

Shearings

The water hearing in the Circuit Court will be held upon May 15th before Judge Daly at Lakeview, Oregon. Registered notices to that effect have been sent to all claimants for water from the Chewaucan river and its tributaries. At this time Judge Daly will render his decision in the adjudication of the waters of the river. The State Water Board rendered their findings in the matter last year at which time they granted two acre feet of water to the Carey Act project known as the Paisley project, two acre feet to the low valley lands and three acre feet to the individual ranches upon the somewhat higher lands along the sides of the marsh.—Chewaucan Press.

Views With Alarm.
Viewing with alarm the threatened strike of railway workmen throughout the United States, announced to go into general effect on April 25, and commending the United States Chamber of Commerce in its effort to bring about arbitration, members of the Silver Lake Commercial Club met Monday afternoon and unanimously passed resolutions.—Silver Lake Leader.

Publishers Afraid.
Within the last few days one or two of the Central Oregon papers who have their own personal interests at heart rather than those of the people, have been publishing short articles to the effect that the Harney County rabbit bounty law is a failure. The publishers of these weeklies have been wise enough to let it be known that they are not writing these stories but come from authorities more familiar with the subject. The fact of the matter is that these publishers are afraid that they will be unable to meet their taxes and will not have time to do their share of the work of killing rabbits to get a refund of the small additional tax paid.—Fort Rock Times.

Redmond Postoffice Robbed.
On Thursday night the postoffice safe was blown open with a charge of nitro-glycerine by burglars who grabbed the contents and skipped to the railroad track south of the depot, where they evidently took an inventory and discarded everything but in any, very little of which was kept on hand. Postmaster Moore figures the loss to have been \$23.50 in cash and the damage to the safe. The job bears the earmarks of having been done by the same party or parties who operated here last year and who robbed a store at Terrebonne.—Redmond Spokesman.

Taxes are Paid.
Yesterday was a busy day at the tax collection department of the sheriff's office. More than \$50,000 was paid in taxes during the day, which was the last day for paying the first half of the taxes without penalty. More than \$125,000 has been paid during the spring months, all the larger taxpayers making half payers, and many of the smaller ones full payments. The Oregon Trunk railway paid about \$7,000 yesterday, and the Oregon & Western Colonization company about \$10,000.—Creek County Journal.

Values in Sands.
That there are great values in the sands underlying the Culver community and an immense country to the west of this town, in gold, platinum and other valuable minerals, can not be questioned today. There have been so many tests made by the best assayers of the country which all show great values, that there is no longer any doubt about the matter. These tests have been made during the past two years, and there have been many experiments to ascertain the best method of separation.—Deschutes Valley Tribune.

Ready for Summer.
C. W. Riddell came in from the Falls Saturday to look after business matters. He reports things in readiness for a big summer's work at the Falls. The first thing in the development lines, he says, will be the completion of the electric power plant and the erection of the brick plant.—La Pine Inter-Mountain.

Burns to Bond.
Burns wishes to bond for building a railroad in accordance with the law as enacted at last session of the legislature and is going at it in the right manner with every step. Not a think is being done that is not first thoroughly investigated and each step rests firmly and legally upon the foundation of the law. Burns city officials are men of extensive interests here, many have "their all" in the city and adjacent thereto, therefore each officer earnestly and profoundly considers each and every move. No compensation is given to the city's council and mayor for all this work and much gratitude should be felt as well as openly expressed by the citizenry of this city for their unselfish acts in assuming such responsible obligations.—Harney County News.

The American Bakery announces that it has begun to make ice cream and from now on will have it for sale at all times to hotels, restaurants and private families. adv.

Improvement of Potatoes

Bill Selection a Method That Should be Followed by Every Grower.

A. E. LOVETT, County Agriculturist.

Reports coming from every section of the United States show that it is very hard to obtain good seed potatoes and growers in many sections are willing to pay almost any price for good seed which is disease free. If a grower can produce seed of this kind which will also give larger yields his market for this seed is unlimited. The potato growers of Central Oregon have a wonderful opportunity for creating a market for their seed potatoes because we have at present potatoes free from all diseases, except the common scab and a very little Rhizoctonia, both of which can be controlled by treatment of seed and rotation of crops.

The selection of seed potatoes from the bin or the sack is one of the poorest methods for selection and when we add to this the method of allowing the best potatoes to go for table purposes, not only will our yields be cut down, but also the quality of our potatoes will deteriorate. Where it is impossible to select your own seed from the field at harvest time or before, the selection of the seed from the bin or sack is the only method left, and when this method is used the safest plan is to select those potatoes corresponding to the size and type we wish to grow. This however, does not guarantee that potatoes produced from this seed will all be like the seed, for it may be that many of the best looking potatoes come from the hill of many poor potatoes or a hill where it was the only potato in the hill.

It will pay every grower of potatoes in this section to begin a hill selection of his seed this year and continue this method in the future. Plant the best potatoes obtainable and then select your seed from those hills producing the largest number of good marketable potatoes and free from disease. The yields and quality may be greatly improved in this way.

A much better plan than the last mentioned is called the hill to row method and is a practical method for any man interested in improving the potato, which is his cash crop. This method consists in the selection of the potatoes of the type and size desired from a high producing hill of potatoes. Cut each potato into quarters and plant the quarters of each potato in four hills in the row. Any number of potatoes may be thus planted and the hills marked so that you may know which hills are grown from the same potato and which are from the same "mother" hill. At the end of the season these hills

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should be dug and the potatoes for the field planting selected from them. Best specimens from the best producing hills should be again saved and planted in a like manner the succeeding year. Not only may seed for home use be thus improved and the yields possibly doubled but eventually the entire field will be so improved and the seed from your field may become worth several times the ordinary seed potato.

In my opinion, our yield of potatoes in this section may be doubled through this simple process of selecting and growing seed. If we add to this process of seed selection the proper rotation of crops, growing our potatoes on clover sod and then following the potatoes with grain as a cover crop for clover or alfalfa we increase the yields of all crops grown and greatly increase the profits to be obtained from the farm. I am very anxious to undertake some demonstration work in hill selection of potatoes in co-operation with potato growers. I shall be glad to co-operate and spend all necessary time with any one interested in this plan of potato improvement.

The Bend Flour Mill Co. has made a careful selection of suitable seed for spring sowing. Thoroughly cleaned and of the best quality. See list of varieties.—Adv.

See Edwards for good house painting.—Adv.

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