LOW RATES ORDERED.

Local railroad passenger traffic officials have been notified by wire from Chicago that all the transcontinental lines have decided to grant the usual low colonist rate from the East during the season, September 1 to October 31. The Hill Northern roads and other competing lines, except the Santa Fe and the Union Pacific, were inclined to adhere to the usual one-way rate west when the Transcontinental Passenger association met to fix the rate for the fall colonist season. The meeting was unsatisfactory to anybody concerned but, as was the case last winter, the two systems mentioned decided to grant the low rates independently, and tariffs are being prepared to that effect now. With the announcement today that all lines had met the rate, it will mean that the movement of homeseekers to the northwest will be as active as ever, and probably more so, as the result of the enormous volume of exploitation literature which all sections of the northwest are and have been dispatching to the east and middle west points.

One interesting feature in connection with the granting of the low rate by all lines, and particularly by the Hill northern lines, is the fact that the new North Bank road will play a prominent part in turning a stronger tide of homeseekers toword Portland than the Rose City has ever experienced before. This will be the first season in which the new Hill line has participated in the colonist movement and that is one reason why the company is hastening the completion of the line into Portland. It desires to be in a position to handle its share of this westbound business. For the present season, the North Bank road will be able to move this class of business only from Pasco to Portland, for the line from Spokane through to this city will not be finished before the first of the year. The North Bank, however, will unquestionably handle a good share of colonist business routed out over the Great Northern or Northern Pacific as far as Spokane, thence over the Northern Pacific to the North Bank connection at Pasco.

The colonist rate which will be put into effect September 1 will be, $38 from Chicago, $35.50 from St. Louis, and $30 from Missouri river points. Proportionate reductions will apply from points east of Chicago.

Under ordinary circumstances the colonist movement is heavier in the fall than in the spring, for the reason that homeseekers desire to avail themselves of the milder climate of winter out here, and the harvest time is over, and the average farmer has more money in his pocket than in the spring.

Nearly 28,000 people took advantage of the low rate during the two seasons of 1907 and came to Portland and Oregon points, but owing to the financial stringency in the fall and the closing of the Portland gateway in the spring, the movement for the spring season this year was about 30 per cent below normal. It is doubtful, therefore, if the 1908 figures will reach the high-water mark of the preceding year, but it is believed that it will not fall far short of it.

BALLOON RACE.

ST. PAUL, Minn., July 18.—Up to 11 o'clock tonight three of the five balloons started in the race late today had been heard from. The first to land was the King Edward, at Hampton, Minn., 30 miles south of here. The American balloon came to earth five miles southeast of Owatonna, Minn., and the United States balloon landed at West Concord, Minn. No word of the Pommeranian or Chicago has been received.

PAYS PENALTY.

MOUNDSVILLE, W. Va., July 17.—Confessing to a chaplain just prior to his execution that he was guilty of five murders in his lifetime, Frank Johnson, a negro, was hanged in the penitentiary here for the murder of Mrs. Beulah Martin at Gypsy, on March 2. Johnson gave the details of some of the murders, but as to the others he refused to give particulars.

MOYER FOR PRESIDENT.

DENVER, Col., July 20.—The Western Federation of Miners' convention spent the entire day discussing industrial unionism and adjourned without taking action.

There was no opposition to President Moyer, and he doubtless will be re-elected president by acclamation. This will be his seventh term.

It Is an Advertisement.

A Pendleton paper makes this statement:

It is worth $23,400, the amount which Pendleton saloons would have contributed to the city during the next year in licenses, to know that for six days there has not been a drunken man on the streets of the city and not a solitary drunken inmate in the city jail. This is an advertisement that should attract a lot of those people who have said they were looking for a dry town in which to buy a home and educate their children.

THE MAIL FOR NEWS

PROPOSED NEW APPLE LAW.

One of the most interesting matters which will come up for attention at the meeting of the International Apple Shippers' association at Niagara Falls will be the bill introduced at the spring session of congress by Representative Porter of New York. The association has already succeeded in securing the enactment of a state law which will do away with the short apple barrel evil, but this has nothing to do with the grading of the fruit and applies only to New York state. The measure, which Representative Porter has introduced provides for standard grading as well as standard packages, and it will apply over the entire United States. This is a measure of far greater importance than anything which has ever been undertaken in the way of legislation affecting apple packing, and thus far there seems to be little objection to it on the part of growers or shippers, while all operators are naturally in favor of it. It will come before the fall session of congress, and while it can hardly become operative during the coming apple season, there is every prospect of its passage, if strongly supported by those interested, and it would be in effect next year.

