

# Spray Courier.

Thursday March 30, 1916.

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## EDITORIALS

### IN THE SHOE MILL.

Comparing the imports of boots and shoes for the first ten months under the Democratic tariff law, October 1913 to July 1914, a peace period, with the similar period under the Republican law, October 1912 to July 1913, when boots and shoes paid an import duty of 10 per cent, it will be found that imports increased 70 per cent in 1913-14 over 1912-13.

A report of the British Government issued in 1912 shows that the highest wages in London for cutters was \$9.00 per week, going as low as \$6.50 in Ipswich. In Brocton, Mass., the minimum wage for the same work was \$19.50 by hand, and \$21.00 per week by machine. Sole leather cutters in England get from \$6.00 to \$7.50 per week; in Brocton \$15 to \$18 per week. Lasters, in England, \$6.50 to \$7.50; in Brocton \$16 to \$35 per week piece work system. Finishers on time work get from \$6.50 to \$7.50 in England; in Brocton three dollar wages, or five dollar piece work per day. Taking 47 shoe factory operations and comparing the wages in an average factory in the United States with an average factory in Great Britain, and the aggregate unit cost per week is six hundred and fifty two dollars in the United States and two hundred and ninety three dollars and seventy five cents in Great Britain, or a ratio of 100 to 45.

If the men who work at the bench will consider these figures, the necessity for protective rates, if duty will be apparent, and the reason why the Republican party makes for a higher standard of living will be seen.

The Spray Commercial Club is in receipt of a letter from Mr. H. K. Donnelly, who was selected by the State Engineer to go over the proposed John Day Highway and make a report of the feasibility of the route, and supply data from which the State Engineer can make an estimate of the cost of the preliminary survey.

Mr. Donnelly reports that the route is feasible, and that he found the people, especially in Grant and Malheur counties, strongly in favor of the road.

The report of the State Engineer is expected in a few days, and the next step necessary is for the people to take the matter up with the several County Courts to co-operate with the State Engineer in having the survey made. The proposed highway will run from The Dalles to Ontario, giving the country a State Highway connecting Portland with Boise City and will be the shortest route between Boise City and Portland by 118 miles.

There is a movement on foot here in Spray to organize a troop of Cavalry. If enough members can be secured it is thought that equipment will be furnished by the National Government. The troop would automatically become a unit in the national defense. They would be given a period of training with regular troops each year, and would be granted transportation, soldiers wages and expense to and from place of encampment. Those wishing to join may leave their names at the Courier office.

P. A. Dixon

## Political Announcements. FOR SHERIFF.

We are authorized and paid to announce F. A. Hale as a candidate for the office of sheriff of Wheeler County, Oregon, subject to the decision of the Republican voters at the coming primary.

He proposes, if elected, to enforce the laws, strictly, and give to each and every citizen a square deal and will handle the office on the stipulated salary, furnishing his own deputy at his own expense.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Republican nomination for Sheriff of Wheeler County, Oregon, subject to the will of the voters at the Primary Election in May 1916.

OSCAR KELSAY.

## ASSESSOR

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Republican nomination for Assessor of Wheeler County, State of Oregon, subject to the will of the voters at the Primary Election in May 1916.

PETER HRTMAN.

## COMMISSIONER.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Republican nomination for Commissioner of Wheeler County, Oregon, subject to the will of the voters at the Primary Election in May 1916.

R. E. WRIGHT

## SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for County School Superintendent of Wheeler County in the Democratic Primary election, May 19, 1916.

H. J. SIMMONS.

## FOR STATE SENATOR

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for State Senator of the Eighteenth Senatorial District of the State of Oregon, comprising the Counties of Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler, subject to the will of the Republican voters at the primary election to be held in said District on the 19th day of May, 1916.

M. D. SHANKS.

NOTICE—Three Rocking chairs, Bed Springs, Mattresses, Secretary and Centre Table, all the furniture belonging to L. E. Morse can be seen at the F. M. Co's store. Good Range and Heating Stove can be seen at the Ranch. Every thing for sale  
One \$32. Rug for \$18.  
One \$20. " " \$12.  
C. L. Morse.

## A Close Call

By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

During the administration of President Huerta of Mexico I was employed by the United States government to do certain service for the state department. I went by land, crossing the Rio Grande at Laredo and entering Coahuila. I soon fell in with a prominent leader of the rebel forces, who, after I had satisfied him that my mission was not detrimental to his interests, expressed a willingness that I should go to my destination, the City of Mexico.

"How would you like to earn some money?" asked the general.

"I would gladly earn money if I could do so without compromising my employers at Washington."

"What I have in mind would not interfere with that at all. I desire to get a message through to a certain person in the City of Mexico. As a messenger of the United States you would not be suspected. Your government has not taken sides in this matter, and there is nothing to prevent your being the bearer of a letter from me to a friend."

"But supposing I am caught with such a letter on my person?" I asked. "In that case you would be shot."

"And what would I receive for taking this risk?"

He named a sum that tempted me. It seemed to me that, being in the employ of the United States government, there would be little or no risk in my bearing the general's message. I needed the sum he offered for a certain purpose and concluded to stake being shot against it.

He wrote his message on a bit of thin paper about three inches square. I was to take it to a man high in favor with President Huerta. His name and address were given me, but were not written on the message, though it was signed by a fictitious name. I decided to carry it in the upper vest pocket on the left side, my object being to have it where I could easily get it to destroy it in case I was cornered. The general paid me the money for the service I was about to render, for I was to receive it whether I succeeded in delivering the message or not.

