

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## FARMERS HOLD THEIR WHEAT

### Growers of Baker County Expect to Get High Prices.

Baker City—One of the strongest combines among the farmers around Baker City is now in existence and it is practically impossible to secure grain of any kind. Heretofore they have always been anxious and ready to sell but at the present time it is almost impossible for the local dealers in Baker City who have stock to keep.

The cause of this combine among the farmers of this section of the country is the building of the Eagle Valley railroad, which will employ a large number of teams in the spring and the farmers are holding their grain in anticipation of the great demand and the high prices when active operations begin. The building of the Snake River Railroad will also create a strong market for grain and many of the ranchers expect to sell to the contractors on the Snake. With the two railroads building they are almost sure to obtain a high price for their grain and to make money by holding it.

## PROFESSORS EXTRAVAGANT.

### Petitions Submit Arguments Against Increase for University.

Salem—Extravagance and misrepresentations are charges against the State university in argument against the raising of the annual appropriation from \$47,500 to \$123,000, filed with the secretary of state.

The following statement suggests motives stronger than "extravagance." The enrollment has increased but 23 per cent, while increased appropriations of 300 per cent is requested; that tables submitted by alumni are "pretended" and false; that where the students at the university cost the state \$150 per year, the common schools receive but \$8 per pupil. The argument states "the university has shown bad faith in pushing this bill; university professors with large salaries have extravagant ideas."

### Work is Expedited.

Klamath Falls—The reclamation service is advertising for bids for the construction of the Clear lake dam, bids to be opened April 15. The specifications call for the placing of 54,000 cubic yards of earth and rock fill, with the building of necessary spillway and outlet. The dikes will require the placing of about 25,000 cubic yards of earth and rock fill. The Clear lake dam represents the principal work in the upper Klamath Falls near Bonanza and Merrill. The landowners in that region had become discouraged over the beginning of work in that section this year, and this advertisement for bids comes as a surprise and as very good news.

### Fruit Replaces Forests.

Grants Pass—If the progress of clearing up raw land and improving it keeps on at the present pace, Josephine county, within five years, will be entirely cleared and planted to fruit. As an instance of this work it may be stated that one country store in Applegate valley has placed seven grubbing machines within the last month. These mechanical devices do the work of several men, with greater ease and less expense. Within short distances of town where heavy machinery may be used, donkey engines play a prominent part in pulling stumps and brush.

### New Watered Lands.

Freewater—The Freewater, Milton & Hudson Bay Irrigation Company is just completing its ditch system in the northern part of Umatilla county and will reclaim 1,200 acres of new land this season. The ditch system when complete will comprise 39 miles of laterals and distributing ditches and about nine miles of main canal. It is a winter irrigation proposition and will use the flood waters of the Tualum and Walla Walla rivers for irrigation. The land under the ditches is all fine alfalfa and fruit land and is being brought into cultivation rapidly.

### Board of Visitors for Normals

Salem—Governor Chamberlain has appointed the following board of visitors for the state normal schools in accordance with the law passed at the last session of the legislature: R. R. Turner, Grants Pass; J. M. Powers, Salem, and J. A. Churchill, Baker City. Their duties shall consist of observing and investigating the condition of schools.

### Oregon Butter Sent East.

Corvallis—A carload of butter has been shipped by the Corvallis creamery to Philadelphia. The shipment composed 50,000 pounds and is valued at above \$150,000. It is storage butter, and the movement is occasioned by much better prices for the product in the East than are obtained on the Coast.

### Two Killed by Railroads.

Salem—The number of accidents for the month of January, according to the report of the railroad commission, shows one employe and one tramp killed and one passenger and one employe injured during the month.

## FILING PETITIONS.

### Candidates for Office Have More Than a Month.

Salem—Candidates for office have more than a month yet in which to procure signatures to their petitions and to file them in the office of the secretary of state or the county clerk as the case may be. Some of them are not familiar with the details of the direct primary law and are making inquiries as to dates. The last day for filing petitions for nominations for offices to be voted for in the state at large, or in any district composed of more than one county, or in judicial or prosecuting attorney districts, is March 27. This class of offices includes state offices, congressional offices, joint senators, joint representatives, circuit judges and district attorneys. There petitions are to be filed in the office of the secretary of state.

Petitions for nominations for offices to be voted for in only one county must be filed in the office of the county clerk not later than April 1.

The secretary of state will certify the state, congressional and district portion of the ballot to the county clerk by March 30. The primary election will be held Friday, April 17. The general election will be held Monday, June 1.

