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ORGANIZE EVERYWHERE

The Lethargic Spirit of the Local Stockmen Means Death to Our Richest Industry.

The Burns-Times Herald is warning the people opposed to leasing of the public lands that notwithstanding a portion of the state press say that the scheme is a dead issue, and will not be framed into a bill, the anti-leasing people should be on the alert. The present indications may bear out the theory that the matter is a dead issue, but as The Examiner has heretofore said, there is doubtless "something up the sleeve" of the cattle barons. It is not our opinion that the bill commonly known as the land leasing bill now before the public will become a law without considerable modification, and the elimination of the part which debars the homesteader from making entry, but it is our opinion the promoters of the scheme have given out the wrong bill purposely in order to hoodwink the people, and that when the proper time comes a bill that will meet all the requirements of the wealthy stock syndicates will be sprung on the country and on congress. The wealthy cattlemen have set their hearts, minds and souls on this land leasing scheme and they will not be dissuaded from their purpose so easily—just for the reason that the popular cry is against their scheme. It is not only the big stock companies of the West that are interested in the land leasing proposition, but the rich packing houses of the east are backing the scheme. The effete and crowded, choking east has no lands to lease, consequently its members of congress, caring little about the interests of the west, will care less how they may vote on such a proposition, especially if they can get the assistance of other congressmen in the passage of some bills that may effect them. This apparent lethargy is only a blind, no doubt, on the part of the rich western stockman, to allow the opposition to get quiet, confident and careless. This must not be. When the time is ripe the promoters will doubtless "bob up serenely" in the halls of congress with a paid, powerful lobby and purchased following. The western congressmen will have a hard fight against big odds to defeat the most damnable scheme and plot to ruin the best industry in the west that was ever concocted.

In several sections of Southeastern Oregon the small stockmen are organizing into associations to prepare for the battle royal and to encourage their representatives in congress to stand firmly for the right, and to fight for their interests. A few determined men in North Warner, this county, were the first local people to show their disapproval of the scheme to take the public lands from the intending settler and the small stockman and hand them over to the rich cattle barons and syndicates. The North Warner Anti-Land Leasing Association is composed of the right sort of stuff and has started off in the right direction. In every precinct in Lake county—and in fact in all of Eastern and Southeastern Oregon—just such an association should be organized. In union there is strength. With a strong body to appeal to congress against the leasing steal our own representatives at the nation's capital may find the sentiment so strong that they can defeat the aims and calculations of the barons. It has been said that out of the entire Oregon delegation there is but one member who stands out bravely against the leasing scheme. This we do not believe. But if such be the case we would like to be present at the home-coming of the other members when their duties at Washington shall have ceased for the time being. The "marble heart" shall be given to the Oregon representative and senator who will stand for the land leasing robbery. Let them be warned in time. There is to be an election next June, and it is time that the people know how they stand.

In speaking of this land leasing matter, Mr. I. N. Converse, late of Minnesota, who has come with his family to Lake county to reside, and who owns a fine farm near New Pine Creek, says he has thought of a better plan than the leasing proposition, in his opinion, if it could

become a law. Mr. Converse' idea is to pass a law whereby any citizen could apply to the government and take up any part of a township of land and upon the citizen inclosing said land with a lawful fence the government deed him the tract of land inclosed. In this way Mr. Converse says the county and state in which the land is inclosed would receive a revenue therefrom in the way of taxes. The gentleman overcomes the argument that much of the land in Southeastern Oregon is barren of water for stock by saying that if the government would deed the land to the man applying for it after it was inclosed by a lawful fence, the land would be his and he would find some means to dig into the bowels of the earth and find water.

Of course the government might object to this deeding proposition without some financial return therefor. However, Mr. Converse has promised to give his plan in detail to the readers of The Examiner at an early date.

To make a long story short, if this leasing proposition becomes a law The Examiner can see no other outcome, speaking for Lake county, than the ruination of the best industry of the country—the business of the small stockman. Every precinct in Lake county should at once get into line and form an association similar to the one organized in North Warner, and with the same purpose.

