

Lake County Examiner

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OREGON POTASH COMPANY

Will Build Big Plants in Lake County—Contracted With N. C. O. to Build Railroad to Summer Lake.

There is not the least doubt in the world of the reliability and substantiality of the Oregon Potash Company, whose filings of lands in the Summer Lake and Abert Lake sections in Lake county have set people to wondering. In one day a few months ago there were filed in the County Clerk's office here by Chas. M. Sain, President of the Oregon Potash Company, something like seven hundred claims to lands in the localities named. For months past people who have spoken of this matter have none so with a smile, giving the impression that they had little faith in the gigantic proposition to follow as a result of the claims taken at the lakes.

Things have come to pass since the filings were made, however, that changes the aspect of the situation, and it is now a foregone conclusion that the Oregon Potash Company is an organization with millions of dollars at its back, and that it means business. No one has any reason or right to doubt the word or probity of Mr. Sain, president of the company, who has cast the lines of his company in this county to establish a big enterprise.

L. F. Conn, the local attorney, whose professional business is rapidly increasing in Lake county, was tendered some time ago, the post of attorney and counselor of the Oregon Potash Company. Mr. Conn accepted the appointment and has a contract with the company which carries with it a very handsome salary, annually. Mr. Conn was informed a few days ago that arrangements had been perfected and an agreement entered into with the Nevada-California-Oregon railway company, whereby that company will build their line to Abert and Summer lakes for the purpose of developing the properties of the Oregon Potash Company. President Sain says the railroad company "expects to build in next year, or at least as far as Lakeview."

Judging from present indications the Examiner believes that the Oregon Potash Company will establish plants and make improvements in this county within the next two years, that will fairly astound the local public. The Examiner has been informed upon reliable authority that the company will build refining works on their property that will cost about a million dollars, and that five hundred and possibly one thousand men will be employed in the works. Offers have been made by President Sain to ranchers at Summer Lake for the purchase of their places at top-notch figures, but no sale has yet been recorded.

The N-C-O will build a broad gauge line from Reno North.

The Vigil of All Saints.

Several young people of the town and several elder ones who ought to have been at home, made "night hideous with their howls" last Thursday evening. It was Halloween the vigil of All Saints day. As a consequence, and according to custom, a number of gates and other movable things were missing next morning, wagons were overturned and signs changed. The party of grown people referred to came near being the victims of the sins committed by a band of youngsters, who destroyed fences and pulled up side-walks. Marshal Harvey "arrested" the elder gang and then released them when he found he had the wrong parties. They were all "bad actors" and ought to have been taken to prison. The Examiner will refrain from publishing a list of names this time.

MORE "LUSK" LETTER"

North Warner Association Still After the Cattle Kings With Sound Argument and Good Logic.

At a meeting of the North Warner Anti Land Leasing Association held at Plush, Oregon, on the 30th day of October, A. D., 1901, the following was read and approved:

We, your committee, further reviewing the "Lusk Letter" submit the following:

Mr. Lusk declares that in recent years beef has so advanced in price that it has become "a luxury to the poor" in the East; as if to indicate a desire on his part to have the price of cattle reduced, and an expectation that this result would follow leasing the range.

Now, we know, that seventeen years ago three-year old beef steers in good condition were sold in this country for \$50; good yearling heifers were sold for \$22; and ordinary milk cows were sold for \$50. Such prices cannot be had now. Yet we believe Mr. Lusk would be glad to have it so again, and that his expectation is that leasing the public lands will tend that way—that he should wish to do anything to cause a decline in the price of beef is incredible, and his pretense of grief for the misfortune of the poor in this respect is untimely.

He refers to the fact that Texas has leased her range lands and that it has proved an effective remedy for the "overstocked" condition which obtained there before leasing. He evidently expects that leasing here will have the same effect—that is, cause less cattle to be raised. And does he suppose the people fail to see the inconsistency in this? The price of beef has already advanced in consequence of a reduction of the number of cattle on the range. He grieves over this advance. He urges that leasing has for its object the relieving of an "overstocked" condition of the range as it has done in Texas, which must mean a further reduction in the number of cattle kept on the range, and yet he has stated that beef is much higher in consequence of a 60 per cent decrease in the number of cattle, of some localities.

Now, let us untangle this. Mr. Lusk knows that the result of leasing will be a very great reduction in the number of cattle kept by small holders, farmers and homesteaders. He knows that these people cannot fence range sufficient to pasture their stock, nor protect it in any way, and that they must go out of business. This will create a great general reduction, and, a possible decline in prices, temporarily, of beef; and a complete destruction in prices of stock cattle in the hands of small holders. Many of these cattle Mr. Lusk expects to get. He and his allied corporations expect to get nearly all of them, as well as the small homesteads on which they are kept; and when the CRASH is over, they will establish such an advance as will make beef a luxury to the poor, on the very spot where it is produced. If the law should provide that every holder of small bands of stock might first take without cost such quantities of land as would be necessary to pasture their stock, they could not protect it. It would be entirely consumed by stock of the corporations while their own lease-holdings would be protected. There would be no possibility of holders of small bands of stock continuing in business. They must not only sacrifice their stock, but their small homesteads—which are of but little value except as homes for, and helps to support livestock—must also in a large measure fall into the hands of those who require possession of the range and the stock.

