

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

CLACKAMAS FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Wages and Assessments.

Communicating about his office a few days ago County Clerk Slight upon some official records that contain some interesting statistics with reference to Clackamas county in the year 1850. They consist of some statistics compiled by Joseph T. Meek, who was territorial marshal for Clackamas county in June, 1850. In that year the assessable value of property in the county was \$1,020,344, classified as follows: Real estate, \$536,600; personal, \$183,594. The schedule of wages paid at that time was as follows: The average monthly wage to farm hands, including board, was \$4; the average wages paid day laborers with board was \$4, with board \$6; average daily wages of carpenters, \$12; board per week for men employed \$8. The average monthly wage in the county at that time was \$200,000. Oregon Spectator, Territorial and Idea Star, Multnomah. An idea of the value and profit in the lumber industry at that early date may be gathered from the statistics which show that Benjamin Simpson from 1850 to 1851, for which he paid \$3 each, had a salable value of \$75 per acre.

COLUMBIA COUNTY FILLING UP.

County Seat Election Shows Large Increase of Voters.

Returns from the late special election indicate that the voting population of Columbia county has increased several hundred since the general election held a little over a year ago. While it is true that much of this increased vote is due to the payment of an increased number of lands in sawmills and logging camps, many of them single men, it is evident that there is a considerable increase in the number of families which have become actual residents. School Superintendent Cope has received complete returns from almost every school district in the county, and now estimates that there are 250 more children of school age than were shown by the census of last year. Reports from every section of the county indicate that new settlers from the East are arriving, the majority of them expect to become permanent residents.

Heavy Sales of Live Stock.

The sale of sheep, cattle and horses in the Oregon ranges this fall will be the heaviest in years. This is the opinion of C. J. Millis, who has charge of the stock department of the O. R. He has been over a large portion of the ranges and reports that there will be a large sale of stock this fall. Large amounts of cattle were made from district last spring and Mr. Millis expects that still larger shipments will be made this fall. He says a large amount of stock will have to be taken out of the country in order to make up for the shortage of the feed crop. The shortage of feed in some sections is probably due to a lack of rain.

Wool Prices are Climbing.

Due to the shortage of wool in Montana and Utah the prices of wool in Eastern Oregon will be higher than has been anticipated. At the large sale held at Ontario a short time ago wool sold at from 13 to 14 cents. It did not sell and since that time prices have sold at 15 cents. The prices are still going up. Some of the fine sheep and wool men say the season is exceptionally short this year, as there has been scarcely any rain since spring. Everything is dried up. There is lots of stock in the district, and it is feared by the owners there will be large losses this year if next season does not start soon.

Quarrying Rock for the Jetty.

Work on opening the rock quarry at Bugby is progressing rapidly and 50 additional men have been put to work there. Great difficulty is being encountered at the quarry as well as at the jetty in securing enough laborers, as many of them feel too rich to work there. They loaf until they spend a few dollars, and they are now being sent to the mill, and each makes round trips to the jetty daily, so a large amount of rock is being delivered.

Will Enlarge Baker City Depot.

In response to the crying needs of Baker City the O. R. & N. Company has decided to enlarge and improve the passenger and freight depot at that city. Material for the improvements is now on the ground and just as soon as the carpenters can be relieved from the Heppner branch the work will be commenced. The improvement will consist in the enlargement of the depot building, so as to permit of the addition of a separate waiting room for ladies.

Great Boom to Ontario.

The contract for building the new steel bridge across the Malheur river, near where it empties into Snake river, about two miles below Ontario, has been let. The price is \$4100. This bridge will supply a long-felt need. It gives an opportunity for the people living on Dead Ox Flat of coming to Ontario to do their trading without going about ten miles above Ontario to the Halliday bridge.

Surveying Soil of Baker County.

Charles A. Jensen, of the department of agriculture, bureau of soils, has been sent out to make a survey of the soils of Baker county. He has established his headquarters at Haines, and is now actively engaged in the work. It is thought this is one of the preliminary steps to government-aided irrigation.

LOG BOOM ON NORTH UMPQUA.

Franchise Granted for Extensive Improvements by County Court.