Death of Mrs. Phil Lynch.

Phil Lynch arrived from the sheep range last Thursday evening, and met with the saddest and most painful news of his life. In the postoffice awaiting him a letter from Ireland, and at the telegraph office a message bearing the sorrowful announcement of the death of his beloved wife, who passed suddenly out beneath the portals of life on Oct. 1st. The good woman had been ill but a brief time with congestion of the brain, brought on by overwork in her duties in the management of an estate left to her care. Death came to her at her home in Ballyduane, New Market, Cork county, Ireland, just as she had reached the blush of useful womanhood. She leaves many relatives in the old country, and two young children who need the care of a loving mother. She had been married to Mr. Lynch about four years, and was once in Lakeview for a few months. With all the advantages of a good education she was a woman of rare talents—a refined gentlewoman, whose loss is deeply mourned by countless friends, as well as many loving relatives. The loss of his loving life-partner is a sad blow to the stricken husband whose heart is well nigh broken over the sad news from so far away across the ocean. Mr. Lynch has the heartfelt sympathy of many friends.

An Awful Experience.

Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Wise arrived from Shirk last week, and on Friday morning started for New Pine Creek to visit Mrs. Wise's sister, Mrs. Oliver Charlton. When just beyond the home of C. C. Pratt, four miles south of Lakeview, the team driven by Mr. Wise became frightened at the sudden appearance of a bicycle. One of the animals began kicking and soon the pole was broken completely off, and the horses made a mad dash for liberty. Mr. Wise held to the lines and made a last effort to control the team, but without success, and the springwagon was overturned, throwing Mr. and Mrs. Wise and little child to the ground very forcibly. The child and Mr. Wise were somewhat injured though not seriously. Joe Burras happened along after the accident, and brought the party back to Lakeview. The wagon was badly broken. Feeling not much the worse from their terrible experience, on the following day Mr. and Mrs. Wise continued on to New Pine Creek to pay their visit.

The marriage of C. W. Withers of Paisley and Miss Lottie Harris, of Summer Lake, is announced to take place on November 6th. The license has already been issued. The principals in the coming event are extremely popular young people of the north. The bride-to-be is pretty and charming. She is a niece of F. E. Harris of Lakeview.

John Larkin, whose arrival from Pipestone, Minnesota was mentioned in The Examiner two weeks ago, has rented the ranch and orchard of Robert Kelley near the mill at New Pine Creek, for a term of three years.

REPLY TO LUSK LETTER

North Warner Anti-Land Leasing Association Exposes Lusk's Smooth Little Game.

A meeting of the North Warner Anti-Land Leasing Association was held at Plush, Oregon, on Saturday, the 19th day of October, A. D., 1901, when the following was reported by the Committee on Correspondence, and was approved:

In partial reply to what is known as "The Lusk Letter," published in the Oregonian, this Association declares:

That the inference to be drawn from the reading of this letter by persons not familiar with the facts is, that throughout the range country the home-builders who are permanently settled upon the land have had their cattle "driven out" and off the range by countless bands of migratory sheep whose owners "pay no taxes to the local county." We declare that nothing suggested in this is true of the situation on the range in Lake county. The sheep which summer in Lake county are not "in the hands of Bosques and Portugues who are not citizens and pay no taxes to the local county."

They are, with substantial universality, owned by citizens of the county who have "landed headquarters in the county," and pay, without dodging, their full proportion of taxes in Lake county on their sheep and on many of the very best homes in the county. They are the heaviest patrons of the merchants and farmers, and while thus liberally contributing to the general prosperity, are adding as much to the wealth of Lake county as any other class of citizens. It is also a fact that, in Lake county, cattle are not "driven out" or off the ranges by sheep; but that throughout Lake county sheep and cattle are always to be found on the same range, prospering together.

