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The Santiam

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WEST WILL DRAW MANY FROM EAST

Rush of Land-Hungry Next Spring Promises to Exceed All Records

THE FEDERAL CLAIMS ATTRACT

Successful Participants in Government Drawing Will Make Homes on Holdings—Other Filings to Be Made

Chicago, Feb. 19.—(Special.)—With the opening of Spring one of the biggest homeseekers' movement to the West, which the country has ever witnessed, promises to begin.

There are millions of acres of fertile Government land still open to settlement in many states of the West, but it is growing scarce each year and thousands are planning this year to take up claims while there is yet an opportunity for a choice.

Impetus has been given to this movement by the throwing open of six Indian reservations in some of the best parts of the West. The remarkable success of the settlers in practically all of the dry-farming districts of the West has also attracted a vast amount of interest in the lands which until recently were considered fit only for grazing.

The reservations to be opened this Spring include five for which drawings were held last fall. These are: Flathead, in Montana; Coeur d'Alene, in Idaho; Spokane, in Washington, and Standing Rock and Cheyenne River reservation in North and South Dakota. The majority of successful participants in the drawings on these reservations will go West to settle on the claims assigned to them, and nearly all of them will get valuable lands.

The Rocky Boy reservation in the northeastern corner of Montana, will also be opened for settlement on March 1, filings to begin on March 31 at the Government land office at Glasgow, Montana. With the renewal of railroad building in Oregon there is going to be a great deal of available homestead land open in that state.

There is still considerable open in Idaho, Washington, Utah and other states of the West. New Mexico has quite a large territory where the homesteader could make a success of dry-farming.

Options Closed

The News is informed that the, supposedly, Hammond interests which, some weeks ago, obtained options on several thousands of acres of timber land on Thomas creek, have concluded the purchase in most cases. This included the timber holdings of the Thomas Creek Lumber Co. and which means, probably, the permanent shutting down of that mill.

Just what the purpose of the Hammond people is, has not yet been disclosed. It may mean active operation in the timber business in the near future and the construction of a large mill, or the indefinite postponement of any operations whatever.

The News hopes the sale means active operation during the coming summer. Timber, to be of value in the markets of the world, must be converted into lumber. To make lumber, mills are a necessary adjunct, as well as a railroad to transport the lumber to market. It is hardly probable that the purchasers have bought this timber for their health and we may expect something to be doing, sooner or later.

Thomas Topics

Farmers of this neighborhood are unable to do any plowing because of the bad weather.

C. J. DeWall made a business trip to Albany Tuesday.

John DeWall went to Salem, Monday, on business.

Everybody is getting rather short of feed and some are compelled to buy and haul feed quite a distance.

John DeWall has lost several yearling calves, blackleg is thought to be the cause.

Lester Holt, our mailcarrier, was sick a few days last week and Miss Alma Struckmeier, the substitute, was carrying the mail.

Several of our young men went con hunting during the recent snowstorm, but the only excitement was a dog fight.

DUSTY RHOODES.

LEBANON IS BOOMING

Improvements Still Underway—Hon. G. A. Waggoner, the Boom Artist, Is Making Good.

Last Friday was spent by the News editor upon the busy streets of Lebanon. To say that our sister city is booming, is to express the idea in a vague form; but to say that her streets were lined with people apparently upon business intent and that new buildings were completed and yet underway, gives one some small idea of the business activity over there. And the business men and citizens, there, seemed to have imbibed the spirit of hustle, too. Nor did there appear to be any lack of enthusiasm and faith in their town. They all believe that Lebanon is to become one of the leading cities of the central Willamette Valley, and there seems to be just ground for this belief, too. We were told of a number of people of the Albany prairie, who formerly did their purchasing in Albany, now come to Lebanon, regularly, for their supplies.

Of course much of the activity, now in evidence, is but transitory. When the building of the Crabtree-Lebanon cutoff of the Southern Pacific is completed, many faces, now familiar on her streets, will disappear. But there is evidence that the business activity now apparent, will be permanent. These railroad builders, as a rule, do not bring much local trade to a town and we noticed that the merchants were all busy, attending to country customers, nevertheless the day was quite stormy.

