

## HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

### CLACKAMAS FIFTY YEARS AGO.

#### Old Records Give Interesting Figures on Wages and Assessments.

In rummaging about his office a few days ago County Clerk Sleight unearthed some official records that contain some interesting statistics with reference to Clackamas county in the early '50s. They consist of some statistics compiled by Joseph T. Meek, who was then territorial marshal for Clackamas county in June, 1850. In that year the assessable value of property in this county was \$1,020,344, classified as follows: Real estate, \$336,650; personal, \$183,694. The schedule of wages paid at that time was remarkable. The average monthly wage to farm hands, including board, was \$50; the average wages paid day laborers with board was \$4, without board \$6; average daily wages for carpenters, \$12; board per week for laboring men cost \$8.

There were published in the county at that time two weekly papers, namely, Oregon Spectator, Territorial; and Western Star, Multnomah. An idea of the value and profit in the lumber business at that early date may be gathered from the statistics which show that Benjamin Simpson from 400 logs, for which he paid \$3 each, manufactured 100,000 feet of lumber, which had a salable value of \$75 per thousand.

### COLUMBIA COUNTY FILLING UP.

#### Recent County Seat Election Shows Large Increase of Voters.

The returns from the late special election indicate that the voting population of Columbia county has increased several hundred since the general state election held a little over a year ago. While it is true that much of this increased vote is due to the employment of an increased number of hands in sawmills and logging camps, many of them single men, it also is evident that there is a considerable increase in the number of families which have become actual residents.

County School Superintendent Copeland has received complete returns from almost every school district in the county, and now estimates that there are 250 more children of school age than were shown by the census of last year. Reports from every section of the county indicate that newcomers from the East are arriving, and the majority of them expect to become permanent residents.

### Heavy Sales of Live Stock.

The sale of sheep, cattle and horses from the Oregon ranges this fall will be the heaviest in years. This is the opinion of C. J. Millis, who has charge of the stock department of the O. R. & N. He has been over a large portion of the ranges and reports that feed will be scarce this fall. Large shipments of cattle were made from this district last spring and Mr. Millis expects that still larger shipments will be made this fall. He says a large amount of stock will have to be sent out of the country in order to even up for the shortage of the feed crop. The shortage of feed in some parts is probably due to a lack of rain.

### Wool Prices are Climbing.

Owing to the shortage of wool in Montana and Utah the prices of wool in Eastern Oregon will be higher than had been anticipated. At the large sale held at Ontario a short time ago wool sold at from 13 to 14 cents. Many did not sell and since that time some have sold at 15 cents. The prices are still going up. Some of the leading sheep and wool men say the range is exceptionally short this season, as there has been scarcely any rain since spring. Everything is dried up. There is lots of stock in the district, and it is feared by the owners there will be large losses this year if a wet season does not start soon.

### Quarrying Rock for the Jetty.

Work on opening the rock quarry at Bugby is progressing rapidly and 100 additional men have been put to work there. Great difficulty is being encountered at the quarry as well as at the jetty in securing enough laborers, as many of them feel too rich as soon as they have earned a few dollars, and they loaf until they spend it. Two rock trains are now being run on the railway, and each makes two round trips to the jetty daily, so a large amount of rock is being delivered.

### Will Enlarge Baker City Depot.

In response to the crying needs of Baker City the O. R. & N. Company has decided to enlarge and improve the passenger and freight depot in that city. Material for the improvements is now on the ground and just as soon as the carpenters can be relieved from the Heppner branch the work will be commenced. The improvement will consist in the enlargement of the depot building, so as to permit of the addition of a separate waiting room for ladies.

### Great Boon to Ontario.

The contract for building the new steel bridge across the Malheur river, near where it empties into Snake river, about two miles below Ontario, has been let. The price is \$4100. This bridge will supply a long-felt need. It gives an opportunity for the people living on Dead Ox Flat of coming to Ontario to do their trading without going about ten miles above Ontario to the Halliday bridge.

### Surveying Soil of Baker County.

Charles A. Jensen, of the department of agriculture, bureau of soils, has been sent out to make a survey of the soils of Baker county. He has established his headquarters at Haines, and is now actively engaged in the work. It is thought this is one of the preliminary steps to government-aided irrigation.

