

Editorial Page of The Daily Journal

By HOFER BROTHERS.

Scraps News Association Telegrams.

Published every afternoon except Sunday at 197 Commercial street.

Subscription terms:

Daily one year, \$4.00 in advance; daily three months, \$1.00 in advance; daily by carrier, 50c per month; weekly one year, \$1.00 in advance.

JOURNAL SPECIAL DELIVERY.

One week 10c; one month 35c; three months \$1.00.

At Journal office; at Daus's grocery, South Salem; at Bowersox's grocery, New Park; Asylum Avenue Grocery Store; Electric Grocery, East State street.

Single Copies—Price 5 cents. Price to newsboys 2½ cents per copy.

To Mail Subscribers—The date when your subscription expires is on the address label of each paper. When that date arrives, if your subscription has not again been paid in advance, your name is taken from the list. A change of date on the address label is a receipt.

Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Oregon as second-class matter.

THE BEEF TRUST INQUIRY.

The inquiry now going on before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce into the organization and workings of the beef trust is reaching a stage that is interesting, not only to those who must buy fresh meats at retail but to the raisers of beef stock on the Western ranges.

For several years past the cattle drovers and dealers complain that the Chicago packers are manipulating the markets for the purpose of keeping down the price of beef on the hoof, while they exact high prices from retail dealers who must dispense it in small quantities to consumers. The packers seek to explain existing conditions by saying that there is a combine of the retail dealers in the face of the low wholesale prices paid for steers from the range.

Representative Martin, of South Dakota, recently appeared before the committee in behalf of the cattle dealers and related the experience of a stockman who took a train load of steers to Chicago. He says that when the cattle reached Chicago he invited the packers to bid for his stock and solicited offers from seven different packers. From all he received the same bid. Though it was ridiculously low his necessities compelled him to sell.

When the time came to meet the bidders he was somewhat surprised to find that only one appeared and to him the sale was made. This feature of the deal aroused his curiosity and he determined to quietly observe what became of the cattle. He found that on the night following the sale the cattle were divided into seven different lots and parceled out to the seven packing firms from which he had invited bids.

Here was a "community of interest" that would seem to demand some explanation and the need of such is further intensified by a brief comparison of beef prices during the past two years. Mr. Martin stated that before the injunction was issued relating to the beef trust, the packers would agree at night on the price they would bid for beef on the hoof the next day, which was the condition Mr. Martin's friend "run up against" when he sought buyers for his train load of steers.

The magnitude of their profits thus made is well illustrated by a few figures which Mr. Martin furnished the committee. He stated that on the first of February, 1902, the price of "good to extra" steers was \$6.50 per hundred weight and the price of "good to extra" beef sides was \$3.37½. On the first of August, 1903, the price paid for live beef by the packers had dropped to \$5.17—a decline of a trifle more than 20 per cent—but the prices of beef sides sold by the packers for the trade remained unchanged.

During the month of August last, 293,000 steers were sold in Chicago, and the extra profit to the trust as a result of maintaining the price on sides, while it cut the price paid on the hoof, aggregated \$3,882,263, or \$149,317 for each of the 26 working days of the month. This is an average of \$21,331 per day to each of seven companies. This will enable any

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of them to pay a fine of \$5000 a day for violating the terms of an injunction against their nefarious practices and still have a good profit left.

This information makes it plain why cattle men are securing low prices for beef while consumers are paying high prices for their meats at retail. The situation demands some sort of legislation that will put an end to this species of robbery. For a number of years there have been allegations about the manner in which the Chicago beef market is manipulated and it is clearly the duty of congress to determine whether the packers are holding up both the beef producers and beef consumers. The question is one that cannot be kept down, for it touches the pocketbooks of the former class as well as both the pocketbooks and stomachs of the meat eaters.—Seattle Times.

A STRONG MAN FOR SENATOR.

In the Coos-Curry district Hon. R. D. Hume is liable to prove the strong man for joint-senator. He is a man of the right kind of ability to serve southern Oregon well.

So far as the rest of the state is concerned, it has a deep interest in the selection of men like Hume who have convictions that are not for sale.

He is a man who cannot be terrorized by Harvey Scott or fooled by any of the sharp politicians, and that kind of a man can accomplish about as much for his constituents as those who are easier to work.

The Republicans of that part of the state will strengthen the influence of their section by sending a man to the Senate who has had the experience that Hume has, and who don't take dictation from any faction.

Precedence in England.

I knew a young American girl, says a writer in the Atlantic, who, going to England under the care of an Ambassador's family and attending her first large dinner party, and looking about her, selected as the guest in the room who most interested her one man of distinguished aspect whom she resolved to watch. When the guests were ushered into the dining-hall according to the laws of precedence she found herself at the very end of the brilliant procession, as one of two untitled plebeians in the room, assigned to the escort of the very man who had interested her, and who turned out to be Samuel Rogers, the poet and patron of art and the recognized head of literary society in England. She always said that she secured two things at that entertainment, namely, the most delightful companion that she ever had at a dinner party, and, moreover, a lesson in the outcome of mere hereditary rank that would last a lifetime. Rogers' poems are not now read so much as formerly, but at that time the highest literary honor a man could have was to dine with Rogers. He was also one of the richest bankers in London, and was very possibly the only person in the room who had won for himself a reputation outside of his own little island; but he was next to nobody in that company, and the little American girl was the nobody.

