

HAPPENINGS FROM AROUND OREGON

OREGON'S NEW WATER CODE.

Methods of Registering Water Rights Under State Law

Salem—The following statement was prepared by State Engineer John H. Lewis to refute some of the charges that the new water law passed by the legislature last year is too intricate and cumbersome:

"The assertion has been made that the Oregon water code is so intricate and restrictive in its operation as to prevent or greatly check the use of streams either for power or for irrigation.

"For the purpose of throwing some light on this subject a summary of the filings made under this law in the state engineer's office between February 24 and December 31, 1909, has been made.

"A total of 464 applications for permits to appropriate water have been filed, the estimated cost of the proposed work, as given by the applicants, amounting to \$30,000,000. The magnitude of these figures can be appreciated when it is remembered that \$2,100,000 represented the total cost of all irrigation works prior to 1902, according to the United States census, and it is believed that \$6,000,000 will fully cover all expenditures made since such date, including those of the government.

"The fees paid to the state in connection with these filings amount to \$9,700, a sum which more than covers the cost to the general taxpayer of the state engineer's department. No complaint as to excessive fees or unreasonable regulations or restrictions has been heard. Water right records are necessarily more complicated than land records, and the applicant, or rather those which have appeared at the office, seem to think the cost does not exceed the benefits. Sixty-two of the 464 applications have been canceled from the records and the water is subject to reappropriation.

"The water code makes no annual charge for the use of water for power development, but limits the franchise or right to a period of 40 years, subject to a preference right of renewal under the laws then existing. It should not be confused with a separate law which provides for an annual tax of 25 cents to \$2 upon each horsepower developed. But little complaint as to the excessive amount of these fees has been heard from the small appropriator who intends to apply the power to his own use. It is different, however, with the large appropriator and its retarding influence is reflected in the small number of such filings made under this law. Only a few of the small appropriators have paid the tax in response to notices sent out prior to January 2.

"Forty-nine petitions for the determination of water rights on various streams of the state have been filed with the board of control. This board is composed of the state engineer and the division superintendent of each of the two divisions into which the state is divided. Surveys have been completed and testimony taken on nine of these streams. All irrigated lands, power plants, ditches, etc., along 11 other streams have been located and mapped during the past season by the state engineer. In all, 57,500 acres of irrigated land have been accurately measured and mapped, at a cost of 7½ cents per acre.

"The most important of these streams are the Umatilla river and all its tributaries, Crooked river, Squaw creek and Tualum creek, in Crook county, Willow creek in Morrow county, and Willow creek in Malheur county, also Little Butte creek in Jackson county. The popularity of the law with respect to the adjudication of old rights has far exceeded the expectation of the legislature, as the appropriation for the state engineer's office is so limited that surveys cannot keep pace with demands.

"No right to the use of water can be acquired except by application to, and the issuance of a permit, by the state engineer. The records as summarized above and the experience of this office during the ten months of 1909 during which the water code has been in effect, leads to the conclusion that this law is entirely satisfactory to the prospective investor and settler. It has already stimulated the development of the state through irrigation. Power filings and doubtless power development has been somewhat retarded by the annual tax provided for in a separate law. Complaints as to this feature should not be directed against the water code."

To Pipe Water in Farming Section

Hood River—The Hood River Farmers' Irrigating company will hold a special election March 5 to consider the matter of piping their irrigating system through the farming section of the valley. The election has been called by 74 of the stockholders who signed a petition asking for the meeting. It is known that the majority of the present board of directors are not in favor of piping the system at this time on account of the expense.

To Investigate Oregon Electric.

Salem—The railroad commission upon its own motion has ordered an investigation into passenger accommodations furnished by the Oregon Electric Railway company. The investigation will include both car conveniences and depot accommodations such as are required of other railroads operating in Oregon.

BIG DEVELOPMENT SCHEME.

Company Applies for Blanket Franchise in Two Counties.

Medford—It is reported that the American Development company has applied for a blanket franchise for a trolley line over all the roads of Jackson and Josephine counties. A certain degree of mystery surrounds the company in that those whose names appear on the articles of incorporation recently filed, refuse to divulge the identity of their associates who are supposed to be furnishing the financial backing.

