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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS HAPPENING DURING WEEK

The suit brought a number of years ago by the government to recover unsold lands from the Oregon & California railroad, Southern Pacific and others has been set for hearing May 1, according to announcement by Judge Wolverton in federal court at Portland.

Following action taken by the Oregon Humane society, Dr. Andrews, Marion county agent for the society, left for Gates and other rural communities where he will make an investigation of reports that many horses and cattle are suffering from lack of feed.

The recent cold weather has caused but little damage to loganberry vines in the Willamette valley, according to the reports of experts who have investigated the berry-growing districts of the section. Broccoli has suffered in some extent, as has late-sown grain in the lowlands.

Only two of the 32 principal cities of the country led Portland in the decreases of the cost of living in the period from June, 1920, to December, 1921, according to a report made public by the department of labor. Living costs in Portland decreased 21 per cent in the year and a half.

Appropriations totaling \$1500 for the inauguration of a ferry across the Willamette river at Oregon City have been made by the city and county. The ferry is to provide means for transfer of autos across the river during the period that the Oregon City-West Linn bridge is being rebuilt.

Bend sportsmen are favoring the establishment of a game refuge in a triangular 6400-acre tract to the north and west of Bend. Protection of California quail and the introduction of Chinese pheasants and other game birds would be made possible by creation of such a game sanctuary it is stated.

About 100 leading farmers of Umatilla county gathered at Pendleton under the auspices of the farm bureau and set the going farm wage at \$40 a month and board, cooks from \$25 to \$35 and tractor men at a maximum of \$80 a month, all for spring work. This is a cut of about 20 per cent from last season.

Hereafter any application for a commission as special agent in Oregon, whether received from a county official or some other person, must be accompanied by the recommendations of the district attorney, sheriff, county court or county judge, before it will be given consideration by the executive office, according to announcement made by Governor Olcott.

A preliminary application for permission to cross forest boundary lands with a high transmission power line was filed with Forest Supervisor Ramsdell of the Umpqua forest by J. C. Thompson, assistant treasurer of the California-Oregon Power company. The company is constructing a high-power line between Prospect and Eugene, and to do this will be required to traverse a large amount of government land.

H. H. Corey, member of the Oregon public service commission, has received a letter to the effect that he has been appointed on the committee of railroad service, accommodations and claims by the National Association of Railway and Utility Commissioners. Fred A. Williams, chairman of the Oregon public service commission, is a member of the executive committee of the national association.

Despite the fact that the Oregon public service commission recently denied an application of the Salem street-car company for an increase in rates, it may be necessary for the city council to grant the traction corporation some relief in the near future.

Mayor Halverson has appointed a special committee of the council to investigate the situation. The street-car company contends that it has lost approximately \$20,000 during the last four years.

Establishment of a woodenware plant within the walls of the Oregon state penitentiary as the first step in an effort to put the institution on a self-sustaining basis was announced by L. H. Compton, warden of the prison. The first unit of the industrial development of the penitentiary will represent an expenditure of approximately \$7000. This will leave \$23,000 of an appropriation of \$30,000 authorized at the 1921 session of the legislature for additions to the plant and other kindred industries.

There will be no legal hangings in Oregon until the state supreme court and possibly the United States supreme court have had an opportunity to pass on the constitutionality of the laws relating to murder in the first degree. This was made plain when Governor Olcott extended the reprieves previously granted to Elvie Kirby, alias James Owens; John Rathie and Dan Casey until Friday, July 7. Extension of the reprieves was made necessary, it was said, because of the inability of the supreme court to hand down an opinion in the habeas corpus proceedings instituted by Kirby before the date set for the executions, and the probability that the case will be carried to the United States supreme court for final determination.

The First Bank of Bay City has been closed by order of Frank Bramwell, state superintendent of banks. Inability to realize on loans was given as the reason for closing the institution.

Lakeview people are developing a quicksilver mine 25 miles south of Lakeview, near Willow ranch, and they report excellent prospects with almost an inexhaustible supply of ore bearing rock.

Clyde D. Moyer has been appointed postmaster at Crow, Lane county; Esther E. Forth at McKay, Lane county; Norman G. Morris at Mapleton, Lane county, and Jens P. Jacobsen at Alvadore, Lane county.

A campaign to "buy a tree" for the Jackson county fair community grounds is on in all parts of Jackson county. There is to be a systematic planting of trees under supervision of a committee of tree experts.

Twelve of the ninety-one teachers in the Eugene public schools are ill from influenza and 125 of the 775 students of the high school are out of classes from the same cause, according to E. E. Carleton, city superintendent.

Wool buyers at Lakeview are offering 26 cents for the 1922 clip, but few sales are being made. An advance of 50 cents a head is offered at 6 and 7 per cent. Buyers are offering \$8 in contract for lambs for fall delivery. Portland's population increased by 14,234 from October 1, 1920, to October 1, 1921, figuring the increase in school pupils of the same period multiplied by 6, as shown in a survey just completed and published by the City club.

Receipts of the state from taxes on gasoline and distillate for 1921 aggregated \$1,004,019.67, as against \$463,354.25 for 1920, according to a report prepared by Sam A. Kozler, secretary of state. Receipts for 1919 totaled \$343,384.14.

