

## OREGON WOOL GROWERS IN SESSION AT PENDLETON

### Question and Coyote Bounty Law Ably Discussed To- Day—Several Good Addresses Yet to Come.

The Oregon Woolgrowers' Association called together this morning at the association rooms, by the Pendleton Belts. About 50 members were present at the morning session, these representing the different sections of the state. The meeting was changed from the usual place to the association because of the convenience of the place and a lack of larger space upon the meeting of the day.

Following the meeting to order, the Belts announced that the meeting would be one of work and not of pleasure. The members were requested to attend promptly and take part in the many important points to be discussed before the meeting.

Thomas B. Halley, mayor of Pendleton, was then introduced, and assured them that Pendleton was their right, and would not be taken from them. He threw the corporate seal to them, while in the room some beautiful comparisons between the modern and ancient world of humorous nature, which all received by the woolgrowers.

He welcomed them to Pendleton, saying that he knew that there were but few "black sheep" there.

Williamson was introduced and responded to the mayor in a happy manner.

He commented especially on the city of the West, and of Oregon, but giving Pendleton as excelling all other cities in the West.

He commented, however, devoting the time of this meeting to work of sampling hospitality.

President Doug Belts then delivered an annual address as follows:

**Chairman Belts' Address.**

Members of the Oregon Woolgrowers' Association:

This association is a permanent one, as is proved by the increase in membership and the interest shown by its members in its well-being the last year.

The association is capable of doing much in the interest of the wool grower in the future is confident. That it has done much work during the last year, both at a national and a local character.

The Cascade forest reserve was the first thing that was closed against sheep, but the efforts of this association have secured sheep ranged on the reserve today.

**Caused Better Prices.**

The meeting of the executive committee of the association dates were for wool sales at Pendleton, Shaniko and The Dalles. By having a large number of wool buyers induced to be present, causing competition to be getting in woolgrowers receive a one-half cent to one and one-half cents more per pound than they would have received. This method of marketing appears to be very satisfactory to the buyer also, as it brings a closer touch with the producer, saves him much time and money traveling to and from the market, and even better results were attained another year ago by centralizing of wool at points where there are better facilities for handling.

**Looking For Market.**

The sale days here there are suggestions made by the buyers to the producers in the manner of preparing the market, which should be of serious attention of every wool grower.

At that place they desire to have the wool packed in bags that they may have the amount they are to receive in the next year, to have the tags placed on the wool, as some bands

of sheep have much of this class of wool, while others have scarcely any. Another suggestion was to sack the wool dry or serious loss would follow.

**Stand Upon Individual Merit.**

"These suggestions appear to me but reasonable and not arbitrary or exacting at all. Under the present method of selling, each clip must stand upon its individual merit. It certainly is to the interest of each woolgrower to establish a reputation for placing upon the market a superior clip, both in quality and packing. If all do this Oregon wool will be sought after more eagerly each succeeding year."

**Shoddy Wool and Reciprocity.**

(President Belts then read a communication from T. F. Warren, president of the Northwest Woolgrowers' Association urging the passage of the Grosvenor bill by congress preventing the manufacture of shoddy woolen goods, without marking such goods, "shoddy," as oleomargarine is required to be marked and also against that portion of the reciprocity bill where Argentine wool may be brought into competition with American wool.)

"These two subjects should not be passed over too hastily by this convention as both effect the wool industry to a great extent; particularly is this true of the former," said Mr. Belts.

**Found Signers.**

"I will state that a petition accompanying this communication was received by me, and within two hours there were 50 names attached to it, all there was room for. Woolgrowers, laborers, farmers, merchants and professional men, all expressed the hope that the bill would pass; that it was a good one."

**Urges Support of Bill.**

"It is my candid opinion there is not a man or body of men in the state of Oregon that would not gladly lend their most hearty support. Therefore I would respectfully suggest that this association pass a resolution directed to the Ways and Means committee of the house asking that body to report favorably upon the bill at an early date, and that all Boards of Trade, Commercial Associations, Granges and other associations be requested to pass like resolutions and forward them to their proper destination. It might be advisable to request President Roosevelt to recommend the passage of House Resolution No. 6365 in his annual message to congress this fall. In concluding this subject I will say that every woolgrower and every man that wears woolen clothes should write his congressman demanding the immediate consideration and passage of this bill."

