

THE TIMES-HERALD
Gives The News
SUBSCRIBE.

The

Times-Herald.

The Best
ADVERTISING MEDIUM
Job Printing.

THE TIMES-HERALD, ESTABLISHED 1880 | CONSOLIDATED JULY 22, 1896.

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, SEPTEMBER 6, 1899.

VOL. XII. NO. 41

The Times-Herald.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

ONE YEAR	\$2.50
Two Months	.75
Three Months	1.50

THE O'NEILL CASE
The Effects of the Supreme
Court's Decision as Viewed
by Mr. Kling.
(Attala Advocate)

From an interview with Mr. W. R. King, one of the attorneys for Francis O'Neill in the road land case recently decided by the Supreme Court adversely to O'Neill, Mr. King while in Ontario in effect said:

"The Supreme court in the O'Neill case reversed the lower court and had ordered a new trial. As to the advisability of trying the case again we are not fully decided, but are inclined to the opinion that it does not conclusively settle the case against Mr. O'Neill. It holds that it is error to instruct the jury that a person may recognize the title as being in the government and at the same time acquire title by adverse possession; but does not necessarily hold that an attempt to file upon the land is a recognition of such title in the government. It only holds that this instruction is error. In justice to Judge Clifford however, who gave the instructions, I will say that this instruction is exactly as given by Judge Bellinger in the U. S. Circuit Court in the case of the Dallas Road Company vs. Cole which was held to be a correct instruction by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco. We therefore have sustained our theory of the law Judge Clifford, Judge Bellinger of the U. S. Circuit Court and three judges of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and I might add that every state thus far passing on this question sustains this position, except Oregon. No decisions in point are cited by the Oregon Supreme Court sustaining their view in this case, hence they stand alone in their position in favor of the road company and against the settlers, so far as we are able to determine from an examination of the decisions of the courts of the various states on the subject.

The Cole case was begun in the U. S. Courts and O'Neill case in the state courts. The same points arise in both cases, but Mr. Cole wins and Mrs. O'Neill loses. In my opinion the decision of the supreme court is certainly bad law. For example a mere squatter or trespasser who never attempted to file on the land, can acquire title by adverse possession, while the settler in good faith, who has taken the precaution to file on land must lose providing it was his intention to acquire title from the government and thereby recognize the government's title. If such is to be the construction to be placed upon this decision it offers a premium on fraud while it imposes the penalty of losing the land upon one who acts in good faith and honestly of purpose providing he should be mistaken as to the government being the owner. We expect to ask for a re-hearing of the case. The rehearing may not be granted but I think the court will some day change its position, as the decision is too much against public policy to stand long as a precedent.

The decision in the O'Neill case does not effect any one who may have been in possession of road land more than ten years, except those who may have filed upon the land, or attempted to file, and is not even conclusive as to all those cases, as each case stands more or less upon the circum-

stances and facts relative thereto.

"The court held in our favor on other points raised in the case. In fact the road company lost on the principle points relied upon for a reversal, such as letters written by Mr. O'Neill offering to buy the land—the court holding that as to whether it was his intention to recognize the road company's title is questions exclusively for the jury, to be determined from the testimony."

Cowboy Race.

The racing at the fair in Boise the last of the month will be an attractive feature to all who love sport. One of the events will be a 10-mile cowboy race, for which a purse of \$200 is hung. Each rider is to have five horses and is to change every mile. No race horses are to be permitted in the event, and no jockeys shall ride. This race will be for "blood." A number of range riders are getting strings of cow horses together for the event, and there promises to be a lively contest.

Annual Teachers' Institute.

The Teacher's Annual Institute will be held in Burns beginning on Wednesday the 11th day of Oct.

State Supt. J. H. Ackerman will be present and expects a full attendance of our teachers.

Teachers remember the law requiring your attendance at the annual Institutes is strict and my instructions from the State Supt. are strict, so to save trouble your better plan is to attend.

The Institute will be conducted in accordance with the directions of Mr. Ackerman.

W. C. BYRN.

County School Sept.

University of Oregon.

TUITION FREE.

First term begins Sept 18, 1899. Excellent courses in Ancient and Modern Languages, Sciences, Mathematics etc., Graduates from the 12th grade and from all accredited schools admitted without examination.

Students not fully prepared to enter, can take studies in which they are deficient, in the Eugene City High School.

For catalogues and further information, address the President or Hon. J. J. Walton, Secy. Eugene, Oregon.

From the Canyon News.

Tommy Britton went over to Sumpter on a business trip last Tuesday.

George Cattanach went over to Silvies valley Monday morning to visit with friends for a few days.

Miss Cora Cates passed through town on her way home to Portland after an extend visit with friends at Burns.

Bob Martin has gone over to Long Creek to be in attendance at the races which commences on the 13th of September.

Mrs. W. H. Kelley, of Burns, formerly of Canyon City, is visiting with friends and relatives in this town and John Day.

Jas. Dinnegan, the hustling young saloon man from Burns passed through town last week on his way home from Portland.

Mrs. Bob Martin, who had the misfortune to break her limb in a runaway accident a few weeks ago, is able to get about on crutches.

Everybody is making preparations to go to Burns next month to witness the baseball tournament. Canyon City will no doubt be well represented.

The baseball boys are practicing hard for the coming contest and are expected to carry off the honors.

at Burns if hard work will do it. Almost every day they play a practice game on the grounds above town and are improving rapidly.

A very valuable volume is "Hill's Manual of Social and Business". It is a large quarto, handsomely produced as far as externals are concerned, but not less attractive and desirable on account of its content for from its pages the self-instructing student can become familiar with all the forms in general use and almost everything a person should know in this practical age.

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.