One of the most important steps made in the development of the lumbering industry in Douglas county was taken when the county court voted to grant a franchise to the Oregon Boom & Timber Company for cleaning out the obstructions in the North Umpqua river and preparing that stream for the floating of logs and timber. This franchise gives the company the right to use that stream in the manner mentioned on the west boundary line of the Cascade forest reserve to the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad at Winchester, five miles north of Roseburg. After the improvements are made the company is given the right to collect a maximum toll of 50 cents per thousand feet for floating logs for other persons in compensation for the outlay in improving the stream. The estimated cost of the improvements is \$200,000. Besides improving the stream, the company expects to erect a sawmill of 100,000 feet daily capacity at Winchester, to be ready for use as soon as logs can be floated, and other parties also expect to erect sawmills and woodworking plants at the same place. New York capitalists are backing the enterprise, their representative, F. J. Blakely, having been here most of the time for the past two years.

PUBLIC LAND STILL OPEN.

Nearly 600,000 Acres Remain in Oregon City District.

The annual report of the United States land office at Oregon City has been completed. Fourteen counties are embraced in the Oregon City district and the report gives the following statistics as to area in acres unappropriated and unreserved: Surveyed, 455,048; unsurveyed, 141,500; total, 596,548 as against 537,279 surveyed; 161,190 unsurveyed; 898,469 total, as shown in the report a year ago. The 14 counties constituting the Oregon City land district are: Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Crook, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Wasco, Yamhill and Washington. The total area of the land surface of these counties is 7,468,250 acres. The area in acres appropriated last year was 5,675,115, while the acreage under the same classification this year is 5,529,846.

Outlook for County Seat Fight.

County Judge J. B. Doan, whose home is at Rainier, says that St. Helens will have to receive over 1000 votes at the second special election on the first Monday in August to retain the county seat, as it is evident that 2000 votes will be polled as the outcome of the present contest. Judge Doan also expresses the opinion that Marshland and Oak Point precincts, which gave a part of their vote to Clatskanie, at the first special election, will go solid for Rainier.

Union County Cherry Crop.

The cherry crop is just coming in in Union county. There were reports early in the season that this crop would be very short, but, as with the other products of this county, the prospects get brighter as harvest time approaches. The indications now are that the yield will not be far below the average. There will probably be about 15,000 boxes of the fruit handled there this season.

Electric Power for Lane County.

The Lane County Electric Company has begun work on its new power station to be erected at Springfield. The immense boilers have arrived and will at once be put in place, the foundation being nearly completed. The power plant will be one of the finest in the state, and current will be generated and sold for all purposes in Eugene and Springfield.

Call for Union County Warrants.

County Treasurer John Frawley has issued a call for all warrants of Union county issued prior to January 13, 1908.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 70¢/74¢; valley, 77¢.
Barley—Feed, \$20.00 per ton; brewing, \$21.
Flour—Best grades, \$3.95 @ 4.30; graham, \$3.45 @ 3.85.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$23 per ton; middlings, \$27; shorts, \$23; chop, \$18.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10 @ 1.15; gray, \$1.05 per cental.
Hay—Timothy, \$20 @ 21; clover, nominal; cheat, \$15 @ 16 per ton.
Potatoes—Best Burpinks, 50¢ @ 65¢ per sack; ordinary, 35¢ @ 45¢ per cental; growers' prices; Mercers sweets, \$3 @ 3.50 per cental.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 10¢ @ 11¢; young, 13¢ @ 14¢; hens, 12¢; turkeys, live, 16¢ @ 17¢; dressed, 20¢ @ 22¢; ducks, \$7.00 @ 7.50 per dozen; geese, \$6.00 @ 6.50.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15¢ @ 16¢; Young Americas, 15¢ @ 15¢; factory prices, 14¢ @ 15¢ less.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 20¢ @ 22¢ per pound; extras, 22¢; dairy, 20¢ @ 22¢; store, 16¢ @ 18¢.
Eggs—17¢ @ 20¢ per dozen.
Hops—Choice, 18¢ @ 20¢ per pound.
Wool—Valley, 12¢ @ 17¢; Eastern Oregon, 8¢ @ 14¢; mohair, 35¢ @ 37¢.
Beef—Steers, cows, 3¼¢ @ 4¢, per pound; goats, 5¢ @ 5½¢; dressed, 8¼¢.
Veal—7½¢ @ 8¢.
Mutton—Gross, \$3.50 per pound; dressed, 6¢ @ 6½¢.
Lamb—Gross, 4¢ per pound; dressed, 7¼¢.
Hogs—Gross, 6¢ @ 6½¢ per pound; dressed, 7¢ @ 9¢.

