Mr. Strain's arguments and figures
on railroad values, earnings, cost of
operation, first cost, cost of main-
tenance and rate of income on the
investment based on net earnings, that
his book will become a handbook for
assessors on railroad values in future
years. It is a just and fair presentation
of his side of the case and the demand
for higher assessment is now general
throughout the state.

AN UNKNOWN DONOR.

Sylvia Turner Receives Christmas
Presents Through Rev. Howard.

Rev. Howard, pastor of the
South M. E. church, was presented
with a package by an unknown man
on Christmas eve, containing a pres-
ent for Sylvia Turner, the little girl
who is in charge of Mrs. Walter
Wells, awaiting the action of the
Boys and Girls Aid Society of Port-
land, after having been taken from
her foster mother who so badly treat-
ed her a few weeks ago.

The package contained a necklace
and locket, besides a generous sup-
ply of candy and nuts and was a very
generous gift from the unknown but
sympathetic friend.

BREVITIES.

Low Wenham returned from La
Grande this morning.

Mrs. J. A. Carlisle of Kamiah, is in
the city for a short visit.

D. J. Kirk, of Milton, is in the city
for a short business visit.

C. H. Lemmery, of Adams, is the
guest of friends in the city today.

Mrs. J. A. Carlisle of Kamiah, is the
guest of relatives for a few days.

Miss Pauline Simpson, of Weston,
visited with friends in the city to-
day.

Mrs. Catherine Pooler, of Salem, is
visiting relatives in the vicinity of
Pendleton.

Will Jameson, of Weston, was in the
city today, visiting with friends in
the city.

Otis Turner, of Weston, is in the
city for a short time, the guest of the
Hotel St. George.

Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Beck, of Ath-
ens, were the guests of Pendleton
friends yesterday.

F. A. Seufert, Jr., of The Dalles, is
in the city for a visit of a few days
with friends here.

Mrs. Edward Manasse, of Athens,
was the guest of relatives in the city
yesterday and today.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. White, of La
Grande, are visiting Pendleton friends
for a few days.

H. C. Adams, of Weston, was the
guest of friends in the city yesterday
for an over Sunday visit.

J. B. Lister, an insurance man of
Eugene, was in the city this morning
on business for a short time.

E. A. Brock, a prominent man of
Pullman, was a Pendleton visitor to-
day for a short visit on business.

Miss Bertha Gross left this morn-
ing for Athens, where she will be the
guest of friends and relatives for a
week.

Alex Oliver and wife returned from
a visit to Echo, last evening. They
attended the rabbit drive there yester-
day.

J. J. Balleray has returned from a
week's business trip to Portland,
where he has been interested in legal
matters.

W. L. Shaw, of Milton, is in the
city for a short visit. Mr. Shaw is
the well known farmer and irriga-
tionist of that city.

Mrs. Hannah Rogers, who has been
assisting Mrs. C. C. Brown during the
illness of Conductor Brown, has re-
turned to her home in La Grande.

Mr. and Mrs. McAuley, of Baker
City, have been the guests of Mr. and
Mrs. William Hossington, while on
their way to North Yakima to spend
the holidays with their son George.

Will Ingram returned this morning
from a visit to George R. DeMott,
who is suffering with rheumatism at
Hot Lake. Mr. DeMott's condition
is much better, and he is being great-
ly benefited by the treatment there.

Miss Mae Wenham accompanied
her brother, Low Wenham, from La
Grande this morning en route to
Prosser, Wash., where she goes to
visit during the holiday season. She
is a teacher in the Union county
public schools.

W. E. Wilson, a saloon man of Or-
gon City, was fined \$10 Saturday for
selling liquor to minors.

BIG RABBIT DRIVE

LARGEST OF SEASON
ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Butter Creek District Will Be Picket-
ed by Hunters and Wide Territory
Covered—Cannery People Can
Handle All the Drive Yields—Cold
Storage Facilities Enlarged—Rab-
bits Are Becoming More Numer-
ous.

The most extensive rabbit drive of
the season will be organized on But-
ter creek on New Year's day. It is
intended to begin some distance
back on Butter creek and cover sev-
eral miles in extent, ending at the
point not yet determined upon, from
where it will be most convenient and
likely to result in the greatest catch
of rabbits.

