

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

PLANT NEW NUT IN YAMHILL

Fifty California Pistachio Received at McMinnville.

McMinnville—The Walnut club of this city, has received through its secretary, W. H. Latourette, a present of 50 pistachio nut trees from the government experimental farm at Chico, Cal., for distribution to the members of the club. The pistachio is a native of Western Asia, but is grown in England and France. It is believed that the similarity of the Willamette valley climate to those two countries will insure the successful growing of the nuts here. The nuts are very high priced, and are used principally for flavoring the more expensive confectionery.

The Walnut club is active in introducing new varieties of products to the soil of this vicinity. Last year a few olive trees were set out on tracts of land owned by its members, and this spring a great many more are being planted. It has been proven that the almond tree will flourish here and bear an excellent quality of nuts. The fig, likewise, has equaled the California fig in excellence, and yet the possibilities of Yamhill climate and soil have been but half tested.

SEMI-INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

James Withycombe So Describes Agricultural College.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—At a meeting of the San Grael society in the opera house, Dr. James Withycombe, director of the experiment station, defined the Oregon Agricultural college as a semi industrial college. He said that at one time higher education meant training of the intellect exclusively and that this was an extreme view, especially noticeable in Europe. Later many countries in Europe adopted the other extreme, training young men solely for the industries, and in this manner crowded out the humanities from the lives of the great industrial masses. Americans, who thought the industrial phase of school training had been overworked, until it became a fad, have taken intermediate grounds by the introduction of industrial colleges, in lieu of the European theory of industrial training schools.

Has Shearing Record.

Pendleton—A. T. Hill, who broke the world's sheep shearing record at Beardsley, Arizona, is coming to Umatilla and Morrow counties to shear this spring. He will join a shearing crew at Heppner about March 15. Hill sheared 325 sheep in nine hours at Beardsley, breaking the former record of 310 held by Jack Wynn, of New Mexico. The crew of 30 men in which Hill worked on the record breaking day sheared 6,572 head in nine hours. Morrow and Umatilla county sheep shear easier than the sheep of the Southwest and it is expected that Hill will beat his Arizona record with the Heppner crew.

Pendleton Wants Demonstration.

Pendleton—The diversified farming plan of the O. R. & N. officials has met with the approval of the Commercial association, which has appointed a committee to confer with the officials having the demonstration work in charge. This committee will endeavor to induce the Harriman agents to extend their instruction lecture train into this country. An effort will also be made to have the railroad people establish a modern experimental farm in this county where it can be demonstrated that the summer fallow is a wanton waste of land.

Star Route Beats Train.

The Dalles—According to E. L. Bolton, of Kingsley, the people of that section of Wasco county are dissatisfied with their present mail service. The mail from The Dalles for that region goes as far as Dufur by train. A petition is being circulated asking that the mail be taken from the Great Southern and carried by wagon from The Dalles to Dufur and then on to Kingsley, Tygh valley and Wapinita. This method would deliver the mail at Kingsley almost 24 hours earlier than according to the present method.

Report of Insane Asylum.

Salem—Superintendent R. E. Lee, Steiner, of the state insane asylum, in his monthly report submitted to the governor states that the new wing that is being annexed to the institution will be completed within 30 days. He also reports that the new ward for the criminal insane will be occupied during the coming week. The expense for the keeping of each patient for the month was \$12.37, or 42 cents per day.

La Grande After Settlers.

LaGrande—At least 25 families from Idaho will arrive in LaGrande this week with a view to securing homes in the valley. A local real estate firm has had a missionary employed in Idaho and the states of the Middle West during the past winter.

OWNERS PROTEST TAXES.

Claim Land is Worth but 75 Cents Instead of \$3 Per Acre.

Klamath Falls—The California & Oregon Land company and the Oregon Military Land Grant company, owners of thousands of acres in Klamath county, have brought suit through their attorneys, Noland & Smith, against Klamath county relative to 1906 taxes on their lands. Assessor J. P. Lee valued them in 1906 at \$3 and \$5 per acre. The companies appeared before the board of equalization, objecting to the assessment, but the board sustained the assessor.

The complaint filed states that lands adjoining will not sell for more than 50 cents per acre, as all lands in that region are arid, uncultivated and far from transportation. The soil is of a pumice stone formation, and whatever timber grew there has been removed. The 1907 valuation was 75 cents per acre, which the companies regard as fair. They have refused to pay the 1906 taxes and the land is listed as delinquent and will be sold unless the county is restrained by the court.

