

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Mr. Harader of Cline Falls has charge of the construction of the power dam of the Crook County Water, Light & Power Company, and reports construction work as progressing satisfactorily. The company expects to put in an electric plant this fall.—Chronicle.

Settlers in the vicinity of Odell have notified the county court of Klamath county that they will hereafter demand for use on their roads 50 per cent of the tax collected from the Odell road district, which the Oregon law stipulates is their privilege. The district has been paying \$4,000 into the county road fund annually, but their roads have been woefully neglected and are in bad shape.

T. J. Ferguson was in from Post yesterday. He says the men of his section are getting ready for the fall cattle ride to gather beef cattle and brand calves. The lower ride will begin the first of next week from Farewell Bend and cover the lower desert, Bear Creek, and up to Pringle Flat. The upper ride begins August 20 and covers Camp Creek, the head of Crooked river and Hampton Buttes. The start will be made from Antelope Flats.—Journal.

It is reported that the heat and the rattlesnakes in the Deschutes canyon give the railroad workmen all kinds of grief. In one camp a den of 38 rattlesnakes were encountered and the canyon is reported to be alive with them. A rattlesnake is not a very agreeable bed-fellow and it is known that they have a penchant for a comfortable berth if it happens to be a cool night. But snakes and hot weather will not stop the railroad.—Antelope Herald.

A number of residents of Antelope have complained to the state railroad commission that the train due at Shaniko at 6:30 p. m. has been late a greater part of the time since May. It is charged that the Columbia Southern is trying to handle all its local freight business with its passenger trains; that the engines in use are old and partially disabled; that the trainmen are overworked, and that the company has no regard for the convenience of the traveling public or the expedition of mail delivery. The proprietor of the Shaniko Hotel has also entered a similar complaint, and says he has great difficulty in keeping help, due to the late hours the delayed arrival of the train makes necessary.

Now that the huckleberries are ripe the Indians are on their way to the mountains in groups, squads, parties and single, to fish, hunt and pick berries for two months. They trail along in bunches with camp luggage, tepees, etc. saddled on the pack animals in a way to frighten an automobile out of the road. The long haired bucks ride ahead, out of the dust, leaving the squaws and young Indians to look after the pack animals, build the camp fires, prepare the meals, and do the picking. If it wasn't for the dirty habits of the Indians, drying the berries on the blankets of sore backed cayuses, etc., we might feel inclined to invest in some of this rare and otherwise delicious fruit—but the facts are sufficient to gag a person.—More Observer.

Watch Out for Wild Mustard.

While out in the Powell Buttes section recently we saw a few mustard plants in a field of grain. This is a pest that should be watched very carefully and not allowed to get a foothold in the Bend country. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and a few plants pulled now will save much pulling in the future.

Keep Sheep on the Farm.

Far too many farmers fail to appreciate the value of a flock of sheep on the average farm. There is nothing in the entire farm curriculum that returns the profits proportionate to the work done that does a flock of sheep. This does not mean that a man should raise sheep to the exclusion of everything else, but he should keep them just as he keeps some cows and some horses and other kinds of stock. It is a strange thing, but, nevertheless, a fact, that in going through the country past farm after farm you will see every other domestic animal but sheep. A farmer never thinks of doing business without cows, or horses, or hogs, and he ought to think the same about sheep.

Two important items which weigh heavily on the credit side of the sheep account are the small labor cost and the large value of the manure. There is no farm animal that utilizes as much coarse feed of low value with as little attendant labor as does the sheep. Even in winter, when they must be fed, a proportionately large number can be taken care of in less time than of other stock; while in summer the cows must be milked, the horses cleaned, and the hogs fed, and the sheep picks its living, raises a lamb and grows a fleece while the farmer is tending to the rest of the stock. And wherever

the sheep goes he enriches the land. It was lamb farming that replenished the farms of Michigan which had been depleted by long years of wheat growing, and made them as fertile and productive as virgin lands. Wherever you see a farm on which is kept a good-sized flock of sheep you will see good crops, good buildings and other improvements, and a prosperous, progressive farmer.

