

# The Times-Herald.

XVII.

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, APRIL 30, 1904.

NO. 23.

## COMMISSION

### NOT RECEIVE NOTIFICATION IN TIME.

### Meeting Sometime Part of May.

It was then that Mr. Maxwell made plain the fact that certain railroad corporations contributed annually about \$50,000 for the support of the irrigation association and that the association was practically pledged to work for the repeal of the timber and stone, desert land and homestead commutation laws and support the senate bill.

From this admission, members of the house arrived at the conclusion that the railroads were the ones interested in the repeal of the avowed purpose of being then able to compel persons seeking timber lands or large holdings to purchase from them or to buy blocks of scrip.

The stampede from the support of the new bill was marked subsequent to Maxwell's testimony and it is now an almost foregone conclusion that the committee will report unfavorably and that nothing more will be done in land legislation during this session of congress.

### Harney Stock Ranges Good.

General Livestock Agent C. J. Millis of the O. R. & N., arrived in the city yesterday from a two week's trip through the Harney valley country. When interviewed, Mr. Millis said that he found business fairly good everywhere but that the roads were in fearful condition; the streams every where are out of the banks and the mountains still covered ten feet deep with snow.

"The ranges are in fine shape and never were so far advanced at this season of the year. I found cattle and horses in very poor condition after the long winter and the losses have been severe and further losses will follow. The heaviest losses occurred in March and the first part of April. It has been estimated that the loss of stock will amount to 40 per cent but I think that probably 20 per cent will cover the loss in cattle, and 30 per cent in horses. The loss in sheep was only nominal. It will be June or July before stock will be in fit condition to ship. Sheep can be moved now at any time but there is little demand for any kind of stock at present. Japan's order for horses has not yet materialized."

—Baker City Democrat.

### Decadence of the Range.

In the recent bulletin published by the experiment station at the state agricultural bureau at Pullman valuable information is given concerning the range conditions in Eastern and Central Washington. Within recent years most of the former extensive range has been taken up, either as homesteads or as stock ranches, and the time is rapidly approaching when cattlemen will have to own their own ranges or else be forced out of the business.

Already the greater part of the available grazing land in the Columbia river basin and the eastern Cascade watershed has been taken up and the Okanogan country is being forced to let greater demands be made upon its grazing lands. As yet it is not so badly depleted as the region of the south, but the settlement of many homesteads each year may soon place it on par with the other districts. Even now in the river valleys, where the soil is naturally lighter, the bunchgrass is disappearing and needle grass is taking its place.—Walla Walla Statesman.

### A Cure For Headache

Any man, woman or child suffering from headache, biliousness or a dull, drowsy feeling should take one or two of DeWitt's Little Early Risers night and morning. These famous little pills are famous because they are a tonic as well as a pill. While they cleanse the system they strengthen and rebuild it by their tonic effect upon the liver and bowels. Sold by all druggists.

## SCHOOL MONEY ALL LENT

### FOUR MILLION DRAWING INTEREST AT 6 PER CENT.

### The State Treasury Had Three-Fourths of a Million Dollars Lying Idle Less Than a Year Ago.

The state of Oregon now has \$4,000,000 of school funds drawing interest at an average of 6 per cent. This is the largest sum the state ever had drawing interest and it represents the limit of the irreducible school fund, for a number of years hence, at least. The revenue from this fund will be about \$240,000 per year, and from this the expenses of running the State Land Department must be paid, amounting to less than \$10,000 per year, leaving about \$230,000 to be distributed annually among the counties of the state upon the basis of school population. The apportionment this year will be reduced somewhat by reason of repayments of interest received from purchasers of land where the title failed, says the Oregonian.

Of this total of \$4,000,000, about \$3,500,000 is in the form of loans and \$500,000 is in the form of deferred payments on sales of school land. Of the loans, \$3,350,000 is out on real-estate mortgage securities paying 6 per cent interest. The other \$250,000 is invested in school district bonds bearing 5 per cent interest. The \$500,000 due on sales of land is drawing interest at 6 and 7 per cent. An average rate of interest on the whole \$4,000,000 is 6 per cent.

Less than a year ago, the state treasury contained \$725,000 of idle money in the school fund. There was then little prospect that this money would soon be put out at interest, but several circumstances have combined to create a demand for the school funds. The legislature in 1903 passed an act requiring school districts, when making loans, to offer their bonds to the state at 5 per cent. Under this law the State Land Board has bought school bonds to the amount of \$250,000 since last July. The tightening of the money market in the last six months has raised the rate of interest demanded by private capitalists and borrowers have turned to the school fund where they could get money at 6 per cent. The failure of C. B. Wade, at Pendleton, caused the bank with which he was connected to call in a number of its loans and many of the debtors shifted their loans to the school fund.

The rapid development of Eastern Oregon caused a demand for money in that section of the state and the State Land Board made a large number of loans to people who were building irrigation ditches or clearing new farms. Rather than sell on a weak market, many of the Eastern Oregon cattlemen held their stock last fall and borrowed money to carry them over.

All of these circumstances combined to make a lively demand for loans from the school fund and the surplus, which was expected to last until the end of this year, is now all lent. To the same conditions which called this money out of the school fund has made receipts small. Men who have heretofore borrowed are not now paying back and deferred payments on purchases of school land are slow. The treasury will probably take in some \$15,000 per month and this will be all the State Land Board will have to loan.

