

The Heppner Gazette

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ISSUED THURSDAY MORNING.

Fred Warnock

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THURSDAY..... Sept. 7, 1905

Fences Must Come Down.

Government Inspector W. E. Dixon arrived in this city last week. His mission here is for the purpose of investigating the government land fencing proposition.

During Inspector Greene's visit to the Ayers Cattle company's holdings last spring, several names were given of stockmen in this vicinity as having government land enclosed in their pastures—hence the investigation. Among the names mentioned are J. J. Murphy and J. M. Stubblefield, so his first active operation was to investigate these holdings.

In speaking of the inspector, Mr Stubblefield stated to The Enterpriser: "He is a very pleasant and agreeable man, but he means business. After surveying out my lines he found that I had enclosed about 160 acres of public domain, and ordered the fence removed at once, so that he could make an authentic report to headquarters to the effect that all fences on government lands have been removed—when he has completed his work in this vicinity."

Mr. Dixon at present is working on the holdings of Emil Scharff, and will make a thorough investigation of all the holdings and promises to treat them all alike—big and small—fences on public domain must come down.—Monument Enterprise.

City Council.

The regular meeting of the city council was held at the council chamber Monday evening with Mayor Gilliam presiding. Councilmen Farnsworth, Noble and Warnock answered to roll call.

Petitions of Vic Groshens and McAttee & Swaggart for renewal of liquor licenses were granted.

The marshal was instructed to notify property owners to clean up the streets in front of their property.

The following bills were allowed:
Gilliam & Bisbee\$ 10 25
E. F. Neal 3 00
Chas. Duncan 8 00
A. M. Slocum 60 50
J. R. Simons 4 00
Henry Johnson 15 00
Minor & Co. 7 25
Garrigues & Son 5 55
John Farsid 20 00
Frank Gilliam 10 00
J. W. Rasmus 60 00
W. A. Richardson 16 65
L. W. Briggs 8 33
Light & Water Co. 97 80

Dam Across John Day.

A company has been organized for the purpose of utilizing the water of the North Fork of John Day river to irrigate a tract of land near Spray. The company is composed of Albert Foster, J. B. Nolan, W. B. Potter and Chas. Royce.

A good substantial dam will be constructed of logs and rock at a point about four miles above the town of Spray, which will be 12 feet high and 150 feet in length and will cost approximately \$2000. Ditch will be taken out on each side of the dam and water conveyed on the ranches of the above named parties.

Actual construction work will commence next week under the supervision of William Allen, who is an expert on dam building.—Monument Enterprise.

The Wool Crop of the World.

The wool of the world must now be supplied by the older countries, as the manufacturers want wool of different grades that are raised on farms, the mutton breeds and crosses. Formerly the fine wool was the chief demand and South America, Australia and Africa and the extensive ranches of cheap wild land could produce the merino in large flocks. Severe drouth has greatly decreased these flocks and the change to the different classes of wool must draw the great supply from the farms of Europe and America.

The increased price of wool from the increased demand and short supply is increasing the sheep raising of the mutton breeds. For thirty-five or forty years the price of wool has continually fallen, so that from 1895 to 1900 it had decreased 50 per cent below that of 1870 to 1875. The fall in price was attributed principally to the extraordinary development of wool production in Australia, Cape of Good Hope, Argentina and Uruguay. These countries produced about 197 million pounds in 1879, 256,000,000 pounds in 1880 and 360,000,000 pounds in 1889. This rapid increase of production enormously augmented importation into industrial cities.

Some years ago there began a progressive decrease of the flocks in European nations. In thirty years there has been a decrease of 44,000,000 sheep in the flocks of England, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary and Spain. The sheep in Australia decreased from 108,000,000 in 1870 to 74,000,000 in 1898. The importation of wool into Europe from Australia, Cape of Good Hope, Argentina and Uruguay amounted to 2,783,000 bales in 1905, 2,696,000 bales in 1901, 2,446,000 bales in 1902, 2,245,000 bales in 1903, and 2,045,000 bales in 1904. The price of wool has steadily risen since 1901, and in the case of crossed wool the price has increased 100 per cent in the London market. The rise is of course due to the diminished production.

