

The Times-Herald.

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, NOVEMBER 2, 1907

NO. 50

The Great Harney Country

Covers an area of 6,428,800 acres of land, 4,634,961 acres yet vacant subject to entry under the public land laws of the United States.

Times-Herald

The Official Paper of Harney County, as the largest circulation and is one of the best advertising mediums in Harney County.

OF RICHES

Owners Say the Rule of Forestry Department is to Blame.

A special dispatch from Pendleton to the Telegram says: That sheep on many ranges of Eastern Oregon are unaccountably dying is the report brought to this city by prominent sheepmen. The heaviest loss seems to be in Morrow and Gilliam counties with a lesser amount in Umatilla county.

A. Smythe & Son, of Arlington, report the loss of 200 head, and William Smith, of Morrow county, has lost about an equal number. One Morrow county grower who has lost about ten head a day has summoned State Sheep Inspector Lytle, of this city, to investigate the cause. Opinions of sheepmen seem to differ as to the cause. Some think the sheep are getting some poisonous weed that is especially fatal at this dry season, but the prevalent opinion is that owing to the unusually dry fall the grass is insufficient and the quality poor.

The rules of the Forestry Department governing the Blue Mountain reserve require that all sheep must be off the forest reserve by October 18. Bringing the sheep out of the cool mountains, where they were grazing on succulent grass, to the parched sands of the Columbia, was worked disaster. Heretofore the sheepmen have kept their bands in the mountains until November or such time as there has been sufficient rain on the plateau lands to start the grass. Nearly all the sheep in Eastern Oregon are run on Government land and are subject to the rules of the Forestry Department. In order to comply with these rules they have had no other alternative than to put their sheep on the sparse winter range much earlier than usual.

This has been an exceptionally dry fall in Eastern Oregon. Much more rain than usual fell in the summer months, but September and October have been dry. It is noticed that the sheep that have been fed out of the timber feed for some time, and have become accustomed to the dry range, suffer less loss than those just arriving. This fact encourages the sheepmen to believe that their losses will not increase, but that rain will come before more extensive damage is done.

KILLED MOUNTAIN SHEEP.

A letter to this office from Dr. L. E. Hibbard states that he and his uncle, Geo. Hibbard, had succeeded in bagging two fine specimens of Mountain Sheep on the Stein's Mountains and had the goods to show for it. They were both rams.

It has been known for years that "Big Horns" inhabited the high cliffs of those mountains but no hunter had been fortunate enough to locate and get any of them for several years. During the time Mr. Wallace was here mounting game for our Lewis and Clark fair exhibit it was very much hoped we could secure a mountain sheep for the collection but none could be secured at that time. They are very scarce and the hunter who bags any of them may well feel proud of the fact, especially as it is a very difficult and dangerous task to get up to where they range among the high cliffs and snow bound peaks.

The Doctor states they have secured considerable other game, having killed ducks, quail, grouse, deer, coyotes, etc., in abundance and were going on to Andrews from the Alvord, where he had considerable dental work to do. Dr. Hibbard is one of the real, clean sportsmen of the Harney country who needs no law to restrict him. He is a lover of nature and a close observer of the habits of wild game. He is an enthusiast but never kills for the fun of killing and is very careful not to kill promiscuously. He is not in the class of the "game hog" or "pot shooter." If Oregon had several more like him the strict game laws would hardly be necessary as such men would instill, in the minds of hunters the necessity of preserving our game birds and animals.

PARCHED RANGE IS KILLING SHEEP.

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RANGE FOR SMALL RANCHER

MORE JUSTICE IN THE ALLOTMENTS OF GRAZING LAND.

Senators Fulton and Bourne Join Forces in Attempt to Secure More Equitable Division—Home Users First.

A special from John Day to the Oregonian says: The plea for grass made by the Grant County Stockgrowers' Association has been answered direct to J. E. Snow, secretary, and indirect through Senator Bourne, who has joined Senator Fulton in an effort to have the range allotments fairly made according to the rules of the National Forests Use Book.

Acting Forester James B. Adams addressed a reply to Senator Snow in which he says the statements contained in the memorial will have the greatest consideration in range allotments for 1908. He proceeds to say that conditions existing upon a National reserve are accepted by the department, and gradually changed to an "entirely equitable division of the range among those most dependent upon it and most entitled to its use."