### Alfalfa for Cattle.

Pendleton—It is estimated that the increase in the alfalfa acreage of Umatilla county this spring will amount to at least 10 per cent. In the Butter creek and Hermiston districts in the West end of the county and also in the Hudson Bay district in the North part of the county active work in enlarging the alfalfa farms is now in progress. The raw land without water is worth but \$10 to \$25 per acre, while seeded to alfalfa and under irrigation it is worth from \$100 to \$150 per acre. The proposed erection of the packing plant at Portland has stimulated the growing of alfalfa and the feeding of cattle in this district very much.

### New Fruit Packing House.

Milton—At a meeting of the Milton Fruitgrowers' union the following directors were elected for the ensuing year: J. N. Stone, T. L. Ragdale, William Forsythe, O. K. Goodman and E. P. Jenson. The union is in good condition and its affairs have been handled in a very creditable manner. It is the purpose of the union to build a new and larger packing house on the site of the present one for this season. The new building will probably be a three-story structure and will be conveniently arranged for the handling of fruit.

### After Federal Court

Pendleton—The Pendleton Commercial association will send a delegation to Washington to fight for the Federal district headquarters when the date of the hearing with the house judicial committee is fixed. If the Oregon delegation think it necessary, expressions from attorneys of Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman and other Eastern Oregon counties in favor of Pendleton for the headquarters will be secured.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 81c; bluestem, 83c; valley, 81c; red, 79c.

Barley—Feed, \$26 per ton; brewing, \$32; rolled, \$29@30.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$27; gray, \$27, per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$32.50; cracked, \$33.50.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$20@21; clover, \$14@15; cheat, \$15; grain hay, \$14@15; alfalfa, \$12@13; vetch, \$14.

Fruits—Apples, table, \$1.75@3.00; cooking, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$8@11 per barrel.

Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets, \$1 per sack; cabbage, 1@1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.75 @1.85; celery, \$3.75@4 per crate; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peppers, 17½c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1½c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1½c per pound.

Onions—\$2.50 per hundred.

Potatoes—\$2.50 per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, \$3.50@3.75 per cwt.

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

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@13½c per pound; mixed chickens, 12½@13c; spring chickens, 12½@13c; roosters, 10@11c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 14@15c; dressed, choice, 15@17c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 14@15c; pigeons, 75c@1; squabs, \$1.50@2.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 22½@23½c per dozen.

Veal—75@125 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 6@6½c.

Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 6½@7c; packers, 5@6c.

Hops—1907, prime and choice 4½@6c per pound; olds 1@2c per pound.

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

## DENATURED ALCOHOL.

### Farmers May Make It Future Fuel of the West.

By Fred W. Lewis, Secretary Washington State Grange, Tumwater, Wash.

Two years ago the Grange, assisted by some other organizations, went to work to try and pass a law that would allow alcohol to be manufactured and used for light and fuel, without having to pay the prohibitive revenue tax, that had been required by the government, so as to free the people of the country from the tyranny of the Standard Oil Co., which has gradually raised the price of fuel oil from a low price to an amount that is paying the monopoly extremely large dividends, thereby levying an unreasonable tax on the consumer of the products of petroleum.

After a long and hard fight in congress in which the Standard Oil Company did their best to prevent the passage of the bill, we conquered and now a farmer, or several of them may erect a still, and make alcohol in any quantities, the same to be denatured, or poisoned, by officers appointed by the government, and may then be used or sold to any one under a permit which may be obtained from the government.

It is now our duty to get the appliances for the use of the product into general use, so that there will be a demand for the alcohol, so that there will be distilleries installed all over the west, so as to use the waste products of our farms to make fuel for our engines, stoves, both heating and cooking, and to give us one of the best lights that you ever saw.

I wish that it were possible for me to show the lamp with its beautiful light, so that you could realize the value of it as a light producing fuel. Wherever I have demonstrated the light, it has met with an enthusiastic reception and it is only a question of letting people see the value of de-natured alcohol, to insure a demand that will fill our land with distilleries, making our own fuel out of the small potatoes, sprouted wheat, small, and imperfect apples, and fruit of other varieties, and in fact, anything that is composed of sugar or starch.

A corn-field, with its stalks filled with sweetness, will make large quantities of alcohol, and a small amount of land will raise enough fuel to keep our homes well heated and lighted for the year.

Another good quality of this alcohol is that it is perfectly clean and healthful. There is no dust, smoke, soot, or gas, developed in the burning of it for either light or heat, and it does not vitiate the air in the room, as it contains oxygen, in itself and does not have to use the oxygen out of the air in the room, so much as any other fuel.

There is no wick-trimming to be done, as the wick is never on fire, and as far as smoke is concerned, the lamp chimneys will never need any washing, so the lamps are much easier to take care of.