DEATH ENDS EXCURSION.

Fast Train Crashes into Trainload of Negroes With Fatal Results.

Kansas City, Mo., July 15.—Missouri Pacific fast mail No. 7, which left St. Louis at 3 o'clock this morning for Kansas City, crashed into an excursion south bound from Kansas City, that had become stalled at "Dead Man's Curve" between Little Knob and Lee Summit, at 10:25 this morning. Three persons were killed, two of them tramps, and 50 were injured. With the exception of one or two of the crew on the fast mail, all the injured were on the excursion train. Most of them were Kansas City negroes. Eighteen were seriously hurt. The injuries of the others consisted of cuts and bruises. None of the passengers on the fast mail were hurt.

The engine, the mail and baggage cars on the fast mail went down an embankment, but the rest of that train remained upright, as did the excursion train. Only the engine, one baggage car and a mail car on the fast mail left the track.

Responsibility for the wreck seems to rest with the engineer of the fast mail, who failed to stop promptly when flagged. The engine on the excursion train, which consisted of 12 coaches heavily loaded, broke down. A flagman was sent ahead to stop the fast mail then about due. The engineer of the fast mail failed to see the foremost flagman and only slackened up when warned by the second man, who was within a short distance of the excursion train. The fast mail was running at a high rate of speed and it was unable to come to a full stop. When the fast mail struck, it was making 15 miles an hour. The engine, the baggage car and the foremost mail car left the track and rolled down the embankment. The impact badly damaged the engine and baggage car of the excursion train, but the cars remained upright.

IDAHO LANDS ARE WITHDRAWN.

Geological Survey Will Pass on the Worth for Irrigation.

Washington, July 15.—The secretary of the interior today authorized the temporary withdrawal from all entry of three tracts of about 3,000 acres each, lying in the Blackfoot land district, Idaho, with a view to examination to determine their desirability as reserve sites. The first is known as the Henry lake reserve site. It lies in the northeast extremity of Fremont county and embraces the whole of Lake Henry. The second proposed reservoir lies 20 miles to the south, and is known as Island lake reservoir site, while the third, Flat Rock reservoir site, lies between the two named.

The geological survey, upon whose recommendation the withdrawal is made, is examining to determine the feasibility of the reclamation scheme in Fremont county, Idaho, the proposition being to store water in a series of natural reservoirs. These examinations will continue through the summer.

RIDE FOR LIFE ON CAR.

Fifteen People Escape From Fire Jump Into a Subway Excavation.

New York, July 15.—Fifteen persons have been hurt by falling into the subway excavation at Lexon avenue and One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, after jumping from a burning trolley car, on which they had a thrilling ride for several blocks, while the motorman was making desperate attempts to reach a fire engine house. The car was filled with about 80 passengers, mostly women and children. When they discovered the fire many tried to jump, but the motorman put on the full power. He had not gone two blocks before the car was enveloped in flames. The conductor saw that there was danger of burning the whole carload of passengers and rang the bell. The car came to a stop right over the excavations for the subway. The passengers piled off on top of one another. The planking over the hole collapsed and about 25 persons were carried down. Those on the bottom were severely bruised, but only one was in a serious condition.

To Inspect the Kearsarge.

Portsmouth, Eng., July 15.—The Prince of Wales arrived this evening for the inspection of Rear-Admiral Cotton's flagship Kearsarge. Ambassador Choate and secretary White traveled in the same train from London. Admiral Charles F. Hotham received them at the station and the whole party drove to the Admiralty house as the Admiral's guests. H. O. Arnold-Foster, parliamentary secretary to the admiralty, and other departmental officials have also arrived from London for tomorrow's inspections.

War in the Balkans.