### LOG BOOM ON NORTH UMPQUA.

#### Franchise Granted for Extensive Improvements by County Court.

One of the most important steps made in the development of the lumbering industry in Douglas county was taken when the county court voted to grant a franchise to the Oregon Boom & Timber Company for cleaning out the obstructions in the North Umpqua river and preparing that stream for the floating of logs and timber. This franchise gives the company the right to use that stream in the manner mentioned from the west boundary line of the Cascade forest reserve to the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad at Winchester, five miles north of Roseburg. After the improvements are made the company is given the right to collect a maximum toll of 50 cents per thousand feet for floating logs for other persons in compensation for the outlay in improving the stream. The estimated cost of the improvements is \$200,000. Besides improving the stream, the company expects to erect a sawmill of 100,000 feet daily capacity at Winchester, to be ready for use as soon as logs can be floated, and other parties also expect to erect sawmills and woodworking plants at the same place. New York capitalists are backing the enterprise, their representative, F. J. Blakely, having been here most of the time for the past two years.

### PUBLIC LAND STILL OPEN.

#### Nearly 600,000 Acres Remain in Oregon City District.

The annual report of the United States land office at Oregon City has been completed. Fourteen counties are embraced in the Oregon City district and the report gives the following statistics as to area in acres unappropriated and unreserved: Surveyed, 455,948; unsurveyed, 141,602; total, 597,550. As against 537,279 surveyed; 161,190 unsurveyed; 698,469 total, as shown in the report a year ago. The 14 counties constituting the Oregon City land district are: Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Crook, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Wasco, Yamhill and Washington. The total area of the land surface of these counties is 7,468,250 acres. The area in acres appropriated last year was 5,675,115, while the acreage under the same classification this year is 5,629,846.

### Union County Cherry Crop.

The cherry crop is just coming on in Union county. There were reports early in the season that this crop would be very short, but, as with the other products of this county, the prospects get brighter as harvest time approaches. The indications now are that the yield will not be far below the average. There will probably be about 15,000 boxes of the fruit handled there this season.

### Outlook for County Seat Fight.

County Judge J. B. Doan, whose home is at Rainier, says that St. Helens will have to receive over 1000 votes at the second special election on the first Monday in August to retain the county seat, as it is evident that 2000 votes will be polled as the outcome of the present contest. Judge Doan also expresses the opinion that Marshland and Oak Point precincts, which gave a part of their vote to Clatskanie, at the first special election, will go solid for Rainier.

### Electric Power for Lane County.

The Lane County Electric Company has begun work on its new power station to be erected at Springfield. The immense boilers have arrived and will at once be put in place, the foundation being nearly completed. The power plant will be one of the finest in the state, and current will be generated and sold for all purposes in Eugene and Springfield.

### Call for Union County Warrants.

County Treasurer John Frawley has issued a call for all warrants of Union county issued prior to January 12, 1898.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 70@74c; valley, 77c.  
Barley—Feed, \$20.00 per ton; brewing, \$21.  
Flour—Best grades, \$3.95 @ 4.30; graham, \$3.45 @ 3.85.  
Millstuffs—Bran, \$23 per ton; middlings, \$27; shorts, \$23; chop, \$18.  
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10 @ 1.15; gray, \$1.05 per cental.  
Hay—Timothy, \$20@21; clover, nominal; cheat, \$15@16 per ton.  
Potatoes—Best Burpinks, 50@65c per sack; ordinary, 35@45c per cental; growers' prices; Merced sweets, \$3@3.50 per cental.  
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 10@11c; young, 13@14c; hens, 12c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; dressed, 20@22c; ducks, \$7.00@7.50 per dozen; geese, \$6.00 @ 6.50.  
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15 1/2 @ 16c; Young America, 15@15 1/2c; factory prices, 1@1 1/2c less.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@22 1/2c per pound; extras, 22c; dairy, 20@22 1/2c; store, 16@18.  
Eggs—17@20c per dozen.  
Hops—Choice, 18@20c per pound.  
Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 17c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14c; mohair, 35@37 1/2c.  
Beef—Gross, cows, 3 1/2 @ 4c, per pound; steers, 5@5 1/2c; dressed, \$4c.  
Veal—7 1/2 @ 8c.  
Mutton—Gross, \$3.50 per pound; dressed, 6@6 1/2c.  
Lamb—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7 1/2c.  
Hogs—Gross, 6@6 1/2c per pound; dressed, 7@8c.

