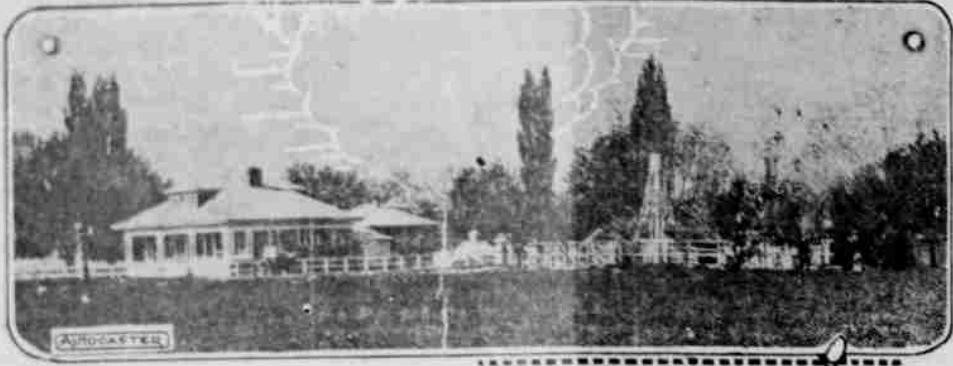


Albert B. Fall's Ranch at Three Rivers, New Mexico



On which E. L. Doherty, the Oil King, says he loaned the former Secretary of the Interior \$100,000, and now the center of interest in the Teapot Dome and other Naval Oil Reserve land leases investigation.

CATTLE SITUATION IN OREGON IS BAD

Low Prices Forcing Raisers out of Business Say Reports.

C. E. Spencer, Market Agent.

A movement has started in eastern Oregon to organize the stock men into a cooperative selling agency. It has started in but one county, Walla-walla, but the state market agent says it is the expectation that all the other cattle raising counties will follow with the organizations and that a state-wide shipping association may be the result, and that the ultimate purpose is a stockman's commission firm at the Portland stockyards.

At the organization meeting in Walla-walla, reports of the condition of the cattle raisers from nearly all sections of the state were made, and the outlook is most gloomy. It was the general sentiment that there must come some speedy relief or the most of the cattle men must quit the business and abandon their ranches.

That this condition is not exaggerated, the following from a bulletin sent out by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, from the division of crops and live stock, will show. The bulletin is circulated from the Portland office, and gives the outlook and condition of the stockmen in all the cattle raising counties of Oregon, as sent in by the department's reporters in the various counties. The following are the condensations:

Baker county, Keating: "Price of cattle is 'rotten' here, can hardly give them away."

Crook county, Paulina: "The financial condition of the cattlemen in this vicinity is very bad; the feed situation is very good, plenty of hay and not enough cattle to eat it."

Deschutes county, Bend: "The financial situation is bad. The price of labor and the price to be had from products are out of proportion. As a result we are going to have many less farmers and stock men very soon."

Grant county: "Most ranchers are in debt as far as they can go; by living economically they can pay their debts and interest but none of the principal. If taxes and what we have to buy would come down to normal, we might get out all right."

Wheeler county, Prineville: "Cattlemen are in very bad shape and if they are crowded very much, or if conditions do not change, a considerable number are liable to go broke this year."

Gilliam county, Condon: "We should have just double what we are now getting, as a cow dollar is only worth fifty cents of most everything we have to buy."

Harney county, Burns: "Twenty per cent of the cattle in this county have been sold and moved out. The financial situation is very depressed on account of low prices and high cost of production thru labor, taxes, equipment and freight rates."

Jackson county, Ashland: "Am holding my head over until spring in hopes of disposing of the entire lot at somewhere near cost. Estimate of cattle in county 50 per cent of normal. Hides are being bought in this county for \$20 per head, small cattle thrown in."

Josephine county, Tualuma: "One cannot begin to raise cattle for what buyers will pay."

Klamath county, Bly: "Cattle are below the cost of production, so if there is anything you can do, for God's sake do it at once."

Lake county, Fort Rock: "Bead butchers offer us eight cents per pound for beef, dressed and delivered."

Lake county, Landsburg: "Poor markets, high taxation and cost of grazing. I was forced to sell everything. The reason I have marked the range 75 per cent of normal is because it is growing up to worthless brush."

Umatilla county: "The price of beef is too low for the cattlemen to stay in business for long."

Union county, Egan: "These are troublesome times for the cattlemen and wheat growers. Forty per cent of the cow men here have sold out and quit."

Wallowa county, Barlett: "Every dollar I have received from cattle for the past three years has cost me at least 50¢ extra."

Wasco county, The Dalles: "The cattlemen is but little better off than the wheat raiser, and both are about at the bottom of the hill."

Isn't it about time that the business interests of Oregon realize the results that are certain to follow? Isn't it about time that a state-wide movement be made to save the cattle industry?

McAdoo Explains



William G. McAdoo, former Secretary of Treasury, who appeared before the Senate Committee to explain the law firm of which he is a member by the Doherty oil companies.

SCHOOL OFFICERS HEAR NEW PLAN

(Continued from page One.)

country, especially from the financial standpoint. E. H. HEDRICK.

The act known as the County Unit of Organization and Taxation was passed by the Oregon legislature in 1921. It is a permissive type of legislation in that it may be adopted by any county that chooses without affecting any other county in the state. It has accordingly been adopted by Crook in 1921, Klamath in 1922 and Lincoln in 1923.

The county unit applies only to the elementary schools (first 8 grades) in all districts having less than 500 children on the census roll. Since there is in Morrow county a district with over 500 children, the whole county, so far as the elementary schools are concerned, would be thrown into one large district; namely, the county.

