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The Times-Herald

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LEASING THE PUBLIC RANGE

ANOTHER GOOD ARTICLE IN OPPOSITION TO MEASURE.

The Writer Says That Under the Lease System the Poor Will Become Poorer and the Rich Richer.

John C. Luce, in Grant County News.

Editor Grant County News:—As the time for congress to convene approaches, the question of leasing the public range is coming to the front as a measure of vital importance, not only to the stockman of moderate means, but also to the honest and needy homesteader, who finds himself crowded out of a home either by ill fortune or peculiar environments, something that many farmers have to face under present conditions. The present tendency of capitalists to forsake the competitive system, and combine large amounts of capital under one head or management is a system they consider best for themselves, but one which they oppose when put into practice by wage workers or farmers. It is at this time of special importance that we inquire into and discuss thoroughly this question of leasing the public range, a system that, if it means anything, means the ultimate sale and monopoly of the government lands to and by immense syndicates of foreigners and capitalists of this country.

If the public ranges are rented, it will be a "cash in advance" rent. None but those with the ready cash need apply. Has the small stockman an equal chance here? Can the small stockholder hire a herder to keep his stock on his range and other stock off? How about the small stock farmer who turns his stock on the range in spring and gathers them in the fall? His stock are driven off one range and then another. Where will he find them, or will he find them at all? You say you will fence the leased range. Will you? How many small stock farmers are able to fence even the small holdings they already own? The wealthy stock owner can fence or herd as he wills. Possibly the capitalists will rent the range, fence it, and rent it out to the small stockman. This is the "milk in the coconut." How do you like it? Suppose, as some propose, you can purchase the land at the end of the lease, can you do it? If you cannot the capitalist can, and rent it to you. Where does the homesteader come in? The most desirable land will be rented—the watered sections, that will hold the unwatered sections. The homesteader may get land, but I think he will get left. Don't believe, for a minute that the leasing of the public range is in the interest of the homesteader and small stock farmer. They are opposed to it to a man. Then what is behind this effort to lease the public range? Who is pushing the bill in congress? The big capitalists who want to own the whole earth. They have control of almost every industry. If they could control the public range and through it control the livestock business, what kind of meat will you eat? Look at salt, sugar, coffee, in fact everything. Is it cheaper? Meat for the workmen will be a thing of the past soon, if they control it. How many fat heaves will you ranchers of John Day have to sell each fall, if you have to pasture them on your own land? Not many, I assure you.

Who is it that has government lands fenced and defies the small stockman, and even the United States district court? Is it not Jesse Carr, a capitalist, land and stock owner? If Judge Bellinger ordered a small stock owner to take down his fence in Oregon, do you think he could get an injunction from a United States district judge in California to stop the U. S. Marshal of Oregon? Do you think you could? If you do you are a donkey and no mistake. If you do not have an equal chance with Carr now, what will be the result when that class of men own the public ranges, for that is what leasing and fencing of it means. The house-

stead law, even now, almost forces a poor man off his homestead if he has to work at anything else to make or half make a living. It was proven in the United States district court at Portland that Carr had over 80,000 acres of government land fenced, besides what he owned. Small stock owners, with from 25 to 150 head of cattle, how much government land have you got fenced, or have you even the land you own fenced? Compare this with your neighbor who has from 300 to 1000 head of cattle; then compare him with Carr; and again compare Carr with Lux & Miller, known here as the L. F. Company. The Courier of Petaluma, Cal., of July 10th, says. "The firm of Miller & Lux own 14,530,000 acres of land, nearly all of it unimproved and used for grazing purposes. This is equal to the area of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. It's as large as Greece and but little smaller Ireland. There is but one thing Henry Miller, the surviving member of the firm, becomes nervous over, and that is discussing the size of his holdings. This is land enough to give 100,000 families 125 acres each." In New Zealand they would increase the tax on Miller's land by the graduated tax system until he would be glad to sell. Say a light tax on 100 acres, and as the holdings become greater, increase the tax until the holder is forced to sell. It's the small unimproved homes that make a community prosperous and happy. This could be done in the United States, but unfortunately the reverse is the rule. The small farmers pay the heaviest tax—the large holder the lightest. As the large holdings of land is seldom cultivated and improved, it is generally assessed at \$1.25 per acre, while cultivated land is assessed from \$5 per acre and up; and improvements, too, are taxed. This is taxing industry and protecting idleness. Now, sirs, if we but knew how much government land Miller & Lux have fenced we could cover one or two more states. There are large holdings of lands in different states in the Union owned by foreign syndicates, and also by the royalty of Europe who are not citizens of this country; nor do they even live here. Had I the statistics at my command it would open the eyes of small land owners.

