

Prune culture is becoming popular in Oregon, and the Oregon prune is establishing a reputation for itself. Many acres in the Willamette valley are being planted to prunes this year. At Corvallis companies have been formed for the purpose of purchasing land and starting prune orchards. The same thing has been done at Eugene, and at Albany many acres have been set out. At Dallas 200 acres have been planted to prunes within the past few months, and more are being put in. In the vicinity of Salem the land companies are selling small tracts and planting prunes on them for non-residents who wish it. In five years the prune industry will be something immense in the valley.



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MONTANA DIVIDENDS.

The following Montana mines paid dividends during the month of March:

Bald Butte	\$10,000
Bi-Metallic	70,000
Bannister	5,000
Granite Mountain	100,000
Hecla	15,000
Helena and Frisco	10,000
Helena and Victor	25,000
Parrott	18,000
Total	\$254,000

The Bitter Root valley excels all others in the state in raising hogs. The principal cause of this is that the bitter root plants grow more abundantly there than elsewhere and hogs turned out subsist upon the roots of this plant more than half the year. The Bitter Root is in fact the great swine land of this state. It is probably the only valley in Montana that produces enough bacon for the consumption of its own population.—*Montana Husbandman.*

There was recently organized in Spokane the Washington Grain Exporting company, for the purpose of buying and exporting wheat from Washington and Oregon. The company was organized by Mr. Theo. Cushing and other monied business men of that city, and Mr. W. L. Fenton, formerly of Minneapolis, Minn. The main office will be in Spokane and that will be the headquarters for handling. Wheat will be

bought in the Palouse, Big Bend and Walla Walla countries, shipped by rail to Portland, or places on the sound, and from there sent by ship to foreign countries. The members of the company are members of the Minneapolis chamber of commerce, and will, when possible, ship to that market, and will also consign for parties in this locality who wish to ship east, thus giving them the advantage of doing their business and receiving their money at home.

From a peaceful hamlet slumbering in the pine woods of northern Idaho, Kootenai station has all of a sudden been transformed into a typical frontier town, with not one of the distinguishing characteristics omitted. The force that brought about the change was the Great Northern. All supplies for the Burns & Chapman contract of fifty-five miles are wagoned from Kootenai station to the right of way near the Halfway house or to Bonner's Ferry, sixteen and thirty-two miles respectively. Contracts for clearing the right of way east from the Halfway house have been let, and the work is now in full swing. Burns & Chapman expect to have 2,000 men at work within sixty days, and men are now camped along the roadside, awaiting the arrival of tools and supplies.

"Brown's Bronchial Troches" are widely known as an admirable remedy for Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Coughs and Throat troubles. Sold only in Boxes.

The Chehalis Coal & Improvement company has been incorporated in Washington to develop the coal measures about Chehalis. For some time past men have been at work opening up a mine about three miles west of the town. It is learned they have a vein of coal over ten feet thick that experts have pronounced considerably better than the Roslyn or Bucoda seams. The company is composed of men of considerable means, and the intention is to supply the Portland market immediately. The mine is located a mile and a half from the South Bend track, from which a spur is to be built at once.



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