

# OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE.

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## MAKE NO MISTAKE

Correspondent Who Says Legislation May be Injurious

### FORESTS USED NOT TO BE BURNED

Old Timer Says Forest Fires Were Not Injured By Fires Many Years Ago.

OREGON CITY, Or., Nov. 14, 1902. (Editor Enterprise): I see there is some disposition on the part of some of our newly elected legislators to go to extremes at our coming legislature, and especially so in regard to putting out fires. From a residence in Oregon and Clackamas county for the past fifty years, the greater part of this time living in the timber and having been burned out once, and a second time partially, I feel that I can speak understandingly on this subject. In early times we had no trouble with fires as we now have, and the reason is not far to seek when we stop and consider things as they are now.

As we all know, the hill-lands are covered with fern, and this crop of fern is not burned off every spring as it used to be by the Indians. This fern is allowed to accumulate year after year, and the only wonder is that we are able to save anything when a fire does start. About the only safeguard is to put out more fires and not pass a law preventing people from burning when they can. I am satisfied that the old residents will bear me out in saying that wherever land is fenced up and not cultivated, the young growth of fern is something wonderful. A glance at the last horticultural report will also bear me out in saying that we need not fear that we are to lose our majestic fern altogether. The reason for this rank growth of underbrush is not far to seek. This climate is an ideal one for timber and ferns and mosses—"mossbacks," too, they say. But when we used to have a few warm bright sunny days in Spring, the red-man was abroad in the land putting out fires.

This would be early, before the grass or young fern had a start, and would make a clean bed for the new grass to grow, and would make heat enough to kill any young shoots or sprouts that had started the year before. Now, had the whites followed up this plan this county would not be the mass of under-

brush that it is. Neither would all this country have to be classed as it now is.

The only safeguard is to burn everything in sight—everything that will burn—and keep burning. The idea that we should not put out fires is simply ridiculous. When we allow all manner of rubbish to accumulate and are prevented by law from burning this up, we are or will be jumping out of the frying-pan into the fire—if the people don't believe this they'll find it out, as I have, from experience.

Let us do nothing rashly in this matter, and carefully consider the results of such legislation, before we go to the other extreme. The land now is sufficiently stringent along these lines.

NIGA CENTEX.

### General Miles' Report

The annual report of Lieutenant General Miles has been published. It is remarkable for the absence of any discussion of subjects which it was thought he would handle at considerable length and emphatically. Before General Miles left San Francisco for Manila he was reported to have said he would come out in favor of the cañon law. The report doesn't mention the subject. He does, however, give a lengthy argument urging more attention to coast defense, particularly on the Pacific, and greater care of existing fortifications.

Commenting on the report of General Hughes, commanding the department of California, who calls attention to this need, General Miles says: "These remarks by the department commander simply illustrate the urgent and imperative necessity of having buildings properly constructed to shelter the garrisons, when the engineers have completed the fortifications and the ordnance department has supplied the guns for these expensive coast defenses."

General Miles then reviews the conditions in the department of the Columbia, where he urges large improvements. He advises a division of appropriations for buildings, grounds and transportation between the geographical departments in proportion to the number of troops in each.

### Millions for Irrigation.

When congress passed the bill setting aside for irrigation purposes the proceeds from the sale of public lands, it was stated that this sum would probably be not far from \$3,000,000. It appears that this was a mistake.

It is announced that the land sales have been so large during the last year that, with the surplus carried over from the year preceding, about \$9,500,000 is already available for irrigation work. The plans adopted contemplate a thorough preliminary system of surveys before the task of building reservoirs and digging canals is undertaken, and little in this direction is anticipated within the next twelve months. Land Commissioner Hermann is quoted as asserting that at the present rate the receipts of his office from sales of the public domain to settlers will not fall short of \$6,000,000 in the current fiscal year. According to this estimate, the engineers who are to have charge of the irrigation project will find about fifteen millions of dollars waiting for disbursement when the business of actual construction begins.

Such a sum as this should afford a substantial basis for the prosecution of the work which is expected to redeem to fertility vast tracts of now arid western lands. The generosity of congress has given the scheme a handsome start. It is now the obligation of the federal authorities to keep a sharp lookout for jobbers and stealers in the letting and execution of contracts.

### A Thanksgiving Dinner.

Heavy eating is usually the first cause of indigestion. Repeated attacks inflame the mucous membranes lining the stomach, producing a swelling after eating, heartburn, headache, sour risings and finally catarrh of the stomach. Kodol relieves the inflammation, protects the nerves and cures the catarrh. Kodol cures indigestion, dyspepsia, all stomach troubles by cleansing and sweetening the lands of the stomach. Geo. A. Harding.

