

# Lake County Examiner

VOL. XXVIII.

LAKEVIEW, LAKE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1907.

NO. 51

## WHAT PARCELS POST MEANS.

### Our Conditions Different From Germany's

### WILL AFFECT THE LOCAL DEALERS

### Prices for Staple Household Articles Must Bear the Burden of Merchants' Profits.

The motive inspiring the movement for a parcels post is its alleged determination to fling cheapness, and we are to consider the question from the viewpoint of the citizen to whom the lowest prices for household supplies seems the most desirable consummation, and who expects this result from the adoption by the government of a policy of cheap mail delivery of larger quantities of merchandise.

The first light that flashes upon our mind in the study of this question is the fact that the government now has an annual deficiency in its postal revenues of more than \$15,000,000, while delivering merchandise at 16 cents per pound and letters at 32 cents.

There are various bills pending in congress providing for parcels post. The one which seems more likely than any other to be accepted, provides for a rate of 5 cents for packages of twelve ounces and up to one pound, and two cents more for each additional pound, or fraction thereof, up to eleven pounds, the limit. If this should become the law, and the system should be generally patronized, resulting in a postal revenue of \$15,000,000, while the government receives five times as much for its present deliveries, a bankrupt postal service is the result for which reason looks, and no other seems possible. If the government cannot deliver merchandise at 16 cents per pound without a loss of millions, it cannot deliver merchandise at seven cents per pound without a loss of other millions. Is this a pleasant outlook to the patriotic citizen who is advocating parcels post? Are you pleased to save pennies at a loss of millions to the public?

Perhaps it will be argued that Germany successfully operates a parcels post, and that we shall be able to, as well. It must be answered that Germany owns and operates the carrying systems of the country also. German postal authorities are not obliged to accept a proposition from selfish corporations to deliver mail matter to her people, which our government must do, however unjust the terms may be. The German government owning its transportation lines delivers merchandise at the actual cost, while we must pay, not the cost only, but a large profit on a shamefully inflated investment—watered railroad stock. The country is relatively small and very much more densely populated than this. The factories, the sources of supply, are near by, at any point. Any man in Germany can have, in a few hours, whatever he may desire, if it is within the limits of the empire. Merchandise is worth little more in that country at one point than at any other. Free government delivery in Germany is therefore little more than the merchants' free delivery in Lakeview. With its population so dense, and a source of supply practically at every door, where the thing wanted may be had at a cost scarcely varying from its value at any other point, the cost of delivery is infinitesimal in that country as compared with this. Time, distance, high wages, high rates of interest, far more limited patronage in a given area, all contribute to establish and make necessary radically different charges and percentages here.

The fact that this government has no means of its own of transporting merchandise, sets up a condition in which it seems impossible for us to conduct, successfully, such a system of mail delivery as Germany does. The greedy, conscienceless corporations of the great cities who are deceitfully agitating for this movement care nothing for these obstacles nor would they be otherwise than unfavorable were the difficulties to be en-

countered increased a hundred fold. They have a selfish motive. It would be their opportunity to consolidate into one vast octopus for the destruction of competition by their interior retail merchants; selling all light goods, which are the country merchant's sole reliance for profits, at prices he could not meet without loss, and so drive him out of the trade in such goods. All competition by local retail dealers being swept away, what will your great friends in the city, united for the purpose of increasing profits, do? What does the world's annals show all men to have done, when left masters of any business situation? They have taken the profits of business. They have oppressed. This is exactly what concentrated capital in the cities expect to do when they have driven the country merchants out of business in light goods. If this is not the result of parcels post in this country it will not have accomplished the purpose now in contemplation by its stoutest promoters—the department stores.

