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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

There are 15 new cheese factories and two butter factories in Coos and Curry counties.

Professor L. D. Edwards, noted musician, aged 65, died suddenly at La Grande of heart trouble.

Gophers have destroyed more than 600 acres of orchard trees at Dufur by eating the tree roots.

The Oregon Mint Growers' Cooperative association completed its organization at Corvallis last Saturday.

Readjustment of lumber freight rates has placed Medford on the same basis as Klamath Falls and Weed, Cal.

A county-wide squirrel poisoning campaign in Wasco county has resulted in the killing of 100,000 of the pests.

After first setting fire to his home in Portland, Roy D. Marietta, 40 years old, shot and killed himself with a shotgun.

Frank M. Warren of Portland has tendered his resignation to Governor Olcott as a member of the state fish commission.

Independence post of the American Legion is to have an auxiliary. Twenty-six women have signed the application for a charter.

A company of prominent business men and farmers of Lake county has been formed to prospect for oil in Goose Lake valley.

The state highway department has asked for bids on graveling the section of the McKenzie highway between Redmond and Prineville.

A few hours before he was to be taken to the county poor farm, James M. Gillette committed suicide by shooting himself at Seaside.

It is estimated that about 200,000 pounds of wool have been sold at Pendleton during the last few days at 15 and 20 cents a pound.

Lake Ochoco has a total storage capacity of 47,000 acre feet of water and the indicator now shows 19,000 acre-feet in the reservoir.

Approximately 750,000 bushels of wheat has been signed by farmers of Sherman and Morrow counties to the Oregon Wheat Growers association.

The week of March 20 has been designated by the farm bureaus of the state as the time for an organized campaign against the digger squirrel.

The passenger train between Eugene and Corvallis has been taken off and the only service between the two cities is a mixed freight and passenger train.

The women in the University of Oregon are better students than the men, according to an official scholarship report made by the registrar's office.

Twenty-five hundred dollars was pledged by students of Willamette university at Salem last week for the erection of a new gymnasium to cost \$50,000.

A special school election will be held in Albany on March 25 to vote upon a proposed issuance of \$40,000 in bonds to erect a new public school building there.

There are 2000 Chinese pheasants on the game farms near Eugene and Corvallis to be released within the next few weeks, according to Gene Simpson, manager of the farms.

One-half million pounds of Oregon prunes are being sent to Holland by the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association. Shipments are also en route to London and Liverpool.

The county court of Malheur county will appropriate from the county emergency fund \$10,000 to assist the highway commission in improving the road from Vale to Ontario.

Nearly a million and a half dollars was the value of grain and forage crops produced on the 50,000 acres of land in the Klamath and Horsety irrigation districts last season.

Earth tremors that awakened residents from slumber have been reported from Sweet Home and Cascadia. It is believed a giant avalanche in the nearby Cascades was responsible.

By a vote of more than two to one the taxpayers of the Astoria school district have authorized a bond issue of \$75,000 for the purpose of erecting an annex to the high school building.

Oregon Agricultural college has furnished three new county agents in the last few days—William B. Tucker for Crook county, E. W. McMinder for Clatsop and F. C. Hollibaugh for Jackson.

Provision for a \$3000 appropriation for the maintenance of the Hermiston experiment station is included in a \$15,000 appropriation allowed by the conferees on the agricultural appropriation bill.

Members of the Oregon public service commission met in Portland on March 8 to consider applications for the state highway commission for the elimination of 14 grade crossings over the tracks of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company between Pendleton and Huntington. The cost of these eliminations will aggregate \$500,000.

George Darveau, well known pioneer resident of Pendleton, died in that city last Sunday, aged 69. Mr. Darveau built the St. George hotel and took an active part in its management until failing health prevented.

Bend sportsmen are preparing to ask a ruling from the state fish commission to make April 1 the opening date for stream fishing in central Oregon, and to lower the daily catch maximum for lake fishing.

Because of some severe wind storms last winter, the telephone lines in the Santiam national forest suffered considerable damage and more repair work will be necessary this year than usual.

Applications for federal farm loans, which have been held up in Deschutes county pending the supreme court decision handed down last week, will easily exceed \$100,000, it is estimated. There are five farm loan associations in the county.

The public service commission, in an order issued at Salem, reduced the transportation rates on all fuel wood, pulp wood, cord wood and wood bolts. This action was taken upon the initiative of the commission, after investigation of complaints.

