

THE WOOLGROWERS

(Concluded.)

argue to this meeting, that a coyote would live to a ripe old age in Eastern Oregon and never, during his whole lifetime, kill a single rabbit. And yet I am convinced that a coyote would do just such a thing, provided chicken coops and sheep camps were plentiful enough.

"A rather too close acquaintance with the coyote, extending over a period of more than a quarter of a century, leads me to believe that not very many times in his career would he trouble himself to overtake a jack rabbit, of just ordinary speed, when he could pick up a good fat hen in almost any fence corner.

"I am not denying that a successful combination of three or four good swift coyotes could not, under favorable circumstances, corner up and catch a jack rabbit, particularly if the rabbit was lame or slightly off its feed. Such a feat could be, and no doubt has been accomplished, I have heard of such successes on the part of a few well organized groups of coyotes. But in my 26 years' experience among those festive varieties, it has never been my good fortune to become an eyewitness to such a performance. And during that period I have lived where rabbits, at times, were much more plentiful than now in any portion of either Umatilla or Morrow counties and many years before such a thing was thought of as a state bounty on coyote scalps.

"I am ready to admit that a coyote can and does kill very young rabbits, but it was a fertile brain indeed, that originated the idea, that, in order to effectually rid the country of all the rabbits, it was necessary to have enough wolves on hand to kill them all off. In all the different plans for the promotion of self-government, and of all the ideas ever advanced to promote the welfare of organized society, it has remained for Oregon to evolve the man who believes in advancing the cause of civilization by the wolf process.

"Did it ever occur to the man imbued with such an idea that, before the rabbits would disappear by way of the wolf channel, to the poor unfortunate who happened to remain in Eastern Oregon there would be no such thing as ham and eggs for breakfast, for the simple reason that there wouldn't be any hog to produce the ham nor any chicken to produce the egg.

"Did it ever occur to him that long before the wolves were plentiful enough to accomplish the destruction of the rabbits, they would be plentiful enough to devour the children while they were on their way to school.

"No, I believe that theory is wrong if it is not wrong, history has ceased to repeat itself in this particular here in Oregon for the first time. If it is not wrong and such a condition of affairs actually obtains here in Oregon, for heaven's sake lets never admit it when we are away from home. Let us never admit that conditions are such here in Oregon that it is actually necessary to promote the welfare of the wolf in order to advance the interests and develop the resources of this great state.

"Some believer in this weird and peculiar doctrine suggested a short time ago to a reporter of the Oregonian, that the destruction of the coyotes had caused the rabbits to increase. Now, that is a mistake, for rabbits increased and decreased in different sections of Eastern Oregon many times long before the present decrease of the coyotes.

"The same gentleman also advocated the idea that nature seemed to strike a happy medium in all such matters. So it does. But nature never struck a medium of any kind—happy or otherwise, in Oregon through the instrumentality of a thieving, howling coyote. Rabbits have come and gone in many localities in Eastern Oregon during the past 20 years, just as the winters were hard or easy. We have had three or four mild winters in succession, consequently, we have at the present time an unusual number of rabbits in a number of localities.

"And yet to my certain knowledge there are certain other localities with scarcely any rabbits, where formerly they were in multitudes, and that at a time when coyotes were plentiful also.

"There will be a winter along some of these years that will take care of the rabbits. And I am patiently waiting for it.

"I want to see the wolf vs rabbit theory collapse. I want to see the man who advocates such a theory relegated along with the man who, a few years since, was abroad in the land preaching the doctrine of straw money as a remedy for the then prevailing hard times.

"This objection to the law is based upon nothing tangible and is not a valid objection. It is to be classed among the imaginary or fancied objections—a good theme to discuss

when conversation lags and where other and more important subjects are disposed of.

Not a Sheep Law Singly.

The woolgrowing industry in Oregon is surely benefited by the destruction of the wolves. But the flock master is not benefited singly and alone as many would have it appear. His benefit is chiefly an incident to the law. As a rule he is not the direct beneficiary.

"For the reason that coyotes, under former conditions, were very destructive to the sheep industry, and for the further reason that the different woolgrowers organizations in Oregon put forth the only organized crusade against the coyote, it is taken for granted by a great many people that those who own sheep in Oregon get all the benefit from the scalp bounty law.