The bill reads as follows:

"H. R. BILL NO. 21,400.

"A Bill Concerning Standard Packages, Grades and Marketing of Apples.

"Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled

"Section 1—That the provisions of this act shall apply to closed packages of apples that are, or may be, transported from one state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia, to another state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia, or from one place in a territory to another place in the same territory, or from any place in the United States to an adjacent foreign country, or from any place in the United States through a foreign country to any other place in the United States.

Sec 2—That in this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression 'closed package' means a barrel, box or basket, of which the contents cannot readily be seen or inspected when such package is prepared for market.

"Apples packed in closed crates barrels or boxes, covered with slat covers, burlap or tarlatan, shall come within the meaning of the expression 'closed packages.'

"Sec. 3—That in this act the following classifications for closed packages of apples shall be adopted as standard packages:

"Part 1—The standard measure of capacity for all apples packed in boxes shall be the heaped bushel, containing as nearly as may be 2,564 cubic inches, and or no less capacity than would be contained in a box of the following dimensions: 18½ by 12 by 11¼ inches, inside measurement. Boxes of the above described capacity or dimensions shall be marked 'standard box.'

"Any box of less dimensions or capacity shall be marked in a plain and indelible manner, both on side and top, in letters not less than one inch long, 'short box' or with the fractional part of a bushel it may contain.

Part 2—The standard measure of capacity for all apples packed in baskets shall be the heaped bushel, containing 2,564 cubic inches.

"Baskets of the above described capacity shall be marked 'standard basket.' Any basket of less capacity shall be marked in a plain and indelible manner on both side and top, in letters not less than one inch long 'short bushel' or with the fractional part of a bushel it may contain.

"Part 3—The standard measure of capacity for all apples packed in barrels shall be as nearly as may be, three bushels, the barrel to be of no less dimensions than 17 inches head less dimensions than 17¼ inch head, length of stave 28½ inches, with bulge circumference not less than 64 inches outside measurement.

"Barrels of the above described capacity and dimensions shall be marked 'standard barrel.' Any barrel of less dimensions and capacity shall be marked in a plain and indelible manner, both on side and top, in letters not less than one in ch long, 'short barrel' or with the capacity in bushels or fraction thereof, or if one-half the capacity or dimensions of a standard barrel, it shall be plainly marked 'one-half barrel.'

"Sec. 4—That in this act the following classifications of grades for closed packages of apples shall be adopted as standard grades: 'No. 1' and 'No. 2,' but such mark may be accompanied by any other designation of grade or brand, provided that such designation of grade or brand is not inconsistent with or marked more conspicuously than the one of the said two marks designating grade which is used on the package.

Part 1.—'No. 1' grade and quality shall consist of healthy, well grown apples of one variety, sound, of not less than 2 inches in diameter, and of good color for the variety, of normal shape and not less than 90 per cent free from scab, worm holes bruises and other defects, and properly packed.

Part 2—'No. 2' grade and quality shall consist of apples of not less than nearly medium size for the variety, healthy, and not less than 85 per cent free from scab, worm holes, bruises and such other defects as cause material waste, and properly packed.

"Sec. 5—That the enforcement of this act shall be under the direction of the department of agriculture of the United States and the secretary of agriculture shall appoint a green fruit commissioner (with a sufficient appropriation to carry into effect the provisions of this act), and to employ such assistants as may be necessary.

"Sec. 6—That it shall be the duty of the said green fruit commissioner, upon the reasonable request of any person, corporation or firm, having in their possession, and intended for interstate commerce, apples in closed packages, as heretofore described, to make inspection and to issue to such person, corporation or firm making said request, a certificate which shall set forth the grade or standard of apples and package as established by this act, and if said inspector shall find the apples properly packed, according to the standard set forth in this act, he may certify to the same; or if he finds them packed or graded inferior, or not true to marks, it shall be his duty to mark them in a plain and indelible manner 'falsely marked.'

