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SECRETARY RUSK'S REPORT.

If Mr. Jeremiah Rusk has not demonstrated the advisability of sustaining a department of agriculture he has at least demonstrated its usefulness when dominated by Mr. Rusk. In his report to the president the secretary is able to show with proper gratification a bunch of very encouraging facts. Of the \$1,000,000 worth of products from America last year nearly eighty per cent. he finds, were products of agriculture. And for much of this mighty percentage and the conditions which produced it he claims recognition on behalf of the department. It is certainly big enough to feel proud over, and it swells the total of exports to a sum exceeding the total of imports by \$200,000,000, the amount in which the world stands indebted to the United States. And, moreover, the liberal exportation has been of service in relieving the home markets from a surplus product big enough to have reduced prices below the cost of production. Among the suggestions made by the secretary none is more important than the one in regard to the grading of grain. "There are," the secretary says, "many reasons making a national standard of grain highly desirable. Some system of national inspection and grading must be established in the interest of the grain-growers under the control of the secretary of agriculture." An attempt to put this plan into execution would excite much discussion and dispute. That the systems of grain inspection in various states differ widely from each other is well known. A system of uniform inspection and grading would have very many things to recommend it.

Orchardists will be glad to know that the scale bug is to be done away with. The Union-Journal says that Mr. H. H. Spalding of Almoda has discovered what he thinks is a sure destroyer of the scale bug, an insect that has of late years been very destructive to orchards in the Snake river and Walla Walla valleys. Mr. Spalding is in Seattle attending a meeting of the state horticultural board, to report upon the success of his experiments. The report will be favorable. Mr. Spalding thinks the new preparation will be a success. It is being prepared by a Tacoma chemist and is composed of sixteen ingredients. One of the chiefest recommendations is its cheapness. One gallon of the mixture when it comes from the laboratory of the chemist is mixed with 200 gallons of water in preparing it for use. The dilution then only costs from three-fifths of a cent to one cent per gallon.

The Astoria papers think it will be an amusing scene to witness when the Astoria and South Coast Railway company pays over to the railroad commissioners the \$5,000 forfeit for not making its report to the board as required by law. However, they believe that Governor Penney should insist on the money being paid to the state, declaring that the board of directors is worth it, collectively or individually, and that the sum can be collected. Pulling teeth, it is thought, would be a pleasant pastime compared to getting this money.

A large shipment of shingles is to be sent from Puget sound to Philadelphia by sea. A ship is now being loaded with lumber, and will carry 1,500,000 shingles as part of her cargo. These will arrive in that city in time for the spring demand, and it is thought they will open the way for other and heavier shipments.

A man in Douglas county has sold 14,000 pounds of tomatoes raised on less than two acres of ground, and made 200 bottles of ketchup besides. He sold none of his tomatoes for less than fifty cents a bushel.

The Oregon Pacific now owes its employees over nine months wages. Over \$1,000 is due each of several of the road hands. Altogether it amounts to a good deal. But it is bound to come in a lump some day.

A Surprising Decrease.
Chicago Herald. Michigan politicians are very much puzzled to account for the fact that the total vote cast for president in that state this year is about 25,000 less than it was four years ago. The decrease is surprising, indeed, in view of the increase of the population meanwhile, which, it is claimed, has been sufficient to warrant a total vote of 65,000 in excess of the vote of 1888. As usual when the stay-at-home vote is large, the republicans suffered the most, and this was true in many another state than Michigan.

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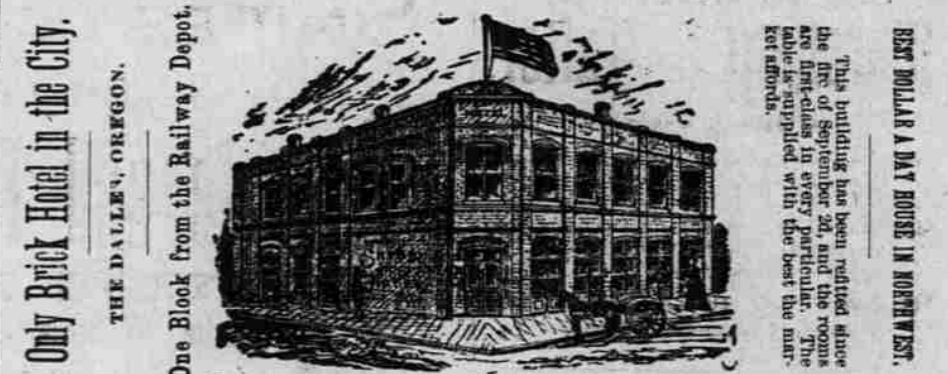
WINANS

THE NEW TOWN has been platted on the old camp ground, at the Forks and Falls of Hood river, with large slightly lots, broad streets and alleys, good soil, pure cold water and shade in profusion, perfect drainage, delightful mountain climate, the central attraction as a mountain summer resort and for all Oregon, being the nearest town to Mt. Hood. It is also unparalleled as a manufacturing center, being the natural center for 500 square miles of the best redwood and timber, possessing millions of horse power in its dashing streams and waterfalls, easily harnessed. Where cheap motive power exists, there the manufacturing will center, surrounded by soil and climate that cannot be excelled anywhere for fruit and agriculture, and with transportation already assured you will find this the place to make a perfect home or a paying investment.

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