

Look about you and see the prosperous people, and if you will notice you will find they are the ones who read advertisements.



WEATHER FORECAST. Tonight and Tuesday cloudy; showers.

IRRIGATION IS THE VITAL ISSUE

Judge S. A. Lowell Urges the Necessity of a Wise and Energetic Policy.

GOVERNMENT WORK DEPENDS ON STATE LAWS.

Voters Should Elect Enthusiastic Irrigationists to the Legislature, in Order That the Work of the Able State Irrigation Commission May Be Carried to Completion—Wise Laws in Oregon Means Early Completion of Government Irrigation Works—Apathy and Heedlessness on Part of the People Means Delay

Judge S. A. Lowell, of this city, one of the very foremost workers in the great irrigation movement, writes the following stirring appeal to citizens of Oregon on the necessity of electing irrigationists to the legislature, in order that by wise laws, the state may be made ready to receive the blessings of national irrigation, plans for which are being energetically pursued in different portions of the state.

Voters are urged to read and ponder well Judge Lowell's sentiments on this important question. Pendleton, March 7.—(To the Editor.)—Permit me to urge through your columns, upon the eve of the several political conventions, that there are interests confronting the voters of Oregon more important than party triumph or individual success.

I refer to the necessity of such revision of the laws of the state relating to the use of its waters as will meet the requirements of the federal government in its reclamation projects.

No greater responsibility ever rested upon a legislature of a Western state than will rest upon that which assembles at Salem in January next. The enactment of a progressive and comprehensive irrigation act will unquestionably mean the immediate beginning of permanent government operations within our borders, which will not cease until millions of dollars have been expended, and desert places respond in abundant crops and happy homes.

On the other hand, failure to legislate, or to legislate wisely, will mean delay of years in this work, which is to be the crowning glory of the century to arid America.

While the engineers of the geological survey are already prosecuting their labors in this state, it is well understood that such work is preliminary in its character, and that nothing permanent or decisive will be done until there shall be effected radical amendments to our statutes. A bill will be drawn by the very able irrigation commission appointed by the state law board, acting in collaboration with the experienced hydrographic engineers in the government service, but, however meritorious or necessary such measure may be, it will not become a law unless there be strong men in both branches of the legislature to urge and sustain it.

Many of the states in the arid belt have recently enacted new laws upon these subjects by substantially unanimous votes of their legislatures, but in this state, when varying conditions exist as to soil, climate and humidity, the desired result will probably be reached only by labor, compromise and diplomacy.

Given wise legislation, it now seems probable that the opening of another spring will witness in this county the government's first reclamation experiment in Oregon, and success here will be followed by like work in every other county and every other stream where water is available, and arid lands require its artificial application.

Will not all political parties then nominate for the legislature their strongest men—men broad enough to grasp the far-reaching importance of this most vital subject—and will not the press of all parties urge the in-

Fair and Muscular Widow.

Cleveland, March 7.—Three burglars were captured last night by Mrs. Fannie Blackburn, a widow aged 35, fair, and muscular. She used a hickory club on the men as they emerged from the cellar one by one. The burglars were dazed and unable to get away before help came.

terests and hopes of our state, which seem to rest in the balances at this time, to rise or fall as the legislative assembly shall determine this question? Respectfully, STEPHEN A. LOWELL.

GO ON NOME RUN.

Three Oriental Steamers Will Ply on North Pacific Waters.

Seattle, March 6.—The Northwestern Commercial company and the Northeastern Siberian company have purchased, through their managing director, John Rosene, the fleet of vessels long operated between Tacoma and the Orient by the Northern Pacific Steamship company, consisting of the Olympia, Victoria and Tacoma.

For some time past the Rosene companies have been on the lookout for vessels for the Nome and Siberian trade. Mr. Rosene has been traveling all over the country since last November, endeavoring to secure steamships that would be suitable for his purposes, but in the East the majority of the vessels were either under charter or too expensive.

Even with these additions it is claimed that there will be a shortage in tonnage on the Nome run and that in order to handle the freight and passenger trade during the coming season, the operating companies will have place still more steamers on the run. The Northern Pacific steamers are first class vessels. The Victoria is 360.5 feet long, 40.4 feet beam and 34.3 depth of hold. The Tacoma is 327.2 feet in length, 29.3 feet beam and 29.3 depth of hold.

