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COMPARISON OF SHIP CANALS.

The artificial water-ways so far constructed, which are large enough to be called ship canals, are only nine in number.

The Suez canal, completed in 1869, is ninety miles long, and cost \$100,000,000.

The Russian canal, between Cronstadt and St. Petersburg, finished in 1860, is sixteen miles long, and cost \$10,000,000.

The Corinth canal, which connects the gulfs of Corinth and Aegina, was completed in 1824. It is four miles long, and cost \$5,000,000.

The Manchester canal, from the Mersey River to Manchester, was completed in 1824. It is thirty-five and one-half miles long, and cost \$75,000,000.

The Kaiser Wilhelm canal connects the North Sea with the Baltic. It was finished in 1897, at a cost of \$40,000,000. Its length is sixty-one miles.

The Elbe and Trave canal, also between the Baltic and the North Sea, was opened in 1900. Its length is forty-one miles, and it cost \$6,000,000.

The American ship canals are three in number: The Welland canal connects Lakes Erie and Ontario. It is twenty-seven miles long. It was built in 1833, and has twice been enlarged—in 1871 and 1900. Its cost has been about \$30,000,000.

There are two canals connecting Lakes Superior and Huron; one is American, the other Canadian. The former was originally constructed by the State of Michigan, but was subsequently enlarged by the United States at an expense of \$2,150,000.

An Isthmian canal by the Nicaragua route would be one hundred and forty-seven miles long, and its cost is estimated at \$190,000,000.

By the partially completed Panama route, the water would have a length of forty-six miles, half of it at sea-level, and the cost is placed at \$184,000,000.

The Darien route from Mandingo Bay to Pearl Island harbor, offers the only perfectly straight, sea-level canal yet proposed on the isthmus. It is less than thirty miles between the oceans, and could be built, it is estimated, at \$100,000,000.

CEDEING THE DANISH ISLANDS.

The treaty ceding the Danish West Indies to the United States has been signed. The formalities which delay the transfer of the islands are the ratification of the convention by the American Senate and the Danish Rigsdag, and an appropriation of the purchase price—somewhere between three and four millions of dollars—by Congress.

The fact that you registered two years ago does not entitle you to vote this year. If you wish to vote in June you must register again.

Working Overtime.

Eight hour laws are ignored by those tireless little workers—Dr. King's New Life Pills. Millions are always at work, night and day, curing indigestion, biliousness, constipation, sick headache and all stomach, liver and bowel troubles. Easy, pleasant, safe, sure. Only 25c at Geo. A. Harding's drug store.

FARMS AND FARMING

**Fruit Growers' Midwinter Meeting.**  
Among the speakers that will participate in the deliberations of the Horticultural Convention at Corvallis, the 13th and 14th inst., are: E. K. Smith, Hood River, Apples; S. W. Otwell, Central Point, Packing Ideals; W. V. Allen, Salem, Processing; A. Sharples, Goshen, Horticultural Education; G. H. Lambert, Portland, Lights and Shades; A. Brownell, Albany, Words of Caution; E. Hofer, Salem, The Strawberry; W. K. Dilley, Evaporator Furnaces; L. T. Reynolds, Salem, Farm Impressions; J. T. Brumfield, Portland, Marketing Dried Fruits.

Several other speakers with loaded guns of unknown character have promised to be present and take part in the discussions. It will be a lively meeting. A large attendance and good music are assured.

If interested in horticulture you should make your voice and presence felt at the meeting.

Remember, get a R. R. certificate of fare paid; the date, 13th and 14th inst.

**Sheep and Wool.**  
Salt should be accessible to the flock. Do not change the diet of your sheep suddenly.

An open shed is generally the best kind of a shelter for sheep. Do not move your flock faster than a comfortable walk while moving them around.

Keep your shotgun handy and a few extra buckshot shells where you can reach them to be used on the sheep-killing dogs.

Feed your sheep liberally, and use only fresh, palatable feed stuffs; in no case should decomposed or moldy material be used.

Never allow your sheep to be excited by hard driving, abuse, loud talking or unnecessary disturbance; do not expose them to cold or storms.

we find it easier to take them than to prevent their damaging the Monroe doctrine by falling into the hands of a European power.

