

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

GATHER HOP DATA.

Pacific Coast Hopprowers' Association Wants Oregon Acreage.

Salem—The board of directors for Oregon of the Pacific Coast Hopprowers' union met here last week and formulated a plan for ascertaining the names of all the hopprowers in the state, the acreage of hops owned by each, the names of growers who have signed the constitution and bylaws of the union and the acreage of each.

It is expected that this information will be at hand and complete soon and then for the first time it will be known definitely how many acres of hops are grown in Oregon. This information is necessary in order to ascertain the proportion of acreage represented in the union and also the names of growers who are needed as members but who have not joined.

The work of gathering the statistics was designated to the secretary, Joseph Baumgartner, and arrangements were made to raise a fund of \$1,000 to pay the immediate expenses of the organization work in Oregon. While no particular effort will be made to learn the acreage of hops that will be plowed up this season, it is probable that a pretty fair idea of the extent of the plowing up will be gained.

Shingle Mill for Albany.

Albany—A shingle mill, with a capacity of 60,000 shingles daily, will be established in Albany this winter by E. A. Thompson and Elmer Cramer, former employees of the Curtiss Lumber company in its big plant at Mill City. Work will begin on the new mill as soon as a satisfactory location is found. The two men have secured the shingle manufacturing machinery of the Mill City mills, and have also acquired the ownership of a large body of spruce timber, and propose to make the industry a large one.

Glass Factory for Eugene.

Eugene—Eugene bids fair to have a glass factory in the near future. Gustave Mathisen, an expert glass blower, who was one of the promoters of the factory at Coburg, in this county, offers to put up a plant costing \$50,000 if the citizens of this city take stock in a company to be organized to the amount of \$5,000. Mathisen claims to be backed by ample capital. The matter will at once be taken up by the Commercial club and it is probable that some action will be taken immediately.

Lebanon Mills Reopen.

Albany—After being closed for three weeks, the Lebanon paper mill has resumed work and 50 men temporarily idle are again in employment. The recent flood piled so many logs in the Santiam canal that the mill could not get a supply of fuel wood for the regular consumption of 30 cords daily. Though this was the cause of the shut-down, some feared it might be due to the financial stringency, but the prompt resumption of work has restored confidence.

Little Snow in Mountains.

Albany—Less snow is reported in the mountains of this part of the state this year than for a great many years. This winter only the highest peaks and ridges are covered, while the valleys, even though far up in the mountains, are free from snow. Reports from the upper valley and headwaters of the South Santiam river are to the effect that there is no snow at all now on the ridges and in canyons where the snow is usually seven or eight feet deep in January.

Large Timber Land Sale.

Oregon City—The transfer of 1,850 acres of timbered lands on the Upper Molalla river in Clackamas county has just been made public, through a deed filed in the office of County Recorder Ramsby. The price stated in the deed is \$81,000 or about \$44 per acre. The purchaser is the Molalla Lumber company, a West Virginia corporation, which purchased the property from the Cornwell Lumber company, of Saginaw, Mich.

Change in Blue Mountain Reserve.

Washington—The president has just signed a proclamation which eliminates 131,643 acres of the Blue Mountain forest reserve, as recommended by the forest service. The greater part of the area eliminated consists of open grass lands. The boundary has also been changed to exclude some heavily timbered land, title to which has passed from the government.

Mines to Resume in Spring.

Baker City—The annual meeting of the Highland Gold Mines company consumed a two-days' session. It was decided to resume work in the mines in the spring, money having been pledged by the Eastern and Southern interests.

Better Lights in Pullmans.

Salem—Many complaints having been made that poor lights are provided on Pullman cars on the O. R. & N., the railroad commission has secured a promise that suitable lights will be provided.

TALK SPRAY AND PRUNING.

Marion County Fruitmen Plan More Frequent Meetings.

Salem—The Marion County Horticultural society has decided to hold either weekly or bi-weekly meetings the remainder of the winter for the special purpose of spreading information concerning the proper pruning and spraying of fruit trees. It has been found that at one meeting the time is so short that all the subjects in which fruitgrowers are interested cannot be satisfactorily discussed, and that as a result the growers get partial information, which is of little practical use to them. At the weekly or bi-weekly meetings, special subjects will be taken up, varying according to the particular portion of their work the growers are about to perform. Thus the subject of pruning will be one of the first considered for the reason that the pruning season is now on. After that spraying will be the subject of lectures and demonstrations. Use of fertilizers, methods and time of cultivation, thinning fruit, etc., will be taken up as occasion seems to demand.

Filing on Harney Lands.

