

# OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

## Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Informa- tion of Our Readers.

The Crater Lake Oil & Gas company has leased several thousand acres near Merrill.

Hubbard Bilyeu, 72, a resident of Oregon and Linn county for 69 years, is dead at Albany.

A coast artillery company of the Oregon National Guard, with 70 men enlisted, was mustered at Albany.

W. T. Kutch, one of the oldest pioneers of Oregon, celebrated his ninety-fifth birthday at Carlton last week.

Improvements to cost \$75,000 have been started on the naval radio station on Youngs bay, south of Astoria.

Reduced rates on lumber and shingles from the Pacific northwest to eastern markets are effective March 31.

The Dalles police have started a coast-wide search for W. J. One, local merchant, who disappeared last Monday night.

Wheat stocks now held by Umatilla county farmers will be assessed at 60 cents a bushel, according to R. O. Hawks, assessor.

The Malheur county farm bureau has fixed the wages of farm laborers for the coming season at 20 cents an hour, room and board.

Daniel Lane, living eight miles north of La Grande, was burned to death in his home when flames completely devoured his residence.

Farmers from all sections of Marion county assembled in Salem and organized what will be known as the Salem Broccoli association.

Early construction of the \$125,000 municipal auditorium in The Dalles, bonds for which were voted last summer, has been decided on.

A. C. Howlett, who celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday at Eagle Point on March 16, is rounding out 63 years as a newspaper correspondent.

Taxes levied on gasoline and distillate sold in Oregon during the period February 26, 1919, to February 28, 1921, netted the state \$854,272.

The Eugene office of the United States employment service sent 49 people out to jobs during the last week. Of this number 11 were farm hands.

The Gold Hill cement plant, which suspended operations last December, has resumed with a crew of 110 men. The output of the plant is 1200 barrels daily.

State headquarters for the Oregon Grain Growers' association will be established in The Dalles, it was announced by directors of the new association.

The Hood River Apple Vinegar company, which has been engaged for several years in bottling soft drinks, is planning to can soups, vegetables and spaghetti.

The general board of education of the Presbyterian church has offered to give \$100,000 to the endowment fund of Albany college provided the college raises \$200,000.

Another drop of \$3 a thousand in the price of common lumber was announced last week in Vale, making the total reduction about 50 per cent below last year's prices.

Dr. Norman Bouchet, slayer of his sweetheart, Ruth V. Richards, was found guilty of manslaughter by a jury in the court of Circuit Judge Stapleton in Portland.

Five candidates for postmaster at Roseburg have definitely announced their intention of seeking the appointment by the republican administration to succeed Postmaster Reitzel.

Fire which was believed to have ignited in a woodshed at the rear of the building caused a loss estimated at \$65,000 to the women's apparel store conducted by Kafoury Bros. in Salem.

All national guard units in Oregon, with the exception of a hospital or organization to be located at La Grande, have been completed and are functioning, according to Adjutant-General White.

Spencer Carlson, Marshfield, has been appointed principal midshipman to Annapolis naval academy by Representative Hawley. Wallace J. Walsh of Newport has been named first alternate.

The state convention and campmeeting of the Seventh-Day Adventist church will be held in Eugene in May if the citizens pay half of the expenses of bringing the big tents and other paraphernalia there.

Rev. Ernest M. Smith, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of McMinnville, died at the church parsonage from blood poisoning. The infection came from poison oak in his eye and a small boil on the cheek.

The peak population at the Oregon state penitentiary for several years was reached Friday when, with the arrival of three Chinese gunmen from Portland, the enrollment swelled to 345. On September 15, 1919, the inmates of the prison numbered 243, showing a gain of 102 during the last 18 months.

L. H. McMahan of Salem has filed with the state engineer's office an application to appropriate 150 second feet of water from Mill creek and the North Fork of the Santiam river for the development of 312 horsepower.

Joseph C. Poeschl, slayer of Charles J. Schnabel, prominent Portland attorney, was found guilty of murder in the second degree by a jury which recommended the maximum penalty under the law of life imprisonment.

