

WATER LEVEL IS SOMETHING ALL RAILROADERS ARE AFTER

An Arrangement Which Holds Good in Every Portion of This Continent

The latest Portland papers report that all trans-continent lines are centering their terminals at Portland, in order to avoid the haul over the mountains to Puget Sound ports.

If this is done it will have a most important bearing on the immediate future of Eastern Oregon and may explain the sudden activity of all railroad interests. The argument in favor of a sea level outlet on the Columbia river, and also from here to San Francisco is a good one, and will hasten matters forward.

The Portland Journal says that the Great Northern and Northern Pacific, flouting a losing battle to pull heavy trains at a great power cost over the mountains into Seattle and at the same time attempt to meet the water grade routes, adopted conciliatory tactics which will open a new and easy routing and makes Portland the most powerful commercial center west of the Rocky mountains.

The opening of interior Oregon for development and settlement, which is confidently believed to be at hand, is emphasized as one of the greatest reasons why the great railroad systems seek intimate trade relations with Portland.

Following the announcement that construction work has actually been commenced up the Deschutes canyon, independent companies will begin the building of branch lines.

By this means every portion of the state valuable for cattle and for agriculture will become immediately accessible. Instead of sending tens of thousands of cattle east into Colorado and beyond, ranchers will send their herds to Portland, where the new Swift packing plant will become the heaviest buyer of the west.

The wheat productive area of the state will be tremendously increased. Other crops will become valuable and the railroads hunting western business want big shares in the building of Oregon's cattle and crops.

BUMPER WHEAT CROP THIS YEAR

Lake County Free Wheat Lands Being Taken up Fast

Estimates of the year's wheat crop in the Pacific Northwest fix the probable yield at about 55,000,000 bushels, an increase by 15,000,000 over last year. This figure may not be reached if unfavorable conditions at harvest set in but with normal weather, it is believed the yield will be large. Recent rains have been of immense benefit to the crop. Districts where the grain was practically given up because of the continued drought have taken heart again and wheat is filling out in fairly good shape. The value of the rains of the past week to the wheat crop is variously estimated at from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000. In creased acreage in many sections of the state make up in the total yield or a short crop in some districts. And wheat is still ticking around the dollar mark, Oregon's big wheat crop will mean a great prosperity for the coming year.

The Company is Rushing Work

The Oregon Valley Land Co. is crowding all work forward.

A camp is established eight miles from town and work of constructing the irrigation ditch was begun Tuesday morning.

The rock work outlet tunnel for the dam, and the shaft for the head gates will be finished about August 15th. The foundation work for the big dam is about half completed.

Everything is being rushed to meet the inspection of the contract-holders who will arrive in force Sept. 9th.

Some one has discovered that a newspaper laid over a muddy spot will often enable an auto to climb out without the use of chains. It is likely that one of the special or Sunday editions could be most advantageously used in such cases, so we fear we can't advise subscribing for The Examiner to be used for an emergency of this kind.

Great Future Predicted for Our "Desert"

The Silver Lake Leader of the 16th inst. says Frank Lane was out through the Fort Rock country last week and he said he was astonished to see the fine grain throughout that section. He also said he was convinced beyond any doubt that what has heretofore been known as the "desert" will produce grain and vegetables in abundance and that ere long thousands of bushels of grain would be raised for export.

FIRST STEAMER ON GOOSE LAKE

When Engineer Got off the Boiler it Went Bust!

The Alturas Republican of the 16th inst. gives this bit of news regarding navigating Goose Lake.

In the last issue of the New Era, the editor in speaking of the great improvement to the country in putting the steamboat on Goose Lake, states that this is the first steamboat ever upon that body of water. This however is a mistake. A number of years ago a steamboat was built and launched upon this lake. The boat was of some size and exhibited some class. It was a double decker and was possibly sixty feet long with other measurements in proportion. The upper deck was well above the water while the craft was picturesque in shape and reported as excellent to ride upon. The boat reached the end of its career in a sad and unexpected manner. The craft was operated by a steam engine of sufficient power, but with a boiler of small capacity. The boiler was always a source of vexation and trouble. During hard runs the engineer always had to sit down on the boiler head to keep it from blowing out. One day when the engineer got off the boiler to chase up a monkey wrench to tighten down the safety valve the boiler blew up leaving the boat stranded and rocked in the cradle of the deep, in the middle of Goose Lake. The boat was towed ashore, but the machinery was never repaired for further service.

