

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

STATE'S POSITION STRONG.

Attorney General Crawford Confident of Telephone Case

Salem—Attorney General Crawford states that he is preparing the briefs for the state in its fight against the Pacific States Telephone company in regard to the gross earnings of the company in which the telephone company attacks the constitutionality of the Oregon initiative law.

"I do not fear for the state's position in this matter," said Mr. Crawford. "The initiative was enacted simply as a corrective and does not destroy the representative form of government of the state constitution. The telephone company has undoubtedly prepared its strongest case and I will work along the lines which I have just stated so far as I can tell at present."

"The reference in its papers filed by the company to the election of United States senators by direct legislation was done simply to involve the Federal law with a view to carrying the case to the United States Supreme court should the state be successful in its fight against the telephone company in the state courts."

Money in Clover Seed.

Albany—Local dealers are building up a lucrative business in handling the clover seed produced by the growers of this section. Carter & Robson, of this city, have made a specialty in supplying alsike and red clover seed to one of the largest seed concerns in Wisconsin. Should it be possible to obtain the cars, a total of 240,000 pounds will have been sent to Milwaukee by the end of this week. The local firm seeks to purchase sufficient seed to make out a shipment of seven carloads with a total valuation of about \$25,000. This opens up a new market for the clover seed raised in this section and will have a tendency to strengthen the local market and bring the top price to the valley growers. It is said that the supply is not equal to the demand and that a lucrative business awaits growers who will specialize in the growing of clover for seed purposes.

Freighting at Klamath.

Klamath Falls—An average of 150,000 pounds of freight every five days is being hauled into Klamath Falls by the J. M. McIntyre Transportation company. Other freighters are carrying smaller amounts. The merchants are stocking up for winter trade, as the freight rates are higher during the bad roads season. The McIntyre company is keeping 13 teams on the road, each making a round trip every five days. After October 1 the freight will be unloaded at Keno, 18 miles down the river from Klamath Falls, and brought up on the steamer Klamath. While the haul from the end of the track of the California Northeastern railway to navigable water, and thence by boat to Klamath Falls, would be easier than the present one it is not likely that there will be any change in the present route until spring.

Rush for Lake Lands.

Prineville—A rush is being made from this part of the state to the northern part of Lake county, where the Fremont forest reserve will be opened for entry October 28. The land office officials are anticipating great crowds of entrymen when the office opens October 28. Many people are going prepared to stay on the land and attempt to get squatters' rights. Every means of conveyance will be pressed into service.

Railway Nears Completion.

Pendleton—Track laying on the Umatilla Central, the branch line of the O. R. & N. running to Pilot Rock, 10 miles distant from Pendleton, is progressing rapidly, and it is understood that the line will be completed within six weeks' time. This will mean much for the Pilot Rock country.

Hoppickers Dig Beets.

La Grande—A large force of Japanese are now harvesting the beets in Grand Ronde. Most of these are from the hop fields in the Willamette valley. The fields will be dotted with beet diggers. After a week's work the La Grande factory will be started for the fall run.

Inquire Into S. P. Shortage.

Salem—The state railway commission has decided to investigate on its own motion the car shortage on the Southern Pacific. The date for the hearing has not been set exactly, but it will probably be about October 10.

Postoffice Called Harriman.

Prineville—A postoffice has been established in Harney county near Lowen. The new office is on the proposed Burns-Ontario railway line and has been named Harriman by the Postoffice department.

Sturgeon Weighs 510 Pounds.

Antonia—One of the largest sturgeon ever caught in the Columbia river was brought to Schmidt's cold storage plant a few days ago. It weighed 510 pounds and was caught in a Baker's bay trap.

SIGN UP FOR ARID LANDS.

Agreement Reached for Closing Up Deal in Crook County.

Salem—Without yielding a single point in the conditions, the state land board has reached an agreement with J. E. Morrison, president of the Deschutes Land company, and the new contract for the original Oregon Development company's segregation of 31,000 acres of arid land in Crook county has been fully signed and sealed. The new contract, which grants an increase of lien price per acre to \$36, provides that the land shall be reclaimed and the system turned over to the Water Users' association within five years and free from incumbrance. The company entered objections to several of the most material conditions, all of which were overruled, and the contract was accepted practically in toto.

Fine Showing at University.