LA GRANDE NOMINATIONS.

Mass Meeting of Citizens Tonight and Tomorrow Night.

La Grande, March 7.—There will be a general mass meeting of the legal voters in the city of La Grande held in the opera house in this city this evening for the purpose of nominating city officers for the coming city election which will be held March 14.

Mayor, recorder, treasurer and marshal will be nominated. A meeting will be held Tuesday evening for the nomination of councilmen.

The voters will have a chance to vote on the proposition of authorizing the council to issue and negotiate \$25,000 bonds for the purpose of constructing a city hall for La Grande.

RAILROAD VALUES WILL BE RAISED

WHITMAN COUNTY ASSESSOR ADOPTS STRAIN'S VIEWS.

Says Umatilla County Assessor Has Given Out Unanswerable Arguments on Assessments—Whitman County Railroads Will be Assessed at \$12,000 per mile instead of \$6,500.

Colfax, March 7.—Following a close study of C. P. Strain's book on railroad assessments, R. H. Duff, assessor of Whitman county, Washington, has decided to assess railroad property in his county, at \$12,000 per mile this season, the rate heretofore being but \$6,500 per mile.

He has studied the question in all its phases and believes that the figures presented by Mr. Strain are unanswerable. Railroad property in Whitman county has about the same earning capacity as in Umatilla county and Mr. Duff believes his state should make a united effort to raise all valuations, and especially that of railroad property.

He says railroads should not pay a cent more than their proportion of the taxes, but that this class of property has been greatly undervalued in the past in every western state. Other classes of property have borne an unjust share of the taxes and he thinks an equalization should be made on a fair basis.

Y. M. C. A. NOT A CHURCH.

Boise City Decides That a Saloon Can be Operated Within 400 Feet of the Association Building.

The city council of Boise City, after a spirited battle, has decided that the Y. M. C. A. is not a recognized church organization, and that therefore the ordinance prohibiting a saloon within 400 feet of a church building does not apply to this organization.

A license was petitioned for in a building across from the Y. M. C. A. hall, and the members of the association fought against granting the license on the church ordinance, and the ministerial association and the salvation army supported the Y. M. C. A. contention, but the saloon influence on the city council was too strong, and the license was granted.

RUSSIA THREATENS TO PUSH THROUGH THE DARDANELLES

Will Hardly Undertake it Without an Ally—Such Action Will Involve Europe in a General War.

Japanese Bombarded Vladivostok, But Did Little Damage—They Are Also Landing Troops in Extreme Northern Part of Korea for a Flank Movement on Vladivostok—Russian Imperial Council Trying to Devise Ways for Defense of Vladivostok—Russia Much Annoyed by Japanese Spies Among Chinese Residents of Manchuria.

Berlin, March 7.—The Tageblatt reports that Russia has resolved to defy Europe and send her warships through the Dardanelles. The Lokal Anzeiger asserts that the Russian railway around Lake Baikal will not be ready for use before December.

It is the unanimous belief and expression in Berlin political circles that such an action by Russia will at once precipitate a general European war. Military men maintain an ominous quietude refusing to express themselves.

It is further believed that Great Britain will resist any attempt of the Russian fleet to get through the Suez canal, or past Gibraltar, even should Russia successfully attempt the naval coup of slipping through the Dardanelles. Further speculation is indulged in to the effect that Russia probably does not contemplate such an extreme proceeding without the active co-operation of the French navy, which is second in size and equipment only to that of Great Britain.

Damage at Vladivostok.

St. Petersburg, March 7.—A dispatch from Port Arthur reports fine weather and no marked change in the situation. A Vladivostok telegram states the result of the bombardment was not serious. One woman was killed and a few men wounded, and a small wooden cottage was destroyed by a shell. Another shell exploded in the naval barracks, injuring five sailors. Col. Shukoff's house was damaged by a shell which pierced it and exploded in the yard. No outbreak of fire. The Russians' batteries did not respond, as they do not wish to disclose their location.