As yet the principal work of the corporation, it appears, has been to secure water rights on the Rogue river in the vicinity of Sam's valley, about 15 miles north of Medford, in Jackson county, and to close contracts for 15,000 acres of land to be included in an extensive irrigation project, the water supply for which is to be obtained from Rogue river.

From various sources it has been ascertained that the contracts for lands covering an area of 15,000 acres have been secured quietly during the past several months, and that water rights on the Rogue river have also been obtained to insure a sufficient quantity of water for the irrigation of orchards, it being ostensibly the intention to provide for the irrigation of the land and its promotion on the market in small tracts.

The land in the vicinity of Sam's valley and Eagle Point is a veritable desert, but once irrigated, it is said, it would become most productive, and as the Rogue river has a strong flow of water with a good fall, it is believed by those having observed the contour of the land that irrigation is feasible.

The object of securing franchises to build railways on county roads, is taken to be part of the scheme for placing the land within easy reach, if placed under water and thrown on the market.

Lakeside Creamery Will Be Improved
Marshfield—Green & Foster, of San Francisco, have purchased the Lakeside creamery. The firm owns about 25 similar plants along the coast. The new management has agreed to thoroughly equip the plant. They have plans laid to make it the finest creamery on the coast. The new machinery will cost about \$6,000. Besides this equipment the company has two milk boats, which have been put in first class condition for collecting the milk.

Big Price for Apple Land.

Hood River—The Eaton ranch on the East side has been purchased by J. H. Day, of Portland, for \$30,000. This is one of the best orchards in the valley, having been planted by B. E. Duncan and later sold to Wyman and George Eaton. It consists of a fraction over 21 acres and is in apple trees ranging from four to eight years old.

223 Acres Bring \$31,500.

Hood River—E. Brong of Portland, has closed a deal through B. E. Duncan & Co., of Hood River for 223 acres of fine orchard land two miles east of Mosier. The price paid was \$31,000. One hundred acres are improved. The tract formerly belonged to George Selinger.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices—Bluestem, \$1.13@1.13½; club, \$1.06; red Russian, \$1.04; valley, \$1.05; 40-fold, \$1.10.

Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$31.50 per ton.

Hay—Track prices—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$20@21 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$22@23; alfalfa, \$17@18; California alfalfa, \$16@17; clover, \$15@16; grain hay, \$16@18.

Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$1.25@1.30 box; pears, \$1.50@1.75; cranberries, \$8@9 per barrel.

Potatoes—Carload buying prices—Oregon, 70@75c per sack; sweet potatoes, 2½@3c per sack.

Vegetables—Cabbage, \$1.50@2 per hundred; turnips, \$1.25 per sack; rutabagas, \$1@1.25; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.

Butter—City creamery extras, 37@38c; fancy outside creamery, 35@36c; store, 20@23½c per pound. Butter fat prices average 1½c per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, 27½@28c per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream twins, 19@20c per pound, young Americans, 20@21c.

Pork—Fancy, 12@12½c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 12@12½c per pound.

Poultry—Hens, 17½@18c; springs, 17½@18c; ducks, 20@22c; geese, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 22½@24c; dressed, 25@29c; squabs, \$3 per dozen.

Hops—1909 crop, prime and choice, 20@22c; 1908s, 17½c; 1907s, 11½c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c per pound; mohair, choice, 25c.

Casaca bark—4½@5c per pound.

Hides—Dry hides, 18@18½c per pound; dry kip, 18@18½c per pound; dry calfskin, 19@21c; salted hides, 10@10½c; salted calfskin, 15c per pound; green, 1c less.

Cattle—Best steers, \$5.50@5.75; fair to good steers, \$4.50@5; strictly good cows, \$4.50@4.75; fair to good cows, \$3.75@4; light calves, \$5.50@6; heavy calves, \$4@5; bulls, \$3.50@3.75; stags, \$3@4.

Hogs—Top, \$9@9.25; fair to good hogs, \$8.50@8.75.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$6@6.25; fair to good wethers, \$5@5.50; good ewes, \$6; lambs, \$6@6.50.

PLANS FOR STRONGER NAVY.

