

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

TWO-THIRDS SOLD.

Hood River Apple Growers' Union Disposes of Crop.

Hood River.—By disposing of 30 cars of Spitzenbergs last week the directors of the Hood River Apple Growers' union have successfully marketed two-thirds of the crop which will be handled by them this year. The apples sold are the same sizes that last year made the world's record for high prices, and are said by the directors to have been again sold this year at the union's own figures. The purchasers are the Steinhart & Kelley company of New York, who bought 80 cars in the first deal, getting all the Newtowns, and for which it is said they have since been offered a bonus of \$10,000 to turn over to another firm and have refused to do so.

The deal was made with the Steinhart & Kelley people by mail, after a representative of the firm who was here some time ago reached New York, and includes all the four-tier Spitzenbergs and larger, the four and one-half-tier having been bought by them in a previous deal. Altogether, the union has now sold 140 cars of apples at its own figures, the balance of its part of the Hood River crop amounting to about 60 cars.

Its disposal of the high priced Spitzenbergs has been watched with interest by buyers, who have claimed that they would not be sold to one firm this year, and were waiting to see them split up and sold in small lots to various firms to supply their fancy trade in the big eastern cities. Heretofore the Steinhart & Kelley company has bought its Hood River Spitzenbergs in this way, but this year will be the seller to other firms instead of the purchaser.

Winter apple picking commenced Monday, and the largest packing crews which have ever been put in the field here will commence packing the fruit for shipment this week.

Douglas' Fine Apples.

Roseburg.—James B. Smith, of Winston, residing on the Umpqua river, five miles south of this city, sold his enormous crop of apples for \$2,400 an acre in the orchard, a rate of \$2 per box. This is believed to be the highest price paid for apples anywhere. There are several more orchards in this county that have record-breaking crops this year, and when marketed will bring almost as high a price as this orchard. Douglas county is not only growing famous for its apples and strawberries, but for its crops of peaches, prunes and pears. The lands remain as cheap as those of other sections of the state, some of the best river-bottom lands on the market being held at \$250 to \$600 per acre, in bearing fruit.

Scarcity of Sheep.

Klamath Falls.—Lake county has only a third as many sheep within its borders this year as it usually has. Dave Elder, who owns a fourth of all the sheep in the county, passed through Klamath Falls this week from his feeding grounds in the Weyerhaeuser timber west of here, and states that there are only about 100,000 sheep in Lake county. None are selling and nearly all will be held until next season for higher prices. Wool is being held for 15 cents, while 11 cents is being offered. The new arrangement of leasing timber land for grazing purposes is proving satisfactory, although it is more expensive.

Wolf Creek Soil Productive.

Wolf Creek.—The red soil here, equal to the red soils of Mexico, is peculiarly adapted to the production of tokay grapes and Spitzenberg apples, though all kinds of grasses, cereals, berries, fruits and vegetables are successfully grown. The promoter of the colony is gathering information, and will experiment with a view to growing some non-perishable product in large quantities between the trees while they grow to bearing. It is believed that Lima beans will be successful. This would make "Oregon's Ideal Colony" independent of local markets. Cherries will be extensively grown, as they mature to perfection.

Growers Holding Hops.

Salem.—Some movement in hops has been noticeable in Salem during the week though growers still seem reluctant to sell at the prevailing prices. Kola Neis bought 500 bales, paying 74 cents for them. He says he is having difficulty in filling orders because growers are not anxious to sell. For the very best grades a slightly higher price is being paid in the Salem market than 74 cents. It is estimated that less than one-quarter of the crop is on the market, the remainder being in the hands of the dealers through contracts and other prior purchases.

Asks Engineer's Removal.

Klamath Falls.—The directors of the Klamath Water Users' association have asked the secretary of the interior for the removal of D. W. Murphy, project engineer, in charge of the Klamath reclamation project. The action of the board is a surprise to many landowners. Little information is available as to the charges outside of those cited in the letter to the interior department—lack of economy in construction and lack of administrative ability.

Plans Walnut Institute.

McMinnville.—The Walnut Club, of McMinnville, held a business meeting last week, and decided to hold a walnut institute in this city during the early winter, at which lectures would be given relative to walnut culture, harvesting and marketing, and a general school of instruction inaugurated during the three or four days of the exhibit.

GOOD PRICES AT MOSIER.

First Big Apple Deal of Season Moves 10,000 Boxes.