Lebanon has a number of as extensive stores, as can be found in the valley. They carry very large stocks of goods, which seemed to be complete in every particular. It is doubtful if another store in the valley contains a more varied or larger stock of goods than is carried by the hardware firm of Everett, Kyle & Eppery; for that can furnish a bank more complete in its furnishings, in the way of vaults, modern safes, etc., than the new bank, which recently commenced business in that city. Millis Bros., who carry a large stock of general merchandise, groceries, etc., are somewhat handicapped for lack of room. Their store room, more than 100 feet deep, is filled to almost overflowing with salable goods. We were told that lack of room, only prevented the adding of more departments to their constantly growing business. And there are a number of other mercantile establishments, equally as large and varied as the above, to which the News man did not visit. One will seldom see a larger stock of feed of all kinds and flour, than is carried by J. N. Morris. And he sells it, too; for the great piles of bran, chops, oats and hay are not there merely to look at. Everybody who visits Lebanon, cannot but praise the good food and excellent rooms supplied by the Lebanon hotel. In point of comfort, it is not equaled by any other like priced hotel in the state of Oregon, Portland hotels not excepted.

And Lebanon has taken on the modern booster spirit too. Our visit revealed the fact that, never before has her people been so optimistic regarding future prospects. They feel certain that the hill district to the east will become a great fruit center, equal to that of Hood River. The Linnhaven Orchard Co., of near Lacombe, feel certain of success in their enterprise.

Sometime in December last, the Lebanon commercial club employed Hon. G. A. Waggoner as a professional booster, and no mistake was made in doing so. Mr. Waggoner has prepared some very attractive and sensible literature and is sending it out at the rate of 40 to 50 letters per day to inquiring prospective settlers. Mr. Waggoner is just in his true element when talking fruit culture and says that "Within the next five years Lebanon will be known far and wide as a great fruit center, rivaling Medford or Ashland."

Optimistic as Mr. Waggoner's predictions may seem to some, it is, by no means improbable and he may realize his hopes. He certainly fully believes what he says, for he seems to be in dead earnest. He is a fluent conversationalist and is a skilled writer. In argument on the fruit question, he is invincible and will do much for Lebanon and her fruit interests.

Scio should profit by what Lebanon is doing and should talk up our upland districts as orchard sites. No where in Oregon are to be found better lands for fruit culture than east and southeast of Scio. If Lebanon becomes a Hood River, Scio will have to select a new name; for neither Medford nor Ashland will satisfy our expectations, for we have more good fruit lands than either of those places.

DROP TO 20 EXPECTED

Storm Is Heading This Way From Canada's Cold Regions.

SNOW FALL IS QUITE PROBABLE

King Boreas Sends Most Severe Attack of the Winter Toward Portland.

Portland, Feb. 21.—Portland will be in the grasp of the coldest wave of the season tonight, the mercury dropping to 20 degrees above zero, and possibly going lower, according to the forecast issued by Observer T. F. Drake, temporarily in charge of the weather service in the district. For low temperature it will break every record since January 12, 1910, when it registered 6 degrees above for a few hours.

What influence Halley's comet or the groundhog may be exercising in the premises is not known, but Mr. Drake has sought information from a more scientific source. From the advice he has received concerning the general trend of the cold wave now in Northwest Canada, it will be due to reach here this evening. It has already struck Montana and other points in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. It was 14 degrees below zero at Helena this morning, but up in Edmonton at the same hour it was 28 degrees below.

Before the cold weather is over, there may be a heavy snowfall. The acting forecaster says he expects some snow, but as yet it is too early to make anything like an accurate prediction along this line. East of the Cascades there will be zero weather—that is, in Eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho. In a number of localities over that way the temperature may register several degrees below zero.

In Portland the wind will come from the northeast. With the predicted temperature realized and a frigid blow from the center of the storm area, the weather will appear much colder than the thermometers indicate. Those who bought fur coats and other winter apparel, when they were on sale to lay aside for next season, will have occasion to congratulate themselves. Their farsightedness will keep them from going around tonight and tomorrow with the chills. Water users from faucets exposed to the elements are advised to wrap them in blankets, or to make such other preparations as necessary to keep the pipes from bursting. Plumbers may reap the rich harvest they have looked for before the winter ended. The official forecast reads as follows:

"Conditions are favorable for snow and colder weather to night and Tuesday over this district. The temperature will fall to zero or below in Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho, and to 20 degrees or below in Western Oregon and Western Washington."

