

## BRIEF NEWS OF RURAL OREGON

The run of salmon in the Umpqua this year is unusually heavy.

Military drill will be inaugurated this fall in the public schools of Linn county.

Twenty Linn county school districts are yet without teachers for the coming school year.

The Oregon state convention of the Brethren convened at Albany for a session of five days. Almost 100 delegates were present.

Forty-two nominees for office nominated at the primaries last May have failed to file the acceptances, according to Secretary of State Olcott.

Cottage Grove will have free mail delivery, beginning September 2, the postoffice having received orders to make the necessary preparations.

Flinding of a badly decomposed body near Powers is believed to solve the mystery of William Dietz' disappearance from Marshfield two weeks ago.

Arrangements are being made for the establishment of a Red Cross salvage shop in North Bend by representatives of the various women's organizations.

The advance guards of the Indians from the Warm Springs reservation, who come every year to the Willamette valley to pick hops, has arrived in Eugene.

Oregon hens from Oregon Agricultural college are holding first place in each of the three great egg laying contests, Storrs, British Columbia and Pullman.

Joseph Monocco, wanted on a charge of having slain Mary Spina, aged 18, in her home at Portland, was arrested at Vancouver, B. C., and returned to Portland.

Contracts for four more steel vessels of the 3800-ton type have been awarded by the Emergency Fleet corporation to the Albina Engine & Machine works, of Portland.

The Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers' association will hold its annual convention and sangereet, with hall concerts, in Portland, August 31 and September 1 and 2.

The initiative and referendum pamphlets have been mailed to the electorate of the state. The pamphlets went to approximately 310,000 voters, Secretary Olcott stated.

Union and Walhwa counties have more grouse this year than in many previous years, hunters from over the two counties report. The percentage of young ones is unusually heavy.

According to information received by the Hood River county court, the Columbia river highway between Hood River and Mosier will not be constructed during the period of the war.

Establishment of a twine industry at the state penitentiary is a project to which Governor Withycombe is giving consideration and which probably will be submitted to the legislature.

The Salem branch of the Insurance Federation of Oregon passed resolutions opposed to the government's taking over of the insurance business, as proposed in bills pending before congress.

The August report of E. L. Kent, field agent of the bureau of crop estimates, shows the onion prospects of Oregon at 70 per cent of normal as to condition, in comparison with 80 per cent of a year ago.

At the request of Secretary McAdoo, State Fire Marshal Wells has changed the date of fire prevention day in this state from October 9 to November 2, so that it will not conflict with the liberty loan campaign.

Under the budget of the Hood River Applegrowers' association, just adopted by the directors, a maximum charge of 26 cents per box for apples and 10 cents for pears may be made for handling the fruit the coming year.

Fire, caused either by a short circuit or a break in the power line, burned out three of the large transformers at the Link river power plant of the California-Oregon Power company, with an estimated loss of \$6000.

To offset the hay shortage, which threatens the stockmen of the Klamath district this coming winter, ranchers operating along the shores of the big upper Klamath lake are putting up thousands of tons of wild hay, which has never heretofore been cut.

Immediate construction of a coal storage dock near the municipal elevator at St. Johns was decided upon at a meeting of the Port of Portland commission. Costing between \$50,000 and \$75,000 the new dock is expected to save from 25 to 35 cents a ton in loading the coal on ships in the Portland harbor.

The schools at Creswell, Lane county, will not open until one month later than usual, to permit the boys and girls to assist in the harvesting of crops and especially the prune crop in the orchard owned by L. D. Scarborough, which covers 160 acres and is the largest of its kind in the upper Willamette valley.

All the shipbuilding firms save one, all of the paper and woolen mills and 95 per cent of the firms engaged in the lumber industry will be under the provisions of the workmen's compensation act after September 1, according to a statement issued by the Industrial Accident commission.

The number of industrial accidents reported to the state accident commission during the past week exceeds all previous records. The total number is 691, of which four were fatal, as follows: Joe De Mario, Cochran, logging; Carl Barnard, Buxton, brakeman; George Mall, Portland, shipbuilding; K. Shibata, Cochran, logging.

The Columbia & Nehalem River railroad, which runs from Kerry into the Nehalem valley, wants to advance its rates for forest products. Statements of the officials of the company have been submitted to the Public Service commission of Oregon, showing that the business is being handled at a loss, due to the increased cost of operation.

In response to a demand from educators in many parts of the country, Dr. F. G. Franklin, dean of Albany college, is preparing to write another volume of his work, "The Legislative History of Naturalization in the United States," and bring it down to date. Though it requires a great deal of research work and probably will take a long time, Dr. Franklin will undertake the task.

Although estimates for the various institutions and state activities are practically all in, the state Tax commission postponed final consideration of them until August 23. It is believed the estimates will reach a total of nearly \$10,000,000, about \$3,000,000 above the appropriations of two years ago. It is not believed that the commission will go before the people and ask for such a sum.

Squaw Creek Irrigation district, in Crook county, has applied to the state securities commission for certification of \$98,000 of bonds which the district wishes to sell to provide funds to purchase the canal and water rights of the Squaw Creek Irrigation company. Considerable controversy has existed between the district and the company and the district desires to take over the existing canal and operate them.

First-hand investigation of the dairy situation throughout the United States has convinced B. H. Rawl, chief of the dairy division of the department of agriculture, with headquarters in Washington, that the industry is in a serious plight in many places. The situation in Oregon is none too favorable to the dairymen, he said on completing a two-day survey which covered points in Washington, Yamhill, Clackamas and Multnomah counties.