TAFT' POSITION ON THE TARIFF

Says Party Must Redeem Pledge or They Go Bump

Washington, July 16.—That President Taft feels his responsibility to his party and therefore favors a downward revision of the tariff is the substance of a statement issued at the White House today, following the visit of a delegation of Republican congressmen who pleaded with the President to have raw material in their districts placed on the free list.

The President informed his callers that while he was committed to the principle of revision downward, he could not see his way clear to advocate that raw materials be admitted free. He declared that he was obliged to observe the question from the viewpoint of the whole country, and not of any particular district.

President Taft pointed out to his visitors that the Republican platform stood for revision downward, although that principle might not apply to every case. He said that if iron ore, oil, coal and hides did not need protection they should be admitted free.

However, he declared that the question raised by the delegation was one to which he would give much thought and at the same time he would take advantage of all available information in order that he might carry out what he understood to be the promises of his party.

Alturas Proud of its High School

The Alturas Plaindealer gets off the following news of its new high school building:

"Your school building is good enough for a city of 30,000 inhabitants," remarked a stranger the other day. And why not? Modoc is entitled to, and will have, none but the best. We have the richest valleys, highest and most picturesque mountains, the most beautiful lakes, the purest atmosphere and the bluest skies, most enterprising men, brightest and healthiest children and most beautiful women. Modoc will have none but the best.

The stock of the Ft. Bidwell Consolidated Mine Co. has been advanced from 15 cents to 25 cents per share on account of the present fine showing of the property, situated in the Hoag District, near New Pine Creek.

HILL'S INVASION OF EASTERN IS SURPRISING EVERYBODY

John F. Stevens, the Noted Engineer, of Panama Fame, Was Surely Our Visitor.

The Examiner was right in ascribing the mysterious railroad men recently here as being representatives of the Hill interests. The Portland Telegram finally discovered that Gen. H. Sampson was none other than John F. Stevens, the noted engineer, now known to be J. A. Hill's chief confidential adviser. The identity of the other man has not yet been disclosed, but he is believed to be some other star of equal magnitude in the railroad world, and is probably connected with the New York, New Haven and Hartford road which dominates New England.

The Portland papers now believe that Hill, through Stevens, is the moving spirit behind the big electric road from Portland to Butte, mentioned in last week's Examiner.

A wire from Medford to the Portland Journal says that Stevens was there looking over the Pacific Eastern, and that he went over the line from there through the Cascade mountains by way of Crater Lake to the Deschutes valley, and evidently continued on his way much talked of from Eastern Oregon. This bit of news looks as though a constant connection also was contemplated by Hill, after his invasion of the Great Inland Empire.

It now looks as though "Yim Hill," ha ban dam, has fallen, an' lyk bato yo, ne mak Harriman un' lyk bato pana p. d. q. Ha giv farmer mans

JAMES J. HILL IS OPTIMISTIC

He Predicts Big Crops and Prosperity for All

New York, July 3.—James J. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern Railroad, returned to New York yesterday from his Canadian trip, and talked in an optimistic vein concerning business and crop conditions.

"There will be good crops," said Mr. Hill. "Not bumper crops, but a good, round yield, comparing well with the average."

"The value will be higher than usual as prices are higher. Corn is now selling around 63 cents in Nebraska, and wheat at about \$1.30 in Minnesota. The time of low prices for grain has passed. A great deal of wealth will be added to the farmers' store by the sale of their crops this year."

"As for the business outlook, there is no menace ahead. Good crops, bringing high prices will help manufacturing industries. There should be a steady expansion in that line; probably it will receive some additional stimulus after congress adjourns."

