

THE GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

Volume XXXV

JOHN DAY, GRANT COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1904.

Number 27.

FROM THE BEAUTIFUL AND PROLIFIC JOHN DAY VALLEY

Messrs. Parrish, Donaldson and Kight Talk to a Baker City Democrat man of Business Conditions.

J. L. Parrish of John Day and S. J. Donaldson and P. M. Kight of Prairie City, all business men engaged in merchandising in the beautiful and prolific John Day valley, are now transacting in Baker City, says the Democrat of the 22nd inst., where they have come for the purpose of buying their spring stock of goods for their respective stores.

These merchants find it cheaper and more convenient to meet their needs in Baker than have them come to their home towns. They also visit Baker City, which they consider the hub of Eastern Oregon, which is always a treat to them.

Mineral in Grant county is practically at rest now as this is the off season. Most of the placer workers shut down and prospecting generally is waiting for spring. Work on the Dixie Meadows is progressing right along and people have great hopes for this enterprise.

Stockraising is one of the great industries of the county which these gentlemen represent. For some time many feared that feed for the huge herds of cattle and other herds of sheep which are among the mainstays of the county would be scarce, but such fears have subsided. At one time in the beginning of winter it was feared that a shortage would result in considerable loss among cattlemen, but that danger is past and cattlemen are in good luck.

The winter has been such as to furnish good crops for the coming season and stockmen have no reason to complain except at the low price of cattle. Prices are not what they ought to be but stock men think the early spring will right things again.

Last fall cattle prices were so unsatisfactory that not many were sold and as the people look to the stockraising industry to develop the resources, a very important one have been abandoned. Business and residence buildings that were contemplated have been temporarily abandoned.

But there is not permanent. The stock business will soon be back to its old vigorous standing and the improvement will be resumed.

One of these gentlemen said that the winter season of great diversified crops, but one serious drawback is the lack of market for products. Large quantities of fruit are grown, and especially apples, but so far as those consumed at home very few find their way to the market and it may truthfully be said that more fruit is eaten by logs than by human beings.

There is another manner in which railroads will aid the section. Most of the mines carry large ones and the concentrates will furnish tonnage. When transportation lines reach these mines they will be worked more extensively, employing more men.

The mines should give the section a splendid home market for all that the farmers produce.

Hoist Started at Myers Group. Elmer Cleaver is just back from the Myers group, near Medical Lake, operated by the Indiana Mining company, in which he is interested, says the Sumpter Miner. The new hoist, recently installed on the property, was started up last Friday, and Mr. Cleaver says he is doing good work. Pumps were also installed. The hoist has a depth

capacity of 500 feet. The shaft was sunk slightly feet by hand on the outside before the machinery was put in. It is the present purpose to continue sinking. J. W. Mosser is general manager of the company, and also of the Prairie Digging, operated by practically the same people.

GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

Items of Interest Swept From Our Exchanges.

PRATHER CITY.
Hon. G. W. McCallay has been on the sick list but is now getting better.

W. W. Reese is in Portland and will visit his blind son, Alvin, who is in the school for the blind at Salem.

Joe Reese is slowly recovering from lumbago. He was out on the streets a little while on last Wednesday.

Mrs. John Jones recently sold at Burns 100 head of stock cattle for \$900 throwing in the calves for good measure.

Ray Laurance, son of Isham Laurance of this city, is now learning the newspaper and printing business in this office.

J. S. Gottridge hauled the biggest load of hay, delivering it to Dr. V. C. Beikup that has ever been loaded in Prater. It weighed 1850 pounds.

Joe McCallan was the first to put in electric lights in this town. He had them installed in his saloon Wednesday. Several other business houses had the lights put in this week.—Miner.

Some fine specimens of free burning coal have been taken out of O. Kizer's well in town, the bottom of which is a solid bed of coal. A company may be incorporated to develop this fine prospect.

In the Lone Rock country the dogs have for some time been helping themselves to fresh meat notwithstanding the efforts put forth to suppress them. Things came to a crisis Monday when the pack killed one of R. G. Robinson's calves. Several dogs were shot and the leader hung to the rafters of R. G. Robinson's barn. Dead dogs are at a premium.

Anthony Mohr, of Sumpter, a member of the company that is developing the Fossil coal fields, arrived from Sumpter Wednesday and examined the coal prospect in the Kizer well in town. He went over Thursday to join his associate Mr. Walker at the mines, where a force of men under the latter have been getting out some very fine coal and selling it to the ranchers in the John Day valley.

Last Monday morning Claude Laurence, the prisoner who is held for breaking into a saloon at Spray and stealing some \$50 out of a slot machine, found the jail door unlocked and while Sheriff Keeton was down town darted down stairs and crawled out of the window in the mud for five miles and captured. He was returned to his cell and put under lock and key.—Journal.

DEFENSE.
A. E. Wright was in town Friday from his ranch near Hardman.

He reports stock doing well in his section.

H. R. Stanfield a heavy cattle buyer, was in town a day or two this week for the purpose of buying feeders. He recently sold 400 head of fat cattle at four cents per pound.

Toule Swick and Emmitt Cochran came in from Grant county Saturday. They report stock as being in good condition in the interior. Very little feeding has as yet been done and if the favorable weather continues throughout the present month stock will not suffer on account of shortage of feed.