A committee from the Eugene chamber of commerce has been appointed to act with a like committee from the University of Oregon to arrange for a formal dedication of the woman's building at the university of Oregon early in May.

Director Davis of the reclamation service is expected to name the commission within a few days which is to make an examination of the Deschutes irrigation project in Oregon, for which congress has made an initial appropriation of \$400,000.

There are approximately 925,000 acres of irrigated land in Oregon, exclusive of Deschutes county, which has about 75,000 acres under water, according to a report of the United States census bureau received at the office of Percy A. Cupper, state engineer.

Examination of stills seized in Deschutes county reveals the fact that the man who drinks moonshine whiskey literally takes his life in his hands; Sheriff Roberts declares. Evidence shows that 70 per cent of Deschutes county distillers are rank amateurs.

The divorce action of Marjorie Hawley against Willard P. Hawley Jr., of Oregon City, appealed from Clackamas county, will be heard by the Oregon supreme court early in June, according to an announcement made by Arthur Benson, clerk of the supreme court.

Jed Edsall and a number of other residents of Jackson county have filed a petition with the Oregon public service commission asking permission to operate a motor car over the tracks of the Pacific & Eastern railroad which extends from Medford to Butte Falls.

The Oregon public service commission, at the instigation of northwest hop growers, has started an action to restore a carload minimum of 15,000 pounds in the shipment of this product instead of the carload minimum of 18,000 pounds fixed during the federal control of the railroads.

Reply of Portland and Vancouver to the petition of Puget sound ports and Astoria for a rehearing of the Columbia basin rate case, in which the interstate commerce commission recently awarded a 10 per cent differential to the former cities, to and from the territory south of the Snake river, has been issued.

Railroad officials now believe that all danger from slides on the branch line, running from La Grande to Joseph, is past. During the month of March, the Wallowa county people have been forced to go for a number of days without freight, because of a large slide which occurred a few miles on the other side of Elgin.

The Oregon public service commission has extended the suspension of proposed increased transportation rate on milk and milk products to June 30. Application for increased charges for transporting milk and milk products was filed with the commission by the American Railway Express company several months ago.

Plans for the Fish lake dam, to be constructed on Little Butte creek in connection with the development of the Medford irrigation district, were approved by the state engineer. The dam will provide water for the irrigation of approximately 14,000 acres of land in Jackson county. The cost of the development was estimated at \$1,250,000.

There were two fatalities in Oregon due to industrial accidents during the week ending March 24 according to a report prepared by the industrial accident commission. The victims were Herbert W. Notter, shipyard worker, Portland, and Sanford H. Holgate, meat cutter, Astoria. A total of 364 accidents were reported to the commission.

The state has closed a deal whereby it came into possession of approximately 73 acres of land adjoining property now occupied by the penitentiary and state hospital. Approximately 18 acres of the land is of clay soil that will be utilized by the prison in manufacturing brick. The remainder of the land is general in its character and will be planted to berries and other products necessary in the maintenance of the state institutions.

One of the largest money verdicts ever rendered by a jury in Jackson county was that given in circuit court at Jacksonville in the suit against Chester C. Kubli, the Applegate stockman, for \$42,203.72 due on overdrafts, drafts and checks cashed by the failed bank of Jacksonville before it became defunct, the action being brought by P. C. Branwell, state superintendent of banks. It was the second victory of Superintendent Branwell last week in a similar case growing out of the bank failure, the other case being that brought by him against J. E. Bartlett, former Medford dealer in electrical supplies, the jury bringing in a verdict for \$2543.14 for overdrafts and the like.

## SAYS FEW READ THE BIBLE

Writer Criticizes the Present Generation for Its Lack of Knowledge of the Scriptures.

The bookseller's story of the woman who demanded to know where in the Bible she could find the story of Damon and Pythias is called to mind by the recently reported attempt of a professor at the university to measure the Biblical knowledge of his class in English literature. The test resulted in a rather naive display of ignorance concerning a book which has been called "the fountain head of English literature," and which, with Shakespeare, invariably heads the list of "best" books and gathers more dust than any other.

