JOURNAL'S NORTHWEST NEWS

ROUNDUP OF THE WEEK IN STATES OF PACIFIC SLOPE

CURRENT EVENTS DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL PROGRESS

SHEEP-KILLING COYOTE HAS COST STOCKMEN OF OREGON TEN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

During This, His Month of Hunger, a Concerted Effort Will Be Made to Exterminate and Drive Him From the State.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Pendleton, Or., Jan. 16.—Making the night hideous with its lamentations, the Oregon coyote has been successful in hiding its real character from the people by its noise and persistent effort to keep out of sight. Sneaking about in the night time, visiting sheep corrgils and poultry houses whenever opportunity offered, he has been a menace little appreciated, and but slightly understood, save in sections where sheepmen have studied his habits and in self protection have combined to bring about his destruction.

It is not generally known that the coyote is the most expensive animal known in Oregon. No circus ever brought into the state an animal which cost its owner one hundredth part of the price of the coyote, and no one will ever know just where his cost began or where it will end. He is relentless in his ravages, unappeased in his appetite, inveterate in his nightly hunts, and as busy in season and out of season as the curbstone politician during a city election.

To put a price on his head in proportion to his ravages would require study and observation in all parts of the state. It is estimated by numerous sheepmen, who have come in contact with him every month in the year for a decade, that he has cost the people of the state of Oregon more money than has the Standard Oil trust and the coal trust combined. A fair estimate would be $10,000,000 up to this time, and every day he adds to the enormous sum in every one of the eastern counties, and in recent years he has extended his devastation to the Willamette valley, where he was unknown until fate drove him across the Cascade mountains.

Ten Million Dollars Toll.

Ten millions of dollars for coyotes—the scrawny, brown denizen of the woods and the brush areas of the state—is an awful price to pay, but it has been paid by the men who have produced the livestock of the state, and even the state has been a victim to the ravages of the little animal, as the taxes which belonged to the commonwealth, instead of being paid into the coffers of the state, have been devoured by the hungry horde in its mad raids about the sheep corrals and poultry houses in the stillness of night.

Ten millions of dollars represents in a way the damages to the state during the past ten years. It is conceded that fully a million dollars worth of property was destroyed last year, and another like sum will be devoured this year unless strenuous efforts are made to destroy the animals before the breeding season arrives. Last year it is estimated that fully 100,000 sheep were killed, while all kinds of small animals, game birds, poultry and small game animals have suffered untold damage by the ravages of the hungry, crying horde.

In years gone by the coyote lived upon the wide prairies of Oregon. His nightly concerts were a part of the life of the higher regions, and the early settler little realized that his neighbor, while friendly and noisy, would soon become a nuisance and expensive luxury which he could not destroy. As civilization progressed the prairies were plowed up, the farm took the place of the sage brush and the bunchgrass, and the coyote was driven to the timbered districts and to remote sections where sheepmen were wont to graze their flocks. About the farms opportunity was given for the animals to breed and live unmolested, as the efforts to secure a living were small and the damage seen by the farmer was so slight that he did not take time to kill off the scattering coyotes which were known to live in the neighborhood. In this manner the number of crying prowlers increased until coyotes became a pest and the state placed a price on the head of every one found and killed.

Bounty Law Was Beneficial.

The Oregon bounty law brought desolation to coyote town, and thousands of the animals gave up their lives that men could secure $1.50 for the pair of pointed ears which every one carried. Oregon soon became largely free from the pest. Then came the time when the bounty law was considered useless, and it was repealed. With what rapidity the coyotes increased in number and in appetite need not be shown here. Wolves are prolific animals, a female producing from eight to twelve during a season, and within a few years the state was overrun again.

