

THE RAILROAD OUTLOOK.

The negotiations between the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific railroad companies whereby they obtain control of the O. R. & N. Co's lines have been consummated. This arrangement was entered into for the purpose of "preventing the reckless building of branch roads in the Northwest," and it is reasonable to suppose that no branches will be run out from the O. R. & N. Co's line at La Grande or anywhere else. This supposition is confirmed when a review of the situation is taken. The board of arbitration selected by the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific companies consists of four members representing the Northern and two members representing the Union Pacific, leaving the balance of power with the Northern Pacific, which virtually gives it control of the whole business. Mr. Hunt has announced that the action of the two companies above mentioned will not affect the building of the Oregon & Washington road into Grande Ronde valley or other sections, in the least. This being the case, it is not likely, if the Hunt road is built through this valley, that the Northern Pacific would permit the building of the O. R. & N. Co's branch to Wallowa from La Grande, crossing as it would the Hunt road which is one of the Northern's most important feeders.

The O. R. & N. Co. are now at work, or will be at work in a very few days, on a branch from La Grande to Island City, but this cannot be considered its own work, or a violation of the arbitration contract, as the branch is, in reality, being constructed by the enterprising M. & M. Co., of Island City, simply to advance their own interests and in the hopes of making Island the trade center of that section of the county. It is safe to say that the branch will not be extended beyond that place. This is to be regretted, as after the first one is built, the more railroads and branches of railroads we have, the better.

The Hunt road, however, is still on the tapis, with fair prospects of its being built through the Grande Ronde valley, as far as Union, this summer. At this writing, as near as we can ascertain, over \$130,000 has been subscribed to the subsidy, and many who will no doubt subscribe liberally are yet to be heard from. This road will be of greater benefit to Union county than anything has been heretofore, or is likely to be for years to come. It is an opportunity our people cannot afford to let pass, unimproved. Especially should the people of Wallowa county lend their aid and financial assistance to Mr. Hunt in extending the O. & W.T. road across the Blue mountains, for it must be apparent to them that it is the only source they can look to for deliverance from the isolation and lack of transportation facilities which their magnificent country is laboring under at this time.

AWAKENED FOR A MOMENT.

The editor of the Wallowa Chieftain, wakes up from his lethargy, long enough to speak right out like this:

The Scout, edited by an individual who, according to his own people, never sees a block beyond his office, is never so happy as when misinterpreting some one else's words. Permit us to say to the Scout, if the editor can understand English, that the CHIEFTAIN would like to see such a man as Mr. Hunt own and operate a railroad in the Wallowa valley and that it has said so through its columns; that a road from any company into this country will be acceptable; that while wishing Mr. Hunt's road to Union may be built the wish is not strong enough to induce Wallowa people to subscribe to a subsidy for that purpose; that the editor of the CHIEFTAIN is fully as able to speak for the people of Wallowa county as the editor of the Scout; that it is really too bad the comprehension of the CHIEFTAIN is not appreciated by the intellectual giant of Grande Ronde valley, and that we have put craps on our door in consequence.

We did not "misinterpret" the Chieftain's words, but copied them verbatim, more as a sample of the editor's acuteness than for any other purpose. We do not wonder that he has since become ashamed of them. We are glad to note that the editor of the Chieftain would like to see a railroad built into Wallowa valley, but are amazed at the extraordinary acumen displayed in trying to get one there. We are thankful that he really does object to a road coming to Union, and are sorry that he does not seem to

know what he does want. We are gratified to learn that he is able to speak for the people of Wallowa, for we have doubted it very much, heretofore. We are annoyed to think that our lack of appreciation has caused him to put craps on his door, but are pleased to see that he is beginning to exhibit a consciousness of his surroundings and likely to evolve into a state where he can see a thing situated several inches in front of his nose, and that he is liable to let go, and drift out into the stream of progress, where a piece of craps will not be needed to indicate his condition. As for our peculiar methods of seeing the world and gathering the news for our readers we take pride in referring him to this and every issue of THE SCOUT, as evidence that "we got there just the same."

THE FILED UP PENSIONS.

