

ANOTHER LETTER FROM THE INLAND EMPIRE

BEND, Or., Oct. 1.—(Staff correspondence).—With determination written on their countenances and "Bend or Bust," as their battle cry, three young men recently bade the comforts of life in a Prineville hotel and mounted on prancing chargers, with all necessary accoutrements of constant riders, started across the desert waste to Bend, a distance of thirty-one miles. The members of the party are all well-known in Crook county, and have a large acquaintanceship gained through business dealings in every section of the county, and have come to be popularly known as "Homestead Rough Riders," a name which is likely to cling to them throughout their itinerary in Eastern Oregon, as a part of the nine men composing the Homestead Rough Riders Brigade.

For months they had been listening to tales of the wonders of Bend and the gigantic irrigation schemes in progress in that country, and while they were for the most part received with admiration, yet the boys determined to investigate for themselves. Leaving Prineville at 11 o'clock, we rode to the watering trough for dinner. One mile west of Prineville we ascended the stony bluff, which stands several hundred feet high and overlooks the city. Near the top we passed the rock quarry opened in the past few months ago by Chas. Gray of Salem, and from which is being taken some of the finest building stone in the state. From there the country is a rolling prairie as far as the eye can see, covered with sage brush, and here and there a juniper tree, and the road is slightly up grade until Bend is reached, at an elevation of 3600 feet.

Twelve miles from Prineville is the watering trough where the thirst of man and beast is quenched at ten cents per head. This is the only place between the two cities on the desert, where water is to be had, hence few drive by, and Mr. Bain has found that the necessary 220 rods of pipe to carry the water from a distant spring to be more profitable than most gold mines. Often from eighty to a hundred horses are watered in a day. The owner lives on a Homestead and has for several years been raising a garden and field of wheat, without the use of water, on land which is considered waste. A branch of the irrigating ditch is to pass through his place and he will then have another gold mine.

We expected to take dinner with Mr. Bain, but learned that to feed three horses and three men was too great an undertaking, so we fed our horses on a limited supply of hay, and walked through the sand for a half mile, to the next cottage, where our pleas for food, and hungry, woe-begone appearance was sufficient to admit us to the house, and we found a pleasant lady from Portland, who had lived there five months, and sat down to the most appetizing meal it has been our pleasure to eat in this county.

The road to Bend is a tiresome stretch of sand turning first one way and then another. It "all looks alike," and many a traveler has there become hopelessly lost and been compelled to spend the night under a friendly juniper tree. Pilot Butte, a high peak near Bend, serves as a guiding star, and we make this our objective point.

This road led us through the most fertile of the land to be irrigated, that lying around Parnell Butte within fifteen miles of Prineville. The soil has the appearance of sand, but is a volcanic ash, with rotted volcanic rock, and is pronounced by expert analysis to be unsurpassed any place on earth, for richness and producing power when mixed with the proper amount of moisture.

The Rough Riders were irrigated on the route by a heavy shower, and rode into Bend in a steady down pour, just in time for supper. We ventured the remark that artificial irrigation did not seem necessary, but were assured this was the first rain of the season.

Our first sight of Bend was not reassuring, three houses and a barn looming up among the trees, but we were greatly surprised at the accommodations of the Pilot Butte Inn, a hotel conducted by A. C. Lucas, an active business man, formerly superintendent of the Baldwin Sheep & Land Company's great stock ranch. The furniture is all new and good, and the meals are better than are served at many old established hotels.