Battleship to Cost \$18,000,000—Submarines for Pacific.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Secretary Meyer, of the navy department, is said to have told the house naval committee today of plans of building a world's record-breaking battleship of 32,000 tons displacement at a cost of \$18,000,000 and making the United States the leading naval power.

Members of the committee said that the secretary's radical plans were favorably received by the committee. The secretary did not refer to naval strength in numbers of ships or armament, but to various features of improvement of the efficiency of ships and guns.

The building of the proposed giant battleship is delayed until next year only because the naval experiments with 14-inch guns have not been completed, and the department desires to know the result of full experiments. Tentatively, it is planned to arm the great battleship with a battery of fourteen 14-inch guns of the latest type.

The secretary said that plans for enlargement of all the drydocks of the country, as outlined to the committee some weeks ago, were made in contemplation of the great enlargement of the battleships and he wanted the docks built to accommodate ships of great size.

It was tentatively agreed that the naval increase this year, based on the secretary's recommendations, shall be as follows: Two 27,000-ton battleships, equipped either with 12 or 14-inch guns; one regular ship, two colliers and five submarines.

The submarines are for the Pacific coast, and are the first of a fast fleet of these vessels which will be provided in the next few years. The plan to place ten additional submarines on the Pacific coast next was considered favorably.

These submarines will be one of the fastest yet launched, and will be capable of making a speed under water of 12 knots an hour.

A member of the committee said that the government had unofficial information to the effect that Japan is laying the keels of two great battleships approaching the 32,000 ton limit. He said the tonnage of the great battleship under consideration would depend to a great extent upon the weight of the batteries of the huge 14-inch guns, which would be placed on this ship.

AVALANCHE BURIES 75.

Town of Mace, Idaho, Said to Be Scene of Disaster.

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 28.—With a roar that could be heard in Wallace, five miles distant, an avalanche overwhelmed the town of Mace, Idaho, last night, and 75 people are believed to be buried under tons of snow and debris. Telephone messages from Wallace say that the slide occurred at 11:30 o'clock. Rescue parties started at once from Wallace to the scene of the disaster. A special relief train was also started out from Spokane.

Because of the deep snow and blocked condition of the road from Wallace to Mace, no details of the catastrophe have yet been received.

Heavy snow has been falling in Northern Idaho during the past week, and with the thaw which began yesterday conditions were favorable for just such a disaster which has overwhelmed the little town.

Walla Walla, Wash., Feb. 28.—A

special dispatch at 3 a. m. says that five hundred rescuers have taken out seven dead bodies while 25 men, women and children were taken from the slide alive, that occurred at Mace last night. It is known that 100 additional are dead.

The slide is half a mile long and 30 feet deep. The first train bearing the 25 injured left Mace for Wallace at 2:25 a. m.

Additional rescuers are being sent to the scene on a train now being made up here.

"Corpse" Comes to Life.

Brookville, Ind., Feb. 28.—Popular misconception of the coroner's law newly permitted the body of Miss Olive Sanders to be frozen in a snow-bank today. Miss Sanders' sister missed Olive from the house and found her, seemingly dead, lying in the snow in the barnyard. It took two hours to get the coroner, and the body lay where it was found. He "viewed" the body and it was carried into the house. The undertaker was called to prepare it for burial. At this stage Miss Sanders revived.

Blue Book Names Picked.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—A man who had prepared from Chicago's "bluebook" a long list of wealthy people from whom, the police assert, he intended to extort money, was arrested tonight after he had held up and robbed Dr. B. H. Chamberlain. Later the robber was identified as Edwin English. In his possession were found a burglar's kit and letters addressed to wealthy Chicagoans. One letter demanded \$3,700 from Dr. D. K. Pearsons.

Butte Strike May Soon End.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 28.—A settlement of the strike of mine engineers is expected soon. Mat Commerford, president of the International Steam Engineers' union, tonight stated that he had submitted a proposition to end the trouble to the officials of the Butte Miners union, which proposition he expected they would accept.

The Redemption of David Corson

By CHARLES FREDERIC GOSS

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CHAPTER XXII.—(Continued.)