The cost of pensions in this country for the current year will be over \$87,000,000.

This is \$21,000,000 more than the net ordinary expenses of the government in the year before the war. It is \$60,000,000 more than the pensions thirteen years after the close of the war, when under the operation of natural laws, the list would have begun to decline. The increase in pensions since the close of the war is within \$14,000,000 of the yearly diminution in the interest upon public debt within that time; so that, as a charge upon the taxpayers, the enormous war debt has for the most part merely changed its form. As bonded it would all be paid in 1907. As represented by pensions it will run on indefinitely.

The pension list for the United States cost this year within \$3,000,000 as much as the annual cost of the standing army of Great Britain and within \$18,000,000 of the enormous standing army of Germany. There will be no halt in piling it as long as the surplus holds out and pension agents can make fortunes and demagogues gain votes by the indiscriminate voting away the people's money.—Albany Democrat.

THOSE GRAIN ELEVATORS.

The Pacific Elevator Co. are establishing a system of grain elevators along the O. R. & N. Co's various lines. This is represented to be in the interests of the farmers, but if we understand the matter correctly it is just the reverse. As it is now, various companies dealing in grain have their agents throughout the country, buying of the farmers, and their competition with each other enables the producers, as a general thing, to realize something near the market price for their produce. With these grain elevators established, the agents and local buyers will be seen no more, and the market will be in the hands of a gigantic monopoly who will offer the farmers a certain price for their grain, and they can take it or let it alone. No one else could buy the grain, for should they do so they would be unable to procure cars to carry it away, as the railroad company would be careful to see that no more cars than are necessary to supply the wants of their allies, the grain elevator company, are sent out. It is a nice combination, and one that the farmers, before they are through with it, will wish they had never heard of. It is pleasant, however, to think of the large vacuum that will be made in the pockets of these cormorants when Hunt's road traverses the center of Union county.

THE DEER LAW.

The last legislature amended the deer law, as follows, which was the only change made in the game law:

It is made a misdemeanor to hunt, kill or pursue any deer or elk at any time between the 1st day of November and the 1st day of August. Also every person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, who shall sell or offer for sale, or transport, or carry for the purpose of barter or exchange the hide or skin of a deer or elk, or who shall sell or offer for sale or have in his possession, or buy or offer to buy any elk or deer during the time specified from November 1st to August 1st.

Upon a prosecution it is made prima facie evidence of guilt for the accused to have in their possession any deer or elk, or their hides, when it is unlawful to kill the same.

The penalty violation of the law is by a fine not less than \$10 nor more than \$300, or imprisonment in the county jail not less than five days nor more than three months or by both fine and imprisonment. All money collected by fines goes to the school funds.

THE SCOUT is just the paper to send east to your friends. Try it.

SURVEYORS AT WORK.

A party of O. R. & N. surveyors arrived from Portland, Monday, and on Tuesday morning commenced surveying on the Wallowa branch road. At present the surveyors have orders to run the line as far as Island City only, and it is reported that the road thus far will be graded and tied by the M. & M. company. The surveyors of course know nothing of the immediate plans of the company, and it is probable that no other outside parties know anything more about it than the surveyors do. They expect to run several different routes through the valley, and there is no doubt that the final location of a route to the lower end of the Grande Ronde will excite considerable interest. It took three years to get the main line located through the Grande Ronde, but it ought not to take that long to get a route established between La Grande and Wallowa canyon. Whatever the route may be it is hoped that the road will be built and put in operation as early a date as possible.—La Grande Gazette.

The sum and substance of the above is, that a branch road is to be built to Island City and no further, and that the surveyors are to skirmish around in the valley for a week or two, in the hopes of discouraging subscriptions to the Hunt road by leading the people to believe that a branch to Wallowa will be built by the O. R. & N. company. S-e-a-r-t, Snoddy!

PINE VALLEY.

[This letter was received too late for last issue, but is still good.—EDITOR.]

March 18, 1889.

Roads every muddy.

After several rainy days, nice and clear.

Eggs 10 cents per doz. at Pindell's, 15 cents at Stalker's. Query.

