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ALL TAXPAYERS ARE INVITED

A MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

The Bein Irrigation Law, Proposition to Increase the Salaries of County Officers and Other Matters.

Hon. J. L. Sitz came up from Lawen Tuesday and spent several days in our city interviewing his constituents regarding legislation to come up at the meeting of the state legislature which convenes next month, and looking after some private business. The gentleman had just returned from a business trip to Drewsey and therefore did not receive the letter addressed him from this office last week until his return home.

The date fixed to meet the stockmen in this city on Dec. 23, is satisfactory and Representative Sitz hopes all interested in the matter of needed legislation respecting stock particularly, will be present.

This class however is not the only people he desires to meet and discuss legislation with. He has been approached with many things that certain individuals desire put through, as well as some rumors and indefinite things. He wishes to meet with every taxpayer in the county who can conveniently be present on that date and go over the situation thoroughly as to the needs and remedies in the way of laws.

Among the proposed measures that need particular attention is the State Irrigation Code prepared by Morris Bein of the U. S. Reclamation service. This is a measure that has caused widespread comment and should be thoroughly discussed and considered by the people. Should this become a law it would effect more people in Harney county than any other proposed measure. As it has been prepared and stands now it would be most far reaching in its effects and would throw every individual now owning water right into court to defend such rights. It would cause most radical changes in the present system of law.

This proposed law does not meet with the entire approval of Representative Sitz. The Times-Herald made some comment on it a few weeks ago and takes the same view as Mr. Sitz. It would, of course, be desirable to so change our irrigation laws to conform with the act recently passed by congress if it could be done without injuring present vested rights. This, however, seems impossible. The national irrigation act is most impracticable and will have to be amended before it can be applied except where there is absolutely no settlement upon lands where irrigation can be secured. The Bein law is just as impracticable under present conditions in this state.

Another matter that should receive the attention of the taxpayers is the proposition to raise the salaries of certain county officials. This is a matter that has been urged upon Mr. Sitz and he wants to know the sentiment of the taxpayers before he acts. Do our county officers receive enough salary? Taxpayers are asked to answer that question and the more representative body who attend this meeting on Dec. 23, the better position our representative will be in to carry out the best wishes of the people.

Some proposed changes in the charter of the city of Burns has also been rumored and he therefore desires the people here to say whether they want any changes. All these matters and others will be discussed and the expression of the people who attend the meeting will largely govern his actions during the coming session of the legislature. It is right that the wishes of the people be consulted and carried out as nearly as possible.

This method of bringing them together to discuss the various phases of proposed legislation is a good one. If the people will take an interest in this and give Mr. Sitz their support, he can go to Salem and work conscientiously

knowing just how his constituents feel on practically all matters coming before that body.

Representative Sitz purposes leaving soon after the date of the meeting here for Malheur county where he will interview the people of that section as to their needs. Much annoyance and anxiety are prevented by the meeting with the people and taking up the questions before going to Salem. Heretofore things have been sprung at the last moment and rushed through the legislature or turned down that have caused dissatisfaction.

If the taxpayers desire the salaries of certain county officers increased they should say so. This is a matter purely local and there is no question but a bill of this nature could be passed so long as the people of Harney county foot the bills. The same may be said of the city charter. If the people of Burns desire changes they can have them for the asking.

These matters will be brought up at the meeting along with proposed stock laws and should have the consideration of all our people.

Red and Green Snow.

At various times it is recorded that there has been "blood on the face of the moon." Some old chronicles tell of showers of blood, which, however, are not well authenticated. The "bloody snow," on the other hand, is an actual thing. Snow is sometimes found in polar and Alpine regions, where it lies unmelted from year to year, and the annual fall is small, colored red by the presence of innumerable red plants. In its native state the plant consists of brilliant red globules on a gelatinous mass. Red snow was observed by the ancients, a passage in Aristotle referring to it; but it attracted little or no attention until 1760, when Saussure observed it in the Alps and concluded that it was due to the pollen of a plant. It was also noticed by the Arctic expedition under Captain Ross of Baffin's Bay shore on a range of cliffs, the red color penetrating to the depth of 12 feet, less frequent is the green growth of snow.

Just imagine these rich colors decorating the landscape near our large cities! Country house parties would have a new attraction which would appeal to the artistic and aesthetic sense.