Parcels Post as a means of permanently lessening the cost of living and tending the general cheapness of consumers, is a myth. You altogether misapprehend the present situation if you believe the prices in local stores are made materially lower now through the competition of the department stores in the cities, or that permanently lower prices to consumers is the ultimate object of these people in their advocacy of parcels post. It is their purpose, having destroyed competition, to take the trade in all light and more costly goods and at whatever price they may demand. That they will be able to do this is no question. Having for their patrons the inhabitants of every nook and corner of the country reached by United States mail service, possessed of unlimited capital, working with a perfect understanding between themselves, it would only be a question of a short time till they would have taken possession of the field, would demand and receive whatever prices they might name for all this line of goods, and little would they heed your cries of distress. The present seeming profits of the dealer in general merchandise in towns throughout the country shrink to very moderate proportions through want of profit on million's of dollars invested in heavy staple groceries and other necessary family supplies which your local merchants are carrying chiefly for the benefit of consumers, and not as, within themselves, profit-producing merchandise. Sugar is now worth in San Francisco \$5.25 per hundred at wholesale. You buy it today in Lakeview at \$8.00 per hundred. Allow \$2.75, which is the lowest possible freight rate from San Francisco to Lakeview in the summer and you have for actual cost of sugar laid down in Lakeview \$8.00 per hundred, exactly what you buy it for and your local merchant has made only the difference between carload rates for freight and hundred pound rates which is about twenty cents. This may be taken as a fair illustration of what your local merchant is doing for you and at what sacrifice he does it in all heavy family and household supplies. When you buy these goods now from the department stores in the distant cities they send your order to the factory, foundry, or refinery and you receive your goods directly from these sources, your friend of the department store not having a single dollar invested in stoves, furniture, farm implements or heavy supplies. Yet, without any risk of a single dollar invested, in these goods, by an arrangement with the manufacturer, he pockets his profits. When the time shall come that he has destroyed your local merchants business in all lighter lines of merchandise and has driven all the weaker local dealers out of business entirely then he proposes to some strong concern "You take the business of your locality in all heavy goods and we will not compete with you. The parcels post rate of seven cents per pound makes it impossible for the government to compete with you. Relieved from competition you may advance the prices of household necessities to the last farthing, up to the point of shutting out competition by parcels post." Taking again as an illustration, your local merchant may charge \$6.75 for transportation of a sack of sugar, which, added to \$5.25, its present wholesale value, you have \$12, the price which you must pay for sugar now costing you \$8.00. This is not imaginary; it is a perfectly natural effort of men's business to follow lines of least resistance

## OUTSIDERS ARE INTERESTED.

### Flour Mill Proposition for Lakeview Talked of in California, Local Capital at Hand.

We received this week a letter from a man in Sacramento, who seems to be interested in the flour mill proposition, and asks to know who the parties are in Lakeview who have agitated this scheme. We put the gentleman in communication with the leading spirits in this movement, and it is hoped that much good will come from this effort.

It is estimated that the business interests of Lakeview experienced a loss of not less than \$10,000 this fall by not having flour to supply the demand. This sum would install a flour mill in Lakeview. This was a total loss, not to be regained, while that amount invested in a flour mill would be an asset, worth one hundred cents on every dollar invested. There has not been

a great deal of noise made about the flour mill proposition by the people of Lakeview, not because the idea is too remote for serious consideration, but more because Lakeview is not given to talking loud, but doing things. There has been a strong undercurrent all along for a flour mill, our business men saying, "It is not a question of how much we will put up, but a question of how much do you want." It is believed that \$15,000 could be raised here without scarcely an effort for the building of a flour mill in Lakeview. This is no invitation for irresponsibilities, or grafters, to come here to attempt to do it, but let the man who can show results come and he will meet with earnest support on the part of Lakeview business men.

### Klamath County Items.

(Bonanza Correspondent.)

Bonanza is beginning to recognize her advantages and is forging to the front. It is a wide awake little town, and will get her full share of the prosperity that is overspreading Klamath county.

The two story brick school building recently completed contains eight large and well ventilated class rooms, equipped with modern appliances.

A flour mill of 75 lbs. capacity is well under way, and Chas. Pattee, the contractor, expects to have it completed by early spring, so that the necessary machinery, which is up to date, may be placed there. A feed and livery stable is being erected by McDonald and Mrs. Marjorie Hoagland, and they will stock it with first class turkeys of every description. They expect to be open to the public by the first of the new year.

A two story frame building is another one of the many structures well under way. The lower floor of this building will be occupied by the Elder Saddlery Co., while the upper floor will be fitted up into bedrooms and used in connection with the Big Springs Hotel, of which Mr. C. O. Clifton is the enterprising landlord.

Fred McKendree, manager of the Bonanza Creamery, says that it is keeping him guessing to fill all the orders coming in daily for butter. Fred is not only a thorough business man, but he knows how to make good butter, and that is why the demand for his butter is so great.

