

The Heppner Gazette

Issued Thursday Morning.

Warnock & Michell.

Entered at the Postoffice at Heppner Oregon, as second-class matter.

THURSDAY, Sept. 25, 1902

The Morning Tribune of Pendleton is one of the bright dailies of the state. It will succeed.

Heppner merchants are now receiving immense stock of goods. The prospects for fall trade are very encouraging.

Increased water supply caused by the coal mining operations on Willow creek, will help to solve the sewerage problem.

Great wagon loads of wheat are now pouring into Heppner. Wheat growing in Morrow county is becoming a prominent industry, and Heppner is a good market.

The Oregon State Fair has been a great success this year. The exhibits of fruits, grains and vegetables, and fine stock were good and the results from the show will be of benefit to the state.

An investigation of the beautiful fall stocks of goods in Heppner will dispel the idea of sending away for anything that is needed. Patronize home enterprise and we will all be prosperous.

The refreshing rains the latter part of last week only stopped harvest operations for a few days, and no damage is reported to the grain. It will be of great benefit to the ranges and the absence of dust is a relief.

Indications are from the prosperity of the Grande Ronde sugar factory that the Grande Ronde valley will some day, and this may not be far off, supply Oregon with sugar. The crop of beets this year is estimated at 25,000 tons, and the price is \$4.50 a ton. This amount of beets will make 3000 tons of sugar which is worth at the present market price about \$240,000. Oregon is a state of great resources and when developed will support an immense population.

The creation of the Blue Mountain forest reserve is a live issue in Eastern Oregon. The people who favor the withdrawal by the Interior Department of this large timbered area, in the Blue Mountains are people, generally speaking, who live a long distance from the lines of the proposed reserve, and who would not feel the effect of the closing up of such a large body of land. A great portion of the opposition comes from Grant county. The lines of the reserve as now proposed would cut off from the John Day valley almost all of the timber supply and take in some of the best agricultural lands and some of the oldest settlements which would be such a blow to the settler and the business interests of this territory that it would be very injurious. The people there well understand the position that they would be left in. The lines should be changed so as to take in only a reasonable portion of the timbered lands and then the opposition will not amount to much.

HEPPNER'S GOOD FORTUNE.

The reports of the Willow creek coal discoveries were confirmed last week by the Heppner papers, from official sources, and by a staff writer in the Oregonian. The good news is true. Heppner is fortunate. The future has broad-

ened and brightened. It has the promise of becoming THE coal city of Oregon, the Pittsburg. It was born lucky and now will be rich. Here's to her good fortune and may she spread out over many hills. May all roads leading to her be paved with cinders and Willow creek become a rippling stream from the artesian wells of the coal fields. They have had enough of dust in Heppner, and they've been all wool long enough to merit something more.—Pendleton Morning Tribune.

The withdrawal of Speaker David B. Henderson from the congressional race in Iowa has caused a storm of comment all over the country. He claims that the reasons for his withdrawal are that his views on the tariff are not in harmony with his constituents. He has always been an advocate of high tariff, but his reason given for resigning are looked upon with discredit by many. A revision of the tariff to control the trusts is far from free trade, as characterized by Mr. Henderson. If he does not feel able to fight his battles in the campaign and in congress, then let him step out. If he is not honest in giving his motives, then he ought to be out anyway.

THE SCALP BOUNTY LAW.

Congressman-elect J. N. Williamson who attended the recent meeting of the Oregon Woolgrowers' Association at Pendleton read a very able paper in defense of the scalp bounty law. A few notes from his speech follow:

"It occurs that the interests of civilization and the welfare of the wolf do not go hand in hand."

"The objections to the scalp bounty law may be enumerated as follows:

"First—The cost of maintaining it.

"Second—The difficulty experienced in keeping out scalps from other states not having a bounty.

"Third—That it is merely a sheep law.

"Fourth—Decrease of the coyotes and supposed consequent increase in rabbits.

"These are the objections most frequently heard, and might be divided into two classes real and fancied. The first two objections belonging to the first class, the

third and fourth objections might easily be placed as imaginary or fancied objections."

"No one denies that it will cost a great deal of money to rid Oregon, Eastern Oregon in particular of the coyote, for he is the chief offender. It has cost other states large sums of money and Oregon is paying the same price. Montana has paid out under its present bounty law near \$350,000 or more than twice what Oregon has. Wyoming has paid out \$115,000 under its present law."

"The bounty was put upon our statute books as an Eastern Oregon measure, and if it is maintained there it will be by the special effort and request of the people of Eastern Oregon. So far as its continuance is concerned, it can and will be continued if this section of the state is a unit in favor of it."

"The second objection is also a real obstacle in the way of the ready accomplishment of the purpose of the scalp bounty law. Some means must be devised to amend the present law so as to better protect the interests of the state in this particular until such time as the bordering states shall enact similar laws, the only really effective remedy."

"I am ready to admit that a coyote can and does kill very young rabbits, but it was a fertile brain indeed, that originated the idea, that, in order to effectually rid the country of all the rabbits, it was necessary to have enough wolves on hand to kill them all off."

"Did it ever occur to him that long before the wolves were plentiful enough to accomplish the destruction of the rabbits, they would be plentiful enough to devour the children while they were on their way to school."

The man who has taken to himself 160 acres of public domain under the homestead law, and out of that which heretofore produced practically nothing, is preparing a home for himself, wife and children, is the man who is receiving a very large portion of the direct benefit from the scalp bounty law.

The Palace was crowded Sunday, owing to the fact that a very fine dinner was served. Phil Metschan, Jr., knows how to conduct a hotel.

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