

According to newspaper reports, all fires nowadays originate from "spontaneous combustion." Look out for this fellow, he is dangerous.

The cotton crop of Texas this year is estimated to exceed one-fourth of the world's total product. Texas is a great state and is coming to the front.

Heppner is improving. One fine stone building is going up, and the question of putting up another and possibly two more buildings of the same material is now being seriously considered. This looks like prosperity.

American enterprise, backed up with brains, keeps forging ahead right in the front ranks of the procession. Japanese railroad officials are now almost exclusively buying American locomotives. English manufacturers are too slow and are higher in price than American makers.

People of the Ritter and Susanville districts who now go to Pendleton to trade would like to see a good road to Heppner. To come here would make a difference of at least 50 miles on the round trip in the overland freighting. It would be a big saving of time and expense to the people of those prosperous districts.

According to the dispatches, the approaching winter will be the gloomiest Russia has ever seen. For the past month, the outlook has grown worse each week. Crops and vegetables have been burned by the intense heat, making the food supply so short that in many provinces, starvation stares the people in the face. The government is already taking steps to look after the population in districts where starvation is threatened.

The move to start a good athletic club in this city, which is backed up by the business men, is an enterprise that should meet with success. An athletic club properly conducted would be of benefit to many people. The result will probably culminate in the organization of a strong commercial club, which would make it possible for a more perfect combination of business interests by bringing the business men together in a social way.

While Morrow county is a great stock country, agriculture is no small feature. Wheat-growing is gradually gaining prominence. The soil is similar to that of our sister county, Umatilla, the greatest wheat-growing county in the state. A peculiar feature of this soil is that it improves with cultivation. This season, the driest ever known, has been unfavorable for wheat-growing, still wheat has matured and filled well and is turning out better than was expected, with a good quality everywhere.

Plow manufacturers of the United States, who have recently been in conference, have decided upon an advance of 10 per cent in the price of plows. The farmer is an easy man to squeeze. He takes it without a murmur. But the farmer ought to try the squeeze act a little himself. If it only takes a conference to put up the price of plows 10 per cent, the great army of agriculturists and producers ought to have a little meeting some rainy day and put up the price of wheat they have to sell a few notches. Turn about is fair play.

There is an unusually good demand for labor this season all over the state. The big wheat crop has given employment to a great many people; in fact, it is hard work to get enough men to take care of the crop. In the La Grande valley the best sugar factory is offering good wages for men and boys to take care of the best crop. Down in the Willamette valley there is a great demand for pickers to pick the coming crop of hops, which is now ready for harvest. There is no reason for any one to be idle in Oregon this season. There is plenty of employment for all who want to work at good wages.

The move which has been started to hold a pioneers' reunion in this city is something that should be encouraged by every citizen. The GAZETTE, being the pioneer newspaper of Morrow county, will certainly help in every way possible to make this meeting a success. The pioneers should be well entertained and shown all the respect that they are entitled to and deserve. The writer is a native son of Oregon and the son of pioneers of 1843, and we certainly have a feeling of great respect and veneration for the grand old pioneers who bravely faced the trials and hardships in helping to make Oregon the great state that it is. Let us make pioneer day a great event in Heppner.

The GAZETTE's correspondent at Lexington reports that Mr. T. J. McMillan, one of the prominent farmers of Morrow county, has harvested his 800-acre wheat crop, which has averaged 18 bushels to the acre. 14,400 bushels of grain is the result of enterprise and ability on the farm. The soil of Morrow county is productive. While this yield does not sound big like the reports of 40 to 60 bushels to the acre from other portions of the Inland Empire, still it is a crop that will yield good profits and pay fully as large a dividend on the amount of capital invested as the great crops in the Umatilla, Walla Walla and Palouse districts, as the following review of conditions will show. For instance, in the Walla Walla country the best wheat lands are worth from \$40 to \$60 an acre. The big crops are grown only by the most careful and systematic farming by summer-fallowing, thus requiring a large amount of labor and expense. When this expense is deducted, along with the taxes, etc., on the high-priced lands, a big block of the profit is carried away, and a good farm is out of reach of the poor man. In Morrow county wheat lands are worth from \$8 to \$10 per acre, and one man can farm a large amount of land at small expense and get a good return of profit from his labor, without a great investment of capital.

