

THE WEISER SEMI-WEEKLY SIGNAL

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR.

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POLITICAL GOSSIP BACK IN WASHINGTON

What is Being Said Back There About Many Things Out Here In Idaho.

The Washington correspondence of the Portland Oregonian contains the following: President Roosevelt has hopes of having a good Republican of Senator Dubois. In fact, he has several times written the senior Idaho senator back to the fold, and has assured him he would be received in full fellowship should he choose to return. But Dubois, purely political questions, continues to be an anti-administration

There is one thing, though, that has strengthened Dubois with the president—his recent determined support of the administration's forestry policy, and his denunciation of the federal policy of irrigation. The fact that Senator Heyburn is working at cross purposes with the president over forestry questions has made Dubois the stronger at the White House. More than that, the president has been informed by those who know that the forestry policy of today is unpopular in Idaho: a majority of the people are opposed to it, and are fighting for the creation of new reserves. In matters of forestry as in other matters, the president is sure he is right, and having that assurance, he goes ahead. Those who are with him are heartily commended, not so much because they support the president, but because they support a policy that has proven successful, and is working in every western state to the interest of the public and against the forest.

The forestry question did not become a sharp issue between the Idaho senators until Senator Heyburn fled to the president his strong letter protesting against the creation of new reserves. He did not consult his colleagues, but went ahead independently. When Senator Dubois saw that his colleague had done, he set out to collect facts in his own way, and additional confirmation of facts furnished him by the forestry bureau, and then proceeded to rip Senator Heyburn's protest to shreds. It is the opinion of experienced observers that Senator Heyburn made a grave mistake when he undertook to fight the president on the forestry question. It may be true, but both senators admit it is true, that the overwhelming sentiment in Idaho today is against the president, and in favor of Senator Heyburn to the popular vote. So did Governor Gooding and Representative French. But they were up at an unfortunate time. No one had they thrown down the gauntlet than the president returned to the west, had a conference with Wood Pinchot, chief of the forestry bureau, and read the letter of Senator Heyburn, and he squarely defined his position, and announced to Senator Heyburn and his colleagues and followers that they would have to swallow a bitter pill, for he intended to set aside seven big reserves, in face of the protest.

Most western senators and representatives Republican as well as Democrat, are in hearty accord with the president on the forestry policy. They believe that forest reserves, properly administered, will operate to the benefit of the people. Without these reserves, the forest is a matter of a few years to the lumberman and half a dozen years to the lumbermen will have cleared the magnificent forests of the west, and they have swept the east, and the western states will be the poorer for the future. One of the principal reasons why the president is setting aside so many reserves in Idaho is the devastating operations of the lumber king, who has no eyes for the future, but is gobbling up the forest in sight of their immediate needs.

for a visit. Mr. Page states he was pleased with the mineral display made by Idaho. He found it decidedly the best on the grounds.

While the state made such a fine showing in that department, however, it had nothing to represent two of our great resources—wool and timber. There was not a strand of wool on exhibition nor a foot of timber. Speaking of this deficiency of the exhibit, Mr. Page narrated that he fell in with an interesting man at the Idaho building who wished to secure information about the state. He showed him the mineral exhibit, explaining many features of it, and they looked over the other highly creditable exhibits, the stranger manifesting great interest. Finally the visitor asked "Do you produce wool in your state?" Mr. Page told him we did. Speaking up again, the stranger asked if there were no timber in Idaho, and again Mr. Page was obliged to admit that one of our great resources had been overlooked in getting up the exhibit.

All other wool states had fine wool exhibits, Mr. Page said, and the other northwestern states had fine exhibits of timber and lumber. He said he was willing to go on record on this subject in the hope of arousing discussion that would lead to something being done to get the two industries represented. There was not room for much of a timber display, but enough could be put in to show the variety and quality of our timber, especially the white pine.

No Road District in Thunder.

The Thunder Mountain country is still without a road district and the commissioners have adjourned until in July and then if they should see fit to take this matter up we would hardly get the road work started until the first of September, says the Thunder Mt. News. This will come in our busy season and will only serve to collect this money and what will we get in return? We need the road repairing now and not next fall. Our roads need repairing as all other mountain roads do in the spring and from the present outlook the only work they will receive will be from donations.

FIGHT DEADLY BATTLE WITH "RUSTLERS"

SIX MEN ARE KILLED IN AN ENCOUNTER BETWEEN THIEVES AND IDAHO CATTLE MEN.

Blackfoot, Idaho, June 12.—A battle has occurred in the Jackson's Hole country between cattlemen and "rustlers" who were driving away a herd of stolen cattle. Six men are reported killed, four rustlers and two cattlemen. Several horses were

killed during the fight, five being shot down in one place. The ranchers recovered their cattle. The rustlers were headed for the nearest railroad point with 80 head of stolen cattle when overtaken by a force of cattlemen and a running fight for 60 miles took place.

TO LOCATE LOST MINE HE DISCOVERED IN '62

Veteran Colorado Prospector is in Search of Rich Diggings in North Part of County.

