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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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ATHENA, APRIL 7, 1905

Oregon grazing land for Oregon sheep, was evidently what the Oregon solons meant when they passed the law compelling outside herds to pay grazing tax. A meeting of Washington sheep men was held the other day in Walla Walla, and the Union says: "The object of the meeting was to consider ways and means for contesting the validity of the law enacted by the Oregon legislature, making a grazing tax of twenty cents per head on sheep and goats, and fifty cents per head on cattle, horses and mules, effective. The law provides an additional charge of five cents per head for sheep and goats and ten cents per head for horses, cattle and mules for each additional county passed through, in addition to the first. The effect on sheepmen of this section is a twenty-five cent per head tax, their sheep going into Union and Umatilla counties. A committee composed of W. P. Reser, H. C. Bryson, and S. V. Davin was empowered to pursue whatever course their judgment directed, tending to contest the legality of the enactment. Many sheepmen express opinion that if the law is upheld they will have to retire from the business. An additional item of expense of 25 cents per head makes sheep grazing prohibitive. It is probable that the sheepmen who met today own 350,000 head of sheep, and the tax is enormous under the new law. The committee appointed were invested with absolute authority to direct a defense to the collection and it is believed a federal case will result if any jurisdiction fact can be had."

The name of Charles Cunningham, of Pilot Rock, is of national renown wherever interest centers in the sheep and wool industry. He has perhaps done as much or more to bring Umatilla county to the notice of stockmen of the United States and Canada, than any other man in it. His thoroughbred and standard bred sheep head the vast herds that feed over the ranges of the middle and western states, and the fine flocks of the New England states owe much of their fine breeding qualities to his excellent stock.

Not long ago Commissioner Garfield, of the department of commerce and labor, made a report on the beef trust which, as published, showed that the profits of that big combine of dealers in meat made a very small profit on their purchases and sales. It is now asserted that the report will make

a different showing, and it is particularly stated that in the trials of the beef trust, for which hundreds of witnesses have been summoned, a very different showing will be made. Meanwhile Cuthbert Powell, commercial editor of the Kansas City Journal, has published a statement showing the profits of the beef trust in detail. His investigations show that the average net profit of the packers, instead of two per cent on the price of the cattle, is \$7.41 per head, or fifteen per cent on the price of cattle, and that this profit is turned over every two to four weeks—twelve to twenty-four times a year.

In an opinion rendered Superintendent J. H. Ackerman holds that a board of school directors has authority to compel a school teacher to take leave of absence, in case of unsatisfactory services, or other cases, maintain such teachers upon the payroll and give the school to another teacher, says a Salem special of March 24. In such cases he also holds that the ousted teacher has no appeal from the decision of the board under the state school laws.

We have a farmer friend who appreciates a practical joke better than any one we know of. He had one coming on us, and he has duly handed it. There is a good laugh in it for you, but to get it all, have Link Swaggart tell you about it. There is an old saw that tells us never to look into the mouth of a gift horse, and, as the "Lord loveth a cheerful giver," we will not look, but cherish the anticipation of attending the funeral of the man who wrote the poetry.

One of the important features of the Utah display at the Lewis and Clark exposition will be a concentrator in actual operation, located in an annex. The concentrator will cost \$10,000 and will be one of the most novel displays of the entire fair. Four men will be required to operate it. It will show the process of refining gold, silver and copper from the time the crude ore is turned in until it comes out as refined metal.

Pendleton's commercial association is after a city park. An option has been taken on a proposed site for \$3,000. A city of Pendleton's pretensions can well afford to expend energy and money for a park. Other towns of less consequence and smaller in population have them.

Communities that trust to great railways to do everything for them are invariably played with. There must be independent effort if great objects are to be obtained.

EASTERN OREGON IRRIGATION.

(Portland Oregonian.)
The Government scheme for utilizing the waters of the John Day River for irrigation purposes is fraught with great possibilities. The John Day is one of the few Oregon rivers carrying a considerable volume of water which as yet has been put to but little practical use. An occasional power plant of modest dimensions has coaxed some work out of this healthy steam, but the demands of this nature have been inconsequential, and, for practically its entire length, it tumbles along in idleness on its journey to the Columbia. The Deschutes is another interior river from which the state has never yet secured any advantages of consequence, and which the irrigationists now expect to put to practical use.

Both of these streams are fed by the eternal snows of the adjacent mountains, and are in such close proximity to those snows that there is seldom, even in the heat of summer, very much diminution in the volume of water.

