

PORTLAND MARKET FOR PRODUCE HIGH

Attractive Prices Present Incentives for People to Return to Farms.

STAPLES ALWAYS NEEDED

Mr. Beckwith Compiles Figures to Show That Country Life Means Independence—Consumption Outranks Production.

That the price of farm products in the Portland market has advanced more than 25.4 per cent in the past eight years is the discovery of President Beckwith, of the Commercial Club, who has just made an exhaustive inquiry into the subject.

There is nothing in Mr. Beckwith's list to suggest high living, only the necessities of life being enumerated. The 11 commodities investigated are potatoes, onions, mutton, veal, ham, tomatos, turnips, butter, eggs, cheese and poultry.

Turnips Alone Unaffected. Turnips, alone, in President Beckwith's list of foodstuffs, maintained their original level, being the same price in 1910 as in 1902.

The subject has been gone into thoroughly by Mr. Beckwith and his revelations, while not calculated to add to the peace of mind of the heads of families, at least point a way out. In his opinion, the answer to the problem is to go on the farm and raise something. It does not seem to matter much what.

These figures indicate that Portland is a high-priced market for farm produce, said Mr. Beckwith, and it should be noted that these quotations are wholesale—what is paid to the farmer. The high prices are due to the increase in consumption over production. While the production has increased in the Pacific Northwest, the increase in consumption has been even more rapid, necessitating bringing in more produce from the Middle West that should, and could, be raised here at home.

There are two items in the table of prices submitted, to which I desire to call particular attention—eggs and poultry. There is no good reason why the Pacific Northwest should not produce enough eggs and chickens to supply the local demand fully and thus relieve the wholesale market of the city of complete reliance on carload from the Middle West. There is absolutely no danger of an overproduction in these lines, as there is little prospect that the increase in supply will exceed, or even equal, the increase in demand occasioned by a rapidly growing population.

Staples Are Important.

Let us assume that there are 5000 farmers in Oregon and that each farmer keeps an average of 20 hens at the present time; that each hen will raise, during the coming summer, a brood of 10 chickens, and that the average of the year lay 12 dozen eggs. The chickens should certainly be worth 50 cents each when ready for market and the eggs will sell for a minimum price of 25 cents a dozen, making a total of \$5, and the farmer still has the original hen. An addition of only one hen by each farmer, on a farming basis, will amount to \$40,000 annually.

There has been so much talk of fruit growing in the Pacific Northwest that we are inclined to overlook the staples so much in demand. These are really more important than fruit, yet no one brags about the potato crop or the wheat to be made in growing turnips. In compiling this table, it was my desire to call attention to the prices actually received by the producer and show what a splendid market exists right here at home for these farm crops.

Rewards of Soil Certain.

Because of the activity of the lumber camps, the great amount of railroad construction, mining development and other big sources of demand for farm produce, this condition is one that will not be changed for a long time, if ever, and the situation is inviting one to the producer. More people should go on the farms. Why should one slave in the city to make a bare living when he may achieve independence in the country? The opportunities the soil offer are the greatest and the reward is certain. There is room in Oregon for thousands of farmers; this is the state's greatest need.

Figures compiled by Mr. Beckwith, showing the advance in price of the various farm products and dates upon which the various quotations were made, follow:

Table with columns for Year (1902, 1905, 1910) and rows for various commodities like Potatoes, Onions, Mutton, etc.

\*Poultry quoted by dozen in 1902; by pound in 1905 and 1910.

LAW LAY FOUNDATION

Returning Washington Senator Says Net Results Will Satisfy.

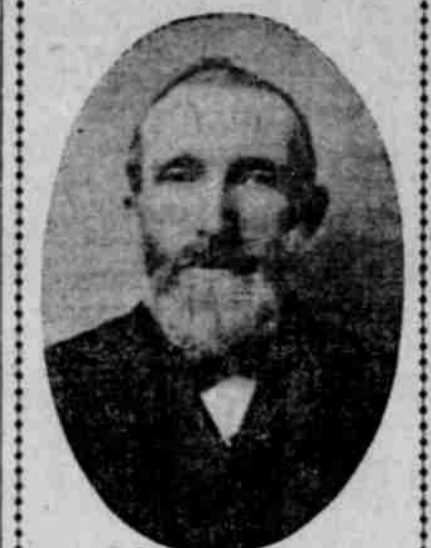
J. R. Stevenson, representing Columbia, Garfield and Astoria counties in the Washington State Senate, is in Portland on his way home from Olympia following the adjournment of the session Friday morning. He is accompanied by Mrs. Stevenson.