There are those who, having made acquaintance with the Bible in their own youth, and realizing its poetry, history and style, agree with Prof. Dallas Lore Sharp that we are a "Bible-starved nation." What parent reads the Bible to or with the children these days? They get fairy stories or animal fables. Even the Sunday-school lessons are given from a leaflet. The Bible has been storied and expurgated in the so-called interests of children, and has shared the usual fate of such well-meant but unnecessary endeavors. It is not without occasion that educators are discussing the need and the methods of increasing interest in the book.

Whether we regard the Bible as a sacred book, as a sign of the Hebrews, or as a collection of stories, legends and historical fact of ancient origin, it is so thoroughly a part of our literature, and references to its content, that not to know their source and application is to argue one's self unread. Youth ought to be aware of Moses the lawgiver as of Hamlet or King Lear.—Detroit Free Press.

## HAD REHEARSAL OF FUNERAL

Curious Notion Held by Spanish Monarch Concerning Ceremony in Which He Would Figure.

Charles V, king of Spain and emperor of Germany in the sixteenth century, was a pious ruler. Toward the end of his life he conceived the curious idea of rehearsing his own funeral, not because he wished to have the event go off without a hitch when the time should come, but because he thought the performance of the ceremony would redound to the credit and well-being of his soul in the after-world. His friends sought to dissuade him, but, deeming it a holy act, the ruler went ahead with his preparations. A catafalque was erected and the service performed. The high altar, the catafalque, and the entire church shone with wax lights; the friars were all in their proper places and the household of the emperor attended in deep mourning. "The pious monarch himself was there, attired in sable weeds," according to the monkish historian, "and bearing a taper, to see himself interred and to celebrate his own obsequies." While the mass for the dead was sung, he came forward and gave his taper to the officiating priest as a symbol of his desire to yield up his soul. Not only once, but for many years, until he finally died in 1558, Charles V performed this strange ceremony annually.

## Sheep Driven to Mountains.

Wild sheep live in small flocks in rocky, mountainous parts where food is sparse. Had they been possessed of such means of defense as the heels and the speed of the horse, or the horns and the strength of the bison they would probably have congregated on the plains where food was plentiful. As it was, their only protection from their natural enemies, the wolves, lay in their agility in the most inaccessible spots. The length of time sheep have been domesticated is as nothing compared with the preceding ages when their home was in the mountains, consequently coming under the dominion of man has utterly reversed their conditions of life. So the growth of the hoof is out of all proportion to the wear on our soft pastures, and footrot supervenes. Similarly the thick coating of wool which was absolutely necessary at the altitudes the wild sheep inhabited, has, as far as the sheep itself is concerned, become a nuisance, and rendered it a prey to ticks and maggots.

## How to Enjoy Walk.

There are road walkers, trail followers, forest roamers—locality and scenery are matters of taste. The thing is to keep marching, to fill one's lungs with draughts of invigorating air, to banish care and to revel in high spirits. There should be a stop at every spring, the colder and slyer the better, and when a landscape is to be viewed, some scene that charms and inspires, it is a sacrilege if the walker does not throw himself down on the grass, or seat himself on a fallen tree, to spend a few minutes feasting his eyes on the picture. The true walker is not one who merely puts miles behind him, to vaunt his speed and endurance.—Exchange.

## Origin of Languages.

Authorities believe that all languages had their origin in the dialect of one common language whose home is conjectured to have been between the Baltic and Caspian seas. The language spread with migrations in different places, and separation and race admixture increased the differences in the dialects until they became distinct languages, which in turn spread and broke up into dialects.

## MINIATURE STORMS IN CITY

Movements of Air Currents, Developed by High Buildings, Make Study That is Interesting.

You may learn many interesting things about air currents and the way storms develop by watching the movement of pieces of paper, or perhaps your hat, as it is whirled about the street.

