

# The Times-Herald.

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## ARTESIAN WATER IS HERE

### EXPERIMENTS BY GOVERNMENT SHOW VAST WATER BASIN.

#### Artesian Wells are Needed in Southwestern Oregon, Says a Report of Geological Survey Engineers.

Oregonian News Bureau, Washington, Jan. 3.—Engineers of the Geological Survey, after making examinations in Southwestern Oregon and Southeastern Idaho, have come to the conclusion that irrigation of that country must be largely worked out through the utilization of artesian well water.

It is true that the present flow of water in the streams of Southeastern Oregon can be increased by the construction of storage reservoirs at headquarters of the area that can be reclaimed along these streams. But a great section of the country depends upon artesian wells absolutely for its water supply, and until these wells are connected irrigation cannot be successfully undertaken.

The Wilkes River and Donner anditzen River, which flow into Wheeler and Harney Lakes, are utilized to their full capacity for irrigation, but the department engineers report that there are favorable conditions for storing the waters of these two streams, by increasing their efficiency. The smaller streams of Southwestern Oregon flow mostly during the winter season, when the snow on the uplands is melting or during the prolonged rainy spells. They become dry during the summer. The full flow of these streams is not utilized for irrigation, and it is doubtful if any increased use can be made of their water.

Therefore, attention is drawn to the possibilities of developing artesian wells in the Southwestern countries of Oregon. Experiments have already been driven in the Harney and Wildhorse artesian basins and proved the presence of subsurface water and sufficient pressure to cause it to rise to the surface and overflow.

There are approximately 2000 square miles of territory lying in the artesian basins of Southeastern Oregon and Southwestern Idaho, and it is not to be assumed that all this area can be irrigated by means of artesian wells. The conditions are such as to warrant careful testing of each basin and a judicious development of its water supply. The Geological Survey has put down a well near Ontario, and one near Vale in Oregon, and others in the Little Valley, Bruneau Valley, near Coffey, Central and Enterprise, in Idaho. These wells are from 200 to 1000 feet deep, and except for the well near Central are all successful.

A peculiarity of the artesian water that has been discovered in Oregon and Idaho is that it is usually warm, having a temperature ranging from 60 to 100 degrees. The well near Vale, however, is, strictly speaking, a hot spring, as the water gushes forth at a temperature of 133 degrees, F.

The greater number of borings that have been put down in the Lewis basin in Idaho were drilled with the hope of obtaining petroleum. In this respect they were a failure, although they obtained the most desirable result in demonstrating the existence of artesian water.

The Otis artesian basin, about six miles northwest of Drewsey, Or., has not been drilled, although the government engineers believe that water under a fair pressure will be found in that vicinity. It is expected that an area of 20 square miles will show the presence of more or less subsurface water.

## WANTS GRANT COUNTY SEAT.

Although there have been many utterings of a change in the county seat location in Grant county, the fight is now on in earnest for the first time in ten years, says a special to the Oregonian. The opening gun was fired at a mass

meeting in Prairie City in which it was declared to be the sense of that body of citizens that an active campaign be begun at once to secure a vote of the county upon the question of removing the county seat from Canyon City to Prairie City, at the coming June election.

Committees were appointed to canvass among those who would be most benefited by the change for funds with which to defray the expenses of building a courthouse free of cost to the taxpayers and to build and place in good repair the public roads leading into Prairie City, independent of the regular county tax funds. Five representative citizens of the town who were present at the meeting volunteered to give \$1000 for this purpose, and it is learned that several others have subscribed a like amount each since that time.

The committees report rapid progress in securing the necessary subscriptions, and expect to be able to report the required amount within a short time.

Other committees will be appointed as soon as this feature of the work is satisfactorily provided for, and the matter will not be allowed to rest until the last ballot has been counted and the county seat location won or lost.

In order to bring the matter to a vote it is necessary to present a petition to the county court. This petition must be signed by at least three-fourths as many voters as there was votes cast at the last preceding election. County Judge McHaley says he so understands the present laws; but these laws do not state the length of time the petition must be presented to the court before the election.

