THE ITEMS

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

SATURDAY JULY 5, 1902.

An Exchange says the man who doesn't advertise in prosperous times, because he doesn't need to; nor in hard times because he can't afford it, is like the Arkansas man who explained that he didn't repair his leaking roof in fair weather because he didn't need any roof. And, of course he couldn't work in the rain.

The confirmation of Captain Charles E. Clark, of the Oregon to be advanced to grade of Rear Admiral of highest rank carried an exceptional honor with it, inasmuch as the promotion was unanimously granted by the Senate. This is the second advancement granted to Captain Clark in recognition of his successful voyage in bringing the Oregon around the Horn in fighting trim, and for his subsequent gallant action in the battle of Santiago.

It is reported from Washington that President Roosevelt inclines strongly to the idea of having a strong man from the Pacific coast for his running mate in 1904. This being the case, why should Oregon not supply the strong man for vice-president? She can do it. And Oregon is entitled to the place for several reasons, among them being the fact that this state furnished the only white spot in all the great country west of the Missouri river, spotless and clean from the taint of Bryanisy, after the election in 1896. Who shall the man be?—The Dalles Chronicle.

An exchange thus wisely remarks: Parets who allow their boys and girls to spend their time on the street, to go where they see fit, should not find fault with our laws or the officers if their children do not make good men and women. The home is the place where character is formed, and not on the street. No parent is doing his full duty to his country or his child who allows it to seek its own associates and its own pleasures. "Give me the boy until he is 10 years old and I will give you the man," was said by a venerable man long years ago, and the truth of the saying should awaken many parents to a higher sense of duty toward their offspring.

Oregon lawyers are looking forward with some anxiety to the time when the new code prepared by Judge Bellinger and W. W. Cotton shall be ready for use. The work will comprise 2500 pages. All the copy is in the hands of a local printing firm. The new code will consist of two volumes. Already several hundred pages of the work have been set up and part of these are printed. The state printing office at Salem is grinding out the code at the rate of 24 pages a day. The intention originally was to have the work issued by September, but at the present rate of progress such seems hardly possible. The exceedingly poor indexing of the Hill code makes it an aggravation to attorneys, and all will be glad to get the new code.

MANAGEMENT OF RANGES

Editor Items:—Your kind favor received. I herein enclose you a copy of suggestions in shape of a bill for the future managemen. of our open ranges and which is endorsed by the small stockmen and farmers of Malheur County. We would like an expression of opinions regarding the propositions set forth in this bill from the stockowners and farmers of Harney County. We should impress upon Congress not only what we do not but what we do want. Yours Truley,

Charles Becker.

Westfall, Or., June 30, 1902.

Following is the bill sent by Mr. Becker.

A Bill to regulate and restrict the grazing on our open ranges without the necessity of leasing the same to corporations.

Sec 1. That the government take charge of the open ranges, divide them off in districts, of suitable size, appoint a Range Warden whose duty it shall be to watch over the district in his care and see that there is no more stock kept upon it than the district will support without deteriorating so as to kill out the native grasses; and in every instance give the resident owners of live-stock the preference over non residents, migratory owners of live stock; for a district of limited area can only permanently support a certain number of live stock, and it is only justice and common sense to give resident owners and all future settlers within each district under our Homestead Law, the preference

Sec. 2. That there be a board of three or more of resident owners of stock go into session once a year, at some designated place within their district, something similar to a Board of Equalization, then take the report of the warden as to the condition of the grasses within his district; also, collect information from all other sources available, pertaining to the condition of their district; then consider and form conclusions whether or not their district is over stocked, and to what extent it is overstocked If they, after due consideration, find it to be over-stocked let them then order a graduated cut on all breeding, or other stock as they may consider advisable within the district they preside over, thereby keeping the amount of stock within the supporting capacity of their district; by a graduated cut, I mean let the heaviest cut fall on the largest owner of stock. That will give the new beginner on his homestead an even chance to build himself up and forever settle this range question.

