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THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1903.

GENERAL NEWS.

Very stringent laws have been enacted in Japan in regard to secret proprietary medicines.

The city council of Chicago passed an "anti-smoke" ordinance by a vote of 47 to 15, Monday night.

Under the patronage of the Carnegie Institute the vegetation of the arid regions will be studied.

Preliminary to the consolidation of all the beef-packing interests the beef trust has bought up all the smaller packers.

The building trades men of Chicago will go on a strike to support the metal workers who went on strike March 19.

The control of the New York Central has passed from the hands of the Vanderbilts to those of Morgan and Rockefeller.

Ira Sax, banker at Quincy, O., has assigned and his bank is closed. The depositors lose about \$10,000. A run on the bank caused the failure.

Henry Hensler, a carpenter at Milwaukee, Wis., Tuesday shot his foreman, Peter Weger, and then committed suicide. Weger will recover.

Two men entered a jewelry store at Omaha Tuesday and walked out with trays containing diamonds of the value of \$5,000, the clerk being at the phone at the time.

An offer to bet \$1,000 at evens on Terry McGovern against Young Corbett in their fight at San Francisco next Tuesday night, has been made in New York city.

Harry Vardon, the famous golfer, has ruptured a blood vessel and is seriously ill, says a London dispatch to the New York Herald. He will be unable to play in the Bournemouth tournament on Thursday.

A pistol duel in a dance hall at Tucuman, N. M., Monday night, resulted in the deaths of Curley Hoffman and Kenneth Woodard. Three young men of Clayton, N. M., were arrested, charged with the shooting. The trouble was caused by a woman.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS.

A report has reached Everett, Wash., that a snowslide at Wellington Wednesday buried an engine and caboose standing on the Great Northern track and Conductor Walker and Fireman Duffy were caught in the slide, but were extricated.

Maddened to frenzy by the betrayal of his daughter, J. L. Young, a ranchman of Owyden, so seriously stabbed Carl Dowdell, a prominent young man in room 70, of the Missoula hotel, Missoula, Mont., at 5 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, that no hope of saving his life is entertained.

Fine profits are being made at Nelson, B. C., at the famous old Silver King mine. Six months ago M. S. Davys, a former manager, took a lease on the property when all work had been suspended, and it was generally considered that the Silver King was gutted.

The Spokane Chronicle states that the Pacific Northwest Baseball League is soon to be advanced from class B to class A. One of the principle changes that will result will be to raise the fine of jumping players from \$600 to \$1,000. It will also remove the salary limit.

Michigan Oratorical Contest.
Olivet, Mich., March 26.—Young orators from the leading institutions of the state are rounding up here for the annual contest to decide the championship of the Michigan Oratorical League which takes place tonight. Hillsdale College, Alma College, Albion College and Kalamazoo College are among the schools that have sent representatives.

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THE GRANDE RONDE

EVIDENCE OF GREAT PROSPERITY IN THE VALLEY.

An Ideal Place for Sugar Beets—Scenic Attractions of a High Rank—The Hot Springs as a Health Resort.

La Grande, Ore., March 25.—La Grande is enjoying its full share of prosperity everywhere in evidence in Eastern Oregon. The hotel registers show heavy travel. Many of the newcomers are here with a view of locating; others are in search of homesteads or timber claims.

A Striking Contrast.

The contrast between what is known as the "old town" and the more recently built portion of the city is very striking. The old town clusters at the foot of the hill and lives largely in the recollection of its past. The bustling camp of the early '60s is now a sleepy village. The moss-covered roofs of its old-time houses are swept by the drooping boughs of locust and balm of gilead trees planted by a generation largely gone.

Below the old town and a mile distant is La Grande proper. The city is surrounded by a rich and fertile farming country, which insures the continued growth and prosperity of La Grande. Of late it has been discovered, that the sand ridge land is susceptible of cultivation. This means an increased production of hay, beef, and pork and increased trade for La Grande.

La Grande aspires to be the county seat with good prospects of its hopes being realized in the near future.

Rich and Fertile Soil.

The Grande Ronde valley proved itself to be an ideal place for the raising of sugar beets. This industry is destined to become one of the leading industries of this section.

The sugar beet company yesterday purchased a 160-acre farm near Union. This tract will be subdivided and sold or rented to sugar beet raisers.

One of the institutions located in the Grande Ronde valley, which is worthy of more than passing mention is the state experiment station, located at Union. Under the skillful management of A. B. Leckenby, it is doing a great deal for the upbuilding of the state's resources. Mr. Leckenby is having marked success in increasing the amount of saccharine matter in the beets. He has made some important discoveries along this line of investigation, which he will shortly publish. In the line of draught-resisting grasses he has also accomplished important results.

Much of the soil of the Grande Ronde valley is of peat-like formation, being rich in humus, nitrogen and other elements of plant food. So rich is the soil that one might say it was inexhaustible, and by using cover crops and rotation it will prove so.

A Beautiful Valley.

From the viewpoint of scenic attractions the Grande Ronde valley takes high rank. Small wonder that the hardy settlers, as they paused at the summit of the mountains, and looked down upon the smiling valley thought they had found a second garden of Eden. After the sun-parched wastes and shimmering heat of the plains, the verdant valley, with its sparkling streams, its luxuriant grass nodding and swaying before the vagrant breeze like the rippling, dimpled, sun-kissed face of some inland sea seemed to them and to their jaded stock a very paradise.

When the Stewart party, returning from the coast, on their overland journey to the now east, but then the western outposts of civilization, in the summer of 1811 saw the valley they were struck with its beauty. In the graphic description of their journeys as related by Washington Irving in Astoria, he says:

Washington Irving's Description.

"The day was somewhat advanced before the travelers left the shady banks of the Umatilla. Their route gradually took them among the Blue mountains which assumed the most rugged aspect on a near approach. They were shagged with dense and gloomy forests and cut up by deep and precipitous ravines, extremely

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toilsome to the horses. Some times the travelers had to follow the course of some brawling stream, with a broken rocky bed, which the shoudering cliffs and promontories on either side obliged them to cross and recross.

"For some miles they struggled forward through these savage and darkly wooded defiles when all at once the whole landscape changed, as if by magic. The rude mountains and rugged ravines softened into beautiful hills, and intervening meadows, with rivulets windin g through fresh herbage, and sparkling and murmuring over gravelly beds, the whole forming a verdant and pastoral scene, which derived additional charms from being locked up in the bosom of such a hard-hearted region.

"Emerging from the chain of Blue mountains they descended upon a vast plain, almost a dead level, 60 miles in circumference, of excellent soil, with fine streams meandering through in every direction, their courses marked out in the wide landscape by serpentine lines of cotton-wood trees and willows, which fringed their banks and afforded sustenance to great numbers of otters and beavers.

"In traversing this plain, they passed close to the skirts of the hills, a great pool of water, 300 yards in circumference, fed by a sulphur spring about 10 feet in diameter, boiling up in one corner. The vapor from this pool was extremely noisome, and tainted the air for a considerable distance.

"The place was much frequented by elk, which were found in considerable numbers in the adjacent mountains, and their antlers, shed in the spring time, were strewn in every direction around the pond."

This sulphur spring and lake resulting therefrom of which Washing-

(Continued on page 3.)

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