In Canyon City the news of the movement to take the county seat from that town has caused a great deal of general discussion, but no public recognition of it has so far been taken. It is certain, however, that a fierce fight will be made by the business and professional men to retain the location, and as practically all the legal talent in the county is gathered at the present county capital the defensive operations will be well directed and vigorously maintained.

## Cured After Suffering 10 Years.

B. F. Aare, Supt. Miami Cycle & Mfg. Co. Middleton, O. suffered for ten years with dyspepsia. He spent hundreds of dollars for medicine and with doctors without receiving any permanent benefit. He says "One night while feeling exceptionally bad I was about to throw down the evening paper when I saw an item in the paper regarding the merits of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. I concluded to try it and while I had no faith in it I felt better after the second dose. After using two bottles I am stronger and better than I have been in years, and I recommend Kodol Dyspepsia Cure to my friends and acquaintances suffering with stomach trouble." Sold by Burns druggists.

It is rumored in town today that the Pine Forest mine near Denio, of which Mr. Ashdown is the superintendent, will pay a dividend in January. The property is making a fine showing, and is being ably managed. — Winnemucca Silver State.

## NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATOR.

To all whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned was on the 19th day of Dec. 1903, by the County Court of Harney County Oregon, duly appointed as Executor, with will annexed, of the estate of Jorgen Jorgensen deceased, and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same duly verified as by law required, to the undersigned, at Burns, Oregon, or to George Hayes Atty. at Law at Burns, Oregon, within six months of this date.

C. H. VOEGTLY, Executor with will annexed of the Estate of Jorgen Jorgensen deceased.

## TO RESTRICT STOCK PASSES

### WESTERN RAILROADS DISCONTINUE RETURN TICKETS.

#### Brokers of This Class of Transportation Among Reasons for Order—Live Stock Shippers Must Pay.

Effective Jan 1, railroads west of Chicago were under agreement to discontinue the practice of furnishing shippers of stock return transportation. This is a change that has been long contemplated by the traffic men of the country, and the way for arriving at an agreement was finally paved by the drawing of tighter lines by executive officers for several years past.

As defined by regulations previously in force, it was entirely legitimate for a railroad company to issue transportation in one direction for stockfeeders going out to buy stuff for shipment. Then in case only one carload was bought, the shipper would not be entitled to return transportation, but was required to turn back his contract to cover that already used. But in case two or more cars were bought, he was entitled to the return portion. Likewise in shipping, the man having two or more cars was entitled to passes in both directions, and in case of large shipments the rules provided that more than one pass should be issued for each two cars forwarded by the same consignee.

For many years prior to the adoption of the anti-pass legislation, enforcement of which comes under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the freedom with which stock passes were distributed by some lines was remarkable. Certain Western railroads catered especially to that class of traffic, and impressed the men engaged in that industry with the fact by generous circulation of the coveted pasteboards which humanity cherishes, even when knowing it is impossible to avail its privileges.

When the first restrictions were suggested, no shipper considered the proposition as being seriously considered. The freedom with which the passes were issued caused unscrupulous individuals to turn in to their own account, and brokers' offices were soon stocked with that class of transportation. Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and others of the large market centers were the points of greatest growth of this evil. Traffic men resented this use of their liberality, and that was the beginning of restrictions that have led up to the present agreement.

Stockmen for years accustomed to contracts entitling them to passes in both directions, do not regard the discontinuance of the issuance of round-trip transportation contracts as being a friendly act. If enforced it will go far toward eliminating sentiment in the routing of shipments, which is exactly what some of the traffic directors desire. Pacific Coast lines announce their intention to discontinue the practices that have prevailed, in accordance with the order issued.

Great pressure will certainly be brought to bear to cause some modifications, however. While there may be justification for declining transportation in cases where the shipper is not regularly engaged in the business, or moves a very small amount of stock once in two or three years, the stock dealers argue that it is a different proposition with the man who moves a trainload and is entitled to only one direction transportation for what is regarded as the necessary force on men properly to care for the animals in transit.

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## COUGARS KILLING STOCK.