A variety of miniature windstorms are developed by the high buildings of our cities or the forms of streets, which will repay careful study. On a hot day even, when the air is perfectly quiet, the atmosphere, as it becomes heated tends to rise against the sides of rocks or buildings, and if it travels far enough will develop in a strong wind, which descends on the opposite side and plays queer pranks. A small whirlwind is often produced by the action of wind against a corner formed by several buildings. As the wind travels down a street, especially a narrow one, it rapidly increases in velocity. A little will spill into the side streets, but the main stream will flow on, gathering momentum.

Watch the wind strike against the side of a high building and notice how it mushrooms out on all sides, splitting into many air currents and tracing these till they come to rest, but be sure to hold tightly to your hat in the meantime.—Boys' Life.

## JURORS AND TRIAL LAWYERS

Men Who Render the Verdict Said to Have a Distinct Influence Over the Counsel.

Juries differ widely. Charles Russell used to say, for instance, that there was all the difference in the world between English and Irish juries, remarks the Manchester (Eng.) Guardian. Irish juries enjoyed the fun and the drama of a trial; they entered into it all and appreciated the cut and thrust; whereas English juries were concerned more with wondering how soon they would be released.

But there is a characteristic common to all juries. They have quite as much influence, though in a different way, over counsel as counsel have over them. One of the greatest of advocates, Scarlett, Lord Abinger, declared that his success was due chiefly to the rule he made of selecting one particular jurymen, not necessarily the foreman, and addressing the argument as if to him personally. He would then work away till he felt that he had convinced this man and could rely on him when the verdict was being considered.

## African Seeds.

Sixteen hundred of seeds and plants of African fruits, vegetables, grains and flowers not common to this country have been sent to the United States Department of Agriculture for a test as to their adaptability to American soil as a result of a trip made by Dr. H. L. Shantz, an agricultural explorer. Dr. Shantz accompanied the Smithsonian-African expedition which made a tour of interior Africa from Cape Town to Cairo, penetrating the Orange Free State, the Transvaal, the Kongo, East Africa, the Sudan and Egypt, with side trips to other parts of the continent and adjacent islands.

Among the many new crops, one that is viewed with interest is a gourd two feet long, which contains two gallons of succulent seed about the size of an almond. The meat of these seeds resembles that of the butternut in taste, and, in addition to their possibilities as a nut substitute, they are rich in oil. Many new kaffir corns and sorghums, as well as grasses, suitable for the semiarid West, as well as the pine lands of the South, some excellent new mangoes, a number of oil plants, some dry-land rice, and a large number of grains and grasses are among the specimens. The department has found that several crops which flourish in central Africa are adapted to the southern parts of the southwestern United States. The American-Egyptian cotton and Sudan grass are among the noteworthy acquisitions as a result of previous expeditions.

## Giant Eels.

It is said there are eels no one can land. Some years ago a giant conger was caught in shallow water off the shores of England. It measured 8 feet 8 inches in length and weighed 148 pounds. Congers half that size have been known to bite a man's hand in two and to have driven their teeth through the blade of an oar.

In 1913 Kakanamsku, the champion swimmer of Honolulu, was attacked by a giant eel, which dragged him under water, and held him there for nearly two minutes. He escaped at last, but at the cost of a finger from his right hand.

Eels attain an immense size in the rivers of New Zealand and have been known to attack bathers. In fact, many cases of drowning have been proven to be where eels have dragged the bathers beneath the surface of the water.

## Sheep Shearing in Australia.

Shearers in Australia are paid by the number of sheep they shear, but the ranch helpers are paid by the week. Averaging everything, from young wethers, which are hard, to old ewes, which are easy, a good man will shear about 90 to 100 sheep a day. The actual record is 327 sheep shorn by a Queensland shearer in nine hours. And other big records have been made. But that was probably years back with the "blades," when the fleeces were five-pound and six-pound, and not nine-pound and ten-pound, as they are today.

## FAMED FOR GIANT POTATOES

District Just North of Denver Has Established Its Reputation for the Succulent Vegetable.