### DEATH ENDS EXCURSION.

#### Fast Train Crashes Into Trainload of Negroes With Fatal Results.

Kansas City, Mo., July 15.—Missouri Pacific fast mail No. 7, which left St. Louis at 3 o'clock this morning for Kansas City, crashed into an excursion south bound from Kansas City, that had become stalled at "Dead Man's Curve" between Little Knob and Lee Summit, at 10:25 this morning. Three persons were killed, two of them tramps, and 50 were injured. With the exception of one or two of the crew on the fast mail, all the injured were on the excursion train. Most of them were Kansas City negroes. Eighteen were seriously hurt. The injuries of the others consisted of cuts and bruises. None of the passengers on the fast mail were hurt.

The engines, the mail and baggage cars on the fast mail went down an embankment, but the rest of that train remained upright, as did the excursion train. Only the engine, one baggage car and a mail car on the fast mail left the track.

Responsibility for the wreck seems to rest with the engineer of the fast mail, who failed to stop promptly when flagged. The engine on the excursion train, which consisted of 12 coaches heavily loaded, broke down. A flagman was sent ahead to stop the fast mail then about due. The engineer of the fast mail failed to see the foremost flagman and only slackened up when warned by the second man, who was within a short distance of the excursion train. The fast mail was running at a high rate of speed and it was unable to come to a full stop. When the fast mail struck, it was making 15 miles an hour. The engine, the baggage car and the foremost mail car left the track and rolled down the embankment. The impact badly damaged the engine and baggage car of the excursion train, but the cars remained upright.

### IDAHO LANDS ARE WITHDRAWN.

#### Geological Survey Will Pass on Their Worth for Irrigation.

Washington, July 15.—The secretary of the interior today authorized the temporary withdrawal from all entry of three tracts of about 3,000 acres each, lying in the Blackfoot land district, Idaho, with a view to examination to determine their desirability as reserve sites. The first is known as the Henry lake reserve site. It lies in the northeast extremity of Fremont county and embraces the whole of Lake Henry. The second proposed reservoir lies 20 miles to the south, and is known as Island lake reservoir site, while the third, Flat Rock reservoir site, lies between the two named.

The geological survey, upon whose recommendation the withdrawal is made, is examining to determine the feasibility of the reclamation scheme in Fremont county, Idaho, the proposition being to store water in a series of natural reservoirs. These examinations will continue through the summer.

### RIDE FOR LIFE ON CAR.

#### Fifteen People Escape From Fire Jump Into a Subway Excavation.

New York, July 15.—Fifteen persons have been hurt by falling into the subway excavation at Lexon avenue and One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, after jumping from a burning trolley car, on which they had a thrilling ride for several blocks, while the motorman was making desperate attempts to reach a fire engine house. The car was filled with about 80 passengers, mostly women and children. When they discovered the fire many tried to jump, but the motorman put on the full power. He had not gone two blocks before the car was enveloped in flames.

The conductor saw that there was danger of burning the whole carload of passengers and rang the bell. The car came to a stop right over the excavations for the subway. The passengers piled off on top of one another. The planking over the hole collapsed and about 25 persons were carried down. Those on the bottom were severely bruised, but only one was in a serious condition.

### To Inspect the Kearsarge.

Portsmouth, Eng., July 15.—The Prince of Wales arrived this evening for the inspection of Read-Admiral Cotton's flagship Kearsarge. Ambassador Choate and secretary White traveled in the same train from London. Admiral Charles F. Hotham received them at the station and the whole party drove to the Admiralty house as the Admiral's guests. H. O. Arnold-Foster, parliamentary secretary to the admiralty, and other departmental officials have also arrived from London for tomorrow's inspections.

### War in the Balkans.

Paris, July 15.—According to a dispatch from Constantinople published here, engagements have taken place between Turkish and Bulgarian troops on the frontier, which the Turks accuse the Bulgarians of crossing. On the other hand the Bulgarians assert that the Turks tried to occupy the neutral zone. The dispatch adds that a ministerial council was hurriedly summoned at the Yildiz Kiosk last night and more troops have been called.

### For Cuban Loan.

Havana, July 15.—President Palma sent a message to congress recommending the appointment of a member of each house to act with an appointee of the executive commissioners to proceed to the United States and negotiate the \$35,000,000 loan. The senate held an extended session this evening but did not reach the matter of the ratification of the United States naval station treaty.

## THE POPE IS WORSE

### END SEEMS NEARER NOW THAN EVER BEFORE.

Suffers a Second Relapse—Mind is Fast Becoming Confused—Stimulants Keep Life Up—Too Weak to Speak Long—Pontiff Shows His Weakness by Docility to Doctors.