Calamity correspondent to Western Ways: There has been quite an excitement here among stockmen hunting cougars. There has been several colts killed in this vicinity and owners think it quite time to thin out the depredators. Week before last C. S. Johnson lost a fine colt and the next day its bones were found near where it was seen two days before. This roused the neighborhood. There was just snow enough to track the animals, and amidst great sport two out of three were killed the first day. Such luck encouraged another attempt and two young men brought in another scalp the next day, and Sunday, Dec 13th, C. S. Johnson and Walter Capps found a fourth near where W. C. killed the bear years ago (the editor will know where that was.) The day after the first two were killed Elmer Ingles was awakened by the scream of a cougar. Getting up to see where it was, he beheld three close to his door. It was still quite dark but he took a couple of shots at them as they disappeared in the brush. Actual measurement next morning proved that they were seven steps from the front door, and tracks were found still nearer. The day before two of the cougars that had been killed were dragged to his cabin and left until the next day.

## OREGON RANCHERS BENEFITED.

It is an ill wind that blows good to nobody, is an old saying, and while it is distressing to see war in any part of the world and between nations which ought to be friends, yet it is a fact that if actual hostilities begin between Japan and Russia, as was reported to be the case yesterday, the stockmen and ranchers of Eastern Oregon will greatly benefit by war, says the Baker City Democrat. Those who have studied the situation and all of the intimations from Washington, point to the additional fact that the United States will have a hand in the fracas and the Pacific coast soldiers and militia will be the first ones called upon for service.

This past fall the stockmen of Eastern Oregon were unable to sell their stock at what they considered fair prices and most of them decided to hold over and feed during the winter. The winter has so far, very fortunately been a mild one, and if should there now be war, they who held their stock would be able to command fair prices for it.

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## HE WANTS TO HEAR OREGON

### REASON FOR SENDING LAND COMMISSION TO PORTLAND.

#### Pinchot and Newell, While at the Livestock Convention, Will Endeavor to Learn Reforms Desired by the West.

The Oregonian's Washington correspondent says: President Roosevelt, in requesting the members of the Public Land Commission to attend the convention of the National Livestock Association in Portland, January 11-16, and during that time give public hearings to learn from the people direct what changes they deem advisable both in the public land laws and the method of administering the laws, gave further evidence of his desire to have the laws administered in a way that is fair and just to the people of Oregon.

Land Commissioner Richards, chairman of the commission, will not be able to go to Portland, but Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot and Chief Engineer H. F. Newell, of the reclamation service, the other two members, will be present, and are already making arrangements for a series of hearings at Portland.

Not only will they welcome statements from the people of Oregon, but will invite the livestock men in their convention to discuss public land questions with the utmost liberty in order that the commission may be apprised of the various views held by the people of the west generally.

The President hopes that Pinchot and Newell, while in Portland, may be able to learn more of the cause of the discontent with the administrative methods of Secretary Hitchcock, and if he finds further interference on his part is needed to correct what the people alleged are abuses, and these practices can be shown to be obnoxious and unjustifiable, he will, on recommendation of the Public Laws Commission, stand ready to direct further the course of the Interior Department.

President Roosevelt is determined to sift this question to the bottom, and while he generally approves the outlined policy of Secretary Hitchcock in his raid upon fraud, he is not in through sympathy with the radical methods that have been adopted by the Secretary in ferreting out this fraud, and the expense of the honest settlers.

The President believed that his order nullifying Secretary Hitchcock's suspension of all timber interest would clear the atmosphere in Oregon and restore general good feeling, but he has since learned that it may be necessary to make his order more explicit and go more into details. It is with a view to learning the exact conditions that he now desires the Public Land Commission to go into this subject while in Portland.

The session of the commission held today is the last that will be called in Washington until the first of February Representative Mondell appeared this morning, and in general terms advised against the enactment of more radical land laws. He called attention to the fact that the land laws of Canada were even now more liberal than our own, and as a result thousands of American farmers are annually seeking homes in Canadian territory. He thinks it would be advisable to liberate our laws so as to check this emigration into Canada.

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