

## OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## DEVELOPMENT OF LINN.

## Object of Club That Has Organized Recently at Albany.

Albany.—Tom Richardson, of the Portland Commercial Club, delivered an interesting and instructive address before Albany's business men in the Grand Opera house. Mr. Richardson displayed a thorough knowledge of methods of municipal and state development, and gave a lucid explanation of the essentials of success in a commercial organization, and the address was productive of results.

At the close of his talk Mr. Richardson took charge of the organization of a local commercial body for the development of Albany and Linn county. A number of people pledged \$5 per month for the support of a push club, others smaller sums, and a committee of business men was appointed by Mayor Davis to take charge of the organization work and secure a membership sufficiently large to establish the club on a good financial basis.

It is the purpose of the organization to advertise the county and place men in the field to work for the development of Linn county's great resources. It was unanimously decided to join the Oregon Development League and cooperate with that body in the development of Oregon. The organization committee was authorized to find a name for the club and nominate officers, the nominations to be ratified at the next meeting, when organization will be perfected.

Mr. Richardson was given an informal reception at the Alco Club at the adjournment of the meeting.

## Oil Spoils Water Supply.

Salem.—Farmers from the Waldo Hills report oil discoveries in the vicinity of Pratum, where oil was discovered by Rice Brothers last spring. Many wells have been abandoned because the water cannot be used. No effort has been made to sink a deep well for the purpose of determining whether oil can be found in paying quantities. Local capitalists arranged last fall to sink a well as deep as might be necessary, provided the farmers would bond their property, agreeing to sell their oil on a percentage basis. Many farmers would not agree to this, preferring to profit by the results of experiments conducted by others, and as a consequence the well-digging enterprise was abandoned.

## Willamette Fishway Completed.

Salem.—The new fishway over the falls at Oregon City has been completed at a cost of \$2973.50, and Engineer J. W. Moffatt reported that fact to the State Fish Commission today. The engineer expresses his confidence that the fishway will make it practicable for salmon and other fish to ascend the Willamette river. In reporting the work at the several fish hatcheries, Master Fish Warden H. G. Van Dusen says that 6,650,000 Chinook and 3,646,000 silverside eggs have been taken at the South Coos river hatchery, while 2,607,000 Chinook and 1,000,000 silverside eggs have been taken at Yaquina. These results are considered very satisfactory.

## Improvements at Hood River.

Hood River.—It is estimated that the O. R. & N. Co. is expending \$10,000 in improvements to the depot grounds and track yards at this point. The passenger depot is being remodeled and enlarged, and a freight depot and warehouse has been erected three blocks west of the present location. The facilities for handling freight at this point have afforded very poor accommodations for the last three years, and the improvements now being made are a source of satisfaction to the shipping interests.

## Claim Jumpers Busy.

Grants Pass.—Claim jumpers continue to do their work in the Sucker Creek district. A claim owned by Sheriff Lewis, of this city, has recently been jumped, and as the claim is valued quite highly by the Sheriff and has had two years' assessment work done upon it, Mr. Lewis is anything but pleased over the usurpation of his right and has gone to discuss the matter at close range with the intruder.

## Phone Line for Farmers.

Chemawa.—Chemawa is to be the center of a rural telephone line, to be established at once. Fifteen farmers in the vicinity of Chemawa met last evening at the residence of Frank Beatty and formed an independent rural company. Material has been ordered for the line, and will be here in about three weeks. The central office will be established at Chemawa.

## Selling Sugar Plant Stock.

Milton.—Robert E. Frazier of this place, is in Portland selling stock of the Mexican National Sugar Refining Company, of which he is a member. The company will dispose of \$250,000 worth of preferred stock in order to install a sugar refining plant. The company is composed largely of Milton and Walla Walla capitalists.

## Mohair Show January 19-20.

Dallas.—The committee of arrangements for the Polk County Mohair Association appointed to arrange for the fair, has named January 19 and 20 as the time for holding the fair at Dallas. This is primarily a goat fair, but poultry and sheep will also be an interesting feature of the show. Entries are open to all Oregon.

