

**THE OREGON SCOUT.**

AMOS K. JONES EDITOR.

City and County Official Paper.

Friday, October 21, 1887.

**BOOMS.**

Nothing is more disastrous to any community for a short period, than the so-called booms. There is perhaps a legitimate boom which is the outgrowth of business energy and the natural facilities of a country or a portion of country; but the section must have sufficient advantages upon which a safe and proper foundation for a permanent rise in values may be made. Business energy in connection with the proper facilities—real and existing—will most always give a legitimate, healthy and lasting enhancement to values and from which, under ordinary circumstances, no evil results will come. Contingencies may arise that may affect for a time some favored locality, but if precaution has been well taken, the results are not likely to affect values only temporarily. We opine that nine out of every ten truly business men dread the outcome of these sudden rises in real estate. One extreme comes immediately upon the heels of another, and the last extreme is the one which makes itself felt. It then changes from a gentle breeze of prosperity to a disastrous cyclone carrying before it the trash and superfluous values. It is changed from a steady roll of legitimate values to an earthquake, crashing down and swallowing up the impossibilities of unreasonable and unwarrantable ventures, leaving the ground free only to the possibilities to be gathered up from the wreck.

The State of California has been having its professional boomers for the past few months, and real estate in the southern part has reached un-warrantable prices. Business tact, reason and sound judgment have been swallowed up in the whirlpool of excitement. Men became frenzied with the idea that wealth was one of the inevitables, and readily saw in their diseased imaginations that impossibilities were actually possible. The crash will come, and when it does come many will be found deeply buried beneath the debris of the ruins. A few deep scheming men will make money, but the country will have to recover from the shock slowly, and the people will have learned the dearly bought lesson, before they are again on their feet, that fictitious values of a fabulous nature are more disastrous to them than years of famine and pestilence.

Whatever Eastern Oregon may lack to develop her resources of whatever kind they may be, deliver us from these distressing advances brought about by men who would have us believe that a booming excitement is financial prosperity. It never has succeeded and it never will. Eastern Oregon is being built up; her agricultural facilities are being properly fed and nourished; her mining industries are rapidly being developed; manufacturing interests are being fostered, but only as fast as times demand it. We have no reason for becoming impatient; we are doing well enough. It is dangerous to undertake to force our resources—and especially fictitious ones—ahead of the natural growth of the times. We are prosperous and happy, and we hope to remain so, and be even more so, but we want our prosperity to come through the legitimate channels of trade and commerce. If we have a good country, people of other lands will find it out and come and settle among us. If we have undeveloped resources, no matter of what kind, capital will find its way here, and those resources will be developed just as rapidly as the growth of the country will justify development. It is necessary to advertise our advantages and induce men of means to investigate our future possibilities; to induce men to help us build up a more prosperous state of things, but we want no boomers to come to us with their boomers which are sure when thrown to come back and strike us in the face. Let us have a steady tide of prosperity, and the golden treasures will come to us as rapidly as it is our mettle to receive them.

In all probability that rampant disciple of Anarchism, Herr J. Most, will have the privilege of being interviewed by an Illinois tribunal of justice. This may cause another rise of the sympathetic nerves of Geo. Francis Train and B. F. Butler. The utterances in favor of the Anarchists should be checked, and the mouthpieces of that damnable sect placed under arrest. There is no sense, because this is called a free country, that it gives to a set of bloodthirsty foreigners the right to proclaim their vicious ideas to the public, simply because they are in a free country. Quell them if it takes the arms of the United States to do it.

**EDITORIAL NOTES.**

The grand jury of Pinol county, Arizona, in their final report say that they believe Lieutenant Watson of the San Carlos reservation, is guilty in aiding and assisting Eskimish and other Indian prisoners in escaping the officers of the law, who had them in custody. If such is the fact, Lieut. Watson should not only be summarily dismissed from the army, but should receive punishment for aiding and abetting prisoners in their escape.

The people of Astoria have subscribed \$150,000 as a subsidy to a railroad. This shows that the people of that city down by the sea, know what it takes to get a new enterprise to come and drink of the briny waters with her. When a place takes deliberate action, counts the costs, measures up the profits likely to accrue from having a railroad come within her limits, and raises that amount, it will be very apt to make itself felt as a place full of energetic, business men who have unbounded faith in the future of their city.

Supplementary articles of incorporation have been filed at Salem, empowering the O. R. & N. Co. to construct a number of additional branch lines of railroads in different sections, aggregating 1140 miles. There is included in this incorporation a branch starting near La Grande, up the Wallowa Valley; distance 70 miles, with branch from near the mouth of Wallowa river along the valley of the Grande Ronde river to its mouth; thence northerly along Snake river to Lewiston, Idaho, distance 65 miles. This looks as though we shall soon have Eastern Oregon threaded with railroads. The articles of incorporation includes nine branch lines in different sections of Eastern Oregon and Washington Territory.

The C. M. & W. V. wagon road company have just discovered that they have had employed in their service a large number of men at work constructing their road, in compliance with the law authorizing said road, and that they will be able to show beyond a reasonable doubt (?) that they have, in all things, been law-abiding citizens. Why, yes, when we come to think, of course they have. It would be utterly impossible for them to be otherwise than honorable (?) men, and that is just the reason they have discovered this large force of men at work on their road. The government must certainly be a very embezzle one not to have discovered that the C. M. & W. V. wagon road company were men of irreproachable character. We expect the government will have to pay heavy damages to these saints for thinking them dishonest.

Sparks, the commissioner of the general land office is constantly in trouble, and he don't seem to learn anything by experience. After thirty months of service he is apparently as ignorant in regard to his duties as Nicodemus was relative to the second birth. The secretary of the interior department has frequently had occasion to reverse the decisions of the commissioner so unjustly rendered against the western land settlers, and is now engaged on another batch. Sparks acts on the hypothesis that every land taker is a rascal, and should be watched and treated as a thief. He is in very bad odor in the department as well as throughout the country, and it is well known that the secretary and other high officials of the interior desire most ardently his resignation. It is not unlikely that a demand will be made for his absolute dismissal.—Ex.

Considerable tuning has been going on in the newspapers of the country over the fact that our navy was of rather infinitesimal proportions, and a great deal of talk indulged in as to the purpose of building up a navy and coast defenses. Nearly all the papers and public orators have been declaiming for these objects. The foolishness of such proceedings is pretty well hit by the Chronicle in the following fling at the old countries: "The successful experimenter's with dynamite guns are doing much to revive the impression that the old world powers have wasted a great deal of money in constructing enormously heavy steel-clad ships. If the pneumatic dynamite gun can do all that is claimed for it, a half dozen of them would prove sufficient to protect any harbor against all the navies of the world." The fact of the business is that we need no expensive navy or coast defenses, for if we had them, in the present transitional state of destructive implements and war paraphernalia, the exigencies of the hour would have to be met under any conditions of war or defense.—Dissuamator.

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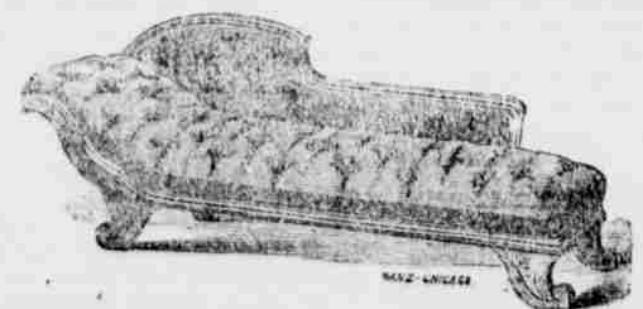
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