W. H. Myers, of Paonia, Colorado and Ed Sweeney, of this city, left Saturday on a prospecting trip in the northern part of the county, says the Salubria News-Letter. In the year of '62 Mr. Myers found a rich placer prospect in that section but was driven out by the Indians, he returned in '63 but was too late in the season for placer mining. Mr. Myers then made a trip east and when he returned west stopped in Denver as the Indians were on the war path and it was not safe to venture from that point. Mr. Myers then made Colorado his home engaging in business at several places finally settling at Paonia, the greatest fruit belt in the world, where he engaged extensively in ranching. Selling his ranch a few years ago this veteran prospector again felt the gold fever tingling in his veins and came to Idaho to look up his long hidden bonanza, but owing to the many changes of the country since his early visit he was baffled in his search. Failure only whetted his ambition to succeed and he made two more fruitless trips. Mr. Myers informs us that this will be his last attempt to locate the lost mine as he is getting too old for the hardships of the hills, and if he does not find the yellow sand bed this trip he will give it up; he feels certain that his efforts this trip will be crowned with success as his three previous trips have served to revive his memory and he now feels sure he can go to the exact spot where he panned so many years ago.

BILLY BORAH IS AFTER THE TOGA

Declares He will Ask For Nomination at Republican Convention.

The Spokesman-Review publishes the following: W. E. Borah of Boise, Idaho, who was defeated by W. B. Heyburn for the United States senate in 1903, announced last night in an interview at the Hotel Spokane that he will be a candidate for Senator Dubois' seat next year. In answer to a question he said: "I will be a candidate for the senate. I am going direct to the people, and the matter will be determined in the primaries and in the county convention. It will be in the open. I have always been in favor of the election of senators by popular vote. Four years ago I urged the adoption of a resolution covering this subject before the platform committee in our republican state convention. It was voted down. "Now, so far as my own candidacy is concerned, I am going to force the principle of popular election just as far as the present condition of election law will permit."

"Do you understand that Judge Reilly of the federal court will be a candidate for the senate against you?" "No, he has never told me so," replied Mr. Borah. "But I am satisfied he has many friends who would like to see him a candidate, and I am free to say that should I be nominated I know of no one whom I would favor more than Judge Reilly. Idaho owes him a debt of gratitude."

New Mormon Sugar Co.

Salt Lake, June 10.—The Western Idaho Sugar company filed articles of incorporation with the county clerk today. This corporation has an authorized capitalization of \$2,000,000 of which 10 per cent has been paid into the company's treasury. The unpaid balance of the stock is to be called for in installments as the board of directors determines. The principal office of the company is to be at Salt Lake and its officers are: president, Joseph H. Smith; vice president, Thomas F. Smith; secretary and treasurer, Homer G. Whitney; directors, Joseph H. Smith, Thomas F. Smith, John H. Smith, John H. Smith, John H. Smith.

OREGONIANS WELL PLEASED WITH WASHINGTON CO. LANDS

Far Ahead of Theirs for Alfalfa -- 14,000 Acres Recently Located Near Cambridge.

"Almost all of the land in Middle valley, near Cambridge, has now been homesteaded, or scripped, and largely by people from Umatilla county," said C. H. Carter this morning. Mr. Carter has just returned from Idaho, where he went last week with a party consisting of J. H. Raley, C. J. Smith, William Atchison and C. J. Whitaker. The last two men already had possession there, and the others went for the purpose of seeing the country with a view to purchasing land.

According to Mr. Carter, the bottom land through the center of the valley, which makes a strip several miles wide and about 25 long, is very fertile and is far ahead of any land in this section for raising such crops as alfalfa. Immense crops of hay are raised there, but owing to the poor market only \$4 or \$5 a ton is secured for it. This land is now valued at about \$50 per acre and if it were in this county it would be worth \$200 per acre, in Mr. Carter's opinion.

Thus far the bottom land is all that has been cultivated in that valley, and the land that is now being taken has formerly been used as range. It is rolling land, and according to Mr. Carter and others who have seen it, will undoubtedly make good wheat land. No wheat crops have yet been put in, however.

Among the Umatilla county people who have taken land in the vicinity of Cambridge, are Dr. C. J. Whitaker, William Atchison, Harvey Richardson, of Athens, Charles and Frank Stanton of Helix, Jesse Moore and Mr. Reed of Adams, Messrs. Swisher and Johnson of Adams, and George Minger, formerly in partnership with Conrad Platzoeder here. Mr. Minger is now in the sheep business there.

In taking the new land those who have homesteaded rights have been buying the land with scrip. Guaranteed scrip is now worth approximately \$8 per acre, and can be applied to any vacant government land not included in a reserve. However, according to the gentlemen who have just returned from Idaho, the latter part of the untraveled land has now been taken, so that the country does not now offer as good a field for speculation as it did a short time ago. The irrigators' interests are being protected.

WHEN SAMMY SPANKED JAPAN.