Fred P. Kendall, northwest manager for the American Can company, with headquarters in Portland, was named by Governor Olcott as a member of the state fish commission, created under the new segregation law enacted at the recent session of the legislature.

Steam-heating rates of the Northwestern Electric company, which operates exclusively in the city of Portland, were increased from 30 to 35 per cent in an order issued by the Oregon public service commission. The new charges became effective as of March 1.

A weather report compiled by Leroy Childs, superintendent of the Hood River experiment station, shows that the six months ended March 1 set a record for mid-Columbia rainfall and lack of sunshine. A total of 31.96 inches of precipitation fell during the past six months.

The case of Jack Rathie and Jim Owens, now in the state penitentiary awaiting execution for the part they played in the murder of Sheriff Til Taylor, of Umatilla county will be argued before the supreme court during its eastern Oregon session at Pendleton in April.

With more than 15 inches of precipitation so far since September 1 and the mild open winter, fruit and other crops of record-breaking proportions are expected in the Rogue river valley. That the fruit crop will be especially large is indicated by the heavy setting of buds on the trees.

The United States reclamation service has advertised for bids for the construction of the lower Lost River diversion work, located about two miles southwest of Merrill, in connection with the Klamath irrigation project. The work will consist in constructing a concrete diversion dam and concrete headworks.

There were two fatalities in Oregon due to industrial accidents in the week ending March 3, according to a report prepared by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were Ben Emerson, switchman, Portland, and George Gardner, lath mill contractor, Portland. A total of 434 accidents were reported.

Letters received at the governor's office during the past few days acknowledge the appointments of L. N. Fleischner and George H. Kelley of Portland, M. A. Lynch of Redmond, Blaine Hallock of Baker and Bert Anderson of Medford as members of the new state game commission. In each instance the appointees have filed formal acceptances with the governor.

Rates of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, which recently petitioned the public service commission for larger revenues throughout the state, in order to carry on construction work and expansion, were materially increased by an order of the commission effective as of March 1, amounting to an approximate increase of 30 per cent over existing rates for service.

The state board of control, with appropriations voted at the recent session of the legislature this spring will enter upon a building and improvement program entailing expenditures aggregating \$589,000. This was made known when Governor Olcott informed Sam A. Kozer, secretary of state, and O. P. Hoff, state treasurer, that special meeting of the board of control would be held within ten days, when definite plans for the several improvements would be worked out.

Not only was last month the dampest February since records have been kept in Astoria, but the last six months have been the wettest in the history of the lower Columbia river section. According to the records in Weather Observer Rosenberg's office, the rainfall last month was 14.55 inches and the greatest precipitation in any 24 hours was 1.92 inches, on February 19. The inches of rainfall during each of the last six months were: September, 8.55; October, 12.8; November, 8.58; December, 18.65; January, 22.43; February, 14.55. Total, 85.56 inches.

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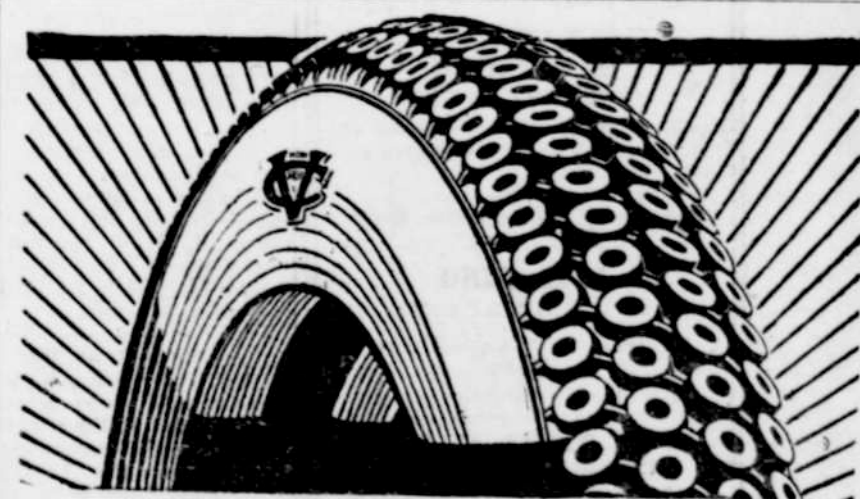


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