In the Deschutes in particular there is at all seasons of the year a steady flow which keeps the stream at practically the same height the year round, the extra volume of water occasioned by the quick melting of snow in the springtime disappearing in the subterranean caverns which are numerous in many of the canyons through which it sweeps. Navigation in a mild kind of a way is possible over a portion of the Deschutes river, and at a number of places the stream makes terrific drops, creating immense power which will some day be utilized for manufacturing purposes. Neither for navigation nor for the development of power, however, can this stream ever prove so valuable as for irrigation purposes, and if the day ever comes when all the water it carries can be advantageously used for irrigation purposes, its usefulness in other directions can be easily sacrificed.

If the plan of Engineer Davis proves feasible, the waters of the John Day can be used to advantage on fully 200,000 acres of land in Umatilla, Morrow, Sherman and Gilliam counties. Land of the class that will be reached by this mighty irrigation project has, wherever it has been touched by water, shown phenomenal yields, and the successful carrying out of this one irrigation project would add thousands to the population of Eastern Oregon and transform what is now a veritable desert into a highly productive region. Irrigation has long since passed the experimental stage in the Pacific Northwest. The Yakima and Wenatchee districts and the Snake river banks, near Lewiston, have demonstrated in the most effective manner the magical power of water on lands which a few years ago were practically worthless.

In neither land nor water is Oregon at a disadvantage as compared with the localities mentioned, and, as soon as the work of combining these productive forces is complete, the dry district east of the mountains will enter on an era of prosperity such as has never been equaled where Nature was unaided in her work of supplying moisture for the soil.

WHAT OF JAPAN?

(Portland Oregonian.)
The eyes of the world are upon Japan. Not only are the problems incident to the present situation and their bearings upon the immediate future of that nation and of the teeming world of Asia attracting attention, but their solution, as touching the future in the trade and commerce of the Western world, is of absorbing interest. From present indications active hostilities in Manchuria may cease before many months, perhaps weeks. Will Japan be strong enough in statesmanship to make this peace, when it comes, a lasting one, and one that will insure her own expansion? If so, what?

Dr. T. L. Eliot, of this city, who spent five weeks, alert and observant, in Japan two years ago, in a brief synopsis of his "Impressions of Japan," gave it as his opinion that in social and domestic life the Japanese will assimilate very little from the West compared to what they will retain and develop in conformity with their racial temperament, of which Shintoism is the religious and moral expression. Continuing in words that seem prophetic, Dr. Eliot said:

"This same temperament and virile ambition, will tend to make the Japanese, after a while, as great commercial and industrial, as they have already proved themselves capable of being, in the world of art and of military discipline. It is not altogether a wild prophecy, that, in combination with a regenerated China, Japan may within fifty years dominate Eastern commerce and manufacture, and drive the West entirely out of its markets, perhaps encroaching upon the Western world. However, the truer and happier augury, is to predict an era of good will and international respect, in which these industrial and commercial strifes shall cease, and exchange of benefits shall be regulated by the entirely natural laws of soil, and capacity of production; and through which the terms where human nature is universal and ascendant over brute forms, will be more common than the lower forms of warfare and distrust."

And when he adds, "The brotherhood of man and the love of God are at the heart of both Eastern and Western civilization, and together they will surely move upward, working out the best, and let the ape and tiger die," he presents as a prophet of humanity and of evolution what may be termed "the hope of unknown years."

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I have been suffering for the past few years with a severe attack of rheumatism and found that Ballard's Snow Liniment was the only thing that gave me satisfaction and tended to alleviate my pain. March 24, 1902, John C. Degnan, Kinsman, Ill. 25c, 50c and \$1. Sold by McBride, druggist.

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Notice of Filing Final Account.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Umatilla County. In the Matter of the Estate of Thomas Ogle, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that I have filed my final account and report as executor of the last will of Thomas Ogle, deceased, with the Clerk of the above entitled County Court, which Court has fixed upon eleven o'clock in the forenoon of April 15th, 1905, as the time, and the County Court room, in the County Court House of Umatilla County, Oregon, as the place, when and where it will hear any and all objections that may be presented to the said final account and report and to any matter or thing done by me, as Executor, since my appointment, and at that time and place the Court will finally settle and dispose of said account and report.

This notice is published pursuant to an order of the said Court, made on March 15th, 1905.

Benjamin F. Ogle,
Executor of the Last Will of Thomas Ogle, Deceased.

Notice of Final Account.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has filed his final account as administrator of the estate of John McRae, deceased, in the County Court of Umatilla County, State of Oregon, and the Judge of said Court has fixed Saturday, the 29th day of April, 1905, at ten o'clock in the forenoon at the County Court Room in the County Court House in Pendleton, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing said account, and persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear at said time and place and file their objections, if any, to said account on or before said time. Dated this 24th day March, 1905.

Angus M. Gillis,
Administrator of the Estate of John McRae, Deceased.

PETERSON & PETERSON.

Attorneys-at-Law

ATHENA, OREGON.

J. D. PLAMONDON

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