The following experience of a Texas man shows the value of sheep from other viewpoints, and what he did any other farmer can do. He says:

"The way I happened to put a flock of sheep on my farm is this: Going back and forth between my town and Dallas, I noticed two adjoining farms, each showing that there was a good farmer on it; yet one was completely clean of weeds, and the other had the usual number. I saw two pastures; one with tender grass growing and not a weed in sight, while the other, in places, had more weeds than grass. I investigated, and found that both farmers were first-class workers and knew how, but one had a flock of sheep on his place, while the other had not. This set me to thinking, and I decided I would look into the matter. After some correspondence I purchased fourteen ewes and a ram from a dealer in the state, and began experimenting with them. That was eighteen

months ago. I now have forty head, and am going to buy more. "I find that the sheep is valuable on the farm for its usefulness in destroying weeds, if nothing else; that the wool clip will more than pay for the cost of the feed during the months when there is no pasture; that the trouble to keep them is comparatively nothing, and that the increase is almost 100 per cent annually.

"Sheep, if treated kindly, are easier handled and more easily trained than either horses, cattle or hogs. With just a little effort, one can teach them to drive or to follow from lot to pasture, and the reverse. I think every farmer should have a small flock for the purpose of utilizing the waste about his place, cleaning his fence rows of weeds and bushes, and enriching the soil. And when you consider the two sources of profit—the sale of wool and the sale of lambs, at today's prices—it is clear that within a few years on most every farm there will be found a bunch of sheep.

"A farm of 100 acres, with 20 acres in pasture, will easily support 100 ewes. The profit in them is 100 per cent annually. A trial will prove to any doubtful farmer that a flock of sheep will average him from \$4 to \$7 per head annually."—Sheep Breeder.

Crushed Under Six Big Logs.

Dan Orcutt of Sauk Rapids, Minn., a cousin of W. W. and Frank Orcutt of Bend, was killed on Saturday, Aug. 7, by having six large logs roll over him. The Sauk Rapids Sentinel-Free Press tells how the accident happened as follows:

"Dan, who has for years worked in the yards of the J. Neils Co., was assisting the crew unload logs from the cars. He was 'breaking the hooks' on one of the car-loads preparatory to letting the logs roll off. He had considerable difficulty in making the break and was standing past the end of the car when the logs suddenly started to roll and before he could get back one struck him down and five others rolled over him. "Several of his fellow-workmen had seen him go down but were helpless until the awful work had been done. They hastily carried him to a surgeon's office where his wounds were bandaged and an ambulance took him to the St. Cloud hospital. His legs were badly broken and the ribs were crushed so that the vital organs were so affected that he only lived about three hours after the accident happened. His wife and mother were with him in his last hours and happily he remained conscious till within a few moments of the end."

The funeral services were largely attended by the Woodmen and Royal Neighbor orders, of which he was a member. The deceased leaves a wife and five children to mourn their loss. He carried heavy insurance in the Woodman lodge. The Sauk Rapids paper speaks very highly of him as a man and citizen.

Livestock Barns, Oregon State Fair.

The twelve commodious livestock barns on the Oregon State Fair grounds at Salem are admirably adapted to the purpose for which they were constructed during the summer of 1907. Beneath their roofs hundreds of the grandest cattle, horses, sheep, goats, and swine, have been displayed during the fairs of the past two years, and the indications are that the livestock exhibit at the coming fair, September 13-18, will be equal to if not ahead of any previous display in the department. Livestock breeding in the state and the Pacific Northwest is being engaged in by numerous intelligent farmers, who have come to realize that the day for keeping scrub animals is past and it is better and more profitable to have the purebreds. The pure-bred horses, cattle, etc., at the next state fair are going to be from the choicest herds and flocks the country affords, and the reader of this should arrange his plans to attend the fair on the dates mentioned and view the great progress the state is making in livestock.

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