

The Madras Pioneer

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OREGON'S IRRIGATION IMMENSE

Governor Herrick Sees Great Future for Oregon's Desert.

FIGHTS WITH DOLLY VARDENS IN DESCHUTES

Lava Ash Soil Never Wears Out--Desert Shows Great Transformation--Produces All Kinds Grains and Vegetables.

Portland Journal.

Ohio's governor is back from a survey of Oregon's wonderland. He looked upon the desert, where even a blade of grass was not to be found, and the gray-green sage, earth's only effective mantle, reached away to the horizon; he looked again, where the irrigator had begun his work, and beheld the smile of prosperity.

When Myron T. Herrick returned to Portland yesterday, after an outing in the Deschutes valley, he was an ardent disciple to the preacher of the greatness of Oregon. His eyes had beheld the wonderful transformation on land, his skilled hand had drawn from the roaring Deschutes great speckled beauties, and the Buckeye visage wore the tan of hot sun and alkali dust.

But however diverting may be the flimsy tempters, or discouraging the desert airs, the governor says Oregon is immense. His keen eye looked beneath the dusty surface. Lava ash soil, which to the untutored is a barren waste, revealed to him its prodigal fertility.

"I have sailed along the Sicilian coast," said the eminent visitor, and have seen the Italian farmer enriching the soil used for centuries with a decomposed lava. Italy knows its worth, and fertilizes land which is becoming impoverished with the rich potash stores of plain lava and basalt. Out there in Eastern Oregon the soil is a disintegrated lava. What others seek as a fertilizer nature provides there without measure.

"If we may be permitted an old quotation, which honored the man who made two blades of grass grow where but one was found before, there is high praise for these hardy men of Eastern Oregon. They make two blades of grass grow where there was none before."

"We were looking for fish,"

said the governor, "and we caught them in abundance. We found remarkable trout there, enjoyed the superb mountain air, visited the scene of reclamation work and have spent a most enjoyable time. Returning, we drove over the mountains to Lebanon, where the citizens met us out on the highway before reaching the town and extended us a most cordial welcome. At Albany the commercial club entertained us delightfully and made our stay there most enjoyable."

The Deschutes is famed as a trout stream. Dolly Vardens and reddsides grow to great proportions in the deep, swift stream, and the fortunate angler who hooks one of the monsters is required to play his game with all the art and cunning known to the profession. That the Ohio governor was often pitted against a Deschutes patriarch in this unequal struggle, wherein man becomes the pigmy and his antagonist at the other end of the line a veritable shark, is attested by the party, but with the diplomacy of a deep student of human nature the chief executive does not try to define his achievements.

"It seems to me that the irrigation work on the Deschutes is a great project," said Governor Herrick, "a work that will be of great benefit to your state. Water is running through some of the canals that are to reclaim 200,000 acres. The result of irrigation is wonderful. Land which only knew the sagebrush and jackrabbit suddenly becomes an expanse of fertile fields, growing all cereal and fodders, garden truck, and the luxuries as well as the necessities of agriculture. It seemed that almost anything in the line of agriculture common to the country was found there except corn."

The Grizzly Lake Lumber yard has on hand all kinds of moulding, door stops and window stops.

THE HERDERS IN TROUBLE

Shepherds of R. R. Hinton, of Antelope, have been making trouble in the Tumalo country lately, and there is a prospect that there will be trouble for them at the next setting of the circuit court. The Wimers, Mr. Jensen and others report the presence of the sheep in their locality and that a great deal of damage has been done by them. And to top the climax the sheepmen set out fire which has burnt over nearly a township of land and is still burning. Owing to the lack of underbrush comparatively little damage has been done by the fire, but still the injury is considerable.

The sheep tramped down the banks of irrigating ditches, filling the current with sand which

raised the bottom at critical places, caused overflows and breaks and were generally annoying and destructive. Mr. Jensen says he has more than a week's work to restore his ditches, besides the damage from water running wild, and the Wimers are even greater sufferers. Of course the sheep have destroyed all the home range for the settlers.

The herders were quite overbearing, insolent and defiant, as well as unnecessarily careless. The names of the men who have making themselves specially obnoxious are George W. Stege, Paul Laverty, Fincher and Hinton, a nephew of the owner of the sheep. Two other herders whose names are not known came up later and were not quite so offensive. Last year Hinton's herders were

very reasonable. This year they appear very otherwise.—Bend Bulletin.

J. E. Hinton, a Bakeoven stockman, was in town last Friday. Mr. Hinton was on his way home from Bend, where he went to straighten out the trouble into which his herders had gotten by driving over a number of irrigating ditches. He settled with the parties by paying them the amounts of their damages.

MITCHELL IS SENTENCED

Six Months in Prison and One Thousand Dollar Fine.

John H. Mitchell, senior Senator of Oregon, who was convicted in the federal court at Portland of using his office for personal gain, has been sentenced by U. S. Circuit Judge DeHaven. The sentence pronounced by Judge DeHaven was "that the defendant be imprisoned for the term of six months in the county jail of Multnomah county, in this city, and pay a fine in the sum of \$1000." In addition to the penalty fixed by the court, the conviction of Senator Mitchell forever bars him from holding any office of trust or position of honor and profit within the United States. Senator Mitchell, through his counsel, gave notice of appeal, and the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court. The appeal acts as a stay of judgment, but should the Supreme Court sustain the decision of the lower court, Senator Mitchell will have to pay the penalty. Meanwhile, he will not resume his seat in the United States Senate.

Senator Mitchell is the second United Senator to be convicted of using his public office for private gain. Senator Burton of Kansas was convicted in April, 1904, of having used his office for private gain, and was sentenced to serve six months in jail and pay a fine of \$2500. He appealed the case which was remanded for a new trial.

MAMMOTH WHEAT RANCH

Coffin brothers, of North Yakima, Washington, have bought the Babcock ranch of 100,000 acres lying in Chelan, Kittitas and Douglas counties of that state, which is the largest wheat ranch in the Pacific Northwest. The consideration was \$300,000 and included in the deal are 14,000 sheep, a number of horses and growing crops. Several thousand acres are in wheat and hay. The ranch was owned by W. H. Babcock, of Walla Walla, known as the wheat king of Washington. Coffin brothers will make a number of improvements in the farm and increase the flocks of sheep.—Field and Farm.

The most pleasant place to stop in Prineville is at Hotel Polindexter. Good accommodations, home comforts, and popular prices.

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