

WATER TO OREGON

changeable as the whims of the court. There is, we must admit, the drama of bluff and rasping lawyers and the occasional dynamite and gun play in the efforts of water users to maintain their rights, but legally water is the most buffeted and beaten and misunderstood and unappreciated living thing of our proud state.

The water situation is very simple. In Oregon—and in many other western states—there is no such thing as a definite title to water. The state and government give definite title to land, but for the water that renders the land productive and that nature and common sense and the experience of older civilizations than our own teaches should be attached perpetually to the land, there is no security of title and only a hazy court decreed recognition in law.

In some sections of the state water users' associations have been formed, and peace and justice is seemingly maintained by the exercise of common sense and the majority rule. But as the community becomes more thickly settled and water more valuable persuasion and argument go to the winds and open strife is sure to follow in time. Such an example may be taken from Crook county. There is a fine mountain creek which has already recovered from the desert thousands of acres of land. Under proper utilization it is capable of recovering as many more acres. But who is to say what is proper utilization? Our state law is silent on the point. One man may take enough water (and this is an actual case) to flood his entire farm six inches deep every 24 hours and dynamite the headgates of other water users who object to the waste, while scores of other water users and prospective water users will not have enough to save their crops from the hot winds or water their stock. This particular community, typical of many others, is worrying along, hoping for a new water law. And if they don't get the law there is only one thing to do—take the whole matter of the intricate water regulation before a court and lawyers that perhaps never saw an irrigated farm, who will go quibbling on perhaps for years with a lighter or a minus bank balance as the only permanent gain to the water user. All through eastern Oregon, as I traveled last summer there was the same waiting and hedging and retardation in the irrigated districts. "As soon as we get this water matter settled," they would say, "we intend to fix up the ranch." There is a desperate shack of the man who was sold a useless water right by an irrigation company operating under state laws; there is the dry ditch that is empty because somebody is willfully wasting or hoarding the water that God surely meant for the common and general good of man; and there is the anxious settler and capitalist waiting, he knows not how long, until he has some assurance of the stability of his investment before he will build dams or ditches and improve his land.

And only half the story has been told when we talk about the immense value of water for irrigation. Even more valuable, some day, promises to be our great state wealth of water power. A single example will catch the point. It is estimated that the lower 36 miles of the Deschutes river if harnessed today, would yield an annual income of 5,000,000, and the school boy knows that this bit of water power can be duplicated many times in our state. The commercial value of a single horsepower is from 30 to 75 gallons per day, and a theoretical horsepower is produced by 7 1/2 gallons of water falling through 3.8 feet per second. With a mental picture of such a horse power trickle, can we estimate the commercial value of the thousands of falls and rapids of our rivers?

The signs all point to an approaching electrical age for our nation and the world. The coal beds are limited; our last stock of wood will be put into the furnace in a little more than a generation.

Painting and paper hanging—A. Horton.

OREGON LANDS FOR OREGON

LAND FRAUDS WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE UNDER STATE CONTROL.

Such Plan is Declared to be Permissible Under the Federal Constitution for Oregon and All States.

Why should not Oregon have the management of all the public lands within her borders, forest and otherwise? Why should not all the states have a similar control of the public domain within their limits? Such a plan was proposed by the Trans-Mississippi congress at Denver in 1891. It is, by the terms of her admission into the union, the plan in vogue in Texas. That state has always controlled, regulated and sold all its lands without interposition by the federal government.

The plan for Oregon and all other states to exercise such control is declared to be permissible under the federal constitution. It is urged by the Denver Post, which is supporting such a plan, that congress could pass an act regulating the management of the public domain to the individual states. It has approached such action in the Carey act providing for the states to take control of lands for irrigation purposes. Under this act Idaho has reclaimed a million acres and is passing into the control of a second million.

