

THE ITEMS

SATURDAY AUGUST 22, 1903.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

While those parts of Oregon which come under the magic influence of railroads are rapidly gaining in population and worldly importance, the greater portion of the state being far removed and less favored with transportation facilities, is lying almost dormant, while its natural advantages are as notable as those of any section of the West. You who live among the endless grain fields of the Willamette, who have easy access to the commercial world and who enjoy all the advantages of a country that has long been rapidly moving ahead with the rest of the world—you, as a rule, know almost nothing of rich, but undeveloped country stretching away in vast areas beyond the Cascades. He only can appreciate the possibilities of greater Oregon, who has journeyed into the central part of Oregon and has seen its broad valleys and table lands, which lie before him as level and as endless as a great sea.

What a railroad can do for a country, almost every one realizes, but what the lack of one means to a region is fully illustrated here in Harney County.

It is 140 miles from Burns, the county seat of Harney County to the nearest railroad station. There is no part of the county nearer than about 70 miles to a railroad, and as a result Harney, the largest county in Oregon, had a population in 1900 of only 2398, which in some places would not be enough to form a town of respectable size.

A more definite idea of the size of Harney County can be obtained by comparing it with Multnomah County, with which nearly every one is familiar. The area of Multnomah County is 429 square miles, while that of Harney is 9986 square miles. By dividing the latter figure by the former we find that Harney is a little more than 23 51 times as big as Multnomah.

With the exception of the ground covered by Harney and Malheur Lakes, it is safe to say that there is scarcely an acre of the county that is not capable of being made to produce wealth. A very large part of it is level valley and table land, and the rest is hills covered with bunch grass that can be converted into meat and wool.

Harney Valley, second in size in Oregon, covers an area of about 379,000 acres of ground and 274,240 acres of this is capable of irrigation. At the present time there are 95,000 acres that are deeded to private parties, 44,000 acres are included in the Government grant Willamette Valley and Cascade

Mountain Road Company, 19,000 acres are withheld for Indian allotment, and the remainder, about 116,240 acres is open to settlement under the homestead laws.

It is not easy for one who has not been here to understand the great extent of this valley, nor to realize how it and the rest of Central Oregon can, by the aid of a railroad and satisfactory irrigation systems, almost double, in time, the present wealth and population of Oregon. Some readers of The Oregonian who are unfamiliar with this inland empire may think my statement an exaggeration, but it is based on a knowledge of actual dimensions and the productive capacity of the land.

Take a map and note how little of Oregon is included in the thickly settled portions. Observe that by far the greater part of the state lies east of the Cascade Mountains, scarcely any of which has reached the degree of development of which it is capable. This region contains 15 counties, of which Harney has the greatest area and the least population.

Naturally many people will say, "certainly the lack of a railroad is not alone to blame for the slow development of Harney County."

Yes, indirectly the want of a railroad is responsible for it. There are direct causes that a railroad would have removed. One of them is the power of large stock companies that have tried to prevent the encroachments of civilization. Where there is a dense population, such as will result with the advent of a road into this section, those large companies cannot operate as they are doing now, and they would find themselves compelled to dispose of some of their extensive holdings.

Another reason for the slow gain in population of the county is the lack of effort to establish irrigation systems for the land that is not flooded by the overflow of streams. So much water comes down the rivers and creeks in the early Spring when the snow melts that it spreads over a portion of the valley for weeks and natural meadows result. Ranchers are satisfied to harvest this wild hay, which is produced at no other expense, and little effort has been made to utilize the higher and drier ground.

But now the attention of the National Government has been drawn to the agricultural resources of Harney Valley, and a large number of engineers are at work here locating a reservoir site.

There is a very extensive watershed that reaches for many miles back into the mountains, and when the snow melts in the spring the water passes away in bulk and cannot be utilized for irrigation. The reservoir being planned by the Government will hold this water till the Summer season. From previous surveys and estimates that have been made there will be sufficient water retained in it to irrigate the entire valley, and possibly there will be more than is actually needed for that purpose.

It will probably be more than a year before the Government can decide upon the full details of the reservoir, for the water from the streams entering it must be measured for one year in order to determine the annual supply.

From previous surveys it is learned that a dam 60 feet high in a narrow canyon will retain a body of water covering 7080 acres at an average depth of 30 feet. There seems to be little doubt in regard to there being a sufficient supply of water to fill it.

But without the reservoir there is no doubt that nearly all of this great valley can be cultivated. A good supply of water can be found in the ground at a depth of from five to 12 feet and this causes the land to keep more less moist with out application of water on the surface. I am told that there is a large field of grain in the valley that has not been irrigated, and in quality it is equal to any in the country.

There are favorable indications that artesian water may also be found here. While here on a recent visit in the interests of the

(Continued on Third page)

HARNEY COUNTY FAIR PREMIUM LIST

Following is a complete list of premiums to be awarded at the Fair, September 14 to 20, inclusive.

All premiums will be divided as follows: Seventy per cent, first premium; 30 per cent second premium. A certificate accompanies each premium stating the grade of the prize awarded. Ten per cent of premium will be charged on all entries for prizes of \$2.50 or over.

