

The Gold Hill News

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WILD GOBBLERS FOR SOUTHERN OREGON

AS THE erudite scribe of the Bingville Bugle might remark this here Thanksgiving season is an appropriate time to consider the turkey, by and large. The popularity of the big barnyard gala bird has given an impetus to market quotations on the national fowl that makes his presence at the Thanksgiving spread more or less a memory in many homes. Time was when the Puritan shouldered the bell-muzzle and equipped the festal board from the flocks of wild bronze beauties that ranged the woods freely. The American bronze turkey is believed to be a strain produced from the crossing of the native bird with European black turkeys, brought over in the ships of the colonists.

Among sportsmen the wild turkey, still prevalent in the forests of the southern and southwestern states, is held to be the premier of American game birds. At a day not long since it was common to the timbered districts of the Atlantic coast and the middle-western states. Practically extinct in those localities at the present day, the disappearance of this splendid bird is due to remorseless and unregulated slaughter. No game bird of the continent called for the skillful hunter, the matching of wit against instinct, to a similar extent, and the wild gobbler was a sportsman's trophy to be proud of.

When nature stocked the woods of southern Oregon bountifully with feathered and four-footed game, she quite forgot the turkey. Yet in none of the districts where the wild bird is found are conditions more nearly ideal for a natural habitat than in the wooded districts of the Rogue River Valley. The mast is the chosen food of the wild bird, together with various varieties of berries, of which the southern Oregon woods furnish a prodigious supply. The winters are clement, far more so than in many districts where the original range of the turkey was located, and the numbers and nature of predatory animals far less than in localities where the turkey still exists. In the opinion of many sportsmen, competent to speak, game nature overlooked one best bet when the turkey was not included in the muster roll of southern Oregon game birds. With this opinion deputy warden Riley Hammersly, and others of the local protective force, heartily agree.

The attention of the state game commission should be called to the practicability of stocking the southern Oregon country, as well as other suitable portions of the state, with wild turkey. The experiment would be greeted with the enthusiastic support of every thorough sportsman, and should it prove successful, as there is every reason to believe, would result in incalculable benefit to the state as a mecca for vacationists and hunters. Birds for breeding and stocking purposes are readily procurable from wild game fanciers in the east, and a system of rearing the young birds for liberation at appropriate ages might easily be fixed upon.

That splendid foreigner, the China pheasant, proved readily adaptable to conditions in Oregon. Yet even the acquisition of this fine bird is second in consideration to the successful naturalization of the wariest, wisest, and choicest game fowl of the continent—the wild turkey.

LIMITING LAND CONDEMNATION

THE PROPOSED constitutional amendment, initiative petitions for which are now being circulated with marked popular success, limiting the condemnation price of land for public purposes, readily commends itself as a wise and just legislation. Under its provisions private property may not be taken for public use without just compensation, which is interpreted as not to exceed twice the average yearly rate of assessment for the previous three assessment years. Judgment may be rendered for less than the fixed amount, but in no instance for more. Further, the owner is amply protected from the disadvantage that might lie in the parcelling or subdivision of his property, by the reserved option of compelling the corporation to purchase not to exceed forty acres at the price determined for the land actually required. Improvements upon the land are to be separately appraised, and a just compensation paid therefor. Not only does the proposed amendment possess the distinct merit of adding largely to the assessment of under-valued properties, but it dispenses with the "dog-in-the-manger" attitude that commonly obstructs the progress of public enterprise. Not only does it bring the recalcitrant, or greedy property owner, or investor, to terms, but it dictates those terms with a fairness and impartiality that cannot be misconstrued, providing for the maximum recompense of the dispossessed owner. The condemnation of private property for public use is a situation from which there is no escape, whereby the desire of the individual is second to the welfare of the community. In simplicity and fairness the proposed constitutional amendment does not seem open to any sentiment save approval.

Now that Jessie Wilson is happily wedded the administration—and the nation—may return to the lesser perplexities of Mexican intervention.

Overdrafts (Secured & Unsecured) B. H. L.

The Hillman

I'm sick of the valley, Sonny, and the valley is tired of me—I want to go back to the hills that lie outstretched along the sea; the breeze that breathes from the westward source rustles your scrawny grass, but it whoops like a lad in his twenties among the peaks of the pass; it swings from the open ocean to strum in the sentinel pine, and I want to go back to the high hills—the hills that were always mine!

I've little faith in the valley, where the seasons vary and change, but I know each whim of the weather among the rocks of my range; there's a flat at the base of Baldy, where my corn grew twice as tall as the fodder your farmers gather for the district fair in the fall—there's a flat lies out in the timber, with a spring where the deer come down—and I want to go back to the high hills, away from your dad-blamed town!

You breed no men in the valley like Jason that fit the bear, your sons are holier-chested for lack of the upper air—the air that croons in the cedars, fragrant and fresh and sweet, that leaps like a colt unharnessed where cloud and snow-cap meet; that sings on the trail to Baldy, I've brushed each step of the way; and I want to go back to the high hills, back to my hills—to stay!

BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Hillsboro's saloons must close at 10 o'clock hereafter, instead of at midnight.

The Oregon supreme court holds that workmen's compensation law will not become operative until June 30 of next year, owing to restrictions of the constitution.

The Booth-Kelly Lumber company's machine shops at Wendling, said to be the largest of the kind in the state, were destroyed by fire at a loss of perhaps \$15,000.

At a meeting of stockholders at Dallas it was decided to erect a \$10,000 hospital. Frank J. Coad was elected president of the association, and Miss Edith Starbuck secretary.

Ashland citizens are considering the plan of installing water meters throughout the city. A dozen of the meters have been ordered from the Westinghouse company for trial.

Completion of preliminary surveys for the development of 45,000 horsepower within the next five years at Clear Lake, in the Cascade mountains, 75 miles east of Eugene, is announced.

The state water board has extended the time for the completion of Portland's reservoirs and canals at Clear Fork, on the Sandy river, from which water supply is assured, to June 1, 1930.

State Engineer Lewis will not recommend that approximately 20,000 acres of land in the central Oregon irrigation project be patented until he is convinced that the land can be reclaimed.

Ten thousand turkeys have been shipped from Douglas county to San Francisco, the farmers receiving about \$20,000 for the birds. The birds were sent to San Francisco because of the higher prices prevailing there.

As a result of movements by commercial clubs of the county and inhabitants of rural districts for better roads, many miles of public highways in Polk county are ready for winter use by automobiles.

A plant for the pasteurizing of milk, the first in Eugene, will be opened about the first of the month by a corporation formed by five men, four of them Danes, and the project backed by over 40 Danes of the colony west of Eugene.

Secretary Lane has ordered a public sale at Hermiston, December 27, of several hundred acres of Maxwell land on the Umatilla irrigation project. All the lands to be sold are centrally situated and each tract has an adequate water supply.

The committee working for prohibition in the election at Albany expended \$46.65, according to a campaign statement filed by Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson, secretary of the committee. The prohibitionists won by a majority of 41 votes, but saloonmen may bring a contest.

Senator Chamberlain has introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of war to turn over the Sand Island revenues to the Oregon fish commission. Also resolutions from the Pendleton commercial association advocating flood control and reclamation of swamp lands in the south.

Although he has held various public offices in Marion county for more than 40 years, has served on juries and otherwise acted in public capacities, J. R. Landon was unseated as mayor of Woodburn by Circuit Judge Kelly on the ground that he is not an American citizen.

This Space is Yours

T saves you money
T assures quality
T keeps \$ at home
T is opportunity

Watch for next week's announcement!

LANCE & COMPANY

Xmas
Toys
and
Joys
&
at

The BoN-ToN

S. P. Time Card

Northbound		
No. 14	(motor)	9:00 a. m.
No. 24	(motor)	11:04 a. m.
No. 16		5:56 p. m.
No. 32	(motor)	5:07 p. m.
Southbound		
No. 23	(motor)	7:53 a. m.
No. 15		3:15 p. m.
No. 31	(motor)	1:42 p. m.

Just a word!

Miners, I can sharpen, repair or make tools, and guarantee my work to stand the racket; try me and be shown

C. F. CARTER
BLACKSMITH

AUTOMOBILE
& GAS ENGINE
REPAIRING

A Specialist in this work,
as well as any detail of
General Blacksmithing, etc.

CHARLES KELL
Blacksmith

Advised Letters

The following is a list of letters remaining unclaimed in the Gold Hill Postoffice for the month ending November 1, 1913. Parties calling for same will please give date advertised. A charge of one cent will be made upon delivery.

Dunlap, Mrs. Elizabeth
Durham, S. S. (3)
Graham, S. S.
Muzzall, Mrs. Edna
Stacy, William
Wilson, Geo. R.

—HENRY D' REED,
Postmaster.

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Hardware Stoves Tin, Granite and Aluminum Ware Garden Tools
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Building Paper Paints Oils Varnishes Brushes Glass Crockeryware
Large Assortment of Queensware As fine a line and assortment of

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as there is in the county Cattaraugus Cutley Guns Ammunition Picks
Shovels Miners' Supplies Powder, Fuse and Caps Base Balls and
Mitts, and Bats. My Stock is complete in every line and my prices are right

Remember the place to purchase these Goods is

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D. H. MILLER'S

"Good quality goods and
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Iron by Electricity
Late Model Electric Irons. Guaranteed 5 years, now

\$3.50

We will send you one on trial

CALIFORNIA-OREGON POWER
COMPANY :: MEDFORD, ORE.

HOT EATS FOR COLD DAYS

Hot Chili Hot Coffee
Hot Tamales, Saturdays
Hot Drinks Hot Lunches
Served at all times

Bunte's Chocolates - Tobaccos, Etc.

AT TURNER'S