Realizing that flocks must be protected without the aid of state law, sheepmen organized a warfare against the pest, and the Oregon Wool Growers' association last year killed about 10,000 coyotes during the month of January. A systematic plan of poisoning was followed, and it worked satisfactorily in most of the counties where sheep are raised largely. All sorts of schemes to catch the wary animal were worked, and the results were of such importance that a bulletin on poisoning the pests was issued and circulated all over the state. It was shown that coyotes will readily eat poison placed in fresh meat, in prunes, in apples and other fruits. In one instance 23 wolves were killed with poison placed in a single watermelon, not one of the animals being able to leave the patch after taking the fatal drink.

Years ago the orchardists of Oregon were friends of the coyote because they alleged the rabbit pest disappeared when the coyote came. In this way, for years, the coyote was harbored and allowed to increase in numbers. Soon it was discovered that the rabbit pest was destroyed by a disease, not by wolves, but the damage had been done and the coyote was much harder to exterminate than had been the bunny.

Oregonians are everywhere agreed that the coyote must go. A concentrated effort is to be made this month, during the period when hunger drives the wary animal to take chances that at other times he would not take, to destroy him in all his haunts, to drive him from the state. The Oregon Wool Growers' association has planned a campaign of extermination, and poison will be put out everywhere that the animal troubles, in a systematic manner. It is hoped that at least 10,000 of the pests will fall victims to the clever schemes of placing poison in the haunts.

Sagacious Fellow, the Coyote.

Not alone is the coyote expensive, but he is wise. He knows a man as well as he knows food, and he knows that all men are his sworn enemies. For this reason it is a difficult task to get him to take poison. He knows the scent of man and will not take food which has been touched by mans hand, even though he be starving. Neither will he follow a man's footsteps, nor linger where man has recently been walking. To place poison horses are used, and the shoes of men are covered heavily with gunny sacks or other heavy substances to prevent the scent from touching the ground. With gloves the bait has to be handled, and it must be placed on the ground so that it appears to have come by accident, otherwise his wolfship will sit by it and cry instead of taking his meal.

Prunes make a favorite bait. A dried prune is taken and after the seed is removed strychnine is placed inside and the fruit is crowded into an augur hole in a plank. The plank is carried to the rendezvous and there deposited on the ground not having been touched by mortal hand. When the coyote finds the prune he will dig it out of the hole in which it is confined, even at the cost of his life.

Fights Shy of Poison.

But it must be held firmly in the hole, or he will suspicion the trick and never touch the fruit. Dogs and other animals will not touch prunes, hence there is but little danger of poison being spread to domestic animals, while with meat the danger is great. Last year hundreds of sheep dogs worth from $50 to $100 each were killed by poison in the sheep districts.

Sheepmen of Oregon are making an endeavor to securt a bounty law giving $1.50 for each scalp surrendered to the county officials, the price now being paid in all other northwestern states. A uniform bounty law would prevent many abuses which are now practiced in Idaho, Washington and Montana. In western Oregon sheepmen are now offering from $10 to $25 for each scalp surrendered, a fund having been provided to pay for this manner of exterminating the coyote. This makes a burden which stockmen are loath to carry, when it is known that the state is entirely unconcerned in the destruction of one of the most dangerous enemies of the prosperity of Oregon.

Did the Mastodon Once Gambol on the Green in Josephine?

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Grants Pass, Or., Jan. 16. — A remarkable curiosity in the nature of a huge mastodon's tusk was found on Rogue river by two small boys, and is attracting much attention here. The big tooth is on display in the window of a down town business office. It is pronounced one of the best preserved specimens of this kind ever found.

The tooth is almost perfect, and appears just about as it did when it fell from the monster's jaw, or rather from the skeleton of the monster. Very little of the jawbone itself adheres to the tooth, and it is only partly petrified.

A search will be made in the vicinity of the place where the tooth was found, when the river lowers, with the hope of finding other portions of the huge skeleton. The discovery of the big tooth would indicate that this part of Oregon was, during prehistoric ages, the sporting place for the mastodon and probably other monsters of his kind.