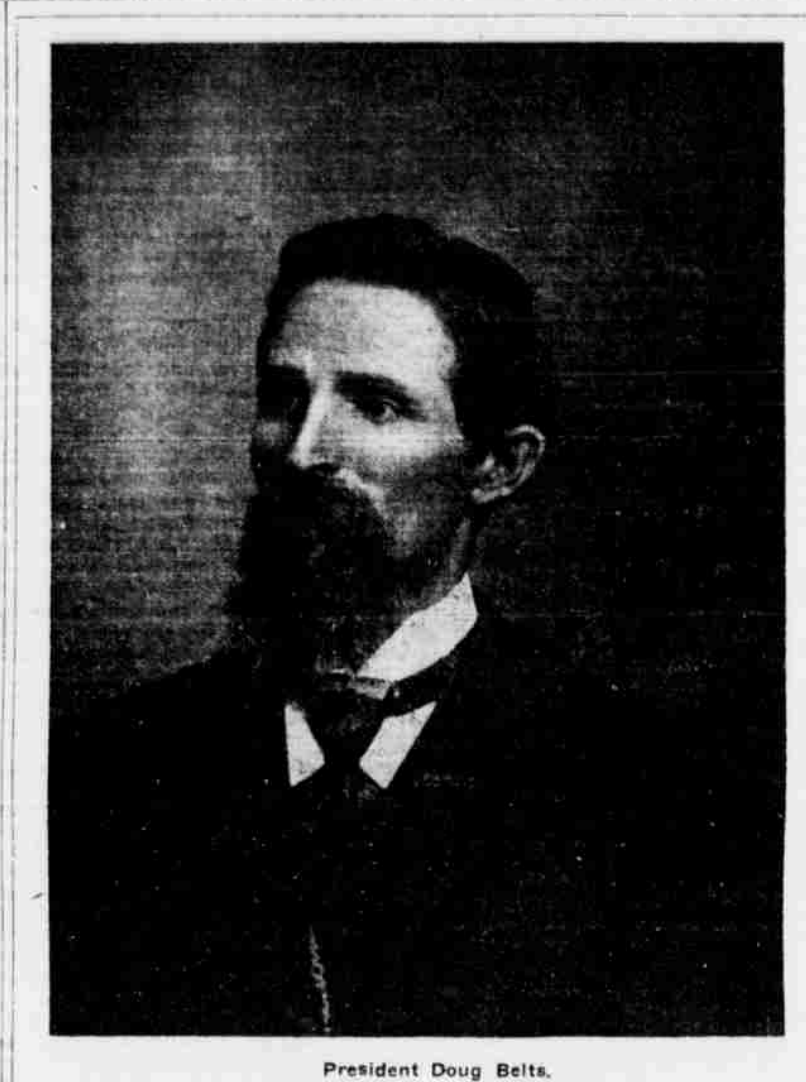
**The Summer Range.**

"The most serious problem that confronts the livestock industry today is that of summer range. That the range is overstocked and is being greatly injured thereby is beyond question, and unless some remedy is soon applied, summer range on government land will, in a few years, be a thing of the past. This vexed question would, perhaps have settled itself in a short time by the private ownership of all the principal watering places for stock in the mountains, but by the recommendation of Blinger Herman and Congressman Moody, the government has temporarily withdrawn from entry a large area in the Blue mountains, as a proposed permanent forest reserve. There seems to be considerable apprehension as to the effect the Blue mountain forest reserve will have on the livestock interests. For that reason I wrote a letter of invitation to Mr. Hermann to be present at this meeting, that we might confer together."

(This letter was published in yesterday's East Oregonian.)

**Forest Reserve.**

"In this matter, gentlemen, you have a very important problem to solve, one which will require honest and intelligent consideration at your hands. The department kindly asks for your assistance and advice in settling this question, without which



President Doug Belts.

it can scarcely be expected to proceed intelligently and with justice to all interests concerned.

**Should it be Made Permanent.**

"The first question to decide is: do you want this proposed reserve made permanent? If you do, then does an excess amount of grazing tend to destroy the forest cover, and next, is there any portion of this area mapped out that does not properly belong to the forest reserve?"

**What Government Will Decide.**

"It appears to be the present policy of the government, after consultation with the various interests involved, through its forest officers, to decide on the number of head of stock to be grazed in each forest reserve or each subdivision of a reserve. Therefore, if, in your opinion, a permanent forest reserve as mapped out, would be to the best interests of the woolgrower, it appears to me, as all sections interested are pretty well represented here, this is the proper time to make an estimate of the number of sheep that would be allowed to graze on the same."

**Coyote Bounty Law.**

"There seems to be a disposition in certain locations to have the coyote bounty law repealed at the next session of the Oregon legislature. Why this law should cause so much unrest and be so persistently assailed I am unable to determine. When this subject comes up for discussion I hope at least one man from each county represented here will make a report as to whether the law is satisfactory in his section or not and whether he wishes it repealed or retained on the statute books. This is a very important matter and I hope it will receive due consideration at your hands."