When Horace Greeley gave the young men of America a loose foot by saying, some decades ago: "Go West, young man," he incidentally succeeded in getting a very fine brand of potatoes named for himself, writes William G. Shepherd in the Saturday Evening Post. A group of men who went to the West at that time settled in a district north of Denver and east of the Rocky mountains, and perhaps, because they thought of nothing else to raise, they planted potatoes. About them, in the highlands, the only wild potatoes in the United States were growing luxuriantly. This district is similar climatically and otherwise to the highland district in Chile, where explorers are believed to have come across the potato for the first time. These Colorado wild potatoes propagated themselves by means of seeds, and it is from the pods of these seeds that the Colorado potato experts get the material by means of which they have produced the Greeleyville potato. Eastern railroads, on which huge baked potatoes, served in the dining cars, have come to be strong allies of the passenger agent and heavy drawers of patronage, send to the Colorado district for the potato giants. Transcontinental railroads which use the northern route send men into the Montana and Dakota fields to pick out, almost by hand, huge potatoes which have been grown from the Colorado seed.

## "SIMON PURE" A STAGE HERO

Name of Hero of Popular Comedy Has Become Synonymous for the Genuine Article.

The expression, "Simon Pure," meaning "the real man," had its origin in the name of a Pennsylvania Quaker in Mrs. Centlivre's comedy, "A Bold Stroke for a Wife." Being about to visit London to attend the quarterly meeting of his sect, Aminadab Holdfast sends a letter of recommendation and introduction by his friend, Simon Pure, to another Quaker, who is guardian of Anne Lovely, a young lady reputed to have a fortune of £30,000. Colonel Felgwell, another character in the same play, being enamored of Miss Lovely and her fortune, avails himself of an accidental discovery of the letter of introduction and succeeds in passing himself off as Simon Pure. But virtue is triumphant in the end. Simon Pure appears with his witnesses and the scoundrelly Felgwell is exposed.

The play scored a great success, and the name of "Simon Pure" was gradually applied to anything which was genuine and above imitation.

## Twilight Varies With Latitude.

Twilight is the diffused illumination of the sky which immediately precedes sunrise and follows sunset. When the sun sets below the horizon we are not at once plunged into total darkness. There is an intermediate period of partial and slowly increasing darkness. That period is twilight. It is caused by the reflection of the sunlight by dust and particles of water vapor in the upper atmosphere. The same phenomenon occurs just before sunrise, and, to distinguish it from the evening twilight, is called dawn. Dawn begins and twilight ends when the sun is about eighteen degrees below the horizon, and consequently their duration varies with the latitude and season of the year. The higher the latitude the smaller the angle at which the sun's path meets the horizon, and hence the longer it takes the sun to sink a distance of eighteen degrees below the horizon. In the tropics twilight rarely is longer than thirty minutes, while in the north of Scotland about the middle of summer there are several nights on which twilight fills the entire interval between sunset and sunrise.

## Glue Stronger Than Steel.

A new field for wood has been opened by the use of what is called plywood and glue made from the blood of the animals killed at the slaughter house and of the casein, obtained from milk.

Remarkable sturdiness under all conditions has been shown by this combination. The combination was first thought of in connection with the manufacture of airplanes.

Thin sheets of wood are laid one over the other with dry sheets of paper coated on both sides with the new glue. The mass is then heated under pressure and the result is that a structure is formed which is stronger than steel and has many other advantages over metal.

Panels were glued together with these and tested in boiling water for eight hours. At the expiration of this time none of the pieces showed any separation of the plies.

## World's Jute Comes From India.

Of sub-tropical products India gives us the whole of the world's jute and a large proportion of its hemp. Some 500,000 tons of jute are exported annually. Thirty years ago Indian indigo was the world's standard blue, but the vegetable dyes of India have been destroyed by the German aniline dyes and the principal victim has been indigo.

## MEN OF IMMORTAL MEMORY

Many of the Works of the Greek Philosophers, Plato and Aristotle, Are Still Preserved.