So that Mr. Lusk promises that the law will certainly exclude "outside syndicates" from the privilege of leasing, until the "local owner" has first secured what he may need, means nothing to us. Foreign syndicates we don't so much fear as we do local corporations. These are on the ground. They know the land and the locations of the water.

PACIFIC COAST AND EASTERN ELECTIONS

Special to Lake County Examiner.

RENO, Nev. Nov. 6.—Schmitz, the Labor-Union candidate is elected Mayor of San Francisco. The vote was, Schmitz 21,806; Wells (Rep.) 17,697; Tobin (Dem.) 12,684. Lachman (Rep.) elected Sheriff. The patronage offices all won by Republicans.

Maryland went Republican.

Seth Low, reform and fusion candidate is elected Mayor of Greater New York, defeating Tamany. The indications are that the entire fusion ticket is elected.

They have unlimited means always at command, and would be able promptly to take advantage of the situation the moment the opportunity presents itself. These are the men who suggested this movement and are urging it. These are the men who, with perfect knowledge of the country, and with millions at instant command, expect by means of leasing to make it impossible for men without surplus capital to do business in livestock in the range country; acquire possession of most of the small bands, drive out the remainder, despoil us of our homes, and revolutionize the industrial and business situation in the country.

These men have a hidden purpose in desiring the passage of the law to lease which they dare not mention—the overthrow of the beneficent policy of the government of free homesteads to the people. If the lands are leased, homesteading will cease, whatever the terms of the law to lease may be. This result the cattle barons know must follow leasing, and it is their object. No man would place a homestead on any tract of land now to be had in the range country, in good faith, with all the adjacent government lands leased to others. Though with free range there are countless small tracts that would be very desirable as homes for a few head of stock, they would be valueless to any poor man without free range. The promoters of this scheme to lease are all men whose interests are in direct antagonism to the homestead policy. The Cattle King saw in this policy from the beginning, the doom of his business. The sight of Indians, with their dogs and wickiups, was ever more pleasing to him than the smoke from the settler's chimney, the glad shout of his children on the school ground, or the tingle tingle of his cow-bell. A steady growing and spreading of these have made such encroachments upon the watered portions of the range as to make it evident that great herds of cattle will soon be a thing of the past, if some positive check is not given to the aggressive home-builder. Leasing the public lands will do it, and, in addition, destroy the prosperity of thousands of prosperous little homes already established; force their abandonment, or transfer, to those who can protect their homesteads, and who have control of the range. All this the syndicates and cattle barons clearly see and are determined to accomplish through leasing, while attempting to soothe the fears of the people with promises of first chances to lease. It is the pre-emptor of land; the homesteader and homebuilder, and not migratory bands of sheep that so threaten the stability of Mr. Lusk's business. The growing of sheep will be a prosperous business in this country long after cattle have disappeared from the range, for the reason that there is an inexhaustible supply of food for sheep on the range—food rejected by cattle; food which produces wool and mutton in abundance, on which cattle will not thrive.

Sheep are doing well in Lake county—as well as they did twenty years ago, and on the same range. They find in this country their natural home, and their owners ask nothing of them that they may be allowed to stay, and be handled in the manner their nature requires. Sheep must be herded; they must be moved; they must be kept in timber in summer, living on weeds, buds and leaves of shrubs. They do well on the deserts in winter under circumstances fatal to cattle. These two points of winter and summer range are often two hundred miles apart, and a month or more of time is required for sheep to

pass from one point to the other. In this passage they must feed on the range between. With the land leased this passage cannot be made. The sheep industry, established and conducted according to the demands of the animal's nature, must cease in Lake county—in small bands.

What business is adding more to the general prosperity than this? What business affords so many industrious young men without means a opportunity to get along in the world as this?

In what business have so many poor people been able to attain to an independence, and to help others to do so, as in this? What business in Lake county has a better right to survive than this? Yet it is the avowed purpose of Mr. Lusk to strike it down; to drive sheep out, to support a business that is failing because the wilderness condition of fifty years ago, which made this country then an ideal home for great herds of cattle, is now passing rapidly away through the operation of the aggressive forces of civilization.

The owners of sheep in Lake county are promoters of public utilities, such as telephone lines, public roads, etc. They are building hotels and residences in our towns, spending their surplus gains in business enterprises, and are a substantial support to every work for the general good. The natural resources of Lake county cannot be devoted to any purpose better for the mass of people here, nor for the country generally, than the production of wool and mutton. The results of the industry have proven it. The high hills are covered with sheep in summer, yet the water comes down when needed, and spring freshets and floods are not more frequent here now than they were years ago. The meadows of Lake county are not covered up with sand, and dried up at times when water is needed.