Burns—The business of the United States land office in this city for the quarter ending December 31, 1907, makes an excellent showing for this country, the total entries and proofs for the period covering 51,200.69 acres and the payments, fees and commissions amounting to \$58,944.64. The month of December brought in \$29,000 of this sum. When it is considered that the financial panic held business in suspense a good part of the quarter, it will be seen that the movement for settlement of Harney county and contiguous country is a determined one and cannot be stopped.

Welcome to New Industry.

Oregon City—Nothing in recent years has brought so much satisfaction to the people of Oregon City as the announcement that a new paper mill is to be constructed at Oregon City on the East side of Willamette Falls, fronting the basin, with the installation of two machines of the largest capacity at the outset. Not less than 300 men will be furnished employment, and this means that from 400 to 600 people will be added to the population of Oregon City within a year, and that there will be a corresponding increase in the industry and business of the town.

Road Will Go Under the Hammer.

Albany—The real property of the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad company situated in Linn county is to be sold for delinquent taxes. A majority of the stock is now owned by the Harriman interests. Sheriff Smith has begun the advertisement of the property for public sale February 17. The property advertised includes the roadbed and right of way of the company in this county, the roundhouse and machine shops at this city and some tracts of real estate adjoining Albany.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Fruits—Apples, 75c@2.25 per box; peaches, 75c@1 per crate; pears, \$1.25@1.75 per box; cranberries, \$9.50@12 per barrel.

Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets, \$1 per sack; beans, 20c per pound; cabbage, 1c per pound; cauliflower, \$2@2.25 per dozen; celery, \$3.50 per crate; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peas, 10c per pound; peppers, 8@17c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1 1/4c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/4c per pound; tomatoes, \$2 per box.

Onions—\$1.85@2 per hundred. Potatoes—Delivered Portland, 50@75c per hundred; sweet potatoes, \$3 per cwt.

Wheat—Club, 85c; bluestem, 87c; valley, 85c; red, 83c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$27.50@28; gray, \$27.50@28.

Barley—Feed, \$27.50 per ton; brewing, \$32; rolled, \$29@30.

Corn—Whole, \$32.50; cracked, \$32.50.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$8 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@22; clover, \$15; cheat, \$15; grain hay, \$15@16; alfalfa, \$15; vetch, \$14.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@35c per pound.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11 1/2@12c; spring chickens, 11 1/2@12c; roosters, 8@10c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 15c; dressed, choice, 18c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 16@17c; pigeons, 75c@1; squabs, \$1.50@2.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 30c per dozen.

Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 9@9 1/2c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 5@6 1/2c.

Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 6@7c; packers, 6@7c.

Hops—1907, prime and choice, 6@7 1/2c; per pound; olds, 1@2c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 13@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 18@20c, according to fineness; mohair choice 29@30c per pound.

POLITICS FIGURE LARGELY.

Honey Tells Sensational Story in His Opening Statement.

Portland, Jan. 17.—In his opening address in the Hall-Mays conspiracy trial yesterday, Francis J. Honey charged that:

Hall wanted reappointment as United States district attorney and sought election of Senators Mitchell and Fulton to that end.

He forced State Senator W. W. Steiwer to vote for Fulton in February, 1903, by threatening Steiwer and others with criminal prosecution (Hall then being United States district attorney) for illegal fencing of public lands.

Fulton was a party to this deal with Steiwer and used his influence in Steiwer's behalf to cause Hall to institute civil proceedings against Steiwer instead of criminal.

Brownell wanted to succeed Hall and had pledged of support from Mitchell and Fulton. Hall forced Brownell to retire and so to notify Mitchell and Fulton, by threatening Brownell with prosecution for acknowledging forged land papers, for which Brownell later was indicted through Honey.

Hall threatened Hermann, Williamson and Mitchell with land-fraud indictment if they did not secure his reappointment.

Hall had agreement with Steiwer, Zachary and Hendricks by which he allowed them to maintain their illegal fences, this being the alleged conspiracy.

Hall says he and Mays will both take the stand in their own defense.

L. R. Webster, attorney for Hall, said that when his client first learned of the illegal fences in 1901, he notified Steiwer, et al., that they must not fence government land. Webster denied that Hall was actuated by ulterior motives, politics or other.

Witnesses Putnam and King testified that they informed Hall by letter of the fences as early as March, 1900. The fences were not removed until 1905, after Hall was ousted from office.

INVESTIGATE HARRIMAN.

California Will Probe Into Actions of Southern Pacific.