MONTANA STILL HAS 74 BUFFALO

State Board's Table Gives Total Stock Value at $33,013,809.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Helena, Mont., Jan. 16.—At the request of Governor Norris the clerk of the state board of equalization has prepared a table showing the assessed valuation of the state of Montana, from which some interesting statistics are to be gleaned. It shows that the value of all realty is $124,328,449. Of this, $49,588,876 is in farm lands, while city lots are assessed at $25,014,040, improvements thereon, mining claims and attaches making up the balance.

The report shows that in Montana there are 2019 thoroughbred horses, 118,877 range horses, 80,977 common horses and 67 mules and colts. The total value of the horses is placed at $7,910,874. There are 74 buffalo. There are 74 buffalo, which are valued at $100. There are 725,550 head of cattle, which are assessed at $12,638,382. Of sheep there are 3,941,223 stock, 205,285 lambs, and 30,473 rams.

The total valuation of the sheep is placed at $12,336,444. There are 16,696 hogs and 4236 goats, making a total value for the livestock of $33,013,809. Among other leading items noted in the returns are goods, wares and merchandise of the value of $9,293,557; machinery, $4,864,701; solvent credits, $2,322,509; bank stock, $6,437,921; net proceeds of mines, $4,731,884; and personal property, $5,125,092.

Including railroads the value of all property in the state for the year 1908 was fixed at $252,294,016, and for 1907, $251,882,437. This is a net gain of $411,579. However, as Silver Bow shows a decrease of $13,025,843, it leaves a gain for the remaining 26 counties of $13,437,422, as compared with the preceding year.

FAIRBANKS WILL BE DAIRY TOWN

Expert Maids and One Thousand Cows Will Be Brought In.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Fairbanks, Wash., Jan. 16.—This town, which is located in the Palouse wheat belt, will have the distinction of being the only community in the Pacific northwest devoted exclusively to dairying. The platted townsite of 40 acres and 460 acres of land adjoining have been taken over by the Elgin Creamery company, which will build a model town.

Four hundred milch cows are to be brought west from Illinois, Indiana and Minnesotat at once, and this number will be increased to 1000 next spring and summer. The output of the town will be sold in Spokane and nearby towns.

Expert dairy maids will be employed and they and other employes will share in the profits of the concern, in addition to receiving the prevailing wages, ranging from $30 to $45 a month and board and lodging.

George W. Van Dyke and his associates have also organized a company in Spokane with a stated capitalization of $2,000,000 to crystalize milk, which will be sold by the pound. The company will erect several plants in dairy districts in the inland empire.

BLACK HAND FORCES ITALIAN MILLIONAIRE TO LEAVE U. S. HOME

Frank Bruno of Spokane Will Take Fortune and Go to Live in Italy—Dread Society Has Made His Life Miserable.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 16.—Rising from the painful position of a half starved and ragged peanut vender to that of a well clothed millionaire, Frank Bruno, Spokane's famous Italian resort keeper, will flee from the United States to save himself and his fortune from the greedy and bloodthirsty Black Hand society. The last five years of his life in Spokane have been shadowed with a terrible fear of the dread organization. Now he will seek refuge in the country that gave him birth.

From the station of a street merchant to that of a millionaire, this man has risen in the last 15 years. He is now possessor of a towering pile of dollars, holder of title to lands, owner of many business blocks. But he has plunged from heights of bliss enjoyed by a peaceable citizen to the terrors of a victim marked for doom by a secret society.

It would take his whole fortune to protect himself, his wife and his children against the greed of the terrible Black Hand, as he tells it himself. Perhaps it is the manner in which he acquired his money and vast estates that causes this desperate Italian society to covet his gold. There are others of Bruno's countrymen living in Spokane who have grown rich from the country's wealth, but they are not hunted by this society. They are living peaceably, with their children prattling about them unmolested.

Time and again Bruno's overflowing purse has been emptied into the reaching fingers of the Black Hand's extortioning agents. As his fortune has grown so the demands for money to appease the greed of this society have increased. Threats upon his life have been made. Under penalty of terrible death he has been compelled to forfeit thousands of dollars to the secret society of which his own countrymen are members.