If cattle are decreasing on the range in Lake county, sheep are increasing, and in the hands of citizens. This is the result of the natural laws governing the animals themselves, and of ordinary prudence in business. No fact is better established than that sheep pay better than cattle, and that they prosper under conditions not suitable for cattle. Shrewd business men have simply conformed to the force of circumstances by exchanging their cattle for sheep, an animal which yields its owner a profit which cattle will not. This rationally accounts for a condition of things which Mr. Lusk very illogically ascribed to refusal of cattle to remain on the same range with sheep, and to the active "driving out" work of the herder and his dogs. The fact that men have done murder, as stated by Mr. Lusk, to prevent others from going into the public lands in a lawful manner, when pleaded by him as an excuse for leasing the public lands, excites only contempt in the minds of just men, with proper regard for law and order.

Shall we continually change our laws, and the manner of administering our government, in order that men who have defied the laws in the most violent manner may not have the same pretext for doing so again? In order that the employes of the great cattle companies may not murder people for going lawfully upon the public land—though the result will certainly be the destruction of the business of thousands of owners of little homes and small bands of stock, which must necessarily become worthless—these poor people must be cut off from all pasture for their stock, through their known incapacity to compete with the corporations in securing pasture by lease. Mr. Lusk's specious pretense of safeguarding the interests of these people by giving the local settler—of which he claims to be one—a preference to lease in advance of, and before foreign syndicates, falls flat. The local corporations are what we fear; and Mr. Lusk proposes to make them complete masters of the situation, by cutting off the only competition in leasing that he could have—the outside capitalist. If the lands are to be leased, the thousands of poor homebuilders don't ask for any restrictions of law in favor of local land owners, because it would be, to them, an empty favor. But, to Mr. Lusk and his associates, such a restriction is

everything; and without which it is very doubtful whether or not we should have him, and all local corporations opposing the lease law. But, with outside capital excluded, all competition to local corporations is swept away. The homebuilder, the school housebuilder, and the only real civilizers and conquerors of this country are to be crushed. This country is prosperous. All its growth and prosperity has come from free range. Nothing else could have made the present situation possible. Nothing else can preserve it. We shudder to think of the chaotic state of business here in every department of industry and trade, and of the discontent that will prevail amongst a people now happy and progressive. When corporations have the range, with all outside capital cut off from competition, the leasing is narrowed down to a mere farcical contest between the local corporations with unlimited means and the small stock owner without means.

Who can doubt the certainty of Mr. Lusk and associate local corporations getting the whole? It is also certain that they will take that portion of the land only on which there is water; thus by leasing a mere modicum, they will be in absolute possession of the entire range. Here will be a grievance never to be forgotten. We shudder to think of the consequences.

Again do we urge the people to come together, and proclaim with the mighty voice of a united population their abhorrence of this proposition. If we but make sure that the country is shown the animus of this movement, the plot must fail. Already, Mr. Lusk, who has proven himself an adept in the art of deception, by proclaiming a great reversion of sentiment amongst the people on this question, is busy perfecting his plans.

If we remain inactive, we shall certainly be sacrificed. We know that the people have not changed, and that they are of the same mind with us. No one, however, can do this work for you. It must start with you, and must continue to be prosecuted by you until finished.

Attest: DANIEL BOONE,
Secretary.

Train Hold-up Near Eugene.

The north bound Southern Pacific passenger train was held up at 3 o'clock last Thursday morning twenty miles south of Eugene by three highwaymen who boarded the train at Cottage Grove. When nearing the place selected for the hold-up one of the men climbed over to the engine and at the point of a Winchester made Engineer Lucas stop the train. The express and mail car were cut loose and the engineer was ordered to go ahead. Two miles distant from where the train was halted, the engineer was again ordered to halt. Express Messenger C. F. Charles was ordered to open the express car, but refused to do so. All sorts of threats were made to intimidate the brave messenger, all to no purpose. Finally the robbers fired several shots through the car, and then threw dynamite under and against the car. Finally a hole was knocked in the car and through this aperture a stick of dynamite with lighted fuse was thrown into the car. The messenger picked up the powerful missile and fired it back at the robbers, who finally gave up in despair, and turned their attention to the registered packages in the mail car. The loss is said to be light. It is thought the robbers have been located in Eugene.