Paris, July 15.—According to a dispatch from Constantinople published here, engagements have taken place between Turkish and Bulgarian troops on the frontier, which the Turks accuse the Bulgarians of crossing. On the other hand the Bulgarians assert that the Turks tried to occupy the neutral zone. The dispatch adds that a ministerial council was hurriedly summoned at the Yildiz Kiosk last night and more troops have been called.

For Cuban Loan.

Havana, July 15.—President Palma sent a message to congress recommending the appointment of a member of each house to act with an appointee of the executive commissioners to promote the United States and negotiate a loan of \$35,000,000. The senate held an extended session this evening but did not reach the matter of the ratification of the United States naval station treaty.

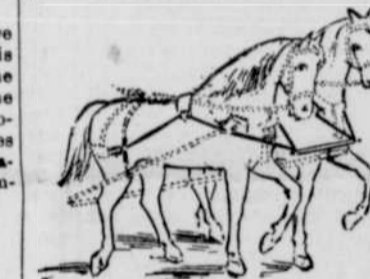


Growing the Best Apples.

As time goes on the consumers of fruit in large quantities, which are mainly found in large cities, are becoming educated to quality. The time has gone when they are deceived by appearance. The writer has seen many consumers go to stores for apples and taste several varieties before buying. In this way they learn to fight shy of such fine-looking fruit as the Ben Davis apple, which is so devoid of quality. Then there is a decided increase in the consumption of baked apples in restaurants and hotels, hence the owners of these places have learned to buy those varieties that have good quality rather than good appearance, and, as a rule, are quite willing to pay for what they want. Growers of fruit should take this lesson home and make up their minds that in future the consumer must be catered to if fruit is to be sold at a fair margin of profit. The question of grades must also have attention, for these city consumers who are willing to pay for quality want that quality in size and perfection of fruit as well as in the flavor. There is a market for second and third grades as well as the first grade, but they must be distinctly separated to bring the best returns for each.—Indianapolis News.

Attachment for Team Harness.

There are but very few of the articles used by our great-grandfathers which still retain their old form, with little change or improvement, but among this number may be counted the harness which is used on horses for hauling purposes. Practically the same pattern of harness has been used for many years past, while other things introduced with it have been altered beyond recognition or displaced altogether. That there was still a chance for improvement is shown by the picture here represented, illustrating a change in the construction of a heavy team harness, which will at least add to the comfort of the animal. The principal advantage of this arrangement is that it does away with the strap passing around the animal's body, which of necessity interfered



AFFORDS FREE MOVEMENT.

somewhat with the muscular exertion and added to the discomfort in hot weather. In this improvement a short curved strap is laid over the back, being held in place by a strap passing from the breeching to the collar, and only coming into play when the animals are backing. The traces are entirely free of the harness from collar to whiffletree, and afford a chance for a straight pull, without interference from any other portion of the harness. Frederick L. Ainsworth of Turner, Kansas, is the inventor.

Deep Plowing.

Much of the advice in favor of deep plowing is out of place on hill farms with the topsoil only six to eight inches deep. Plowing which brings much subsoil to the top is not desirable. But there are many fields with good depths of rich, dark loam that have never been properly worked. Such lands need never be called worn out until thorough plowing and harrowing again has enabled the plant roots to get at some of the locked-up fertility in the bottom layers. Simply to bring up the lower soil and then to turn it down again the following season is not needed so much as to thoroughly twist and fine the soil, exposing it to air and sun. For potatoes and root crops deep plowing is desirable, also to loosen the soil for root and tuber growth.—American Cultivator.

Silage and Stover.

Where it is desirable to somewhat husband the silage and get best results from cut stover the latter is more relished if mixed with the quantity of silage to be fed and allowed to lie covered with sacks or blankets from one feeding time until another.

If not to be used in connection with silage, if mixed with cut hay in quantity sufficient for several days' feeding and well moistened with water, and kept covered, or if treated so without being mixed with hay or other material, the cows will eat more and with much less waste than if fed dry.—National Stockman.

New Way to Make Butter.

