

BENEFITS OF IRRIGATION.

The Butter Creek country in Morrow and Umatilla counties, is a good illustration of the benefits to be derived from irrigation. From ordinary sage brush land only fit for stock grazing, this district has been transformed into one of the richest districts in the state of Oregon, and all by the application of water, and this from a limited supply, comparatively speaking. Twenty years ago the Butter creek valley was a plain covered with sage brush and alkali beds and was of little value. About the year 1882, W. H. Babb introduced the alfalfa plant. The first introduction was a failure on account of the hard winter and improper care. Two years later alfalfa was planted and was irrigated from the waters of Butter creek. Since that time, by irrigating the land, alfalfa has been a great success, and now there are hundreds of acres of this nutritious forage plant from the foothills to the mouth of Butter creek a distance of 20 miles or more. On Butter creek they usually cut two crops that yield, on an average, about two and one-half tons to the acre at each cutting. With the application of water, the third crop comes on which furnishes excellent pasture. This alfalfa is now worth at least \$5 per ton, and it is just as good as the cash. With \$25 worth of hay to the acre and excellent pasture after the feed is cut, is certainly a good dividend. At the present time there are at least 2500 head of beef cattle being fed, with about 3000 head of stock cattle to be wintered on Butter creek alfalfa.

It has been demonstrated that alfalfa will grow on the hill lands just as good as on bottom lands if water could be obtained. In fact, it is easier to get a stand on the hills than in the bottoms, owing to the absence of alkali beds. The Butter Creek country is an impressive object lesson of the benefits from irrigation.

OPEN TO INVESTIGATION.

The Oregonian can never see any good in anything outside of its own personal interests. Secretary Hitchcock has stated that there are public land abuses in Oregon, and the big paper proceeds to call down Secretary Hitchcock, Commissioner Hermann, Governor Geer, the State Land Board, the entire delegation at Washington, and the Lord only knows who else. President Roosevelt was not blamed. If there has been such wholesale manipulation going on, what has the Oregonian been doing all this time. The paper says:

"There is no room to doubt that the gross perversion of the land laws have been facilitated by the officials in the various land offices in the state, notably at Burns and The Dalles."

Such a statement is libelous and unfair. Investigation has been invited by the land offices referred to. No investigation has been made, and how can the Oregonian, or any other paper, know anything about it. We do know one thing, that the officials at The Dalles land office are reliable, trustworthy, and honorable men, who have no fear of a most rigid investigation.

The S. F. Chronicle, in speaking of the public lands in California, makes the following statement

which is certainly applicable to Oregon: "If frauds have been committed the proper thing for the Government to do is to punish the offenders and make a conspicuous example of them, as a deterrent to others from imitating them."

John L. Sullivan, the once famous pugilist, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. He said his liabilities were \$2658, and his assets \$60 worth of old clothes. Sullivan will truly reap the fruits of his brutal profession. He is just as good a man today as he ever was, from a moral standpoint, but where are his admirers. Before the sickle of time had cut from him his animal strength, Sullivan's admirers were counted by the thousands. He has made several fortunes in the ring, but the environments and associates of such a life, have taken his money, and with it his so-called friends. Poor old broken down pug. Sullivan is only one of many who will serve as a valuable object lesson to men who are following in his footsteps.

The Crown Prince of Siam, who recently visited Portland, got a princely roast in the Sunday Oregonian. The copper colored heathen snubbed the Mayor and turned them all down, and for it he will have something to remember Portland for if he reads the Oregonian.

Oregon should collect a good exhibit for the Japanese Exposition. The O. R. & N. Co., has offered to convey all of the exhibits from Oregon for this exposition free.

LEXINGTON NEWS.

LEXINGTON, Dec. 3, 1902.

Ed Warfield went to Portland Monday.

Ed McDaid is feeding a band of sheep near the depot.

Johnny Leach came down from the sawmill last Friday.

Several new cases of measles have developed this week.

G. H. McAllister bought a lot from W. B. McAllister last week.

A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Booher is visiting them this week.

Mr. Delbert Bechtel, of Grass Valley, is visiting at Rev. J. M. Turner's.

Some of our young people had a social dance at Doherty's hotel Friday night.

Mrs. Will Wilmot, of Freewater, visited her niece, Mrs. W. P. McMillan, Sunday.

Thos. Nichols is having a serious time with his eyes. He can scarcely see how to get around.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Stanton, were in town a day or two last week. While here Mrs. Stanton sold her homestead to W. F. Barnett.

W. P. McMillan is rushing the shipment of wheat from the warehouse as rapidly as possible.

There was a pleasant social gathering of young people at Mrs. C. P. Parker's Saturday evening.

Mrs. H. J. Hill went to Wallula, Saturday, to visit her son. She was accompanied by W. O. Hill.

Ed Warfield stepped on a nail last Wednesday. The nail penetrated his foot more than an inch, making him quite lame for several days.

The "Bloods" will meet the "Scrubs" on the gridiron Saturday. The victors will entertain their friends with an oyster supper in the evening.

Prof. G. L. Harwood, Miss Mae Larimer, and Miss Elsie Palmer are attending the institute at Heppner this week.

The quarterly conference of the M. E. church, South, will be held Saturday at 2 p. m. The presiding elder will preach in the evening, and also Sunday morning.

The entertainment at the Congregational church Thanksgiving evening was a decided success. The oyster supper which followed was also a success. Something over \$15 was cleared. Much credit is due to those who prepared the program, decorated the church, and made such bountiful provision for the wants of the inner man.

We understand that the protracted meeting at the Methodist church, mentioned last week, has been postponed until after the holidays, as Rev. J. C. White had planned to hold a series of

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Our contract will expire about Jan. 1st, 1903, and we will not be in position to furnish any after that date. Would ask our customers to complete their registers and bring them in with photo to be enlarged before the end of the year.

Minor & Company

meetings at the Congregational church commencing the second Sunday in this month. Left every one help these meetings by attending as much as possible.

A. Zander, a Portland milkman, was held up by highwaymen Friday night, but the robbers failed to get anything for their trouble.

Catarrh Cannot be Cured with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

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