THE CHINESE EXCLUSION LAW

The Chinese exclusion act will soon expire by limitation. At this time there seems to be some question as to whether the law will be continued upon the statute books by the coming Congress. Certain business interests in the far East are now exerting a strong influence to prevent the extension of the law. The business interests contend that the Chinese have never shown a disposition to come here in such numbers as to endanger the stability of American labor and point to the recent census figures, which show 20,000 less Chinese in this country in 1900 than in 1890. In the discussion and the disposition of the Chinese law which will come up at the next session of Congress, there will be a protracted and sharp contest. There will be no question as to the position of the West in this matter. All of the bad effects of the competition with cheap Chinese labor have been confined to the West, and the laboring people by actual experience know just what to expect if the law is allowed to expire by limitation. In the East, where Chinese influence has not been felt, there will be a combination of forces against the West in the discussion. The Treasury officials well understand the workings of the law and the need for its continuation. The officials have made a strong stand in their contention that the present law works satisfactorily and is for the best general interests of the country. While it is a fact that the nations of the world are looking to the Orient for new markets which are bound to grow and increase the demands, especially for products of the United States, the assertion made by the Eastern trade interests that this country will be placed at a disadvantage in bidding for Chinese trade, by barring the natives from that country, has no more foundation than the fears of a few so-called economists who are now predicting a successful foreign alliance to cripple the trade in American exports. Whether we have the exclusion law or not, China, or any other nation, like an individual, will buy where she can at the best advantage. The Chinese will not buy from us

simply because they love us, nor under any other circumstances will she exclude our products and pay more for the same articles in another market. The failure to re-enact the exclusion law at the next session of Congress will be a blow at the West and American labor.

LEASE LAWS AGAIN.

The Oregonian's advices from Eastern Oregon are to the effect that sentiment in favor of a leasing law is still practically confined to representatives of the large cattle companies, such as the Pacific Livestock Company, and the French-Glenn Company of Harney and Malheur counties. The people as a whole are under the impression that Congress is about to pass a leasing law which will permit large corporations and land syndicates to secure all the public range.

This is a most incredible view to take of Congress, which is sure to regard favorably the representations of the settlers. No such law could pass, it is safe to say, without the indorsement of the House committee on public lands, constituted from farming states, and including Representative Moody, of Oregon. It is exceedingly doubtful whether such a bill as Eastern Oregon has in mind would command a single favorable vote out of the eighteen members of the committee.

Unfavorable attitude toward a lease law has been confirmed, moreover, by the equivocal utterances of President Lusk, of the Cattle-Growers' Association, in his recent advocacy through the Oregonian and otherwise of the lease system, though it must be admitted that Mr. Lusk goes far to confirm the worst fears of Eastern Oregon as to his proposals. The general idea of the Lusk proposals is that the owners of realty in pasture counties shall have a prior right to lease the ranges adjacent thereto, and that the term of the lease shall run for not less than ten years. This is naturally feared and opposed by the settlers. In Harney and Malheur counties greater landholdings than those of all the settlers combined are possessed by Lux and Miller, as the Pacific Livestock Company, and the French-Glenn Company, already referred to. The natural fear is that under Mr. Lusk's bill the settler would be practically shut out of the range. Under these circumstances, the general opposition to a lease law of the Lusk brand is readily comprehended.

Thus the matter stands, and thus it is likely to stand indefinitely. A bill such as Mr. Lusk is believed to champion has no more show of enactment into law than has the free coinage of silver. But the present unsatisfactory arrangements cannot continue forever, and will only be intensified when the settler is overwhelmed with increasing numbers of migratory herds. Then he will want some action taken, and he is apt to have his way for positive procedure then as he does for negative resistance now. We shall eventually have a law protecting the public ranges from overgrazing and preserving the settler's rights from any encroachment by cattle kings. There is no reason why corporations using the public range should not be restricted in the extent to which they can graze on it, and pay the government something for its use.—Oregonian.

INCREASING HOME DEMAND.

