

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## STEAM PILOT SCHOONER.

**Board of Pilot Examiners Wants State to Purchase Schooner.**

Salem.—In its annual report to the governor the state board of pilot examiners recommends the purchase and maintenance by the state of a pilot schooner. It is the only method by which the state can hope to exercise any control over the pilots, and set down any rules governing pilotage at the mouth of the Columbia River, according to the commission. It is set forth that the life of a pilot is hazardous, it involves risks and hardships that are not generally known to the public, and the board feels that the Columbia river pilots have been at times unjustly criticised. Assumption of responsibilities are greater also on the Columbia bar, according to the board, than is generally realized. It is believed the service is as efficient as possible under present regulations.

It is recommended that the legislature amend the present pilot laws, giving the commission authority to examine and license pilots, to revoke licenses for cause, to make rules and regulations for maintenance of efficient pilot service and require all licensed pilots to report to and furnish such information to the board as shall be required, so that the commission may be fully informed of all matters relative to the service.

## Looking Glass Trail Completed.

Pendleton.—Of deep interest to stockmen using the Wenaha national forest grazing privileges is the announcement by J. M. Schmitz, the supervising forester in charge, that the Looking Glass trail has been completed. This trail extends from the Tollgate to Motet meadows, through miles of rough country as it is to be found in that part of the Blue mountains, and its construction will result in a great saving of time and expense to the stockmen, who have been compelled to drive their flocks across that section of country in getting access to their allotments of range. He also reports the completion of two rangers' cabins, one at the gate and one on the Umatilla river.

## After Big Contract.

Portland.—Several Portland firms have made bids on a \$500,000 government contract for hay and oats in the Philippines, which will be let by the quartermaster's department October 2. The contract is the largest one of the kind ever placed on the Pacific coast. In the specifications issued by the quartermaster, bids were asked on 10,000 tons of hay and 9,000 tons of oats. Delivery must be made in the Philippines within the next six months. William Albers, of Albers Bros. Milling company, has just returned from Seattle, where he has been looking after the bid made by his firm. Allen & Lewis, of Portland, are also preparing to bid on the mammoth contract.

## Charges of Excessive Rates.

Salem.—Representative B. J. Jones, of Polk county, has filed two complaints with the railroad commission, in which he asks for hearings to substantiate charges of alleged excessive rates exacted by both the express companies operating in Oregon. Separate complaints are brought against the Pacific Express company, which operates on the O. R. & N., and the Wells-Fargo. Jones alleges that the rates charged by these companies are unreasonable, unjust and unlawful, and wishes the railroad commission to adjust them or establish new rates, as the commission has authority to do under the law, if the rates are found unreasonable.

## Portland Livestock Show.

Portland.—General and favorable response is being received from the local, county and district fairs and stock shows of the entire Northwest to the invitations sent out by the Country Club and Livestock association requesting that these organizations be officially represented at the Pacific national show and harness races here next week. The International of Chicago, the greatest stock exposition in America, will be represented, as will the National of Denver.

## Tillamook Street Fair.

Tillamook.—Tillamook City will have a street fair and carnival September 23-25. The fair will be held under the auspices of the band boys who have secured the concessions of the American Amusement company for the occasion. The business men have subscribed liberally towards the enterprise and elaborate preparations are being made.

## \$4,000 Worth of Hay Burns.

Drewsey.—Sim Hamilton a hay raiser of Drewsey valley, about two miles from here, lost four stacks of hay by fire. The total value of the stacks is placed at \$4,000. The wind drove the sparks from a fire which had been started in some foxtail into the stacks before Mr. Hamilton was aware of it.

## Monroe Canner Operating.

Monroe.—The Monroe cannery is in operation, and is putting out a fine lot of fruit. Blackberries, peaches and plums will be the larger bulk of its products this season, but efforts are being made to have large crops of peas, beans and tomatoes for next year's work.

## Eugene Will Spread Herself.

Eugene has decided to be 15,000 big in 1909, and with that end in view the Eugene Commercial club has started out to secure \$15,000 for advertising purposes. The latest city directory of Eugene gives the population at 10,000. In 1900 it was 3236.

## LOOK FOR INFLUX.

**Dumper Crop in Southern Oregon Is Sure to Attract People.**

Myrtle Creek.—The farmers in this and other localities through this county are in the midst of the harvest of the large crop of prunes. The continued dry weather has brought the crop earlier than usual, and the fruit driers are taxed to the limit. The price paid to the farmers this season adds evidence to the ever-increasing possibilities of Oregon, some of the growers receiving as high as 41 cents per pound for their crop of prunes, this being the basis price paid for the 30 to 35 size, and 1c less per pound for each five prunes to the pound smaller.