From 1860 to 1892 the number of sheep bred in Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand increased with extraordinary rapidity; their number then began to shrink and from 1897 to 1904 the decrease has been enormous. The Australian flocks decreased from 125,000,000 in 1892 to 111,000,000 in 1897, 103,000,000 in 1898; 92,000,000 in 1902, and 73,000,000 in 1903. The frequent drouths were the principal cause of this decrease of 50,000,000 sheep from 1892 to 1903. On account of this fact it is probable that the rise in price of wool will continue.—American Stockman.

Work Convicts in Country.

Salem, Or., Aug. 31.—Of the convicts confined in the penitentiary only 100 are employed in the stove foundry, and the serious problem with which the Governor is now wrestling is how to keep the idle ones, who are only an expense upon the state, in constant employment, for their own good, as well as that of the state. He has conjured up all kinds of schemes by which he might secure employment for them outside of the prison, there being nothing for them to do inside. His latest is to put them to work on farms within easy distance from the prison.

Of the more than 200 practically unemployed prisoners, about 50 are leased out to work upon the Marion county roads, and a dozen or so were today put to work for the state in spreading gravel upon the asylum farm road, which was improved by the prison administration last spring. This leaves over 150 idle convicts in confinement, and the Governor believes that they could be worked to great advantage upon the farms within a radius of 10 or 12 miles of the institution.

No contract has been entered into for the employment of the convicts in the Northwest Stove Foundry, nor is there likely to be until the improvements are completed at the prison. "Of course," said Governor Chamberlain, "you understand that I would take no such risk as to allow the convicts to be taken in charge by the farmers themselves, or to

enter into contracts with them for their labor, but my idea is for the penitentiary administration to take contracts for grubbing land and send the convicts out, under a strong and efficient guard, to do the work. This, in my mind, is not only feasible, but practical, and it would in no wise interfere with free labor."

Socialist Speaking.

Mrs. Lina Morrow Lewis, of San Francisco, National Organizer of the Socialist party will speak in Morrow county on the following dates: Ione, Sept. 19; Lexington, Sept. 20, Hardman, Sept. 21; Heppner, Sept. 22. All are invited.

LOCAL NOTES.

Miss Elise Bartholomew is up from Portland visiting friends.

Attorney S. E. Van Vactor and family returned Saturday evening from a vacation spent at Portland and the coast.

Miss Maude Mills returned Friday evening from a month's vacation at the fair, San Francisco and valley towns.

Frank Borg is in the city visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. O. Borg. Frank has been located in Missoula, Mont., for the past year.

Otheo Crawford took a carload of cattle for Matlock & Rasmus to Troutdale last Friday. He also visited the fair before returning.

Oscar Borg returned from a month's vacation at Portland, San Francisco and Puget Sound cities Saturday evening. He was accompanied by his mother, who has been visiting at Portland and the coast.

A. R. Lyle, a stockman of Eastern Oregon, fell dead in a Portland drug store Friday morning. Mr. Lyle recently went to Portland from his home at Cross Keys, Crook county, to visit friends and to attend the exposition. He had been suffering from heart disease for some time.

Open River.

Hon. Joseph N. Teal, attorney for the Open River association, who was in the city yesterday on a short business visit, says that work will soon be commenced at The Dalles on the locks for the open river, and that it is hoped that appropriations will be granted so that the work

may not stop until the river is navigable from the upper portion to Portland.

The contract has been let and signed to Smyth & Jones of Portland, for work involving the sum of \$300,000 and it is estimated that from 30,000 to 40,000 barrels of cement will be used on this job. Mr. Teal says that when the actual work is commenced within a few weeks, a large force of men will be employed, making the permanent improvements and that it is confidently expected they will not have to be laid off until the river is clear and boats are running between Celilo and The Dalles and the portage railroad is done away with.

Boats for the upper river are now under consideration and it is practically assured that two will be put on the run and is very probable that three steamers will soon be hauling the farmer's produce from points on the upper river to the portage road, which will transfer it to the boats of the lower river.—Pendleton Tribune.

Weekly Oregonian—Heppner Gazette.

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