

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

LINE NEARS COMPLETION.

Trains Expected to Reach Wallowa by September 20.

Wallowa.—Trains will be running on regular schedule into this city on September 20. Such is the announcement made by H. H. Weatherspoon, agent for the O. R. & N. at Elgin, who received the information from the headquarters of the company last week and such are the instructions received by Engineer Brandon, of the construction department.

Great progress has been made by the tracklaying crew the past few weeks, and the road has emerged from the Wallowa canyon and entered the Wallowa valley. For months the road has been building through a winding canyon, between crags, along a picturesque mountain stream that will render it one of the most scenic bits of road in the state.

Progress naturally has been slow for nearly all the rails have been laid on curves and had to be bent. Many bridges, culverts and trestles have been necessary, and the roadbed has needed much repair. For more than twenty miles the work has been followed until the track reached the valley.

Line Nearly Completed.

La Grande.—Regular traffic into Wallowa county over the newly constructed Wallowa county extension will begin September 21, according to a statement from headquarters, but this event will be preceded by a popular excursion on the 20th, when the O. R. & N. will run excursion trains to Wallowa from here. This will inaugurate the service. The track has now been laid to Wallowa town, the construction reaching that point tonight.

Women's Clubs at La Grande.

La Grande.—The members of the two women's clubs in this city, the Neighborhood club and the Lyle Tuesday Musicals, are making great plans for the reception of the State Federation of Women's clubs, which will meet here some time this fall. The ladies are busy gathering funds for the entertainment of the visitors. They will soon put on a home-talent production, Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women."

M. & M. Company at La Grande.

La Grande.—The Island City M. & M. Company, recently burned out at Island City, will rebuild at La Grande, instead of Island City. The company owns some lots on Jefferson avenue and plans for a two-story brick structure are now being prepared. A few days ago the firm purchased the stock of implements and vehicles owned by Frank Kilpatrick, and will conduct its business in the location occupied by Kilpatrick until the new building is ready for occupancy.

Says Rates Are High.

Salem.—H. Connaway complains that the rates for flour and feed on the Mount Hood railroad from Hood River to Odell are excessive as compared to rates on other lines in Oregon. For a distance of ten miles the rate per ton for flour and feed on the Mount Hood road is \$1.30, while from Portland to Hood River, sixty-six miles, and from Portland to Albany, eighty miles, the rate is only \$1.50.

New School at Myrtle Creek.

Roseburg.—At a special election held in the city of Myrtle Creek last week it was voted to erect a new school building and secure a new site for the same, the total expenditure to be \$10,000. Myrtle Creek has a fine public school system, which has been under the superintendence of Professor Thurman Chaney for the past four years.

Yamhill Exhibit for State Fair.

McMinnville.—Yamhill county will have an exhibit at the state fair. The display will be made under the direction of the Yamhill County Development association, and is being arranged by Colonel J. C. Cooper, of this city. It will comprise as complete an assortment of grains, grasses, fruits, nuts, etc., as can be gathered at once.

Governor Appoints Delegate.

Salem.—Clara Bewick Colby, editor and publisher of the Woman's Tribune, of Tremont Place, has been appointed a delegate to the international congress on moral education to be held in London, England, from September 25 to 29. The governor's commission was issued and mailed to Mrs. Colby in England, where she is at this time.

Fair at Mayville in October.

Condon.—Extensive preparations are in progress for the grand fair to be held at Mayville, October 8 and 9, under the auspices of the granges of Gilliam and Wheeler counties. Committees have been appointed to take charge of the sports and of the amusements. C. J. Quinn, master of the Mayville grange, is chairman.

Express Rate Reduction.

Klamath Falls.—A reduction in express rates to and from Klamath Falls has been ordered, but on account of an error in filing the schedule with the interstate commerce commission, the change will not go into effect until October 1.

Mount Hood Mill Resumes.

Dec.—After being closed down for over a month, the Mount Hood Lumber company has started up again. The plant of the company is equipped with electric power and is up to date in every respect. Two hundred men will be given employment.

Disburse Over Million.

Astoria.—All the fishermen employed during the recent season by the local canneries and cold storage plants have been paid off and a local banker estimates that the amount distributed among the men was not less than \$1,500,000.

FIVE TOWNS SAFE.