Sewing Machines at factory price with freight added. The White, Blue Diamond and the Vassar, all carrying a full guarantee.—at the Burns Furniture Company store.

A WONDERFUL INVENTION.

It is interesting to note that fortunes are frequently made by the invention of articles of minor importance. Many of the more popular devices are those designed to benefit people and meet popular conditions, and one of the most interesting of these that has ever been invented is the Dr. White Electric Comb, patented Jan. 1, '99. These wonderful Combs positively cure dandruff, hair falling out, sick and nervous headaches, and when used with Dr. White's Electric Hair Brush are positively guaranteed to make straight hair curly in 25 days time. Thousands of these electric combs have been sold in the various cities of the Union, and the demand is constantly increasing. Our agents are rapidly becoming rich selling these combs. They positively sell on sight. Send for sample. Men's size 35c, ladies' 50c — (half price while we are introducing them.) The Dr. White The Dr. White Electric Comb Co., Decatur, Ill.

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TO DRIVE OUT SHEEP MEN

SUCH IS INTENT OF CENTRAL OREGON CATTLEMEN.

Conspirator Describes Wanton Killing of Thoroughbreds in Crook County—Industry is Being Ruined.

A special correspondent writing to the Oregonian from Prineville says: Six thousand head of sheep slaughtered, with an approximate value of \$20,000 without a single indictment from the grand jury is the record of the past season in Central Oregon.

Criminal operation of much magnitude seem serious, and are serious, although one living among the conditions is apt to overlook this phase, for the reason that business interests of all kinds are very badly impregnated with the feeling from one or the other of the viewpoints, and during the past two years sympathy or criticism has been dealt out with caution, and in all cases the ears receiving them must be known.

The feeling becomes more acute as each ranging season opens, and as a of the continued depredations, many of the sheepmen have found it necessary to dispose of their herds.

Although the first organized bands of sheepshooters were for the express purpose of protecting the range from so-called outside sheep, their efforts have never been directed at anything but the apparent extermination of home sheep, that all public range could thus be conserved for the individual use of the cattleman, to the exclusion of all other classes of stock.

At different times in the past the cattle interests have been accused of having an organization which has been responsible for these depredations, but each time the answer would come back: "We are not guilty, and cannot possibly furnish you a clew, unless it is some irresponsible parties who have wantonly killed your stock without cause."

This answer has been a makeshift to herald to the outside world, in lieu of anything more definite, but the past season has demonstrated that such is not the case, but instead it has been proven that the counties of Crook, Lake and Grant are the homes of organized bands of sheepshooters, organized from among representative cattlemen, who co-operate with one another in their predatory acts.

The Silver Lake shooting of last spring furnished an example of the distances traveled by some in co-operating with others of the band, when cartridge boxes were marked with a Prineville firm's cost mark on them, although the scene of the shooting was 125 miles from here. At that time two affairs followed each other in quick succession, resulting in the slaughter of over 4000 head of sheep, and were probably also responsible for the death of Creed Conn, the Silver Lake merchant, whose definite knowledge of the affair became known and feared through his criticisms.

The writer has been fortunate in getting the story of a sheep shooting affair from a participant, and the fact that it was unsolicited enables him to give it without any qualms of conscience. His story follows:

"About 3 o'clock in the afternoon the scouts that had been posted during the entire day had ascertained that the border was alone and unarmed, and that we run no chances in getting possession of his band. This was done by our party, numbering some dozen men, after we had indulged in a few preliminaries, such as firing off our guns and giving vent to a few paths, just to make the poor cove stand pat, for if he had attempted to run we would have had to kill him. He was bound and gagged to prevent his getting away and giving the alarm, and was then placed by the side of a tree.

"The band of sheep, numbering about 2000, was then driven to a corral on deeded land, which was done for a double purpose; as we

could then shoot without their scattering, and we could also point to the carcasses and say: 'Well they were on deeded land, and who ever killed them did so merely as an act protecting their own property.' We then knelt with our knees on the ground, that every shot from our 30-30's might take effect in more than one sheep, and thus save ammunition. In this manner more than 1500 shots were fired, and as a result 1200 sheep were killed.