The people gathered as they did at that other service when David made the address to which Peepeta had listened with such astonishment and rapture. The entire community of Friends was there, for even Quakers cannot entirely repress their curiosity. There was evidence of deep feeling and even of suppressed excitement. The men in their broad-brimmed hats, the women in the poke bonnets, moved with an almost unseemly rapidity through the evening shadows. The pairs and groups conversed in rapid, eager whispers. They did not linger outside the door, but entered hastily and took their places as if some great event were about to happen.

There was a preliminary service of worship, and according to custom, opportunity was given for prayer or exhortation. But all minds were too intent upon what was to follow to enable them to take part with spirit. The silences were frequent and tedious. The young people moved restlessly on their seats, and their elders rebuked them with silent glances of disapproval. All were in haste, but nothing can really upset the gravity of these calm and tranquil people, and it was not until after a suitable time had elapsed that the leader of the meeting arose and said: "The time has arrived when David and Peepeta are at liberty to proceed with their marriage, unless there be some one who can show just cause why this rite should not be solemnized."

A flutter ran through the assembly, and a moment of waiting ensued; then David rose, while every eye was fixed on him.

"My friends," he said, in a voice whose gentleness and sweetness stirred their hearts; "you have refrained from inquiring into the story of my life during the three years of my absence. I would be glad if I could withhold it from your knowledge; but I feel that I must make a confession of my sins."

In the death-like stillness he began. The narrative was in itself dramatic, but the deep feeling of him who told it, his natural oratory and the hearers' intent interest, lent to it a fascination that at times became almost unendurable. Sighs were often heard, tears were furtively wiped away, criticism was dismissed, and the tenderness of this illicit but passionate and determined love, blinded even those calm and righteous listeners to its darker and more desperate phases. By an almost infallible instinct he discovered true love amid flattery, unworthy and evil elements; and when seen there is something so sublimely beautiful that we prostrate ourselves before it and believe against evidence, even, that sooner or later it will ennoble and consecrate those who feel it.

When David had completed the narrative he continued as follows: "It is now necessary that I should convince you, if I can, that with my whole soul I have repented of this evil that I have done, and that I have sought, and I hope obtained, pardon for what is irreparable, and am determined to undo what I can. It is with awe and gratitude, my friends, that I acknowledge the aid of heaven. From the logical and well-deserved consequences of this sin I did not escape alone! I was snatched from it like a brand from the burning! No mortal mind could have planned or executed my salvation. It is marked by evidences of Divine power and wisdom. Through a series of experiences almost too strange to be credible, I have been drawn back here to the scenes of my childhood, to encounter the one I have wronged and to find myself, so far as I know, able not only to make reparation, but to enjoy the bliss of a love of which I am unworthy. If I were wise enough, I would set before you the spiritual heart so young, so pure, so true was I am not. Three years ago I stood here in boyish confidence and boldly expounded the mysteries of our human life. It is only when we know nothing of life that we feel able to interpret it! Now that I have seen it, tasted it, drunk the cup almost to the dregs—I am speechless. Three facts, however, stand out before my vision—sin, punishment, pardon! I have sinned; I have suffered; I have been forgiven. I have been fully pardoned, but I feel that I have not been fully punished! There are issues of such an experience as this that cannot be brought to light in a day, a year, perhaps not in a lifetime. Whatever they are, I must await them and meet them; but as it is permitted a man to know his own mind, when he is determined so to do, I know that I have turned upon this sin with loathing! If God permits me to live quietly and patiently my spiritual strength that I can go forth into the great world of sorrow and of sin which I have seen, and extend to others a hand of helpfulness such as was stretched out to me at the moment of my need; but if there is any one here to whom God has given a message for me, whether it be to approve or condemn my course, I trust that I shall have grace to receive it meekly."