Hood River.—The Mosier Fruit-growers' association pulled off their first big apple deal of the season last week by disposing of 10,000 boxes of apples to the Davidson Fruit company of this city. The varieties sold were Spitzenbergs, Baldwins and Red Checks and constitute about half the crop grown at Mosier, all of which will be handled this year by the association. The price paid for the apples is said to be fully as high as that received for the apples sold this year at Hood River, and buyers who have examined the Mosier crop say that it is the finest on the average on the coast.

The Mosier crop this year will amount to about 20,000 boxes of first-grade fruit, a large part of that amount being Yellow Newtowns. It is claimed that Mosier growers received the highest average price for their Newtowns last year of any fruit-growing district in the Northwest. Several offers have been made for them this year at a good figure, but they are being held for a price that has been agreed on by the directors of the association.

New Certificates Needed.

Salem.—In an opinion, Attorney-General Crawford held that October 7 was the first day upon which tax certificates could be issued to persons who paid taxes which have become delinquent. The opinion will make it necessary for many persons to get new tax certificates for a number of counties certificates were issued on October 6. Under the statute taxes become delinquent after April 6, and the law provides that six months after they become delinquent any person may pay the taxes and get a certificate to show that he has done so. Since the tax was not delinquent until April 7, the payments could not lawfully be received until October 7.

Find What O. R. & N. Cost.

Salem.—The Oregon railroad commission has fixed October 23 at 10 A. M. as the time for conducting an investigation as to the original cost and the cost of reproduction of the main line of the O. R. & N. The investigation will be conducted in the auditorium of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. The commission is making this investigation for the purpose of forming the basis for regulation of freight rates in this state.

Woolen Mill for Albany.

Albany.—A. J. Caldwell, who is planning to move his hose factory from Stayton to Albany and greatly enlarge his plant, is now considering the advisability of establishing a woolen mill. Caldwell has been here most of the past week investigating sites and plans for the plant. He has definitely decided, he states, to locate his plant for the manufacture of hosiery here and if he finds conditions favorable he will also establish a small woolen mill.

Mine Work Starts.

Baker City.—Manager T. L. Livsey of the Stub mining group that was recently purchased by himself and Salt Lake associates has sent a number of men to the property to begin the work of constructing a half mile of road which will be used in hauling out the ore. He has several men employed in the prospect breaking ore and in a few days will put on teams to haul it to Baker City, where it will be handled by the sampling works.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, 92@94c; club, 88@89c; five, 89c; red Russian, 86c; 40-fold, 90c; valley, 90c.
Barley—Feed, 26@27 ton; rolled, 27.50@28.50; brewing, 28.50.
Oats—No. 1 white, 31@31.50 per ton; gray, 30@30.50.
Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$14 per ton; Willamette valley, ordinary, \$11; eastern Oregon, \$10.50; mixed, \$13; clover, \$9; alfalfa, \$11; alfalfa meal, \$20.
Fruit—Apples, new, 60c@1.50 per box; peaches, 35@65c per box; pears, \$1@1.25 per box; grapes, 50c@1.25 per crate; Concord, 17@20c per basket; huckleberries, 9@10c per pound; quinces, \$1@1.25 per box; cranberries, \$10 per barrel; prunes, 2@2.4c per pound.
Potatoes—80@90c per hundred; sweet potatoes, 2c per pound.
Onions—Oregon, \$1.25 per 100 pounds.
Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, 85c; parsnips, \$1.25; beets, \$1.25; artichokes, 65c per dozen; beans, 5@10c per pound; cabbage, 30@24c per pound; cauliflower, 50c@1.25 per dozen; celery, 75@85c per dozen; egg plant, \$1.25 per crate; lettuce, 75c@81c per box; parsley, 15c per dozen; peas, 6c per pound; peppers, 3@10c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1.1c per pound; radishes, 12c per dozen; spinach, 2c per pound; sprouts, 9c per pound; squash, 11c per pound; tomatoes, 40@50c.
Butter—City creamery, extras, 35@36c; fancy outside creamery, 32@35c per pound; store, 18c.
Eggs—Oregon select, 35c; eastern, 26@29c per dozen.
Poultry—Hens, 11c per pound; spring, 11c; ducks, old, 12@12.5c; young, 14@15c; geese, old, 8@9c; young, 9@10c; turkeys, old, 18c; young, 19c.
Veal—Extra, \$1@9c per pound; ordinary, 7@7.4c; heavy, 5c.
Pork—Fancy, 8c per pound; ordinary, 6c; large, 5c.
Hops—Oregon, 1908, 7@8c per pound; 1907, 24@4c; 1906, 11@11c.
Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 16@14c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 15@16c.
Mohair—Choice, 18c per pound.