San Francisco, Jan. 17.—After 29 years of quiescent obedience, the state board of railroad commissioners flew full into the face of the Southern Pacific company today and ordered a searching investigation into the rebating proclivities of the Harriman lines, the Santa Fe and the Salt Lake road. At the same time the board, with the assistance of Attorney General Webb, passed the responsibility for efficacious action to the door of Governor Gillett. It lies with the chief executive to authorize the expenditure of the money that such an investigation will cost, and Mr. Gillett has no alternative but to choose squarely between the people and the railroads.

The sudden awakening of the board has developed a unique situation. The state railroad commission has always been the object of tender care on the part of William F. Herrin. Now the commission has suddenly decided to put Mr. Herrin and his associates on the carpet.

SEEKS TO RETAIN TROOPS.

N. vada Legislators Are Unanimous in Approving Policy.

Carson City, Nev., Jan. 17.—At the afternoon session of the assembly yesterday a resolution which passed the senate in the morning, petitioning the president to retain the troops temporarily, passed without a negative vote. There was no argument on either side as to the merits of the measure. Governor Sparks was at the speaker's desk, and as he came into the hall was greeted with applause.

Speaker Skaggs, who has opposed the governor in the matter of calling troops to Nevada, left the chair and Speaker Pro Tem Folsom placed the motion before the house. Skaggs failed to vote on the measure, absenting himself at roll call. The governor is receiving congratulations from both parties since the passage of the bill. There was a meeting of the joint committee this afternoon in reference to taking up a measure for policing the state. It is likely that this measure will be introduced by Monday.

Wants Hearings Changed.

Washington, Jan. 17.—Representative Humphrey, of Washington, reintroduced a bill of last session providing for the hearing of Alaska appeals at either Seattle, Portland or San Francisco, instead of merely at the California city as at present. Mr. Humphrey does not expect the same trouble that was encountered last year, although Representative Kahn, of California, has asserted his intention of fighting the bill. Mr. Kahn claims that the majority of appeals from Alaska are matters of California interest.

New Express Rates.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 17.—The new schedule of express rates recently agreed upon by the board of railway commissioners and the express companies doing business in Missouri, goes into effect today. In round figures the schedule provides for an average reduction of 21 per cent.

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Monday, January 20.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The senate devoted over two hours to considering the bill revising the criminal laws of the United States.

The senate adopted a resolution offered by Tillman directing the secretary of the treasury to send to the senate a statement showing the number of national banks insolvent since January 1, 1903, the capital stock of each, the names of the receivers and their compensation and the names of all attorneys or special employes under them.

Senator Fulton secured favorable report on his bill to divide Oregon into two judicial districts, one east of the Cascades and one west. Later the bill passed the senate.

Secretary Cortelyou asked more time to report on the various bond issues.

Senator Fulton today introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 to reimburse the Sherman county settlers for land and improvements of which they were dispossessed by the decision of the Supreme court.

The senate today passed Senator Fulton's bill conferring jurisdiction upon the Ninth Circuit Federal court to determine in equity the rights of American citizens under the Behring sea arbitration and render judgment thereon.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Unrestrained opportunity to express views on the immigration question was afforded members of the house today by the decision to take up and consider a bill appropriating \$250,000 for an immigration station in Philadelphia and so many took advantage of it that the code of laws bill, which the managers had planned to take up, was side tracked for the day.

The discussion of the immigration station bill opened up the whole subject of immigration and excited the interest of the entire house. Members from both sides of the chamber clamored for recognition, which carried with it the right to speak for an hour, if so desired.

The debate was notable in that it was indulged in largely by members serving their first terms, who found in the bill a chance to make their maiden efforts at speech making on the floor of the house. The entire session was devoted to a consideration of the bill, which was passed.

Thursday, January 16.

Washington, Jan. 16.—A complete change of front was exhibited by the majority in the house of representatives today in the consideration of the bill to codify and revise the penal laws of the United States. The pacific spirit displayed by the committee on revision of laws toward the close of yesterday's session, when it appeared as though the several amendments strengthening certain provisions of the bill regarding corruption in the appointment of persons to public offices would be adopted, had vanished today and instead every inch of ground was fought over to keep amendments out of the bill. When adjournment was taken, only six additional pages had been disposed of and but one or two verbal amendments by the committee had been inserted.

A resolution was adopted that the house convene at 9 a. m. instead of 12, and remain in session until 6 p. m. Lunch hour to be from 1 to 2.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Senator Fulton has introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 for a revenue cutter for the Portland station. The bill has the approval of the Treasury department.

