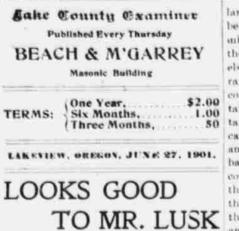
## LAKE COUNTY EXAMINER : FAKEVIEW, OREGON, JUNE 27, 1901.



Gives His Reasons Why Leasing of the Public Lands Would be Beneficial.

Refreshing News That Big Corporations Pay Their Full Quota of Taxation to Maintain County and State Governments.

Cattle Growers' Association, and also cattlemen, and also between sheepmen president of the French Glenn Cattle themselves. In these battles last year and Land Company of Harvey county, the homicides were numerous. There tells in the Oregonian why he is in favor have been many this year, three in one of a bill that will be presented to Con-fight a short time ago. One here can gress for leasing the public domain, have no idea of the intensity of this feel-The Examiner has for a long time been ling on the ranges of Wyoming, Colorado, anxious to learn just upon what grounds. Utan, New Mexico and other states. In the millionaire cattle barons built their many localities small cattlemen see their hopes for the passage of this act, and homes and ranches of 20 years' standing what their argument in favor of the invaded by the vast hands of migratory leasing proposition really is. We here sheep, and they have organized and eswith give Mr. Lusk's argument on the tablished dead lines, and are guarding proposition, and we trust that after read- them today with rifles; but the sheeping it, some of the stockmen of Lake men come to the edge, hesitate perhaps county will give their views on the other a time, and then say ; We have the leside of the question. A column will al- gal right to cross; our sheep have eaten ways be open in The Examiner for the it clean behind us, and we must cross, argument of this question pro and con. And they do. Then comes bloodshed, It sppcars to us that this leasing propo homicide and the law openly violated. sition would be a very bad thing for Each side shoots as well as the other. Lake county, and at least one argument. It is obvious this cannot go on in a civilagainst it is the fact that watering places ized country, and nothing can stop it on the ranges of this county during the but a lease hold law. summer time are few and far between, and the man who could first get the opportunity to lease the ground upon be difficult to frame and administer such where a spring is located, be he a large a law in a manoer that will do justice to

those directly interested. In the conven- selves confronted with the same difficulty tion at Fort Worth, in January, 1900, of we are now in, and adopted the only the National Livestock Association, a remedy-a wise lease law. In each place body composed of the owners of all kinds the stock business is now on a permaof stock, sheep predominating, a resolu- nest basis. Each stock man knows how tion favoring land-leasing was passed. A | many sheep or cattle he can carry withbill providing for it was introduced in out injuring his lease-hold. Nothing Congress that winter, and the subject at could induce either Texas or Australia to once became a general theme of discus- abrogate its lease laws and throw open its ion. Public opinion in the arid land ranges to the old condition of overstockstates mostly affected appeared adverse. ing, consequent destruction, and contin-This was caused by the owners of the in- ual battle and violation of law. numerable bands of migratory sheep, "The law will be for all, sheepmen as cho naturally oppose it cattlemen, who, not understanding the it, and are just as anxious for its pasproposed measure, feared that they eige as cattlemen. This is especially so would be frazen out by large cattle or of the sheepmen who have a fixed babitasheepmen monopolizing the leases. But tion, a ranch where they cut hay and care in the past year and a half events have for sheep in the winter. I am in receipt of followed so rapidly on the ranges, and daily communications from such men, the facts became known, that public who tell me that while they know they opinion has changed with great rapidity can't join the American Cattle-Growers' on the subject. In Colorado, for instance, Association, they favor such a law and the change is almost absolute. The cause want to aid in its passage in every manof this change will be perceived by the ner possible. The whole stituation was answer to the questions you ask as the adequately summed up a few weeks reasons for the law, and a general know- ago by one of the most prominent sheepledge of its proposed features. arid states is the pioneer industry, com- every one who owned sheep or cattle on menced and brought to a high state of the public range must have the ability perfection many years before sheep were to control a definite portion of it by lease. there at all. Most of the older cattlemen fought the Indians in starting their tection by perference right to lease to plant. The company I represent in Har- actual residents and owners in a county ; ney county, in this state, lost all of its this to cut off all possibility of foreign buildings, much of its stock and the lives syndicates coming into a county and rentof some of its employes in the Indian ing the land away from the local resioutbreak in 1878. There is no such thing dent stockmen. The bill will be fully as migratory cattlemen. The nature of safeguarded against any such star-routthe business prohibits it. They must ing. Another equally important feature have a fixed habitation, a ranch, a land will be the prohibition against leases be plant, with fences, buildings, hay fields ing put up at auction. Many small stockand means to protect and care for the men have been justly and naturally cattle in winter. These have been the frightened by the suggestion that the growth of 30 years or more, and vary all leases would be put up to highest bidder. the way from the ranch worth \$5000 up and wealthy corporations thus secure to the investment of \$1,000,000 on every them all. The auction feature will be dollar of which and all their cattle, full prohibited and a fixed reasonable rent taxes are paid to the local county. They established. The most important featnow find everywhere that countless mi- ure that the proposed law will contain gratory bands of sheep, a majority in the will be a provision adequately protecthands of Basques and Portuguese, who ing the small stockowner, and assuring are not citizens, and pay no taxes to the his right to a full proportionate share of local county, and have no ranch or land- the ranges in his respective county. ed headquarters anywhere, swarm all This must and will be plain and emphatover their ranges, up to their fence lines, ic. No bill will ever pass the Congress of and not only drive and run their cattle the United States that does not contain out, but are also utterly destroying for the three principal features above namall time the feed on the range.