ANOTHER SAFE CRACKED.

Robbers Loot Safe of James Garrity, of Island City, Last Night.

La Grande, March 7.—Safe crackers blew open the safe in the James Garrity blacksmith and machine shops at Island City last night, and secured about \$6 in cash.

A charge of nitroglycerin was used in blowing the safe, and the door was blown from the hinges and hurled across the room. Blacksmith tools were used in drilling the hole in which the charge was placed.

It is thought here to be the same gang that has burglarized several safes in Umatilla county within the past month.

Island City is two miles from here, and no one heard the explosion. Absolutely no trace was left.

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Russian Squadron at Large.

Hakodate, Japan, March 7.—An Austrian steamer from Vladivostok reports that the Russian squadron got free off the ice at that place last Saturday and sailed northward, presumably in hope of capturing Japanese merchantment. No attack was made on Northern Japanese ports, so far as heard.

Investing Vladivostok.

Rome, March 7.—The Agenzella Diebras' Chemulpo correspondent asserts that Japanese forces, probably under the protection of the squadron that bombarded Vladivostok, have landed on Tinking Island, to the southeast and opposite Vladivostok.

The Japanese squadron in the Yellow Sea still remains before Port Arthur. It is believed a simultaneous attack will be made upon Port Arthur and Vladivostok today.

Vladivostok in Danger.

St. Petersburg, March 7.—A special meeting of the council of ministers met suddenly in the winter palace tonight, to consider measures to protect Vladivostok.

OPTICAL TRUST.

Organized for "Protection," as All Trusts Are.

Chicago, Ill., March 7.—Several score of the most prominent opticians of the country gathered in conference here today and the outcome is expected to be the organization of an optical trust. The purpose of the combine, it is stated, is not to increase prices, but to afford mutual protection to the optical concerns owning valuable patents and state rights against unscrupulous dealers, who are guilty of infringement. The combination will take in the leading dealers of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati, Baltimore and other chief cities of the country.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS CONVENTION CLOSES

The fourth annual convention of the Knights of Pythias has come to a close, and all of the delegates have returned to their homes, but the memory of their visit will long remain both with them and with the members of the local lodge. The convention of Saturday was the largest gathering of a fraternity ever held in this city, over 500 delegates being present from the outside districts.

The district convention held in the afternoon by the Umatilla county district was of great benefit to the members of the order, and the addresses given were of a high grade.

Union Team Won.

In the evening the inter-district convention and contest was held in Music hall. The Union team won the contest by a margin of 28 points out of a total of 1,500. The work of both teams was very good, and it was hard work for the judges of the contest to award the prize of \$50, so evenly were they matched.

Banquet and Toasts.

The banquet was one of the pleasant incidents of the day's program. Plates had been laid for 400 guests in Armory hall, the places were all filled, and a row of gentlemen were ranged around the wall.

J. H. Gwinn of Pendleton presided, and in response to his call six of the guests of the evening responded with pleasing and appropriate toasts.

Charles Cochran of Union treated the subject, "The Mistakes We Sometimes Make," and held that none of the delegates had made a mistake in visiting Pendleton for the convention. Mrs. Robert Renn of Pendleton spoke on "Facts and Fiction of the History of Damona Temple." She

said that last year the ladies has waited for the men after the banquet, this year they were the guests of the men, and next year the men would be the waiters.

Frank S. Grant of Portland had the toast, "The Knights of Korhasan;" Mrs. Cora M. Davis of Union spoke on the "Relation of the Rathbone Sisters to the Knights of Pythias," and Turner Oliver of La Grande, treated "The Recognition of the Rathbone Sisters by the Knights." M. F. Davis of Union spoke of the "Woes of a Senator." Fechter's orchestra furnished the music.

Rathbone Sisters.

The convention of the Rathbone Sisters during the afternoon brought together about 100 of the ladies of the order from this district. This is the first district convention of the Rathbone sisters in the history of the order in this state, and shows that Umatilla county is progressive in its spirit. Umatilla held the first district convention of the Knights, and since that time the plan has been adopted over the state, much to the benefit of the order as well as the pleasure of the members, and the strengthening of fraternal ties.