Sheriff Shutt returned yesterday with three Italians who had held up and robbed a white man, taking his gold watch and \$6 in money. Each Italian wore five suits of clothes. One, Giuseppe Ross, had three drafts, amounting to \$500. They had among them ten watches and much other jewelry, three revolvers and a shotgun. Each carried a razor and a stiletto. It is believed that they committed various crimes.—Times.

LONG CREEK.

School has opened in the Carter district with Mrs. Flora Dolma in charge.

W. Barnard was over from Fox Thursday and reports his wife improving.

A number of young people had a very enjoyable time coasting one day last week.

M. W. Dunlap was quite sick while camped on the McCall grade last week. He hired H. W. Adkins to oversee the road work in his place.

G. M. Booth, presiding elder of this district, writes that he will not be able to reach Long Creek in time to hold quarterly meetings next Sunday.—Ranger.

GUERRILLA FIGHTING.

Columbia Would Marass the U. S. Forces.

The turbulent times arising over the Panama canal situation are not confined to the bloodless battles of intelligent congressmen, and the violent but vain protests of the faculty statesmen from Columbia. It is now real fighting men with real war, although it is of the guerrilla sort, are considering the argument of bullets and knife.

For some time the United States government has had men and vessels engaged in watching the coast of Panama. These forces are under the command of Admiral Coghlan, who on Thursday sent the following dispatch to the navy department.

The report of the appearance of Colombian forces between Colon and the coast is due to the men in that vicinity now who belonged to the Colombian forces which would not join the Panama men, who took to the mountains behind David and are now a band of unorganized marauders. There were originally about 200 men. Some unarmed have been seen about Santa Fe and the Cooia river. They were committing depredations.

The Panama government has promised to deal with such guerrilla forces.

STATE ASSOCIATION.

Cattlegrowers Organize A Home Combine.

The Oregon State Cattlegrowers Association has been formed with Wm. Hanley of Burns president. R. N. Stanfield of Pendleton was made treasurer and Grant Mays of The Dalles, secretary.

A committee on permanent organization was formed. The Grant county member of this committee is Henry Townbridge of Ias.

An executive committee consisting of one member from each county was also elected. Joe Combe was chosen from Grant.

The association was formed for the purpose of looking after more closely the cattle industry. The many phases of the business are

altogether too complicated for their proper individual handling. Some of the bearings reach up to proportion that bring them into contact with national machinery. Others are local, but not always simple. It is hoped that with reference to all these questions, from the problems of grazing to those of marketing, they may be more effectively looked after.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

Sumpter Valley Would Into This

There has been such a vast deal of railroad talk during the past few years that many conservative people are prone to look with suspicion upon any disposition to renew it. But the latest revival of extension rumors comes from a source that is usually credited with being both conservative and well informed. Indeed it has often been asserted by the unfriendly critics of the Baker City Democrat's railroad policy that the paper stood in "most too close."

But be that as it may there seems no doubt that it is not prone to go in advance of the band wagon in announcing plans for railway extension. Yet this is what it says:

The plans of the Sumpter Valley railway call for the extension of the line from the summit through Prairie City to Canyon City. It runs

is based on good authority that the line will be extended as far as Canyon City in 1904. It is almost as certain that the Columbia Southern will build east within the next two years connecting the Sumpter Valley. This will give Baker City direct connection with the entire central portion of the state.

AT ST. LOUIS.

National Democratic Convention on July 6.

St. Louis has been selected as the convention city by the democratic national committee. Twenty-nine ballots were cast for the exposition city on the second ballot. The first resulted

New York, 6; St. Louis, 23; Chicago, 27.

July 6th is the date fixed for holding the democratic national convention.

Colonel Butcher Uses A Gun.

Last Friday evening, in Baker City, Colonel Butcher, a prominent business man and politician, shot Jerry White, a contractor in the week and arm. The trouble originated over the waterworks contract at Weiser, Idaho, in which both were interested. The reports indicate that White was the aggressor and Butcher shot in self defense. The latter surrendered himself to Justice Messick and was placed under \$5000 bonds.

HEAVY DAMAGES FOR A MINING TRESPASS

Keystone Company Opens Session in Quartzburg by Stopping Work of the Equity Mining Company.

The most important litigation yet begun in Sumpter was inaugurated this week when Attorney N. C. Richards filed complaints in the circuit court to recover the value of all ore illegally extracted from the Keystone mining property, Quartzburg district, asking for a permanent injunction against the Equity Copper & Gold Mining Co., forbidding it to remove ore from workings now being mined, and \$20,000 damages for injury done the property.

Judge Clifford has entered a temporary restraining order, forbidding further trespass on the territory in question, and commanding them to cease extracting ore until final hearing of the case, which injunction is now in force.


This action is the culmination of exhaustive investigations that have been in progress some time. Many witnesses have been examined, surveys made of the Keystone property, old monuments located and a general history of Quartzburg dug up. The point of difference is an overlapping location, one claimed by the Equity company being on the south half of the old Keystone claim. J. Frank Watson of Portland is one of the principal owners of the Keystone.

Deputy Marshal A. A. Roberts of Heppner has been appointed receiver of the La Grande land office.

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Certificates

Contest Closes April 30, 1904

Judges
HON. GEO. W. TURNER, Assessor, Pendleton
HON. W. W. TOLMAN, State Senator
HON. L. F. BOYD, Mayor, Heppner, Wash.