

**WRITER CALLS ATTENTION
TO MANY WEED PESTS**

**Neglect on Part of People of This
County Will Result in Regret
Later—Subject to Fine**

It is not generally known that some of the worst weed pests in the United States are getting a foothold in Harney county, and doubtless few people know there is a strict law against permitting these weeds to seed on ones premises. Jim Hill Mustard, (*sysimbrium altissimum*) one of the most serious pests known, is widely distributed in Harney county. It may be seen scattered along the road sides, in the fields, and even among the sage brush. Abundance of this pest can be seen flourishing two miles south west of Burns. In fact, the writer noticed it growing along the streets of one of the principal business blocks of the town. Along the same block was seen China Lettuce, death weed, (*iva axillaris*) Western Yellow Cross, nasturtium curvifolium and pepper grass, (*Lepidium perfoliatum*.) Other varieties might have been discovered had the writer been in quest of weeds and not on his way to Sunday School.

Jim Hill mustard may be recognized by its thrifty growth, its large branching stalk, its large leaves near the ground somewhat like the dandelion. These leaves fall off when seed begins to form.

Any person in the state of Oregon who permits Jim Hill Mustard to seed on his premises is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined from \$25 to \$200.

Another very serious pest penny cross (*thlaspi arvense*) that has a foothold in the Upper Silver Creek Valley and is becoming scattered throughout the entire valley. It grows two or three feet high, has many branches, produces white flowers, and the seeds are enclosed in a circular disc, a flying apparatus. Penny cross crowds out all other vegetation.

Piddle neck (*tamsinika*) a thistle weed bearing yellow flowers is a very serious pest. This plant is widely distributed over the county and needs attention.

With the assistance of our native plants, death weed, (*iva axillaris*) larkspur, lobelia and lupine. These pests will take our country as sure as fate, if something is not done to eradicate them. Then the people will be compelled to move out, the grasshoppers, sage rats, jack rabbits, and coyotes will starve. Let the Commercial Club, the County Court, and the farmers become aroused and start to action the machinery necessary for the eradication of these weed pests.

Following is a digest of the weed law as amended by the last legislature:

An act to amend previous weed laws of Oregon.

HOUSE BILL NO. 191

Sec. 6358. It shall be the duty of each County Court of each county in the State of Oregon to appoint some

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W. W. BROWN Pile Oregon.

suitable person within said county whose duty shall be to ascertain from time to time whether there is in said county any weed known as the (1) Russian thistle, the (2) Canada thistle, the (3) Chinese thistle, or (4) *sysimbrium altissimum* (or Jim Hill Mustard), (5) cocklebur (known as the dagger cocklebur); (6) *Atriplex argenta* (called silver salt bush), and such person so appointed shall as he ascertains that there are any of such weeds growing in said county, and before any thereof has shed its bloom or commenced to form seed, serve or cause to be served upon the owner of the land upon which any such noxious weeds are growing, if he be known and residing within said county, and if not a resident of said county, then upon the occupant of

the premises upon which said noxious weeds are found to be growing if the said premises be occupied, a notice in writing, notifying said owner or occupant of the existence of said noxious weed or weeds, and in such notice give the name of such weed or weeds and state where to be found on said land or premises. Said notice shall be served by delivering to the occupant or person in charge of said premises a copy thereof, duly certified to be such by the person serving the same, and if there be no occupant of such land upon which said noxious weed or weeds may be growing, or the owner of said land is not a resident of said county, then such notice shall be served by posting a copy of said notice in three conspicuous places upon said premises.

Sec. 6460. If the owner or occupant of any such premises upon which is found to be growing any of said noxious weeds shall fail or refuse for a period of ten (10) days after being notified of the existence of such weed or weeds, as provided in Section 6459 to completely remove the same, it shall be the duty of the person or persons appointed and authorized by the County Court, as provided in Section 6458, to go upon said land or premises, calling to his assistance such help as may be deemed by him necessary, and caused said weed or weeds to be extirpated from said land in such manner as will be most effective and work the least injury to the land, but that will destroy said weed or weeds and the seed or seeds thereof, and prevent the same from in any spreading to adjoining lands.

Sec. 6464. If any person, persons or corporation owing, possessing or having care or charge of any land or lands, improved or unimproved, inclosed or uninclosed, in this state shall knowingly permit or suffer any Russian thistle, Canada thistle, or Chinese thistle or *sysimbrium altissimum* (or Jim Hill Mustard), cocklebur (known as the dagger cocklebur), *atriplex argenta* (called the silver salt bush), to grow up thereon, and suffer the same to stand until its bloom falls and its seeds begin to form, such person, persons or corporation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall, for the first offense, be fined not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$50.00, and for the second and each subsequent offense not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$200.00, said fines to be recovered, with costs, in an action to be brought in the name of the State of Oregon, for the use and benefit of the general fund of

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