University of Oregon, Eugene—The University of Oregon opened its doors Tuesday, September 24. The first and second days' registration has shown an increase of more than 20 per cent over the registration of the same time last year. Almost every high school and academy in the state is represented, and a large number are presenting credentials from Eastern preparatory schools. The year will mark the highest point in enrollment that the university has yet reached. The very serious question that is presenting itself is how to take care of all students. The lack of funds has made it impossible to furnish and heat all of the rooms in the library building, and for the same reason, the new girls' dormitory will have to lie idle for the year. Students, however, are adjusting themselves readily to the conditions, and the outlook for the year's work is exceptionally good.

Rich Strike in Quartzville.

Albany—A rich ledge of quartz has been discovered in the Quartzville mining district by Grant Lindley, a resident of Lebanon. Lindley came out of the mountains this week with samples of some remarkably rich ore, but said little about the mine, as he had not yet filed his notices of location. He has now returned to the site for that purpose. The samples of ore Lindley found have not yet been assayed, but the discoverer expects it to prove richer than anything yet found in the Quartzville country, and says he has plenty of the ore.

Rhodes Man Wins Distinction.

University of Oregon, Eugene—Harvey Densmore, the well known Rhodes scholarship student, who went to Oxford from the University of Oregon, has returned and has accepted a position at the University of Washington as an instructor in the classics. He outranked many of the best English scholars in branches especially affected by their learned men.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 85c; bluestem, 85c; valley, 82c; red, 81c.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$25@25.50; gray, \$24.50@25.
Barley—Feed, \$23@24 per ton; brewing, \$26@27; rolled, \$25@26.
Corn—Whole, \$31; cracked, \$32.
Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$19@20; clover, \$11; cheat, \$11; grain hay, \$11@12 alfalfa, \$12@13.
Fruits—Apples, \$1@1.75 per box; cantaloupes, 75c@1.50 per crate; peaches, 85c@1.10 per crate; prunes, 50c@75c per crate; watermelons, 1@1 1/2c per pound; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box; grapes, 50c@1.50 per crate; casaba, \$2.25 per dozen; quinces, \$1@1.25 per box.
Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25 per sack; cabbage, 1 1/2@1 3/4c per pound; celery, 75c@1 per dozen; corn, \$1@1.50 per sack; cucumbers, 10@15c per dozen; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peppers, 8@10c per pound; pumpkins, 1 1/2@1 3/4c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; squash, 50c@1 per box; tomatoes, 40@50c per box; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2c per pound.
Onions—\$1.50 per sack.
Potatoes—75@85c per sack.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2@35c per pound.
Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8@8 1/2c per pound; 125 to 150 pounds, 7 1/2c; 150 to 200 pounds, 6@7c.
Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 8@8 1/2c; packers, 7 1/2@8c.
Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12@13c; spring chickens, 13@14c; old roosters, 8@9c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, old, 16@17c; young, 18@19c; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 15c.
Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 31@32 1/2c per dozen.
Hops—1907, 7@9c per pound; old, 4@5c per pound.
Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 16@22c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness.
Mohair—Choice, 29@30c per pound.

WILL BECOME STATE.

President Roosevelt to Approve the Constitution.

Washington, Sept. 27.—President Roosevelt announced this afternoon that he had decided to approve the Oklahoma constitution, which means that all doubt regarding the addition of another star to the national flag is removed; that two more Democratic senators will soon take seats in the upper branch of congress; that four Democrats and one Republican will be added to the rolls of the house and that seven brand new votes will be added to the Democratic column, in all probability, in the next electoral college.

Announcement that Oklahoma's constitution is to receive formal executive approval comes as a surprise to many of those most directly interested, for the tip had gone out that the constitution would be rejected.

Undoubtedly it would have been rejected, too, had the president felt free, after consultation with his legal advisers, to act upon the merits of the document as they appeal to him, or had the convention's work not been so overwhelmingly ratified by the voters of Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

It was stated at the White House that the tremendous majority for the constitution at the recent election was the impelling force. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the executive judgment was, generally speaking, confined to the question of whether the provisions of the enabling act had been observed. The final decision followed a conference with Attorney General Bonaparte this noon. Approval, as applied to the president's action in connection with the constitution, is technical and does not express the executive's real position. He does not approve of the constitution at all, but simply signs his name in response to the will of the people who must live under it, for the reasons above stated.

Mr. Roosevelt's actual opinion of the constitution, according to those who are in his confidence, would hardly be fit for publication.

IDAHO FRAUD CASE.

Thirteen Dummy Entrymen Tell of Sale of Claims.