He took his seat, and it seemed for a few moments that every person in the room had yielded heart and judgment to this noble and modest appeal. But there was among them one whose stern and unyielding sense of justice had not been appeased. He was a man who had often suffered for righteousness' sake and who attached more value to the testimony of a clear conscience than to any earthly dignity. He slowly and solemnly rose. His form was like that of a prophet of ancient days. His deep-set eyes glowed like two bright stars under the cloudy edge of his broad-brimmed hat. His

face was emaciated with a self-denial that bordered upon asceticism, and with a ceaseless contemplation of the problems of life, death and immortality. Not a trace of tender emotion was evident on features, which might have been carved in marble. It was impossible to conceive that he had ever been young, and there seemed a bitter irony in the effort of such a man to judge the cause of a love like that which pleaded for satisfaction in the hearts of David and Peepeta, and to pronounce upon the destinies of those whose souls were still throbbing with passion.

But such was the purpose of the man. His first words sounded on the stillness like an alarm bell and shook the souls of listeners with a sort of terror. "We did not seek to try this cause," he said. "It was brought before us by the wish of this sinful man himself. But if we must judge, let us judge like God! We read of Him—that he 'lays righteousness to the line and judgment to the plummet.' Let us do the same. That a great wrong hath been done is evident to every mind. It is not meet that such wrongs should go unpunished! These two transgressors have suffered; but who believes that such wrongs may justly be so soon followed by felicity? It would be an encouragement to evil-doers and a premium upon vice! Who would refrain from violently rending the marriage bonds or sundering any sacred tie, if in a few short months the fruit of the guilty deed might be eaten in peace by the culprit? What assurance may we have that the lesson which has been but superficially grasped on this guilty heart may not be obliterated in the enjoyment of triumph? Why should these youths make such unseemly haste? If they are indeed in earnest to seek the truth and lay to heart the meaning of this experience into which their sinful hearts have led them, let them of their own accord and out of their humble and contrite hearts devote a year to meditation and prayer. Let them show to others they have learned that to live righteously and soberly, and not to grasp ill-gotten gains or enjoy unhalloved pleasures, is the chief end of human life! The hour is ripe for such a demonstration. We have seen other evidences among us of an unholy hungering after the unlawful pleasures of life. It is time that a halt were called. If this community is dedicated to righteousness then let us exalt the standard. It is at critical moments like this that history is made and character formed. If we weaken now, if we permit our hearts to overpower our consciences, God will smite us with His wrath, vice will rush upon us like a flood, and we shall be given over to the lust of the flesh and the pride of life! 'To the law and to the testimony, my brethren.' This is my message! This is the advice ye have invited! Wait a year! Watch and pray! Fit yourselves for the enjoyment of your love by repentance."

The impression made by these solemn words was tremendous. It was as if eternity had suddenly dawned in that dim-lit room, and the leaves of the book of doom had been opened.

Upon Peepeta this message had fallen like a thunderbolt. Her Oriental imagination, her awakened conscience, her throbbing heart had all been thrilled. She did not move; her eyes were still fixed on the prophet; her face was white; her hands were clasped tightly in her lap.

The demure Quaker maiden who had looked love out of her dove-like eyes three years ago when Peepeta appeared for the first time among these quiet folk, was in her old familiar seat. Her life had never been the same since that hour, for the man whom she loved with all the deep intensity of which a capable, but young, so pure, so true was she had been suddenly stolen from her by a stranger. Her thwarted love had never found expression, and she had borne her pain and loss as became the child of a religion of silence, patience and fortitude. But she was compelled to be a sad and hopeless spectator of another scene which sealed her fate and made her future hopeless. Her bonnet hid the sad face from view, as her heart hid its secret.

The soul of David Corson had passed through one of those genuine and permanent revolutions which sometimes take place in the nature of man. He had completed the cycle of revolt and anarchy to which he had been condemned by his inheritance from a wild and profligate father. Whether that fever had run its natural course or whether as David himself believed, he had been rescued by an act of divine intervention, it is certain that the change was as actual as that which takes place when a grub becomes a butterfly. It was equally certain that from this time onward it was the mental and spiritual characteristics of his mother which manifested themselves in his spiritual evolution. He became his true self—a saint, an ascetic, a mystic, a potential martyr.