Next morning we were fortunate in meeting W. E. Guerin, Jr., local manager of the Des Chutes Irrigation & Power Company and president of the bank recently opened, who insisted on showing us the sights, and many improvements in progress. His first statement that already fifteen graduates of eastern colleges had taken up their residence in the city, almost startled us, but the first gentlemen to whom we were introduced were Mr. Arthur Good, miller, who is local manager of the Pilot Butte Improvement Company, a young and jolly college man, who has east his lot in Bend and is just completing a metropolitan cottage, and Mr. Grosbeck, also a young college man, and capitalist recently from Wall Street. The three gentlemen are all meeting elegant homes, and insisted on showing us through, and as we were surprised, expressed nothing. They are all attempting to duplicate their eastern city homes and expect to be leaders in Bend society. Money has not been spared in making all of these homes all that could be desired, and in adding every possible modern comfort. The cottages alone cost their owners from \$2500 to \$5000, and the house work in each is performed by Japanese. Each house is supplied with a piano, and elegant furniture, thirteen freight wagons being required to haul Mr. Guerin's furniture from Shaniko. The cottage owned by that gentleman is built in the form of a hollow square, with a court in the center, in which is a fountain, and numerous flower beds and climbing roses. One attractive feature of these houses is the masonry fire places, built of a native building stone.

Mr. Drake, owner of the original town site, has built for himself a log house with many gables, finished inside and outside in a rustic appearance, and with a large yard and beautiful velvety

lawn and tennis court, is by far the most imposing and striking edifice on what is popularly termed "millionaire row."

Mr. Grosbeck took upon himself the part of host, and carried us off to his cattle, where we were entertained royally, including a number of piano selections by Mr. Stinway, vice president of the bank, also a young college man. The spread placed before us lacked nothing, even had it been served on Fifth Avenue, New York, and I probably could not be duplicated in the Inland Empire.

As a fitting climax, our jolly host ordered his saddle horse, and after lunch announced that he would ride a bucking broncho for our amusement. He is an English bred high birth, and is not lacking in characteristics of his people. But "the best made plans of mice and men oft gang aglee." Our English friend, mounted in the pure white uniform of the Royal Highlanders, went bravely forth, but never succeeded, and in getting firmly seated in the saddle, at the second attempt he was thrown among the rocks, and struck by the horse's hoof. Those precious white trousers were torn off, and he was carried to his pretty bed, considerably the worse for wear, but game to the last, insisting he was not hurt.

Our party was not content with gay city life so rode away to the new city of one cabin, Laidlaw, where we met the officials of the Columbia Southern Irrigation Company and were shown over their property. Next morning we started for Cline Falls, to visit that embryo city, and wonderful waterfall promising to return to Laidlaw that night. An enthusiastic photographer in the party was not satisfied with the view of the falls to be obtained from that side, so we started for the opposite shore, being compelled to make a detour of six miles to cross the angry Des Chutes. Soon after crossing the bridge our troubles began.

Roads are practically unknown in this country, but there are numerous cattle trails through the sand, and occasional tracks of vehicles. We soon lost all trace of our whereabouts, and as the sky was clouded, with a drizzling rain, each member of the party had a different idea of which way north and which south. We traveled as fast as our tired beasts could carry us, from 4 until 11 o'clock that night without seeing a single habitation, except when about two hours after dark we accidentally found a camp containing 150 laborers of the Des Chutes Irrigation & Power Company. The superintendent, Mr. Lewis, gave us a warm reception, but after a good supper and feed for the horses, we were informed we could stop no longer. That evening forty-five additional men arrived in rigs from Shaniko, to begin work, and as they were unexpected, no preparation had been made for their accommodation. Every blanket and tented space was occupied, and men were lying under the junipers with cheery campfires to protect them from the cold.

We were overloaded with directions for reaching Laidlaw, eight miles distant, and again started, at 8:30, upon our journey, longing for a good bed. Paul Revere's famous ride was duplicated. After a ride of forty miles since morning, our mounts were not fresh, and in the sandy trail the hoofbeats did not ring musically.

Several blood curdling yells might be related of our encounters with wild beasts, including startled coyotes and jack rabbits, and the narrow escape from a midnight wanderer whom we imagined was a desperado, possessing our well filled wallets, but in the excitement of the moment details were overlooked. At 11 o'clock we arrived at the Des Chutes, beautiful in the faint moonlight, and still more attractive, a lone stack of straw, but at the last moment our hearts failed us, and we pushed slowly on up the river, when what was our surprise to find an old deserted bridge. We were soon across, and after cutting a few barbed wires, and throwing down a rail fence, struck the main road, over which we had passed that morning, and with a two mile ride before us, were soon in camp, and picking out our horses, and rolling up in our blankets, hardly realizing we were asleep when we heard the cock-a-leekie call. We tried to convince our host we had been delayed on business, but he knew better, and assured us we had simply met the same fate as practically every settler in that part of the country at some time in his life, and that we were fortunate in finding our way back to camp that night.