Since the cannery has started and
there is some beneficial use for the
rabbits, more interest will be taken
in their destruction after this. Many
of the farmers in east district have
hesitated to slaughter the animals
by wholesale, where they were left
lying in the pens, with no possible
use for them. But now that there is
a humane and profitable means of
disposing of them, everybody is united
on their destruction.

In the sage brush rabbits have mul-
tiplied so greatly in the past two or
three years that they are now an
actual menace to the young crop of
alfalfa and in many cases to the alfalfa
on the outside of the settlements.

This new year's drive will be or-
ganized with a view to securing the
greatest possible number of rabbits, and
teams will leave Echo in the morn-
ing for the scene of the drive, carry-
ing all the available population of
that little burg and as many as go
from Pendleton and other points.

The cold weather will enable the
cannery people to care for all the
rabbits caught, as the cold storage
facilities have been enlarged. The
animals are fat and plump and in
prime condition to use in the can-
nery.

Yesterday's Rabbit Drive.

The rabbit drive at Echo yester-
day resulted in the capture of about
600 American hare. Only a small
crowd was in attendance and a very
small territory covered.

STUDENTS' GREWSOME PRANKS.

Place Skeleton in a Wagon Near the
Altar of the Auditorium.

The State College auditorium stage
at Pullman, Wash., was decorated by
some students on Christmas Eve.
The decorations consisted of the
stuffed up energy and displayed
artistic ability. The decorations on
the stage were composed of a lum-
ber wagon, two stuffed black bears,
two stuffed fawns, a cow's skeleton,
a hog's skeleton and the skeleton of
some ill-fated human.

The load consisted of the skeleton
of one hog, which at some past place
was also entrusted to the medical
care of the students of the veteri-
nary department, and two large black
bears which were standing upright.
The two fawns brought up the rear.
This ridiculous scene was made
more grotesque by the presence of
the human bones. The skeleton was
standing just in front of the large
wagon, and behind the chapel clock.
The long finger bones were pointed
to the chapel Bible, which was open
at "Thy-Sixty-Six, Psalm, woe be
reads: 'There is no soundness in
their bones, neither shall they be
there any more in my bones be-
cause of my sin,' etc. A lighted
candle was placed beside the Bible.

FOR HIGHER ASSESSMENT.

Washington Assessors Will Raise All
Railroad Valuations.

"The sentiment of the meeting was
for higher assessments of railroad
property in this state," said County
Assessor Dayton Stewart, of Spokane,
who has just returned from a meet-
ing of a special committee of the
state assessors, held in Washington,
Seattle, says the Dayton Courier-
Press.

At the last meeting of the state
association a committee was named
to secure data upon the manner rat-
ing property is assessed in other
states, and to recommend a plan for
such assessment. In Washington, the
chairman of that committee, the
other members of which are Ed
Meath, assessor of Pierce county; As-
sessor E. H. Allen, of Snohomish
county; Assessor James Elder, of
Whatcom county; Assessor J. J. Ber-
nart, of Walla Walla county, and
Assessor F. R. Archer, of Chehalis
county.

"All the members were present at
the Seattle meeting. We informally
discussed the matter of our reports,
and inspected such data as had been
gathered together. It was decided
that the special committee meet in
Spokane February 12 to frame its
report."

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Ferguson-Maloney Building Partially
Changes Hands.

C. B. Wade and wife have sold to
Jacob F. Clemmer for \$12,500, about
five acres of land in southwest quar-
ter of the southeast quarter of sec-
tion 1, in township 2, north of range
12 east, being a tract of land in the
northwest part of Pendleton.

James W. Maloney and wife have
sold their half interest in the Fergu-
son-Maloney building on Main street,
to Dr. Elmer E. Ferguson, of The Dalles,
for \$7,250. Dr. Ferguson is a son of
J. M. Ferguson, the owner of the
two other halves of the property, and
in the future share half of the
rentals of the place. The block will
be used for the same purpose as it
has in the past, there being no in-
tention on the part of the new own-
ers to change the business houses
conducted there in any way.