Boise, Sept. 27.—After having spent all of the previous day in bringing out the testimony of 13 persons, who admitted they had taken claims to timber land for the express purpose of selling them to members of an alleged land-grabbing conspiracy, the government attorneys in the trial of United States Senator Borah yesterday turned the line of evidence into new channels, which they say will tend to affect the defendant senator. The testimony adduced up to until now has been confined to the activities of John I. Wells and Louis M. Pritchard, two of the men under indictment. None of the "dummy" entrymen examined was cross examined and the testimony that they received from Wells the money with which to prove their claims and from Pritchard the \$250 bonus for surrendering their titles went uncontroverted.

Just prior to adjournment the prosecuting attorneys identified the signatures of ex-Governor Frank Steunenberg and William Sweet to a document said to have been a contract. It is alleged that Steunenberg and Sweet jointly furnished the money with which the first alleged fraudulent transactions were carried on.

The government has divided its case into three sections. The first deals with the claims which were turned over to Albert E. Palmer, of Spokane, who is said to have acted as "dummy" trustee for the Barber Lumber company. All the testimony bearing on these claims, it is alleged, was handled through Horace S. Rand, of Burlington, Iowa. The third and last set were handled by George S. Long, who, the government promises, will eventually take the stand as the most important witness for the prosecution.

War With Japan Inevitable.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 27.—Secretary Taft's tour of the world is being followed with unusual interest here. The government is taking measures to protect the journey through Siberia and European Russia, and the press is busily speculating on the likelihood of the adoption of a Russo-American convention, the object of Mr. Taft's visit to Russia being, it is alleged, to negotiate an agreement between the United States and Russia. The conviction prevails here that war between Japan and the United States is inevitable.

Great Radium Deposit in Tunnel.

Geneva, Sept. 27.—A newspaper states that Professor Joly has completed a geological examination of specimens of the strata collected in the borings for the Simplon tunnel. He found rich traces of radium, indicating larger deposits than hitherto discovered in Europe.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

SEVERELY CENSURES FRANCKE.

Uhler Says Dakota Was Lost Through Captain's Carelessness.

Washington, Sept. 26.—In an official communication to Captain Emil Francke, who was commander of the ill-fated steamship Dakota, wrecked on Kinkone reef, coast of Japan, March 3 last, George Uhler, supervising inspector general of the steamship inspection service, severely censures him on account of the loss of the ship. The local board of steamship inspectors at Seattle had investigated the wreck of the Dakota and suspended the license of Captain Francke for two years. The captain appealed to Supervising Inspector General Uhler. Mr. Uhler, after having analyzed thoroughly the evidence adduced at the hearing, says in his letter to Captain Francke:

"I am forced to the conclusion that the stranding of the vessel and her subsequent total loss was due entirely to your careless and indifferent navigation, as an hour before the disaster you assumed charge of the watch and took the bridge and directed the navigation of the ship yourself. It is evident from the testimony adduced at the investigation that a large portion of the ship remained above the water many days, and yet within two hours from the time the ship struck she was totally abandoned, not a single man being left aboard to protect her, and the ship left a prey to those who looted her without restraint and without meeting any protest from any one."

Wu Ting Fang is Impeached.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Secretary Root today received a cablegram from Minister Rockhill at Peking notifying him of the appointment of Wu Ting Fang as minister to Washington. There is reason to believe that unofficially some representations have been made at the State department within the last 24 hours, impeaching the character of the proposed new minister, not only on the ground of his conduct when formerly in Washington, but it is stated Mr. Wu Ting Fang took advantage of an abnormal state of affairs in Peking to secure his reappointment to this post.

May Burn Alaska Coal.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The lowest bid for coal for the battleship fleet while on the Pacific coast was submitted today by the Pacific Coal & Transportation company, which offers to deliver 40,000 tons of Chignik, Alaska, coal at San Francisco, half at \$8 to \$9 a ton, the other half at \$8 per ton, provided the department takes the full amount of the bid. This is cheaper than the department can buy and transport either Welsh or West Virginia coal to San Francisco, but the Navy knows nothing about Alaskan coal.

Honey Put in Charge Again.

Washington, Sept. 26.—It was announced today at the Department of Justice that Special United States Attorney Honey, who has been active in the California land fraud cases has been given charge of some of the criminal cases growing out of the land frauds in Oregon. Other cases will be conducted by the district attorney.

Sloop Saratoga Not Sold.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Only two bids were received for the sloop Saratoga, which the Navy department proposed selling, the highest bid, from John H. Gregory, of Perth Amboy, \$2,000. As the department appraised the vessel at \$4,300, it is probable that both bids will be rejected. No action has yet been taken.