Nathan Halsey, a prominent pioneer farmer who lived about six miles east of Joseph, was killed instantly last Wednesday morning when he slipped off a load of poles onto his wagon tongue. One of his horses kicked him and crushed his head and chest.

The paper is late this week because on Wednesday there was no power to run the machinery, and on Thursday the flood waters from Stage Gulch which descended upon Stanfield came into the office of publication and short-circuited the wiring on the type setting machine. We were unable to start work until Friday afternoon. W. H. Crary of the Echo News very kindly came to our rescue and helped us Saturday afternoon. We should have been out of commission only until Thursday noon but could not get the Intertype running until Friday afternoon.

SPRING WAGES \$40

The Farm Bureau Executive Committee met in session with the County Labor Committee and passed upon the spring wage scale at the regular Executive session which was held on February 4th. Before taking action inquiry was made from the other wheat growing counties and the wages was also discussed with the different Employment offices, and the Labor Committeemen discussed wages with the farmers in their community, and the wage scale established is one that seems to suit conditions in Eastern Oregon for the coming season.

General Farm Hands will receive \$40 a month and board.
Tractor men will receive \$60 to \$80, depending upon the size of tractor and experience of the man.
Cook from \$25 to \$35.

All of us admit that the first years of a child's life, make the foundation of all that is to come. This is true in the home. This is true in the school. Mrs. Watkins is our primary teacher, and to say she is a good teacher isn't the correct way to speak of her. Have you visited her department. Our mothers told us that the highest place we attain in life is the home. Mrs. Watkins is training her pupils, our children to be such good homemakers, and home-sepers, and the beautiful part of it is that their school life is a game they play. Going to criticize that should say not. Remember those days of mental toil and hardship which we experienced? Remember how we disliked our teachers? Remember how we threw those spitballs at the master's back, and sometimes suddenly realized we had hit him in the eye? Remember what happened next? I do. Remember how cluttered the floor always appeared? And how much our desks were crisscrossed with all sorts of fancy carvings? Well Mrs. Watkins never lets us say, "don't do this," or "don't do that." They have too much to do; they have too many stars to win; they have too many items on their health cards to fill out, to take time for all those foreign things we used to introduce to our teachers. And say, those children love her. They do not cringe with fear and trembling when she speaks to them. They know when she speaks there is something of interest coming, and each one is eager, each one is anxious to do his or her part in this homemaking, homekeeping game. Mrs. Watkins is a "jewel of rarest worth," and we must keep her. She loves the work, and we all love her. We must have her services as long as it can be had.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hereim have been staying on the Larsen ranch while Mr. Larsen was away.

BOOST FOR HENRY FORD HE WILL BOOST FOR US

It is your individual, (collective would be better) duty to see that your Washington representatives give their support to Henry Ford's securing Muscle Shoals. He would develop power and fertilizer within the reach of the common people.

It is needless to say that the power and fertilizer interests are fighting the move. It is the first step of Ford's to develop national electrical energy. For your information, all data of the Umatilla Rapids Power dam has been forwarded to Ford and his engineers. This gives you an insight as to what success or failure means at Muscle Shoals. Can you picture what Ford's magic touch at Umatilla means to the development of your own immediate vicinity?

It is going to take the genius of a Ford to put a practicable freight boat on the river. It will not come from you or I. It is only a step from a power dam to this boat. One calls for the other.

There is a portion of the press that belittles Ford in all he does. Seventeen years ago his butcher would not trust him with a Thanksgiving chicken. Last year he paid the government seventy-six million in taxes. Watch those Muscle Shoals for at the same time you are watching the Umatilla Rapids.

WALLULA TO UMATILLA IN FORD BUG IN SEVEN HOURS

To prove they could make the trip by car from Wallula to Umatilla, Walt Waddell and T. P. Mills started from Wallula in a Ford bug and made the trip in 7 hours. For the first 10 miles the road was easily negotiated but from Juniper to 1/2 mile west of Sand Spur they took to the ice then back to the road again.

The return trip was made via Pendleton and Walla Walla, and while the roads were better it took half an hour longer and burnt up a lot more gas.

The boys say that with only an ordinary road between Wallula and Umatilla the trip can be made in a little over an hour.

Owing to a cloud burst in Juniper canyon Wednesday part of the school children had to walk to school Thursday. A commercial traveler accompanied by his wife and child were on their way from Heppner to Boardman when they became stalled in the mud in Juniper canyon. The man walked nine miles to W. O. King's and phoned to Boardman for the truck to come and pull them out. Nate Macomber, with his wife and baby Grace, drove out after them "pulled the car out alright, but a cloudburst came and in a few minutes the bus was in four feet of water, filling the carburetor with water. Mr. Macomber walked back to King's and phoned to Morgan, who took the Ford and brought them all into Boardman at 2:30 A. M. The bus and the other car are still in Juniper canyon at this writing. With the help of the neighbors and O. H. Warner most of the pupils were brought to school.