To emphasize this foreign ownership I wish here to use a few statistics by Prof. Bullock of Williams' College. In a recent article in the North-American Review he points out the fact that in five years the exports of this country exceeded the imports by \$2,600,000,000; yet, notwithstanding this, the net imports of gold for the same period was only \$90,980,000. The professor wonders what became of the other \$2,509,000,000. Here is where it went, so says Appeal to Reason, of Kansas: "Foreigners own the majority of our railroad, breweries, packing houses, stock yards, bank stock, telegraph, telephone, electric light plants, street car lines, cotton mills and compresses, and untold millions of our best lands and highest price real estate. It is the principal source of revenue of the royalty of Europe. This vast tribute is levied on us just as it is on India, where you are sending your charities that England may ship more out as you ship more gifts in. Talk about the tribute Ireland pays England, you great, free and independent American!"

Will you punish combines, trusts and large land swindlers? Do you know the attorney general of the United States was for years the attorney for the Carnegie Steel Company at \$25,000 a year, and that in this man's hands rests the power to prosecute the trusts? Do you think he will do it? Really do you? The Oregonian of a late date, speaking editorially of this question of leasing the public range, says there is no danger of such a bill being seriously considered by congress, because every stock farmer is opposed to it. Why did congress checker this state with worthless military roads, (Concluded on page 4.)

THE HARNEY COUNTY FAIR

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 30 TO OCTOBER 5.

List of Premiums by The Association For Live-Stock, Farm Produce, etc.—Dairy Products, Art.

The following premiums are offered by the Burns, Harney County Fair Association for the Second Annual Fair to be held here September 30 to October 5:

- DIVISION A—HORSES.
Draft stallion \$20.
Standard bred stallion, \$20.
Jackass, with colts of his get, \$20.
Mare and colt, draft, \$15; roadster, \$15.
Best double team, driving, \$10.
Best double team, draft, \$10.
Mules in harness, \$10.
- DIVISION B—CATTLE.
Bull, two years or older, \$20.
Cow and calf, for beef, \$20; for milk, \$20.
- DIVISION C—SHEEP.
Ram, one year or over, \$20.
Ewes, pen of three lambs, \$20.
- DIVISION D—SWINE.
Boar, one year or over, \$10.
Boar under one year, \$7.50.
Brooding sow over one year and pigs, \$10; under one year, \$7.50.
Ten per cent entrance fee will be charged on all live stock entries. Seventy per cent to first and 30 per cent to second.
- DIVISION E—POULTRY.
Trio of Brahmans \$2.50; second \$1.
Cochins \$2.50; second, \$1.
Hamburges \$2.50; second, \$1.
Leghorns, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Domineckers, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Plymouth Rocks, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Pair turkeys, \$2.50; second, \$1.
- DIVISION F—FARM PRODUCTS.
Display of sheaves of grain, all kinds, not less than 5 sheaves of each, \$5 second, \$1.
100 lbs barley, \$2.50; second, \$1.
100 lbs wheat, \$2.50; second, \$1.
100 lbs oats, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Display of alfalfa, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Timothy grass, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Natural meadow grass, \$2.50; second, \$1.
Corn, \$2.50; second, \$1.
- DIVISION G—HORTICULTURE.
Display 1 bu apples, \$5; second certificate.
1 bu peaches, \$5; second, certificate.
1 bu pears \$5; second, certificate.
1 bu plums, \$2.50; second, certificate.
- DIVISION H—GARDEN PRODUCE.
Bushel onions, \$2; second, \$1.
Turnips, \$2; second, \$1.
Beets, \$2; second, \$1.
Potatoes, \$2; second, \$1.
Tomatoes, \$2; second, \$1.
Cabbage, 1 doz heads, \$2; second, \$1.
Pumpkins, \$2; second, \$1.
Sugar corn, \$2; second, \$1.
Squash \$2; second, \$1.
Display of kahlrabi, carrot, kale, cauliflower, Mangel wurtzel, etc., \$2; second, \$1.
- DIVISION I—DAIRY PRODUCTS.
Ten lbs butter, \$5; second, \$2.
Ten lbs cheese, \$5; second, \$2.
- DIVISION J.
Display by Harney county merchants, \$20; 70 and 30 per cent.
- DIVISION K—HANDIWORK.
Neatest piece of mechanism in iron, \$3.50.
In brass, \$3.50.
In tin, \$3.50.
In wood, \$3.50.
In stone or brick, \$3.50.
- DIVISION L—ART AND FANCY WORK.
Landscape painting in oil on canvass, \$2.50, second, \$1.
Marine painting in oil, \$2.50.
Portrait on canvass, \$2.50.
Largest display of portrait painting in oil on canvass, three specimens, \$5.
Largest and best display of portrait painting in oil by one person, \$5.
Best painting in water colors displayed by the artist, \$2.50.
Largest and best crayon drawing five or more specimens, by one person, \$5.
Photographic views, two, large size, by one person, \$2.
Photographic views, largest number by one person, \$2.
Largest and best display of photographs by one person, \$2.
Autumn leaves, drawn in water colors, \$2.
Sea moss in frames, \$2.
Sign painting, work by artist, \$2.50.
Specimen of oil painting on satin by the artist, \$2.50.
Specimen of etching by artist, \$2.
Display by one person feather work, \$2.
Display by one person, zephyr flowers, \$2.
Pencil sketch from nature by the artist, \$2.
Architectural drawing by the artist, \$2.
Pastel drawing by artist, \$2.
All in this division on second premiums \$1 will be awarded.
- DIVISION M—MINERALS.
Largest and best display of quartz bearing gold, silver and copper, assorted, \$10. Note.—To secure this premium there must be three competitors with ten specimens each.—Ten per cent of premium charged for entrance. Otherwise only a certificate will be granted.
- DIVISION N—POT PLANTS.
Exhibition of pot plants, not less than ten pots, \$2.
Rustic stand not less than three feet high filled with choice plants, \$1.50.
Exhibition of pansies, not less than 20 varieties, \$2.
Fancy basket of flowers \$1.
Second premium in this division will be \$1.
- DIVISION O—PASTRY, ETC.
Loaf salt rising bread, \$1.50.
Hop rising bread, \$1.50.
Potato yeast \$1.50.
Assorted cakes, \$2.
Largest display of jams, \$2.50.
Largest display of jellies, \$2.50.
Second premium \$1 each.
- DIVISION P—NEEDLEWORK.
Best display of crochet work by one person, \$2.
Display patchwork quilting \$2.
Neatest worked banner "Harney County Fair," \$5.
Display pillow slips and shams, \$2.
Best worked toilet cushion \$1.50.
Best worked lady's scarf, \$2.
Best display tatting, \$2.
Second premiums \$1.
Entrance fee for prizes will be ten per cent of premium offered.

played by the artist, \$2.50.

Third Time in Our History.

Three Presidents of the United States have fallen at the hands of assassins within the last 36 years. President Lincoln was shot at 9 o'clock on the night of April 14, 1865, and died at 7:22 on the morning of April 15, 1865. President Garfield was shot on the morning of July 2, 1881, and after a lingering illness died on September 20, 1881. The shooting of President McKinley has occurred just six months and two days after his second accession to the presidency. From the moment President Lincoln received the bullet of Wilkes Booth there was no prospect of his recovery. His devoted wife and members of his cabinet remained with him through that memorable night when all Washington was in a fever of excitement over the attempt on the lives of Lincoln and Seward. President Garfield was shot at the Pennsylvania railroad depot at Washington as he and Secretary Blaine were about to depart for Long Branch. As the two distinguished men were passing through the ladies' waiting room two pistol shots rang out upon the air. Mr. Blaine saw a man run and started toward him, but saw the president lunge forward and fall. A moment later the assassin, Charles J. Guiteau, was arrested and was rescued with difficulty from the infuriated mob. When, in answer to his eager questions, his physicians informed him that he had one chance in a hundred of living, the president said, calmly and bravely, "Then doctor, we will take that chance."

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