We had been in the saddle from 7 in the morning till 12 that night, and covered more than fifty miles, how much more we knew not, not seeing a habitation during the afternoon and evening, and the scene had been unchanged—one vast wilderness of sand, covered with sage brush and junipers. Such is southwestern Crook county at present, the country destined in a few years to be one of the greatest agricultural centers of the Pacific Northwest.

A TEXAS WONDER
HALL'S GREAT DISCOVERY.
One small bottle of the Texas Wonder, Hall's Great Discovery, cures all kidney and bladder troubles, removes gravel, cures diabetes, seminal emissions, weak and lame backs, rheumatism, and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder trouble in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1.00 each. A small bottle is two months' treatment. Dr. Ernest W. Hall, sole manufacturer, P. O. Box 629, St. Louis, Mo. Send for testimonials. Sold by all druggists and Dr. S. C. Stone's Drug Store.

READ THIS.
To Whom It May Concern:
This is to certify that I was down for nine months with kidney and bladder trouble, and tried all known remedies to no avail until a neighbor induced me to get a bottle of Texas Wonder, one half of which cured me sound and well; this would cheerfully swear and affirm the benefits of those who are afflicted and wishing to be permanently cured, they can obtain a bottle at my house located on West 11th street. Yours truly,
J. J. SEALE,
Medford, Or.

OF THE VOTERS

MORE REPORTS FROM LABOR COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE GIVEN OUT TO PUBLIC.

Data Taken from Registration Books All Over States Showing Occupation and Nativity of Voters Who Registered for the June Election.

The remainder of the county statistical reports have been completed by State Labor Commissioner O. P. Hoff, and the figures are given here. The figures have a good deal to do with the economic situation in this state; for this reason they are very interesting. In Baker county there are 40 lawyers, 10 assayers, 34 barbers, 25 bartenders, 60 blacksmiths, 33 bookkeepers, 33 butchers, 145 carpenters, 106 contractors, 146 clerks, 23 cooks, 18 contractors, 14 county officials, 23 capitalists, 12 cigarmakers, 10 dentists, 27 doctors, 20 druggists, 14 editors, 10 electricians, 32 engineers, 1159 farmers, 11 foremen, 23 hotel keepers, 12 insurance men, 496 laborers, 148 carpenters, 63 clerks, 13 loggers, 46 lumbermen, 20 machinists, 14 masons, 21 mechanics, 187 merchants, 53 millmen, 936 miners, 12 ministers, 11 musicians, 26 painters, 13 plumbers, 23 printers, 17 inspectors, 10 real estate dealers, 44 railroad men, 19 salesmen, 43 salaried men, 49 stock men, 14 superintendents, 13 teachers, 133 teachers, 21 U. S. officials, 12 wood cutters, while the remainder of the 4630 are divided among 100 other different trades and occupations.

In Curry county there are only 515 voters registered; 272 are ranchers, 12 are stock men, 72 are laborers, 31 are contractors, 15 physicians, 133 electricians, 24 engineers, 29 factory men, 18 fishermen, 2303 farmers, 15 hotel keepers, 818 laborers, 10 loggers, 15 lumbermen, 14 machinists, 10 manufacturers, 117 merchants, 98 millmen, 21 ministers, 11 miners, 11 motormen, 4 painters, 31 paper makers, 17 railroad men, 13 school keepers, 15 shoemakers, 22 teachers, and 13 U. S. employes, there are .03 occupations represented by the remainder of the 4351 voters registering.