Going southward on the general's pass I struck the Federal lines not far from the City of Mexico. I informed the commanding officer of my mission and was received by him with the courtesy due one in the United States service. Indeed, being stationed at a point where he saw no one except his officers and men he seemed pleased to see me, and since I reached his quarters in the evening he insisted on entertaining me overnight.

He proved to be an inveterate gambler, and nothing would do but that I must play cards with him. I dared not antagonize him by refusing and after the evening meal sat down with him in his tent to play. He soon won all the cash I had provided for my journey, and I proposed to quit. He seemed inclined to play on, and I feared to refuse him. I had the money the general had given me, a roll of bills, in my pocket and was obliged to produce it.

My opponent looked at this large quantity of Mexican money with interest. He said nothing about it, but from that moment he began to talk about the difficulty of my getting on in the morning and expressed the opinion that I would be delayed. His prophecy came true, for he gave orders that no conveyance was to be furnished me.

The next morning I asked my entertainer to cash a draft on the American consul at the capital. He promised to do so, but made no move to produce the funds. His actions were so suspicious that I began to think I had better seize upon any opportunity to destroy the general's message. But I was given no opportunity. My host never left me for a moment unless there was some one else in the room. All the while he was telling me that he was endeavoring to secure conveyance for me, that he expected a team very soon, and when it came he would furnish me with money for the journey.

About 10 o'clock in the morning I saw a sergeant posting a guard about the house. My heart stood still. I was suspected, would be searched, and the message would be found on me. That meant death. The officer was looking over some military papers at a table, with an unlighted cigarette between his lips. Taking a cigar from my pocket, and with a show of coolness I did not feel, I deliberately cut off the end with my penknife and asked him if he had a match. He produced one, struck it and was about to light his cigarette when, remembering politeness, he extended the match to me.

"Get you," I said.

He touched it to the end of his cigarette and handed it to me. I put the flame to the end of my cigar, but purposely failed to close my lips tight in order to prevent suction. When the match had burned near my fingers I took the message from my vest pocket, put one end to the flame and lit my cigar with it, taking sufficient time for it to be entirely consumed.

I saw the officer look up at me quickly, but he said nothing. Dropping the ash of the paper on the floor, I put my foot on it, rubbing it with the sole of my shoe so that it could not be traced.

I think he saw by my expression that I experienced a great relief and had made myself safe, for he permitted me to depart without further delay.

## OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

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## WHEELER COUNTY

Attorney; Joseph K. Starr, Judge; Henry D. Keyes, Commissioners; M. Duke and R. E. Wright, Clerk; Scott Sasser, Treasurer; A. B. Lamb, School Superintendent; Henry J. Simmons, Sheriff; Oscar Kelsay, Assessor; Peter Hartman, Surveyor; H. F. C. Heidtman.

Restoration to Entry of Lands in the National Forest.—Notice is hereby given that the lands described below, embracing 50 acres, within the Umatilla National Forest, Oregon, will be subject to settlement and entry under the provisions of the homestead law of the United States and the act of June 11, 1906 (34 Stat. 237), at the United States land office at The Dalles, Oregon on May 20, 1916. Any settler who was actually and in good faith claiming any of said lands for agricultural purposes prior to January 1, 1916, and has not abandoned same, has a preference right to make a homestead entry for the lands actually occupied. Said lands were listed upon the application of the persons mentioned below, who have a preference right subject to the prior right of such settler, provided any such settler or applicant is qualified to make homestead entry and the preference right is exercised prior to May 20, 1916, on which date the lands will be subject to settlement and entry by any qualified person. The lands are as follows: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Sec. 24, T. 7 S., R. 24 E., W. M., 50 acres, application of John Collins, of Winlock, Oregon; List 6-1840, Mar. 1, 1916. D. K. Parrott, Acting Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office.

## Notice For Publication.

Department of the Interior.  
U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Ore.  
Dec. 28, 1915.

Notice is hereby given that Lena Kaser whose post-office address is Antelope, Oregon, did on the 13th day of April, 1914, file in this office sworn statement and application No. 012876 to purchase the E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Section 8, Township 11 South, Range 19 East, Willamette Meridian, and the timber thereon, under the provisions of the act of June 3, 1878, and acts amendatory. Known as the "Timber and Stone Law," at such value as might be fixed by appraisal, and that pursuant to such application, the land and timber thereon have been appraised at \$410 the timber estimated 340,000 board feet at \$1 per M. and the land \$70.00, hat said applicant will offer final proof in support of his application and sworn statement on the 9th day of March, 1916 before H. C. Rooper, U. S. Commissioner at Antelope, Oregon.

Any person is at liberty to protest this purchase before entry, or initiate a contest at any time before patent issues, by filing a corroborated affidavit in this office, alleging facts which would defeat the entry.  
H. FRANK WOODCOCK, Register  
1-9-3-9

## Spray Water Works

### Rates

Dwelling, \$1.50 per month.

Irrigation, \$1.50 per month, for 1-2 in  
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Rent payable to Mrs. S. L. Cross or Avery Shown, on or  
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Fire Protection FREE to all Patrons.

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO TRANSIENTS.

O. A. Stafford, Proprietor  
SPRAY, OREGON.

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