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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Events Occurring Throughout the State During the Past Week.

Harney Plans Big Show.
Burns.—Harney county farmers are preparing to make a big showing at the Northwest Products Exposition in Minneapolis next November. The Burns commercial club, the Harney county fair association and the Oregon and Western Colonization company have united in the appointment of a committee to have charge of the collection, arrangement and shipment of the samples and the colonization company has agreed to see that they are properly placed so they can be seen to best advantage.

Irrigation Work is Finished.
Hood River.—The first of this week marked the completion of two big systems of irrigation in the Hood River valley. One, the ditch of the Hood River Irrigation company, furnishes water to the orchards and strawberry patches of the west side in a community comprising 5000 acres of the apple valley land, and the other will water a fertile area of 2900 acres west of Dea, between the west fork of the Hood river and the stream proper.

KLAMATH WORK GOES ON
Second Unit of Reclamation Project Starts.

Klamath Falls.—Work on the second unit of the Klamath reclamation project has begun in earnest. The second unit covers lands in Foe valley on both sides of Lost river, the lands lying east of Lost river in the Klamath valley, between Olene and Merrill.

The Klamath project, on which work began in 1906, was originally planned to irrigate about 200,000 acres of land. Of this, the first unit, covering about 10,000 acres of the best of land, is completed and has been under irrigation since 1907. In part, some lands being added each year. It is nearly all farmed now. This first unit is in the Klamath valley, extending to the south and southeast from Klamath Falls, and lies between Lost and Klamath rivers. Another unit designed was to cover the marsh lands and a portion of the bed of Lower Klamath Lake, and covers with some high lands about 6000 acres.

Bridge Collapses and 3 are Hurt.
Eugene.—Three workmen were injured when 450 feet of falsework for a new county bridge across the Willamette river at Jasper, suddenly collapsed. The bents for the falsework were framed and set on the surface of the river bed, as bedrock was too near to allow the driving of piling. As the next to the last bent was being raised, they slid forward and collapsed.

BANK DEPOSITS GROW

Superintendent Wright Issues Statement Pleasing to Oregon.

Salem.—Deposits in the banks of the state have increased \$4,345,125.01 between June 7, 1911, and June 14, 1912, according to a statement which was issued by Superintendent of Banks Wright. The total amount of deposits in the state were \$124,759,613.79 at the close of business June 14, this year, as compared to \$118,413,883.78 last year. The entire statement shows that the banks of Oregon are in a flourishing condition, the only decrease being that in overdrafts, this decrease being \$283,608.48. This leaves a total of \$471,937.14 in overdrafts as compared to \$734,645.62 for the preceding year. Total resources this year are \$156,720,950.61 as compared to \$147,764,892.95 for the preceding year, or an increase of \$8,955,057.66 for the year. Loans and discounts total \$80,304,391.87 as compared to \$74,725,584.93, or an increase of \$5,578,806.94.

Bartlett Pears Go East.
Medford.—The Rogue River Valley Fruit and Produce association sold its first carload of Bartlett pears for the 1912 season at \$2 a box f. o. b. Medford. The car will be consigned to eastern markets and is one of the earliest pre-crop sales ever made in southern Oregon.

Union Public Library Building to Rise
Union.—Andrew Carnegie has approved the plans of the Union public library, and the library board has taken steps looking toward the commencement of work upon the building at the earliest possible day. The building will be 47x32 feet in size.

Starts on Horse Back Rides.
Medford.—The riding of a

Local Mention

Mr. Bert Brain of Seaside, made a business visit to St. Helens on Monday.

Mrs. W. A. Harris and Miss Edna have taken up their residence for the summer at Seaside.

Judge Dart and his family have gone to Seaside where they will spend the summer.

Dr. Lowe's glasses are death to headaches.

J. G. Watts of Seaside, was a St. Helens visitor Tuesday.

Mrs. Dryden of Forest Grove, visited with friends in this city the past week.

Marshall Wilkins left last Saturday for Grays Harbor where his family is spending the summer.

Arthur I. Moulton, a Portland attorney, was transacting business in St. Helens Wednesday.

Judge F. A. Moore and Mrs. Moore, of Salem, attended the funeral services of Mrs. Switzer in St. Helens, last Saturday.

The Ladies Aid Society of the M. E. Church will meet with Mrs. Eugene Blakesley, Wednesday, July the 24th.