## TO DEAL IN FINE HORSES.

## New Industry Opened in Pendleton by Former Eugene Man.

Pendleton.—A. C. Ruby, formerly of Eugene, Ore., has purchased the Oregon feed yard of this city, and proposes to maintain a distributing depot for imported horses. He has at his establishment 27 horses and six jackasses. The horses are Percherons, French draft, Belgian shire and coach stallions. Every horse was selected by him in Europe and shipped to this country from Germany and France. The animals are of the gentlest dispositions, Mr. Ruby not purchasing any that showed signs of ill temper.

The animals will be kept at Pendleton, and, as the occasion requires, distributed over Oregon and Washington. The McLaughlin Bros., of Cincinnati, proposed to establish a station here, but finally decided upon Ogden, Utah.

Mr. Ruby will either purchase residence property or build and remove his family to this place, where he will have permanent headquarters.

This station means much to eastern Oregon and Washington, not only for the convenience of it, but for the material improvement that will be made in the horses. Until the last few years little attention to the breeds of horses was given. Of late years prices have increased until it pays handsomely to raise a grade of horses that command the highest prices in eastern markets. The day of the cayuse is past, and the farmers have learned how much more work can be expected from a horse of good size than from a small cayuse.

Not only are the farmers demanding good horses, but are raising mules. The jacks owned by Mr. Ruby are from Missouri, and are much sought after by breeders.

## To Bore for Artesian Water.

Baker City.—Manager Vinson, of the Emma mine, six miles east of the city, has closed a contract with C. A. Fredericks, of Spokane, to bore for water on his property. Mr. Fredericks has the most extensive boring apparatus ever brought to Eastern Oregon, it having a capacity for boring 5000 feet. The contract with Mr. Vinson calls for 2000 feet or less, boring to cease whenever a sufficient flow of water is encountered. He does not expect water under 500 feet. The work will be commenced at once. Mr. Fredericks also has a contract to bore for artesian hot water for the Hot Springs Natatorium Company of this city. The hot springs of the company are within the city limits.

## Fewer Cattle Fed Than Usual.

Echo.—Five hundred head of cattle are being fed in the immediate vicinity of Echo. This is a small number compared with what are usually wintered at this place and is occasioned by the extremely low prices paid for beef. As large herds are herded upon small alfalfa fields, the pasturage afforded is eaten close, and hay feeding begins about the 1st of November. Cattle raisers are hoping for higher prices the coming season, believing that the visitors to the 1905 fair will consume a great amount and bring up prices. Several small shipments have been made already this fall, and the highest price received is \$3.25 per cwt., live weight.

## Anxious for Good Roads.

Grants Pass.—The good roads movement has struck Josephine county with greater force this season than ever before, and there is a more general desire to better the highways of the county than this section has ever before known. During the past two months nearly \$5000 has been paid out by mining companies and individual mining men for the improvement of roads in Josephine county, and as a result many of the camps that were almost completely isolated during the winter will be readily reached by wagon hereafter.

## COMING EVENTS.

Inland Empire Sunday School Institute, Pendleton, Ore., January 20.

Oregon State Dairymen's Association, Portland, December 26-27.

Oregon State Horticultural Society, Portland, January 10-11.

National American Woman Suffrage Association, Portland, June 22-28.

Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition, Portland, June 1-October 15.

## Sell Land Near Helix.

Pendleton.—William Kupers and G. C. Schroeder, farmers residing near Helix, have disposed of three quarter sections of land to Joseph Seivers of that locality for \$8000 a quarter. Mr. Kupers, who sold one of the sections, and Schroeder, who sold two, have purchased land near Nez Perce, paying \$4500 and \$5000 a section.

## Irrigation Work.

Milton.—Workmen are building flumes for the Finis irrigation ditch, which will water a body of land near the Hudson Bay section. Many other flumes are being built under the railroad at different points, and an immense territory hitherto bare will be put under cultivation next season.

## NORTHWEST WHEAT MARKET.

Portland—Walla Walla, 83c; blue-stem, 82c; valley, 87½c.

Tacoma—Bluestem, 89c; club, 86c.

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