Under the proposed scheme there would be a board of five members, appointed first by the county court to serve until the next regular school election. At which time five board members would be elected by the voters of the county, subject to the approval of a local school committee which will be mentioned later.

Briefly, the powers of this board are:

(1) To employ a superintendent of schools. (The present office of county superintendent is abolished. That official would, however, automatically become the county unit superintendent until the expiration of the term of office to which she has been elected, and at no increase in salary.)

(2) To hire all teachers, janitors, etc., for the elementary schools of the county, subject to the approval of a local school committee which will be mentioned later.

(3) To make a budget and levy taxes within the legal limit.

(4) To buy and lease land for school purposes and likewise to sell land or property in the judgment of the board not needed for school purposes.

(5) To build, furnish and maintain school houses in the various districts, subject to the county according to their needs.

(6) To consolidate schools and provide for the transportation of pupils if in the judgment of the board such is advisable.

(7) To employ a school clerk and fix his salary.

(8) To perform such other duties as generally belong to a school board.

As has already been stated the whole county will be thrown into one district, yet the boundaries of the present districts are not to be obliterated and to a certain extent they maintain their identity as will be pointed out. Under the new scheme these districts are known as "sub-districts" and each to be presided over by a school committee of three members, elected in the same manner as the present boards for those districts are elected. This school committee has the power, by unanimous vote, to reject teachers that may be assigned their district by the county unit board. It is also charged with the immediate care and control of local school property and advises the county unit board respecting the wishes of the people of that sub-district.

The local school committee also has the power to organize and maintain high schools, subject to the approval of the county unit board.

Upon the passage of the county unit measure, title to all district property, real, personal or otherwise, whether created and used for elementary or high school purposes, or both, passes from the district to the county. This would mean that if the local school committee desired to continue its high school, as it would in those districts that now have them, it would be necessary to negotiate with the county unit board for a return of the property either by lease or purchase. It is not quite clear why the law was drawn in this manner but it was so because. Reports from counties that have adopted the county unit plan indicate however that this property adjustment necessary between the local and county authorities has not been found difficult.

Outside of this question, in the title of property, the county unit scheme does not touch the high schools; they are organized, conducted and supported by the same sources as they are at present.

In turn for assuming title to all property for several districts, the county would also assume all indebtedness and obligations of the several districts, existing at the time the county unit goes into effect.

(To be continued.)

Washington Endorsed Religious Education

Do you know, parents, that George Washington, the Father of our Country, said: "We shall preserve our liberties only by the religious education of our youth." Bethel Chapel Sunday school wants the youth who are not already attending Bible school.

We urge the cooperation of parents, at least to the extent of attending with their youth. In this way do your children a service and your country a greater service. We now have an up-to-date plant with almost every teacher trained.

Bethel organization (non-denominational) has steadily improved its home. It has recently added a parti-

tion to its large kitchen, making another class room. This gives each class in the adult department its own room, and each class in the primary department, a compartment to itself.

Recently the ladies of the Auxiliary were entertained at their Bible study hour with an interesting account of the screen version of the Ten Commandments, given by Mrs. J. A. Patterson. She was fortunate enough to see it while in Hollywood, on her recent visit south. "The Ten Commandments" has been running afternoon and evening for the past two years, but it is still necessary to engage tickets several days ahead.

On Tuesday evening Bethel ladies served chicken dinner to the public of the city, and were made to rejoice over the splendid patronage accorded them.

INVESTIGATE BLADE WEEDER. Following the outline of recommendations made at the wheat growers conference at Lexington, February 9, County Agent Roger Morse, Roy Campbell, and Karl Beach, of Lexington, visited Umatilla county, Wednesday.

A squirrel poison-mixing bee was held at the C. D. Morey farm at Alpine on Monday afternoon, six farmers mixing eight barrels of poison grain. To save time for farmers wanting squirrel poison, County Agent Morse is mixing a quantity of poison, which will be put out at different points in the county and will be sold for the cost of the grain in the poison. This will eliminate the necessity of

farmers gathering at meetings to mix poison during the busy season. The places of distribution will be announced in a few days.

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LOST or STRAYED—A small black and tan shepherd dog, in Heppner Saturday, Feb. 2. One hind leg broken. R. A. Thompson, city.

Coming to The Dalles & Pendleton

**DR. MELLENTHIN** SPECIALIST

IN INTERNAL MEDICINE FOR THE PAST TWELVE YEARS

DOES NOT OPERATE

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and in PENDLETON ON TUESDAY, MARCH 4 AT THE DORION HOTEL

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day, to investigate the roller type of blade weeder in use there the past season. This weeder, which was first made by a farm hand on the Pringler ranch, uses a light roller in place of shoes on the present blade weeder. This lightens the draft so that from eight to ten horses can handle twenty-eight feet of weeder, eliminating the use of one man and four horses. Several types of these weeders were looked over, and the men using them interviewed to get a line on the best ones for possible use in this county. A full description of this weeder will be given in the near future and an effort will be made to obtain one for demonstration purposes.

COUNTY AGENT TO IRRIGON. The county agent attended a meeting of the Irrigon Co-operative Potato and Melon Growers' association at Irrigon, Monday evening, when a new contract of the association for 1924 was explained to the melon growers of the community. At this time a large percentage of the melon growers of the district signed the contract and the officials of the association expect to have all of the melon growers members of the organization for the coming year. A report given at the meeting showed that the association netted the growers a considerably larger price than was received outside the organization.

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