"I believe the people of our state will be satisfied with the net results of our legislative session," said Mr. Stevenson, "in spite of the fact that numerous meritorious measures failed of enactment."

The passage of the employees' compensation bill and the creation of the public utilities commission alone justify the entire expense of the session in my opinion. The compensation act is admittedly imperfect in detail, but the principle is now written into our statute, and

future legislatures may be depended upon to correct and perfect it. "The Railroad Commission of Washington has for several years been recognized as one of the most effective bodies of the kind in the United States. It is made up of able men, and in the handling of vast railroad problems they have won the respect and confidence of the people. At the recent session of the legislature we enlarged the duties and powers of the Railroad Commission to those of a public utilities commission, and in fact changed the name to that of 'Public Utilities Commission.' This Commission now has entire supervision and control of all public utilities in the state, including railroads,

WELL-KNOWN WINLOCK RESIDENT DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS, AGED 71.



WINLOCK, Wash., March 8.—(Special.)—William S. Warne, a well-known resident of this city died here Sunday after a long illness. The funeral services took place here yesterday. Rev. Mr. Cowell, officiating. Burial was in the local cemetery.

Mr. Warne was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, February 22, 1840. He lived successively in Iowa and Kansas and came to Winlock in 1880. He is survived by four brothers: Steven, of Montgomery County, Iowa; John and Lawrence, Carter, Nebraska, and J. V. Warne, of this city.

INTERURBAN ROADS, STREETCARS, TELEPHONE, WATER, LIGHT AND THE LIKE. THIS COMMISSION HAS EVERY GRANT OF POWER THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR THE LEGISLATURE TO GIVE IT, AND THIS IS THE RESULT OF THE CONFIDENCE THE PEOPLE AND LEGISLATURE HAD IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION.

HUMANE SOCIETY ACTIVE

LETHAL CHAMBER FOR ASPHYXIATION IS SOUGHT.

Society Secures \$520 as Result of Equestrian Entertainment—Law Infractions Prosecuted.

The regular monthly meeting of the Humane Society was held Tuesday at the directors' room of the Security Savings & Trust Company. The president, August Berg, said that a complete return from all sources showed that the society received \$520 as the result of the equestrian entertainment on March 2.

Special Agent Wood reported that he had investigated 34 cases during the month; that he had prosecuted two cases; had found homes for abandoned animals to the number of four, and had responded to a number of cases to look after crippled horses.

Police Officer E. L. Crate reported a number of cases of extreme cruelty to horses, and found at 555 Broadway two horses which were obliged to work during the day, and that no comforts were provided at night. He arrested Axel Paulsen for leaving two calves without protection from the weather. Municipal Court imposed a fine of \$15. He conducted D. Clement, who was driving horses without being shod, to a blacksmith shop and compelled him to have the same medicine to J. Kessler for driving his horse without being shod. He shot three horses who were crippled in service.

A report from the committee to secure a lethal chamber for the city pound, shows that the American Humane Society has experimented with all methods, including electricity, and with the result that illuminating gas when applied in a properly constructed lethal chamber, produces asphyxiation without suffering. The plans and specifications of the apparatus in use in San Francisco have been placed in the hands of several contractors, who will prepare bids to be submitted to the City Council on Wednesday for the lethal chamber. The Council has indicated its willingness to co-operate in installing whatever is deemed best. The city pound is in the hands of Boyd Welch.

The society has employed two men whose duty it will be to look after the condition of the horses, and other animals in and about the city.

Julius Meier has offered to look after the operation of the horse ambulance, free of cost, until the city shall have determined upon some policy with reference to the ambulance.

Forum to Question Danish Speaker.

The People's Forum tonight will ask

questions of John Skoldborg, a Danish lecturer and newspaper man, who is sojourning in this country. He wonderful little country has some of the most intelligent, intelligent and progressive farmers in the world. The meeting will be held in the Medical building, Park and Alder streets.

Mormon Elder to Make Reply.

An answer to "the attacks that have been made upon Mormonism by writers in the magazines during the past three months" will be made at the Church of the Latter-Day Saints, East Tenth and East Sherman streets, at 6 o'clock tonight, by Elder Melvin J. Ballard. He is president of the Northwestern States Branch and a recognized leader in the Church. A special conference of the elders and saints of the West Oregon district will be held, with sessions at 10 and 11:15 A. M. and 8 P. M. All the elders laboring in the Oregon conference will be present and some of them will discourse upon the principles of their gospel.

BUSINESS IN PERIL

Washington Liability Law Held to Be Cog in Machine.