"Those of the band that succeeded in getting away were without a herder for two days, and many succumbed to the attacks of the coyotes.

"Yes, we had our faces blackened, so that we could not be recognized, and it was a veritable picnic. Had everything our own way from start to finish. You're—right, that sheepman will never get within miles of our range again, that's a cinch."

CIGAR STORE TRAGEDY.

"A woman is only a woman, but a good cigar is a smoke."—Kipling. Scene—Any cigar store or cigar department.

Time—Present. (Enter demure damsel and damsel's friend.)

Demure damsel to clerk—Er—ah—I wish to look at some cigars—for a gentleman.

Clerk—Yes, ma'am. Something pretty nice?

Demure damsel—Sir!

Clerk—That is—the cigars, of course, I mean.

Demure damsel—Oh—yes. (Demure damsel and friend laugh.)

Friend (in stage whisper)—Well he is, isn't he?

Demure damsel—Well, now—Clerk—Here's a box of our best Havanas—exceedingly fine. A smoke such as any gentleman will enjoy and, while smoking, thankfully remember the donor. A gem for the price.

Friend—Oh, I don't like that kind of a box. Do you Maud?

Demure damsel—How much are they?

Clerk—Seven fifty for the box of 50.

(Loud silence for a full minute.)

Demure damsel—No, dear, I don't like that kind of a box, either. Let me see something—er—something else.

(Clerk brings out all kinds and grades of cigars. None please. Friend suddenly espies a bargain sale on the counter.)

Friend—Oh, Maude! Do look at these! "Lo Flor de Cabbages. Strictly domestic wrapper." What lovely pictures on the cover of the box! And, Maude, look! Only 75 cents for 50.

Maude—I'll take a box of those, please. (Takes purchase and both leave store, talking of the joy in store for a certain wonderful "George.")

Clerk (looking after them with feeling)—Poor George.

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LIVE WITH THE MURDERERS

DETECTIVES TO SOLVE THE RANGE MYSTERIES.

Governor Chamberlain Has a Plan of Campaign—No Funds at His Disposal—Learn in Secret.

A Salem dispatch published in the Oregonian the day following the letter from Prineville regarding the range situation, says: The creation of an emergency fund, which the Governor may use at his discretion, is the only remedy Governor Chamberlain sees for the range, troubles in Crook and other Central Oregon counties.

Nothing has ever come of the Governor's offer of a \$2500 reward last spring for the arrest of the men who murdered Creed Conn at Silver Lake, or the reward of \$300 each for the arrest of the men who killed sheep in Lake County. Neither the Sheriff nor District Attorney, so far as known, paid any attention to the offer of reward, for neither even acknowledged receipt of the Governor's letter.

"The only way I can see to remedy the situation," said Governor Chamberlain today, "is for the Legislature to place money at my disposal so that I can employ Secret Service men to go to the neighborhood of the trouble and stay there until the guilty persons can be located, and evidence enough secured to convict them. To send out militia would do no good. The men who do the shooting may be in Crook county today and in Lake or Harney or Wasco tomorrow or next day. They would commit no offense while officers of the law were around. They travel long distances in a wild, thinly-settled country, and commit their crimes when there is no one near except a defenseless shepherd. They are masked and cannot be identified. The only way that I can see to bring them to justice is to send Secret Service men to live among them, learn their ways and follow their movements until they have evidence that will convict them. There is not now a single dollar which the governor is authorized to expend for the purpose I mention."

The Governor has recently received several personal and confidential letters from a resident of Crook County, telling him of the reign of outlawry in that section of the state. The name of the informant is not made public for the reason that the outlaws would burn his property, kill his sheep and perhaps assassinate him if they knew who made the complaint.

Clackamas was once the seat of territorial government. It was the early home of Dr. John McLoughlin. It's welcome to Mr. Brownell. Marion is a county of wealth and resources. It's the home of Banker Bush, E. Hofer and ex-Governor Geer. It has a lunatic asylum, penitentiary, reform school, and produces some hogs. Polk, annually takes the Blue Ribbon over both Clackamas and Marion in competition at the State Fair. Mrs. Wolfe will prepare an exhibit to compete with them both at the Lewis and Clark Fair. George Murphey's cow has produced four calves as a starter in the line of things wonderful. Meet us on the trail.

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