Mr. Adams declares that "the Forest Service cannot guarantee an immediate change by arbitrarily denying all grazing privileges to large owners whose land interests are more distant from the Blue Mountains National Forests than are the interests of the Grant County Stockgrowers' Association." The association had not asked that all grazing privileges be denied distant owners, but that the range be allotted by giving the preference right to class A—small nearby owners,—the next right to class B, and then to apportion the remainder of the grazing lands among the distant owners as class C.

Senator Bourne writes Secretary Snow that he "trusts that his (Mr. Potter's) office will ultimately come to realize the reasonableness of your demands and in the apportioning of the reserve give the preference right to settlers living in the vicinity of the reserve." He also wrote Mr. Potter to the same effect, and enclosed a copy of the President's Keokuk speech in support of his request.

Senator Bourne enclosed a copy of his reply to Acting Chief Adams, a part of which was as follows: I do not doubt the wisdom of your policy of bringing changes of the sort referred to by degrees rather than suddenly, but you will bear in mind that the outside stockmen did not hesitate to crowd out the local stockmen when this reserve was first created, and I, therefore, feel that they are not entitled to any exceptional consideration at the hands of the Government at this time, particularly when the mistreated local stockmen, the owners of small herds, are to be benefited by a change in the allotment of public range. I would, therefore, urge that you strain a point to extend the allotments to outsiders as rapidly as can be done, without absolutely ruining their business. The small resident owner is entitled to the first preference right, and in cases where he has been discriminated against, I think that particular pains should be taken to restore to him that portion of the range to which he is equitably entitled. Stockmen think they are asking for nothing but what the Use Book says they are entitled to, and what the officials say they are "equitably entitled to," and what they expect to get, and are very grateful to the Oregon delegation for the united stand taken in their behalf, and to the Oregonian for so clearly setting the matter before the public. They also believe that while officials see their duty to them they are afraid to cut the red tape and take just action.

OREGON HAS BEST SCHOOL LAWS.

Eminent Eastern Educator Praises Basic Principle of School Administration.

A very high and perfectly spontaneous tribute to the constitutional excellence of the public school system of Oregon is contained in the current issue of the Atlantic Educational Journal, published at Baltimore, in an article by William E. Chandler, superintendent of education, Washington D. C. This eminent educator says:

"I have read the school laws of every state in the Union. Oregon has the best, and yet there are some flaws in even these best statutes—flaws not vital errors. In Oregon the boards of school directors are chosen at large, at special elections, and these school directors, few in number for each municipality, bond their districts, tax them, and govern them absolutely on all educational affairs. State and school, education and government are divorced by the fundamental constitution. What are the results? Politics is unknown. The schools are well supplied with funds; and the intelligence of the people is singularly high. California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado all understand the vital importance of democracy in school matters. The plain people, with no intervention of mayors, or judges, or legislators, or bosses, rule the common schools through the delegates whom they directly elect, and therefore control.

THE NEWEST LAND.

Eastern Oregon, the arid portion of it, embracing large parts of Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Crook, Baker, Harney and Malheur, has just been discovered.

For half a century people have been riding over it. They have scoured its sagebrush wastes, and hurried on to more inviting climes. But the discoverer has arrived and his triumph is being heralded throughout the land.

Upon the sagebrush wastes of Umatilla \$300 worth of strawberries per acre will mature a month earlier than anywhere else in Oregon, where once her dusty trails awed the immigrant, 10 tons of alfalfa are now grown annually.

It requires about three installments of settlers to accomplish the final settlement of the arid districts. The first comes and tries to live alone in the desert and starves out. The second makes a little further progress, attracts a few neighbors and finally gives up the fight. But by this time the real value of the land is demonstrated and the real settler takes it over and soon converts it into homes and makes it highly productive.

This has been true of Vineland, Kennewick, North Yakima, Hood River, Wenatchee and every other section where land has now reached to phenomenal values. And the same has been true of Umatilla county. The real settler, the real discoverer has arrived in the arid section of Umatilla county and will now begin the genuine work of reclamation. Pioneering has ceased. Skimming the surface is a thing of the past. Horseback farming has disappeared. Two inch plowing has been discarded. Proselyting and booming and adventuring have gone by. The genuine Cincinnati has taken hold of the plow. The thinker and the agricultural student is now at work in the sage brush. The actual scientific farmer is directing the alchemy of the arid soil and hereafter the erstwhile deserts will wear the happy and verdant smile of green things growing. You may now listen for results—East Oregonian.