Two suits to recover an aggregate of \$420,000 were filed in the Lane county circuit court by W. B. Dennis, against the Black Butte Quicksilver Mining company, owning mines in southern Lane county. Mr. Dennis is manager of the Carlton Lumber company at Carlton. One suit is to foreclose a mortgage dating from April, 1901, for \$70,000, and the other to recover on notes in the sum of \$350,000. The mortgage covers a tract of 380 acres of land.

The insect which has been causing damage to airplane spruce has been definitely identified as the ambrosia beetle, and the bureau of entomology of the United States forest service has made recommendations to the spruce division for the control of the danger. The beetle bores into the wood, weakening the natural resistance of the spruce. It does not attack the green timber, only the felled trees being affected, and these only during the summer months.

Yaquina bay residents who have sold their property to the government for a right-of-way for the railroad under construction around the bay have no legal right to demand free passes on the road in addition to the money received for their property, and by statutory provision such passes are prohibited. This, in substance, is the reply of the public service commission to an inquiry received from Lieutenant Henry K. Norton, of the government right-of-way department at Newport.

The collection of foxglove, or digitalis, by school children and other patriotic Oregonians should be continued, according to word received by President W. J. Kerr, of the Oregon Agricultural college, from the office of the surgeon-general, Washington, D. C. Thus far this year 1400 pounds of digitalis have been shipped from Oregon under direction of Dean Adolph Zieffe, of the school of pharmacy. Dean Zieffe hopes to make another shipment this year of 500 or 600 pounds and to send at least 2000 pounds between now and next August.

A \$10,000 fine, the largest ever imposed in an Oregon court for violation of the prohibition laws and the maximum amount provided under the statute, was handed at Portland by Judge Dean to Alexander Davidson, wealthy California liquor dealer, and was paid. Davidson, who is owner of the Blue Ribbon Beer company of San Francisco, was convicted under the conspiracy act in a sensational trial concluded July 4, last. Last week he pleaded guilty to a second similar indictment pending against him, and the fine imposed covered both charges.

It is hard to convince the little boy that mowing the lawn is one of those essential jobs.

### WHAT'S THE USE?

Yes, what is the use in making agreements with Germany, through neutrals acting as intermediaries, or in any other imaginable way? Through neutrals an agreement was reached between Great Britain as to the treatment of prisoners captured by one or the other of the two armies. It turns out that while the British have kept their part of the agreement and have been treating German prisoners humanely, the Germans have paid no attention to it. There seems to be no doubt of the fact that among the other and divers atrocities of which the German authorities have been guilty has been the treatment of British and French prisoners falling into German hands, that treatment being in line with other atrocities. Any sort of agreement reached with the German rulers isn't worth any more than the paper upon which it is written, says Knoxville Journal and Tribune. The German authorities themselves no doubt laugh at the credulity of the representatives or agents of an enemy government in thinking any sort of an agreement made will have any binding force with Germans in the treatment of prisoners or anything else upon which an agreement might be sought.

The last reports to reach the United States tell of nearly 5,000 Manila boys and girls, all but 900 of them natives, who have joined the Red Cross. These native children, poor as they are in many cases, contributed \$90 to feed Belgian children and are also supporting a French orphan for two years, says St. Nicholas. They have made handkerchiefs for soldiers, splint pads, quilts, bed socks and many other war supplies. And while under the tropical sun of the Philippines the school children are working so busily, far to the North, smuggled up under the Arctic circle, where the sun shows his face only for an hour or so each cold winter day, the Eskimo children in the government schools of Alaska have caught the war spirit and are doing their bit for Uncle Sam, their great guardian.

A million American mothers have or will have sons in this great war. Our heart goes out to those anxious mothers—waiting for tidings from their loved ones, some of whom are in a foreign land. Our heart goes out to distressed wives and to the helpless little ones, says Mission Times. It should be a pleasure to us to sustain our soldier boys who are enduring more than we will ever know, many of whom will sacrifice their lives for the freedom of others. May we all don the armor of high resolve and fare forth to the battlefields at home, ready to give blows in this great conflict.

At the call of their country the young men of the nation are crossing every line and coming together to enlist, register and be mustered into the service of the colors. Native and foreign born, country boy and city lad, richer and poorer, from office and shop, from suburb and river ward, from professional schools and offices, railways and teamsters' carts, homes of luxury, tenement flats and lodging houses, they line up together at camp and in trench, "over the top" into "No Man's Land" and on the lists of the killed, wounded and missing.

The rectify of how Prince Henry was enabled to inspect British military and naval strategic points by the pleasant device of an automobile tour of England and Scotland recalls Germany's pretense at the outset of the war that Belgium had perpetrated a violation of neutrality by permitting French officers to travel in motor cars in Belgian soil.

There are some very important differences between fathers and mothers. Mother will toil like a slave in the kitchen before she will let her girls endanger their hands washing dishes, but the old man will certainly paw up some sand if the boys come round him wearing kid gloves or spats.

By the treaty concluded between Germany and Roumania the army of occupation's right of requisition is restricted to grain, peas, beans, fodder, wool, cattle, meat, timber, oil and oil products. There seems to be little left outside the restrictive area except wrist watches and moving picture scenarios.

The Stars and Stripes, the American trench newspaper, adds its voice to the protests against useless visitors in France. Why should any American go to France nowadays who has no definite or serious service to render? All others can best help by staying at home.

"Eat potatoes and save wheat," advise newspapers and posters. The average restaurant charges for potatoes and supplies the bread free, and thus everybody is encouraged to eat potatoes. No? All right, then, have your own way about it.

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