It is a plan to appeal to business discretion. The story of great land frauds perpetrated in Oregon and other states under the present system is evidence of the weakness of federal control. A far removed Washington department with the people's birthright of lands in the hands of corruptible federal agents has faults that have been shown to be fatal. The colossal frauds with which the past decade would have been impossible under a state regime. The state administrations may have had faults in judgment and lack of business sagacity, but in federal management these are present with the added infamy of theft and criminality. State management in Texas is beset with no record of criminal outrages on the public domain. It could be so in Oregon were state control to be established. Under such a regime the enormous theft of magnificent forests by railroad corporations would have been impossible. The stealing of valuable water powers in forest reserves by monopolies could and would be averted. The saving of lands and water powers alike and the setting aside of a part of their increment for the common schools could be provided for. It is a plan embodying many phases of promise and few if any disadvantages.—Journal.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

(Portland Correspondent)
Albany is not allowing the people of Portland or the other valley cities and towns to forget the Albany Apple Fair and the dedication of the Southern Pacific depot on Tuesday, November 10th. Portland will be there with a thoroughly representative delegation.

Two of the greatest displays of apples ever made in the Pacific Northwest are attractions for early in December. One will commence at Portland December 1st and continue for three days, when Spokane will take the center of the stage in this same character of entertainment from December 7th to 12th.

The Portland Commercial Club had two great overflow occasions last week. There were more people present Tuesday night to get election returns than at any time since the new building was erected. But the greatest event both in attendance and importance was the banquet given Friday night to mark the opening of the "North Bank Road" with the honored guests including James J. Hill, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Great Northern; Howard Elliott, President of the Northern Pacific; Louis W. Hill, President of the Great Northern; George P. Harris, President of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Francis B. Clarke, President of the Spokane, Portland and

THE SHAME OF OREGON

STATE SENDS OUT \$1,500,000 ANNUALLY FOR HOGS ALONE.

Oregon Farmers Should Produce More Eggs, Butter and Poultry—Must Move at Faster Pace.

This is an old, homely subject, about which the Journal has published hundreds of editorials and other articles, but we must keep hammering on it. Apparently the people of Oregon are beginning to awake and arouse themselves a little to the importance of it, and to the shameful absurdity of existing conditions, and The Journal is determined to do all it can to aid in the movement for more and better Oregon products. At Dallas yesterday, Mr. R. B. Miller said:

"Eggs, butter, poultry, in carload lots, are shipped to Oregon from the eastern states to supply the demand here. Oregon farms do not produce what Oregon people have to have.

Fresh cream is shipped by express from California and from Utah to supply the markets of Portland and of the Puget sound cities. Hogs by the train load are shipped by freight from Nebraska to Portland and Puget sound packers to run their plants. Oregon farms could produce these things, but they do not. The money sent out of the state for hogs alone amounts to \$1,500,000 annually. This money should be kept in Oregon. Oregon farmers should receive this \$1,500,000 for Oregon hogs, and all the other money spent for eggs, cream, poultry, butter and other products and add to their earnings. It is in the land they own to produce it if they were to adopt the modern methods of farming that would make it possible. Oregon farms should produce all that is used of farm products in Oregon, the farmers here should sell it to the home markets and then should have a surplus to ship to other states."

Yes, this is an old story, and we must confess that it is a discreditable one. It is something to which we cannot point with pride. Oregon people have the soil, the climate, the water, all needed natural advantages, and the fault must then be in the people. Of course, nobody is legally obliged to raise more hogs and poultry and cream and other things that we import so largely; nobody can dictate to another and say, "You must do thus and so; but the wonder, the curiosity, is that without urging, Oregon farmers do not in their own interest improve these opportunities and produce more of these things, for it cannot be reasonably questioned that it would be profitable to do so.

The Southern Pacific instruction train will do good work, and it is an encouraging fact that so many farmers are taking a lively interest in it. Oregon is entering upon a new phase of development, upon a new era; it is going to move at a faster pace, yet not necessarily a more wearing one; and one result of this new impulse, we are sure, will be the raising of far more of these products, the gradual wiping out of this long-standing disgrace.—Journal.

MAY TEST LOCAL OPTION.