Cravens Wins Foot Race over Carroll

The 60-yard foot race between Carl W. Cravens and J. E. Carroll was pulled off at the race track last Thursday with a large crowd in attendance. Both men were in the pink of condition as they had been in training for some weeks past and at the shot of the gun both got away in good shape. At the 20 yard line Cravens pulled away from his opponent and took the tape a few feet ahead of Carroll and thereby winning the \$500 purse that had been put up before the race.

After the race was over some local parties took it into their heads that they could run and there were two or three lively races attended by much enthusiasm.

Oregon Pear Crop

Southern Oregon alone expects to ship pears to the value of half a million dollars this season. From the present indications, it is thought Southern Oregon will send away 5000 cars of pears to Eastern markets. The value of each carload is placed at \$1000, making the crop worth \$5,000,000. Other sections of the state will increase the value of the pear crop largely, making a very large total for this one great Oregon product.

Harriman has ordered timber for 4000 new cars at Portland of the Booth-Kelley Co. If he is to make the attempt to trot in the same class with "Yim Hill" in opening up Eastern Oregon products to the world he will have to provide many additional cars.

T. E. Bernard's auto is out of commission as a result of a twisted shaft.

Lake County To Have Artesian Water

A move is on foot and money subscribed, for drilling an artesian well to a depth of 1500 feet in Christmas Lake valley. H. Van Gundy, from the Ohio oil fields, guarantees to put in an artesian well drilling outfit, within 90 days from the time he is notified that the amount of \$2,500 is subscribed. So far \$2,319 has been promised by Hill or Lake, Cliff and Lake people. Artesian water would be a great thing for Lake county, and it is to be hoped success will crown the efforts of the people of Northern Lake county.

FINE SUMMER LAKE CHERRIES

The Examiner Man Favored with Some from the Foster Orchard

If doubts existed in the minds of any as to fruit being an assured product in Lake county, it would be dispelled by seeing the splendid cherries sent down from Summer Lake to the Examiner Mr. John Foster. They were of the Black Republican variety—sweet and luscious and of good size. He also enclosed another variety, red ones, on a branch as thick as they could stick, resembling a bunch of grapes. The new comers were especially pleased on beholding such fine fruit and will take home a good report of the same.

In this connection The Examiner does not wish to be understood as claiming that the whole of Lake county, an empire in area larger than the entire state of New Jersey will produce a like quality of fruit. It will not. But there are numerous valleys and favored localities in the county that will grow fruit of a quality and in an abundance that cannot be excelled by any other locality in the union.

Our hearty thanks are extended to Mr. Foster for giving us an opportunity to get our fill of cherries once in our life!

FAST GAME OF TENNIS SINGLES

Sprague Defeats Hagar In a Spirited Contest

Some of the fastest tennis that has been witnessed on the local courts was played Sunday morning, when Jack Sprague and Hagar played the finals in the 1909 singles. For cool and heady playing and covering of territory these two young men have shown themselves to be in a class alone. Every game throughout the two sets was a good exhibition of tennis and every point was fought for. Sprague won the first set by the score of 6-1 and the second set by the score of 6-3. This does not do credit to the game that Hagar put up, but there is no doubt that Sprague played the most consistent game throughout the two sets. By winning these games, Sprague is entitled to the tennis racquet and the championship in the 1909 singles.

Great credit is due the young men that organized this club for some clean, healthy and vigorous exercise has been badly needed here and there is no game that is more beneficial than lawn tennis. Thus too it has given Lakeview a set of courts and a club house that would be a credit to a town of five times its size. So much interest is being manifested that it will be only a short time until we will have a set of players that will be a credit to represent us in matches with other cities of Southern Oregon.

Surprise Valley is Growing Fine Fruit

The Fort Bidwell Gold Nugget of the 15th inst. has this to say of the fruit production in our neighboring valley east of here, just over the range:

Surprise valley fruit is certainly entitled to all the compliments paid it, as a short trip through the separate orchards will demonstrate. We had that pleasure last week, among others, visiting the cherry orchards owned by Max Falcher. The "Garden of Eden" could not present a more beautiful appearance. While the trees are not heavily loaded, there is an average crop of the Black Ox Heart variety, and a finer fruit does not grow in any land. An average measurement of the cherries show the astounding figures of 2 3/4 inches in circumference and for flavor stands second to none.