**Secretary and Treasurer's Report.**

B. F. Hynd, secretary and treasurer, submitted his annual report, from which the following extract is taken: "At the present time we have 119 members in good standing a net gain of 26 during the year. These 119 members represent 325,000 sheep, less than one-tenth of the sheep in the state, and we trust that a better system of organization will be adopted at this meeting, whereby every sheepman in the state will become a member, and the rate of assessment be greatly reduced."

"The executive committee has met three times during the year in the interests of members, and their appointment of sales days during the wool season realized for the woolgrowers of this state not less than 14c per pound on all wool sold. All woolgrowers, whether members or not, derived benefits from these sales, and those who are yet 'on the outside' should 'come into the fold' and contribute their mite towards the expenses of the association."

**Reorganization.**

Mr. Rooper then addressed the association on the subject of reorganization.

He said that under the present organization that there was only about one-tenth of the woolgrowers of the state represented in the association. The time had come when the sheepmen of Oregon should stand together. It was an age of mergers and organization and it was necessary for the woolgrowers to combine for their own interests.

He favored the organization of local associations throughout the state, which should be branches of the state association.

The presidents of these associations should form the executive officers of the state association and should meet as often as necessary.

The dues should be such as to place the two associations on a solid basis. He suggested \$1 as dues to the local association and \$1 to the state association by every member, and \$1 to go to defraying the expenses of delegates from the local associations attending the annual meeting of the state association. He thought this would insure a good attendance and good representation of the woolgrowing interests at the meetings of the state association.

As it is now, he stated, that only a few counties were represented and that this was damaging to the interests of the woolgrowers.

Upon motion a committee was appointed to submit a new constitution of the organization along the lines suggested by Mr. Rooper.

The committee, which will report at 1:30 p. m. tomorrow, consists of H. C. Rooper, W. H. Dufar and W. M. Slusher.

The meeting then adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

**Afternoon Session.**

The first part of the afternoon session was taken up in discussing the forest reserve question, after which Congressman-elect Williamson delivered his address on the coyote bounty law.

The discussion of the forest reserve was called for by counties.

**Crook County.**

Mr. La Follett, of Crook county, said: "I think that at least three-fourths of the stockmen of my county are in favor of the forest reserve. Sheepmen and cattlemen are included on this side of the question."

"Regulation is desired. A general scramble will not do. Sheep should go into the range at a certain time. One range differs from another. One may be better than another. One may stand more grazing than another. The matter should be regulated so as to give all an equal chance and at the same time preserve and protect the range."

"In Crook county there are 200,000 sheep, 10,000 horses and 20,000 cattle. All interests should be protected, then there would be no trouble."

**Wasco.**

Messrs. George Young and McAn-

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## A GREAT LOSS OF LIFE IN THE BURNED DISTRICT

### Damage In Clackamas County is Over \$2,000,000---Great Mortality In Lewis River Country.

Seattle, Sept. 16.—A special to the Times from Kalama, where great loss of life from forest fires was reported on Saturday night, says: News from the fire on Lewis River yesterday confirmed the reports of Saturday night, and adds to the losses. The fallen timber has blocked the only road leading up the river, so that the work of the rescuers is slow. Twelve men with saws and teams left Woodland yesterday morning to clear out the road as fast as possible. A party of 10 persons, with a team, was known to be camping in the timber. The charred remains of the team and wagon were found, but the people had gone and no trace of them has been found.

A great number of people were in the timber at and around Trout Lake, fishing and hunting, but no authentic reports have been received from them, and it is feared there has been loss of life, as it is known that the timber in that district has been burning since Thursday night.

**LEWIS RIVER.**

**Fire Practically Exhausted—Many Burned to Death—Bodies Beyond Recognition.**

Kalama, Sept. 16.—The latest report from the scene of the Lewis River fire shows that the fire is practically exhausted and that relief parties are enabled to cover the devastated territory and gather more definite information. Those positively known to have been burned to death are: Al Reed and son and a party of seven others, whose bodies are burned beyond recognition; W. E. Newhouse, Mrs. Graves, John Polly, wife and two children, and a brother of Mrs. Polly, whose name is not known.