No Objection to Wu Ting Fang.

Washington, Sept. 28.—President Roosevelt announced today that he assumed there would be no objection to the appointment of Wu Ting Fang as Chinese minister to the United States. He added, however, that he had not formally taken the matter up with the State department.

Call Central American Conference.

Washington, Sept. 25.—President Roosevelt and President Diaz have invited the presidents of the five Central American republics to send delegates to a conference to be held in Washington in November to agree upon a plan for the peaceable settlement of all future disputes between these countries.

Root Starts for Mexico.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Secretary Root left at 3:30 this afternoon to visit President Diaz, of Mexico. He traveled in the private car Signet, attached to a regular Pennsylvania railway train. Accompanying him were Mrs. Root, Miss Root and Percival Cassett, his private secretary.

Metcalf's Secretary Resigns.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Leon A. Clark, private secretary to Secretary Metcalf, has resigned and will leave here Monday for Oakland, Cal., to devote himself to law. Mr. Clark has been associated with Mr. Metcalf for seven years.

WILL AID LAND PROSECUTION.

Ballinger Announces Neuhausen's Assignment to Oregon Cases.

Washington, Oct. 1.—The following statement was given out at the general land office today:

"Commissioner Ballinger, of the general land office, is anxious that the land fraud cases in Oregon be disposed of as early a date as possible. And in accordance with his statement made to District Attorney Bristol, at Portland, when in Portland during the summer, that he would render him such assistance as was possible, and in order to facilitate the bringing to trial of the indicted parties this coming fall and winter, he has detailed Acting Chief of the Field Division Neuhausen to duty with the District attorney to assist in the preparation and trial of these cases."

"Neuhausen is familiar with the cases in question, having had more or less to do with them since the indictments were returned, and in order that he may devote his entire time and attention to them, he has been relieved of all land office work in that state. The vacancy in the chief of field division, with headquarters at Portland, has been filled by a transfer of Chief of Field Division Louis R. Glavis, formerly stationed at Oakland, Cal., to the Oregon division."

Prohibition for Washington.

Washington, Sept. 28.—A determined effort will be made next winter, it is said, to bring about the enactment by congress of a law making Washington a "dry town" in every sense of the word. Information received here today from Norfolk, Virginia, where the Anti-Saloon league of America has been in session, to the effect that a campaign having as its object the eradication of the saloon from this city will be inaugurated at once by the leagues and other temperance organizations in the states, and that pressure will be brought to bear upon senators and representatives from many sources, urging them to vote for the proposed law for total prohibition in the District of Columbia.

Must Obey Laws.

Washington, Oct. 1.—Prosecution was directed against 35 railroads today by Attorney General Bonaparte for alleged violation of the safety appliance law upon evidence gathered by the Interstate Commerce commission. Forty-one suits will be started against the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and Grand Trunk, 31 against the Great Northern, 22 against the Northern Pacific, 36 against the Southern Pacific, 19 against the Nevada, California & Oregon, 24 against the Oregon Short Line, 7 against the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake, and 7 each against the remaining roads, all of which operate in the South and East.

Hepburn's Sensational Views.

Washington, Sept. 26.—Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of the house committee on interstate commerce and father of the rate bill which forced the senate to action in 1906, on his return here from a trip to Europe. "I do not see," he said, "how any man can have courage to invest in American railway stocks after the way they have been manipulated, after \$182,000,000 of indebtedness has been saddled on the Union Pacific, with probably not more than \$30,000,000 of actual expenditure."

Negroes Oppose Taft.

Washington, Sept. 25.—A concerted anti-Taft-Roosevelt movement among negroes all over the country is alarming the Taft supporters. The negroes have a permanent organization and branches have been formed in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. W. Calvin Chase, a colored lawyer and editor of The Bee, a Republican paper published here, is the leader of the movement.

Washington Wins Contest.

Washington, Sept. 27.—The secretary of the interior has decided in favor of the state of Washington in the case of that state against a large number of settlers involving about 50,000 acres of valuable lands. There were several classes of claimants, but the secretary held against all except those who had settled on their land before the state's selections were made.

Recruit Engineers to Limit.

Washington, Sept. 25.—All the engineer companies in the army are to be recruited up to the maximum limit of the law. This action was decided upon with a view to complying with a request made by Major General Leonard Wood, commander of the Philippine division, that two additional companies of engineer troops are to be designated at that station for service.

Baker City to Have More Clerks.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Civil service examination for a postal clerk and letter carrier will be held at Baker City October 16.