Rome, July 14, 2:16 A. M.—"While there is life there is hope," was all the consolation that Dr. Laponni would give tonight in admitting that Pope Leo's condition was very grave. The pontiff has suffered another relapse, and he lies this morning in a more critical condition than at any time since the middle of last week. The semi-comatose condition into which he fell at midnight, and the confused state of his heretofore lucid mind on his awakening at an early hour this morning, accompanied by still greater depression than during yesterday, are regarded as symptoms of the grave nature and as pointing to an imminent dissolution.

Even in the early evening medical opinion was less pessimistic, and Dr. Mazzoni thought the end was not within sight. He expressed the belief that unless the disease took an unexpected turn there was no reason to apprehend death for two or three days. This statement, however, did not relieve the anxiety of those who know what powerful stimulants are being constantly administered. Some attribute the pontiff's extreme weakness tonight to the excessive mental and physical efforts undertaken yesterday in receiving visitors, hearing mass, etc.

Never before has the patient's weakness progressed as it did yesterday. For the first time since his illness, the pontiff asked to have the shutters almost closed, as the light hurt his eyes, and at the same time, contrary to his custom, he begged to be left as quiet as possible.

Another noteworthy symptom of his weakening condition was the docility with which he took his medicine and nourishment. Previously, indeed, during his whole life, Pope Leo has been against the prescriptions of doctors or anything that had the aspect of being forced upon him. His feeling of fatigue and indifference was interpreted as a sign that his vitality was fast diminishing. Late last evening nine cardinals, including Satoli and Martenelli, were admitted to the sick room, but the pope could not even speak to them, merely giving them his hand to kiss.

### NATIONAL FRIENDSHIP FOSTERED.

#### Britain Believes It Scored a Triumph on the Visit of Lobbet.

New York, July 15.—King Edward's visits to Portugal, Italy and France; President Lobbet's reception in London and the toasts and sentiments exchanged with the officers of the American squadron force upon German politicians certain facts sometimes studiously ignored, says a Berlin dispatch to the Times by way of London. The leading part played by King Edward in developing British foreign relations is becoming generally recognized. More over the popularity of the British government's foreign policy is beginning to be appreciated.

Attempts to make out that the whole British nation, including the parliamentary opposition, does not stand behind the government with its friendship for America, France and Italy and its alliances with Portugal and Japan, become daily more feeble and intermittent. The friendship of these nations which on both sides of the Atlantic stand for progress in liberty's paths is recognized to be a sort of Gulf stream, encircling and warming the world and bearing everywhere, by the happiest coincidences, the surest guarantee of freedom in the invincible and unapproachable naval power of the co-operating empires and states.

### Falls to Find Kidd's Gold.

New York, July 15.—Another search for Captain Kidd's treasure has come to naught, and all there is to show for it is a big hole in the cellar of a storehouse connected with a big coffee mill in Brooklyn. The manager of the plant has stopped the treasure search, in spite of the fact that Henry Endum is positive that the "spirits" which caused the search were playing no idle joke when they transmitted to him the information that Captain Kidd had deposited \$500,000 worth of loot in the ground there.

### Few Favor the Treaty.

New York, July 15.—A rough canvass of the Colombian senate seems to show that only one-fourth of the members are favorable to the Hay-Herran canal treaty without amendments, says a Herald's dispatch from Bogota. The Colombian government has not officially assumed responsibility for the treaty. Dr. Rico, the minister of foreign affairs has sent a message to congress on the treaty following the same lines as that sent to the United States senate.

### Czar Says to Go.

St. Petersburg, July 15.—According to the newspaper Novikrat, published at Port Arthur, Russia has informed China that she is compelled to exclude foreigners from Manchuria, and postpone the opening of Manchurian ports, owing to the presence of Englishmen and Americans, who, in disguise, are engaged in espionage. Russia, according to the paper, promises to open the ports six years hence, when the country has been tranquilized and settled.



## AGRICULTURAL

The expense is only about 10 or 15 cents a tree, and even a dozen good peaches will almost cover the cost.—Country Gentleman.

**Improved Stock Waterer.**  
No matter how pure a source of supply may be at hand for watering stock, if it is pumped into an open trough and left exposed for any length of time it soon becomes polluted and unfit for the animals to drink. This will not be the case, according to the inventor, if the stock-watering apparatus here shown is put into use. If pure water is furnished to the tank or barrel to which this fountain is attached, it is claimed that there is no way by which the animal that is drinking can make it foul. The waterer consists of a double drinking bowl, made of cast iron, which is attached to the outside of a tank or barrel.



