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VOL. XXIV

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, APRIL 1, 1911

NO. 20.

## DESCRIBES OLD MEXICO

### Intensely Interesting Account of Trip Written by H. H. Hendricks

## SITS MANY HISTORIC POINTS

### Minute Description of a Bull Fight, Character of People, Mode of Living, Buildings, Cities, etc., are Entertaining--No Front Yards to the Residences.

H. Hendricks, an attorney at law, made an extended trip to Mexico last winter, leaving for the country early in January. He has a fine description of his trip to his brothers, Glen O. and R. L. Lawen, which The Times-Herald has the privilege of presenting its readers. After a sentence of a personal nature, Mr. Hendricks writes:

From Los Angeles I went on a direct to El Paso, Texas, where I took the Mexican Central R. R., crossing the river over to Juarez (Wauress), where I entered Mexico. Up to that time the Mexicans had not bothered with the Mexican Central trains, but in Arizona, and New Mexico, and S. W. Texas over which I came to El Paso was mostly covered with little foliage, mesquite and cactus; and the Rio Grande in old times it continued much the same clear down past the city of Guahua (Cheewawa), except in a few places where irrigation was carried on an account of the proximity of streams or lakes being that possible. When we reached Torreon (Tor-re-own, accent on last syllable), we found a very rich country, irrigated, and used mostly for raising cotton, also being a R. R. center. The cotton and other factories were located there. The altitude from Central Mexico along the Mexican Central R. R. is high, hence not very tropical in summer, and very pleasant in winter. The altitude from El Paso to Torreon is about 3500 feet, and it rises to nearly 9000 feet at Zacatecas (Zack-a-take-us, accent on the take.) Then we went down some and enter still higher upland valleys, with still higher mountains both between the Gulf slope as well as between us and the Pacific slope. The upland valleys are large, the Willamette valley, and one several times larger than the Webfoot valley of Oregon. We clear over to Guadalajara, which is only a few miles ride from the Pacific. At Irapuato, 3000-wa-to, accent on the wa, we found the wa same as in the Pacific. I took the side train for Guadalajara (Waud-ala-ha-ra, accent on the ha, same as in hair.) Guadalajara is a city of 125,000 population, situated about 4000 feet above sea level or a little higher; seldom rains except in June, which then tends to be the warm season. In the city no fires are kept, and no need to build them--not needed after even. The streets are paved, has fine electric car service; up-to-date department stores, mostly branches of London and Paris stores; fine hotels and buildings. The parks or squares are a feature, and are well used, and beautifully kept; has at least one large statue. I noted Mexican patriot, General Bonito Juarez, who conquered Maximilian and him shot with his general's side; and Hidalgo, who led the revolt against 100 years ago; and President Diaz (Dee-us, accent on the z), and the people promenade with music. The men march in two, and the ladies march in two; the men and ladies in opposite directions so they would meet the same gentleman face to face as they pass each time in passing the plaza. The peons (peons) or poor people, who have any property at all, could not keep it if they

in the ring quickly by that means; but no man with the bull at his heels ever tries to go in that way, as he could not turn to get in edgewise while running at full speed; he goes over the fence, stepping his toe on a 2x4 which is nailed on the inner side about 18 inches from the ground to help him leap over quickly. The bull does not follow over the fence after a man when chasing him. Of course it is only now and then a man has to take to the fence to get out of the way. There is a hole in the concrete wall of the ring on, say, the West; the one on the south opens into the stables or stalls where the bulls are ready to be let out in turn; the one the West to let in the horses and drag out the dead bulls and horses. The crowd gathers early; the band plays music while waiting till the hour of 3; the judge of the fight sits high up, and comes in just a couple of minutes before the hour of 3 sharp; the crowd cheers him; the band stops in time and at 3 sharp the judge of the fight nods to his bugler, and the bugler at his side toots his horn for the commencement of the fight. The door to the stable opens, and a bull comes out of the dark into the light, through an alley leading across that ten foot space; he hesitates, as his eyes are not used to the sunshine; just as he gets out of the barn the door is closed behind him, and a man reaches over the wall of the alley, and plant a bandalera in the neck of the bull; it is a steel spike with barbs so it won't come out, and the short handle has ornaments or ribbons on it. It stays there, and the bull hurting and surprised, comes on out in a gallop to the middle of the ring, shakes his head and paws the dirt a second till he sees one of the four cape men standing inside the ring, and he immediately makes for the first cape man he sees, the man shaking his red "cape" or rag and inviting him thus to the fight; the bull comes full tilt, straight for the man, who holds the cape in front of him, and as the bull gets in about ten feet of him, the man side-steps, leaving the cape hang by his hands in same position, and just as the bull gets his head to the cape, he raises the cape to keep it from catching and tearing in the bulls horns; the bull coming so hard, can't stop till he gets fifteen or twenty feet away; and then he turns, coming back the same way, and the same thing is repeated; before he turns another time he sees a red cape closer to him held by a man motioning for him to come by flaunting the red rag; and Mr. Bull takes for that man; and the same thing is gone over again; the bull is passed around to all four cape men, or sometimes takes across at one unexpectedly, who if his cape is not ready, leaps the fence. Just on the minute according to rules, the bugle calls for the horses and horsemen next; and two men each on a horse enter from the gate on the West side, where the bulls are dragged out later. The bull will be over on the opposite side when the horses are coming in; as the cape men can have him wherever they please by their cleverness; and the rule is that if the bull has not enough fight to make two "passes" at the horses he is ruled off the ring and another one is let in; so they have two or three extras for each fight; two being ruled off in the fight I saw.