Big Copper Strike.

Baker City—A new, extensive and very important copper strike has just been made in the Goose creek district, about three miles southeast of the Eagle mountain property and 1½ miles from the Poorman mine. The development thus far done has exposed 40 feet of ore and the full width of the ledge has not yet been determined. It is thought that the ledge will widen to 70 or 80 feet. The discoverers and owners of the claim are C. C. Cox and Frank Keating, of this city, and M. T. Weum, of Minneapolis. Samples of the ore exhibited in this city show great copper values, and mining circles are considerably excited.

Market Day Not Success.

La Grande—La Grande's first market day was not quite the success that was anticipated, at least from the standpoint of those who brought livestock to be auctioned. Prices offered in most cases were so low that the owners preferred to withdraw their property from sale. But the merchants of the city made every effort, and were eminently successful, to give the visiting farmers much more than the usual value for their money. Bargains abounded in all the mercantile establishments. Hundreds of country people thronged the streets.

Sale of Big Grain Farm.

Pendleton—The sale of the Cooley farm for \$42,000 is one of the largest real estate deals made during the past few months in Umatilla county. This is a big ranch in the Cold Springs country that has been farmed by A. B. Cooley. The sale was made to Arthur Scott, of Athena. There are 1,120 acres in the farm and 500 acres of growing grain is included in the sale. The purchaser has had years of experience in growing grain in Umatilla county.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 82c; bluestem, 84c; valley, 82c; red, 80c.

Barley—Feed, \$26 per ton; rolled, \$22@30.

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

Corn—Whole, \$32.50 per ton; 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, \$1@3 per box, according to quality; cranberries, \$8@11 per barrel.

Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets, \$1 per sack; beans, 20c per pound; cabbage, 1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.75; celery, \$4.25@4.75 per crate; parsley, 20c per dozen; peppers, 17½c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 5c per pound; sprouts, 10c per pound; squash, 1@1½c per pound.

Onions—\$2.50 per hundred.

Potatoes—40@50c per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, \$3.50@3.75 per hundred.

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

Poultry—Average old hens, 14c per pound; mixed chickens, 13@13½c; spring chickens, 15@16c; turkeys, live, 14@15c; dressed, choice, 16@17c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 15@16c; pigeons, 75c@1; squabs, \$1.50@2.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18@18½c per dozen.

Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 9c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 5@6½c.

Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 7@7½c; packers, 5@6½c.

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 per pound, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@30c.

WEST IS ADVANCING.

President Bryan Compares Schools With Those of Europe.

President E. A. Bryan, of the Washington State college, has returned from his tour of the European capitals, and at present is preparing a series of lectures, the subjects of which he gathered while abroad. President Bryan's trip was something in the nature of an investigation of modern education, both technical and classical, as found in the most advanced and greatest educational institutions of nations. Before leaving America he visited several of America's most famous institutions, and both in England and on the continent called at the world's best known centers of learning. His conclusions were recently stated as follows:

"I believe the time is not remotely distant when the educational institutions of the West, meaning the western part of the United States, will be fully as efficient, and as famed as the best universities and colleges of the old world. The tremendous fund of natural wealth in Western states, the rapid development now in progress, the geographical position with reference to the new commercial empire of the Pacific, and the wide-awake nature of Western people make these things certain. Never again will men have a Western frontier to look to when seeking new homes for the expansion of new ideas. Humanity has made its path around the globe, and now, at the journey's end, the Pacific coast, must there be an up-building, and intensive, rather than extensive, development of all institutions. What this means to the people of the West they do not at present fully comprehend. But the progress of events nowadays is very rapid, and the work of these new forces will be evident within only a few years."

Old Superstition Refuted.

By J. L. Ashlock, Washington State College, Pullman.

The results of an experiment, which for the past fifteen years has been in progress at the state experiment station, completely refutes the old superstition that a cold January and February is apt to be followed by a warm March and April, or that one year of an average low temperature is apt to be followed by a year in which the temperature will average higher.

Professor George Severance now has the compilation of the weather data in charge, and states the summarization of results as follows:

"For the past fifteen years the experiment station has kept a close record of the temperature of each day of the year, striking an average between the temperature of morning and evening, which we call the 'mean temperature.' Having kept the record for a month the custom has then been to get the average 'mean' for the entire month. In this way we have compared the temperatures of each period of January and February with the temperature of the following March and April periods for the past fifteen years, and we find that the variations from the rule for determining what the temperature of spring will be by the temperature of winter, of one year by averaging the temperature of another, are so frequent that it is proved that the weather of one year or month, or several months, is absolutely no index to what subsequent temperatures will be."

