

HIS STERLING RECORD.

This is a fact that the farmers and struggling home-owners of Oregon should reflect upon. During the eighteen years that Hon. John H. Aitkin has been at the head of two of the largest commercial institutions of Oregon and hundreds of thousands of dollars have passed through his hands, he has never yet foreclosed a mortgage. His bank has advanced money to needy settlers and the company of which he is president has given them liberal credit until they could improve their little ranches and get solidly on their feet. Many of them have been delinquent in their payments of interest and principle; many failed to meet their bills until long after they were due.

But to the lasting credit of Mr. Aitkin it can be said that he has never foreclosed a mortgage nor forced a man into bankruptcy. This is pretty good record when it becomes a question of voting for such a man for an important State office. Mr. Aitkin is now a candidate before the republican primaries for the important office of Treasurer of Oregon. The struggling farmer should carefully consider if it is not a good plan to trust with high public office one who has always proven so loyal and faithful to his own neighbors.

A SURPLUS OF WILD HORSES.

One of the most exciting chases, if it may be so called, that has taken place since the era of the grand buffalo hunt ended on the great plateau, is the proposed round-up of 18,000 wild horses in Douglas County, Washington, next month. As scheduled, 400 cowboys will take part in the ride after these wild creatures of the range. The purpose is to rid the range of this great band of grass consumers, and the effort, presumably, will be to dispatch rather than capture the horses.

These untamed and practically untamable animals are the product of Nature left to itself on the great range for thirty years. The stock is interbred and of course underbred, and has no place in the economy of civilized life. While its extermination will be a gain to the legitimate stock-breeding and raising interests of the section over which the horses have so long roamed at will, the instincts of humanity are shocked at the cruelties that will be inflicted through the means by which this purpose is to be accomplished.

Perhaps this is the best that can be done at this stage of affairs to rid a wide section of the country of a veritable pest to the stock industry. Like many other scourges, the remedy for this plague of wild horses lay in prevention. The careless settlers of thirty years ago who allowed their ponies to run uncaired for on the range year after year were culpable in this matter. Their action, or inaction, was without excuse except such lame excuse as thriftlessness makes for neglected duty, and the result has been a multiplication of unprofitable animals that have eaten out the grass on the range for years to the detriment of the interests of a legitimate stock industry. Now comes the necessity of repairing the consequences of the settlers' carelessness and a "round-up" looking to the extermination of thousands of these wild creatures, with such cruelties as will be necessary to accomplish that end. The chase will be an exciting one, no doubt, and the ultimate result will be beneficial. Though the means employed are shocking to common humanity,

there may be no other way by which the end can be accomplished as quickly and as effectively. With that view the onlookers from a wider world must be content.—Oregonian.

A PHILANTHROPIST.

It is to be remembered, and particularly by those religiously and charitably inclined, that Hon. John Aitkin of Huntington, now seeking the nomination on the Republican ticket for State Treasurer, has liberally assisted more calls upon public charity than any man in Eastern Oregon. He is a banker and also the president of the largest commercial institution in the State of Oregon, yet his purse has always been open to the appeals of misery and of distressed humanity. Solicitors for the various churches have never appealed to him in vain. He gives to all of them, regardless of their faith. To the Salvation Army he has been a friend at all times.

Let us go a little farther. As the representative of a large aggregation of capital and president of one of the largest mercantile establishments in the Northwest, Mr. Aitkin has loaned hundreds of thousands of dollars to home-builders and needy ranchers who were struggling to get on their feet. He has protected his bank, but to his everlasting credit be it said he has never foreclosed a mortgage on some poor man's meager holdings nor forced a helpless debtor to the wall. No sorrowful widow with her hungry children have ever gone supperless to bed through the action of his bank or his big mercantile establishment. On the contrary the store was always open to them and their personal credit was extended almost indefinitely.

