

A stock company has been organized at Corvallis, Oregon, to engage in the culture, drying and shipment of prunes. A tract of 155 acres will be set out in Italian prunes this fall. This enterprise is certain to succeed.

A new 100-barrel flouring mill will be put in operation at Independence, Oregon, sometime during this month. This institution will be of great benefit to the town, and also to the country in general. The mill will be provided with storage capacity for 10,000 bushels of grain.

The assessor of Yamhill county reports property to the value of \$3,912,664, as compared with \$3,961,902 for the year 1889. The gross value of property for 1890 is reported as \$6,166,009, which shows a reduction of \$2,253,945 on account of indebtedness and exemption. It is doubtful whether the citizens of Yamhill would care to have strangers take these figures with any degree of earnestness, as they show indebtedness amounting to almost one-half the value of the county's entire wealth.

During the coming winter the legislatures of no less than thirty-two states will assemble in November, and others in December, but most of them will not sit until January. In the case of many of them the coming session will be the only opportunity that they will have to pass upon the subject of appropriating money for a state exhibit at the Columbian exposition in Chicago in 1892-3. What are the World's Fair managers doing toward the proper presentation of the claims of the international exposition upon them. The importance of prompt action can not be overestimated. Every legislature should be visited and addressed by representatives of the fair and an earnest effort should be made in all cases to secure a generous appropriation. There is every reason to believe that the people of all the states are well disposed toward the World's Fair and that they are anxious

to have the various commonwealths appropriately represented, but there is danger in delay, and it should be the first duty of the managers to speak in time with relation to so important a subject.—*Chicago Herald.*

The usual reports of practical failure to secure enough gold on the Yukon to compensate for the labor and hardships of getting it are beginning to come in. The highest success reported is but \$12 per day, or about \$1,000 for the season, not much more than enough to pay expenses, while the majority of the miners were not half so fortunate. The first party from the Yukon reached Juneau, Alaska, early in October, after a journey of sixty-five days. One of them stated to the *Free Press* that about 200 miners wintered along the Yukon last winter, most of whom he thinks will come out this fall. A large number of them have been there from two to three years. He anticipates that there will not be a scarcity of provisions there this winter for those that remain in, as was reported here, as the company's boat was expected to arrive there from St. Michael's at any time when he left. Reports on what the miners have done the past season are not the most encouraging, although the men on Forty Mile creek have taken out various sums, from a winter's grub stake up to fair wages. The low diggings paid the best, and the high or bank diggings have yielded but small returns. Work was closed down on Forty Mile August 15. Last winter, owing to the wreck of the company's steamer, about 150 miners found it necessary to go down the river to winter, starting on their return trip again the 28th of May, the ice having broken on that date. During this season the miners were well scattered, prospecting up and down the river, and on many of its tributaries, but no reports of any strikes had been heard of. Pelly river was also well prospected during the past two seasons, but nothing big found, although there are a number of bars there that would pay if they were worked properly. Two men worked on Lewis river this season, and took out from \$4 to \$12 dollars per day. Most of the parties coming out this fall will come out this way, and miners may be looked for from now on until snow closes up the pass on the range.

HOW SMART ARE YOU?

If you are pretty bright you will stand a good chance of winning a prize in the **West Shore Word Contest**. The five persons sending in the largest lists of words made from the phrase "ILLUSTRATED WEST SHORE," will receive the following prizes in the order of the length of their lists, the longest list taking the first prize.

LIST OF PRIZES.

FIRST PRIZE—A scholarship in the Portland Business College, or the Salem Business College, the leading business educational institutions in the Pacific northwest, good for either the business or short hand courses, and available at any time during the year 1891. Value, \$60.00.

SECOND PRIZE—Superb freehand crayon portrait, size 25x30, executed by the well-known portrait artist, Mr. E. W. Moore, at his studio in Portland. The winner of this prize can have his own portrait made, or that of any relative or friend. Value, \$50.00.

THIRD PRIZE—An elegant oil painting of Safrano Roeses, executed by the celebrated floral artist, Mrs. J. T. Hayne. This is a most beautiful picture and is valued at her studio in Portland, at \$40.00.

FOURTH PRIZE—Full set of Chambers Encyclopedia, with the American additions, bound in sheep and consisting of eight quarto volumes, of about 800 pages each, illustrated with wood engravings and colored maps. This is the most practical and valuable encyclopedia for constant use yet published. This is a new set, procured from J. K. Gill & Co., book-sellers, Portland. Value, \$30.00.

FIFTH PRIZE—A copy of the new edition of Webster's International Dictionary. This is the only authorized edition of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, and has just been revised and enlarged, making it the only complete and standard work in one volume. It is indexed and bound in sheep. This work is sold by J. K. Gill & Co., Portland. Value, \$10.50.

RULES GOVERNING THE CONTEST.

No one will be permitted to compete whose name is not on our subscription list for at least three months of 1891.

All words beginning with the same letter must be grouped together, and the groups arranged on the list in the alphabetical order of the initial letter of each group, the total number of words in each group being noted at the bottom of the group.

Only words that can be spelled by using the letters contained in the phrase "ILLUSTRATED WEST SHORE" will be counted, and no letter can be used in the same word more times than it occurs in the phrase. This permits the use of s three times, e three times, t three times, r twice, l twice, and all the others only once each in any one word.

Proper names will not be allowed.

Only English words, or fully anglicized foreign words, such as appear in full faced type in the dictionary, will be counted. This includes all compound words given separate paragraphs and definitions, but excludes all words printed in italics.

Two words spelled alike, though having different meanings, will be counted as one word.

All forms of the verb will be allowed.

Prefixed and suffixes will not count as separate words.

The latest edition of Webster's dictionary will be the authority for settling all questions.

If two lists contain the same number of words, preference will be given to the list first received at this office.

The contest closes January 31, 1891, and all lists must be in this office on that day, and the name of the contestants be entered on our list for at least three months of the year 1891 to entitle them to enter the competition.

The result of the contest will be published immediately in **WEST SHORE** and the prizes held subject to the orders of the winners.