Not Our Fight

For the reason, the News supposes, that we criticize the Albany business men's organized yell, when visiting other towns, an Albany citizen seems to think the News is willing to take up factional fights which concern the citizens of the County seat, alone. This writer is disposed to find fault because the sewer system of that city is not extended to cover all sections of the corporation. This is a local contention in which no outside town or newspaper should be concerned.

No doubt, the sewer system of that city will be extended in time; but the taxpayers thereof have, alone, the power to say "when."

If the correspondence furnished any news items whatever, we should publish it. But to suffer our columns to be used as a medium through which to scold Albany's governing officials, we cannot allow.

Albany has two daily newspaper's that should be willing to publish all communications of interest, local to that city, which is sufficient cause for the News to reject the article.

Our last carload of fencing is about all gone and we are getting ready to order another carload from the factory. So if you are going to need any fence we can save about 3 cents on a rod providing you leave the order with us now. Come and see us before you buy.

Chas. Wesely.

ANOTHER VETERAN DIES

John W. Gamber, of Bake Oven, Ore., Formerly a Resident of Scio, Buried Sunday

Last Thursday word was received, in this city by the relatives, of the death of John W. Gamber, which had occurred at his home at Bake Oven on the previous day, February 16, and that his remains would be brought to Scio for burial.

The remains, accompanied by his family, arrived on the train last Saturday night, and were taken to the home of his brother-in-law, A. E. Rasmussen. The funeral occurred at the Baptist church at 11 a. m. on the following day, the discourse being pronounced by Rev. Ooley; the burial following immediately after, at Franklin Butte cemetery.

John W. Gamber was born in Ohio, August 8, 1849. When quite young, he enlisted as a soldier and served with credit during the closing months of the civil war.

Some years later, he removed with his family to Oregon. Being an excellent mechanic, with that of millwright his specialty, he resided at several points in Oregon.

After the burning of the old Scio flouring mill, he formed a co-partnership with Ed Goin and the firm erected the present splendid milling property, Mr. Gamber having charge of the work. Mr. Gamber retired from the firm, soon after the completion of the mill, moving from this city to a farm belonging to his present wife, his first wife having died about the time of his coming to Scio.

A few years later, he built the Madison street school building in Albany. He removed to Eastern Oregon, only a few years ago, to engage in the milling business.

His health failing, he retired from the mill to a farm claim where he resided until his death.

Mr. Gamber and family visited his Scio relatives during the Christmas holidays. While here, he stated to the writer that his health in the Bake Oven country, was not good, rather blaming the alkaline water as the cause. While on his visit here he was quite ill for a few days, but recovered and when he returned to his home, he thought he would fully regain his old-time good health. Pneumonia is given as the immediate cause of his death.

Mr. Gamber was a good citizen and had a large circle of friends, wherever he resided. He is survived by a wife and two sons and one daughter, by his first wife.

Editor Nutting, of the Albany Democrat is, evidently, trying to rub the "yell" business into the News. It is all right brother if the "yell" spirit begets some "do" spirit. Last year, some Albany people made a "yell" for three days of racing and the races were well advertised, through the charity of newspapers in the neighboring towns. When the time for coming down with the coin to defray the expenses of the races arrived, the "yell" artists were conspicuous because of their absence. They expected Mr. Bailey, who was furnishing the track, to put up about all of the coin. He refused to come through and the races were declared off. Scio had given way and taken the first three days of the week for the fair, to accommodate these races and lost \$300 to \$400 in consequence. Albany's entire attendance at the fair was 103 people on Albany day. Scio sent 117, by actual count, to an Albany base ball game. There is yet another yell coming. Brother Nutting.

Brother Nutting was not of the number, nor has he ever attended the present Linn County Fair in person or representative.

Go to the Scio Planing Mill for your doors, windows, nails, locks, hinges, building paper, plaster board, ready roofing, barn doors track and hangers, lime, cement, barbed and smooth wire of sizes, fence steeples, glass molding and I can save you from 10 to 20 per cent on your purchase. I am going to turn out a lot of door screens, if you have any odd sizes you want, leave your order now and I will make them without any extra cost and you get them when you need them. N. I. Morrison.

The News will be glad to supply a copy of the paper free, regularly, to any one who will supply items of news weekly from any and all of the surrounding neighborhoods. Some one in every neighborhood should be willing to take up this work for the interests of themselves and neighbors.