HOLLAND CALLS CASTRO.

Demands That Venezuela Forthwith Revoke De Reus Decree.

Caracas, Oct. 14.—"The revocation of the decree of May 14 is demanded in the most energetic manner—the government of Venezuela must from this moment and without delay fulfill the protocol of 1894—and not prolong the intolerable state of affairs which it has created by the decree of May 14." These are the words of the minister of foreign affairs of The Netherlands in his note of August 29 in which he answers Venezuela's communication telling of the summary dismissal of Minister De Reus from Caracas.

Vansinderen, the foreign minister of Holland, began his reply to President Castro by acknowledging the gravity of the offense committed by M. De Reus and saying that The Netherlands government would have immediately recalled him of its own initiative if it had seen the offensive publication, but that President Castro had taken justice into his own hands and violating international custom by summarily expelling the minister without asking for his recall.

The note goes on to say that after the renewal of friendly relations is established, the celebration of a definite treaty of arbitration and consular convention, which will be the surest means of arriving at the desired end, shall be submitted to subsequent consideration. But the government of Venezuela must, from this moment, and without delay, show it knows how to appreciate in its real value the protocols of 1894 which form the basis of our relations, as well as the obligations incurred by The Netherlands, and faithfully lived up to, and that it does not wish to compromise its existence by prolonging the intolerable state of affairs which it has created by the decree of May 14."

DANGER POINT AGAIN SHIFTS.

Bulgaria is Now Center of Action in Balkans.

Paris, Oct. 14.—Advises received here from French official sources indicate that the danger point in the Balkans has shifted back to Bulgaria. While there is no confirmation of the report that Bulgaria has delivered an ultimatum to Turkey regarding the recognition of her independence inside of three days, there is reason to believe that Bulgaria is determined to make a move if Turkey and the powers persist in their refusal to accept her independence as an accomplished fact.

The danger of a declaration of war from Servia is considered over for the present. The French government has decided to leave Servia's demand for compensation from Austria-Hungary to the consideration of the powers.

M. Stanchioff, the diplomatic agent of Bulgaria in Paris, declared yesterday that the situation in Bulgaria was grave and tense. "A rapid solution is necessary," he said. The agent said, however, he did not believe an ultimatum had been sent to Turkey. The Turkish ambassador here, Nasim Pasha, admits that Turkey is taking defensive military measures, but he repeats that Turkey desires peace.

WAR ON GAMBLING.

University of Nevada Leads Fight on Vice at Reno.

Reno, Nev., Oct. 14.—Believing that gambling in Reno is accountable for the small attendance at the university of Nevada, because people throughout the state will not send their children to school in a city where the evil exists as it does in Reno, the university authorities have taken an active hand in the anti-gambling campaign now being waged in Reno for the special election to abolish the licenses on October 24.

At a student-body meeting Monday Dr. J. E. Stubbs urged upon all students of age to be sure and register, and the registration office has been detoured with students. It is understood that the gambling element will challenge these votes. A minister's mass meeting was held here Monday night, at which addresses were made to an audience of fully 3,000 people.

The movement has gained an immense momentum, and the enthusiasm locally is greater than any local faction fight ever aroused before in the history of the city.

Great Land Auction.

Regina, Sask., Oct. 14.—One of the greatest land auctions in history is being conducted here this week under the direction of the Saskatoon & Western Land company, limited, a wealthy organization, which had the pick of large tracts in the heart of the Canadian wheat belt. Before the auction is concluded it is expected that a quarter of a million acres will have been handed over to the highest bidders in parcels of various sizes. Prospective settlers are here from many parts of Canada and the United States to attend the sale.

Few New Cholera Cases.

Manila, Oct. 14.—The number of new cases of cholera has declined to about five cases daily and these are chiefly confined to one or two of the congested native districts. The health authorities are vigorously fighting the disease and, besides guarding and disinfecting the houses where it occurs, are disinfecting the entire city. The disease is gradually disappearing in the provinces, but few new cases being daily reported from Rizal, Laguna, Cavite and Palawan.

Why Children Go Hungry.

Chicago, Oct. 14.—The charitable organizations here declare that an investigation of the charges of the Socialists that 15,000 children go hungry in Chicago every day shows the charge to be exaggerated and that drink in every case is at the bottom of the evils that Socialists attribute to capitalism.

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