Thanks are due to W. O. King and wife for their kindness in sending milk and sandwiches out to the stranded strangers, who had not had anything to eat after they left Heppner.

Girls, did you read the article in Sunday's Journal, about our modern girl? If you didn't you certainly should, as Rachel Crowthers is, very decidedly, your champion. Yes she has downed all the arguments about the superiority of the old fashioned girl. I think our editor ought to give us a reprint of that article, don't you, girls?

WE DO MOVE! OR DO WE? CONSIDER THIS FROM AN OLD TIMER

That we do move, consider the following. In a recent talk with Judge Mariner, he told of a "wooden railroad" which was constructed between Wallula and Walla Walla in 1872. It was built to haul wheat down the river for boat transportation to Portland. The wheat had to be portaged around Celilo and again at the Cascades.

The rails were made of logs. After a period of use the clear grain part of the rail would wear down, leaving the knots standing clear and prominent. Your personal contact on a journey was based on the spacing of the knots. Bunched knots were termed liver shakers, parallel knots, (right and left rail) were indexed as spleen huddlers, alternating knots gave the most comfort, as you obtained a side motion likened into a vessel in a rough sea.

Later these rails were provided with strap iron. Occasionally an end would get loose, coming up thru the floor, separating you from your

lunch or your head. It was these knots which gave "Jerry" his term of "high and low."

Yes, we do move, and then again, do we? In these days a fleet of steam boats plied between Wallula and Celilo. Today not a boat on the river. The river still flows and at Celilo and Cascade the government has provided locks that boats may go thru to Portland without breaking bulk.

What's the trouble? It's you and I. We spend seven million dollars to lock the rapids at Celilo and Cascade, then we retire to our rockers, fold our hands and proceed to await events. Do you know any other business that works under such management? You are content to howl at the railroad because they charge you \$5 a ton to haul your hay to Portland, while a boat would do it for \$2. You are content to pay 10 cents a bushel to transport your wheat while a boat can do it for 3 cents. Are we forever to fold our hands? There's a way.

SAND VETCH PROVES TO BE GOOD SOIL BUILDER FOR THE RANCHER

From The Herald, Hermiston, Oregon, August 4, 1917.

The following treatise on sand vetch for orchards is from the pen of Adolph Skoubo. Treating, as it does, on the many uses the vetch can be put to by the fruit raiser, it does without saying that the article will prove of inestimable value to orcharders as a whole:

"During the last few years we have grown sand vetch in the orchards around here, and are so well satisfied with the results, that I think it may interest others to learn about the experiments we have made and the experiences we have gained.

"Sand vetch is a nitrate-gathering plant, the same as the clovers and alfalfa, and is mainly used for green manure, and from what we have seen it is very much to be preferred to other plants for upbuilding poor soil. It may grow less foliage than alfalfa and does not send the roots down so far, but it is so much easier to get started and get worked into the soil, that it usually is preferred by those that know it, furthermore it does not become a serious pest in the orchards and gardens as does sweet clover and alfalfa, as it is easily destroyed or at least kept in check so it will not interfere with other crops.

"The first year it is planted it usually does not do well, probably on account of the lack of bacteria in the ground, but after it has reseeded itself for a year or two, it grows an abundance of 4 to 10 foot long stems full of leaves and flowers, often forming a 4 to 6 inch solid mat of juicy, green vegetable matter. The first year or two we used to let it all go to seed and then disc it in the orchard in August when the straw got dry and brittle, later we tried to plow it down the last of April or first of May, and by doing so we have succeeded in getting one crop of rich green manure and still preserved enough plants and seed to make a thin stand during the summer. In August we disc it again, and in the spring it is ready for making a new crop of green manure.

"As stated before we have used it

mainly as fertilizer for the trees and with very good results, but we have also tried it for corn, potatoes and other vegetables, and from the looks of the plants it would take about 20 loads of barnyard manure to get the same results.

"There is a number of ways of using it for green manure for garden crops. I think the best way is to seed the vetch in the late summer or early fall after the early crop is removed. It can also be seeded in the corn before the last cultivation, and the corn will then protect it from the wind and hot sun. Another way is to leave narrow strips every 10 to 15 feet when plowing it down in the spring, those strips then will furnish plenty seed for next year. It can also be reseeded by plowing it in in the spring after it has got so long that the plow will not cover it all; in this case a number of plants will keep on growing and the ungerminated seed left over from last fall will start growing too. In this way it can be used for potatoes and similar crops that require no or little cultivation in the later part of the summer and that can stand having the vetch growing amongst them. As a rule a few plants of vetch does not hurt the crop, but if too thick it will choke the crop or the weight of the vines bend it to the ground. It will also interfere with the cultivation.

"I have seen a fine stand of watermelons and sweet corn planted in strips plowed down in the spring. The vetch protected the melons in the spring and early summer and ceased growing when the melons started setting fruit. When the melons and corn are harvested the land can be disc and produce a new green manure crop in the coming spring.

"When worked properly the vetch will produce two crops of fertilizer a year, when grown in the orchard and no other crop is wanted. After we get a heavy stand we can disc or plow it in the spring and disc it again in August. I believe that after we learn more about the ways and habits of the plants that we can

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