The importance of St. Thomas consists wholly in the possession of one of the finest harbors in the West Indies. Agriculture amounts to nothing, the people being largely supported by foodstuffs brought from the United States. The principal industry is the coaling of steamers, about thirty calling there every month for that purpose. The coal is mainly the product of this country. St. John is of little consequence, with its seven hundred inhabitants and untilled acres. The investment of capital there might take advantage of the main utility of the island, which would be as grazing land. St. Croix is the largest and most fertile, containing thirty-two sugar estates, the product of which comes to the United States. The cane is sold by the growers to mills built and operated by the Danish Government, the producer receiving pay based on New York prices. The English language is the popular speech in all the islands, being taught in the schools and used in the courts, although the official language is Danish.

Taxes are delinquent after the first Monday in April. As the first Monday of April comes on the 7th this year all taxes will be delinquent on the 8th of April unless one half of the same are paid by that time in which event the other half can go until and including the first Monday in October. Unless you pay at least half of your taxes by the first Monday in April you will have to pay a penalty of ten per cent, and interest. Do not forget this as the time can not be extended. This is the law. The statement made last week that taxes were delinquent on April 15th was erroneous.

Clackamas County gets sixteen delegates in the state convention. The representation in a county is based not on the votes in a county but on the number voting at the poles. The larger republican vote we can get in the county the larger figure we can cut in the state convention.

Working Overtime.

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If the principal feed of hay is given to sheep in the evening the band will not get you out as early in the morning with their restlessness.

Try raising a small flock of sheep on your farm. There is not a farmer in the Willamette valley who cannot afford to raise a small band.

A cheap feed for the farmer's family is a nice mutton. The carcass is so small that there is but little danger of its spilling before being used.

The wool will pay for a sheep's keeping. The carcass is the profit. The fertilizer dropped by them and the weeds killed are the bank account.

Sheep are great destroyers of weeds, weeds are great destroyers of crops. The farms of the Northwest have too many weeds and too few sheep. Increase the sheep and decrease the weeds.

The Angoras are more prolific, more hardy and can be kept with less cost than sheep. They are essentially browsers, cleaning the farm or ranch of all brush and weeds and depositing fertilizer on the highest and poorest spots, as those are the places where they camp at night. They are not grazers unless forced to it, and hence, are not in the class of other stock, which do not take the brush and weeds on the high land.

If the sheep are run on the straw stack see to it that great holes are not eaten out and the sheep allowed to fill their fleeces as well as their stomachs with chaff and straw. From one to five cents a pound is sometimes deducted for chaffy wool where sheep are allowed free access to stacks. There is another danger with sheep more than with any other stock as they give up so readily, and that is if large holes are made in the stacks they are liable to cave in or slide off on the sheep, smothering or seriously injuring them. Straw should be thrown to sheep in large open yards and the throwing should be done before the sheep are let into the yards.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Furnished Every Week by the Clackamas Abstract & Trust Company.

- C Farris to G R Sbafer, 5.45 acres in lot 2, sec 16, t 3 s, r 2 e..... \$ 450
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- E A Deakins to P K Hartnell, 9.71 acres in Cranfield cl..... 675
- S Mathews to C W Armstrong, lots 8, 9, 10 & 11, in blk 7 Milwaukie..... 80
- J H Gibson to A C Mullins, lots 3 & 4 in blk 28 Milwaukie..... 2200
- A C Mullins to J H Gibson, 22 acres in Campbell cl in t 1 s, r 2 e..... 2200
- W A Procter to U S Griffiths, n 1/2 of nw of nw of sec 27, t 1 s, r 4 e..... 400
- S Rider to J J Rider, 1 acre in Mills cl t 3 s, r 2 e..... 40
- S J Maynard to A W Cheney, lot blk 94 Oregon City..... 600
- C O Mandantz to F A Hoffman, 26.81 acres in Brock cl t 3 s, r 1 e..... 500
- A E Deakins to G W Williams, 9 acres in Cranfield cl..... 900
- A Lacy to S A Tucker, 41.88 acres in Lacy cl t 4 s, r 4 e..... 620
- W H Rickman to A J F Miller, lots 1, 2 & 3 in sec 4, t 4 s, r 5 e..... 1
- O & C R Co to O Wiley, s 1/2 of sw of sec 15, t 2 s, r 5 e..... 320
- J Wiley to O Wiley s 1/2 of sw of sec 15, t 2 s, r 5 e..... 1
- M H Flannagan et al to C H Caulfield, by Shif tract in Oregon City cl..... 480
- C E Barney to K Krause, lot in blk 23, Falls View..... 150
- S Barney K Krause lot 1 blk 23, Falls View..... 150
- C Hoff to J G Volpp, tract in Bell cl t 3 s, r 1 e..... 296

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Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Hart*  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

NAPOLEON'S ORDER.