Agricultural Club at Idaho University

By J. H. Frandson, Idaho Experiment Station, Moscow.

The formation of an Agricultural club on the 19th of December marked an important event in the history of the agricultural department of the university of Idaho. The club is intended to promote a more lively feeling towards agricultural work among the students; and to interest the farmers of the state in the college. Several methods will be used in carrying out this work, the principal one of which will be the publishing of a magazine known as the Idaho Student Farmer. The first and only number of the present scholastic year will be published in a short time. Beginning next fall a quarterly will be printed. This magazine will take up subjects of the utmost interest to farmers and to agricultural students. Your name and 10 cents to cover postage sent to the Idaho Student Farmer, University of Idaho, Moscow, will secure a copy of the first number.

Of Interest to Farmers.

The following publications of interest to farmers and others have been issued by the Agricultural department of the Federal government and will be furnished free, so long as they are available, except where otherwise noted, upon application to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.:

Circular No. 58.—Irrigation in the Valley of Lost River, Idaho. By Albert Eugene Wright, agent and expert, irrigation investigations, office of experiment stations. Pp. 24.

Bulletin No. 73.—Irrigation in the Rocky Mountain States. By J. C. Ulrich. Pp. 64, pls. 10. Price 10 cents. Explains the agricultural conditions prevailing and the methods of acquiring and using water for irrigation practiced in that portion of the arid region covered more particularly by the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Montana, in which the conditions and methods are somewhat similar.

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Monday, March 9

Washington, March 9.—The senate discussed at length Senator Frye's joint resolution providing for the carrying of materials for the Panama canal in American bottoms only. Frye advocated the adoption of the resolution, saying that at least 5,000,000 barrels of cement would be required in the work, and that so long as foreign vessels were permitted to compete, it would be impossible for the domestic ships to participate in the transportation because of the difference both in construction and operation. He said that in both these respects British built ships had an advantage of at least one-third.

An amendment by Foeter, of Virginia, providing that the restriction should not apply to the Gulf ports or any part of the United States from which vessels of the United States could not be secured for the trade was accepted by Frye.

Fulton, of Oregon, and Bacon, of Georgia, sought to have the amendment extended to the North Pacific and South Atlantic coasts respectively, but were unsuccessful.

Resolutions of sorrow upon the announcement of the death of Representative Adolph Meyer, of Louisiana, were adopted, and at 4:20 p. m. the senate adjourned as a further mark of respect to his memory.

The house was in session but a few minutes, adjourning at 12:12 o'clock upon announcement of Mr. Meyer's death.

Saturday, March 7

Washington, March 7.—Bills to establish savings banks, introduced by Senators Carter, Knox and Burkett, today were considered by a subcommittee of the senate committee on postoffices and post roads consisting of Senators Carter, Burrows, Bankhead and Clay.

Postmaster General Meyer was before the subcommittee and outlined his views on the subject.

Mr. Meyer stated that, while the Knox bill was drawn in his department, he was not wedded to that measure and was very ready to approve amendments or provision to be taken from both the Burkett and Carter bills. The committee and postmaster general were agreed upon the plan for placing the funds to be secured by the postal savings banks in the various national banks of the country at a rate of interest large enough to pay depositors 2 per cent and to defray all attendant expenses.

Washington, March 7.—A part of the session today of the house was devoted to the consideration of private claim bills. The remainder of the day was given over to eulogies of the late Representative Slemp, of Virginia.

Friday, March 6

Washington, March 6.—The army pay bill was passed by the senate today. The bill provides for army officers a graded increase of pay ranging from 5 per cent for lieutenant generals to 20 per cent for junior officers. It also provides that "the average pay of enlisted men of the army, as now established, be increased 40 per cent." This amendment, suggested by Culberson, of Texas, takes away the discretion of the president in fixing the pay of soldiers.

Scott read a letter from a banker who stated that army officers pay 3 per cent interest per month to have their salaries discounted because their incomes are so small.

An amendment was offered by Bacon, and adopted, giving six months' pay to families of officers and enlisted men upon their death.

Washington, March 6.—The house today passed the bill providing for the payment to the Roman Catholic archbishop of Manila \$403,000 for damage done to church property during the Spanish war and the subsequent Philippine insurrection. The bill was debated for several hours.

