

WEEKLY GAZETTE

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OFFICIAL

WEEKLY

PAPER

Heppner



Gazette.

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Subscription Price, \$1.50

The Paper is Published Strictly in the Interests of Morrow County and its Taxpayers.

SEVENTEENTH YEAR

HEPPNER, MORROW COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1899.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

GREAT FOREST RESERVES OF AMERICA.

The Cascade Range Reserve of Oregon the Largest—Commissioner Hermann's Knowledge of these Reserves.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8th.—The forest reserves of the great American republic occupy as much territory as the entire state of Washington. The largest of all these is the great Cascade reserve in the state of Oregon. The reserves of the Cascades of Oregon and the Sierra Nevadas of California are the most considerable of all. While the facts as to the forest reserves in the United States will interest people generally, the people of Oregon will be glad to learn of the reserves lying in our own state. Your readers will therefore appreciate that I have gotten the details so as to be able to state the important particulars.

Under an act passed March 3, 1898, 36 forest reserves had been established by presidential proclamation, exclusive of the great Alagnac forest and fish culture reserve in Alaska. As three of the 39 reserves lie in two states, these are twice enumerated, so that there are actually but 36 such reserves in all. The three alluded to are: The Bitter Root reserve, lying in both Montana and Idaho; the Black Hills reserve, in Dakota and Wyoming, and the Priest river reserve, in Washington and Idaho.

The Cascade range reserve of Oregon is the largest, as it contains an area of 4,492,300 acres. The Bitter Root reserve is next in size, containing 4,147,200 acres, located in Idaho and Montana. Next in size is the Sierra reserve in Northern California, with about 4,096,000 acres. The four reserves in Washington, including part of the Priest river reserve, are estimated at 8,000,000 acres. The reserves in Oregon are about 4,653,440 acres.

While the law referred to was passed in 1891, nothing practically was done in the way of administering and organizing these forest reserves until the summer of 1898, when the first important appropriation for that purpose became available. The magnitude of the work of systemizing this administration was so great and the time so short, after the appropriation to June 30th became available, the season being so advanced, and there necessarily was delay in perfecting such system as was necessary.

Commissioner Hermann, however, was greatly interested in the question as especially pertaining to his state—Oregon—and had personal knowledge as to the importance of the matter for the forest regions of the public domain. Under his able management the general land office has learned much from the experience of last season, and has adopted a system of reports in detail on various subjects, so have established a uniform system of responsibility, to the end that it may have at all times a perfect knowledge of the conditions existing in each reserve. These have been divided into nine superintendencies, a forest superintendent being appointed for each district. In Oregon, Mr. S. B. Ormsby, of Salem, is superintendent of reserves in that state. In Washington, D. B. Sheller is superintendent, including part of the Priest river reserve. James Glendinning, of Grangeville, Idaho, superintends that portion of the Bitter Root and Priest river reserves that lie in Idaho. Each forest superintendent is responsible to the United States general land office for his care of the reserves under his care. Under these superintendents are supervisors, usually one for each reserve, and for the large reserves sometimes three are required. In several cases a supervisor has more than one re-

serve. There are in all 35 supervisors.

The Cascade forest reserve in Oregon is divided into three supervisor districts, and the Bitter Root in Idaho into two such districts. Each reserve is also divided into ranger subdivisions, or patrol districts, under the supervisors, who constantly patrol the districts assigned them. There will be 250 rangers for duty from June 1st to October 15, 1899, making the maximum number of rangers 350.

Fires are the great destroyers of the forests. The officers and rangers are directed to bend every effort to guard against fire and extinguish it when discovered. The question of fires is one that every Oregonian can appreciate, for they are familiar with the destructive rage of fires that have laid bare so great an area of the mountains of Oregon. Each ranger wears a badge of office as evidence of his authority. Fire notices are placed in all conspicuous places.

In his report for the year ending June 30, 1898, Commissioner Hermann gave many facts as to the existing reserves and their management, but so many changes have taken place since then that the system may be said to have been remodeled.

The entire reserve system of the United States is over 46,000,000 acres, equal to the area of the state of Washington. Alaska has the great Afognac reserve, space not ascertained; Arizona has the Grand Canyon reserve, 1,851,520 acres; also the Prescott reserve, 10,000 acres; California has the San Gabriel timber land reserve, 555,520 acres; the Sierra forest reserve, 4,096,000 acres; San Bernardino reserve, 737,280 acres; the Trabuco canyon reserve, 39,920 acres; the Stanislaus reserve, 691,200 acres; Pine mountain and Zaca reserves, 1,644,594 acres. Idaho and Montana together have the Bitter Root reserve, 4,147,200 acres. Idaho and Washington have the Priest river reserve, 1,382,400 acres. Oregon has Bull Run reserve, 142,080 acres; the Cascade reserve, 4,490,800 acres; Ashland reserve, 18,500 acres. Washington has the Washington reserve, 3,594,240 acres; the Olympia reserve, 2,188,800 acres; the Mt. Ranier and Pacific reserves, 967,680 acres.