THE LEGION OF HONOR AND HOW IT WAS FOUNDED.

Despite the ridicule the Project at first invited its inauguration proved that Napoleon knew French Human Nature.

France owes the Legion of Honor to Napoleon. All orders of civility had been abolished by the revolution and had left a gap which it was not easy to fill. "They are mere giggaws," said Monge, the scientist, who had taught the revolutionists how to make gunpowder out of plaster of paris. "Giggaws, if you will," the first consul answered, "but people like them. Let us approach the question frankly. All men are enamored of decorations—the French more than any. They positively hunger for them, and they have always done so."

This was at Malmson in 1802. In May the conseil d'etat was invited to consider the project of the institution of the Legion of Honor. It was ridiculed by many, notably by Moreau, who as victor of Hohenlinden was bitterly jealous of the victor of Marengo. At a dinner party he sent for his cook and said to him in the presence of his guests: "Michel, I am pleased with your dinner. You have indeed distinguished yourself. I will award you a sauceman of honor." Mme. de Stael was also satirical upon the subject. "Ah, one of the decorated?" she used to ask each guest who was shown into her salon.

But Napoleon had gauged human nature correctly. His Legion of Honor did meet a felt want, and it was definitely inaugurated on July 14, 1804. Among the eminent men of science and men of letters on whom it was then bestowed were included Laplace, the mathematician; Lalande, the astronomer; Cuvier, the naturalist, and Legouviez, the poet. The most notable name omitted was that of Bernardin de St. Pierre, just then in disgrace for championing Mme. de Stael, whom Napoleon had banished, but he got the decoration later on the entreaty of Queen Hortense.

After Jena Goethe was decorated. A little later high promotion in the order was given to General Lamarque, to whom Sir Hudson Lowe had surrendered at Capri. "What did you do with him?" asked Napoleon. "The king of Naples had him exchanged for a Neapolitan general who was a prisoner in Sicily." "Very well; there is no harm in letting this English colonel go. He is not dangerous." It seems not unlikely that Sir Hudson Lowe remembered this sarcasm when he was Napoleon's jailer a few years afterward.

After Napoleon's downfall the question of suppressing the Legion of Honor arose. Chateaubriand, whom Napoleon had not decorated, strongly urged its abolition. So did Puzos di Borgo, Marshals Victor, Marmont and MacDonald opposed. After debate it was decided to recognize and retain the order, not on any high moral or patriotic grounds, but because Louis XVIII. could not afford to make himself more unpopular than he was already by stripping people of their decorations. Chateaubriand and Lamartine consented to accept the red ribbon, but it was also conferred upon a great number of worthless personages and so brought into contempt.

There have been many Legion of Honor scandals since those days, but one of them surpasses all the others in magnitude. This is, of course, the Wilson scandal, the history of which, though intricate, is worth recalling.

The trouble may be said to have begun on the day on which Mile. Allee Grey fell in love with an opera singer who need not be mentioned here. He wanted to marry her, and she wanted to marry him, and the papers were beginning to couple the two names in a manner most embarrassing to the president of the republic. The president, however, sent the opera singer about his business and found his daughter another husband, not a very good husband, but the best husband he could procure on the spur of the moment. His choice fell upon M. Daniel Wilson, who had long been one of M. Grey's political supporters and was a financier of some mark.

No sooner was M. Wilson established at the Elysee than he proceeded to enrich himself by various means. Among other things, he founded a paper called *Le Moniteur de l'Exposition Universelle*, which really covered a traffic in decorations. The whole story came out in a state trial toward the end of 1887. It was proved that Wilson had made a regular practice of selling the Legion of Honor, or rather, of inviting people who wanted it to bribe him to use his influence to obtain it for them. His overtures were presented through his jackals, Generals d'Audlan and Caffrel and Mmes. Limousin and Ratazzi, and the whole party had to stand in the dock together.

Wilson was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, a fine of 3,000 francs and five years' deprivation of civil rights. He appealed, and the court of cassation annulled the judgment. The accused, said the judges, was obviously guilty of everything that he was charged with, but as his offenses were not anticipated by any punitive law he could not be punished. So he retired to the country and tried to live down his bad name. As he ultimately got himself elected councillor general, one must suppose that he succeeded in this object.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

**His Mission.**  
A lawyer was passing along the street carrying under his arm a law-book when he was accosted by a self-righteous individual: "Ha, Mr. Blank! And where are you going to preach to-day?" "I don't preach, I practice," replied the lawyer.

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