The men on horseback work around towards the bull, who may not attack the horse or either horse until one of the horsemen rides up near enough to prod the bull with a spike on the end of a long pole he carries under his right arm, striking the bull in the neck near the shoulder; then the bull makes for the man and horse which attacked him, and comes viciously, lifting the horse off the ground in some instances, and turning him clear over end for end, and the man falling under or partly under the horse; of course ripping the horse open with his horns, some times in the lungs, sometimes in the paunch; the cape man is right there to draw the bull off from following up the attack, on account of the man fastened down by the horse; so the bull seldom follows up the

## RAILROADS TO EXTEND

### General Impression Work Will Begin From East End This Season

## MUST PROTECT RIGHT OF WAY

### Judge Biggs States People of His Section Confident Construction Will Begin This Season and Completed Through Canyon--No Debts for Road Building.

Judge Dalton Biggs arrived Sunday afternoon from his home at Ontario to convene circuit court. This is Judge Biggs' first term here since his election to the bench and as he was formerly a resident of this city it is needless to say he met a warm welcome from his many friends in this section.

In discussing the railroad situation the other day Judge Biggs stated it was generally thought over on Ontario that railroad construction would begin toward Harney county this season. The fact that there is now a large amount of money tied up in right of way in the Malheur canyon under its present terms will necessitate action this year, leads to the belief that actual construction will begin.

The conditions imposed by the government should the present franchise lapse makes it almost sure the Harriman system will not allow it to expire. The present right of way is held with no strings. Should it lapse it would be necessary to comply with late restrictions of the Interior Department to raise the tracks 100 feet in order that they will not conflict with a proposed irrigation project.

The opinion is general that there was an agreement when the Hill interests sold the right of way to Harriman because of this restriction and that a point trackage has been arranged. This is further made quite plain by the announcement that Morton Barrows, father-in-law of Lewis Hill has just purchased 240 acres near Ontario which he has arranged shall be put into orchard at once. This land was purchased from the Western Colonization Co. of which Mr. Barrows is a stockholder. The Hill system is too closely identified with this territory as stated before to abandon it.

The fact that it is five years since the government right of way was acquired by the Harriman system makes it very probable the construction will begin this year and pushed to completion at least through Malheur canyon. The Vale Enterprise has the following respecting such prospects:

Along with the news of the successful floating in Europe last week by the Harriman system of \$150,000 bonds on the Union Pacific system, and the filing last week of a mortgage on the Oregon Trunk and other lines of \$125,000,000 by the Hill interests, indicating more railroad developments, comes the report that the Harriman people are getting into real action, for the early construction work of the Oregon and eastern. Last week's report in the Enterprise stated that an appropriation had been made for railroad work in the local yards and that a larger sum would be appropriated for the construction work into the interior. This week a Harriman attorney made his appearance into town for the purpose of closing the right of way matters as soon as possible. Several will be taken into the courts.

NO DEBTS FOR ROADS.

A Salem dispatch in the Journal says:--As intimated at the time by the attorney general to the members of the executive committee of the state grange who visited him at his office last Saturday afternoon, Mr. Crawford holds in a written opinion that the several counties have no authority to call special elections for the purpose of creating a debt for the building of permanent roads, or for any purpose excepting in certain cases specifically provided for as for the purpose of submitting the question of the creation and maintenance of county high schools or for prohibiting the sale of liquor under the local option law.

