

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Important Occurrences of Past Week Briefly Compiled for Our Readers.

The Southern Pacific car shortage was 2187 on Saturday.

Pendleton will again have a municipal Christmas tree celebration this year.

Shipments of goats to the eastern sections of the United States have begun again in Polk county.

The turkey raisers of Douglas county have received approximately \$40,000 for their product this year.

Clerks and unskilled workmen employed by the O. W. R. & N. company are due for an increase in wages.

January 4, 5 and 6 are the dates set for the meeting of the annual Oregon irrigation congress, to convene at Portland.

The car shortage is not only limiting the output of the lumber mills of Oregon, but is delaying the erection of new mills.

Marion county will hold its third annual corn show at Salem, beginning Monday, December 11, and continuing until Saturday, December 16.

Electrification of the Southern Pacific line between Whiteoak and Corvallis will be complete and cars will be in operation about March 15.

Lane county, with a population of 35,000, is without a prisoner in the county jail or a jailer. This condition has prevailed since October 30.

Charles A. Murphy, chief engineer of the hospital for the insane at Pendleton, was chosen as warden of the Oregon prison by the state board of control.

The food and dairy code, passed by the last legislature, has been a success, according to the biennial report of Dairy and Food Commissioner Mickle.

With some of the finest livestock in the United States on exhibition the Pacific International Livestock exhibition will open at Portland Monday, December 4.

Members of the Rogue River Fish Protective association have voted unanimously for an unconditional stand for the closing of Rogue river to commercial fishing.

Oregon railroads are planning an increase in the demurrage charges exacted of shippers who keep equipment out of use beyond the 48-hour "free time" allowance.

The cornerstone of the new federal building, which is under construction at Roseburg, was laid Monday afternoon under the auspices of the Masonic lodges of that city.

Everything from chickens to guinea pigs will be on exhibit in Portland at the eighth annual show of the Oregon Poultry & Pet Stock association, December 4 to 9, inclusive.

There will be 24 republicans, five democrats and one independent in the senate, and 35 republicans, four democrats and one independent in the lower branch of the legislature this winter.

The Oregon State Teachers' association will convene in Portland December 27 for a three days' session, at which several hundred teachers from all parts of Oregon will be in attendance.

The price of forage in national forests is to be raised gradually from the present price, about one-third of the market value of such forage, to two-thirds of the fee charged by private owners.

State Engineer Lewis has granted permission to the Blue Mountain Ditch company, of Mount Vernon, to appropriate the waters of the John Day river for the irrigation of 1200 acres of land.

A plan whereby high school students will be trained in social duties and responsibilities has been proposed by J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, in a bulletin issued on the subject.

"Not guilty" was the verdict in the case of John Allen, charged with the murder of Lewis Bostick at the Allen home near Hereford, August 18. The verdict was returned in the Baker county court at Baker.

Two new postoffices have been established in Oregon: one at Happy, Harney county, with Miss Mathilda McCrudden as postmaster, and the other at Lost Valley, Wheeler county, with Joseph H. Cone as postmaster.

The Wasco County Stockmen's association has been organized at Tygh Valley. A large number of stockmen representing all sections of Wasco county attended the meeting, and much interest was shown in forming this county's association.

Bills to provide for compelling automobiles to come to a full stop upon approaching all railroad grade crossings, and to prohibit trespass upon railroad rights of way will be promoted before the coming Oregon legislature as a result of a conference held at Portland under the auspices of the state public service commission, at which railroad representatives and officers of automobiles participated.

Colonel Henry H. Ludlow, who has been in command of the forts at the mouth of the Columbia river for the past three years, has received notice of his transfer to the western department, with headquarters in San Francisco.

While in former years a total annual average of approximately 75,000 bunches of celery has been shipped from the Hood river valley, the 1914 crop is almost a total failure, and celery for Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners will be imported.

Contending that all of the state's business should be transacted in the open, several members of the coming legislature have signified their intention of introducing bills providing that the sessions of all state boards and commissions shall be public.

Oregon hop growers are taking a pessimistic view of the situation and assert that hundreds of acres of hops will be plowed under regardless of the duration of the English embargo, while if the embargo continues, thousands of acres are likely to be plowed under.

The anti-saloon league of Oregon spent \$11,314 in the recent campaign which put the state "bone dry," and perfected one of the most powerful inter-church and inter-society organizations that has ever been built up in any state to carry through a prohibition campaign.