A representative of one of the large nurseries of the state has sold several thousand fruit trees for the fall planting. Apples are to be extensively planted, as also prunes, plums, cherries, peaches and a great variety of the small fruits and berries to which Oregon is so well adapted.

During the past three months no less than 20 new families (people who have been attracted to Oregon from the east by the many resources) have bought farms and settled in this one small community. A great many of the people coming to Oregon have come through the influence of friends already here, but more have been attracted by the flood of literature which is scattered daily by the commercial clubs, citizens' leagues and similar organizations throughout the state.

With the bumper crops raised in southern Oregon this year, it is to be expected that the population increase during the coming year will break all records.

## \$4,000 to the Ton.

Burns.—Intense excitement prevails here as the result of a rich strike made by O. J. Darst, who has been prospecting in Gold gulch for several years. He has discovered a ledge which assays from \$4000 to \$4500 a ton. The ore contains both gold and silver. The ledge upon which the strike was made is located about 150 miles from the railroad. It is now planned to stage the rock to Austin or Vale, where it will be shipped to the smelters at either Boise or Salt Lake City.

## Wallowa County Fair.

Wallowa.—The Wallowa county fair, to be held in this city October 8, 9 and 10, will be one of the most successful fairs ever held in this county. Special rates will be granted on the railroad, and a big attendance is assured. Already over a dozen athletic events are provided. The exhibits will exceed anything ever known in this valley. Races will be a feature and dramatic performances will be given at least two evenings. The play will be a home talent production.

## Will Contest Claims.

Pendleton.—Claiming that he is the original discoverer, A. H. Anderson, an old Alaska prospector, will contest the locations made by James Conlan on what is declared to be rich placer ground, last located in Juniper canyon. Anderson says Conlan was employed by him as a driver on his prospecting trip, and located the claim while the discoverer was nursing a rattlesnake bite, from which he is just recovering.

## Begin Seeding at Athena.

Athena.—The first rain of the season has fallen here. It was accompanied by a severe electric storm, which destroyed telephone communications for an hour or two. The deep dust along the roads was suddenly converted into mud, and the summer fallow in the fields was made ready for seed. The farmers are rejoicing over the rain, and fall seeding will begin within the next few days.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Barley—Feed, \$26 per ton; rolled, \$27.50@28.50; brewing, \$26.50.  
Oats—No. 1 white, \$30 per ton; gray, \$29.  
Wheat—Club, 89c per bushel; forty-fold, 92c; turkey red, 92c; rife, 89c; bluestem, 93c; valley, 91c.  
Hay—Timothy, Willamette Valley \$14 per ton; Willamette Valley, ordinary, \$11; Eastern Oregon, \$16.50; mixed, \$13; clover, \$9; alfalfa, \$11; alfalfa meal, \$20.  
Fruit—Apples, new, 50c@1.25 per box; peaches, 25c@65c per box; pears, 20c@81c per box; plums, 50c@81c per box; grapes, 40c@1.25 per crate; Concord, 20c per basket; huckleberries, 80c@1.00 per pound.  
Potatoes—\$3@90 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 2c per pound.  
Melons—Cantaloupes, 50c@75c per crate; watermelons, 1c@1c per pound; casabas, \$2@2.25 per dozen.  
Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.50 per sack; carrots, \$1.75; parsnips, \$1.75; beets, \$1.50; artichokes, 65c per doz.; beans, 35c@4c per pound; cabbage, 2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 dozen; celery, 75c@81c per dozen; corn, 75c@81c per sack; cucumbers, 30c@40c per box; egg plant, 30c@1.25 per crate; lettuce, head, 15c per dozen; parsley, 15c per dozen; peas, 4c per pound; peppers, 8c@10c per pound; pumpkins, 10c@11c per pound; radishes, 12c per dozen; spinach, 2c per pound; sprouts, 10c per pound; squash, 40c per dozen; tomatoes, 17c@25c.  
Butter—Extras, 34c per pound; fancy, 32c; choice, 30c; store, 18c.  
Eggs—Oregon, extras, 29c@30c; firsts, 27c@28c; seconds, 23c@26c; Eastern, 24c@27c per dozen.  
Poultry—Fancy hens, 13c; spring, 14c; ducks, old, 12c@13c; spring, 11c@15c; geese, old, 9c; young, 13c@11c; turkeys, old, 17c@18c; young, 20c.  
Veal—Extra, 8c@8 1/2c per pound; ordinary, 7c@7 1/2c; heavy, 5c.  
Pork—Fancy, 8c per lb.; ordinary, 6c; large, 5c.