You can turn it off until there is a very small light, and so makes a perfect night lamp, as there is no gas, as there is from a kerosene lamp, to make the bed room a hot-bed of disease.

There is another great boon to the housewife in the alcohol flat-iron, which will burn only about a cent's worth of fuel, rather than ten or fifteen cents worth as when you have to use a stove of any sort. You can take this flatiron into any room of the house, out onto the porch, out under a shade tree, or anywhere else that you want to, as you have no "string" attached to you as in the electric iron, and you do not have to travel back and forth between the ironing board and the stove, as you have always had to do, nor do you have to stand near a hot stove while you are doing your ironing.

Write to me and I will tell you how you may procure these splendid improvements, as the Grange is anxious to get people to know of the advantages to be derived from the introduction of denatured alcohol.

## Agricultural Club Formed.

By J. H. Franson, Department of Dairying, Idaho Experiment Station, Moscow.

A sudden impetus was given the agricultural interests of the University of Idaho on the 19 of December, 1907 when the students of that department organized an agricultural club. It consists of students deeply interested in agriculture, who are doing all in their power to build up a strong agricultural college in the university. It is with a keen sense of the needs of Idaho that the movement is begun. Idaho is one of the most rapidly growing states of the union. Over 700,000 acres of land have been added within the last year or two to the grants covered by the irrigation companies. This will furnish room for thousands of beautiful homes in the near future. It is obvious that scientific skill will be in demand under the conditions brought about by this extended system of intensive farming.

A publication known as the Idaho Student Farmer will be the club's main method of interesting the farmers of the state in the work of the agricultural college, and it is hoped by this method to get a great many students from the farms. It is probably the only student agricultural paper published in the colleges of the northwest. The first and only number of the present scholastic year will come out in a week or ten days.

The people of Idaho should respond with the true spirit of an energetic commonwealth. Send in your name and address to the Idaho Student Farmer, University of Idaho, Moscow, and receive the first copy free.

# DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

## Monday, March 2.

Washington, March 2.—A bill to reorganize the consular service passed the senate today. It will close 28 consulates and create 15 new ones, but not one consul will be dropped. The law will take effect July 1, 1908.

The mail shipping bill was made the special order for next Thursday.

Senator Smith, of Michigan, spoke against the railroad bond features of the Aldrich currency bill.

Most of the day was devoted to the passage of bills on the calendar which were not of general importance.

Washington, March 2.—A variety of subjects was considered by the house today. A resolution was passed authorizing the immigration committee to investigate charges of peonage in certain states. Four hundred pension bills and a few other private bills were passed at the rate of 10 a minute, and the remainder of the time was consumed in considering the postoffice appropriation bill, which will be discussed for several days.

An important bit of legislation was offered by Hepburn, of Iowa, through a bill imposing a tax of 50 cents per hundred shares on stock or agreements to sell.

## Saturday, February 29.

Washington, Feb. 29.—Senator Elkins, chairmann of the committee on interstate commerce, said today that this committee would report adversely on Senator Fulton's bill, providing that no interstate freight rate shall be increased until the Interstate Commerce commission shall hold such increase to be reasonable.

Mr. Elkins says this adverse report will be based on a letter which he has received from Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce commission, saying it is the opinion of that commission that such legislation is inadvisable.

Washington, Feb. 29.—There was a suggestion of "graft" in the house today in considering a paragraph in the army appropriation bill appropriating \$25,000 for the purchase of 6,000 acres of land near Washington, D. C., for a target range. Mann, Illinois, opposed the proposition and ridiculed the idea of paying \$40 an acre for such property.

After the provision had been further debated, it was stricken out on a point of order by Mann.

The last paragraph of the bill also met an obstruction in Mann, who vigorously attacked the proposition it involved of giving the chief of ordnance discretion in purchasing ordnance supplies without publicly divulging their ingredients, and the provision went out on a point of order.

The bill then was passed, carrying a total appropriation of \$84,757,566.

## Friday, February 29.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Long Winters spent in isolated sections of Alaska have so greatly increased the percentage of insanity that the senate today passed a bill authorizing large expenditures for the maintenance of the Alaskan insane. The 5 per cent of the license moneys collected outside of the incorporated towns for road building, schools and the care of the insane has been found insufficient for the demands.

Consideration of the Indian appropriation bill and a speech by Smoot, of Utah, on the currency bill, consumed nearly the entire time in the senate today. The Indian bill was passed.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Without a dissenting voice the house early in the day, under a special rule restored to the army appropriation bill the provisions to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers and men and to prohibit the private employment of army musicians for pay, both of which yesterday went out on points of order.