L. H. Williams, vice president of the Akron (O.) Cold Distilling Company, claims to be the discoverer of a method of making butter without first removing the cream. He does not go into details, but says:

"The discovery is not one of mere chance, but is the result of a year's hard work. I was given the insight from our old distilling process and have spent much time and study on it. I have tested the machine before revision

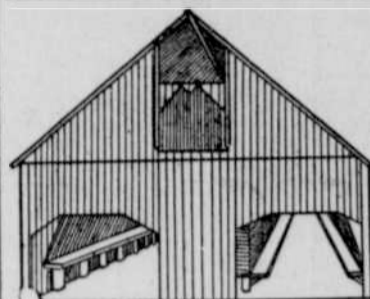
eral prominent capitalists of the city, and they are now back of me. We will build a plant and put the product on the market."—Creamery Journal.

Plan of Cattle Barn.

Eastman Bros., of Illinois, in the Breeder's Gazette, describe the plan of a cattle barn which they have used for several years.

The barn is 96 feet by 48 feet. It is a pole barn with posts 20 feet high, and a corncrib 80 by 12 feet runs through the center of the barn. The lower boards of the crib are hinged and feed boxes built on level with the crib bottom so as to make practically a self-feeder, especially when feeding shelled corn. Hogs sleep under the corncrib.

Hayracks on the sides are eighty feet long. Hay is put in at the ends of the barn. Sliding doors, controlled by weights, are used at the ends of the mow. They are closed when the hay is in the mow. There are doors along side of the haymow. When filling the mow we leave a space of four feet between the hay and the sides of the barn, which enables us to throw hay into the racks when feeding. The south end is open. The north end has doors which we close in bad weather. We have lots on the north, south and east of the barn and scales east of



THE EASTMAN BARN.

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Variations in Wood Ashes.

There is no commercial fertilizer that is more variable in composition than wood ashes, and while such ashes are valuable under certain conditions it is unsafe to buy them without first having the percentage of potash ascertained by analysis. Experiments have shown that there is a vast range in the percentage of potash in different samples of wood ashes, hence, without the analysis, as suggested, one may easily be led into paying double the value of the ashes. There is not so much variation in the phosphoric acid content, but as the chief need of the wood ashes is for the potash content, one easily sees the importance of being reasonably sure the ashes contain the desired proportion of potash. The value of this suggestion would be readily seen if the crop to be grown was potatoes, where if the ashes were used as a fertilizer at all they would be used almost wholly for the potash they contained.

Feeding Soft Corn.

Feeders who tried finishing cattle on soft corn reported very unsatisfactory results. But the Iowa experiment station recently marketed some cattle fed on soft corn alongside others fed on sound corn of the 1901 crop, and the results were decidedly favorable to the former feed. At the prices for soft and sound corn prevailing when the cattle were put on feed the advantage was with the lower priced corn. And the steers fed on it outdressed by a small margin those fed on sound corn. The difference in killing, however, is not greater than might occur in any two lots of cattle. Either the feeders have been wrong in their estimate of the value of soft corn or the Iowa station's experience is exceptional. Probably difference in the quality of the corn may account for it, as some feeders include in their definition of "soft" corn the light, chaffy, immature stuff of comparatively low feeding value.—Stockman and Farmer.

Use of the Currycomb.

If a curycomb must be used, have the smoothest one that can be found, and use it sparingly. In the hands of some men the curycomb is a barbarous instrument of torture. Applied with a long, sweeping motion, without regard to the shape of the body or the evenness with which it is held, will make a poor animal shrink and shiver. The skin is often seriously hurt by the angles of the comb when carelessly and heavily handled. A short motion, back and forth, does the work more effectively and humanely than the severe application of the comb described. The horse will learn not to dislike it if he finds he is not hurt.

Poultry in the South.

The South seems to be coming toward the front as a poultry section. In Georgia during the year 1900 there were 4,540,144 chickens over three months old, 103,416 turkeys, 208,997 geese and 64,806 ducks, all valued at \$1,458,055; the eggs produced were valued at \$1,615,538 and numbered 15,505,330 dozen. Alabama, although a smaller State, produced 18,778,980 dozen eggs, which were valued at \$1,825,978 during the same year.

Uniform Eggs for Hatching.

Don't try to hatch eggs from different classes of fowls at the same time. Hens' eggs and ducks' eggs, for instance, do not go well together. Neither do eggs from different classes, such as Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks. As a rule, dark-shelled eggs go well together, no matter what the breeds, and the same is true of white-shelled eggs.

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