During the hard times of a few years ago when the prices of stock were low, it was within his power to break large numbers of stockmen, and take advantage of conditions, and several of the stockmen offered to let him have their stock for his claim against them, but he helped them through the hard times and to-day those same men are among the leading stockmen in Eastern Oregon.

This is the sort of a man whose friends have virtually forced him into the race for republican nomination for State Treasurer. Individual comparisons are always odious, but the records can speak. Have the worthy gentlemen who oppose him in the race very much to offer as against a life-record like this? Not that we have heard of.

Mr. Aitkin has made money for his company and money for his bank but it has all been legitimate and clean money; not one cent of it having been wrung from the distressed and poverty-stricken, the pauper and the widow.

Mr. Aitkin proposes an amendment forcing the state board, the interest to be paid to the state. This may be harking back to the strenuous days of the ancient Spartans, but it is honest and the people know it. All Mr. Aitkin desires is the flat salary paid by the state for his services, not the immense "graft" gathered in by state treasurer in the way of interest on personal deposits of money, really the money of the state, and no part of their personal prerogatives.

There is no question that the people will stand squarely and firmly by a man of Mr. Aitkin's character if they can only know it in time. That is why this paper is earnestly cautioning its readers to scan closely the past records of the various candidates and decide for themselves who among them all has proven himself the real friend of the people.

Cake Opposed to Trusts.

Every combination of capital known as a trust should be placed under the ban of the law, not only should trust corporations themselves be barred from doing business, but the individuals responsible for the combinations should be punished as provided by law. says

H. M. Cake, candidate for United States Senator.

There is probably no man in the state of Oregon more pronounced in his opinions upon this subject than Mr. Cake, as evidenced by his actions and past utterances.

He is not an attorney for, is not interested in, nor does he represent, directly or indirectly, any trust.

He believes in the absolute freedom of competition in all lines of business, the preservation of the equal rights of the entire citizenship of the country free from interference by combinations of capital.

Mr. Cake is a firm believer in the American workman to protect himself by means of labor organizations against the oppressions of organized capital.

The great common people of the country can depend upon it that Mr. Cake is friendly to their interests, for he is one of the common people.

He is friendly to every section and interest of the state, and if elected to the Senate, will do everything he can for the development and prosperity of all Oregon.

Strong Lead for Nomination.

Lebanon Criterion, Linn county.

Gen. John H. Aitkin of Eastern Oregon, has announced himself as a candidate for state treasurer before the republican primaries. Location and qualification gives to General Aitkin a strong lead for the nomination. It seems conceded that this nomination should go to Eastern Oregon. Mr. Aitkin has all the peculiar qualifications for the office.

A Lucky Postmistress

is Mrs. Alexander, of Carey, Me., who has found Dr. King's New Life Pills to be the best remedy she ever tried for keeping the Stomach, Liver and Bowels in perfect order. You'll agree with her if you try these painless purifiers that infuse new life. Guaranteed by Patterson & Son, druggists. Price 25c.

Convention G. L. E. P. O. E.

Denver, Colo., July 17, 18, 19, 1906. The O. R. & N will sell round trip tickets July 10th to 15th incl. final return limit Sept 30th, 1906, for \$52.40.

TO KEEP SHEEP OUT.

(Concluded from first page.)

cial corporation may prohibit altogether the running at large of such animals, and compel the owners to keep them within their own enclosures.

Commenting upon this decision, Attorney-General Crawford says: "If the state has that authority, then it certainly has authority to compel foreign sheep to be kept out of the state or to provide the regulations by which they may be allowed to enter into the state, and this would simply be a police regulation, upon the compliance with which the foreign sheep might enter the state."

Attorney-General Crawford says he hopes to see the case brought to a final decision by the courts of Oregon, so that the validity of laws of that character may be definitely known. The law does not expressly declare that it is intended as a measure for the protection of the health of Oregon livestock, yet there are some things in the act that show such a purpose. The law provides for the issuance of certificates to owners of sheep who have paid the tax, and that no certificate shall be issued to the owner of diseased sheep, but such sheep shall be excluded from the state.