Official returns received from all the 35 counties in Oregon by Secretary of State Olcott of the result of the election of candidates for membership in the senate and house during the next legislature show that 22 members of the 1915 legislature will return for the 1917 session.

Actual work on the construction of the proposed Oregon, California & Eastern railway will begin immediately upon the final outworkings of certain legal formalities at Klamath Falls and Lakeview. With everything working without hitch, this is possible of solution within 30 days.

In behalf of candidates for state and district offices and for and against the various measures voted upon at the recent general election in Oregon, the sum of \$87,479.11 was expended prior to the election, according to statements filed in the office of Secretary of State Olcott.

The proposed Oregon statewide auto association died a natural death last week when the directors of the Portland Automobile club decided to alter their by-laws to permit them to branch out to embrace the statewide programme suggested by the organizers of the tentative association.

Two California liquor firms, located at Hornbrook, Cal. just across the Oregon line, who have been doing a mail order business estimated at close to \$15,000 per month are making plans to fight Oregon's absolute prohibition "bone dry" law when it becomes effective in January, it is said.

The honor of turning the first dirt in the construction of the Oregon, California & Eastern railroad is to be shared between Mrs. Robert E. Strahorn and Mrs. George McDonald, the oldest living white woman resident of Klamath county, according to an announcement made at Klamath Falls.

Talk of a recall of members of the county court of Polk county has been revived. A movement of that kind was started several weeks ago, but sufficient number of signatures were not secured to the petitions to bring the matter before the voters at the time of the regular election on November 7.

Three of the 259 accidents reported to the state industrial accident commission during the week ending November 23 were fatal. They were Francis Peiquet, of Mabel, killed in logging operations; H. Anthony, of Portland, killed in steel works, and G. C. Bassett, of Newberg, killed in logging operations.

Plans for the formation of a state good roads association to prepare and submit to the next legislature a new road code for Oregon, with a view to systematic road improvement throughout the entire state, were launched at a meeting held in Albany. The state meeting is proposed to be held in the courthouse in Portland December 15.

Robert N. Stanfield of Stanfield, Montie B. Gwinn of Boise, G. E. Stanfield, Glen McCullough and H. L. Stanfield have purchased from P. H. O'Neil and sons the property of the Malheur Livestock & Land company. It is understood that this property has a valuation of approximately \$850,000. The holdings consist of about 23,000 acres of leased land, aside from forest reserve rights. The land is located in Malheur, Grant, Harney and Baker counties.

Salem will become "bone-dry" before the rest of Oregon, according to District Attorney Ringo of Marion county, in which Salem is situated, who said the absolute prohibition measure which passed at the polls recently would become effective as soon as promulgated by the governor, about December 6. Ringo disagrees with Attorney General Brown, who has ruled that the governor's promulgation will not make the measure effective, but that action by the legislature in January must be awaited before it becomes a law.

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FRIDAY DEC 4, 1916
Entered at the postoffice at Weston, Oregon,
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WILL HE SIGN?

Agreement has been reached by the American and Mexican joint high commissioners. It was fore-sanctioned by President Wilson. It requires only the approval of Carranza to make it binding, says the Oregon Journal.

Nobody knows what the first chief will do. From this distance his ways are often inexplicable. We often think him stupid, but it may be because we do not realize what things he has to do to placate ignorant Mexican sentiment.

There is a deep-seated distrust of us beyond the border. On one pretext and another, we took away from Mexico as much territory as she now has. Those acts have not been forgotten. Carranza might be more trustful and more intelligent in his dealings with us if they had never occurred.

The late campaign was fought out on one side on broad hints of armed intervention in Mexico. Mexican blood dripped from many a campaign speech. Demands for armed intervention have been proclaimed in the halls of the American congress. They are frequently voiced in American newspapers. Annexation of all territory between the Rio Grande to Panama is contended for in some American publications.

All these things were going on while the Mexican commissioners were holding sessions in the United States. Those with the American commission-utterances keep alive the distrust created in Mexico by American annexation of Mexican territory. That distrust is one great reason why the Mexican commissioners hesitate to agree to the American contention for American troops to be allowed to pursue Mexican bandits in Mexican territory.

Our difficulties in the Mexican situation are largely of our own making. Certain of our American citizens hold vast tracts of land, vast deposits of oil and minerals that of right belong to poverty-stricken Mexicans. The Mexican idea of us would be widely different if our treatment of them had been different.