A novel method is invoked by an Easterner, who was in town last week, for determining the desirability of places he visits in search of a location. He visits the cemeteries at each town or city, and by the number of graves there proceeds to figure out mathematically the healthfulness of the location. He has been on the road now for several weeks, and at each place where conditions seem inviting, he made a pilgrimage to the cities of the dead. His announcement, made on the street, after a review of the Corvallis cemeteries, was that this town seems to be about the healthiest place he has struck. He says that all the towns out West are healthier than similar places in the East.—Corvallis Times.

X-RADIUMS

An exchange advises its readers to avoid breathing the night air. As that is all there is to breathe for about 11 long hours—the advice is better to give than receive.

The earthquake on the Sound following the primaries in Portland, is supposed to be only a coincidence, and not indicative of the force with which the defeated impinged upon the cuticle of Mother Earth.

The just gets more than his share of the rain, when the unjust gets the first swipe at the umbrellas.

Bryan will probably object to having that Kentucky baby named after him. It was a case of only 3 to 1.

Mrs. Bertha Selzer has brought suit against a neighbor, Mrs. Englehardt, to restrain that lady from bothering with a proposition to trade husbands. Maybe Mrs. Englehardt could swap the old man for a dog.

Cleveland, Hanna, Roosevelt and Bryan were the names given quadruplets born to Mrs. Lura Wyman, wife of one of the wealthiest land owners in Central Kentucky. One being a girl was christened Willie Bryan Wyman. Its a little tough on the Nebraska to name the girl after him—also tough on the girl. But won't it be a happy family in the sweet subsequently?

Niedermeier confessed to 23 murders, which indicates that justice needs a few good hounds. She is too slow on the trail.

The Echo Jack rabbit cannery has been attached for lumber and supplies furnished it. It was not only a hare-canned, but a hare-brained proposition.

Klachay ought to be up to snuff; it makes one want to sneeze just to try to pronounce it.

The Iowa legislature has passed a bill prohibiting the docking of horses' tails. "Thereby hangs a tail."

Kuropatkin is knocking the socks off the Japs over the long distance phone.

The Mormon church knows about how it feels to be a political Port Arthur.

The Jap navy continues to transform the Russian ships into Holland boats.

Hon. Geo. C. Brownell spoke in the city hall a short time ago. Maybe he can tell where the missing ordinances have gone.

Everything on the Siberian road is sidetracked to let General Kuropatkin get to the front, and then, perhaps, the Japanese will sidetrack him.

A backward, lingering spring is like a shy, awkward man, producing more results than one too forward, and nipped in the bud by an untimely frost.

The Republican party of Marion county will not put itself in a position where it will be in any unfriendly relation toward the Oregon delegation of the President. It will not slap Mitchell, Hermann or any of the boys at the front.

Now that the last finishing touch has been put on the Republican club organizations, it is presumed that the procession will fall in line, and it is only a question of the size of the majority in Marion county. Of course, there is the Democratic party to reckon with.

Nothing but an earthquake or the kick of a mule will put a limit on the assurance of some people.

There is nothing to prevent the Republicans from putting up two candidates for circuit judge who are able lawyers, perfect gentlemen and winners.

"Margaret," the correspondent of the Roseburg Review, who furnishes the mental pabulum from the vicinages of Dixonville, feeling the budding influences of gentle spring, bursts forth into the blossoms of peas, as follows:

The people round 'bout Dixonville
Are mostly mad as me.
They say to keep my housework done
And let the weather be.
But I am going to say my say,
And say it right out plain.
That folks that live at Dixonville
Don't have to pray for rain."

IRRIGATION THEIR HOPE.

Owyhee Waters Make Malheur Deserts Blossom as the Rose.

J. S. Hunter, a well-known stockman of Malheur county, was in the

city today, and says the activity in irrigation work in his county is very marked this spring.

One of the largest irrigation enterprises in that district is now under way, 18 miles above Ontario, on the Owyhee river, where a dam 100 feet high will be built across the canyon of the Owyhee, and a reservoir formed sufficient to irrigate 50,000 acres of desert land below.

This dam will form a reservoir about a mile in length, with a depth of from 10 to 30 feet, and a main canal will lead from it above the present ditches operated by the Nevada and Owyhee canals.

In time it is hoped to extend this canal about 12 miles further down the foothills above Owyhee to cover the famous Dead Ox flats, one of the most fertile and promising tracts of land in Eastern Oregon when put under cultivation.