**IN CLARK COUNTY.**

**Fires on the Wane—200 Homeless People—Many Lives Lost.**

Vancouver, Wash., Sept. 16.—The great forest fires of Clark county are on the wane, but the ruin in their wake is terrible. Upwards of 200 people are homeless and not less than 15 people have lost their lives and the bodies have been seared and charred in the devastating ocean of flame that for the past week has added an epoch to the history of local disasters that will not soon be forgotten.

**AT ELMA, WASH.**

**Many People Missing—Great Loss of Shingle and Lumber Mills.**

Elma, Wash., Sept. 16.—A relief committee was formed of leading merchants and other citizens this morning to assist the immediate needs of about 100 homeless families. No actual loss of life is yet known, although many are missing. The Star Shingle Mill and White's Lumber and Shingle Mills are entirely ruined. The loss on the first is about \$10,000 and on the latter \$35,000 or \$40,000. Ray's mill lost several hundred thousand shingles and the Green Cedar Shingle Company about 1,000,000 shingles. Vance's loss is light—about \$1000. Ten or 15 ranches have been burned out.

**SITUATION IN LANE.**

**Fires Continue to Burn in the Heavy Timber.**

Eugene, Sept. 16.—The forest fires continue to burn in this county at a dozen or more points, but the only destruction is to the timber. The air is so dense with smoke that the eye can see but a short distance, and much complaint is heard of inconvenience from the smoke.

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY.**

**Great Loss in Springwater Country—Rich Timber Melts Destroyed—Valuable Farms Destroyed.**

Oregon City, Sept. 16.—The loss by fires in Clackamas county will amount to over \$1,000,000. Miles and miles of valuable timber were burned, and besides this 100 buildings. The greatest loss is in the Spring-

water country, where the fire swept through timber land 15 miles long and from two to four miles wide. According to reports coming in from the different parts of the state, Clackamas county will be the heaviest loser, as the fires are mostly burning in rich timber belts, with much of it good green timber. The farms destroyed will amount to between \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000, with very little insurance to cover the loss.

**Forty-two Bodies Recovered.**

Portland, Sept. 16.—The Oregon and Washington forest fires are generally subsiding and the pall of smoke is disappearing. Full details are difficult to obtain. Portions of the ravaged districts are unapproachable, but every new report brings further tales of horror. A total of 42 bodies has been recovered. Lewis Valley, which is a blackened waste, is strewn with the corpses of people and cattle. Portland is subscribing liberally for the sufferers.

**HORRIBLE DISCLOSURES.**

**Meat Trust Using Chemicals on Rot-ten Meats and Use Diseased Refuse to Put in Sausages.**

St. Louis, Sept. 16.—Attorney-General Crowe opened the meat trust investigation this morning by calling Thomas O'Sullivan, identified with the meat packing business for 40 years, as a witness. He said he had been told by salesmen of various coolers that a combine existed to hold up prices. He knew weeks in advance when a raise was coming regardless of the price of cattle. He testified to the use of a chemical wash to restore cooler deteriorated meats and sausages. He also said that meats in sausage was not fit to eat, as diseased hog kidneys, etc., were being used in them. The cheaper grades were not smoked, but dipped in a chemical wash to give it a smoked appearance. He believed that such meat was decidedly pernicious to health.

**\$250,000 USED BY THE TWO TAMMANY FACTIONS.**

**Bitterest Primary Fight Known in the City of Gotham—Carroll Against Croker.**

New York, Sept. 16.—The bitterest primary fight in the history of the city is being waged today. The polls will be open from 2 until 9 o'clock. Croker and Carroll's friends are each distributing an enormous amount of money. A conservative estimate this morning shows that a quarter of a million dollars has been spent by the opposing Tammany forces during the past month.

**SHARKEY ARRESTED.**

**Held for the Murder of Fish—Well-Known Character.**

New York, Sept. 16.—The police this morning arrested Thomas Sharkey for the murder of Fish. He is a well-known character in the tenderloin district.

**Northern Securities Case.**

New York, Sept. 16.—Hearing of testimony in the Northern Securities merger case began this morning, before Special Examiner Ingersoll, appointed by the United States circuit court of Minnesota. M. D. Grover, represented the Great Northern, Charles W. Dunn, the Northern Pacific, and John W. Griggs the Northern Securities. Solicitor-General Richards represented the government. The latter submitted a large number of depositions which he succeeded in having entered upon the record after an argument.

The counsel agreed that previously given testimony of following would be accepted as testimony to prevent suit. Hill, Morgan, Perkins, C. S. Mellen, J. S. Kennedy, J. H. Schiff, W. B. Clough, Charles Steel. Testimony of Harriman before the interstate commerce commission at Chicago, also was treated as evidence in the present case. Adjournment was taken until Thursday of next week.