Mrs. M. Rosenthal and daughter Miss E. Rosenthal and two little grandchildren, left on Sunday for a fortnight at Seaside.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Dillard and the two boys left Monday in the auto for a camping trip into the Cascade Mountains.

Riley Jinks of Portland and Clarence Jinks of Iowa, are visiting at the home of Wm. Ross this week.

Geo. M. McBride, son of Judge T. A. McBride of the Supreme Court, was in St. Helens last week. He has recently been admitted to practice law and will soon open an office either in Portland or St. Helens.

Fred Adams was up from his Deer Island farm on Tuesday. He had just made delivery of a bunch of beef cattle to the Portland stock yards.

The Ladies Aid of the Congregational Church will serve luncheon, Cafeteria style at the Guild Hall Saturday evening from 5 to 7 o'clock.

Married; in St. Helens last Saturday by Justice Hazen, Mr. William Bacon and Miss Lola Stewart, well known young people of the Warren neighborhood.

LOST—A Ladies White Straw Hat with black velvet facing; and with green and black thistle; Lost on the road between Portland and St. Helens last Tuesday. Finder please leave at Mist Office.

For Sale: About 30 thoroughbred White Leghorns laying hens; also about 12 thoroughbred White Leghorn Roosters; also a number of Barred Plymouth Rock hens, laying. Call on or address Mrs. A. W. Mueller, St. Helens.

Cold meats, salads, cakes, coffee, ice cream and other good things to eat will be served by the Ladies of the Congregational Church at the Guild Hall tomorrow, Saturday, evening from 5 to 7.

You and your children are safe if you wear Dr. Lowe's superior glasses—eye safe and price safe—They cost you no more than the inferior kinds usually sold and you have the benefit of his skill and more than 20 years experience. He will be at St. Helens hotel July 25th. Rainier at Young's Jewelry Store—Remember the dates.

A Vaudeville Troupe consisting of 12 people, direct from Pantry's Theater in Portland, gave a performance at the City Hall last night and will give another tonight. A large crowd should greet them tonight.

J. A. Bill has bought the Central Market and will open same to the public Thursday, July 18th with a complete line of fresh meats, poultry and fish, game and oysters in season and all other market commodities. Free delivery in St. Helens. Your patronage solicited. Prompt service guaranteed.

The unusual spectacle of a female tramp was seen in St. Helens Thursday. Marshal Watkins picked her up at the City Park where she had started a fire and which was quickly spreading to the underbrush around. She was brought to the jail given a bath and her dinner then ordered to move on, which she did.

To the already large number of private mail boxes in the St. Helens Post Office, it has been necessary to provide more and Postmaster Gray has just added 58 of the latest combination boxes. The addition of boxes and other facilities for accommodation of the public at this office is becoming to be an annual event, made necessary by the fast increasing population of the city.

Thursday, July 25th—One day only Dr. Lowe the eye specialist will be in St. Helens again at the usual place. Rainier the 26th at Young's Jewelry store. Dr. Lowe does not go from house to house. Glasses cannot be carefully fitted in most instances in that way. The reason is obvious. Dr. Lowe takes his vacation in August consequently will not visit here again till last of September after this visit. If you need glasses that is too long to wait. Consult him this trip.

A band of Gypsies has been doing St. Helens this week. The women of the party telling fortunes and the men as following their usual vocation of keeping out of work. As a natural result of their visit, people have been losing all kinds of articles which were not under lock and key. They camped in the City Park for a couple of days until the Marshal ordered them out. Then they went out to the ball ground and stayed there a couple of days.

Mrs. Elisabeth McKee-Ansorge died at the home of her daughter in Seattle, Wash., on July 14 after a short illness. Mrs. Ansorge, who was for several years a resident of St. Helens, was born in 1837 and was married in 1864 to Alfred E. Ansorge, who died in St. Helens on Dec. 26th 1909. Two children survive, Mrs. J. W. Day of St. Helens and Miss Clara L. Ansorge of Seattle. Funeral was held at Seattle on the 16th and the ashes were sent to the old home in Massachusetts to be placed beside those of the faithful husband.

