The Times-Herald.

VOL. XV. BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, AUGUST 16, 1902. NO. 38.

he Times-Herald.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

e Year $2.00
x Months 1.00
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DEPARTMENT STATISTICS.

COMPILED FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN IRRIGATION.

Some Figures and Values That Will Be of Information to Irrigators. Also, You Help the Cause.

Washington, D. C.
(Special to Times-Herald.)

The progress in agriculture in the arid states and territories during the decade ending with 1899 is shown in the report just published by the division of agriculture of the 12th census. As this progress is attributable largely to irrigation the statistics relating thereto are of general interest.

The number of irrigators in the United States in 1899, not including irrigator of rice, was 108,218, an increase in ten years of 99.9 per cent. The area irrigated was 7,539,545 acres, an increase of 107.6 per cent. The cost of irrigation systems in operation, exclusive of those on rice plantations, was $67,770,942, while the value of irrigated crops was $86,860,491.

The average number of irrigated acres, in farms, in arid states was 71 acres. The average value of irrigated land per acre, $42.53; the average value of crops produced on irrigated land, $14.81; the average first cost of water, $7.80; the average cost of maintenance, $0.36. The value of hay and forage was $34,834,966; cereals, $14,338,326; vegetables, $9,627,491; orchard fruits, $8,920,409; other crops, including sub-tropical fruits, grapes, flowers, plants, sugar beets, etc., $16,712,245.

In Oregon the number of irrigators increased from 3,150 in 1889 to 4,636 in 1899, or 47.2 per cent, and the number of acres irrigated from 177,944 to 388,310, or 118.2 per cent. The ditches in operation in 1899 had a length of 2,283 miles, cost $1,838,782 and irrigated 388,111 acres. There were 199 acres irrigated from wells. The irrigated area in crops was 290,256 acres yielding products valued at $3,062,926. The area irrigated in pasture and immature crops was 98,054 acres.

Shortly after sending the irrigation bill to the President, congress passed a resolution authorizing the director of census to compile statistics relating to irrigation for the crop year of 1902. With the data now assembled, this work will be comparatively simple, most of it being done by correspondence. To secure this information inquiries will soon be sent out to irrigators throughout the United States. The co-operation of those interested in irrigation is earnestly solicited for upon their prompt response will depend very largely the value of these statistics. This is in part a supplementary work, the results of which will be utilized in the work soon to be undertaken by the Department of the Interior under the provision of the irrigation bill.

Heliotrope As A Fever Cure.

Among our most valued ornamental plant, says the Cosmos, is is heliotrope, not because of its beauty, form and color are specially remarkable, but because it flowers abundantly throughout the year and is particularly fitted for boquets. Now, if these qualities were not sufficient, a more serious one is attributed to it, namely, ability to cure fevers. The Cosmos says further:

"The ancients, we know, notably Dioscorides, recognized this property, and in the sixteenth century, if we may believe Bauhin's 'History of Plants,' its seeds we prescribed to be taken in wine for quartan fever; but in our day of light and progress, who pays any attention to the ancients? So, like so many other beneficial plants, it has been cast into oblivion. Now, however, a physician, of Moscow, has rehabilitated it in a memoir presented to the Russian Academy of Medicine, and affirms that the heliotrope can be advantageously and economically substituted for quinine in medicine, having all its advantages without its inconveniences. He adds that for many years it has been used in Persia, Turkey and parts of Russia as a remedy for fevers with success.

"Its mode of preparation is very simple, consisting merely in macerating the stems and leaves in brandy."

A Bogus Tracy.

A bogus Tracy is reported to be holding up farmers in the southern Washington. Reports state that on Thursday evening, the day after the famous bandit's death, a man armed with a rifle and two revolvers rode up to a farm house near Medical lake. He declared that he was Tracy and called for something to eat. To convince his hosts, he is said to have done some remarkable shooting.