Because Ernesto Santero, said to be a member of Black Hand society, befriended Bruno, enjoyed the comforts of his elaborate home, feasted with him and strolled with him, he was brutally murdered in Spokane on the night of November 4, 1908.

Ernesto Santero had broken from the Fernie, B. C., jail where he had been incarcerated under suspicion of having been a member of the Black Hand society. As a fugitive from justice he slunk into Spokane and found refuge beneath Frank Bruno's roof. Too long he tarried there, for on one November night his lifeless body, pierced with 21 stiletto wounds, was found a few squares from Frank Bruno's home, where he had been an honored guest.

Almost irrefutable proof that Ernesto Santero was a member of some secret Italian organization was established after his death, by the discovery of a weird emblem tattoed with an uncultured hand on his left forearm.

Santero's tragic end was the last straw to Bruno's load. His friend had been killed, it seemed, simply because he was his friend.

Half crazed from fright, without consequence among his former political cohorts, because of the manner in which he made his fortune; shorn of his natural chance to rise to power for the same reason, he must take his gains to lands far distant, that he may obtain peace.

"I have no pull here," Bruno said in Spokane a short time ago. "I have been driven out of a business that has made me rich. The Black Hand is after me and I am afraid of my life. I am going to get out of America and go back to Italy where I can live like a king with my servants about me to tend to my every want. That will help me to forget. I am going to give a part of my fortune to the earthquake victims in my own country—this land has made me rich, but it holds nothing more for me."

1 Prisoner, Now He's Gone, and Klickitat's Jail Is Unoccupied

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Husum, Wash., Jan. 16.—The Klickitat county jail is an institution without an inmate at the present time. A short time ago the discharge of a prisoner deprived it of its only occupant. The sheriff is enjoying a rest from one of his duties.

DIPHTHERIA BREAKS OUT IN THE SCHOOLS

Union, Or., Jan. 16.—On account of an epidemic of diphtheria in this city, the mayor has given notice that there will be no school, church or other public gatherings and that all children under 18 years of age will be required to stay at home and off the streets until February 1.

The disease has been prevalent here for some time, but was in a mild form and proper precautions were not taken to prevent its spread.

The 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Hammond died Thursday night.

BILLY SUNDAY WILL MEET OLD MEPHISTO IN JEFF'S PAVILION

"Will I Win? Sure Thing," Says ex-Ballplayer Evangelist—To Open Revivals at Los Angeles Early in February.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 16.—"Say for me that I've signed articles to meet Old Mephisto, the terror universal, in Jim Jeffries' fight pavilion at Los Angeles, early in February, following my Spokane engagement. Big Jim'll be in my corner, at least long enough to introduce me. Will I win? Surest thing. Take it from me that I've got the swellest punch. The rules are to my liking; made 'em myself between rounds in this town."

Rev. William A. Sunday, ex-ballplayer, gave out the foregoing at the close of a sermon in the Tabernacle here, where he is speaking to from 5000 to 8000 persons daily at a series of revival meetings to close January 25.

"I look forward with interest to the meeting with the old boy on the Pacific coast," he added. "And what I'll do to him with the upper cuts and jabs, short arm jolts, swings and hooks that I'm now bringing to a point of perfection in my daily training will make Jack Johnson, the negro heavyweight champion, feel he overlooked some important wrinkles in the fight game.

"Several big cities on Puget sound and the coast, including Seattle, Portland, Tacoma and San Francisco, and others in the interior want me to take falls out of their Nicks, but I don't see how I can accommodate the bunch until I return from a visit home, some time late in the spring or next fall."

Sunday's evangelistic methods are bizarre in the extreme and his expressions in rounding up a bunch of slang in the warfare upon vice and evil would make seasoned stagedrivers look to their laurels, but his work here has been productive of much good, and members of the Spokane Minstrel association say that any compensation he asks at the close of his meetings will be given in a voluntary spirit.