"For the services outlined in this section a reasonable charge may be established; said charge not to exceed five (5c) cents per barrel, and two and one-half (2½c) cents per box or basket; provided that the minimum total charge for such services shall be two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50).

"Sec. 7—That every person who not being an authorized government inspector, wilfully alters, effaces or obliterates wholly or partially any of the marks prescribed in this act for 'closed packages' of apples, or causes the same to be done, shall be liable to a fine of not less than twenty-five (25c) cents, and not more than five ($5) dollars for each package upon which the marks have been so altered, effaced or obliterated; and further

"That every person, corporation or firm, who shall be found guilty of having, either personally or through the agency of others, wilfully mismarked closed packages of apples as to capacity o. package, as described and provided for in this act, shall, upon conviction, be subjected to a fine of not less than twenty-five (25c) cents, and not more than five ($5) dollars for each package so mismarked.

"The person on whose behalf any apples are packed, sold or offered for sale, shall be prima facie liable for the violation of this act.

"Sec. 8—That any of the Circuit courts of the United States within whose jurisdiction a complaint as to the violation of this act may be established, shall have power to enforce this act."

SIX KILLED.

WARSAW, Ind., July 18.—Six persons were instantly killed this afternoon, west of Columbia City, in an automobile which was struck by a Pennsylvania train. The victims are: Charles F. King, agent of the Prudential Life Insuring company, formerly a member of the legislature; his two young daughters, Miss Fae Bradshaw, a neighbor of the King family, whose guest she was to be at King cottage, Lake Wawasee, over Sunday; Mrs. King and the chauffeur, Carl Timmins.

The automobile was stopped at the crossing by a freight and drove on the tracks behind the caboose, the driver failing to see the eastbound Manhattan Limited passenger train, which was running at a high rate of speed. The machine was destroyed and the bodies were scattered along the tracks for hundreds of feet. The terribly mangled. The locomotive of the passenger train was derailed.

PROSPERITY IN THE WEST.

NE WYORK, July 17.—Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, who has just returned from a trip to the west, his journey extending from the Mississipi to the coast and from Texas to the extreme northwest, said yesterday that basic conditions throughout that section were sound and promising. He added:

"I have been taking a broad view of the west for 30 years, and never in that time has the outlook been better than it is now. Crops are promising, indeed; in fact, the original producers are in better shape than I have ever known them. Those people are all busy; they look rich and they act rich. Developments in every phase during the last five to eight years are beyond comprehension and belief. Cities as widely apart geographically as Dallas, Texas, and Spokane, Wash., have expanded in every direction."

In regard to the business outlook Mr. Vail said:

"When the tide will turn I cannot say, but when it does start it will come so strong that many of us will be unprepared. The railroads in particular, I fear, will not be ready for the turn. What has been the central factor in the business situation? The public utility and the public service corporations. And they continue to remain the dominant element, and many of their problems have not yet been solved. This is the disquieting feature. What brought this about and how it was brought about every one knows."

Speaking of the companies whose interests he serves, Mr. Vail said that their business showed practically no falling off and that the business of the associated Bell companies was better this year than last.

NEW LIFE FOR MOUNT HOOD.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican: It has been asked more than once of late whether Mount Hood is really extinct. In the National Geographical Magazine for July, A. H. Sylvester, [illegible] United States geological survey, goes further and raises the question, "Is our noblest volcano awakening to new life?"

It means much to Portland, which lies but 50 miles to the west, and would find things, in the event of an eruption, mighty interesting, even if the city itself was not actually endangered. The author had long been interested in this mountain, and took much pleasure in his assignment, in the spring of 1907 to the work of mapping the Mount Hood special quadrangle. This mountain, to summarize the latest results of the survey, lies in north latitude 45:22:26:74, and west longitude 121:41:42:81. It is on the coast of the Cascade range and about 20 miles south of the Columbia river. Mr. Sylvester verified the height as 11,225 feet. Timber grows to an altitude of 6,500 feet. In shape the mountain is an almost perfect volcanic cone, rising about 7,000 feet above the surrounding country, and visible far out at sea. Its symmetry and isolation, therefore, give it a beauty such as few mountains in this or any other country can boast.