"In fact, a great many people in Oregon, believe that the flock masters of Eastern Oregon get all, or nearly so, of the state money appropriated for this purpose.

"No impression could be more widely at variance with the facts. Statistics inform us that America leads the world in the production of iron and steel in both the raw and manufactured state, and that we lead the nations of the world in the amount of our manufactured goods, and that we are the great wheat producing nation of the world. And yet, notwithstanding the gigantic output of each of our leading industries each year, when it comes to total amount of production, the American hen lays them all in the shade. And I would call attention to the fact that regularly, each year, the farmers and ranchmen of Oregon are lectured and berated by the press of the state for their downright shiftlessness in not producing sufficient eggs, poultry, lard and bacon to supply the needs of their own state. And at the same time, a number of these same critics ply their vocation at a law that is fast riding the state of the real reason why we have not in the past produced these commodities, and a law that is fast making it possible so to do.

"The destruction of sheep from the ravages of the coyote has been great under former conditions. At least, a 6 per cent. loss was sustained each year by the flock masters of Eastern Oregon from this source. And yet, while the aggregate loss to the flock masters from this source, formerly reached a large sum of money each year, it is my opinion that the loss sustained from poultry alone would easily double the amount of loss sustained by the sheepmen.

"I believe that I am safe in asserting that the flock masters of Eastern Oregon are by no means the greatest beneficiaries of the law. He is far from being the man who is the direct recipient of the appropriation. In fact, my observation has taught me to believe that those who own and operate the flocks of Eastern Oregon receive a less amount of money paid out by the state for bounties than any other class of citizens.

"The greatest direct beneficiary—the one who gets nine-tenths of the money is the laborer and the home-builder—the man about whose welfare our politicians continue to shout themselves hoarse, and in whose interests our blatant demagogues wax eloquent and fat.

"The man who has taken to himself 160 acres of public domain under the homestead law, and out of that which heretofore produced practically nothing, is preparing a home for himself, wife and children. The man who is receiving a very large portion of the direct benefit from the scalp bounty law. Out of that small beginning he has to live and support those who are near to him, one of his principal resources, being a well-kept chicken coop around which is centered the welfare of one of the chief staples of his table as well as a profit to spare sufficient to exchange for his coffee, his sugar and an occasional frock for his wife and an occasional plug of "saw-log" for his own immediate use.

"This is the class of men who have received much the greater part of the money so far expended and that will be expended in the future, if such there be, by the state for the destruction of predatory animals. His is a dual purpose. He kills them first for self-protection. Second, because there is a profit in the scalps sufficient to help him along while he is getting a foothold in the world. According to my understanding, such an expenditure of public money is not an extravagance. So far as the owners of the sheep are concerned, in all this assemblage of woolgrowers, if the money we have received from scalps taken by ourselves during the past four years was all put together, I doubt materially if it would be an amount sufficient to buy a single one of us a good suit of ducking clothes. I repeat there has never been a more mistaken impression scattered broadcast among the people.

It occurs to me, that at a time when our great trans-continental railroads, our boards of trade, our press, and I might say our pulpit, are joining hands in one mighty effort to persuade the entire East to migrate to the West, that it is not out of place for us to render such assistance to nature as we may, in order to make it possible that the newcomer may at least have eggs for breakfast when he arrives here.

The scalp bounty law is costing the

MONEY TALKS

And a little goes a long ways at

THE ST. JOE STORE

We are now ready for the Fall season with all the latest and most desirable goods to be found in the hands of the manufacturers of the East.

These goods have been selected with great care and bought for SPOT CASH, so we are in position to give our patrons the newest things in all departments of this big store at prices that must attract the attention of all careful shoppers who want the best and latest goods for the lowest prices obtainable.

Cloaks, Capes, Jackets

In this department we are showing a complete assortment in Newmarkets, 3/4 lengths, and short coats, in all colors, for ladies. Prices guaranteed the lowest. Also a complete line for misses and children, in short, medium and long coats in all desirable colors, ranging in prices from

\$2.00 to \$25.00

Dress Goods

No house in the Northwest will show a better line of dress goods this season than we have now on exhibition for your inspection. All colors, grades, styles and prices, from cheapest to best.