A paragraph is going the rounds showing that we once whipped the Japanese. It reminds us that on June 24, 1863, Japan announced the ports opened by treaties, and later some English, French and American vessels bombarded the Japanese forts and vessels. A western newspaper had exhorted this episode in connection with the affair. The American force was commanded by Davis S. McDougal and consisted of the Wyoming, a second class 20-ton sloop carrying six guns. The Japanese had three converted merchantmen, mounting 20 guns, which were aided by seven land forts with 3 guns. The action was brief, lasting only one hour. "At the end of the engagement the Japanese did not have any warship left and the seven forts were silenced. The Wyoming was slightly injured, but still in the ring. Probably most newspaper readers are unaware that the United States once fought a naval battle in which the Japanese were not victors."—Ex.

COURT IS IN SESSION.

The June term of district court for the Seventh judicial district convened in this city Monday with Judge Frank J. Smith presiding. The calendar is a small one and it was not considered necessary to summon a jury. The criminal cases on the docket are: State of Idaho vs. Ren wain and Frank Turner. Remittitur from supreme court. State of Idaho vs. J. W. Lawrence, charge of burglary. State of Idaho vs. Marshall Hammock, charge of assault with intent to commit murder. Several civil cases will also be disposed of.

CONFIRM RUMOR

They Tell a Lewiston Man That the P. and I. N. Will Go North.

Mr. W. F. Kettenbach, a Lewiston gentleman, recently visited Portland in company with a party of high O. R. & N. officials. On the trip the officials got communication with Mr. Kettenbach and on his return to Lewiston, he gave the Tribune some of the secrets which the O. R. & N. men had told him, which included the building of a line from Riparia to Lewiston and the extension of the P. & I. N. to connect—and O. R. & N. officials ought to know what is going to happen. The Tribune says: "In speaking of the railroad construction in the Lewiston country," continued Mr. Kettenbach, "it was the general belief of the O. R. & N. party that the contract for the Lewiston-Riparia line will be awarded within the next 30 days. It was also stated that the P. & I. N. was slated to be extended from Council to Lewiston. The contract on the Lewiston-Riparia line has been held up on account of the engineering department as Engineer Roschke is particularly anxious that all surveys be carefully checked before actual construction commences. The road is destined to play too important a part in the railroad operations of the northwest to be built in a hurry."

GOOD WORK CHEAP

H. B. Johns has started a new blacksmith shop at the old plant in front of Matthew's & Stanton's hardware building to give his customers the best work at low prices. One and one-half cents per pound for iron and steel.

THE PROPOSED ROUTE OF WARREN-BIG CREEK ROAD

The Thunder Mountain News Tells of its Advantages Over Southern Route.

The State Commission has decided to take up the northern route into Big creek from Warren. While this route might not meet with the approval of some of our citizens it will be so much toward opening up this great mining district, says the Thunder Mt. News. The road has been promised on the condition the citizens of that district pay half and the state one-half of the expense. This, they no doubt will do as it is to their interest.

The route of the proposed road leads southwesterly from Warren up Warren creek to its head, over the summit to Pony creek, down that stream to the south fork of the Salmon, up the south fork to Elk creek and up that stream to the Elk creek summit, then dropping down to the Werdenhoff mine on Big creek. Bids will be called for at once, the idea being to have construction work begun on June 25.

If this road is completed by fall to the Werdenhoff mine they will readily see that it will be necessary to extend it on to Roosevelt in order to get our trade. This northern route would not only prove a revenue to the people in that section but will be an accommodation to a great many here who are compelled to travel this route. (That means everybody—Signal Ed.) If a person goes the southern route in the winter time they are compelled to go down through parts of Oregon and Washington before they reach the county seat. Think of how many days and how many hundreds of miles they travel to reach this point? The people in Grangeville have no interest in us any more than to collect their share of the taxes and make us humble servants for a lot of high salaried county officials. What have we received from the county in return for our support? The privilege of casting a vote to support these officials.

Russian Losses.

The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says there were ladies on board the hospital ships captured by the Japanese, including Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's niece, who asked permission to nurse her uncle. The correspondent says that the total Russian casualties in the naval battle were 14,000 perished and 4,600 captured, while 3,000 escaped. He adds that a large percentage of the prisoners are suffering from disease.

University Regents Transact Business.

Moscow, June 9.—The board of regents of the University of Idaho adjourned tonight after being in session for two days. Much business was transacted. A site for the metallurgical building was selected across the street north of the campus which will be acquired at the nominal price of \$1300. An effort will be made to complete the building this year. The estimates for all departmental expenses, amounting to \$7000, for next year, were approved. The proposed improvements of the athletic field, drafting room and men's lavatories were approved.

Dr. Miller tendered his resignation as president of the mining department, which was accepted. J. M. Ashby, professor of zoology, has applied for and received a year's leave of absence for research work. A substitute will be secured in his absence.

The Astoria Branch of the State Bank is located at Astoria, and will be opened soon in the Department of Agriculture.