Mr. E. E. Thornton, of Seattle, was in Lakeview this week representing the Oliver Typewriter Co. He sold six or seven machines here.

Don't miss the Drama, given for the benefit of the Lakeview Public Library. You will suffer(?) for a good cause.

and realize the greatest possible profits. Your local merchant must recoup himself—if he continues in business—all losses sustained on lighter merchandise. So he charges you nearly twice as much for heavy goods, equalizing his profits as he now does, only on reverse lines. If he cannot do this he must quit business and cheapness has not, cannot, upon the whole, be the result of parcels post.

### For Betterment of the Press.

The State Press Association is planning great work for the future for the press of the State. The annual meeting will be held in January in Portland when the press of the state will be asked to co-operate with the Association for the betterment of conditions effecting every newspaper in the state. County organizations have been effectual in many of the counties of the state which have proven of benefit. At a regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association held in Portland last week, C. O. Metzger, Publisher of The Examiner, was appointed a member of the Advisory Executive Committee.

S. J. Dutton was up from Davis Creek first of the week. He states that the hardest wind storm prevailed down there last Friday evening he has ever heard in the country. It made him almost wish he was back to Lake county again.

Klamath county will not hold circuit court this winter, because the holiday period continued within one day of the time limit for holding court, and the judge was not aware of the discontinuance of the holidays till it was too late.

The Examiner office is getting out a pamphlet for Drenkel & Payne, the Real Estate men. This will supply the wants of the inquirers for information about this county. Several hundred dollars could be spent in a wise manner advertising this county.

## MUCH SMOKE; LITTLE FIRE.



—Jamieson in Pittsburg Dispatch.

H. L. Holgate, cashier of the Bonanza bank, is kept quite busy these days, besides his care of the bank he is making various improvements on his homestead a short distance from town, and as soon as the weather will permit in the spring, he will have several teams engaged putting in a large wheat crop for the new flour mill.

Louis Gerber, the wellknown cattle dealer and "Democratic War Horse" has announced that in the future he will "draw the line" so far as refereeing any more dueling contests is concerned, such as he was recently selected to judge in a duel between editor Carioek and William Rhodes, at Billy Dalton's famous whippool, near Scorpion point. Mr. Gerber has scarcely recovered from the effects of that slaughtering duel.

Chas. Bunting the prosperous stock raiser from the Merrill country was visible on our streets last Friday.

### Foand Reservoir Site.

Mr. W. H. Drenkel has been investigating a scheme which looks worthy of consideration. There is a large amount of water goes to waste through Deadman creek every year sometimes reaching the proportions of a small river. Up the steep canyon a mile and a half is a narrow gorge, where the water passes through between two perpendicular cliffs, not more than twenty feet apart, where a solid dam might be placed that would be as strong as the mountain itself, and a permanent lake created above of sufficient dimensions to supply power for even a flour mill for several months in the year, or run the planing mill, and in the winter could supply the very best and purest ice for a town of twenty thousand people. This is no dream, Mr. Drenkel; some far-seeing man will demonstrate the feasibility of this project some of these days, and another of the numerous opportunities of this place will have passed from its dormant stage into a resource.

### Thinks Road Will be Built.

Mr. Robinson, one of the head engineers of the O. E. Ry. surveying crews that have been in this country for a year past, spent several days in Lakeview at the company's headquarters. He expects soon to return to Salt Lake City, where the company has their head office. He does not know where he will be sent next. Mr. Robinson had no report of the company's business to make public, but he stated that it was his belief that the road running north and south through Lake county and south to Alturas, in Modoc county, California, would be built. How long it will be before the road is completed, he could not say. As to the road running from Lakeview to Klamath Falls, he thought it would not be built until after the north and south road is finished, at least. He said he believed the flurry in money matters would, instead of retarding the building of these roads, make more feasible their early completion, for the reason that for the past few years labor has been so scarce and expensive, and building material so high and hard to get, on account of high wages and strikes, that it has been almost impossible to build roads especially in countries where development was necessary before the roads could be put upon a paying basis.

