



## THE WOOL MARKET OPENS Deadlock Between Wool-growers and Buyers Continues.

Boston, May 14.—The Commercial Bulletin will say of the wool market: At last sufficient business has started to establish a market, with a large amount of staple Montana and Oregon sold to a leading New England mill at 63 to 63 cents scoured basis. Unwashed delains also moved substantially at 37 cents, a figure now being rejected in some quarters. Original bag Arizona sells at 60 to 62 cents clean.

The deadlock between buyer and sheepmen in the West continues and many clips are being consigned to Eastern dealers.

The shipments of wool from Boston to May 12 inclusive were 73,266,964 pounds, against 96,990,891 for the same time last year. The receipts to May 12 inclusive were 86,913,582 pounds, against 122,837,000 for the same period last year.

It now seems apparent that the wool buying season will not open until May 24, the first sales day of the Oregon series. This one will be held in Pendleton and on the following day the buyers will go to Pilot Rock for the second sale. It is expected that nearly a million pounds of wool will be offered for sale in Pendleton.

The Eastern Oregon clip this year is said to be the best in many years, being of good staple and free from dirt. Morrow county growers are holding for sales day which will be held here May 31st.

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## Will Help Irrigation.

Salem, Or., May 13.—An act of congress approved March 15, which amends the Carey act, is regarded by the state engineer's office as a great boon in this state to the more rapid reclamation of its arid lands. The act removes much of the red tape formerly necessary to withdraw acreage under the Carey act for reclamation and has made it possible to withdraw lands now within a few days, temporarily, or on approval for one year, so that the state can go ahead at once and close negotiations with the contractors for its irrigation.

Heretofore it has been necessary to wait for all the cumbersome machinery of the interior department to start moving and wait until surveys and investigations could be made before the state could go ahead with the project. Now the secretary of the interior may upon the application of the proper state officer, withdraw acreage temporarily from settlement or entry pending the investigation and the making of maps and surveys. At the end of the year the state must present its maps and plats and apply to have the segregation permanently withdrawn.

Under the act as it formerly existed it was impossible to announce new reclamation projects for fear that settlers would rush in and take the land, so slow did the governmental machinery move. Now the project will go ahead and the governmental machinery can move at its leisure. The lands will be restored to entry if all the former requirements before demanded are not complied with within a year, just as formerly, so that the interests of the United States are as fully protected as before.

A party of thirty Minnesota bankers and a second party of prominent Wisconsin business men, the latter traveling under the auspices of the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, will arrive in Portland during the first week in June. They plan to see Oregon thoroughly after participating in the Rose Festival.

Gilliam & Bisbee has just received a car load of buggies, hacks, etc.

## Work on Celilo Canal.

As soon as the appropriation is made by congress, the contract will be let for a mile and a half of work on the lower end of The Dalles-Celilo canal project, the survey having been made by Assistant Engineer F. C. Schubert of the United States engineers, early this spring.

Major Jav J. Morrow, accompanied by Henry H. Robert, who will have local charge of The Dalles-Celilo work, and Assistant Engineers F. C. Schubert and J. S. Polheums, inspected the whole canal line Wednesday and the major approved the Smith & Jones contract, which has been completed for about a week.

Although no work is being done on the canal now because of the high water, it is thought that some of it will be resumed on the higher levels sometime next month. The river at the Cascades was at a stage of 16 feet above low water yesterday and while it is almost at a stage where it will be impossible to get boats through the locks, it is not thought that they have to close, as the river is falling above there.

The new work on the canal for which the contract will probably be let soon will include about a mile and a half of excavation from Biz Eddy.

## Oregon Short on Stock.

In this manner the Oregon Journal reproaches the state for not raising more livestock.

"Oregon husbandry received another black eye yesterday. The day saw eight carloads of live hogs arrive in Portland from Nebraska and four cars of beef from California. The beef is destined for Grass Valley, almost the original home of the beef steer in Oregon, and the hogs were for the local packing plants. The hogs were quoted for the day at \$10.60 and beef at \$6.50, prices that leave a splendid margin of profits for the producer.

There is a rail haul of nearly 2000 miles from Nebraska to Oregon, and a similar transportation cost for the more than 500 miles of rail haul from California. It is almost a striking incident, when the Nebraska and

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California farmers can pay these costly differentials and ship food animals into Oregon. Nebraska has severer and longer winters and must grow feed on higher priced land. The same high prices for feeds that shortened the hog and beef supply in Oregon were prevalent both in Nebraska and California last autumn and winter. The Oregon farmer had splendid advantages, but failed to supply his own market, while both Nebraska and California over-supplied theirs, and in spite of handicaps shipped their products over long distances to supply Oregon. It must mean that there is a vast difference in farm methods and farm effectiveness in the three states, with Oregon a poor second to both the other states."

## Trout Starving.

Pendleton, Or., May 13.—Report comes from Hermiston that the thousands of beautiful redbreast trout which inhabit the waters of the reservoir on the government reclamation project out from that town are dying of starvation. They are being caught there by the score, but the flesh is soft and of a poor flavor.

When countless numbers of these trout were found floundering in pools on the project last fall it was thought that the work of destruction by the government engineers had been complete and that all that had found their way into the reservoir had died in the irrigation ditches. However, it seems that a few thousand were left in the artificial lake, and are now swarming at the outlet of the feed canal in an effort to get back to the river.

As the water in the reservoir is now within a few feet of the top, it will be possible to erect a fish ladder by which means they can escape. President G. L. LaDow of the local anglers' association and Deputy Fish Warden Turner are taking measures to have such a ladder constructed.

## Central Oregon Booming.

Portland, Or., May 17.—Central Oregon has lived an eventful life the past two weeks, first with a series of development meetings planned by the commercial organizations at Bend, Prineville, Burns, Prairie City and Enterprise, and then in entertaining Louis W. Hill and his party who made a leisurely trip through the region in automobiles, and everywhere received welcomes that would put to shame the conventional receptions of the large cities.

Most interesting single feature of all was the award of contract for a mammoth bridge over the Columbia at Celilo Falls for the Oregon Trunk.

The cost will be approximately \$1,500,000, there will be twenty-nine spans to the structure and it must be completed by January 1, 1912. The total length is 3960 feet, or more than three-quarters of a mile. The longest span is 350 feet.

Foreign mail of the Oregon Development League increases at a rate that can best be described as appalling for those who must answer the inquiry. Saturday morning's delivery included letters from Russia, Germany, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, Philippines, Italy, Honduras and Sweden, as well as those from all parts of North America.

Every thresherman and farmer in Oregon is invited to attend the Threshers convention to be held at Albany June 2nd, and 3rd. Secretary Bates states that it will be the largest gathering of agriculturists in Oregon this year. The United States government has arranged to send two of its best men from Washington, the Governor of the state will be present and the program for two days is replete with the best that

money could obtain. The Commercial Club of Albany will furnish a big banquet at noon of the 3rd, to the delegates on the Court House lawn. Both the O. R. & N. and Southern Pacific lines and branches have made a one-and-one-third rate on the certificate plan and a ten days limit will be given to the Eastern Oregon contingent that they may stop over at Portland for the Rose Festival the following week.

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