It is stated that no Paget Sound salmon will be sent to England this year, for the reason that the home demand is sufficient to absorb the entire pack. It is probable that in one minor industry after another we shall see exports decrease and disappear by reason of our increasing population and consequent increased consumption. The salmon industry is one of those whose limit is easily reached. There are only a certain number of streams which are entered by the fish, and while the runs can doubtless be increased by stocking, there is a limit to the number of fish which can be taken and of canneries which can be operated on any river. We have no doubt that means will yet be found to largely increase our salmon pack, but, after all, there will be a limit, and it will be reached. It will not be many decades before the diminution of exportable grain will be noticeable. In the case of wheat,

we have for some years exported, roughly, about one-third of what we produce. For many years, and even to the present time, production of the cereals has increased in proportion to our population, because of the large areas of new land taken in. But in the nature of things this cannot continue for a great length of time. If production should become stationary, it is evident that an increase of our population by 50 per cent would wipe out our exportable surplus. Production, however, will not continue stationary. When virgin land fails there will be increase by better cultivation, just as, in fact, there has been for the last half century. But increase by that means is costly and will come more slowly as increasing prices warrant the expense. There are those now born, however, who will be alive when the United States has ceased to be the great source of food supply for an overcrowded Europe.

Local News Notes.

Cool and pleasant weather.

Rev. Potwine was a passenger for Pendleton this morning.

There is great activity among fruit men in the Willamette Valley. The busiest season for shipping fresh fruits is now on.

Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Beightol departed Monday morning for Walla Walla to attend the annual conference of the M. E. church. They will be in Walla Walla for about ten days.

M. E. Church, Rev. H. L. Beightol, pastor. There will be no preaching next Sunday, the pastor being in attendance at the annual conference. Sunday school at 10 a. m.

Milt Morgan is very sick. About two weeks ago, in company with Lonie Campbell, he went away for an outing. After being out for a few days he was taken sick and got some medicine at an interior drug store. The effect of the medicine produced a bad case of acute gastritis, and for awhile Mr. Morgan was in a precarious condition. He is now improving under the care of Dr. Swinburne.

Miss Ethel Reid was the recipient of a very pleasant birthday party at the spacious family home in this city, yesterday evening. A nice lunch was served. The evening was very pleasantly spent in games and social conversation. Following were present: Prof. and Mrs. D. V. S. Reid and daughters, Misses Ethel and Lenna, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Wetherell, Misses Matthe Sron, Gertrude Crawford, Anna McBride, Messrs. Clyde Brock, Rev. Victor Carlson, W. L. Saling, Clarence Bisbee and Martin Anderson.

Leslie's Weekly of August 24 has a most interesting article, showing the evolution of the railway in the United States since the Baltimore & Ohio road had a car run by sails and since Peter Cooper's first train was made up of old-fashioned road coaches, with the wheels flanged to hold to the track, and when his locomotive weighed a ton. That locomotive compared with a modern 100-ton locomotive gives a fair idea of the wonderful advances that have been made. The rail has been changed from wood, with a strap iron cap, to 85 pound

steel; the air brake, the patent coupler, the Boston Pullman coach—a new creation, indeed, and embodying the remark of Gail Hamilton, that "if there were to be no railroads, it was, on the whole, rather an impertinence in Columbus to have discovered America."

Wool Growers' Meeting.

Every thing points to a very successful meeting of the Oregon Wool Growers' Association in this city, Tuesday, September 17.

THROWN FROM A HORSE.

Bad Kibberne Seriously Hurt While Out Hunting.

Bad Kibberne, who resides in the vicinity of Father's Mill, was seriously hurt yesterday while at Peter's Butte, grouse hunting. His horse became unmanageable and he was thrown, striking a stump. He received a fracture of several ribs and his wrist was also broken, besides many bad bruises. He was brought to this city yesterday evening for treatment. Dr. Swinburne is attending the injured man.

Advertised Letters.

The following letters remain unclaimed for in the postoffice at Heppner. In calling for these letters say "advertised." Brown, Jim — Dumnick, V. L. (2). McKenzie, D. H. — Whitney, G. B. — B. F. VAUGHAN, P. M.

STILL MORE COUNTERFEITING.

The Secret Service has unearthed another band of counterfeiters and secured a large quantity of counterfeit bills, which are so cleverly executed that the average person would never suspect them of being spurious. Things of great value are always selected by counterfeiters for imitation, notably the delicately tinted Hostler's six-month bills, which has many imitators, but no equals for indigestion, dyspepsia, constipation, nervousness and general debility. The Bitters sets things right in the stomach, and when the stomach acts in good order, it makes a good blood and plenty of it. In this manner the Bitters get at the seat of strength and vitality, and restore vigor to the weak and debilitated. Beware of counterfeiters when buying.