## STEAMER ON ROCKS.

**Star of Bengal Loses 110 of Crew and Big Salmon Cargo.**

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 23.—Advices last night from Alaska by the United States signal corps say that 110 men, including nine whites, were drowned in the wreck of the American bark Star of Bengal, on Coronation island, west of the Prince of Wales archipelago.

Twenty-seven of the vessel's crew and passengers were saved. The Star of Bengal belonged to the Alaska Packers' association, and was on her way to San Francisco with a cargo of 54,000 cases of salmon.

In addition to her crew she carried 100 Chinese and Japanese who were employed in the canneries of the company and taken aboard at Fort Wrangel.

The Star of Bengal took aboard cargo at Fort Wrangel, consisting of canned salmon, and started down Summer strait in tow of the tugs Hattie Gage and Kayak. As the vessels neared the open sea, where the sailing craft would have sea room to work off shore, the wind was steadily freshening, blowing on shore. The tugs struggled valiantly to keep the ship clear of the rocks, but the wind drove it down on the rocks lining the shore of Coronation island, which lies at the mouth of Iphigenia bay, and to save themselves from destruction the steam vessels were forced to cast off the lines and head out to sea.

The Star of Bengal went onto the rocks in such a position that the tugs could not get near enough to give any assistance, and the Gage headed for Fort Wrangel with news of the disaster.

## RUSSIANS DIE BY HUNDREDS

**Official Reports Don't Account for All Cholera Victims.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 23.—Up to noon yesterday the municipal hospitals reported for the preceding 24 hours 417 cholera cases and 176 deaths. There is a total of 1587 patients in the various hospitals.

That the municipal statistics are incomplete is conclusively proved by the number of interments. At one cemetery they aggregated 424 for the last three days, or within 20 of the total number of deaths reported.

The cholera dead are being interred at Preobrazhenskoe, which is about one hour distance on the railroad. A train of several coaches, carrying the mourners and a dozen freight cars with the dead in rude coffins, goes daily to the place. The scenes are heart-rending in the chapel, where service is conducted uninterruptedly night and day.

The scarcity of gravediggers has caused a painful delay in the past few days, 150 coffins containing bodies now being stored in the adjoining woodshed. Some of the mourners have been waiting their turn for several days.

## Pennsylvania Fires Checked.

Pittsburg, Pa., Sept. 22.—Reports received yesterday from Ashtota, near Johnston, where a forest fire has been raging for several days, are to the effect that the fire is now under control. At Ashtota 10,000,000 feet of logs were burned, and at Arrow, near by, 6,000,000 feet were destroyed. Yesterday heavy clouds of smoke hung over Windber, Johnstown and intermediate points.

Late last night another fire started in the Hayden woods, near Greensburg. Yesterday the flames were spreading rapidly.

In practically all the churches Sunday special prayers were offered up that the drought in western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and West Virginia might be ended.

## Forgets Jungle Story.

Chicago, Sept. 23.—For the first time since the appearance of Upton Sinclair's packing house expose, "The Jungle," the British government yesterday contracted for an order of American meat, closing a contract with Libby, McNeil & Libby, packers, for 5,000,000 pounds of fresh beef. According to the contract, which was made through Thomas Arskine, British consul at Chicago, the price to be paid for the consignment of meat is \$500,000. Erskine requested the submission of bids for several million pounds of canned meats.

## Fire Peril Again Greater.

Calumet, Mich., Sept. 23.—With the forest fires in northern Michigan fanned by high winds, the condition on the Canadian shore is worse than it has been in the past three weeks. The fires are gaining in velocity about Flucan, Niagara and Loreto and in the vicinity of Norway, Rockland and Mass City, and the situation is critical. Trains through Delta county crowded with refugees fleeing from the threatened district into Escanaba and Menominee.

## Adirondack Towns in Peril

New York, Sept. 23.—Alarm is felt in many sections of the state because of the rapid spread of the big forest fires that have been burning for many days in the Adirondacks. According to dispatches received by the Associated Press here last night, dangerous fires are burning in some score of places, and a number of small towns and summer resorts are threatened.

## Cholera on Transport.

San Francisco, Sept. 23.—Cable dispatches from Manila report that a case of cholera broke out on the transport Sheridan shortly after her departure from that port on September 15. The vessel put back to port and is now in quarantine.

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## LOCALS

Local readers will be charged for at the following rates: First insertion per line, \$ .10 Subsequent insertions, .05 Church announcements, resolutions of condolence, births, marriages, deaths and general news items will be published free. Anything pertaining to the good of the county will be cheerfully published. We reserve the right to correct all grammar defects in copy sent in. All communications must be signed by the party sending them in. Don't be abusive in your communications, but give good news.

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