DEAD CHIEF'S MEMORY STILL LIVES

Yaquina John Located on Point of Land at the Entrance of Alsea Bay, Which Still Bears Name of the Remarkable Indian Brave

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Waldport, Or., Jan. 16.—Yaquina John, who located at the entrance of Alsea bay on a point of land which still bears his name, was a descendant of the Yaquina tribe of Indians. His father was a great chief who made war on the peaceful tribe of Alseas and attacked them while they were on a hunting trip into a part of the Drift creek country which was known as "Klose Illahee" and where every fall there was sure to be a plentiful supply of deer and elk, the meat of which served as a splendid addition to the usual diet of fish which constituted the principal food of the Alseas.

Many of the Alseas were killed or taken prisoners and Yaquina John's father established himself as chief of the small handful of Indians left. This was the most severe blow ever delivered against the peaceful Alseas and they never recovered from it. They continued to dwindle in numbers until the tribe became almost exterminated. Some of the children who escaped by running many miles, barefooted over cruel rocks, their scanty clothing torn from their bodies by the sharp thorns, told the story to the whites who settled first in the country, many years afterward.

Upon the death of his father, Yaquina John succeeded as chief and located his tepee on the heights of Yaquina John point where he could command a view of the bay and flats surrounding. Then followed an era of peace and plenty. Yaquina John was an intelligent Indian, big and straight, six feet tall and weighed about 200 pounds. He must have had a heart that nearly filled that big frame, for he was merciful, dealt fairly with the first whites and, unlike his father, was a man of peace and good judgment, and during the Rogue river outbreak in the early 50's when neighboring tribes were fretting under their restraint, he counselled only peace and refused to allow his braves to follow the example of his southern cousins.

Lived Many Years on Point.

Yaquina John lived many years on the point with his faithful squaw. They raised a large family, but invariably the sons died at an early age. He established a burial house near where Waldport's school now stands for his family vault, the old custom of burying in canoes having been abandoned. This house was painted white, with paint mixed with his own hands from clay and ochre secured from mother earth and compounded in a manner which was never learned by the whites, although repeated attempts were made to induce the old man to disclose the secret. The paint withstood the storms many years longer than the ordinary paint and when the house was finally torn down by the whites many of the boards were carried away as souvenirs, for they still looked as if freshly painted.

The constant loss of his family seemed to be a source of great sorrow to the parents and finally, when the death vaults contained more than remained at home, they removed to the head of tide on the Alsea river, no doubt thinking the change would be beneficial to the family. But the same fate seemed to pursue them, and when there were already 10 members of the family in the dead house Yaquina John's last son died.

The sad old man now set to work to build a coffin in which to transport the body to the death vaults down the bay, a distance of 12 miles or more. When the coffin was completed the body was placed therein and also all the usual possessions of a lad of 16. Ample provisions were also stored in the box as was the Indian custom. The coffin was placed near the camp and kept several days while preparations were made for the funeral, but before the coffin was brought down the river the young man returned to life.

Great was the joy of the father. The Indians who had gathered for a funeral feast now laughed and sang. All rejoiced with the glad father and wondered at the strange happening. The few whites in the vicinity also wondered. They had witnessed the preparations for the funeral and some of the white children who had played with the boy saw him in his coffin. Now he had returned to life.

Lived Another Year.

After the visitors had returned to their homes, the lad requested that his corpse be kept at least three days in an open box should he again die. He lived nearly a year. At his death he was placed in the coffin, which was set in a little niche hollowed out of the sidehill near the camp. A watch was kept, but after three days the body was taken down the river. A procession of canoes was formed. It moved down the river amid the waving of great streamers and flags, the singing of death chants, mourning and the beating of tom toms.

After much ceremony the lad's corpse was placed beside those of his brothers, in the vaults, and Yaquina John took up a lonely existence on the point; but so firmly set in his mind was the belief that his son would once more come to life that he cut a trail through the forest between his favorite residence spot on the point and the deathhouse and trimmed out overhanging limbs in such a maner as to afford an unobstructed view between these two places.