Plato (427-347 B. C.), the celebrated Greek philosopher, taught that the true source of knowledge is the reason, observes an exchange. According to his teaching, we come to consciousness through innate ideas developed by contact with the outer world through senses. He distinguished between empirical knowledge and reason, and divided philosophy into logic, metaphysics and morals. He was the first to attempt the construction of philosophic language; to develop an abstract idea of knowledge and science; to state logically the properties of matter, form, substance, accident, cause and effect, reality and appearance; to describe the divinity as a being essentially good, and tell of his moral attributes. He taught that matter is an eternal and infinite principle; that God is the supreme intelligence, incorporeal, without beginning, end or change, and that the soul of man is immortal. Aristotle (384-322 B. C.), another celebrated Greek philosopher, was the pupil of Plato and the teacher of Alexander the Great. He makes logic the instrument by which all general knowledge is obtained. He enlarged the limits of philosophy to include all sciences except history. He taught that nature is a machine, active through deity or a first cause.

## CATFISH CLIMB SMOOTH WALL

Certain Species Equipped With a Peculiar Suction Apparatus That Makes Feat Really Easy.

An interesting account of the climbing catfish of Colombia (Araus moronotus) was published a few years ago by R. D. O. Johnson. These fish can climb by means of suction apparatus, not only up the steeply inclined bed of mountain torrent, but even up a smooth, vertical surface. Mr. Johnson saw some of them climb a vertical distance of 18 feet in half an hour, up a wall of rock over which trickled a thin film of water.

In connection with a recent publication of this article, G. K. Noble states that other species of fish are known to climb in the same manner. Several of these occur in the Himalayas. Nematichilus rupicola, and perhaps other species of mountain cyprinids, adhere to the rocks by means of their smooth ventral skin and enlarged lips. The silurid genera Eupogonichthys and Glyptosternum cling by means of a well-developed abdominal sucker.

The mountain torrents of the Himalaya form the nursery for many species of frogs. Their tadpoles, like the fish, have become adapted to their location; some cling by means of their lips and ventral musculature, while others possess a well-developed ventral sucker.—Scientific American.

## How It Looks to One Pair of Eyes.

It is delightful to think how new everything is, spite of description. Never believe . . . that there is an old world. There is no such place on my honor! You will find England, France, Italy, and the East, after all you have read and heard, as altogether new as if they were created by your eye, and were never sung, painted, nor be-written—you will indeed. Why—to be sure—what were the world else? . . . Pen and ink cannot take the gloss off your eyes, nor can any man look through them as you do. I do not believe the simplest matter—sunshine or verdure—has exactly the same look to any two people in the world. How much less a human face—a landscape—a broad kingdom? Travelers are very pleasant people. They tell you what picture was produced in their brain by the things they saw. . . . How it looks to one pair of eyes; would be a good reminder pencilled on the margin of many a volume.—N. Parker Willis in Rural Letters.

## "Land of the Mind."

A French author once coined the phrase: "The land of the mind." It is a realm that many of us have forgotten. There the imagery is real, there death is unknown, and the only riches are men's thoughts.

With every age it grows in splendor. Dickens, Milton, Shakespeare, Hugo—these and countless others have left their all for those who travel there.

The demands of existence have blinded some of us to the joys that lie in such travels. As children we roamed the fields of imagination, but now we believe only in the material.

Yet we call ourselves wise. The dreary nights of winter are ahead. Why not cheat them of their dreariness, and on the wings of literature journey to the Land of the Mind?—Portland Oregonian.

## Ordered Maypole Cut Down.

John Endicott was the Puritan who caused a Maypole at Salem, Mass., to be cut down. Sent to Salem by a settlement company, Endicott displayed his stern opposition to all "vain amusements" by cutting down a Maypole, which had been put up by an earlier settlement attempted at Cape Ann by Rev. John White, who had been tutor of Trinity church, Rochester, England. Endicott named the place Salem, the Hebrew word for "peaceful" and lectured the people on the folly of amusements. He was a most rigid Puritan in thought and manner. Endicott was commissioned governor of the colony.