Makes Light of it.

The Klamath Express does not consider the inhabitants of its town in any great danger from smallpox and says: "There has been somewhat of a smallpox, Manila itch scare prevalent here for a week or more, and while the disease is not regarded very dangerous if reasonable care is taken, yet the town board decided to close the school for a week and instructed the marshal to order all persons who had the "itch" to go home and quit duck shooting and skylarking about until they recovered. As most of the "patients" felt too good to enjoy unmolested peace and quiet, they succumbed to the mandate unwillingly and a few of them chartered the "Ancient Mariner", took aboard their carpet bags and in the dead calm of the sunny afternoon last Sunday, set sail for lower Klamath lake, to take it out of the maldards and spoonbills.

A WORD TO THE BIDDERS

With the Professional Star Route Contractor Out of the Way Good Service Must Follow

This fall and winter every mail route in the United States west of the Mississippi river is to be re-let. Changes are to be made that the department hopes will be of much benefit to the public. One of these changes has to do with professional bidders who secure contracts and then for a profit sub-let them to local carriers. "No bids submitted under this advertisement will be considered unless the bidder shall agree in his bid that in event of the service being awarded to him he will give his personal supervision to the performance of the same, and will reside on or contiguous to the route", is one of the stipulations in the new contracts. Heretofore, except under late contracts, parties living on star routes have been required to pay mail carriers a fee for leaving mail at their houses. Under the new contract the government assumes this expense, and the following clause will be inserted in all contracts:

"In addition to carrying the mails from the various postoffices, the carrier on each route will be also required to deliver mail into all boxes and hang small bags or satchels containing mail on cranes or posts that may be erected along the route".

Any persons living on or near any star routes and not within the corporate limits of any town, or within 80 rods of any postoffice, is entitled to this privilege. It will be remembered that about three years ago The Examiner made a fight against the letting of star route contracts to the professional contractors, who sit in their offices in the East and without going out of their way a single step received contracts for carrying the mails in the West, and at once proceeded to sub-let the contracts to irresponsible and poor men at a price that they could not even buy horse feed at. At that time The Examiner forwarded to the authorities at Washington a petition containing nearly one thousand names which was presented to Congress by Hon. Thomas H. Tongue. This petition was an appeal to Congress to do away with the professional star route contractor. Other petitions followed from various parts of the West and the result was that Congress acted promptly and passed a righteous law. The professional star router must now seek a new avocation. He is out of business.

It might be well in this connection to warn the local men who may conclude to bid on the various routes in Lake county, that, with the professional Eastern star route contractor out of the way there is no reason for bidding on the contracts at a ruinous rate. The bids should be made at a figure that will justify the man receiving the contract to give first class service and at the same time make some money out of the business above all expenses. And another matter that should be carefully considered by local bidders is the fact that there has been a material advance in the price of good horses and all other things that go toward stocking up a road. The man who bids on the route from Klamath Falls to Lakeview must bear this in mind, for this is a difficult piece of road to cover, especially in the winter season. In order to give first class service it must be a four-horse line all the way, and as the railroad from the south crawls nearer to Lakeview the through travel will naturally divert to the southern line to the injury of the western route. All these and many more matters should be carefully considered by intending bidders. The Examiner mentions this fact merely to put bidders "next" and at the same time assist in getting good service.

Town Election Next Tuesday.

There will be an election held next Tuesday, November, 5th, for the purpose of electing a mayor, four councilmen, a recorder and treasurer. We understand that there will be no other candidates announced for the various offices but the present incumbents, except for the office of recorder. It appears to be a case of the "office hunting the man".