DEATH OF MRS. SIMARD.

Had Been a Sufferer from Tubercu-
le for Over a Year.

Mrs. Nettie E. Simard died at St.
Anthony's hospital in this city Sat-
urday evening, Dec. 26, after a long
illness of over a year with tu-
berculosis. She was brought from
her home near Preewater to the hos-
pital on November 17, in hopes that

the change would benefit her, but the
dread disease has weakened her to
such an extent the she and her be-
loved upon her was of no avail.

Mrs. Simard, formerly Miss Nettie
Creswell, leaves a husband, four
brothers—J. A. Creswell, of Delta,
Addison C. Creswell, of Vancouver, B.
C., Alfred B. Creswell, of Chico, Cal.,
and John I. Creswell, of Freewater—and
one sister, Mrs. M. A. Bellinger,
of Salem, leaving a wide circle of
friends to mourn her loss.

She was born at Salem, Oregon, on
October 8, 1866, and came to Umatilla
county ten years ago, and has resided
here since that time. In her youth
she united with the Presbyterian
church and was a devoted, con-
sistent member of that church until
death.

About one year ago she was taken
ill with tuberculosis and while the
illness was not severe, it gradually un-
dermined her strength until it was
thought a change in surroundings
and treatment would benefit her when
she was brought to the hospital, where
it will be most convenient and likely
to result in the greatest catch of
rabbits.

The funeral services were conducted
at the Presbyterian church at 10
o'clock this morning by Rev. J. A.
Diven and interment took place at
Olive cemetery.

WILL ATTEND CONVENTION.

Umatilla County Stockmen Preparing
to Go to National Meeting in Large
Numbers.

Stockmen from all parts of Umatilla
county are preparing to go to the
annual meeting of the National Live-
stock convention, which will be held
in Portland on January 11 to 15. The
stockmen will meet on January 11
at 10 o'clock, and immediately after the
opening of the sessions of the National
Association will convene, making
five days of continuous meetings.

Claiming that the National Live-
stock convention, which will be held
in Portland on January 11 to 15, the
stockmen will meet on January 11
at 10 o'clock, and immediately after the
opening of the sessions of the National
Association will convene, making
five days of continuous meetings.

Under the law as it stood prior to
1903, each householder was entitled
to an exemption of \$300 on his per-
sonal property.

Subdivision 8, of section 3039, of
the code, specifying what property
shall be exempt from taxation, has
been amended so as to read as fol-
lows:

GYPSIES BREAK CAMP.

At Last Accused They Were Des-
tined for Echo.

The gypsy camp that has been for
some time near the ball grounds, has
broken up and the dray traveling
have started for some fields more
congenial. They were much dis-
gusted by the hospitality of Pendleton,
and claim that they were treated
for some time again. Their principal
kick is that they were disturbed
in their Christmas celebration by
the police, and that they had to leave
their treasury practically all of the
money collected here.

Three of the men were fined \$10
each for being drunk and for fight-
ing, and they paid the money into the
city recorder's hands in half dollars,
quarters, dimes and nickels. From the
time taken to scrape the money to-
gether and the reluctance with which
it was produced, it was evident that
it was the larger part of the capital
of the company. Two hours after
the fine had been paid the camp was
on the move bound for Echo, where
they hope to be better received.

C. E. WALKER DEAD.

Was Ill With Typhoid Pneumonia—
Lived in This Vicinity 17 Years.

C. E. Walker died in this city yester-
day night of typhoid pneumonia, after
a long illness of six weeks, at the
age of 31 years. The deceased was
a well known young man, having
made this city his home for 17 years,
or the past 17 years, during which
time he followed many occupations,
for some time being in charge of a
large saloon, and later on he was
employed by the city of Pendleton.
He had been ailing for over a month
before at last giving up and going to
bed. At first it was thought that he
was not seriously ill, but as his con-
dition became serious, and he rapidly
grew worse until death came.

R. W. Walker, of Pendleton, the
father of the deceased, and brother of
the deceased, will remain in the city
this morning and will remain until
after the funeral, which will be held
tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock,
under the auspices of the Odd Fellows.
Mr. Walker having been a member
of the lodge at Tekoa, Wash.