Each superintendent is required to pass on the efficiency of all the rangers under him, and his recommendations are regarded by the commissioner. No excuse will be accepted for idleness or neglect of duty on the part of the ranger. Constant patrol is required of them for the area allotted to each one.

A ranger who is unfaithful at his post of duty, or indifferent, will be dismissed. No pull can save him. Forest fires are too formidable to be overcome, therefore, Commissioner Hermann counts most on a system of prevention, and realizes that this will require constant vigilance, activity and thorough patrol of the forests.

Another good service to be expected is that the ranger is to be ex-officio, also a game warden. Poachers will hereafter contend with the government's paid officials, as the government will not only protect the timber in the forests, but the game as well.

S. A. CLARKE.

A Progressive Railroad. The Rio Grande Western railway, otherwise known as "The Great Salt Lake Route," is and has been, since the opening of the "Ogden gateway," the popular trans continental route between the Pacific northwest and the East. To add to its popularity, arrangements have been made to make its train service and equipment superior to any of its competitors. Already the running time of its several express trains has been cut down so that passengers from Portland reach Chicago in less than four days, and New York in less than five days. Effective May 1st, a perfect dining car service will be established. This will make the trip via Salt Lake City the ideal one. To further add to the comfort of its patrons, handsome excursion tourist cars are being built for the run between Portland and Chicago. With the dining car service established and the new tourist cars running, there will be little to be added to make a perfect train. For information as to rates, etc., apply to the nearest ticket office of either O. R. & N., or Southern Pacific, or address J. D. Mansfield, general agent, 142 3d street, Portland, Or.

JEFFRIES CHAMPION

Fitzsimmons Gives Jeffries Credit With Winning the Championship Fairly and Squarely. Evening Telegram

New York, June 10.—Big Jim Jeffries last evening became the champion heavyweight pugilist of the world, defeating Robert Fitzsimmons in the 11th round of a contest before the Coney Island Athletic Club of New York. George Siler, who referred the fight, said in an interview today:

"It was a nice, clean fight with no attempt on either side to foul. Both men seemed to do their best to avoid any violations of the rules. Of course, when big men like these get tired there is more or less clinching. In my opinion Jeffries had a shade the best of it for the last seven rounds. Jeffries is unquestionably a young man of remarkable strength. It was a good fight from start to finish and the best man won."

Ex-Champion Robert Fitzsimmons said to a World correspondent: "I fully expected to win, but I did not. Jeffries won because he was the best man. I could not believe that he had improved so much. He is young, strong, quick and clever. I have no excuse to make on the score of condition and confidence. I was in perfect trim, better than I really was before, and I fought the best I could. Whereas, I fully expected to win, I did not hold my man cheap. That is something I was never guilty of."

"Jeffries is now the champion of the world beyond question, and is entitled to all the praise that may be showered upon him. He won the title fairly and squarely and he now has a chance to make a great deal of money. Let him go ahead and get it, and I, for one will not molest him for the present. Of course I may challenge him, but it was all so sudden that I have not had time to decide just what I will do. It is improbable that I will ask him for another chance."

James J. Corbett said: "It proves just as I predicted. When Jeffries was my sparring partner at Carson at the time I prepared for my fight with Fitzsimmons, I knew that he had it in him, though he was then immature. Fitzsimmons would not fight me. But in Jeffries I got the man who I knew could defeat him. Jeffries was never in danger. When I went to his room before the battle I told him to go in and fight as soon as the gong rang. I told him if Fitzsimmons would not fight in the first round to go at him. He did it."

"In the third round he had Fitzsimmons going. It was a splendid battle and Jeffries did the fighting. This proves what I have always said—that a good boxer with a good left hand could defeat Fitzsimmons. Jeffries possesses all the qualities of a great boxer. He is competent to defend his proud title against any fighter on earth. He does not lack ring science nor generalship. The fight showed he was quicker than Fitzsimmons."

Kid McCoy said: "The fight went longer than I expected to see it. It is needless to say that I was greatly surprised at Jeffries' wonderful improvement. He proved himself more scientific, quicker and with better judgement than I anticipated. Fitzsimmons, who is one of the cleverest fighters and best generals in the ring, should have won the fight. It was a magnificent battle, and at the start it looked as if Fitzsimmons would win it. I looked for a shorter fight."