Waistings

Our line of Waistings is simply beautiful, and the general expression of all the ladies who have seen them is: "You have the nicest and prettiest assortment we have seen this season." You can rest assured the prices are correct, as they always are at the ST. JOE STORE.

Dress Skirts

Our Ladies' Dress Skirts from the celebrated Fabian Manufacturing Company, are not equalled by any for style and workmanship. We have the agency for these goods. Our skirts range in price from

\$2.00 to \$10.00

100 pieces new outing flannels—25 yards outing flannel..... \$1.00

1000 yards nice new calicoes—25 yards good calico for..... \$1.00
12 bales new bed comforts—Bed comforts from \$4.00 down to..... .75
2000 yards house lining just received—25 yards house lining..... 1.00
500 yards cotton flannel just received—20 yards good cotton flannel..... 1.00
1000 yards new gingham—20 yards good gingham..... 1.00

OUR CLOTHING DEPARTMENT

In this department we are showing all the latest cuts and patterns out for 1902 and 1903. Our low prices will surprise you, for no house in Pendleton is showing such values, and our big increase in sales in this department justifies us in this conclusion, as our sales are much larger than ever before.

Furnishings

If you want a nice suit of underwear, we have them.

If you want a cheap suit of underwear, we have them.

If you want a fine pair of socks, we have them; also cheap ones.

If you want a nice hat, we have them; also cheap ones.

If you want a nice sweater, we have them; also cheap ones.

If you want a nice dress shirt, we have them; also cheap shirts.

If you want a fine shoe, we have them; also cheap shoes.

If you want a nice necktie, you will find it in our store.

In fact our stock of gents' furnishing goods is complete.

Just received, one hundred dozen gents' knit underwear at \$1 per suit, or 50 cents per garment.

We unveil our banner for the Fall season. Our goods are right; our prices are right. Come and see us and we will treat you right.

P. S.—Mr. W. C. Hoseason is in charge of our grocery department. We are making a very low price on all groceries. It will pay you to buy your family supplies of us.—INVESTIGATE.

LYONS MERCANTILE CO.

LADIES, ATTENTION!

Let us have your

We are now showing the elite styles in silk waists and invite your inspection. Ladies, if you desire to be well dressed, come in and select the pattern of goods that meets your fancy and let us make you a tailor-made suit to your own measure. Perfect fits are guaranteed. We will do your

DRESSMAKING

on short order.

The Eastern Cloak, Suit, Skirt and Waist Factory

Next to Tallman's Drug Store.

Daily East Oregonian by carrier, only 15 cents a week.



Well, What Do You Think of That?

Shirts from a laundry not torn all to pieces, not bespattered with iron rust or too much blueing! Just enough starch to keep them stiff, not too much for comfort in wearing. Where is this laundry that turns out such good work? For answer, read the line below:

THE DOMESTIC LAUNDRY

J. F. Robinson, Prop. Pendleton

HEATING STOVES
\$3 to \$25
COOK STOVES AND RANGES
\$4 to \$5

W.J. CLARKE
Court Street

HOTEL
PENDLETON
VAN DRAN BROS.
The Best Hotel in Pendleton
and as good as any



Headquarters for Travel
Commodious Sample Rooms

Rates \$2 & up

Special rates by week
Excellent Cuisine
Prompt Dining
Every Modern

Bar and billiard room

Only Three Blocks

GOLDEN RULE

Corner Court and
Pendleton, Ore.

M. F. Kelly, Prop.



HEATED BY STEAM
LIGHTED BY ELECTRICITY

American Plan, rates \$1.00 per day
European Plan, 60c, 75c, 90c
Special rates by week

Free bus meets all trains
Commercial travel

Special Attention Given

HOTEL

ST. GEO

CORNER MAIN AND



GEO. DARVEAU

Elegantly Furnished

Steam

European Plan,
Block and a half from
Sample room in corner

ROOM RATE - 50c

Farmers Custom

Fred Walters, Prop.

Capacity 150 barrels of
Flour exchanged for wheat
Flour, Mill Feed, Chop, etc.
always on hand.