Sec. 3. That the government divide up the ranges between cattle and sheep. Land which is not adapted to sheep grazing, set it aside for cattle alone Other land adapted to sheep grazing, let it be set apart for sheep entirely. That would settle all range troubles, both real and imaginary, such as our big live stock corporations love to harp on, and make it possible for home-seekers to take up homesteads and get the benefit of grazing their live stock on the Public Domain; and also have a ready market for all of their surplus products, which, under any of the Lease Bills now before Congress, they could not have. And under which conditions it would be impossible for new settlers to maintain themselves, and which would make the Homestead Law a dead letter, a fact of which the promoters of the Lease Bills, now before Congress, are well aware, for they would soon have one of their minions on every watering place and other desirable spots to secure it for them under the Homestead Act, as they have done heretofore under the Pre-emption Act.

Sec. 4 That the government make such other regulations as might further increase the meat producing capacity of our open ranges, for instance; make it compulsory for every owner of cattle who enjoys the benefit of grazing his stock on the public domain, to provide and keep one sire to every twenty head of female cattle. The same to be not less than a half breed of some superior beef breeding stock of cattle. This, in itself, would increase our beef production on the open ranges, from 10 to 20 per cent, with the same amount of pasture; also, make it compulsory for every person running stock on the public domain, to provide a certain amount of winter feed, to a certain number of stock, That would do away with the wholesale destruction of stock by starvation during severe winters, besides, it would be an act of humanity we owe to our domestic animals.

Sec. 5. That the government levy a per capita tax on all live stock grazing on the open ranges to defray the expenses of administering this act, and use the remainder towards building storage reservoirs and other irrigation works as are necessary to prepare the arid and semi arid land for settlement under the existing and future Homestead Acts.

Sec. 6 That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

MEASURING HAY

The following is the rule used by the government in measuring hay that it buys, and as it is of general use we print it:

To find the number of cubic feet in a stack of hay, first measure the distance from one side of its base over the top to base of opposite side—measure distance across the bottom; subtract the distance across the bottom from the distance from base to base over the top and divide the remainder by two, which gives the height of the stack. Measure length of stack and multiply length, breadth and height together, and the result is the number of cubic feet in the stack. In a ton of hay that has been stacked thirty days or over, there are 422 cubic feet. In newly stacked hay the government measures 512 feet to the ton.

Another rule often used in this country is: Add over and width, divide by 4, square, multiply by length and divide by cube of 7½, or 421⅞.

An exchange says: "A farmer living not far from town brought in some butter last week, and after trying every grocer in town, was compelled to take his butter back home unsold It seems that this farmer sends to Montgomery Ward for everything he buys and our grocers have decided to permit him to sell his butter to Montgomery Ward. And that reminds us that when the Baptist ladies held their bazaar they wrote to both Montgomery Ward and Sears, Roebuck & Co., for a contribution. The first letter remained unanswered, but the second elicited a reply from Montgomery Ward. He said he gave a great deal to charity but confined his giving to his home town. Why not allow him to make his money off his home town?"

Tuesday, the documentary stamp law became null and void It was inaugurated at the beginning of the Spanish American war, and has afforded an immense source of revenue to the government The act bore quite heavily upon the railroad and express companies There was a two-cent stamp affixed to all shipping receipts, bills of lading, etc.

A Washington correspondent says while President Roosevelt will make an extended tour of the country early in the fall, he will not indulge in campaign oratory. He will, however, appeal to the people to support him in his contention for Cuban reciprocity, which he regards as involving the national honor and as above partisan politics.

The Town Topics, published at Portland, is authority for the statement that Senator Simon will resign, and that Governor Geer will appoint ex-Senator H. W. Corbett to fill the balance of Senator Simon's term of office. Mr. Simon is now in Portland, and the rumor is possibly true.

The Salvador Government has passed a law providing that any Salvador attorney who shall represent an American in the courts of that country shall be subjected to life imprisonment. The sentiment which prompted that law is not likely to induce an influx of American capital.

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