DISCRIMINATION ALLEGED

Insurance Man of Seattle Declares Measure Unconstitutional, but Thinks Fact Will Be Overlooked. Hay's Motives Impugned.

That the employees' liability law recently passed at Olympia and now up to the Governor for signature with every certainty that it will be approved, will drive many industries out of the State of Washington is the assertion of Harry E. Lippman, of Seattle, president of the Liability Underwriters of the State of Washington and Coast manager for the United States Casualty Company.

Mr. Lippman also accuses Governor Hay of an intent to use this law as a factor with which to build up a personal machine, his object being a second term in the gubernatorial chair. He declares that the law is unconstitutional and that the Supreme Court of the state is expected to overlook constitutional defects; also that gross discrimination was shown in classifying the different industries.

"On the commission which drew the law there was one representative each of the lumber and coal mining interests," said Mr. Lippman, "and the commission was dominated by the two of the most hazardous occupations, so hazardous that the many casualty companies refuse to take risks on them, have been classed with such occupations as plumbing and paper hanging."

Measure Held Unconstitutional.

"The law was drawn up by Harold Preston, of Seattle, a clever young lawyer with Socialistic tendencies. Preston admits that the measure is unconstitutional but has expressed the opinion that the Supreme Court, because of the charitable features of the bill towards workmen, will be disposed to wink at constitutional defects."

"The measure provides that the state shall start the relief fund with a contribution of \$250,000. Employers will be required to contribute in accordance with the hazards of the work being performed by their employees and the number of employees and in accordance with arbitrary classifications given their industries by this law. The employer will be required to pay half the judgment. The other half will be paid from this fund."

"As an instance of the injustice which this new measure will work there is the fact that the Moran Company, of Seattle, which now pays between \$600 and \$700 a year to the casualty companies for complete protection will be required to pay \$12,000 a year into this fund."

Employers Have No Recourse.

"The most unfortunate feature of the measure is that the statute of limitations does not apply. A man is killed today and his heirs automatically recover \$4000, the amount arbitrarily set forth in the bill. Five years from now the law might be declared unconstitutional and the heirs could then go into court and sue for as much additional as they might see fit. The only solace the employer would have is that the \$4000 paid now would be allowed to apply on any subsequent judgment. The burden of disproving responsibility would also be on the employer."

"The measure provides for the appointment of several officials in each county at high salaries to distribute the money in the fund, which affords a splendid opportunity for Governor Hay to strengthen his personal machine, which already has almost a throttle hold on the state. "Employers will not be disposed to give work to married men for the reason that the liability measure provides that more money shall be paid them than single men in case of disability."

PARTNERSHIP NOT PROVED

Deal in Old Street Railway Iron Untangled by Jury.

J. Adler failed to prove to the satisfaction of a jury in Judge McGinn's court yesterday that he was a partner in business with J. Marx, and thus his efforts to prove that Marx had defrauded him in a deal involving the sale of second-hand iron were of no avail. Adler had filed a strong complaint implying serious charges of fraud against Marx, whom he declared was his partner in business. On representations to the court that he was being defrauded of his share of the profits of the concern in the sale of second-hand railroad iron, an order was granted restraining Marx from collecting certain moneys still unpaid.

Meeting Adler's charges, Marx said that he had entered into an agreement with Adler to the effect that each should furnish half of the necessary funds for the purchase of old iron from the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, and in turn that each should have an equal share of the profits. He said that Adler had failed to furnish any funds and therefore had no interest in the purchases. Later he promised Adler a part of the profit from the sale of the iron, in case Adler secured a purchaser, but when he discovered that Adler had agreed to sell a certain amount of the iron at \$24 a ton, and had represented to Marx that he was to get only \$30 a ton, he revoked the agreement between them. The jury found a verdict in favor of Marx.

Edlefsen's Rook Springs, best for cooking.

Chief Didn't Know Him.

The Chief of Police said yesterday saying that Patrolman Sims and Evans, who made the arrest, were willing to dismiss the case if their superior would consent. The Chief, however, was willing to dismiss the case if the accused was "a man of influence. I do not make a practice of interfering with the action of the court, and I refuse to do so in this case."

Similar Cases Hinted.

"This is not the first time that a thing of this kind has happened," said Judge Taswell. "Do you mean that Chief Cox has asked for the dismissal of other cases?" was asked. "Well, I don't care to say that, but if it comes to a show-down, I shall make my meaning clear." Patrolman Sims, who arrested Mr. Williams at Union avenue and Skidmore street, supports the statements of

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CLASH IS SNAPPY

Strife Comes Out of Arrest of R. E. Williams.

OVERSPEED CAUSES MIX

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