It enabled him to reside on the point and at the same time keep watch for signs of life from his last son. Each morning his first duty was to look down at the little white house. Many times when the weather was foggy he would make the little journey of inspection before as much as taking a mouthful of food. After years of faithful watching which brought only disappointment, Yaquina John was placed on the reservation, where he remained the rest of his life.

The progress of civilization soon demanded the use of the ground where the little house stood and it was destroyed. When the coffins were being removed it was found that the body of the last son had not decayed but had dried. The body was removed from the coffin and stood up against the wall. The clothes were in a good state of preservation and upon investigation it was found that one of the valued possessions of the boy, a pack of cards, still remained in one of the pockets. With the burning of these coffins the last traces of Yaquina John's residence on Alsea bay passed away.

A male snowbird weighing 8½ pounds knocked for entrance at a Corvallis home Monday night and was given shelter and proper attention.

Luscious Grapes and Berries Are Found in Blalock Vicinage

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Blalock, Or., Jan. 16.—This section is almost equal to California in grape and other fruit culture. As an example: J. W. Mariner has grapes in his vineyard of large size and luscious flavor, although the vines have been frostbitten. Strawberries mature unusually early here, and the quality is perfect. Ray Jones, foreman at the Moore & Co. orchard, says the firm will plant 25 acres to strawberries next fall, in addition to the 15 acres now set out.

The large well drill now in operation at J. W. Enberg's orchard is making good headway. It is down 150 feet. It is believed that artesian water will be struck in a few days. If this occurs the tract of land upon which the orchard is situated will increase in value about 50 per cent, as the yield will be increased one half by irrigation.

ELECTRIC POWER LINE WORK IS ADVANCING

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Ontario, Or., Jan. 16.—The large crew of linemen of the Interstate Light & Water company, which is installing electric power on the line from Horseshoe bend, on the Payette river, to Weiser, has reached this city, the line being completed to Snake river, one mile east of town. Ontario is to be a sub-station and considerable work will be done here.

The oil is reported as increasing at the Ontario oil well and it looks as though a gusher would be struck in the first well sunk.

The annual debate between students of the Ontario and Baker City high schools will take place in the opera house in this city Friday evening. The question is: "Resolved, that the state of Oregon should retain her present system of direct legislation." Nis Patterson, Asmush Patterson and Arthur Moody of the Ontario high school will take the affirmative and George Jett, John Francis and Harry Beers, of the Baker City high school, will take the negative.

INDIAN WAR VETERAN STILL YOUNG THOUGH 80 YEARS OLD

B. H. Irvine of Albany, Linn County, Is One of Oregon's Pioneers.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Lebanon, Or., Jan. 16.—B. H. Irvine celebrated his eightieth birthday Sunday, January 10. There are not many men in Oregon as active as Mr. Irvine at his age. He attends to all of his business affairs.

He has had an eventful life and has quite a history, but seldom ever talks about his past life. He was born in Todd county, Kentucky, January 10, and with his parents moved to Missouri when he was five years of age. The family lived in Missouri until 1852, when with a party they crossed the plains to Oregon with ox teams, settling in Linn county. Mr. Irvine has resided here since—57 years.

In the winter of 1855 and 1856 he was in the Rogue river Indian war and for over 100 days was actively engaged fighting the Indians.

December 17, 1857, he was married to Miss Sarah Rebecca Johnson of Linn county. Last month they celebrated their fifty-first wedding anniversary. They are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Irvine, Pioneers of Oregon.

Hunter's Trusty Gun Brings Down Freak of the Deer Family

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Helena, Mont., Jan. 16.—C. W. Hungerford of Lyons shot a deer before the close of the open season which was something of a freak. The animal's antlers were peculiar, the right prong possessing 11 points while on the left prong there were only seven. The prongs ran up nearly perpendicular from the base of the skull, having a spread of only 11 inches at the tips.

Another peculiarity was that the right shoulder had apparently not developed any since the animal was a fawn and the right front leg was curled up under its body. Despite this deformity the animal when sighted was getting over the ground quite as lively as any in the bunch.