"If you don't believe it, I'll show you," he said. After dinner, it is claimed, another stranger rode up, saying, "It's time we were going, Harry," and the two rode away together. Later they held up a farmer near Cheeney and took away one of his saddle horses.

It is probably some weak-minded and fool hardy fool whose head has been turned by reading of the exploits of the real bandit, or else they were Tracy's confederates trying to draw off the poosse on a wrong track.

More Oregon Railroad Talk.

The Oregonian says: A circular issued by J. L. McLean & Co., bankers and brokers of New York City, sets forth the merits of the Gould system of railroads, and also speaks of the connection of the Goulds with the Great Central railroad project between Coos Bay and Salt Lake City. On this matter the circular speaks as follows:

"The Great Central now building between Coos Bay and Salt Lake City, with an extension into Portland, is believed to be for the purpose of supplying the missing link to the Pacific coast for the great Gould system. It is the general belief through best posted financial channels that the money has been furnished for this road by the Goulds and their associates."

This circular was intended for circulation among the foreign investors, and it was quite incidental that one of them reached Portland. Those who have watched the situation, however, see other evidences of the connection of the Goulds with the Coos bay project.

Views On the Reserve.

The withdrawal of such a great area of forest land on the Strawberry range of mountains by the department of public lands at Washington, has provoked some adverse criticism in this part of the district affected. It appears to some like a wholesale coup for the private aggrandizement of range and timber monopolists. The line of the proposed reserve may, however, be restricted by the inspector. By the way, these fellows should be met and counseled with by well informed citizens of Grant county, on their arrival here.

The people of this part of the district generally recognize the necessity of government reserves to protect the timber on the most prominent watersheds, but the territory outlined by the report from Washington certainly extends beyond all reasonable bounds. They are willing to aid in the effort to have it cut down in area at least one-half.—Heppner Times.

We Stand "Pat."

A special to the Evening Journal at Portland, says:

The military reservation at the Haines Mission, in the disputed Alaskan territory, is being enlarged by surveys to 6 square miles, indicating this governments purpose to maintain a large garrison there. This taken to be a confirmation of America's design to resist the attempted territorial encroachments of Great Britain in Alaska.

KING EDWARD IS CROWNED.

THE CEREMONY AT WESTMINISTER ABBEY.

Lasted Two Hours and the Sick Monarch Bore the Ordeal Bravely.--May Undergo A Second Operation.

King Edward VII, after a seven weeks' battle with death, was triumphantly crowned ruler of the world's greatest empire at Westminister Abbey at 12:21 o'clock, August 9th, and as the crown was placed upon his head a signal was flashed from the Abbey to Hyde park and the tower. At these places the artillery fired salute after salute which joined with the ringing of bells made the whole city reverberate with acclamations of joy.

Surrounded on all sides by scarlet robed peers and white satined peeresses, Edward solemnly swore to govern according to the laws of parliament, whereupon the Abbey rang with shouts. The most republican spectator must be impressed with the solemnity of the occasion.

A close scrutiny of the King after he left the palace did not bear out the favorable impression of his physical condition and although he walked erect and without assistance, his pace was very slow. Despite these signs that convalescense was not ended, Edward bore himself with great diguity. In answering the oath questions his voice was distinctly heard throughout the Abbey. A magnificent effect was produced when the King put the crown upon his head. For a moment the glistening gems rested upon his forehead, then the electric lights were turned on, making the crown dazzling.

The entire ceremony occupied two hours, after which it was officially announced that he had borne the ceremony well and suffered no fatigue.

NOT YET WELL.

A special cable despatch to the New York World from Cowes, gives out the following:

Although King Edward has been crowned, his reign is destined to be a short one. In all the news of his illness, the physicians have expressed no hope of his permanent recovery.

Those who are intrusted with the duty of giving out the news regarding the King's health are following precisely the same lines they did before the operation was performed on him June 24. Up to the last minute every effort was made to reassure the public—then came the operation.