From its form and structure it seems to have been built up entirely of lava ejected from a single central crater, and there is no evidence that it was ever much higher than it is now. Geologists believe that it became extinct before reaching the stage of ejectment of the more basic basalts which Shasta and Adams poured out in more recent times, but Mr. Sylvester calls attention to a large lava flow about 10 miles to the northeast of the crater, which seems to be more recent. Except for this and a fissure flow which dams Bull Run lake, the mountain has clearly not been in eruption for untold centuries.

But now for the suspicious facts. In 1882, Professor Russell, in a book on American volcanoes, gave a picture of a fumarole on the south slope, and apparently just east of Crater rock. Apparently since then it has disappeared; later visitors do not mention it. Ever since the mountain was known steam has been escaping from certain places, but chiefly from crater rock, together with gas, generally hydrogen sulphide. But in the last three years things have been "warming up," says the author; the fumarole mentioned by Professor Russell has so developed that it has cut the White river glacier in two, exposing its bed for 150 feet. On Crater rock Mr. Sylvester found steam escaping from numerous fissures, and in many places the rock is too hot to touch with the hand. On August 28, 1907, numerous witnesses saw "a cloud of smoke, probably dense steam, rising from Crater rock, high above the skyline of the summit of the mountain." This persisted throughout the day, and at night there was a glow "like a chimney burning out." Sudden floods the next day were inexplicable except on the theory that the glacier had melted rapidly from volcanic heat.

As an interesting coincidence it is noted that at the same time there were throes in the Bogasloff group off the Alaskan coast. No further signs have been noted, and it is very possible that these faint activities mean merely a last flicker of life in an expiring volcano. It is, at any rate, abundantly interesting that Mount Hood, as Mr. Sylvester says, "must be taken from the list of extinct volcanoes and placed at least among the doubtful." But Oregon will probably not begin to worry till something more decisive happens.

THREE ACCEPTED.

PORTLAND, July 17.—The trial of the Booth conspiracy case before United States Judge Wolverton was begun yesterday afternoon after James Henry Booth and Thomas E. Singleton, two of the three defendants, had entered pleas of not guilty. The other defendant is Robert A. Booth, ex-state senator and president of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company of Eugene. He refused to unite with his co-defendants in filing a demurrer to the indictment and entered a plea of not guilty shortly after the indictment was reported over three years ago.

The examination of jurors began at 2 p. m., and during the afternoon only three of the necessary 12 were accepted. They were: C. C. Hoopes of Yquina Bay, Lincoln county; George Ball, of Ballston, Polk county, and Samuel Obye of North Yamhill, Yamhill county. The examination of F. J. Pettit of Monmouth, Polk county, the fourth man called to the jury box, was not completed at 3 p. m., when court declared an adjournment until 10 o'clock this morning.

Before adjourning court, Judge Wolverton announced that at the request of the government the original 12 men that had been called to the jury box would be kept together until it could be determined in their examination by respective counsel whether or not they should qualify as jurors in the case. This announcement came somewhat as a surprise, particularly to the nine veniremen who, not having been reached in the examination as to their qualifications as jurors in the case, expected to be permitted to return to their homes for the night and report in court this morning. But under the order of the court they were not allowed to separate and were given over to the custody of Bailiffs Kelly and Hamilton.

FORESTRY'S RESULTS.

Many people in this country think that forestry had never been tried until the government began to practice it upon the national forests. Yet forestry is practiced by every civilized country in the world except China and Turkey. It gets results which can be got in no other way, and which are necessary to the general welfare.

Take the case of Germany. Starting with forests which were in as bad shape as many of our own which have been recklessly cut over, it raised the average yield of wood per acre from 20 cubic feet in 1830 to 65 cubic feet in 1904. During the same period of time it trebled the proportion of saw timber got from the average cut, which means, in other words, that through the practice of forestry the timber lands of Germany are of three times better quality today than when no system was used.

In France forestry has decreased the danger from floods, which threaten to destroy vast areas of fertile farms, and in doing so has added many millions of dollars to be national wealth in new forests. It has removed the danger from sand dunes, and in their places created a property worth many millions of dollars. Applied to the state forests, which are small in comparison with the national forests of this country, it causes hem to yield each year a net revenue of more han $4,700,000, though the sum sepnt on each acre for management is over 10 times greater than that spent on the forests of the United States.