DANIEL BOON, Secretary.
Plush, Oregon, November 4, 1901.

NICHOLAS SCHLAGEL.

Nicholas Schlagel, aged 75 years and 6 months, died at his residence in Lakeview at 10 A. M. on Friday, November 1st. Deceased had been ailing all summer, having been affected with heart trouble. He was seriously ill with pneumonia but a few days before death came to relieve him of his sufferings. He had been a resident of Lakeview for fifteen years, having come here from Yreka. In 1886 he crossed the plains coming from Burlington, Iowa, and settled in Yreka. He was well known by all the old residents of Siskiyou county, and had many friends there. Forty-five years ago last Fourth of July, he wedded Miss Hetwig Young, who survives him. Besides the aged wife left to mourn his death there are seven children, all grown—Herman Schlagel, Mrs. Louise Fiock, Emma Schlagel, Amelia Wilcox, Gus Schlagel, Mrs. Minnie Scott and Frank Schlagel, who have the sympathy of all. Deceased was a member in good standing of the Yreka Lodge, I. O. O. F., and his funeral was conducted last Sunday afternoon by Lakeview Lodge No. 63, I. O. O. F. The interment was largely attended. Deceased belonged to the Lutheran Church. The bereaved relatives have the sympathy of The Examiner in their hour of sorrow.

The Basket Social.

The people of Cogswell Creek school district are making grand preparations for their entertainment and basket social on Friday evening, Nov. 15th. No admission will be charged, and the baskets will be sold to raise money for seating the schoolroom. Everybody invited to attend, donate baskets and have a general good time.

EXCITING TOWN ELECTION

Ward Politicians Work Lively, and Much Inquiry is Made for the "Little Black Bottle"—Old Officers Win.

An unusual interest was taken in the Town Election last Tuesday. Up to within a few days before election it was thought there would be no contest for any of the town offices, but last week some of the friends of Eugene Burke, the telegraph operator, brought him out for Recorder against Chas. Umbach, incumbent. On the morning of the election friends of Lee Beall, county treasurer and local druggist, had tickets printed with his name as a candidate for Mayor against F. M. Miller, who has held the office for two terms. Mr. Beall was fairly launched in the local political arena, but in justice to him it must be said that the use of his name for the occasion was entirely unauthorized. As soon as it was known that there would be a contest the word work became animated. It was claimed by the friends of Miller and Umbach that the Second and Fourth wards, the heaviest voting wards in the city, were sold for those two gentlemen, and the claim proved true. The First and Third wards were weak, and many voters failed to interest themselves in the election at all. A. Bieber had it all his own way for Treasurer and won handsily. There was no opposition to Bernard, Arzner, Schlagel and Post, the four present Councilmen, and these gentlemen won without an effort.

All day long from early morn till the polls closed, the ward politician was importuned by the thirsty voter to pass over the "little black bottle." The saloons were closed, as the law directs, and the frequenter of refreshment resort for the time had lost his calling. Not a single man was intoxicated during the day, and every ballot was intelligently cast. It was a day of cajolery and buttonholing, and long after the bright glow of the electric light cast its brilliancy over the town, the winning candidates and their friends celebrated the victory. Following is the official vote:

Mayor—F. M. Miller 111; Beall 51.
Councilmen—Bernard 160; Arzner 159; Schlagel 159; Post 161.
Recorder—Umbach 111; Burke 52.
Treasurer—Bieber 159.

Jim Williams the crier at the polls, promptly at 5 p. m., announced in a deep "basso profundo" voice that the contest was over and "the polls are now closed until a year from today."

Lookout Suspects Arraigned.

In the Superior Court of Modoc county last Monday the case of the people vs. Brown, Eades and Levanton, the Lookout suspects, was resumed. The attorneys for defendant Brown demurred to the indictment and the demurrer was overruled. The defendant then refused to plead to the charge contained in the indictment, and Judge Harrington ordered a plea of not guilty entered. The trial of Brown was set for November 25th and a venire of 100 trial jurors was made returnable at that date. In the case of Eades the motion to set aside the indictment by the grand jury was denied. The motion to set aside the indictment was on the same ground as in the case of Brown, and upon the additional grounds that less than twelve grand jurors voted to return the indictment. Eades entered a plea of not guilty and the trial was set for December 16.

Wedded at Lake City.

A happy wedding of two prominent young people occurred at Lake City, Cal., on the evening of Oct. 31st. The parties to the contract were Luman Foskett, the prominent young rancher and stockman of South Warner, and Miss Carrie Baty, daughter of John Baty, ex-supervisor of Modoc county. The wedding which was private took place at the home of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Strief, at Lake City. The Examiner joins with many friends in best wishes for the happiness of Mr. Foskett and his fair bride.