A special dispatch to the Journal from Vale says: The decision of the supreme court regarding the validity of the local option law is likely to result in litigation in Malheur county. In Vale, at present, the old saloon men are waiting uncertain as to whether the city will allow licenses, but elsewhere there is a tendency to test the proposition in court.

Judge Davis of the circuit court, now in session here, has issued an order to the proprietors of a saloon at Westfall, thirty miles from here, to show cause why they have not closed their saloon since the county voted dry. This saloon has been running ever since the election. The proprietors intend to fight the prohibition ordinance.

In Vale there is considerable doubt as to how the majority of the electors would vote on the prohibition proposition now that it has been tried out. Mayor Wheeler and other leaders of the prohibition movement, assert that the majority of a dry town would be increased, but opponents of the measure declare that there are as many or more drunk men to be seen now than before the saloons were put out of business; and point out that the city is out the \$2,400 revenue derived from the licenses before prohibition. The situation in Ontario is much the same.

Several prosecutions for the sale of liquor in alleged "soft drink" shops are pending.

VIOLATE SAFETY APPLIANCE LAW.

Charging that the Sumpter Valley Railway company and the Oregon Lumber company, with head quarters in Baker City, says the Journal, have violated the safety appliance act relative to having cars equipped with automatic couplers and air brakes the United States government, by District Attorney John McCourt, this morning filed suit in the federal district court stating that the defendants are liable in the sum of \$1,300, and asks judgement for that amount.

It is claimed by the government that many of the cars used by the company have had old-fashioned "k and pin" in actual operation, and by which devices it is necessary for the brakeman to go between the cars when making switches and connections. This is in violation of the federal law known as the safety appliance act.

It is stated further that a train of 22 cars, only seven of which were equipped with air brakes, was recently run over the road. All the other cars had hand brakes. This is another violation of the act, the complaint alleges.

NO TRESPASSING.

Hunting is forbidden upon my place and adjoining Burns. Trespassers will be prosecuted.

U. H. VOEGTLY

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.

MARSDEN & GEARY.

Religious Services.

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 Harney Sunday school meets at 2 o'clock each Sunday and a cordial invitation is extended to all who can attend to meet with us.

At the Presbyterian church Burns, Rev. A. J. Irwin pastor. Devine services the third and fourth Sundays of each month at 11 a. m., and 7:30 p. m. Sabbath school at 10 a. m. every Sabbath morning.

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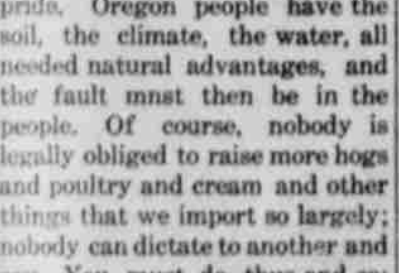
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Sleeplessness is caused by Asthma, Chronic Bronchitis, Diphtheria, Typhoid, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Migraine, Headache, Stomach Troubles, Liver and Bowel Trouble, Heart Disease, Hysteria, Pain, Neuritis, Hayfever, Nervousness, Mental Strain, Bad Nerve Head, Nervous Exhaustion, Menstrual, Hysteria, Pains, Headaches, Stomach Troubles, St. Vitus Dance or Chorea, Blood Poison, Biliousness, various forms of Malaria and Female Troubles, in fact there are many more conditions causing it.

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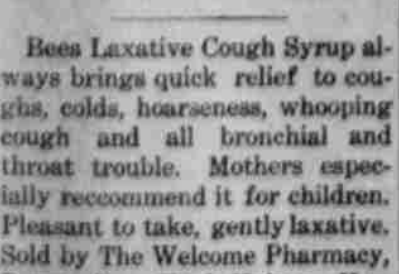
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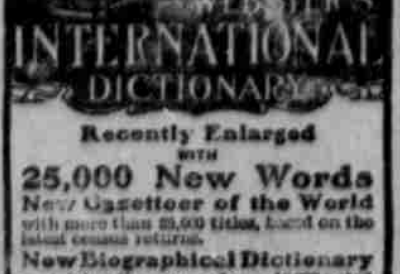
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