We have seen Portland roses, but they are no finer than those grown in Lakeview. Mrs. Taylor has an "American Beauty" that could not be excelled anywhere.

OUR LAKE COUNTY SHEEP ASSESSED IN HARNEY THIS YEAR

Vigilant Assessor Makes Our Sheep Men Pay Adjoining County Heavy Tribute

The Harney County Times of the 14th inst. says: For the first time in the history of Harney county the officials have been enabled to make a complete investigation of the sheep owned and grazed in the county and obtain data upon which a proper assessment can be made. John Robinson, who was appointed stock inspector or by the county court, was also clothed with the powers of deputy county assessor and in performing his duties as inspector of the various bands of sheep on the ranges he also enumerated them for assessment purposes and in cases of transient bands he collected the taxes and turned into the county treasury. Of the sheep owned in other counties but herded in Harney county, he listed the following:

LAKEVIEW OWNERS.	
Wm. Smoock—three bands	7600
Jas. Barry—three bands	5000
J. Quinn	2500
N. K. Barry	2500
Holbrook	4000
J. W. Odom	3000
C. Fitzgerald	3800
B. W. Hartman	3800
Thos O. Flynn	4000
Pat Duane	1700
Jack McEathie	2900
C. W. Dent, of Adel	2700

The following transient bands were assessed and taxes collected:

NO.	Tax
Dave Edler (Bly)	13000 \$678.00
Joe Jaca	8000 \$416.00
Joe Garcia	6000 \$312.00
E. Barnasa and Co.	4500 \$234.00
P. E. Stice	3500 \$182.00
G. Hertz and Co.	1200 \$62.04
Juan Endiza	3000 \$156.00
John Rooks	1000 \$52.00
J. M. McDayd	6000 \$312.00
Hughes Elkroy	4500 \$234.00

*\$125 added in this case for taxes in the district.

There are now between 165,000 and 170,000 grazing on Stein mountains. It will thus be seen that 50,700 transient sheep have paid taxes in the sum of \$2826.04 and \$125 school taxes; that there are 42,800 head of Lake county sheep listed that will pay their time proportion of taxes and there are 71,992 Harney county sheep assessed to local owners, besides some 25,000 more that will be returned through the government inspector, making a total of 190,492 sheep on the rolls for 1909, by reason of thorough conscientious work.

STATISTICS ON NOTION GROWTH

Population Increase 193 and Wealth is 563 Per Cent

New York, June 3.—Among the peculiar facts concerning the growth of the United States from 1858 to 1908, noted in the annual report of the New York Chamber of Commerce soon to be issued, the following increases are observed:

Population, 193 per cent; the wealth of the country 563 per cent; public debt, 2,375 per cent; the per capita debt from 1.51 to 10.76; bank deposits, 3,460 per cent; receipts of the Government, 1,816 per cent; war expenses, 394 per cent; navy expenditures, 745 per cent; imports per capita from \$8.35 to \$13.70; exports per capita from \$9.14 to \$2.04, and the consumption of wines and liquors 280 per cent, or from 6.42 to 23.25 per capita gallons.

Foreign commerce carried in American ships decreased 39.00

Ticket 969 Drew Watch

The Examiner seems fated to get the lucky number that secured the watch at the Arcadia theatre wrong. It was number 968 instead of 967 that drew the gold watch. For the drawing children's numbers sold up to No. 316, on a pink ticket, while those for adults were sold above that number on a red ticket. The numbers favored were only known to Mr. F. M. Miller until the time of the drawing, an arrangement that could not have been fairer for all concerned.

The Kansas fruit crop was almost totally ruined by late frosts. In consequence the crop will not equal the low standard heretofore caused by similar conditions. The fruit crop of Lake County is a delight to all new comers this year, but it is not up to the standard.