

The Heppner Gazette

Established March 30, 1883.
ISSUED THURSDAY MORNING.

Fred Warnock

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

THURSDAY... January 31, 1907

THE STRENGTH IN WOOL.

The new year thus far has certainly show a firm tendency for all kinds of wool, somewhat contrary to the expectations of those who were inclined to look for some easing off after the holidays by reason of the unusually large quantities of wool to be offered in Australian primary markets after the turn of the year. From everywhere come reports of strong markets. At the London auctions prices have hardened since the opening day, both merinos and crossbreds showing strength, and the competition being very keen. A strong situation is reported in South America, notwithstanding the reduced purchases made in that section of the United States, the bulk of the desirable wools being quickly taken for European account.

It is certainly a notable situation, in view of the marked increase in the wool product of Australia and the comparatively high prices now ruling for wool in all markets of the world. The production of colonial wool in 1906 was 2,071,000 bales, but the production for 1907 will probably attain nearly 2,300,000 bales, exceeding the highest previous record in 1895, and being about half as much again as the smallest quantity registered as the result of the drought. The production in the Argentine in 1906 was 491,000 bales, as against 488,000 bales in 1905, and it is now expected that the production of this country will remain stationary, although one wool authority looks for a small decrease this year in the River Plate clip; but, allowing for this, there would be a net increase of something like the equivalent of about 150,000 colonial bales in these two largest wool producing countries. In this connection, it is interesting to note how the average value per bale has risen in the past three years in the face of a rapidly increasing product of colonial wools, without any marked diminution in the production of other wool growing countries:

Year	Colonial clip bales	Average val per bale
1904	1,572,000	£14 1/2
1905	1,842,000	15 3/4
1906	2,071,000	17

In considering the prospects for mutton in the face of these figures, it being in merinos in which the increase in production has largely occurred, we realize that prices are now on a high level, the average value per bale being greater in 1906 than during any year since 1882, when it was £17, and the value per bale being now higher than it was in 1906. But we have also entered upon a year when old stocks have been pretty well cleared off, when machinery is very fully employed, both in England and on the continent, and when the needs of consumers will be large, one evidence of which is found in the very liberal purchases made in Australian primary markets for manufacturers' account. The situation therefore appears sound, and while there will naturally be fluctuations, no decided downward movement is apparently anticipated.—American Wool and Cotton Reporter.

The five minute address to boys and girls next Sunday in the M. E. church, will report the success of a wild apple tree trying to be a Spitzberg. Theme of the morning sermon will be "More Than They All," and of the evening "Tears and Love." Music led by a quartette and two instruments. Welcome.

A CONVICT'S ROMANCE

ODD WAY IN WHICH A LIFE PRISONER WON HIS FREEDOM.

The Story of the Construction of the Old Statehouse at Albany—The Price of a Genius Who Saw and Grasped His Opportunity.

Vouched for by the late Henry Smith, who said he learned the fact through being speaker of the assembly, there is an interesting bit of history connected with the old statehouse at Albany, where it has stood for years, the finest example of pure Doric architecture in this country, on the easterly side of Eagle street, between Pine and Steuben streets, its walls and partitions all of solid stone, very much as if its halls, rooms and stairs had been carved out within a huge block of marble.

It was completed in 1842, costing the state about \$350,000. It is built entirely of Sing Sing marble, quarried and cut within the prison walls. The old capital being inadequate to accommodate the increasing business of the state, this additional building was planned and built and is still used for the offices of the state comptroller, the state engineer and surveyor and the state banking department.

In a spirit of economy it was decided to have as much as possible of the work done by the prisoners from the material found within the prison walls at Sing Sing, fairly good material, too, but not the best, as it is a soft marble, as evidenced by the wear which now shows so plainly in the steps and by the crumbling of some of the stones from exposure to the weather. All the material was cut to completion within the walls of the prison under such plans that when shipped to Albany there would be no further work necessary except practically to lay one stone upon another, and so on until the whole was assembled in the completed building.

To accomplish this detailed plan a system of marking the stones was necessary. The plans were carefully made and a system of marking elaborately laid out by the architect in charge, who found in the prison at Sing Sing a life prisoner whose record showed him to be an engineer of the highest ability and who seemed as competent as any man in the country to carry out the work to be done in the prison, and naturally he was not unwilling to follow his chosen profession in preference to doing the manual labor of cutting or quarrying stone. So, following the spirit of economy referred to above, the plans in detail and the system of marking were turned over to him and the whole work at that given over to his full superintendence and absolute control.

In due time the stones in their various shapes and sizes and in quantity for the whole building were delivered in Albany and the work of construction commenced in accordance with the plans and system of marking originally furnished. With the very first stone there was trouble. It not only did not fit the place, but none of the stones marked to adjoin it fitted it, and, further, it did not seem ever intended for the place the number indicated. Investigation brought out that the stones were not of the sizes or shapes specified and shown on the plans, and, as to the system of marking, it was quite evident that the stones brought together by it had no relation whatever to each other.

The bewildered architect hardly knew whether he was a candidate for the asylum or possibly for Sing Sing. However, a careful verification of his plans and his marking system proved their correctness, and the blame fell squarely upon the civil engineer, the life prisoner. He was questioned, taken severely to task and roundly rated for his incompetence and threatened and abused. He met it all calmly. "It looks to me like a mighty good joke on you fellows. Anyway it is the best joke I have heard since I came to Sing Sing."