large sum annually for its and the state's benefit. Yet hundreds of thousands of migratory sheep pour in that county in the summer from Idaho, Nevada and elsewhere, and utterly devastate the range and retive in the late fall, without contributing one dollar to the county tax fund; but, on the contrary, lessen its tax-roll by cutting in two the amount of cattle and sheep its residents could carry and pay taxes on if the migratory sheep bands were kept out, although that county has ample range and feed for all the stock it could own and winter. In these cases it is not a free range, because the cattle will not graze where sheep are, and the herder with his dog readily drives them off if they attempt it. The statistics furnished by the Agricultural Department show just what such a state of affairs leads one to expect-that the cattle are rapidly decreasing in the trans-Missouri States, and territories. For instance, in Wyoming in the last 10 years over 50 per cent; in other localities, 66 A LONG "PIPE DREAM" per cent, and in some places even more hence the price of beet is constantly advancing, and has now reached a point that in the eastern cities makes it a luxury to the common people

MUCH BLOODSHED NOW

"Another reason of great importance for such a law is that the ranges are now F. C. Lusk, president of the American open battle fields between sheep and

ing the small stockmen as against his larger neighbor, giving the perference to the actual stockgrower in each county, and prohibiting any auction of leases and it is generally circulated, that all opposition to the measure will vanishfrom the stock counties, except from the

WORKS WELL ELSEWHERE.

shall require the Federal Government to "We are frequently asked if it will not donate to each state the rentals received in it to be used for works to pronote irrigation by storage of flood waters. This or small stockman, could practically con- all. By no means. Such laws exist in question is one of supreme importance to trol that range for miles and miles. Mr. Australia and Texas with satisfaction to eservalale having arid lands. Careful "Public opinion is largely formed by lands. Both jurisdictions found themyearly used at \$10,000,000. It will be remembered that at the last session the great river and harbor bill, carrying an appropriation of \$63,000.000, was defeated by an arid land state Senator because the East would not consent to include a paltry \$400,000 for promoting irrigation in the arid states. With such a bill as we propose, the East will be relieved from that burden, ample sums for this great work will be provided, and hand in hand will go the preservation and improvement of the ranges, with the storup of the flood waters f ed.

, and by the small | well as cattlemen. Many sheepmen favor men in Wyoming, who said that he real-"Growing of cattle on the ranges of the ized that the time had now come that "A vital feature of the law will be proed in unequivocal language. It is thought "To illustrate, our company pays into by those best informed on the subject forces the passage of such a law in Con-

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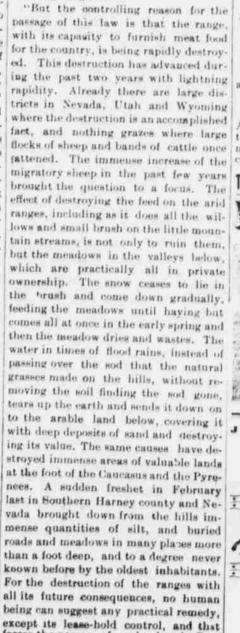
Is known the world over as affording the most simple, reid economical power for all purposes.

the treasury of Harney county a very that when a bill is framed fully protect- gress.

instantly 11 creasing irrigation."

owners of migratory sheep bands.

"It is wisely proposed that the bill



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