

WILL BOOST GILLIAM COUNTY RESOURCES

Farmers and Business Men Organize Permanent Association---Experimental Farm the Main Object -- See Great Need of Publicity--More People Needed.

A more enthusiastic meeting was never held before in the annals of Gilliam county than that on last Tuesday evening in the court house, which resulted in the organization of The Gilliam County Improvement Association. Representatives from every section of the county came ready to offer valuable information on the farm station, pursuant to the call of D. B. Thomas who had been corresponding with Pres. Kerr of the Oregon Agricultural College on the proposition of locating an experimental dry farm in this county. Such interest in a good cause has seldom been displayed before and the people who had gathered lost no time in getting into action.

J. A. Smith of Baker City, one of the largest land owners of Gilliam county, was appointed chairman of the meeting. In explaining the object of the gathering said, "Gilliam county is in sad need of a representative body. There is no organization at the present time which could look after the interests of the farmers and business men, especially at this time when an organization could do so much in meeting the railway commission tomorrow. The farmers of this county are today paying \$20,000 more for wheat bags than necessary on account of the tariff and such a body could have influence thru their representatives when Congress revises the tariff during the next session. There are a

number of important interests in behalf of the county that this body could bring about, it could work with the county court to obtain great benefits in many ways." Mr. Smith also went on to say that Gilliam county was in much need of advertising, many people should be brought to the county to settle and thus help farm in the right way.

Chas. Horner was elected secretary of the meeting and read the letters received by Hon. W. J. Mariner and D. B. Thomas concerning the locating of an experimental farm station. The chairman then asked the opinion of the people present as to a permanent organization. D. B. Thomas of Condon, Hon. W. J. Mariner of Blalock, and H. A. Thiessen of Condon, gave their ideas, favoring an organization which should be incorporated, the election of an executive committee which should have the power to act on all important questions in behalf of the best interests of Gilliam County. Frank Stevens of Lone Rock was heartily in favor of the organization and the good such a body would bring in advertising the resources of the county. George B. Dukek of Mayville said, "With such a representation as we have here this evening we should bring this to a head and the rest of the people will follow the movement," and he went on to state

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STATE RAILROAD COMMISSION HOLDS GRAIN RATE HEARING

Gilliam County Farmers Examined as to Cost of Producing Wheat---May be Followed by Reduction in Grain Freight Rates---Railroad Company Take Active Part.

The state railroad commission, T. K. Campbell, Oswald West, Clyde B. Aitcheson, and their stenographer, R. R. Miller, held a grain rate hearing in Condon Wednesday. The commission was assisted by District Attorney Burdett, who called a number of wheat growers of the county to be examined and to give testimony as to the cost of growing wheat in Gilliam county. The O. R. & N. railroad officials, W. E. Coman, assistant general freight agent; H. C. Oliver, traveling freight agent; and Hugh O'Neill, tariff inspector; were present and through their attorney, Arthur Spencer, took active part in the hearing.

The estimates of the farmers upon the cost of wheat raising differed somewhat as many had not given the matter much thought. James Cooke, while on the stand, perhaps gave the best average of the real cost to the farmer. Mr. Cooke gave the items per acre as follows: plowing, \$1.50; seeding, weeding and harrowing, \$1.10; amount of seed used, 65c; heading, \$1.25; sacks, 90c; hauling, 55c; thresh-

ing, \$1.40; interest 2 years' capital invested, \$4.00; making a total of \$11.35. At the average price of 65c per bushel the average crop of 20 bu. per acre would bring \$13.00 to the farmer, which would leave a profit of \$1.65 per acre or as Mr. Cooke estimated a profit of 84c per bu. However it must be remembered that Mr. Cooke did not take in the items of reseeding in case of freeze outs, taxes or necessary repairs to fences. Such testimony as Mr. Cooke's went on to show to the commission that the real profit of the wheat grower was not large and did not make a great showing unless the farmer happened to have an extensive crop. The commission expects to use the data when they look further into the matter of railroad freight rates later on. However, Commissioner Aitcheson while in the city said that in all probability a reduction would be made on the Condon branch and the main line.

F. W. Gains and his attorney, Robert J. Slatter, of Pendleton, were also present to see what

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Lost--Mouthpiece and shank for B-flat cornet. Finder please return to this office and receive reward.

Found--A German-silver shank and mouth-piece for B-flat cornet. Owner can have same by calling at this office, proving property and paying charges on same.

Found--Purse containing small sum of money. Call at this office.

Keep warm these cold evenings by using the old original Rock Springs Coal--a carload was received on Monday by the Arlington Lumber Co.

CUT YOUR FUEL BILL IN TWO
In an ordinary soft coal stove, half the fuel arises in gas and promptly goes up the chimney. When you remember that gas itself is a fine fuel, being used in all the large cities for lighting, heating and cooking, you realize how much is saved if the gas does not escape but is held in the stove and burned. The HOWARD Overdraft Stove saves half of the fuel. It makes soft coal last as long and burn as nicely as hard coal. The HOWARD stove will burn hard coal, soft coal or wood. Examine one at W.L. Barker & Co.

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Don't Forget
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DR. ARTHUR A. KEENE SAYS:

Sight is the most inestimable of all blessings; blindness the most woeful of all afflictions. This being so, you will readily concede the great importance of your eyes as a part of your animal organism. A momentary realization of your helplessness without them will aid you to a juster appreciation of their worth. As an essential, then, of your happy existence, do you give your eyes attention in proportion to their importance? Do you care for them as their delicacy demands? Most people--you included, perhaps--are extremely negligent in regard to their eyes, and very culpably so in regard to their children's. This is because the public generally have literally no idea of the number and variety of eye defects. They know, in a general way, of far sight, near sight, old sight, squint, etc., and many with one or another of these defects foolishly think it only necessary for them to pick out at random from a number of spectacles a pair that suits. Alas, many of the glasses selected in this way, that seem to suit exactly, prove most injurious and cause permanent injury. The fact is that optical defects occur in such varying degree and in so many combinations that only the *Comptent Eye Specialist* with a complete eye-testing equipment, such as we possess, is qualified to discover the exact nature and degree of the trouble and properly correct it. Don't let the matter of expense keep you from visiting us. Sight is as precious to you as life itself, and our charges are moderate. Examination entirely free.

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