

Corvallis Gazette.

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ABOUT HOPS.

Hops convert into money rapidly. With favorable conditions the crop is a most valuable one. There are times when the market is weak and prices are depressed, but to the casual observer the harvest's product always seems in demand and capable of finding a ready money exchange. The fortunes made by hopgrowers in New York state are numberless, and there was a time when a good hop farm was worth more than a gold mine. While less profits are made now, still there is an opportunity in that line not to be neglected. The Puyallup valley hops in Washington are famous, says the Telegram, and have brought wealth to many farmers, and the Willamette valley product averages well for the raisers. In the past there has been one drawback to successful agriculture in Oregon, notwithstanding climatic and soil conditions are unsurpassed. The crops have not been sufficiently diversified. It has usually been too much wheat. Now there is a tendency to branch out in such ways as raising hops, fruit, or sugar beets. It is therefore encouraging to learn that farmers are extending their hop acreage and that throughout the southern counties new yards will be numerous. If immunity from lice and favorable weather are granted them, the amount of money coming into Oregon in return for the harvest will be large and gladly welcomed.

A singular question in connection with this subject is contained in the fact that no hop-raising worth mentioning, has as yet been done in Benton county. There are thousands of acres of the best lands for that crop, within view of Corvallis. Much of it is lying idle and wasting its fertility in the noxious native verdure. This is a pure waste of the country's natural richness, a stultification of the possibilities to which these broad acres are capable; and a robbery to the industrial interests of the maximum of their wealth producing power. Our next door neighbor, Polk county, is working out of the "straight wheat-raising" rut and is greatly bettering her condition by raising hops. Not that the wheat lands have been curtailed so much, but that the lands best adapted for hops have been reclaimed from idleness, have invited additional industries of a line vastly more profitable; have augmented population in greater ratio than the old wheat farm system ever did; and brings into the country ten dollars of clear money where the wheat industry barely brought one.

Fruit raising is also developing throughout the country, here as elsewhere, which is an encouraging fact. That industry cannot be too heartily commended nor too thoroughly sustained. But there are lands and lands—by the section and the thousand—that are created in the "eternal fitness" for fruit and for nothing else. Let their culture in fruit be pressed to the highest perfection. There are also thousands of acres of lands expressly fitted for hops, and in this industry will they excel. It is the return of money to the square foot of any land that sizes up its value. That product which puts the most clear money into the husbandman's pocket on a given area of soil, clearly is the agency he should employ. The proposition is self-evident. Give the hops a chance in Benton as well as the fruit.

It is the general tone of the Oregon press that Easter was in this instance a failure. The weather was dark and stormy and that gave the new "togs" no chance, hence Easter was a dreary circumstance. Never mind the sentiments of the early ages concerning this morn of rejoicing and hallooing. It is the display of the new bonnet, and the fineries that give the Easter its prime significance.

"AMERICA FOR AMERICANS."

The Japs that work on the railroad section at Drain, who have taken the place of white labor all along the road, are having some trouble with indignant citizens of that place.—Halsey News.

The next legislature should pass a law forbidding any public corporation employing any but naturalized American citizens to perform any services connected with its existence and performance of its functions. American government and American law creates and maintains its existence. The American people patronize, support and enrich these corporations and they should not be allowed to displace free American labor, supporting American institutions and American families, in the American style of living, to give employment to Japanese, Chinese or any other class that are not a component element of citizenship.

There should be a state and United States law forbidding employment by a public corporation or in any public work or public building any other than naturalized American citizens. There would be less train wrecking attempted on the Southern Pacific if that law were enforced.

We pretend to protect American labor, but allow great transcontinental transportation corporations to employ thousands of foreigners who never can become citizens to take the bread out of their mouths.

These corporations were enriched by great grants of public lands, favored by exemptions from taxation, favored with legislation, and then they turn around and repay the voters by systematically discriminating against American laborers, and displacing them with coolies by the thousand, who do not support homes, schools or churches, and not one out of five hundred ever stays in this country.

The above from the Salem Journal is soundly stated, but it does not put it strong enough. For the past 30 years and more this country has been maintaining a high "protective" tariff, the only possible excuse for which was that it was calculated to provide and preserve a high scale of prices for wage earners.

That tariff kept up the prices of all merchandise and supplies entering into the homes of wage-earners as well as other classes, and it has amounted to a no small burden that the masses have willingly borne in a good cause. The plan was all right enough had it been philosophically carried out. But that has not been done. While the country was paying these high "protective" prices—these tariff "taxes" levied to secure high wages on a level with them, the ut most "free trade" principles have been in operation to transfer the "pauper labor" of the old world to American shores.

This transverse policy has been going on all these years until there is little difference between the condition of labor in America and that of the ancient hemisphere, and none in favor of the American laborer, which is not assured by natural conditions. Our protective policy was a sound one, but it was protection in theory, and not in practice. It steered away from Charybdis and is in the breakers of Scylla. It set up a high plane of citizenship and invited the masses of the world to come and become a part of it. It put out no discriminating barriers. The man of lofty spirit and the crawling serf all came upon the same footing. So when swarms of abject laborers, with no conception of or aspirations to reach the level which our institutions contemplated, came and brought their abject instincts with them, but one result could be obtained. That was the dragging down of the whole labor fabric, to the lower level. That is about the condition of affairs to-day. There ought to be a change. The "protective" policy is very lopsided. It burdens the masses to provide "high wages" for hordes of humans who have no conception of the term and is nominally "cast-iron pearls before swine," to the nation's ruin. Keep the swarms of serfdom out of the country from now on and there will be no laws needed for the protection of American labor.