DOES NOT HESITATE.

Hon. John H. Aitkin Speaks Plainly for Change in Law Governing State Deposits.

Portland, March 30.—(Special)—Looking hearty, smiling and confident as ever. Hon. John H. Aitkin arrived in Portland this week from his Huntington home and will remain here some weeks. He is the President of the Oregon Commercial Company, the leading Mercantile Institution of Eastern Oregon; President of the Huntington Bank; has been three times Mayor of his

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city, and is a leading factor in the industrial developments of Oregon. In matters effecting the growth of the state he has always occupied a prominent part during his 18 years residence. Somewhat reluctantly Mr. Aitkin finally consented, at the solicitation of thousands of friends, to stand as a candidate for State Treasurer at the Republican primaries. His canvass has been an earnest one, yet devoid of all bitterness, for he has naught but the kindest expressions when referring to his five competitors.

In an interview in The Oregonian Mr. Aitkin places himself decidedly upon record as favoring an immediate change of the law now governing the State Treasurer. At present the Treasurer not only draws his salary of \$4500 per year, but is also allowed to deposit the surplus funds of the State where he pleases and to pocket the interest on these huge deposits. Mr. Aitkin in The Oregonian declares emphatically for a change in this system so that a board, consisting of the Governor, Secretary of the State and Treasurer, shall decide where these deposits shall be made and that the interest on these shall revert to the State and not to the extra compensations of the official.

This is a radical innovation along the lines of true public retrenchment. It has the ring of genuine sincerity and is making Mr. Aitkin thousands of earnest friends among all classes who hold faith to the public higher than mere graft. His platform is simplicity itself. He manly tells the people that if elected he will give the office a straight, honest, business administration and that every person shall have a square deal. "The office shall be conducted in the interests of the whole people in our state."

Almost 6000 voters of Oregon have already signed Mr. Aitkin's petition which will be filed within a few days. In this portion of the state his popularity is growing rapidly every day and although there are five aspirants for the same office in Portland and the Willamette Valley it now seems certain that he will lead the entire list.

Reduced Rates.

The O. R. & N. Co. announces the following rates from Eastern points to Heppner, on sale from Feb. 15th to April 7th and Sept. 15th to Oct. 31st. Arrangements are made so that money can be deposited with the agent here and tickets furnished parties in the East. For further information about points not listed below, stop overs, etc., will be furnished by calling on J. B. Huddleston, agent.

Following are the rates listed at the Heppner office: Atlanta, Ga., \$48.10;

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Asheville, N. C., \$48.10; Baltimore, Md., \$49.05; Birmingham, Ala., \$44.40; Bloomington, Ill., \$31.70; Bristol, Tenn., \$48.13; Boston, Mass., \$49.80; Buffalo, N. Y., \$42.40; Cairo, Ill., \$24.55; Chicago, Ill., \$32.00; Cincinnati, O., \$38.90; Cleveland, O., \$39.90; Detroit, Mich., \$39.65; Des Moines, Ia., \$28.90; Elmira, N. Y., \$45.70; Evansville, Ind., \$34.80; Indianapolis, Ind., \$36.40; Louisville, Ky., \$37.90; Memphis, Tenn., \$37.40; Mobile, Ala., \$46.75; Montgomery, Ala., \$46.75; Montreal, Quebec, \$48.80; Nashville, Tenn., \$36.90; New York, N. Y., \$49.90; New Orleans, La., \$47.90; Oklahoma, O. T., \$29.90; Peoria, Ill., \$30.00; Philadelphia, Pa., \$49.65; Pittsburg, Pa., \$41.90; St. Louis, Mo., \$29.90; Toronto, Ont., \$42.15; Washington, D. C., \$49.65; Missouri River common points, \$24.00.

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