

THE NEWS RECORD

(Twice-a-Week.)

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Wallowa News, established March 3, 1899.

Published Wednesdays and Saturdays at Enterprise, Oregon, by THE ENTERPRISE PRESS

Office East side Court House Square

Entered in the Enterprise postoffice as second-class matter.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1909.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

The subscription price of the weekly News Record has been \$1.50 a year. Subscription to the Twice-a-Week paper will be \$2.25 a year. \$1.25 for six months, invariably cash in advance. The new rate will go into effect February 1, 1909. Until that time subscriptions will be received at \$1.50 a year. This price includes the colored comic supplement.

THE QUESTION.

Next Tuesday at noon, the legislature will ballot for United States senator. The election was decided last June when Governor Chamberlain received a majority of the votes of the people to succeed Charles W. Fulton. At the same time a majority of members of the legislature were elected pledged to carry the verdict of the people into effect. If for any reason, they or any of them break that pledge, they will have proved themselves dishonest, just as much so as a man who is dishonest in a business transaction. And those who try to tempt the legislators into breaking those solemn pledges, are no better than bribers, and it matters not what the inducement offered—whether money, office, party fealty, political chicanery or high-sounding blarney about the constitution.

This fulfillment of statement No. one has come right down to a question of morals, of common honesty and there are not two sides to it. The legislator who breaks that pledge is dishonest. The man who asks him to break that pledge is dishonest.

It is not a political question at all. It is not a question of whether it is wise or good politics to take the pledge. But it is a question whether, after a man has made a solemn pledge to do a certain thing knowing at the time all the possibilities of that pledge, and now without a particle of releasing evidence, SHALL HE BREAK HIS SOLEMN PROMISE TO HIS CONSTITUENTS?

COMMUNICATIONS.

Barnyard Manure.

To the Editor: Noticing that you give considerable prominence in the News-Record to the scientific aspect of agricultural matters and knowing that some farmers question even the utility of applying barnyard manure to the soil, I infer that a few remarks on the subject may be of interest to those of your readers who are engaged in drawing a living from "the bosom of mother earth." In the first place let me say, that plant food is present in the soil in two conditions: one of them solid, or insoluble in water and therefore of no present use as a plant food, the other soluble and readily available for the use of plants. The former exists in the soil in practically inexhaustible quantities, while the latter is present in very small proportions. Of the substances which a plant requires for its growth all but four are present in sufficient quantity in nearly all soils. The four named in their order of importance are as follows: Nitrogen, phosphorus, potash and lime. Now what has happened when a soil is exhausted or "run down"; simply that one or probably more of the elements of fertility previously mentioned have been drawn upon by previous crops to such an extent that they are no longer present in sufficient quantities to produce satisfactory results. In such a condition of things barnyard manure is one of the best, if not the very best, agent for supplying the soil with the elements that have been taken from it, and restoring it to its former fertile condition, for the simple reason that being composed of the remnants of plants, and the effete matter thrown off from the systems of animals, it contains all the elements of plant food that the plant requires, and what is more, it contains them in a readily available condition.

Farther, barnyard manure besides containing all the elements of plant food that the plant requires is also an indirect fertilizer, both in a chemical and a mechanical sense. In the former sense it, during the process of decomposition, gives off large quantities of carbonic acid, which reacting on the dormant constituents of the soil causes them to pass

into a state of solution in which they are readily absorbed by the plant. In the latter sense it opens up a too compact soil, giving easier access to the forces of the atmosphere, thereby aiding them in their work of disintegrating the solid materials, and bringing them into a soluble and available condition, for it should be understood that even a piece of granite rock contains all but one of four substances previously enumerated. To a stiff clay soil barnyard manure is best applied in its fresh, or long state, that is when it is freshly made and mixed with plenty of straw or other vegetable matter. For a sandy, gravelly, or otherwise light soil it is best applied when well rotted, because in that condition it assists in the retention of moisture, and plant foods in a soluble form. An acquaintance of mine who was somewhat of an amateur in farming matters, asked an experienced farmer, which is the best time "to put manure on?" and got for a reply, "put it on," meaning thereby that you cannot be far wrong if instead of allowing the manure to lie in a pile for an indefinite time you apply it to the land irrespective of the season—in opinion which needs some modification, as I happen to know from experience. If manure is spread over a hillside when the ground is frozen heavy rain or strong "wash" of melted snow before the ground is thawed out, then the greatest portion of it will be carried down to the hollows below or, perhaps, into the nearest creek or river.

I believe I am right in stating that most of the upland soils of Wallowa county are of volcanic origin, and volcanic soils are rich in mineral plant food, but lacking in nitrogen, while on the other hand the soils of the bottom lands, the black soils, if they are deficient in anything it is probably in the mineral constituents. About two years ago I purchased a hillside when the ground is frozen heavy rain or strong "wash" of melted snow before the ground is thawed out, then the greatest portion of it will be carried down to the hollows below or, perhaps, into the nearest creek or river.

R. S. LOVELY, Wallowa County.

PUBLIC LAND SALE.

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at La Grande, Oregon, December 8th, 1908.

Notice is hereby given that, as directed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under provisions of Act of Congress approved June 27, 1906 (34 Stats., 517), we will offer at public sale, to the highest bidder, at 10 o'clock a. m., on the 23rd day of January, at this office, the following-described land: W 1/2 Sec. 29, W 1/2 NE 1/4 Sec. 32, T. 1 N., R. 45 E. W. M., Serial No. 0481.