Minnesota Forest Fires Die Down When Wind Falls.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 9.—Specials of the Pioneer Press state that already more than \$3,000,000 worth of mining timber and other property has been destroyed by the forest fires in Upper Minnesota.

Duluth, Minn., Sept. 9.—Fighting desperately against the forest fires that threatened momentarily to add six more range towns to the blackened ruins of Chisholm and Snowball, practically the entire population of the Mesaba region composed the self-constituted fire brigade that struggled fiercely all day yesterday and late into the night to save their homes and property. After raging fiercely all the afternoon the flames died down with the wind last evening and gave the army of fighters chance to rest after their strenuous work.

Hibbing, Nashauk, Buhl, Coleraine and Mountain Iron, which were considered doomed during the greater part of the afternoon, are safe again, unless the wind revives. There is little promise of rain, and a strong wind from any direction will fan the flames into a renewed menace.

The Duluth fire department received a telegram from the department at Hibbing asking for assistance, and Chief Black, with a number of men and an engine, left Duluth shortly after 4 o'clock for the scene of the fire. The Mesaba road has trains in waiting at Hibbing to take the people away from the scene of danger.

CAPITAL SEES OPPORTUNITY

Mad Rush On to Invest in Turkey Under New Regime.

Grand Matsis, Minn., on the north shore, is in the clutches of the fire demon. The people are in worse straits than the range people, in that they have no place to flee to. Forest fires are raging within a mile of the town.

Constantinople, Sept. 9.—Believing Turkish investments to be safe, for the first time in the country's history, and assured of a chance to make them without paying blackmail in a dozen directions, foreign capitalists' agents are literally stampeding into Constantinople. Considering the stage of its civilization and its proximity to the Occident, the sultan's realm is regarded in Europe as the least developed land on earth. The opportunity for reaping enormous returns is deemed so bright that the influx into the capital is reaching the proportions of a miners' rush to a new mineral field, or a settlers' race for farms in a freshly opened American government reservation.

Germany alone among the nations was moderately represented before the revolution. Teutonic interests are still striving hard to hold their own against the representatives of rival countries, but the loss of prestige they suffered with the old regime's fall is handicapping them heavily. They have an equal chance with other prospective investors, and large numbers from Berlin are joining the contingent already in the field.

OIL BUBBLE PUNCTURED.

Seepage From Buried Fuel Tank Causes Arizona Stampede.

San Bernardino, Cal., Sept. 8.—Seepage from a big crude oil tank, erected at Yucca, Ariz., for replenishing the fuel supply of Santa Fe locomotives, is responsible for the oil frenzy which during the past week has taken hundreds of excited people to that locality from points hundreds of miles distant. Experts sent to the scene by the Santa Fe Company traced the oil direct to the tank, an analysis of the black fluid skinned from the water in a well 35 feet distant from the tank satisfying even the most enthusiastic locators of their mistake.

The desert had been staked out for miles. All manner of vehicles had been pressed into service, carrying people to the field, and in many instances men had sacrificed their property elsewhere to be first on the ground.

Klondike Rivals Palmist Days.

Dawson, Y. T., Sept. 9.—The heavy fall exodus of passengers from Fairbanks and Dawson to Seattle is getting under way. Several thousand will go south within the next four weeks, taking hundreds of thousands of dollars to spend in Seattle. The final gold shipment also will be going within that time. The Klondike's output this year will be increased \$2,000,000 over that of last year, making a total of \$5,000,000 this year. The increase is due to the installation of new dredges, electrical conveyors and hydraulic plants.

Denver Hotel Burned.

Denver, Colo., Sept. 9.—Two men, unidentified, were burned to death and a dozen persons were seriously injured yesterday by a fire which destroyed the Hotel Belmont. The hotel was crowded, having at least 100 guests. At an early hour it was discovered that the building was in flames. Caught unawares, many of the guests were unable to find their way from the hotel, and many jumped from the upper stories, receiving serious injuries.

Finishes Huge Canvas.

Proctor, Vt., Sept. 9.—Gido Horvath, a Hungarian artist, has completed here, after years of careful work, study and research, a mammoth oil painting of "Washington at the Battle of Trenton." It is claimed to be the largest single picture on any subject ever produced in this country. It is 210 feet long and 11 feet high.

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