TOO MUCH FOR SCHOOL BOOKS

OREGON BOARD OF EDUCATION ENTERS STRONG PROTEST.

School Book Publishing Companies Charge Oregon People More for Same Books Than is Charged in Other States.

The state board of education and the attorney general do not agree upon the interpretation of that portion of the state text book law which requires the publishers to sell their books at as low a price in this state as they do in any other state, says the East Oregonian. The board recently asked the attorney general's advice and then proceeded to act contrary to it. It has been discovered that some of the publishers are selling books at retail in Louisiana and Tennessee cheaper than they are sold in Oregon. Against this the board protested. The companies take the position that they are entitled to get as much for their books, net, in Oregon as they do in any other state and they represent that differences in freight, commissions, etc., accounts for the high price in Oregon. The board holds that when the contract was made with the publishers stipulating that they should not sell books for a greater price in Oregon than is charged in other states, reference was had to the price the parent or pupil must pay and not to the net price received by the company.

In accordance with this view the board yesterday adopted a resolution declaring that retail prices here must not be higher than in other states. The controversy arose over four books. The plane and solid geometry is sold for 90 cents in Tennessee, while in Oregon the price is \$1.25. The physical geography sells for 88 cents in Louisiana, while it costs the Oregon pupil \$1. The new text book on elementary agriculture sells for 60 cents in Louisiana and 75 cents in Oregon. The general history costs the Louisiana boy and girl \$1.25 and the Oregon pupil \$1.50. Since the text book law and the contracts with the publishers provide that the differences shall not exist, the board proposes to see that Oregon shall buy books at lowest prices.

Gold Weighs More in Alaska

One of the peculiar difficulties the officers at the United States Assay Office in Seattle are frequently required to contend with is the satisfactory settlement of slight disputes which arise often between employes at the office and miners who bring dust down from Nome and Alaska towns.

It is not generally known, say the officers, that a pound of gold weighed in the North and a pound weighed in Seattle are different, the yellow metal weighing less in Seattle than in Nome. Assay Office attendants have found it necessary to use spring balance weights only in measuring the gold and sand which is to a certain extent mixed with it. Out of \$19 in gold dust weighed at Nome there is generally from 15 to 30 cents missing when weighed in Seattle. Out of \$1000 worth of gold dust the prospector or miner will miss approximately \$20.

This is an absolute truism, based on the experience of the Assay Office officials, and it is explained by the fact that Nome lies in the Arctic Circle. The flattening of the earth makes the weights differ.

Harney county reports a very successful fair this year and a large attendance. A well selected and creditable exhibit of her agricultural products shows the energy of her people. Burns and the whole of Harney county deserves a close connection by rail with the outside world on account of its hustling qualities alone. But when one considers the vast acreage yet untouched of the big Harney valley we ask why it has been left alone so long? Why hasn't capital sought it out? Why has Harney been neglected so long by Harriman? It is a big country with immense possibilities and a great future. Oregonian

Job printing—The Times-Herald

NO TRESPASSING.

Notice is hereby given that hunting and shooting upon the enclosed lands of the American Land & Live Stock Co. is strictly forbidden. Any person or persons found hunting or trespassing will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

E. B. HILL, Ranch Manager.

NOTICE

Being unable to give our personal attention to the collection of the accounts due us, the same have been placed with Mr. C. H. Leonard. A year having elapsed since the dissolution of co-partnership a prompt settlement of the same is requested.

Religious Services.

First Church Christ and the Kingdom, 11 a. m. Sunday. Evening service 7:30. Wednesday evening meeting at 7:30. Sunday school 10 a. m. Meetings are held in McMillen's Studio.

Rev. A. J. Irwin will preach at Harney the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sabbath school every sabbath at 2 p. m.

The Lone Star

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Will be glad to furnish PARTICULARS and PRICES To anyone desiring INFORMATION. See his Handsome DESIGNS.

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MODERN ROLLER MILL PROCESS IS USED

Fully equipped in every particular and of sufficient capacity to supply the country for a radius of 100 miles in bread stuffs.

FLOUR, ROLLED BARLEY, CHOP, AND All Kinds of Mill Feed always on Hand

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