Carranza has his problem in dealing with his countrymen. We have ourselves made it a difficult problem. Mexican distrust of us is a complication he has to face.

Whether he signs the joint high agreement or does not sign it, Pan-America and the world have looked on at the negotiations. America's purpose to proceed by peaceful processes has been observed.

The agreement may not stand. But America's purpose and position will command the decent respect of mankind.

The statisticians have no trouble at all in finding figures in support of the safety first movement, says the Oregonian. It has just been shown, for example, that in the past two decades the number of persons killed on railroad tracks in the country was 86,783 and the number of injured 94,646. Of the total number of killed and injured more than 25,000 were under the age of 25 and many were under 10. Only 36,276 were tramps and hobos, while more than 120,000 were residents of the neighborhood in which the accident occurred. Most of

them were wage-earners. The total represents an average of more than 9000 a year of accidents, nearly half of them fatal, in which the element of the unavoidable is almost altogether lacking. Victims are often technical trespassers, and yet the laws against trespass do not reach them even to save them, for local authorities are unwilling to prosecute and juries are slow to convict, in view of the entire absence of moral turpitude.

G. O. P. AUCTION

Jim Ritchey, of Forest Grove, who is by way of being a notorious Democrat, lately sent the subpoenaed skit to Joe Hodgson, an equally rock-ribbed Republican, and admonished Joe to hand it to the Weston Leader for publication. Joe did so, after first reading it to Sim Barnes, for many years a local Republican war horse, to see if the G. O. P. could deliver the goods!

Notice of Public Auction

Know all men by these presents: That the following articles will be sold at public auction, to-wit:

1. One elephant, about 61 years old, sired by Wall Street and dammed by everybody.
2. One perfectly dilapidated Republican platform, all shot to pieces.
3. One Republican machine, badly in need of repairs.
4. One set of teeth, seen for the last time in public.
5. Two sets of beautiful whiskers, guaranteed to antagonize the barbers' union.
6. One Billion-Dollar Special Train, with a flat wheel.
7. One goat. Lost Tuesday by a gentleman at one time justice of the supreme court.
8. Yards and yards of tariff bull.
9. One antiquated policy of attacking labor unions. This belonged to the late Harrison Gray Whotis and will be sold without reserve.
10. One whistle, badly cracked, and of no further use to the old coddler at First and Broadway.

We give further notice at this sale Elihu Root wishes to dispose of his premature appointment to the position of secretary of state. Bids as low as 50c will be considered, while Mr. Raymond Robbins will sell his chance to become head of the department of labor for a much less sum.

Any and all bids will be considered.

(Signed)
CHARLES ECHO HUGHES,
Auctioneer.

BACK TO THE OLD HOME FARM

(An Oregon Pioneer to His Good Old Life Pard.)

It seems surprisin', don't it, wife, to think that at our time o' life two oldish kids like you an' me'd think o' trappin' back where we begun this life together where you caught me fast in Cupid's snare? Back to the old New England farm where you an' me walked arm in arm into the best room, where we stood afore the whole durned neighborhood an' had the preacher couple us up tight fur better or fur wuss. Tomorrow we will speed away back there to spend Thanksgiving 'in' day, an' stay a month, an mebbe more, among the folks we knew afore we sot our youthful minds upon a home out here in Oregon. We labored hard to git a start, an' you, God bless you, did your part in buildin' up this splendid home on what was wild land when we come. We've prospered on the farm, old wife' are comfortably fixed for life. We've plenty to be thankful for, I'm free to say a good deal more than them that laughed an' joshed us so when we lit out for Westward, Ho! I think I yet can hear 'em say that 'wild goose chasin' didn't pay an' prophesyin' that within a year they'd see us back agin. But, praise the Lord, we kept our nerve, from our intentions didn't swerve, an' now when we git back an' tell the story of our goose chase—well, they'll know it wa'n't no goose that was chasin', but prosperity, an' that we caught it in this grand an' wealth producin' land. When we go back 'twon't be the way we come here in that early day behind an ox team, but we'll ride as sassy as kin be inside a Pullman sleepin' car, by Ned! an' have a coon to make our bed an' wait on us just like he thought that we was 'ristocrats. Eh, what!—Jane Barton Adams in the Oregonian.

Coos Bay—The state health board after taking an analysis of the city water supply here stated: "Bacteriologically these waters are very good."

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