In Clatsop county there are 26 attorneys, 17 barbers, 32 blacksmiths, 15 butchers, 145 carpenters, 63 clerks, 13 contractors, 15 physicians, 133 electricians, 24 engineers, 29 factory men, 18 fishermen, 2303 farmers, 15 hotel keepers, 818 laborers, 10 loggers, 15 lumbermen, 14 machinists, 10 manufacturers, 117 merchants, 98 millmen, 21 ministers, 11 miners, 11 motormen, 4 painters, 31 paper makers, 17 railroad men, 13 school keepers, 15 shoemakers, 22 teachers, and 13 U. S. employes, there are .03 occupations represented by the remainder of the 4351 voters registering.

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The Voters' Nativity
In Baker county the nativity of voters shows a very large preponderance as being natives of the United States; 4002 having been born within the United States and 628 being of foreign birth. Of these Germany leads with 120, Canada next, 131, and England

ABOUT THE HOP

COMMISSIONER HOFF FIXES COST OF THIS PRODUCT AT SEVEN CENTS PER POUND.

State Labor Commissioner O. P. Hoff is preparing reports covering all the economic situation of this state. Among other matter covering the agricultural situation in this state he has the following about the hop industry that is particularly interesting at this time.

He says: The hop plant has been known on the continent of Europe for ages, and its cultivation for commercial purposes has been carried on for about 500 years. The first known attempt at growing the plant in the U. S. was in 1648. Up to 1890 N. Y. was the principal hop growing state of the Union. Oregon today lays claim to producing more hops than any other state. The plant will grow in any temperate climate where the winters are not too long to allow the plant an early start in the spring, where the weather is not foggy for any length of time, and where there is plenty of rain fall early in the season.

Oregon has such a climate. In 1899 there were 16 counties in the U. S. producing over 1,000,000 pounds of hops each, and first on the list stood Marion county, Oregon, with a credit of 5,750,888 pounds, eighth on the list stood Polk county with 2,633,800 pounds, Yamhill county tenth with 2,752,845 pounds, Clackamas county twelfth with 1,513,200 pounds. The state average on production is about 956 pounds per acre in Oregon. Marion county's average is about 927, Polk's 1,026, Yamhill's 978, Clackamas 922.

Oregon produced eight pounds of marketable hops in 1850, 493 in 1860, 9,745 in 1870, 244,371 in 1880, 3,613,726 in 1890, 14,675,577 in 1900, and 15,660,000 in 1903. In 1900 Marion county produced 11.7 per cent of the entire crop of the U. S. and in 1903 about 11.9 per cent of the entire crop.

In 1903 there were 17,000 acres of hops producing 15,660,000 pounds at a labor cost of 7 cents per pound or \$1,096,200 distributed among 27,965 people, pickers and other workers, an average of about \$39.20 per person.

The average cost of labor of picking a quantity of hops, which, when dried makes one pound, is 3.72 cents. These figures are arrived at by taking an average of all reports sent in.

Woven Wire Fencing
HOP WIRE
Place your orders now and get special discount. Car of fencing from factory to arrive Oct. 20.
WALTER MORLEY, Salem Fence Works
60 Court Street, Salem.

THE OPEN SEASON
OPPORTUNITIES FOR NIMRODS TO FOLLOW IN THE CHASE FOR COUPLE OF MONTHS.
Open Season for Upland Game Begins Today—Various Restrictions in the Laws Permitting Hunting—Many to Take Advantage of First Day.

(From Saturday's Daily.)
Everybody has an opportunity to hunt game today, providing he has a gun and the time.
Today the open season for various kinds of game begins. This especially refers to prairie chicken, grouse, native pheasants, Chinese pheasants, quail, Bob White quail, and partridge. These birds can be killed lawfully today, and until the first of December next, and no doubt the freedom allowed by the law will be taken advantage of the fullest extent. Especially today will every rusty old gun within the state be cleaned up and with somebody behind it sally forth after the feathered tribe.

However, unfortunately people who inhabit the illiberal where the birds have their habitat have been in very small measure respecters of the law, and the result has been that the birds are getting scarce every year. It is getting behind it sally forth after the feathered tribe.

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Call and see him. Consultation free. Patients out of the city write for blank and circular. Enclose stamp. Address The C. Gee Wood Chinese Medicine Co., 23 Alder street, Portland, Oregon. Mention this paper.

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