Some nine-foot sugarcane has been successfully grown on Soldier Creek, Harney County.

HEPPNER CHURCHES.

Episcopal church—Rev. W. E. Potwine.

M. E. church, South. Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.—Rev. F. M. Canfield, pastor.

Catholic church—Rev. Father Kelly. Services 8:30 Sunday in each month at 10:30 a. m. Beginning Nov. 18.

Christ church—Rev. Victor Carlson, pastor. Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Evening subject, "Church Extension." Evening subject, "Headiness." Sunday School, 10 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. meets at 7 p. m. Topic—"Heavenly Helpers." You are cordially invited to attend all these services.

Sunday Extension East to Clatsop Beach.

Beginning Sunday, May 20th and every Sunday thereafter during the summer season, the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Co. will sell one day round trip excursion tickets from Portland to Seaside and return at \$1 each. Train will leave Union Depot, Portland, at 8 a. m. and arrive at Seaside at 12:20 p. m.; returning leave Seaside at 5 p. m. and arrive at Portland at 9:30 p. m.

NOTICE!

Conser & Ayers Drug store have been appointed agents for the new school books and will have them on hand in a few days.

..FALL.. AND WIN == TER SHOES. ..M. LICHTENTHAL.. THE UP-TO-DATE SHOE DEALER... When you need anything in the line of Shoes, come in and examine our immense stock. Can supply you with neat and well-made footwear at reasonable prices. Custom Work a Specialty... HEPPNER. . . . OREGON

THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON HIGHEST STANDARD IN THE STATE Two Hundred Courses in Literature, Science and Art. Science and Engineering, Law and Music. New building and equipment. 1901. Summer Session with University credit. Special courses for teachers, for Law and Medical students. Department of education for teachers, principals and superintendents. Tuition free. Cost of living low. Three students granted scholarships in large Eastern universities in 1901. Send names to President or Registrar for circulars and catalogues, Eugene, Oregon.

CENTRAL MEAT MARKET J. H. KINSMAN, Manager. Beef, Pork, Mutton, Sausage and Poultry always on hand. Hams, Lard and Bacon of the Best Quality. Fresh Fish Received on Fridays. CORNER MAIN AND MAY STREETS.

In Two and Three Piece Suits at \$2 25 2 50 2 75 3 00 3 50 4 00 4 50 5 00 5 50 6 00 6 50 7 00 School THE boys will want their Clothing, Shoes, Hats, etc., won't they? Our buyer who is now in the East, sent us a line of "Good Class" Clothing for boys. They are made of first-class material, in good colors. You want to get as much hard wear as possible in a boy's school suit. After that the price is the next consideration. "Good Class" Clothing solves the problem for you. Look at the goods. Will open up a new line of "Kant-wear-out" Clothing in a few days. Starts A Choice of Shoes from the Largest and Most Carefully Selected Stock of Children's Shoes Ever Shown in Heppner. Boys' Hats in the latest styles just opened. There is no doubt in our mind as to the wearing and lasting qualities of these goods, and as for Prices, we know positively that they can not be beaten. ..Soon..

MINOR & CO. I. X. L. Confectionery and Cigar Store. Dan. P. Doherty, Proprietor. Free Reading Room Gentlemen are invited to come in and be comfortable, and read papers from all over the world—quiet, respectable place. CONFECTIONERY, TOBACCO and CIGARS, all of the very best quality. A fair share of the public patronage is solicited.

AT COST FOR 60 DAYS For the next 60 Days we will offer everything in our store, including a full line of Hardware, Groceries, etc., at Cost. ED. R. Bishop Company

THE BAIN WAGON Is one that everybody knows. It is one of the best on earth. Gilliam & Bisbee Have just received one of the largest stocks of Bain Wagons ever brought to Heppner. Prices are Right. Heavy and Shelf Hardware, Granite ware, Tinware, Agricultural Implements, Wagons, Hacks, Etc., Paints and Oils (the best in the world). Crockery and Glassware.