The entire valley of the Owyhee river is a solid alfalfa farm, now growing from two to three crops per year, while it was a desert less than five years ago. He looks for still greater developments in his county in the future and hopes to see the Harney county government irrigation project carried to completion.

Most of the mountain valleys of Malheur county are now reclaimed and are supporting a population, and he says that fruit and vegetables grow in abundance in places where it was thought five years ago it would be impossible to raise such products on account of the frost and dry climate.

J. C. CONN IS LOST OR DEAD

Hon. D. S. K. Buick received a letter Sunday from his son, Walter Buick who lives at Silver Lake, Oregon, in which he gives some details relating to the mysterious disappearance of J. C. Conn from that place. This letter relates, among other things that Mr. Conn left his store in the town of Silver Lake about 7 o'clock a. m. on Friday, March 4th, without saying anything to his clerk, Frank Paine, as to his intended departure. The weather was cold and the ground frozen, yet he took neither overshoes nor wraps of any kind. He was last seen going toward the bridge over Silver creek, northwest of town. As Mr. Paine supposed he had gone away to attend to some business matters no special attention was given to his absence during the day. As he failed to return to the store the next morning, Mr. Paine became alarmed and about noon started two men out quietly to investigate, still thinking Mr. Conn had perhaps gone out to some of the adjacent stock ranches and stayed over night. No trace being discovered, the whole community was notified and a general search begun. This was kept up from day to day and the whole surrounding country was thoroughly gone over, and even the creek was dragged, but up to 6:40 p. m. Tuesday, March 8, no trace of the missing man had been found.

Theories of both accident and suicide have been advanced, and in connection with the latter it was remembered by some that a shot was heard in the vicinity of the bridge on Friday morning. An old pistol is also missing from the store, although Mr. Conn's two good revolvers were still there in their usual place. Mr. Conn had apparently been dependent over the loss of his three fine freight wagons, valued at \$600, which were recently burned, and the death of a valuable horse. But these circumstances of course, prove nothing. His business in the store is said to be excellent. Intermittent chinooks had swelled the creek almost out of its banks since Mr. Conn disappeared, making any search therein very difficult. He was a highly esteemed citizen and Mr. Buick expresses the desire of all that he may yet be found in safety.—Roseburg Review.

Time slips away from the most watchful man. Only a watch can keep time.

HAIR TELLS CHARACTER.

Color of Hair Said to Indicate a Person's Temperament.

Many people believe that blonde, or light hair denotes affection and dark hair constancy. A person without hair is not devoid of character; far from it. The disposition of the average bald-headed man is to show such solicitude for the welfare of others, that he neglects himself. A germ causes baldness. Prof. Sabouraud, of Paris, France, introduced a rabbit with Dandruff germ, causing it to become totally bald in five weeks' time. To rid the scalp of these dangerous germs it is necessary to apply Newbro's Herpicide.

"Destroy the cause—you remove the effect."
Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich.
Daniel J. #77, Special Agent.

Ayer's Hair Vigor

So young? And hair turning gray? Why not have the early rich color restored? It is easily done, every time.

THE DUFUR RAILROAD.

Construction Work Will Begin Within Ten Days—Plenty of Capital Interested.

The railroad to Dufur is now an assured fact. The Great Southern Railroad Company will break ground at the Jacob Staller place on Three-Mile within 10 days, and will push construction work with all possible haste until the road is completed. This information was given to the Times-Mountaineer this morning by a representative of the road.

The Great Southern Railroad Company is incorporated under the laws of Washington with a capital stock of \$100,000, all of which has been subscribed, and sufficient bonds have been floated to build the road from the mouth of Fifteen-Mile, three miles above The Dalles, to Dufur, a distance of 27 miles by actual survey. The officers of the company are John Helmrick, president; W. F. Nelson, vice-president; Julius Myer, of the firm of Myer & Frank, of Portland, secretary; John G. Helmrick, treasurer. All of the officers, except Mr. Myer, are residents of Seattle, and the principal office of the company is in that city. The home counsel for the company is the well-known law firm of Ballinger, Ronalds & Battle, of Seattle, while George G. Joseph, of Portland, is the Oregon attorney for the concern.

All the officers of the company are here arranging for the commencement of construction work, which will be under the supervision of W. F. Nelson, who has the contract for doing the grading and putting down the

iron. Mr. Nelson arrived here from Seattle with a gang of men, and is ready to begin operations at an early date. When work is in progress the road will be completed in both directions, and it is expected that the road will be completed by next fall.—Times-Mountaineer.

\$100 Reward.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thus by destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the system strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer one Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY, & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

A candidate of one of the minority party does not necessarily get the miners' votes.

Does a lady elephant keep her crotch locked in her breast or is it trunk?

A Jersey cow gives up Jersey milk, even in Nebraska.

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McElroy's orchestra plays Thursday afternoon, and Mrs. Hings sings in the evening.

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If not, you are away behind the times. However, they are always glad to see new patrons, and if you call on them, you will be more than pleased. You will find them at the corner of Commercial and Ferry streets.