Ray Lattin a well known young man of this vicinity, lost his life while working on the logging road of the Peninsula Co., at Columbia City, last Monday. Ray was brakeman on the train and was coupling cars when the train started and his head was jammed between the logs protruding over the ends of the cars, resulting in instant death. He was quite a popular young man of the vicinity and leaves a young wife and baby to mourn his loss. His mother of Wisconsin was visiting him at the time of his death. The burial took place at the Kinder cemetery near Deer Island.

On Saturday evening, July 20th, the Portland Motor Boat Club, of about 150 people will arrive in St. Helens to spend the night. They will come in their boats and a dock is being prepared for them at the foot of the Mill Dock. They are business men from Portland and are coming here for the purpose of getting acquainted with our people. A dance is being arranged for at the City Hall for Saturday night and trips around the city on Sunday morning. During Sunday morning, about 10 o'clock a photographer will take a picture from the River, of the city and it would be a nice thing for as many people as can to get on the docks and river front when the picture is taken. Let the people of our city show the visitors that we have a live bunch here and give them a good time.

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our friends for the many acts of kindness and sympathy shown us in our bereavement in the loss of our beloved husband, son and son-in-law. Mrs. Ada Lattin; Mrs. M. Lattin; Mr. and Mrs. Dell Fowler.

The Single Tax

(Communicated)

To the Editor of The Mist:

In reading over the book, "Single Tax Exposed", from which you had some quotations some time ago. I find more absurd and misleading statements than in anything I have ever read against other reforms. All reforms have met the same wild talk about confiscation, robbery and ruin to the poor man. When the public first began to regulate railroads, the same cry was heard and every step taken was bitterly fought, and is yet, but, every thing done has been to the benefit of the railroads as well as the public. Take the Post Office Saving Banks, for thirty years every meeting of Bankers solemnly declared that it would ruin the banking interest and destroy the credit of the country. After it was started, in spite of them, they found they could get that money at a cheaper rate than anywhere else. When our Bankers, whom we consider our best business men could not see so plain a benefit to themselves, because someone shouted reform, is it any wonder our farmers are frightened when offered a like benefit?

There could not be found a better system of keeping back business than the present system of taxation. Just think what any industry faces when starting in any of our communities. As soon as it is started every piece of land needed by them is raised in price to three or four times its previous value, then, when it is finished the Assessor comes and taxes it to its full value.

Now, all that the Single or Land Taxer claims is, here is an article that everyone is equally interested in, that cannot be carried away or hidden. In its wild state it is of comparative little value, and any increased value can only be made by the communities combined energy and need.

Land Tax does not assess any improvements, neither clearing land or building houses, factories or invested money. They recognize that diligence and thrift should be encourag-

ed instead of fined.

Take our own City of St. Helens four years ago, signs could be seen reading, "lots for sale from \$10 to \$25", the same lots are now from \$150 to \$200. This increased value is only made by the needs of the community. When someone who has got to have a home, builds a house, all the lots around him increase in value as well as his own. All the Land Taxer wants to do is tax these lots at the selling value, they don't grudge these lot holders this increase, they only want them to pay as much and no more than the man whose energy increased these values.

There must be taxes and there could be no more unjust way of raising them than the present. Let any farmer take his Tax Bill and deduct the value of their buildings, fences, stock and the cost of clearing their land and see how small an amount is left to assess on.

In our County there is 409,466 acres, and the last tax for all purposes was nearly \$300,000, that includes all County, State, School, road and City taxes. Now, if the Cities paid for nothing and it was assessed an equal rate per acre it would take quite a long while before the land was confiscated.

Land Tax has only been tried in the Western Provinces of Canada and they have all tried it gradually and it has been largely responsible for the greatest immigration the world has ever known, where American farmers have been crossing the border at the rate of 100,000 a year.

Don't let the cry of robbery and ruin frighten anyone, that is always stock cry of the people who are against every advance. As a simple matter of justice it will soon be gradually adopted. We have it now in St. Helens in our City assessment and it is robbery to no one.

J. P.

There is a general belief that peaches do not grow with success in this country but a sample box from the orchard of Mr. C. C. Moyer of Bachelor Flat left at this office during the week were as fine looking specimens as grow any place in Oregon. They were well formed, finely colored, good size and a delicious flavor.

Last Sunday the Houlton ball team met the second team from Clatskanie on the St. Helens diamond and maintained the honors of the grounds by defeating the Clatskanie boys to the tune of 16 to 10.

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