Because of the peculiarity of the antlers and shape of the body some hunters are of the opinion that the animal was a cross between a deer and an antelope, others say that it was a cross between a white tail and a black tail deer.

Mr. Hungerford purposes having the head mounted.

STOCKMEN WILL PRESENT BILL

Injuries From Barbed Wire Fences Ruin Horses and Cattle.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Klamath Falls, Or., Jan. 16.—It is generally believed that the legislature will act favorably on the bill drawn up by Jurge Benson, at the instance of stockmen of this section of the state, covering the construction of wire fences. Low wires, invisible on account of the heavy underbrush, are causing heavy losses to stockmen, scores of horses and cattle having been rendered worthless by injuries received. A constantly increasing number of complaints continues to come in.

Klamath county is fast settling up with settlers and homesteads and many of these are enclosing their lands with wire fences. Many of these fences consist of only one or two wires. Many homesteaders in the timber section, in order to swear that they have fenced a certain number of acres, are said to string a few wires from tree to tree, and cattlemen riding after stock have in a number of instances barely escaped death.

The law which defined a legal wire fence and which applied to counties east of the Cascades, was repealed at the 1905 session of the legislature. There is a law now on the statutes which partly covers the matter, but it does not definitely define how wire fences shall be built.

Judge Draws Up Bill.

Judge Benson has drawn a bill covering the construction of wire fences for Commissioner Albert Walker, which will be presented to the legislature. This applies to all the counties east of the Cascades. The bill provides for the construction of fences as follows:

"They shall have posts six and one-half feet in length and not less than four inches in diameter, made of sound timber, such posts shall be set in the ground two feet, and shall be not further than 32 feet apart; there shall be no fewer than three wires of the kind in common use stretched from post to post; the lower wire shall be two feet from the ground, the second 17 inches above the lower, and the upper 15 inches from the second one. Said wires shall be fastened to the posts securely, in the customary manner, and at the distance of eight feet from each other, throughout the entire length of such fences, there shall be poles or false posts set up on the ground, four and a half feet in height, to which wires of such fences shall be securely fastened; and on each side of such fences, if the ground can be plowed, three furrows at least four inches deep." * * *

$15,000 FOR KLAMATH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Klamath Falls, Or., Jan. 16.—The county commissioners of Klamath county have added a 2 mill levy to that already made, in order to provide funds for the first work toward a new courthouse. The law was at first interpreted to prohibit a levy for such purposes without an act of the legislature, but later investigation has convinced the court that such levy can be made. This will raise about $15,000.

BETTER ROADS, WASCO'S SLOGAN

Impetus Given Highway Movement by Districts of the County.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

The Dalles, Or., Jan. 16. — The good roads movement has taken hold of even the most remote rural communities. Dutch Flat, 16 miles from The Dalles, has taken up the question of road improvement with a great deal of energy. The citizens of that locality have held a meeting for the purpose of considering a proposed increase in the assessment for the improvement of roads.

The assessable property in the Dutch Flat district for the year 1907 was valued at $33,730, and this with the 3 mill tax levy brought in a revenue for road purposes of $101.19. The valuation of property for that district for 1908 was $39,940, showing an increase of $6,210 in one year. A large number of the residents of the district were willing to pay a tax of 10 mills for the purpose of building up the roads.

Charles Engle, road supervisor, called a meeting, which was attended by enthusiastic road builders who voted upon the question and voted a tax of 5 mills. This, in addition to the tax already being paid, will amount to an 8 mill tax. There are 47 miles of roads in Dutch Flat district.

The Dutch Flat country is one of the finest apple sections of Wasco county. Hundreds of acres are being planted to apple orchards this winter. The orchardists are determined to have good roads over which to transport the output of their orchards, which will be in bearing in a short time.

The Mill Creek Good Roads club has voted a road tax for the improvement of its thoroughfare. This road leads to orchards and truck gardens. Produce from this section finds its way to Portland markets. The earliest tomatoes are also grown here.