Miss Lena Pancake, who has been visiting friends in Wingville, has returned home.

Born.—Recently, to the wife of Henry Clark, of Pine, a daughter. May the young parents be so fortunate as to keep this little one.

At the school meeting in district No. 31, Mr. Jas. Brooks was re-elected school clerk, and Mr. John Irwin director, in place of Mr. Pancake, whose term has expired.

Married.—Across Snake river, recently, Doc Russell and Stella Drake—at least rumor keeps rumoring that such is the case. The bride is a girl about 15, the groom probably about 40.

A protracted meeting held by ministers of the Methodist and South Methodist churches, at Fairview school house, closed last Sunday evening. Several persons were received into the church.

We learn that Mr. Henry Oliver, who was sick so long this winter, has a relapse and is again very low. Among others on the sick list is our worthy postmaster and wife, Mrs. Mills, Nora Mills, and a young son of Jack Morrison.

We see that the bill to prohibit tobacco to minors has been approved by Gov. Penneyer. He evidently is not quite so prejudiced in favor of tobacco as some folks. Recently the question, "Resolved that tobacco should be prohibited," was discussed at a literary society here, and notwithstanding the fact that the affirmative proved clearly by numerous authorities that tobacco is a poison, injurious to health, morals, manners, etc., and the negative admitted the fact, the judges, presumably—as we learn one of them said—"because they used it themselves," decided according to their own convictions, viz: in favor of tobacco.

Recently the Rev. Richard Boyles had a shovel taken from his gate by a Mr. Fowler, who claimed to a person who was with him that it was his. Rev. Boyles went to the residence of Mr. Fowler, stated that the shovel was his and took it home. Fowler sued for recovery of property, and at the trial before Justice Scott, Mr. Boyles proved—by dents in the shovel caused by driving a spike nail, by hairs adhering to it from being used in cleaning hogs, &c.—to the satisfaction of the jury that the article belonged to him, notwithstanding the fact that a couple of notches cut on the handle were not made by him. The shovel was awarded to Mr. Boyles and about \$75 costs to Mr. Fowler.

We are sorry to see that the enabling act has been passed, as it will leave the county seat removal, to a degree, at the mercy of non-residents and non-tax-payers who will, in all probability, be rushed in and bought up by the O. R. & N. Co. and La Grande. Moreover you know, Mr. Editor, there is no accounting for the "freaks" of some people who have an imaginary wrong to redress. We know good meaning and real sensible people here (at least they are sensible on other subjects) whom we hear talk as if they would be just foolish enough to "cut off their noses to spite their faces" and vote for the removal of the county seat, and thereby entail a burden of taxes upon the people, simply to get in a kick at the "court house ring" as they persist in calling our worthy county officials. Where will the "court house ring" be when La Grande gets it, if it ever does, and how much better off will the kickers be? Men signed the petition, we believe, who have too much good sense to vote

for the removal and who really had no idea the enabling act would be passed, but who, to use their own expressions, "wanted to learn their fellows at Union a lesson." This, however, does not alter the fact that straggling men will, no doubt, be run in to vote "hardships on the people and when 'them fellows' at La Grande get their \$80,000 or \$100,000 court house at the expense of the people of the county, we will begin to think we have had a "lesson" too. REPORTER.

Job printing done at this office on short notice. Prices reasonable.

NEW THIS WEEK.

FRUIT TREES.

A general assortment of spring fruit trees for sale. Anyone desiring to purchase trees will do well to address me at the Cove, or call on me at my home near town. \$25-ml H. J. GREER.

TAKEN UP.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned, living at Cove, Union county, Oregon, has this 19th day of March, 1889, taken up and posted according to law, the following described estray, to-wit:

One bay mare, 7 or 8 years old, 15 hands high, branded with a letter P on right shoulder.

The above described mare was appraised at \$30.00 by B. B. Sanborn, J. P. for Cove precinct. E. P. McDANIEL.

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Estray Notice.

TAKEN UP, by the undersigned, living about five miles southeast of Elgin, Union county, Oregon, this 8th day of March, 1889, one bay horse, about 8 years old, weight 800 or 900 pounds, small star in forehead, branded 21 on left shoulder.