LEWIS SCHJOOT DEAD.

Oldest Man at Poor Farm Passes
Away With Paralysis.

Lewis Schjoot, the oldest man at
the county poor farm, died at that
place last night of paralysis, after an
illness of some duration. "He de-
ceased was 86 years of age, and
came to the poor farm 13 years ago
on the 12th of November last. He
was a native of Norway, and has
been a long time one of the charac-
ters of the poor farm, where his
kindly disposition made him a favor-
ite with the officers and the inmates.
At the time of his commitment
Schjoot was an old man and broken
health made it necessary for him to
be made a charge of the hospital.
The funeral will be held tomorrow
morning at 10 o'clock at the parlors
of the undertakers of Baker & Folsom.

PROBATE COURT.

John Morrison's Will Will Be Con-
tested January 4.

A large number of witnesses have
been subpoenaed for the meeting of
the probate court, which is called for
January 4, when the contest of the
will of John Morrison is scheduled
for a hearing. The contestants in the
case claim that the deceased was not
of sound mind at the time of his
death, and was therefore unable to
properly dispose of his property.
There is quite an estate involved in
the contest, and a good deal of in-
terest in the case is being manifested
by those who are connected with it
in any way.

HAULING MUD OFF MAIN STREET.

The street commission is having
another ton or two of mud taken
from the streets while it is dry
enough to handle. The scraper is at
work on Main street, and a force of
men is busy shoveling the surplus
street into wagons and hauling it
where it will be better appreciated
than in the business portion of the
city.

ATTENDED THE FUNERAL.

G. W. Hunt, of Foster, is in the
city having attended the funeral of
Charles Chandler, who died a few
days ago of pneumonia, and who
had been in the employ of Mr. Hunt
for the last 10 years.

DANCE AT ECHO NEXT THURSDAY.

A grand ball will be given at Ma-
son hall, at Echo, on New Year's
Eve, Thursday, December 31. Mr.
Lymann's orchestra will furnish the
music and supper will be served by
Mrs. Rosa Webb.

AN EPIDEMIC OF SMALLPOX IS RAGING

at Lorraine, a village near Cottage
Grove.

IMPROVE GOLECONDA

NEW ELECTRIC LIGHT AND
POWER PLANT FOR IT

Intention is to Run All the Mills and
Stamps and Light the Interior
from This Plant—Annual Meeting
of Company Will Be Held Here.

J. A. Howard, of Sumpter, is in the
city for a short business visit. Mr.
Howard is the manager of the Gole-
conda Mining company, and is here
to confer with the stockholders and
directors of the company preparatory
to the annual meeting and the com-
pletion of the annual report of the
manager.

It is the intention of the company
to make a great many improvements
in the property during the year
now opening, and these matters will
come up at the annual meeting which
meets in this city towards the lat-
ter part of next month.

New Electric Plant.

One of our contemplated improve-
ments is the installation of a large
and much improved electric power
plant at their mine, so that all of
the mills and stamps of the mine can
run from the one source of power,
and at the same time the station will
furnish light for the mine at all
times.

Mr. Howard will return to Sumpter
in a short time, where he will finish
up the work of this year and prepare
his reports for the meeting in this
city.

NEW EXEMPTION LAW.

Special Session Changes Meaning and
Adds No Emergency Clause.

The exemption law enacted by the
special session, and which will take
effect March 23, differs materially
from the old law.

Under the law as it stood prior to
1903, each householder was entitled
to an exemption of \$300 on his per-
sonal property.

Subdivision 8, of section 3039, of
the code, specifying what property
shall be exempt from taxation, has
been amended so as to read as fol-
lows:

"The following property, if owned
or kept for use, by and for his or her
family: household goods, furniture,
and utensils, two cows, 10 sheep, five
swine, and the tools, implements, ap-
paratus, team, vehicle, harness, or li-
brary to enable any person to carry
on his trade, occupation or profession,
by which such person earns his or
her living to the amount of \$300, the
articles to be selected by such house-
holder, provided, however, that where
the assessed valuation of the personal
property above enumerated shall
amount to less than