DIVISION A—HORSES.
Draft Stallion, \$20.
Sweepstake Stallion, \$20.
Jackass, with colts of his get, \$20
Mare and colt, draft, \$20
Mare and colt, roadster, \$20
Best team of draft horses or mules, \$25
Double driving team, \$20
Single driver, \$15
Best reined saddle horse, \$10

DIVISION B—CATTLE.
Bull, two years and over, \$20
Milch cow and calf, \$20
Beef cow and calf, \$20

DIVISION C—SHEEP.
Ram, one year or over, \$25
Ewes, pen of three lambs, wool, \$20
Ewes, pen of three lambs, for mutton, \$20
Best fleece, \$10

DIVISION D—SWINE.
Boar, one year or over, \$7.50
Brooding sow and pigs, \$5

DIVISION E—POULTRY.
Trio of Brahmas, \$3.50
Cochins, \$3.50
Hamburges, \$3.50
Leghorns, \$3.50
Domineckers, \$3.50
Plymouth Rocks, \$3.50
Pair Turkeys, \$3.50

DIVISION F—FARM PRODUCTS.
Display of sheaves of grains, all kinds, not less than five sheaves of each, \$5
100lbs barley, \$5
100lbs wheat, \$5
100lbs oats, \$5
Display of alfalfa, \$2.50
Timothy grass, \$2.50
Natural meadow grass, \$2.50
Corn, \$2.50

DIVISION G—HORTICULTURE.
Display 1 pk apples, \$5
1 pk peaches, \$5
1 pk pears, \$5
1 pk plums, \$5
DIVISION H—GARDEN PRODUCE.
Bushel Onions \$2.50
Turnips \$2.50
Beets \$2.50
Potatoes \$2.50
Tomatoes \$2.50
Cabbage 1 doz heads \$2.50
Pumpkins \$2.50
Sugar Corn \$2.50
Squash \$2.50
Display of Kahlrabi, Carrot, Kale, Cauliflower, Mangel-wertzel etc., \$2.50

DIVISION I—DAIRY PRODUCTS.
Butter \$5

DIVISION J—HANDIWORK.
Neatest piece of Mechanism in Iron \$3.50
In Brass \$3.50.
In Tin \$3.50
In Wood \$3.50
In Stone or Brick, \$3.50

DIVISION K—ART AND FANCY WORK.
Landscape painting in oil on canvass \$5
Marine painting in oil \$5
Portrait on canvass \$5
Largest display portrait painting in oil on canvass, three specimens \$5
Largest and best display of portrait painting in oil by one person \$5.
Best painting in Water Colors by the artist \$5
Largest and best Crayon drawing five or more specimens by one person \$5
Photographic views, two, large size by one person \$2.50
Photographic views, largest number by one person \$2.50
Largest and best display of Photographs by one person \$2
Autumn leaves drawn in water colors \$2.50
Sea moss in frames \$2
Sign painting, work by artist \$2.50
Specimen of oil painting on Eatin by the artist \$2.50
Specimen Etching by artist \$2
Display by one person feather work \$2
Display by one person Zopher flowers \$2

Pencil sketch from nature by the artist \$1.50
Architectural drawing by the artist \$2
Pastel drawing by artist \$2

DIVISION L—POT PLANTS.
Exhibition of pot plants, not less than ten pots \$2
Rustic stand not less than three feet in height filled with choice plants \$1.50
Exhibition of Pansies not less than 20 varieties \$1
Fancy basket of flowers \$1

DIVISION M—PASTRY ETC.
Loaf salt rising bread \$1.50
Hop rising bread \$1.50
Potato yeast \$1.50
Soda biscuits \$1.50
Assorted cakes \$1.50
Largest display of Jams \$2.50
Largest display of Jellies \$2.50

DIVISION N—NEEDLEWORK.
Best display crocheted work by any one person \$1.50
Best display patchwork quilting \$1.50
Best display pillow slips and sham \$1.50
Best worked toilet cushion \$1.50
Best Ladies' worked scarf \$1.50
Best display tatting \$1.50

All entries must be made with the Secretary not later than Wednesday, September 16. No exhibit will be entered in the contest after that date. All exhibits will be carefully looked after. Feed will be furnished livestock, and an employee will see that ample care is taken of all exhibits in this line.

SPECIAL PREMIUMS.
The M. M. Co., of Ontario, will give a \$20 cash prize for the best fleece of wool, for Malheur and Harney Counties.

H. W. Welcome & Co., a large doll, valued at \$5, to the prettiest girl baby, at the Fair Sept 19.

Miller & Thompson, \$5 worth of merchandise for the best display of farm products by one person.

John W. Biggs, a \$12 prize for the best colt sired by Kaladar.

Bilious?
Dizzy? Headache? Pain back of your eyes? It's your liver! Use Ayer's Pills. Gently laxative; all vegetable. Sold for 60 years.

Want your moustache or beard a beautiful brown or rich black? Use BUCKINGHAM'S DYE

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization for Harney County, Oregon, will attend at the office of the County Clerk of said county, on Monday, Sept. 7, 1903, and publicly examine the assessment rolls, and correct errors in valuation, description, etc., and to increase or reduce the valuation of property assessed, in the manner and perform the duties as now prescribed by law, for the Board of Equalization for such county. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at such time and place.

JOHN E. LOGGAN,
Assessor of Harney County.

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Harney Valley Brewery

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The bar is supplied with none but the very best brands of Wines, Liquors and Carbonated drinks, and the choicest Cigars. Your patronage solicited. Courteous treatment to all. Corner north of postoffice. **C. B. SMITH & CO.** Proprietors.

The Capital Saloon

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All the pain and misery which young girls commonly experience at such a time, may in almost every instance be entirely prevented or cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It establishes regularity. It tones up the general health, and cures headache, backache, nervousness and other consequences of womanly weakness or disease.

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