When he rose to his feet, his face shined with an inward light and glowing with a sublime purpose, all believed that he was about to summon Peepeta to their marriage. What was the astonishment, then, when in rapid words he began:

"God has spoken to my friends. We have heard his voice. It is too soon for me to enjoy this bliss! Yes, I will wait! I will dedicate this year to meditation and prayer. Peepeta, wilt thou join me in this resolution? If thou wilt, let the betrothal of this night be one of soul to soul and both our souls to God! Give me thine hand. Still under the spell of strange ges-

tural emotions to which her sensitive spirit vibrated like the strings of an Aeolian harp, Peepeta rose, and, placing her hands in those of her lover, looked up into his face with a touching confidence, an almost adoring love. It was more like the bridal of two pure spirits than the betrothal of a man and woman!

Not one of those who saw it has ever forgotten that strange scene; it is a tradition in that community until this day. They felt, and well they might, those strange people who had dedicated themselves and their children to the divine life, that in this scene their little community had attained the zenith of its spiritual history.

No wonder that from an English statesman this eulogy was once wrung: "We cannot afford to persecute the Quakers! Their religion may be wrong, but the people who cling to an idea are the very people we want. If we must persecute—let us persecute the complacent!" (To be continued.)

WOES OF AMBASSADORS' WIVES.

Socially Ambitious Countrymen Desire to Shake Hands with Royalty.

The American ambassador's wife is usually very patriotic, although I am aware that many people question it, says a writer in the *Delinquent*. She is proud of the reputation her countrywomen have established abroad for cleverness and beauty, and is willing to go out of her way to give as many of them as possible the eclat and excitement of going to court.

But, according to etiquette, she can make but two or three presentations at each court and these must be approved by the court chamberlain, while there are sometimes a hundred applicants. She cannot present a woman who has been divorced or been in any way connected with a social scandal. She cannot present the daughter of the most influential politician if she is socially impossible. A politician who can stalk through the departments at Washington in a free and easy way and make every man from the President down feel his importance, can sometimes get nothing for his family from the ambassadors.

A great deal of trouble comes through the letters of introduction which the State Department gives to such men for their wives and daughters. The men demand them and the department is not in a position to refuse, although it is well understood between the department and the embassy that the letter means nothing, that it has, as it were, been obtained by coercion. But the woman who brings it over often goes home in a towering rage of disappointment.

Until a few years ago some of the Governors of the different States kept printed forms which were filled out upon application to any respectable person who applied, recommending them to the courtesy of our foreign representatives. But these letters were so numerous that they became a veritable nuisance and the State Department ordered them discontinued.

Capital as Blacksmith Shop.

"The old capital of the 'State of Franklin,' at Jonesboro, Tenn., is still standing," said P. M. Merrill, of Knoxville, Tenn., in the *Washington Post*. "The one-time capitol of the State of Franklin is merely a one-story, small, tumble-down log cabin. In a bad state of dilapidation, but many historical memories of the hardy North Carolina and Tennessee pioneers cluster around it."

"Few people outside of the immediate neighborhood of East Tennessee ever heard of the State of Franklin. There is very little about it, even in the larger histories of the United States. The State of Franklin was organized by 300 pioneers from North Carolina about the time of the Revolutionary War, and actually existed for about four years. John Sevier, a celebrated pioneer and once Governor of Tennessee, was the first and only Governor of Franklin, for North Carolina sent troops that suppressed the Franklin government and cast Governor Sevier into jail, though he was soon released.

"This is the only instance I ever heard of where a State was established in this country and afterward abolished. The ancient capitol of the State of Franklin was used the last time I saw it for a blacksmith shop."

A Censorious Observer.

"Of course," said the sentimentalist, "knowledge is power. But the heart is more important than the head."

"Very true," answered Miss Cayenne. "If as many people died of head failure as die of heart failure the country would lose an enormous element of its population."—*Washington Star*.

Polar Etiquette.

"Madam, could you spare a handout or cold bite. I was wif' de man dat discovered de pole."

"Where's your proofs?"

"De proper thing, mum, is to provide de banquet, and den ask for de proofs."—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

The Hebo.

The Stranger—I was with Cook, he latitude.

The Farmer—Geel! Don't you g' called a liar often enough without gettin' inter that mess?—*Cleveland Leader*.

After the Storm.

Wife—In a battle of tongues a woman can hold her own.

Husband—M'yes, y'pays she can! but she never does.—*Tit-Bits*.

The United States have 300,000,000 apple trees.