

THE BEND BULLETIN.

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WILL TRY OUR LAND

And Show How to Water It Properly.

GOVERNMENT EXPERMENTS

Farm near Bend to be Under Direction of Elwood Mead of Department of Agriculture.

The government will establish an agricultural experiment station on the segregated land of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Co. This information is contained in a letter from Hon. Elwood Mead, chief of the irrigation and drainage investigation of the department of agriculture, within the past week and it is of the utmost importance, not only to Bend, but to the whole of Central Oregon.

This experiment plant will be in full operation for next season and it is bound to be conducted by the government for at least three years. Nearly all the expenses will be borne by the D. I. & P. Co., however.

An irrigation expert will be sent out to take charge of this experiment work. He will select at least 20 acres where conditions are best suited to demonstrating the powers of this soil and climate and showing the best method of treatment. This station will conduct a scientific and practical study of the soil under actual farming operations.

There are no different methods of irrigation now in vogue in the United States. These may be put into four classes and further generalized into two systems—the furrow and the check and compartment systems. Both these to some extent have been illustrated on the Drake lawn this season. A number of small trenches or furrows at first carried the water beyond the delivery by the flumes, but in the past few days the service flumes have all been taken up and the lawn divided into compartments by small ridges of earth and these compartments are successively flooded. The flooding gets the water to the little inequal-

ities of surface that are not reached satisfactorily by the ordinary furrow irrigation.

While the compartment system may be found advisable for lawns in this section, it may prove inefficient for the production of crops—roots and fruit, for example. This and many kindred questions will be determined by the experiment station to be conducted by the government.

Different localities and soils require different treatments. The quantity of water and the time of service are also very important and their determination requires not only good judgment but large experience in this particular field of endeavor. Irrigation has failed in some places because water was not properly applied. It is now proposed to have the guidance of an expert in finding just what treatment is best for Deschutes soil and climate, how and when water shall be applied to get the best results and what crops will do best here. The expert will also have charge of the installation of measuring boxes at diversion points.

The fact that this work will be conducted under the direction of so eminent an expert as Elwood Mead insures results of the highest value to this country. Director Withycombe, of the Oregon Agricultural College experiment station, took an interest in the matter of getting the station established here and will follow the work with careful attention. The new enterprise comes under the most favorable auspices and its importance to the Deschutes country can hardly be estimated.

Things Doing at Pilot Butte Sawmill.

The Pilot Butte company purchased a new logging team this week and will have three teams hauling logs to the mill. The sawmill is about completed.

The tramway on which slabwood will be hauled from the sawmill is about completed.

A new flume is being built west of the mill which will be used for fluming sawdust. The flume will be supplied with a pump to take water from the river and wash the sawdust to a ravine west of the mill. This obviates all danger of sawdust getting in the river and contaminating the water.

Bert and C. D. Moore have taken the contract of sawing logs for the mill during the time the Roberts Bros., who formally had the contract, are taking a layoff.

The first lumber for the Tompkins cottage was hauled from the mill Wednesday.

Superintendent F. F. Avery, of the government Indian school at Miles, Wash., at the mouth of the Spokane river, and Thorwald A. Jensen, a teacher in the same institution, this week purchased the Otto Retzlaff claim on Bull creek flat and his third interest in the Harcrowe-Wimer irrigation ditch leading out of the Tumalo river above the Columbia Southern canal. They expect to make extensive improvements there for next season. The Harcrowe-Wimer ditch and the Bull creek ditch reach these lands.

Hon. Michael T. Nolan, register of the land office at The Dalles, is spending a week or so of his vacation in Crook county. He came out to Bend Tuesday and this morning left for Prineville. While here he looked over the irrigation works somewhat and got a glimpse of the segregated lands on both sides of the river, from the head of the Pilot Butte flume to the Laidlaw townsite.

H. R. Lamb, of Sedro-Woolley, Wash., is on his way to Bend with household furniture and personal effects and he will have charge of a 600-acre ranch taken by Charles H. Haswell and family, of Seattle, and W. E. Guerin, Sr., and family, out a dozen miles east of town. A number of buildings are to be erected there immediately. Mr. Lamb's family will arrive a little later.

DON'T LIKE THE SHEEP

They Do Damage on Bull Creek Flat.

THE HERDERS ARE INSOLENT

Open Threat to Force Way Among Settlers with Winchester Rifles is Made.

Postmaster Wimer, of Tumalo, says the bands of sheep returning from the mountain ranges are despoiling the Bull creek flat. They are taking all the feed which residents depend on for their milch cows and other home stock, filling irrigating pitches and otherwise making themselves very unpopular.

"When they go to the mountains early in the season," said Mr. Wimer, "they pass our homes before they reach our outlying range and irrigation ditches. Then we are able to guard against unreasonable spoliation. But on the return trip they do the damage before they get down to our homes."

"A band of sheep owned by Reeder, of Shaniko, has been in there several days. When I found it out they had ruined my irrigation ditch for a considerable distance. It will cost me at least \$50 to repair the damage. I went up and talked with the herder about it and he was mighty independent. He didn't see how it was to be prevented and it was nothing to him if the sheep did do damage. He also announced that he would be back in the spring regardless of the wishes of settlers and he would bring a Winchester and take care that his sheep had not sweep in that section. The threat of guns and force was direct and without the slightest call. I told the chap that kind of conduct would be likely to make trouble for him."

"If the sheep are permitted to run over property and eat out the grass many of our settlers will have to leave the country."

More Horses for Ditch Work.

Superintendent Rowlee last week purchased for the D. I. & P. Co. 68 horses from Jesse Yancey, of Prineville, which were brought to Bend Tuesday from the ranges at Bear creek and Alkali flat, by J. A. and Robert Rayl.

Ten head of horses were bought of E. B. Wade, of Portland, which makes 78 range horses the D. I. & P. Co. has received this week.

These horses will be broken as soon as possible and sent to work at the ditch construction camps. William Hogg, Lane McCoy and Al. Yancey have the job of breaking the horses to work.

Superintendent Rowlee and Chief Engineer Redfield went to Portland yesterday to confer with General Manager Johnston who has just reached Portland from Ohio. Mr. Johnston will return to Ohio in a few days. In latter part of October he and Mrs. Johnston will return to Bend.

The work of enlarging the flume of the Pilot Butte canal commenced last Monday. Work is being pushed rapidly on the right of way of the new canal south of town, five miles of which has already been cleared.

P. S. Conroy, The Dalles merchant, was in Bend yesterday accompanied by his son. They were driving through the country on a prospecting trip. They went across the country from The Dalles to Mitchell. In the vicinity of Dead Dog they were overtaken in the middle of the night by a water spout which compelled them to hitch up and get out in a hurry.

Mrs. A. C. Lucas will leave Saturday for a visit to her old home in Fremont, Nebraska. Her two sons, Fred and Ralph will accompany her. They will be gone for about two months.

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BEND, - OREGON

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PILOT BUTTE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

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IN THE Richest Grain, Fruit Stock Section IN THE WORLD

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