Consequently the grange will proceed to formulate legislation pertaining to good roads which they will submit to the electors at the general assembly in 1912. Just the nature of this legislation is not known at this time principally for the reason that it has not yet taken definite form but it will have for its object to authorize the counties to call special elections to issue bonds or create other indebtedness for the purpose of building permanent roads.

In his opinion the attorney general finds as follows:

"The effect of this amendment, considered in connection with the original section is to remove the limitation of \$5000 on the authority of the counties to incur indebtedness, for the purpose of building permanent roads within the county, but also places the limitation upon indebtedness incurred for this purpose, that it shall be incurred only on approval of a majority of those voting on the question. The question submitted is whether the county can call a special election to submit this question of incurring such additional indebtedness.

"I find no provision either in the constitution or any of the statutes authorizing a county to call a special election for this purpose or for any purpose excepting in certain cases specially provided for, as for the purpose of submitting the question of the creation of and maintenance of county high schools, county high school fund, etc.

"Counties not being municipal corporations in the fullest sense of the word, but only so far as they are so created by the constitution, they have no power to legislate and cannot legislate by the initiative under section 1a of article IV of the constitution, even as a district because no provision has been made by law for such legislation, and even if the statute included counties, it is not entirely certain that they would have that authority under the constitution as the court has held that 'municipality' and 'district' are synonymous, at least to the extent that a municipality is a district, but the question whether a county is included in that term has never been decided.

"In any event, the counties have not so far been invested

with legislative authority by way of the initiative. Having no such authority, they cannot initiate a bill authorizing the calling of special elections, and there being no authority of law already existing for such elections being called, in my opinion, county courts or the people of a county, cannot call a special election for the purpose of voting on the question of incurring additional indebtedness for the purpose of building permanent roads. The vote required as a condition precedent to the incurring of such indebtedness must, therefore, be taken in connection with the general election."

## OREGON VIEWS IN HARNEY COUNTY.

Arrangements have been made for Manager Ashley of the Baker Commercial Club to show his famous stereoscopic views of Oregon's resources in Burns, April 5th, for the benefit of the general public and to allow the Harney Valley Commercial Club an opportunity to decide upon slides of the Valley to be furnished for Ashley's eastern advertising tour. Baker people were highly pleased with these views and no doubt they will be equally well received by the people of the interior country.

On his trip into Harney Valley, Ashley will accompany an excursion of about fifteen persons from Baker and Huntington, who are going into the country to locate desert claims under the hydro-electric irrigation project along Malheur Lake, being promoted by W. C. Parrish. Besides looking up land, the party will be equipped for duck shooting and a general good time is anticipated, as duck, geese, swan and pelican darken the air around the lakes at this time of year. "Lem" has arranged for a substitute at his shine emporium, and will ride with the driver from Prairie City inland, to bring the party good luck, and will incidentally dispense conversation and views on temperance en route.--Baker Democrat.

Teaching Farmers by Mail.

The principle of making the college of direct practical service to every taxpayer of the state of Oregon, of carrying its assistance and instruction out to those who are unable to attend the course at Corvallis, is demonstrated in a striking manner by the Oregon Agricultural College in its new correspondence course in farm accounting and business methods, given by the school of commerce under Dean J. A. Bexell.

One advantage to the farmers, in addition to the fact that it is free to all, is that it can be taken up at any time, and carried on at the convenience of the student, without restriction as to the number of months it covers. There are already fifty students enrolled in the work, and it has so attracted the attention of the publishers of the bulletin of lesson instructions that they have evolved a plan by which Dean Bexell's course can be offered by all the different agricultural schools throughout the country, adapted to each locality and its particular needs.

As fast as the funds and instructional force at the college will allow, other courses will be added to the correspondence work for farmers, including a study of rural law, and agricultural economies. Unfortunately the legislature did not allow the appropriation requested for this work, so it cannot at this time receive the attention and development planned for it. It is the policy of the college, however, to extend these advantages to the people of the rural communities of the state as fast as resources will permit.

ESTRAYS--One iron gray mare, weighing 1050 lbs. and branded with an S wrench with a straight wrench across; one bay horse, white spot in the head, branded T4 connected on left stifle, came to my ranch in July and have been fed since Sept. Owner call, pay charges and take animals.  
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