"If I were asked what made Fitzsimmons lose I would say simply Jeffries. He proved himself a great fighter, and will defend his title. The fight itself showed the evident fact that a very clever man at 157 pounds is no match for a very clever man at 210. I had no idea that so big a man as Jeffries could be so fast. I was not less surprised at his gameness. In the seventh and eighth rounds, when things looked bad for Jeffries, he came back quickly. The severe punishment seemed to whet his appetite rather than to discourage him."

"The first few rounds of the fight, barring the first knockdown, were Fitzsimmons'. Almost every man can come back after a defeat. He is still middle-weight champion of the world."

Champion Jeffries said: "The fight was never for a moment to doubt so far as I was concerned. I knew what I should do when I entered the ring and I grew more confident every moment from the time the gong first sounded. Fitzsimmons never hurt me but once and that was a hard blow in the left eye. His body blows did not have near the force they may have seemed to. In my estimation I had the best of every round."

"Fitzsimmons was a good, clean fighter, and he is probably the best man of his weight in the country, if not in the world. I wish him success for the future. I believe I am the best man in the world, and am willing to defend the title, which I have won."

that Fitzsimmons had recovered sufficiently to sit up and answer the greeting and hand-shake Jeffries offered, he added: "No, there will be no arrests. Fitzsimmons is all right now and the law has not been violated. He is as well as when he entered the ring, according to the report of Dr. Creamer, who examined him, so an arrest is not necessary."

THE ASYLUM MANAGEMENT.

How the Body of a Patient Was Prepared for Interment.

Miss Laura Donaldson, an inmate of the asylum of the insane at Salem, committed suicide a few days ago, and her friends at her home at The Dalles asked that her body be sent to them, "supposing, of course," says The Dalles Chronicle, "the remains would receive such attention as the exigencies of the case demanded. When the remains reached The Dalles the undertaker was surprised to find the coffin had no outside covering, such as coffins are usually incased in. However, little was thought of the matter; but when the corpse was examined he was shocked at the little attention which it had received, having been what one might term, thrown in the coffin, which contained no lining and but a very small pillow, part excelsior and part small blocks, with no appliances such as are used to prevent the body from shaking about. Worse than all, the proper clothing had not been put on the body, a night gown being the only garment of clothing, and her hair seemingly had not been combed for some time, and hung over her face.

Miss Donaldson was no pauper, but sufficient property was left by her father to give her a respectable burial, which, thanks to friends, she received. She has a large number of friends here who are justly indignant at the manner in which her remains were treated. A question just here suggests itself to everyone, if the dead receive such treatment, how about the living?

OUR GOLD BELT.

Mining Expert Says It is Unexcelled Anywhere in the World.

Oregonian: Colonel Frank V. Drake, who recently came from the Sparta mines, reports that the placer mines are very active in that locality, being favored with an unusual supply of water this spring. Nearly all the old gulches, which have been worked for 30 years past, and which have yielded gold approximating \$6,000,000 in value, are still being worked for their treasure. Limited water supply has prevented extensive operations, and beyond a few weeks in each year, practically little can be done.

Exploration for the lodes that fed these placers has, strangely enough, been tentative, and extremely limited. This branch of the industry of getting gold is now receiving some attention.

Some two years ago he met Angus D. McQueen, a leading and reliable expert on mineral localities and mines, at Sparta, and since that time Colonel Drake, who long ago predicted great things from Oregon mines, has observed Mr. McQueen's movements in inspecting the gold belt which lies in Union, Baker and Grant counties.

Mr. McQueen was recently in Portland, and in a discussion with Colonel Drake on the 18th inst., touching Oregon's mineral future, expressed in unqualified terms his opinion that "the mineral belt interesting those counties is the most extensive and valuable in the world." Upon request he consented that his opinion so expressed might be quoted by Colonel Drake.

Mr. McQueen stands pre-eminent in his profession, and upon his judgment millions of dollars have been profitably invested in various localities of the mighty West.

But an hour or two before his assassination, President Lincoln, in addressing Schuyler Colfax, then just starting on his journey overland to the Pacific, declared that "the mountains of the West would prove to be the treasury of the world."

The marvel is that people are so slow in learning the truth of this prophecy.

BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Eastern Oregon Association to Be in Session at Pendleton Beginning June 29.

On Thursday, June 29, Pendleton will have present a large number of Baptist clerical and lay delegates, who will come to attend the sessions of the Eastern Oregon association. The association will be here in session from Thursday, the 29th, over the following Sunday. It is expected that no less than 50 will come from other towns, and with the members and friends of the church who will come in from the town here and near by to attend the meetings, will make large and interesting sessions. Some very prominent clergymen will be present, and the Baptists will have profit and pleasure in entertaining the association.—East Oregonian.