ANIMALS CAN NOT DEFOUL SUPPLY.

On the inside is another chamber, inclosed in which is a brass float and lever, controlling the flow of water to the outside bowl. The fountain is automatic in its action, as the float rises with the water in the bowl and cuts off the supply when the proper height has been reached. As the valve is always closed, except when water is flowing from the tank to the drinking bowl, there is no opportunity for foreign matter to find its way to the interior of the storage reservoir.

### Profitable Cows.

The owner of a herd of twenty-five grade Guernseys and Jerseys in Wisconsin submits this account of the average per cow: Cost of feed, \$28; returns from creamery, \$57.18; pounds of milk, 6,809; pounds of butter, 298; price of butter, 19.2 cents; price of milk, 08.4 cents; return for one dollar in feed, \$2.04; net profit of butter over cost of feed, \$20.18 per cow. Ration: Bran and malt sprouts, six pounds; well-earied ensilage, thirty pounds; straw; fodder corn in fall; in summer pasture only. Adding value of skim milk makes profit \$40.80 per cow. Thus the owner has netted over \$1,000 for his cows. Part of the profit is in skim milk at one-third to one-half cent per quart, but worth the estimate for making veal, pork and poultry products. The value of feed in States further East would be \$10 to \$20 greater per cow, while the price for milk and butter would be considerably increased. The net returns would not vary greatly. The open secret of success in this case seems to be the fact that every cow is a heavy yielder of rich milk.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

### Orchards and Birds.

Every tree in an orchard should be washed at least twice a year with strong soapsuds, but there will be no necessity for scraping them. The caterpillars should be destroyed as soon as the nests are seen, which will end large numbers of insects at once. As the insects multiply with amazing rapidity, the escape of a single pair means thousands next season. One of the best assistants to the orchard is the little wren. If farmers will give him proper protection by constructing boxes with entrances so small that no bird but a wren can enter, the sparrow will be unable to drive it away. As the wren is an active and busy creature, it destroys a large number of insects in a very short time, and, as it increases rapidly under favorable circumstances, may be secured and induced to remain in the orchard if proper facilities are afforded for their protection and accommodation.—New England Farmer.

### Covering Peach Trees.

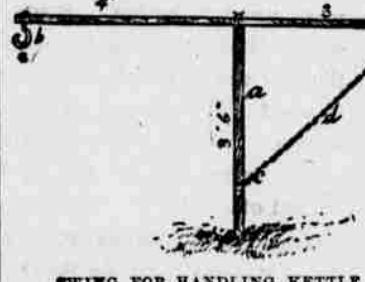
Several years ago the writer participated in the work of laying down peach trees in autumn and covering them in various ways to protect them through the winter and spring. This plan has been tried in various ways almost every year, and nearly always with success. In a season like the present one, when peaches promise to be a rarity, any scheme of carrying the fruit buds through the freezing weather is especially attractive. Prof. W. Paddock has recently reported the success of several growers in various parts of Colorado who have been practicing this method. They find it profitable as a commercial venture. It looks like an impracticability, to be sure, to lay down and partially cover a fruiting tree every fall, but it has been shown repeatedly that it is perfectly feasible.

### Farm Notes.

The kind of crops and the manner of cultivation determine the profit. While some farmers barely subsist on a farm of a hundred acres, it is not difficult for others to make small farms of only ten acres pay. There are some sections in which a twenty-acre farm is considered a large one, and yet such farms pay well and their owners are prosperous.

A saving of labor may be made in the garden by frequently using the rake. Very young weeds may be easily destroyed by passing the rake between the rows, while by allowing the weeds to remain until well rooted a hoe may be necessary. Economy of labor is in keeping weeds and grass down as their seeds germinate, which renders the task easier.

Some annual and biennial grasses with the perennials for permanent pasture, especially if the soil be wanting in richness and moisture. The perennials will make but little herbage for two or three years, because their first efforts are to establish strong roots. Annuals, on the contrary, make but little roots; their growth is chiefly above ground, and what remains of them supplies some food and shelter.



SWING FOR HANDLING KETTLE.

loop-like rod on wagon end gate, so chain can turn easily; d is a chain running from c to e, which is a half-inch hook for hanging chain. On the other hook, e, at other end of rod, b, hang the kettle. This arrangement allows the kettle to be swung off the fire easily at any moment, and without legs or anything under the kettle to interfere with building a fire. Such a hanger is easy to make, but should be made of only good, strong material and put up substantial or Brn.—E. C. Beerger, in Farm and Home.