The Chenowith Good Roads club is the latest to organize. This section is west of The Dalles and has one of the worst roads in the county.

Ever since Judge John Scott of Salem was here early last fall the people have been determined to have better roads. A county good roads league was on the eve of organization, but as each district appears to want to work out its own salvation by organizing its own clubs for the betterment of the public highways in each road district, the general organization of the Wasco county league was deferred.

The county court has granted permission to open up the Mosier road, by accepting and ordering open the old O. R. & N. company roadbed. This will make a stretch of seven miles of the best road in Wasco county.

KLICKITAT COUNTY SENDS OUT FOLDERS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Husum, Wash., Jan. 16.—The Klickitat County Development league has made a large shipment of folders, describing the resources of this county in general, to C. W. Mott, general immigration agent of the Northern Pacific at St. Paul, and to Max Bass, general immigration agent of the Great Northern, at Chicago. These folders are to be sent out to the large number of people who are inquiring about Klickitat county. From 50 to 500 folders are being sent out daily by the league in response to inquiries regarding fruit, grain and timber lands. Many are also seeking business locations.

GOOD PRICES FOR GRAIN IN KLAMATH

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Klamath Falls, Or., Jan. 16.—Wheat, oats and barley are now selling in Klamath county at $2.25 a hundred weight, and flour at $1.75 a sack. The shortage in last year's crop, as well as the amount of work going on in the county, has put up the price. A good many farmers are still holding their crops, so it is not likely there will be a serious shortage before next summer, when the railroad will be into Klamath Falls, and shipments of grain can be made.

LAND CHANGES HANDS IN RIVER VALLEY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Husum, Wash., Jan. 16.—Charles M. Douglas, formerly of this locality, has purchased 80 acres of fruit land of William Gilmer and will proceed to improve the tract, which lies adjacent to Gilmer postoffice.

At a recent sale of school lands near Glenwood, J. E. Chappell purchased 160 acres for $2450 and 80 acres for $1650.

BENTON FAMILY GOES TO PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Monroe, Or., Jan. 16.—C. B. Starr, wife and two daughters, who are well known in Benton county, have gone to Phoenix, Ariz., for the benefit of the health of Mrs. Starr and the younger daughter, Mamie. They expect to be gone several months and may not return for a year or longer.

SHELBURN CREAMERY INSTALLS MACHINERY

Shelburn, Or., Jan. 16.—The Shelburn creamery has finished installing its new machinery. Operations began last week.

TYPE OF MODERN OREGON DWELLING

R. C. Crosby's Home, Dundee.

CHICAGO MILLIONAIRE TO MINE VAST COAL RESOURCES IN THE FIELDS OF SOUTHERN OREGON

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Grants Pass, Or., Jan. 16.—That the extensive coal deposits of southern Oregon which have been under development for a number of years, will soon be turned into productive mines, is evidenced by the fact that men with ample capital are taking hold of them. One of the recent purchases of importance was that of the Southern Oregon Coal company's properties by Honore Palmer, the Chicago millionaire, who has been investing heavily in the mines, orchards and timber lands of this part of the state during the past year.

Mr. Palmer has taken a working bond on several fine tracts of coal lands, on which considerable development has been done. He is placing crews and will thoroughly exploit them, reserving such as appear to be of worth. As capital for adequate development has been the one thing needed, it is expected that the result of Mr. Palmer's work in the southern Oregon coal fields will be of inestimable value.

He has promised to make operative mines of every coal claim which warrants it after a season of development. Where it is necessary to do so, spur tracks will be built from the mines, connecting them with the main line of railroad, thus giving adequate transportation facilities.

The coal of the southern Oregon deposits is a lignite of good quality and enough of it has been mined and used to prove it of value for fuel. Though there is still an abundance of timber in this part of the state, it is too valuable for lumbering purposes to be used for fuel and the uncovering and operating of the coal beds will prove a solution of the fuel problem. The deposits are especially needed by the railroad company as fuel for the locomotives.