It will be the policy of the board to favor small borrowers, as the money will benefit more people in this way. In all the loans that have been made the board has been careful to accept only gilt-edge security, and it is believed there is not a loan outstanding that would show a loss even if hard times should bring about a decline in real estate values.

### Conn's Body Found in a Field

The body of Creed Conn, the Silver Lake merchant, who has been missing since March 4, has

been found in a field one mile from Silver Lake, where a shot was heard on the morning he disappeared. The body was badly decomposed and had a gunshot wound.

Mr. Conn was last at his store at Silver Lake about 6 o'clock on the morning of his disappearance, March 4. After a short conversation with his clerk, Frank Payne, he went out of doors and was seen walking up the road. Mr. Conn did not return that day to the store, nor next day, and Mr. Payne then notified the missing man's brothers at Silver Lake and Lakeview, and parties were sent out to scour the country in every direction.

Almost every citizen of Silver Lake engaged in the hunt for the missing man, and very conceivable spot was thoroughly searched. The river near that place was dragged. Mr. Conn was a man of sterling qualities, attending to his business strictly, and was held in highest esteem by every one.

### The Wonders of Irrigation.

So rapid has been the settlement of the United States during the past score of years, that, to day, very little, if any, productive land remains unoccupied. This fact has drawn the attention of men to the vast areas of desert land whose hot sands will make no response to the efforts of the agriculturist. It is a fact, almost appalling to consider, that one-third of the United States is arid and barren. And yet, all that is needed to make this waste spring into luxuriant life is water. The soil contains every element necessary to plant life. Above, the ever beaming sun is ready to do its part. Moisture alone is required. Small wonder, then, that men have turned eagerly to irrigation in order that they might partake of this potential richness.

And so, in many parts of the arid West, the desert is being reclaimed. In Southern California, in Utah, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington, hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of acres of land have been converted from a desert sterility to teeming productivity. Small wonder that governments, federal and state, and private enterprise are bringing their resources to bear that they may avail themselves of the opportunities of irrigation.—"The Wonders of Irrigation," in the April Pacific Monthly.

### How to Outstrip Competition.

Aggression in advertising proves that advertising pays. Competition makes aggression, and aggression produces success. A certain magazine representative said, "the only way to 'get from under' the dominating influence of competition is to outadvertise it." This spirit of aggression may not necessarily be the result of one's own success in the past; it may come through the knowledge of some one else's success in the past; it may come through the knowledge of some one else's success in his own or some other line of business, by confidence in the future and belief in the old saying that, "nothing succeeds like success."—Mahin's Magazine.

Furniture cheaper than ever before in this town. We bought right and will sell right. The very nicest in Lace and Muslin Curtains. Ladies, call and inspect. We can please you in both style and price. Bureaus, Chiffoniers, Sideboards, Iron Beds, and in fact everything in our line.—Burns Furniture Co.

## PRIVATE CONCERNS HOLD IT

### IRRIGATION UNDER CAREY ACT WILL NOT BE HAMPERED.

### Since Crooked River is Already Controlled, To Utilize the Deschutes Would Be Very Expensive.

According to the Oregonian's Washington advices the Secretary of the Interior has received a petition from 300 members of the Farmers' Co-operative Irrigation Association of Oregon asking that a thorough investigation be made the reclamation service to determine the irrigation possibilities of Crook county. The petition has the indorsement of Senator Mitchell.

It happens that representatives of the reclamation service have made extensive investigations in Crook county, and reached the conclusion that there is no present opportunity for the Government to enter this field. There are several attractive irrigation projects along the Deschutes river, but all of these are now covered by segregations made by the state of Oregon under the Carey act, and the Government does not desire to interfere with the plans of private companies.

The only other water available for irrigation in Crook county is the Crooked river, and the summer flow of this stream is now fully utilized. As it would be very expensive to divert water of the Deschutes across the Crooked River Valley onto the distant arable lands, the Government has decided it can do nothing in Crook county unless private enterprises under the Carey act are abandoned. Should this occur the Government would not hesitate to begin work on this scheme.

### Dates Set for Land Cases.

In the federal court yesterday the order of the trials in the famous land fraud cases was set by Judge Bellinger at the request of the district attorney. The trials will begin May 4, says the Journal.

The first case to go to trial will be the conspiracy charge against Horace G. McKinley and S. A. D. Putter. At the conclusion of those cases, Mrs. Emma L. Watson will answer to a similar charge. Following her case will come the trial of Marie Ware, also charged with conspiracy to defraud the government.

When those cases are completed the court will hear the cases in which forgery is charged against McKinley, Putter and Miss Ware. The case of Charles Cunningham, the wealthy sheepman of eastern Oregon, who is under indictment for attempting to defraud the government of public lands, will be the last of the famous cases to go to trial.

An array of lawyers has been retained by the defendants and a bitter legal contest will likely begin when the cases are called. Practically the entire month of May will be devoted to the trials.

Studebaker Wagons, Hacks, Carriages, Buggies and Buckboards are arriving now and selling as fast as we can get them in. We have two car loads of these goods here and in trains. The best stock of Wagons and Vehicles ever brought to Burns. Call and look at goods even if you do not desire to buy at the present time. Geer & Cummins.

Don't delay getting a good supply of alfalfa seed, Geer and Cummins have it for sale.

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