Any persons claiming adversely the above-described land are advised to file their claims, or objections, on or before the time designated for sale.

F. C. BRAMWELL, Register.
A. A. ROBERTS, Receiver.

GAME LAWS.

Any person knowing of any violation of the game or fish laws of the state, or of persons not properly keeping screens over irrigation ditches, are requested to notify

JOE CLEMONS, Deputy State Game and Forest Warden, Zumwalt, Oregon. 421f

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Some Names Seen In Print

Rear Admiral Swinburne and the Cruise of His Fleet In the Pacific—Loyalty to Speaker Cannon

M. Bunau-Varilla and His Panama Canal Views. A Popular Washington Debutante

THE statement of M. Philippe Bunau-Varilla, chief engineer of the Panama canal under the French regime at the Isthmus, that the lock plan now being followed would result in certain disaster has resulted in much discussion. As the result of this and other statements from engineering authorities about the lock plan of construction, President Elect Taft is about to undertake a trip to Panama in order to satisfy himself that no mistakes are being made in the prosecution of this great task. It is believed that if he can be convinced that the lock plan is not entirely safe the change to a sea level will be recommended, and radical alterations in the work will in that event be made in all likelihood. M. Bunau-Varilla, while paying high tribute to the energy with which the American engineers are prosecuting the work, declared:

"It is doing a service to the United States to affirm that the plan being followed will almost infallibly end in the greatest disaster in the history of great public works ever recorded. The canal as conceived will exist or not according as the Gatun dam holds or

his present grade two years ago and entered the navy from Rhode Island in 1862. He has seen over twenty-five years of active duty on the sea. He participated in some of the most noted engagements of the Spanish war and later, in the Philippines, was senior of



REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM T. SWINBURNE, officer in command of the vessels assisting General Lawton in his campaign around Manila bay in June, 1899.

Representative Olcott of New York gave a little illustration of the way the average Cannon man proposes to stick to Uncle Joe. Mr. Olcott was asked who he favored for speaker.

"I am for Cannon," he replied.

"Would you be for Cannon if Taft opposed him?"

"I am for Cannon."

"Would you be for Cannon if he should be indicted for burglary?"

"I am for Cannon" was always the answer.

Perhaps Miss Ethel Roosevelt and Miss Helen Taft are the two members of the younger society set in Washington now most talked about. Miss Taft has made an especially brilliant record in her classes at college and seminary, being now at Bryn Mawr. There is naturally some eagerness on the part of Washington girls to be counted among the friends of these popular young women. One of those who are intimate with both Miss



MISS FRANCES M. WEBSTER, Roosevelt and Miss Taft is Miss Frances M. Webster, a pretty debutante of the season. She has been seen much in their company in recent months.

DOINGS IN OREGON

Interesting Items Gathered From All Parts of the State.

Health Board Makes Report.

Salem—Report of the State Board of Health for the biennial period ending September 30, being the third biennial report made since the organization of the board, has been received at the executive office. The report is voluminous and contains detailed information concerning the operations of the board for the year.

Typhoid fever is treated of at length, as is also tuberculosis. For the last biennial period there were 246 deaths reported from typhoid, making an estimate of 2460 cases in that time. During the same period there were 807 deaths from tuberculosis, the majority being under 50 years of age. The board strongly recommends serious consideration of these two diseases, with the end in view of supplying such measures as will reduce their prevalence to a minimum.

Stress is laid on the danger arising in harvest time in furnishing impure water to field hands, statistics showing that more than normal cases of fevers come in that season of the year.

Train Auditors to Take Tickets. Portland—A complete change in the methods of taking tickets on the Southern Pacific trains on the main line will go into effect within the next few days. The train conductor

will be relieved altogether from ticketing passengers or handling any money whatever. An additional functionary will accompany each train from one terminal to another and do all such work. All the conductor of passenger trains will have to do hereafter on the main line will be to run his train.

Although at present only the Southern Pacific main line in the Pacific system is affected, it is expected the same plan will be followed on the O. R. & N. soon. The new system is followed by many railroads in the East already.

Under the new system the conductor will not touch a ticket or handle a cent of money. The train auditor will make the whole run and will re-

War Claim Is Allowed.

Salem—Attorney-General Crawford has received a dispatch from Washington saying that the United States court of claims has allowed the state of Oregon \$199,000 on account of Civil War claims arising out of expenditures made by this state in raising and maintaining volunteer troops. Out of this sum \$19,900 will be paid to Washington lawyers who assisted in the case, and the remainder will be paid into the irreducible common school fund.

The principal items in the claim which has been allowed by the government were those for bounties and for extra pay for the enlisted men. In order to get men to enlist it was found necessary to pay bounties and bonds were issued for this purpose, which were afterward paid by the state.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Wallowa County, In the Matter of the Estate of Martha J. Brown, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned, the administrator of the estate of Martha J. Brown, deceased, has filed his final account of his administration of the said estate with the Clerk of the County Court in and for said County of Wallowa, and that the County Court of said Wallowa County, by order duly made and entered, has fixed Thursday, February 4th, 1909, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, as the time, and the County Court room in the County Court House in the City of Enterprise, in said county, as the place, to hear objections to said final account and settle the same. All parties interested in said estate having objections thereto, if any there be, are notified to present the same, in writing, at said time and place.

Dated this 4th day of January, 1909.

J. A. BURLEIGH,
Administrator of the Estate of
Martha J. Brown, Deceased. 2015

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