As to their continued threats he said: "What can you do to a life prisoner?" Finally, in answer to the abuse and slurs as to his capabilities as an engineer, he said he had changed the plans both in dimension and shape where they had diverged from purity of style, and the system of marking he had changed altogether, but if they could find some one who understood his system the building would go up complete and perfect, exceeding the original plan. "But," he added, with a grin, "you can probably get out new stone a good deal quicker than you can work out my system."

Then the state officials said, "We will take you to Albany and force you to put up the building."

He said, "No."

They pointed out the advantage of life in Albany for a time in preference to Sing Sing.

He said, "No."

They tried to bargain with him.

He said, "Secure my pardon and I will stand by you until the building is complete."

They offered to have him pardoned after he had proved what he said by finishing the building.

He said, "No."

Then they said they would compel him to do it anyway.

He said he could be compelled to work in prison, but not in Albany, and that even in prison they could compel him to do only manual labor unless he chose and that the price of his genius in grasping the opportunity that had come his way was a full pardon.

What else was there to do?

He was pardoned, and the old statehouse stands today in testimony of the fact that he kept his word and a glorious memory to an unknown gentleman.

New York Herald.

LOCAL STOCK ASSOCIATION.

Residents of Monument Country Effect Organization.

A number of local stockmen, who have been pasturing their stock in what is now the Heppner forest reserve, met in this city Saturday and perfected organization a local stock association for their mutual protection and to confer with the government agents regarding the pasturing of stock on the reserve, says the Monument Enterprise.

Oscar Schafer was elected president and Thomas Haywood secretary of the association. Emmet Cochran was authorized to act as the association's representative to the executive committee of the Grant County Stock Association, it being the wish of the members of the local organization to become a branch of the county association.

Harmony prevailed throughout the entire meeting. The association will ask the government to set aside a certain portion of the reserve for the exclusive use of the local stockraisers, where horses, cattle and sheep range together under the same conditions as heretofore has existed. It is to be hoped that the government will listen to the appeal of the association. The neighboring stockmen of this vicinity are ranging their stock together on same range without the slightest hitch or interference upon each other.

Early Glassmaking.

The first attempt at glassmaking in this country was some years before the Revolution and was made at Quincy, Mass., by a company of Germans. Some specimens of their articles still exist. The place in Quincy where their manufactory was established acquired from them the name of Germantown, which name it retains to the present time. The site of their manufactory is now occupied by the institution called the Sailors' Snug Harbor. About 1785 Robert Hewes, a well known citizen of Boston, made probably the first effort to establish a window glass manufactory on this continent. Mr. Hewes carried his works to the fuel and erected his factory in the forest of New Hampshire.

Safety in Elevators.

Many persons have an objection to riding in elevators, or, more properly speaking, this objection should be classed as a feeling of dread or fear. But according to the superintendent of a big office building in Philadelphia the safest place for a person to be in an elevator—that is, statistically speaking. In the set of elevators for which statistics have been kept by the superintendent there has been an average transportation of 2,400,000 persons each year for seven years, an aggregate of 10,800,000, and of this number but one person has been injured, and that injury did not result fatally.—Rochester Post-Express.

A Famous Widow.

One of the most famous widows of antiquity was Agrippina, the widow of Germanicus. During the lifetime of her husband she attended him in all his campaigns and shared his dangers. Suspecting that her husband had been poisoned, she had his presumed murderer assassinated and was herself soon after treated with such indignity by Tiberius that she was driven to despair and starved herself to death.

Tradition Defied.

The bull had just entered the china shop. "Here," he remarked, "is where I knock tradition endwise." Carefully backing from the place without so much as jarring a saucer, he inquired the route to the stockyards and went his way.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Breaking the Record.

Small Brother (enthusiastically)—Oh, grandma, Harry broke the record at the college contest! Grandma—Well, I declare, that boy is always breaking something! What will it cost to fix it, or will he have to get a new one?

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned administrator of the Estate of Jay Johnson, deceased, will make final settlement of his accounts with said Estate such administrator, at the term of the County Court of Morrow County, to be holden at Heppner on said fourth day of the month of March A. D. 1907, at 9 o'clock P. M. W. H. French, Administrator of the Estate of Jay Johnson, deceased.

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The place is completely equipped with everything necessary for farming and stockraising which will go with the ranch at the purchase price as follows:

Twenty-three hundred head of first class stock sheep, 32 head of fine Merino and Lincoln bucks, two spans of good mules, one span of fine mares, and other young horses, hogs, chickens, and a complete outfit of machinery, all in good condition. Price \$30,000. \$12,000 down and ten years time on the balance. This place will pay for itself and is one of the best investments in Morrow county. For further information, call on or address Fred Warnock, Heppner, Oregon.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Department of the Interior, Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, December 27, 1906.

Notice is hereby given that Edwinton B. Haines of Haines, Oregon, has filed notice of his intention to make final five year proof in support of his claim, viz: Homestead Entry No. 1105 made Jan. 25, 1882, for 160 Acres, Section 12, T. 15 S. R. 24 E., and 1/2 Section 13, T. 15 S. R. 24 E., of Section 7, Township 15 South, Range 24 E., W. 24, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk at Heppner, Oregon, on January 13, 1907. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Wm. Landrum of Troutdale, Oregon, David H. Jenkins of Dayton, Washington, and MICHAEL T. NOLAN, Register.

Dec 12 Jan 10. The editorial page of the Weekly Oregonian gives a broad treatment to a wide range of subjects.

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