France and Germany together have a population of 100,000,000, in round numbers, against our probable 85,000,000, and state forests of 14,500,000 acres against our 160,000,000 acres of national forests; but France and Germany spend on their forests $11,000,000 a year and get from them in net returns $30,000,000 a year, while the United States spent in the national forests last year $1,400,000 and secured a net return of less than $130,000.

In Switzerland, where every foot of agricultural land is of the greatest value, forestry has made it possible for the people to farm all land fit for crops, and so has assisted the country to support a larger population and one that is more prosperous, than would be the case if the valleys were subjected to destructive floods. It is in Switzerland, also, in the Sihlwald, that forestry demonstrates beyond contradiction how great a yield in wood and money it may bring about if applied consistently for a number of years.

Russia, Sweden, Austria-Hungary and Canada are making good the wood deficit of a large part of the world. Sweden cuts much more wood (106,000,000 cubic feet) than she produces; Russia, in spite of her enormous forest resources, has probably entered the same road, and England, the leading importer of wood, must count more and more on Canada. But the United States consumes every year from three to four times the wood which its forests produce, and in due time will doubtless take all the wood that Canada can spare. Unless the countries of the western hemisphere apply forestry promptly and thoroughly, they will one day assuredly be held responsible for a world-wide timber famine.—From an article in American Industries.

MINE WORKERS' CARDS.

DENVER, Col., July 17.—President Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners, and President Lewis of the United Mine Workers, together with members of the executive boards of the two organizations, in conference this afternoon reached the understanding regarding uniform exchange of working cards, and outlined plans for the affiliation of the two bodies. The question of support to each other during strikes will be settled at a future meeting of the two boards. The Federation convention this afternoon defeated a proposition to elect officers by the referendum, instead of by the convention, as is now in vogue.

SEARCHING FOR CLUE.

NEW YORK, July 18.—The police today began searching for a clue of the mystery of the double tragedy of Wast One Hundred and Seventy-Eighth street, early today, whereby Ernest Block, 28 years old, was found dead with a bullet in his heart, and his wife, 27 years old, dead by poison. The police believe the wife shot her husband and then ended her own life.

NOT OFFICIALLY INFORMED.

WASHINGTON, July 18. — Judge Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the interstate commerce commission, today stated that he had not been officially informed that the transcontinental railroads would contest the commission's decision in the lumber rate cases, but he had heard in an indirect way that they are considering such a course.

THE MAIL FOR NEWS

In a few days

our new market will be fitted and our

Meat and Grocery Department

will be under one roof, but in the meantime we will continue to supply our customers with the **very best Fresh and Smoked Meats** and the purest of **Lard** at the old stand of Wortman & Gore, C street.

But if you want Groceries, don't forget the double front.

Warner, Wortman & Gore

D. T. Lawton

General dealer in vehicles, harness, implements and machines.

In addition to our general line we are agents for the Mitchell and Tourist automobiles. As good as any manufactured.

The celebrated White Sewing Machine of which we hava alarge supply on hand.

Call and See Us

D. T. LAWTON

Medford, Oregon

Ashland Commercial College

Ahland, Oregon

Business and Short hand training thoaough and practical.

months scholarship, $45. 9 moths scholarship, $60.

Something Special

All stuodents who secure a nine months scholarship and enter September 7, will be entitled to combined course to July 1, 1909. Includbooks and stationery, $83.50. Investibate and come. Address

P. Ritner, President.

WOOD

Between 5,000 and 6,000 Cords Dry Red Fir for Sale at

$5.00 PER CORD

at any depot between Grants Pass and Medford. Send in your orders now and don't wait until you must pay $8 per cord.

G. B. FOSSHEI,

WOLF CREEK

We are dealers in

Farms and Land

If you want to sell your farm, send us full description, terms, etc., and we can do it.

T. B. ACKERS & CO.

270½ Washington St., Portland Ore.

DESIGNER AND BUILDER.

Modern Bungalows a Specialty.

L. J. QUIGLEY, P. O. Box 63,

Medford, Or.

THE MAIL FOR NEWS