A great many of the delegates left on the night train for Walla Walla, and visited in that city Sunday, returning to their homes last night. Others left immediately for their homes, and some of them are yet the guests of friends in Pendleton. The convention was a great success, and the local Knights are well satisfied with their efforts toward entertaining their visitors.

It was decided that the next convention would be held in Baker City about a year from this date, the exact time to be announced later.

BLOODED HORSES.

Geo. Perringer Bought Some Very Fine Animals.

George Perringer and J. A. Fee have returned from a trip to Portland where they went to attend the J. L. McCarty sale of blooded stock, which was held in that city last week. At this sale 180 head of blooded stock changed hands, some very promising horses being in the list.

Mr. Perringer bought the 5-year-old mare stallion, McKinney Mc., the son of the noted McKinney, paying \$600 for him. Mr. Perringer will keep his new purchase in this city.

Mr. Perringer also bought for Mr. Preston of Walsburg, the 4-year-old mare Del Norte. The mare was raised by Mr. Perringer and sold as a yearling by him to Mr. McCarty for \$100. He paid \$550 for her at the sale last week.

Mr. Fee also bought a couple of fine horses at this sale. One of them a yearling stud, Ansalom, sired by Barondale, was bought at a cost of \$260. The ancestors of the horse are all of them, exceptionally speedy and Judge Fee hopes to have a fast one from his colt. He also bought a mare for driving and breeding purposes, which is registered and holds a track record.

STAR SESSION POLICE COURT.

Ten Men and One Woman, All Vags and Drunks.

Judge Fitz Gerald held a star session of police court this morning, having 10 men and one woman before him for sentence.

All of the men were in either for vagrancy, or drunk and disorderly conduct, and all had different pleas. One man was on his way to Hilgard to do some plumbing; another was seeking the hospital where the county physician had sent him for treatment, and had gotten into a boxcar for a short rest while on the way; another man was hunting work, and while on the search went to sleep in the back room of a saloon, where the marshal found him; one man out of the bunch was honest, and pleaded guilty to being drunk.

The woman in the case gave her name as Eva Gengham. She hailed from Portland, and had come here to meet her lover, who had promised to meet her at the train. He had failed to put in an appearance, and to console herself she had proceeded to drown her grief in drink. She was given five days in the city jail to wait for the coming of the man. The men were given three days each.

COMMITTEE TO MEET MARCH 23

DEMOCRATS WILL BEGIN THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN.

Central Committee Will Meet at the Court House at 3 O'Clock on the Date Named—Below Are Names and Addresses of the Thirty-Six Members.

A. D. Stillman, the chairman of the democratic county central committee, has issued a call for the committee to meet at the court house in this city on Wednesday, March 23, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The purpose of the meeting will be to fix the date for the democratic primaries and for the county convention, and also to fix the basis of representation for the county.

NEW BUSINESS HOUSE.

A. Michaels, of Baker City, May Go Into Furniture Business Here.

A. Michaels of Baker City, is in Pendleton today looking for a location for a furniture business. Mr. Michaels has been for some time interested in the Standard Furniture Company of Baker City, owning the store in company with his uncle. He has lately sold his interest in that business, and now wishes to locate in this city. He is negotiating with both M. A. Rader and Joseph Basler, and if conditions are favorable, will buy one or the other of the stocks and open a first-class strictly furniture business.

TAXES COMING IN.

Second Heavy Installment Turned Over by Sheriff.

The sheriff has made another turnover of tax money to the county treasurer, amounting to \$14,754.73. This is the second payment the sheriff has made since the books opened, the other being fully as large as the present one.

The people of the county are now paying up pretty fast, the office of the sheriff being crowded most of the time with those waiting for their turn at the books.

A young man often stays up nights to learn things that cause an old man insomnia because of his inability to forget them.

Train Fell Through.

Wellsville, O., March 7.—Six men were killed and several injured by a freight train falling into Yellow creek, on the Cleveland & Pittsburg railroad this morning. The train and two engines were on the bridge when it collapsed. The floods had undermined the central piers of the bridge.

Most of the things a man says would benefit the world just as much if he was to neglect to say them.