A resolution was passed declaring that no communication from heads of departments would be received unless sent in compliance of law or transmitted by the president.

Carter, of Montana, opposes giving public land to the states for various purposes.

A bill has been introduced creating a bureau of mining.

The senate calendar was cleared of nearly every bill upon it today and the bill to revise the criminal laws of the United States was taken up and discussed until adjournment, which was taken at 4:30 until Monday.

Wednesday, January 15.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Bacon today introduced a currency bill and explained its chief features to the senate. Bacon said that his bill was an amendment to the Aldrich bill and embodied many of its provisions, as it did of the provisions of the bill introduced by Knox. He said it omitted railroad bonds from the classes of securities that could be used as a basis of circulation.

The senate did not receive a reply today from the secretary of the treasury to its resolution calling for information concerning the financial situation, as had been promised, and in its absence Aldrich assented to the passage of Culberson's resolution on the same subject. Without further comment, the resolution was adopted.

The resolution providing for the remission of more than half the Chinese Boxer indemnity was passed.

Washington, Jan. 15.—So persistent

have been the efforts made in the house of representatives to amend the bill codifying the penal laws of the United States that the committee on the revision of the laws today consented to let down the bars, and as a result the measure was changed in some important particulars. The pacific attitude of the committee in this regard served to modify the opposition to the measure, and in consequence the proceedings today were devoid of the heated arguments which have characterized the previous debates. When the house adjourned there were pending a number of other important amendments, which seemed to meet with no particular opposition by the committee, but which were passed over until tomorrow.

The portions of the bill which attracted the most attention were those covering the giving and accepting of bribes by senators and representatives, and the sale of endorsements or support for appointive public offices. It is to the amendments touching these questions that the house will devote itself tomorrow upon resuming consideration of the bill.

Tuesday, January 14.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The recent bond issue by the Treasury department was again the subject of discussion in the senate today, being brought forward by a resolution offered by Culberson, calling upon the secretary for additional information concerning the reasons that induced him to award bonds to National banks instead of individuals who, he declared, offered a higher price than was bid by the banks. The resolution went over under the rules.

Tillman offered a resolution embodying a new series of inquiries concerning the financial situation.

The senate refused to confirm four Ohio postoffice appointments at the instance of Foraker and Dick.

The bill granting leaves of absence to homestead entrymen during December, January, February and March was passed.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The amount of the fine and the length of the term of imprisonment to be meted out to officers and directors of corporations for violating the law with respect to money contributions for political purposes furnished material for a lengthy debate in the house today, in connection with the consideration of the penal code bill. All amendments to increase the penalty or enlarge the scope of the law, however, were voted down. These amendments, without exception, emanated from the Democratic side, but the one that brought forth the most discussion was by Cockran, New York, who wanted the fine fixed at \$10,000 instead of not more than \$1,000, and the imprisonment at 10 years instead of not more than one year.

When adjournment was taken at 5 o'clock 86 sections of the 342 had been disposed of.

DAMS AND LOCKS SAFE.

Goethals Says 108 Feet Will Be Limit of Vessels' Beam.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Colonel Goethals, chairman of the Isthmian Canal commission, today resumed his testimony before the senate canal commission. He detailed the structure of the various dams and locks, giving it as his opinion that all of them, especially the big project at Gatun, were going to be absolutely safe and capable of use in passing the largest vessel in the world through the canal.

Colonel Goethals said that he considered 110 feet a sufficient width for the canal locks. "If we made them much wider than that," he said, "it would practically call for a widening of all the drydocks of the world. We will be able to accommodate ships of 108 feet beam in the canal. I doubt if the beam of ships will ever be greater than that."

A proposition to work both night and day on certain parts of the canal is under consideration by the commission, according to Colonel Goethals.

The hearings will be resumed on Wednesday next.

MAY SKIP BUENOS AYRES TRIP

Probable Torpedo Flotilla Will Go Direct From Rio.

Washington, Jan. 20.—It seems probable now that the torpedo boat flotilla on its way to the Pacific will not pay a visit to Buenos Ayres, as was intended. According to the original plan, the flotilla was to proceed from Rio Janeiro to Montevideo. Now, however, as the flotilla is said to be three days behind its itinerary, it is probable that the entire cruise up the River Platte will be cut out and without stopping at either Montevideo or Buenos Ayres the little vessels will try to make the run from Rio Janeiro to Sandy Point, in the straits of Magellan. The torpedo boats will thus be given a thorough test of their ability to make a long distance run and will also be able to catch up with their schedule and accompany the battleships in the passage of the straits of Magellan, as desired by Admiral Evans.