The house today unanimously adopted a resolution to investigate the charges brought by Representative Lilley, of Connecticut, of corrupt influences upon members of the house naval affairs committee in connection with authorizations for submarine torpedo boats.

Thursday, March 5

Thursday, March 5.—A marked tribute of respect was accorded the memory of the late Senator Redfield Proctor, of Vermont, by the United States senate today. The reading of the journal was only begun when Senator Dillingham, of Vermont, arose and, asking that it be dispensed with, referred in tones that indicated deep emotion to the great bereavement that had come upon the senate, the state of Vermont and the country by the passing of a man who for so many years had been in the public eye.

Mr. Dillingham moved the adoption of the customary resolution, and the vice president announced a committee consisting of Senators Dillingham, Daniel, Gallinger, Perkins, Taliaferro, Overman and Hemenway to attend the

funeral.

In the house the proceedings were brief. While waiting for the official announcement of Senator Proctor's death, a couple of bills of minor importance were passed.

Mr. Haskins, of Vermont, presented resolutions of regret, which were adopted. After Speaker Cannon had announced the names of the committee to represent the house at the funeral, the house, as a further mark of respect, adjourned. The body will be accompanied by members of the family of the late senator and by the congressional committees to Proctorville, Vermont.

Wednesday, March 4

Washington, March 4.—Currency legislation was the subject of consideration in the senate today. Heyburn opposed the Aldrich bill and declared it was useless and he would not vote for it.

Perkins spoke at length in support of the bill. Bailey stated that he would speak on the bill Monday and Depew will speak on Friday. Aldrich announced that he hoped to have a vote on the measure next Wednesday.

A canvass of the senate made to ascertain the sentiment in regard to the bill indicates that there will be more Democratic senators for it than Republican senators against it. Since the speech by Smith, of Michigan, in opposition to the railroad bond feature it has been stated persistently that there is a Republican defection that endangers the passage of the bill.

Washington, March 4.—The agricultural appropriation bill has been agreed upon by the house committee on agriculture and probably will be reported to the house tomorrow. The bill carries a total of \$11,431,416, which is a reduction of \$1,420,005 from the departmental estimate, and an excess of \$1,948,056 over the amount appropriated for the current year.

Tuesday, March 3

Washington, March 3.—Senators McCumber, of North Dakota, and Newlands, of Nevada, today spoke at length on the Aldrich bill.

Mr. McCumber was opposed to any expansion of the currency except to save the country from a catastrophe, he said. He favored a government guarantee of deposits in national banks. During a colloquy with Senator Carter the latter, commenting on savings banks, said:

"There ought to be a clear way opened from the back door of the failed banks to the penitentiary."

Washington, March 3.—The startling charge that the railroads of the country carrying mails had robbed the people of \$70,000,000 was made in the house today by Lloyd, of Missouri. He declared that the new system of weighing mails was an admission of the postmaster general that the weighing in the past 27 years had been fraudulent. He called for an investigation of the Postoffice department, and Wagner, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee to control the expenses of that department, promised that an inquiry would be conducted.

Others who spoke were Moon, of Tennessee; Goebel, of Ohio; Briggs, of Georgia; Murdock, of Kansas, and Smith, of California.

A strong plea for an ocean mail subsidy to steamers plying between the United States and South American ports, the Philippines, Japan, China and Australia was made by Goebel. Since last March the foreign steamships engaged in trade with the Orient have been reduced to eight, with no new ships building, and he urged the subsidy in order to revive those sailings.

After an argument by Smith in opposition to the plan for a rural parcels post service, the bill was laid aside.

Only Seven Japs Came In

Washington, March 10.—The Pacific coast members of congress have been informed that only seven Japanese, and these not laborers, have entered the United States this year, which is regarded as showing the effectiveness of the new emigration regulation which Japan has formulated and undertaken to enforce.

There is an apprehension that some Japanese laborers have entered this country through Mexico, but it is learned that Mexico is negotiating with Japan for practically the same regulations that have been applied to the United States.

Buy Lower California.

Washington, March 10.—Representative Smith has addressed the secretary of state in a letter asking an opinion regarding the advisability of the purchase by the United States of part or all of Lower California, in Mexico, so that control of the Colorado river along the portions where it has broken its bounds, could be undertaken by the United States government. Smith urges besides the matter of the Colorado river, that the United States already conducts extensive operations at Magdalena bay in Lower California.