A large abscess was discovered in the region immediately surrounding the vermiform appendix was found to be in a highly inflamed and in dangerous condition. Exactly what the operation was has never been told. Only one thing is certain—the vermiform appedage was not removed.

Now, it transpires that a second operation is necessary to remove it in order to save the King's life. In other words, the first operation was made in order to insure the King safety for the time being by evacuation of the pus and to defer a radical cure until a later period.

A second operation is not of a necessity attended by grave danger if the patient has been properly built up and prepared for it. But much depends upon his general condition and mode of life previous to the operation.

The Sheep Shooting.

The first information with any appearance of accuracy coming in regarding the shooting of J. C. Moore's sheep is contained in a recent issue of the Antelope Herald, which says regarding this affair:

"There seems to be more truth in the report of serious trouble between the stockmen in the mountains than was first credited. Geo. Clark, of Mt. Vernon, who arrived in town yesterday reports that on last Friday a band of sheep belonging to Jerome Moore were shot into while corraled during the night, and at 12 o'clock a party of men appeared and began shooting into them, with the result that 325 were killed. This is the most serious shooting scrape that has yet occurred, and will doubtless lead to further trouble.

"Mr. Moore has no idea as to the identity of the men who did the shooting, further than a general idea as to the parties "in interest." A peculiar phase of the shooting is that Mr. Moore has been using the same range for summering his sheep for the past ten years, and surely no stock man had a better right than he to it, according to the custom of the country.

"Mr. Clark feels that he has been very fortunate in the sale of his sheep at the time he sold. He was headed for the same neighborhood in which Mr. Moore's sheep were located, but sold his sheep while enroute to the mountains, and they were turned back. But for this, he believes that he too would have suffered a severe loss."

Reagarding Forest Fires.

Gov. Geer has issued his annual proclamation warning the people against setting fires that may spread to timber, fences or crops. The law on the subject provides a fine of $20 to a $1000, or imprisonment from 3 to 12 months for maliciously setting of fires which shall destroy the buildings, crops, fences or timber of another. If the fire be set without malice, and yet destroys such property, the person setting the fire is liable to a fine of $10 to $1000. Any one setting fire to any wooded country belonging to the United States is liable to a fine of $1000, or imprisonment for one year, or both fine and imprisonment. In all cases one-half the fine is to be paid to the person who furnishes the information to the district attorney.

The Poles and Bohemians have learned how to make money on the sandy timbered tracts in central Wisconcin. They coax a growth of clover, plow the clover under, plant potatoes and raise the finest potatoes in the country; then sow to fall rye and clover the land again.

They are gitting rich off of land which in an early day was thought to be worthless for agricultural purposes.

D. W Jones of Pueblo valley, Harney county, Or, who arrived in Vale a few weeks ago with his family, and made his headquarters here pending the location of a homestead or the buying of a home, informs us that he bought a piece of state land last week on Sucker creek, in T 3, R 5, paying $10 per acre. Mr Jones states that he has found just what he wants, and believes it to be the most productive land in Idaho. He will move to his new home in a few days.—Vale Gazette.

More new things arriving for the Burns Furniture Co. this week. See those handsome writing desks and new center tables.

The Windsor Bar has been moved into the building on the corner north of the postoffice. Caldwell & Byrd, the proprietors have fixed up the new quarters in a very comfortable shape and have added a billiard table.

FOR SALE—Two lots front on Main St and First St. with cottage on each, one barn. Four lots with orchard of pear, apple and cherrie, currents & gooseberries bearing, two room house on it, access to an irrigating ditch. Also one lot with seven-room building, good location. Terms: One third cash with two years for balance in equal yearly payments at 8 per cent.—For particulars call at this office.

Say, did you notice the window at Geer & Cummins? There is the finest display of guns and fishing tackle ever seen in Burns. Double barrelled shot guns, Winchester and Marlin repeaters, rifles, gattling guns, popguns and any old thing. These are being sold at reduced prices and the sportsman who don't take advantage of it is loser. Better drop in today.

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