The house took up an amendment offered by Foster, of Illinois, appropriating \$1,500,000 for joint maneuvers of the militia organizations of the several states and the regular army. It provoked extended debate, Hull and Tawney leading in opposition.

The amendment was altered so as to limit the amount to \$1,000,000 and as modified was agreed to, on division, 56 to 48, but on the vote being taken by tellers it was lost, 59 to 60.

## Thursday, February 27.

Washington, Feb. 27.—One of the most dramatic scenes in the senate was enacted today when Owen, of Oklahoma, insisted, in tragic tones and with face showing much emotion, that the five civilized tribes of Indians were dead and that he, as a member of the tribe of Cherokee Indians, was not under the control of the secretary of the interior. The event was rendered all the more interesting by the fact that Owen was sharply engaged in controversy by Curtis, of Kansas, himself a Kaw Indian.

It was the first time that two men with Indian blood in their veins had ever locked horns as senators in the senate chamber. The controversy arose in connection with the consideration of the Indian bill and was precipitated by a motion on the part

of Owen to have the bill, so amended as to recognize the citizenship of five civilized tribes of Indians by putting the word "late" before this designation, calling them the "late five civilized tribes."

After further debate, in which Owen, Curtis, Clapp, McCumber and Lodge participated, Owen's proposition to designate the Indians as the "late five civilized tribes" was voted down. Owen's vote was the only one in its support.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Representative Lilley, of Connecticut, today introduced a resolution calling on the secretary of the navy to inform the house of representatives of the physical condition at the present time of the various submarine torpedo boats owned by the United States government, together with full information of reports relating to the performance of each, submarine accidents thereto and repairs thereon. Mr. Lilley said:

"I am informed that the dozen or so submarines purchased from the Holland Boat Company by the Government are practically all sick, broken and tied up at wharves, out of commission, and that the Octopus which outstripped its competitors in the trials off Newport last year, is in such a shape of dilapidation that acceptance by the navy department has been refused."

## Wednesday, February 26.

Washington, Feb. 26.—There were two speeches in criticism of the Aldrich currency bill in the senate today.

The bill to revise the criminal laws of the United States was passed after adoption of Culberson's amendment penalizing the improper giving out of information by government officials affecting the market value of products of the soil, except upon proper authority.

The senate today adopted a resolution introduced by Senator Lodge requesting the president to send to the senate correspondence with Venezuela in relation to pending controversies concerning alleged wrongs done to Americans in that country by the Venezuelan government.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The climax in general debate on the army appropriation bill in the house came today, when Dalzell, Pennsylvania, recognized as one of the foremost protectionists of the country, delivered an exhaustive speech in defense of the republican party and its policies, in which he upheld the principle of the protective tariff system and said that under it the United States had become the greatest of manufacturing nations.

The army appropriation bill was read for amendment and its consideration was not concluded when the house adjourned.

## Tuesday, February 25.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Currency legislation was the chief topic before the senate today. For nearly three hours Owen, of Oklahoma, spoke on the Aldrich bill, saying that he had, through ex-Senator Jones, of Arkansas, in 1900 proposed legislation somewhat similar to the bill under consideration, but with essential differences, which he declared would have prevented the recent panic had it been enacted into law. Owen received close attention from the senators and was frequently interrupted with questions, which led to spirited debate.

Teller declared that Indian bills have in the past been put through the senate loaded down with new legislation that should never have been adopted.

Washington, Feb. 25.—General debate on the army appropriation bill in the house of representatives today again furnished opportunity for free expression of opinion on the issues of the day. Garrett of Tennessee and Hau of North Carolina arraigned the Republican party for its policy with regard to the tariff, while Hayes of California denounced the financial system of the United States as "patchwork," and the Aldrich bill as "falling far short of the remedial legislation needed."

The only remarks pertinent to the army bill were made by Parker of New Jersey, who spoke in favor of the proposition for increased pay for the officers and men, and Kusterman of Wisconsin in support of restoration of the canteen.

The seven hours allowed for general debate on the bill will expire tomorrow, when the measure will be read for amendment.

## Treaty With Switzerland.

Washington, March 3.—An arbitration treaty between the United States and Switzerland was signed today by Secretary Root and Minister Lesvogel. It is understood that the treaty follows the lines of treaties negotiated recently between the American government and several European countries.

## Time Extended to Irrigators.

Washington, March 3.—The house has passed a bill extending until May 15 next the time in which homestead entrymen may establish their residence upon certain land within the Huntley irrigation project, Yellowstone county, Montana.