### Real Estate Transfers.

Real Estate Transfers. Record Week ending Dec. 14.  
U. S. to Norman McLane, NE quarter, Sec. 17, T. 29, R. 12, Receivers Receipt.  
G. W. Wise to A. D. Frakes, Two acres in Sec. 18, T. 40, R. 24 \$50.00  
Minnie Ward and Hugabed, to Annie C. Hough, N half, SE quarter, Sec. 23, T. 31 R. \$1000.00  
U. S. to Joseph Whitt, W half, SE quarter, SW quarter, SE quarter NW quarter Sec. 29, T. 29, R. 12, Pat.  
Joseph Whitt, to Weyehauser and Co., W half, SE quarter NE quarter SE quarter NW quarter, Sec 29 T. 29 R. 12 \$10.00  
U. S. to Annie M. Richardson, N half Sec. 4, T. 29, R. 12 Patent.  
U. S. to Robert M. Richardson, NW quarter, Sec. 18, T. 29 R. 12 Patent.  
U. S. to Mike S. Parker, NW quarter Sec. 36, T. 32 R. 15 Patent.  
Minnie McCormack to Weyehauser and Co., W half W half Sec. 29, T. 35, R. 17 \$10.00  
Edward Forker to Weyehauser and Co., NW quarter Sec. 10, T. 28, R. 12, \$10.00  
John K. Brown to Frank P. Petit, W half NE quarter Sec. 16 T. 31 R. 14 \$10.00  
Furnished by C. E. Oliver, Searcher of Records.

## PRESIDENT HAS NOT CHANGED.

### Will Not Accept Nomination Next June.

### SAYS PRECEDENT IS WISE ONE.

### Declaration Made on Eve of His Victory, Oft Repeated, Stands Good.

In view of the nettled condition of the minds of the American people regarding the candidacy of Theodore Roosevelt for another term, the following from the President's own lips may be of interest:

"On the night after election I made the following announcement:

"I am deeply sensible of the honor done me by the American people in thus expressing their confidence in what I have done and have tried to do. I appreciate to the full the solemn responsibility this confidence imposes upon me, and I shall do all that in my power lies not to forfeit it.

On the 4th of March, next, I shall have served three and a half years and this three and a half years constitutes my first term. The wise custom which limits the President to two terms regards the substance and not the form, and under no circumstances will I be a candidate for or accept another nomination. "I have not changed and shall not change the decision thus announced."

### Decisions from the Commissioner.

The following decisions from the general land office were rendered in December and received at the Lakeview office this week:

In the case of Lillian M. Pinkerton, vs. Frank Fax, homestead entry man, which case was heard before the clerk of Klamath county, and divided opinions rendered at this office on June 21, the Register holding that the homestead had not complied with the homestead law as regards residence, while the Receiver recommended that the contest be dismissed. On December 5th, the commissioner affirmed the decision of the Register and the homestead entry is, therefore held for cancellation, with the right of appeal accorded defendant, Fax.

H. E. Dudley, vs. W. F. Collins, homestead entryman; This case has been decided and closed by the commissioner, whose decision holds the homestead entry for cancellation.

Earl Walker vs. Hugo Meyer, homestead entryman, Walker contestant, alleging abandonment divided opinions rendered at the Lakeview land office, the Register advising the cancellation of the homestead entry, while the Receiver recommended dismissal of contest. On Dec. 5 the commissioner rendered a decision affirming the Register, and holding the entry for cancellation, with the right of appeal accorded defendant, Meyer.

Daniel P. Johnson vs. Wm. P. Sullivan, homestead entryman, Johnson contestant alleging failure to establish residence within six months from date of entry. Divided opinion from this office, the Register advising the cancellation of the homestead entry, while the Receiver recommended dismissal of the contest. On Dec. 9 the commissioner rendered a decision affirming the Register, holding the hd. entry for cancellation, with right of appeal for defendant, Sullivan.

LOST:—A schedule for the southern and eastern mails. Oh, Lord of Love, look down from above, and pity this schedule long forgotten; once it was sweet and hard to beat, and now d— thing's rotten.

Such has been the almost daily prayer of many Lakeview citizens since our southern and eastern mail service has dwindled from a good six-times-a-week service to a mere "what-is-it."

But now that we are promised something better, we may be consoled for a time. Monday a new schedule went into effect, which, if it proves satisfactory to the railroad, will give us our mail six times a week, arriving every day, except Monday, and departing every day except Tuesday.

The holidays called by Governor Chamberlain, have closed.