The new-to-day column of The Enterprise contains many readers of interest to the general public. Something new every week. If you want employment or require help, if you want to borrow money or have money to loan, if you have anything to sell, use the new-to-day column.

### Stepped Against a Hot Stove.

A child of Mrs. Geo. T. Benson, when getting his usual Saturday night bath, stepped back against a hot stove which burned him severely. The child was in great agony and his mother could do nothing to pacify him. Remembering that she had a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm in the house, she thought she would try it. In less than half an hour after applying it the child was quiet and asleep, and in less than two weeks was well. Mrs. Benson is a well known resident of Kellar, Va. Pain Balm is an antiseptic liniment and especially valuable for burns, cuts, bruises and sprains. For sale by G. A. Harding.

## PLAGUE AT FRISCO

Thirty-five Deaths Have Occurred in California.

### NATIONAL CALAMITY IS FEARED

The Situation is Such That Heroic Efforts Must be Made to Stamp It Out.

Bubonic plague, according to the official reports of the marine hospital service, is increasing at an alarming rate at San Francisco, although the California papers are strangely silent regarding the matter. The officials of the service at headquarters in Washington are apprehensive that unless the authorities at San Francisco resort to strong measures to stamp out the plague it may spread with disastrous results. During the ten months of this year thirty-five cases of bubonic plague have been located in California, each case proving fatal. The startling phase of the situation is that during the first six months of the year there were only six cases, the last four months having developed twenty-nine.

The climatic and sanitary conditions at San Francisco are favorable to the health authorities in the work of stamping out the plague. As long as the disease can be confined to that city there is little cause for fear, but the grave danger lies in the probability that with the increase in the number of cases at San Francisco the plague will be carried to some other city where the climatic and sanitary conditions are not so favorable. Chicago and New Orleans, only three days distant from San Francisco, offer conditions, officials say, that would probably develop a real plague should it reach those places.

Experts who have studied the disease report that there is danger of the plague being improperly diagnosed. The germs breathed into the system will develop pneumonia, and a microscopic examination is necessary to discover the presence of bubonic plague. It is possible, these experts say, for the disease to be in a locality producing fatal results without its presence being suspected unless the microscope is used. The plague causes death in two days after it attacks the lungs or any internal organ. No attempt is being made by the national marine hospital service to disguise the serious situation existing at San Francisco and it is admitted that the time has arrived when heroic measures must be taken to prevent a national calamity.

To ENLARGE THE MILL.—Plans are being carried out for doubling the manufacturing capacity of the Sellwood woolen mills. This announcement was made last week by E. L. Thompson, secretary of the company. A two-story building 100 feet long is being built, and the wool pullery will be enlarged. Recently the company sent a man East to select and purchase machinery, and this is now being received at the factory. Several carloads are on the way to Portland. In the course of a few weeks all the machinery ordered will be received and installed. The factory has been turning out 23,000 yards of fabric a month. When the plans for the enlargement have been carried out the output will range from 40,000 to 50,000 yards a month. The enterprise has succeeded from the start, and has done much better than its most enthusiastic promoters and founders hoped for. It has not been able to fill the orders. Only the other day the management had to refuse an order to manufacture 20,000 blankets. As the company owns 27 acres of land at Sellwood, it has plenty of room for increasing its factory and also for other manufacturing concerns. The Oregon Water Power & Railroad Company has secured a right of way through the factory grounds just south of the buildings for concessions.

Smith's Dandruff Pomade stops itching scalp upon one application, three to six removes all dandruff and will stop falling hair. Price 50 cents at druggists.

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Large Variety of Appliques and Laces, Wet Weather Goods of all Descriptions, Ladies' and Men's Mackintoshes, at nearly half price, Gloves and Mittens for both sex, and lots of other articles too numerous to mention; all must go regardless of cost.

Come and see our Wool Suits at \$8.35, Big Value Savers \$7.50 Trunks for \$5.35, Ladies' Jackets, regular \$7.50 now \$4.90 Children's Jackets at \$1.65, highly trimmed.

Dress Goods and Trimmings of late patterns, Fancy Waistings, Belts Belting Buckles, Jewelry, and Toilet Articles, Silk and Wool Shawls, Facinators, and Hoods, Fur Collarettes and Boas.



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