The above described estray was appraised at \$30.00 by J. R. Johnson, J. P., on the 18th day of March, 1889.

I, Emil Graf, being first duly sworn, say that I am the taker-up of the above described animal, and that I posted the same according to law, on the 18th day of March, 1889. EMIL GRAF.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of March, 1889.

J. R. JOHNSON, J. P.

Estray Notice.

TAKEN UP, by the undersigned, living about eight miles southeast of Elgin, Union county, Oregon, this 26th day of February, 1889, one bay mare, with white strip in the face, both hind feet white, no brands perceptible, about 3 years old this spring. One black mare with white spot in forehead, some saddle marks, branded on left shoulder—can't tell what, about 8 or 9 years old.

The above described animals were appraised by J. R. Johnson, J. P., on the 19th day of March, 1889, as follows: The bay mare, at \$25 and the black at \$14.

I, E. G. Taylor, being first duly sworn, say that I am the taker-up of the above described animals, and that I posted the same according to law on the 19th day of March, 1889. E. G. TAYLOR.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of March, 1889.

J. R. JOHNSON, J. P.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE AT LA GRANDE, OREGON, March 23, 1889.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the register and receiver at La Grande, Oregon, on May 13, 1889, viz:

WILLIAM MURRAY.

D. S. No. 780, for the N½, NE¼ and SW¼ NE¼, and SE¼ NW¼ Sec. 1, Tp. 3 S. R. 40 E.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz:

L. A. Robertson, A. Cockrell, Wade Shelton and John Mummay, all of Union, Oregon.

Any person who desires to protest against the allowance of such proof, or who knows of any substantial reason, under the law and the regulations of the Interior Department, why such proof should not be allowed, will be given an opportunity at the above mentioned time and place to cross-examine the witnesses of said claimant, and to offer evidence in rebuttal of that submitted by claimant.

HENRY RINHBART, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE AT LA GRANDE, OREGON, March 21, 1889.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the register and receiver at La Grande, Oregon, on May 3, 1889, viz:

FREDERICK SIMONS.

D. S. No. 8306, for the W¼ NW¼ Sec. 27, Tp. 9 S. R. 45 E.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz:

Charles M. Waterbury, Leander J. Ferguson, Lewis F. Jennings and Joseph Evans, all of New Bridge, Union county, Ore.

Any person who desires to protest against the allowance of such proof, or who knows of any substantial reason, under the law and the regulations of the Interior Department why such proof should not be allowed, will be given an opportunity at the above mentioned time and place to cross-examine the witnesses of said claimant, and to offer evidence in rebuttal of that submitted by claimant.

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1200 ACRES, twelve miles north of Union, in Cove; 600 acres grain and meadow land, balance pasture; well improved; good fences, buildings, and plenty of water, a good orchard, etc.; plenty of good timber joining same on the east. An excellent farm for diversified husbandry.

320 ACRES, eleven miles north of Union, in Cove; 200 acres in cultivation; good fences, buildings, etc. A fine farm. Price \$6,000.

240 ACRES, ten miles from Union, in Cove; 160 acres under cultivation; well improved. Price \$25.00 per acre.

320 ACRES, ten miles north of Union; all tillable land; unimproved. Price \$15.00 per acre.

400 ACRES, two and one-half miles northwest from Union; all grain and meadow land; well improved. Price \$25.00 per acre.

80 ACRES, one mile west of Union; fine grain or meadow land. Price \$45.00 per acre.

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The foregoing are some of the bargains I offer in real estate. These lands are all situated in the celebrated

Grande Ronde Valley,

Union County, Oregon, noted for fertility of soil, healthfulness of climate, convenience of timber, and plenty of water, supplied by numerous streams flowing from adjoining mountains and springs.

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Is the county seat of the county, situated in the southern portion of the valley, and two miles from the O. R. & N. Company's depot. It is beautifully located on a clear, running stream of water, affording excellent manufacturing facilities. A large agricultural section, and the mines of Sanger and Cornucopia districts, just now coming into notoriety, are tributary to Union.

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