The Oregonian has been sued for libel with damages fixed at \$100,000. As the GAZETTE was some time since sued for libel for exposing an itinerant humbug fakir; and as it necessarily made no small trouble and expense notwithstanding the suit was a flat failure to the i. h. f. aforesaid, we may be expected to be somewhat guarded in expressing our opinion on the Oregonian case.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

THERE has been another dastardly attempt to wreck the overland train on the Southern Pacific road and many people hold that the railroad company and its employees are largely responsible for this state of affairs. It has often been remarked by people who are accustomed to travelling that the manner in which tramps stealing rides are treated is not a method that insures safety to the company's property or to the passengers over its lines. Train men are doubtless greatly annoyed by these tramps, but they do not reason intelligently as to the probable results of their actions in handling these fellows. They will find some helpless boy stealing a ride, and kick him off and often beat him unmercifully. Such transactions have been witnessed by passengers many times. It is no surprise to those passengers to hear soon after of an attempt being made to wreck the train. The wreckers do not realize the fearful results likely to come from their actions, nor do they care to. Their only desire is to seek revenge with those who have thus treated them and they will go to desperate measures to obtain that revenge. They are seeking revenge on the railroad company, and not on the passengers, but the passengers often suffer death or severe injury, and the railroad company and its employees are responsible.—Register.

"I shot her because she wouldn't marry me!" These were the dying words of Ross Smith who had killed Effie Clark, and then turned the deadly pistol upon himself. Both were students in Chicago colleges and residents proper of this coast, she of Spokane and he of Portland. She had been his affianced, but at the instance of her father had discarded him. A letter written to his mother and found on his person at the inquest was a pathetic recital and showed his mind to be in an unbearable strain. He was undoubtedly driven to madness.

The democrats have had a good time scoring ex-Secretary Foster, recently, on alleged extravagance in connection with the Bering sea conference. Gresham and Carlisle, according to the democratic version, were stripping the facts down to their naked hideousness, and were revealing some startling things. It turns out that the stories had no official basis whatever, but were the fabrication of some Munchausen penny-a-liner, who undoubtedly laughed in his sleeve while the democratic gladiators were annihilating the man of straw which he had set up.

THERE is a great deal in the following little squib propounded in the S. F. Examiner: "If the Hawaiian islands are necessary to the security of so powerful a country as the United States what islands will be necessary to the security of so feeble an outpost as Hawaii?" In other words if the United States really sees security in reaching out to get the next place beyond her borders, how long will it take her to extend her accessions around the globe?

THERE is a fortune for some one who will find a way for keeping cabbage in Oregon during the winter. There is some peculiarity about the Oregon cabbage that it begins to rot just about the time it begins to be valuable, and consequently the markets are filled with California cabbage when the price would pay for raising it.—Farmer.

THE death of Col. Shepard in New York from the administration of anesthetics emphasizes the fact that these are not always harmless. For surgical operations they have marked a wonderful improvement in the so-called science of medicine; but while they alleviated pain when a person is under the surgeon's knife, they are sometimes dangerous to persons of certain physical conditions.

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JUDGES RICKS and Taft come again. They notify all railway employees whom it may concern that refusal to move freight on interstate lines from a boycotted road makes those who refuse guilty of criminal conspiracy against the laws of the country.

That is, since corporations are held to liability, and since corporation can act only through agents, those agents must be held to liability too. The duties of the citizen in a society so highly developed as ours are becoming really onerous.

The Oregon agricultural college asked for a small appropriation for building and equipping a dairy building, but the legislature refused to grant it. The Washington legislature did make an appropriation of \$3,000 for a dairy plant, but the governor vetoed the bill. The narrow-minded policy of the two states towards education in dairy lines is exasperating to any person who knows what is being done by other states and nations in this line.—Rural Northwest.

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY.

The following is a summary of the weather for March as furnished by John Fulton, volunteer observer, of Oregon State Weather Service, at Oregon Agricultural College:

Elevation above sea level	319 feet
Mean temperature	44.3
Maximum temperature	61
Minimum temperature (Mar. 1)	26 deg
Mean maximum temperature	51.8 deg
Mean minimum temperature	35.3 deg
No. of cloudy days	32
No. of times temp. 32 deg or below	8
Total precipitation	4.45 in.
Prevailing direction of wind	SW
Total movement of wind	6026 miles
No. of cloudless days	4
No. of partly cloudy days	8
No. of cloudy days	19
No. of days on which rain or snow fell	19
Date on which hail fell	8th
Date on which snow fell	9th, 12th
Date of light frost	13th
Date of killing or injurious frost	2nd
Date of lunar halo	2nd

JOHN FULTON, Observer.

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