OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

BIG PROFITS IN FARMING.

Willamette Valley Ranchers Will Do Well This Year.

Willamette valley farmers are rejoicing over the prospect for good profits in almost every thing they have to sell this year. Not only are prices good, but yields are large and as a consequence there will be more money in the valley this year than there has been for more than a decade before.

Wheat at Salem is quoted at 70 cents, with the mills paying a 2-cent premium. In ordinary years all above 60 cents would be clear profit, but because of the high wages paid to farm help this season it will take from 52 to 55 cents to pay the cost of production. The average yield, so far as can be learned, will be about 20 bushels to the acre or more. This means a clear profit of from $3 to $3.50 an acre on wheat, after allowing for all labor and expenses. Oats have turned out better in proportion than wheat, and the large yield, with a price of about 25 cents per bushel, will leave a good profit on that crop.

The season has been very favorable for hay, and yields have been good. The prices quoted at present are from $7 to $8 a ton in the local market for loose hay. Farmers say that about half of this price is profit. Yields run from two to three tons per acre, making this crop a better paying one than wheat.

Hops promise a price ranging from 5 cents upward, and it is generally figured that all above 8 cents is profit, though growers who hire all their work done and give their yards a good spraying say that the cost of production is 10 cents a pound. At any rate, there seems to be an excellent profit this year.

The prune crop is large, and though the domestic market has not opened, has been making sales at its own price, a 2¾-cent basis, which price leaves the grower a "better than fair" margin.

All through the year dairy products have brought an extraordinary price, and even country butter has found a ready market at paying figures. Woolgrowers sold their fleeces this year at a high price, and sheep have been in demand all through the year.

CATTLEMEN REFUSE TO SELL.

Despite Scarcity of Feed They Hold for Better Figures.

Never in the history of the country round Dale has the cattle market been as unsettled as it is at the present time. Prices offered by exporters are extremely low, and the cattle-raisers are refusing to sell.

Crowding on top of this, there is a scarcity of hay as compared with last year, and prices are running mountain high. Hay is selling in the field at $10 per ton, which is $4 higher than it was last fall. Cattle-raisers who have not a sufficient supply are trying to contract for all they can secure, but the farmer will not sell.

Again there are more cattle on the range this year than last, without sufficient feed for them. Notwithstanding the discouraging state of affairs which confront the cattleman, he is willing to wait for further developments.

The export cattle-buyers who have been in the country have had to go to other parts because they could not secure the cattle here. The buyers give Portland quotations here at $2.70 per hundred for cows and $3.35 for steers. The average is $3.75, and even better prices than that were received last year. If both the buyer and the seller continue to hold out, it is believed that there will be a number of forced sales on the part of the stockmen, and that they will sell at a loss to themselves.

No Grass to Fight Over.

There is no range war in the Upper Deschutes valley. On the contrary, there is the peace of desolation. The range was overstocked and eaten out and no grass worth making war over remains. Where neat cattle and horses once throve by the thousands there is now none too much feed for a few hundreds. Twenty years ago there was no finer grazing region in the United States. Men who now ride all day in a cloud of dust tell of the time when the grass was up to their knees as they bestrode their horses, and cattle fairly wallowed in the feed that covered the 30 miles of present desert between Bend and Prineville.

Cowlitz Navigation Obstructed.

During the recent freshets a sand bar formed at the mouth of the Cowlitz river which greatly hindered the operation of the plant belonging to the Columbia & Cowlitz River Boom Company. A dredge will shortly take the work of clearing the channel in hand, after which the company will put in two new piers and rearrange the sheer boom. When finished this boom will be one of the best on the Columbia river and will be of great assistance to the loggers

To Have Brand New School House.

Canyon City is to have a new and up-to-date school building that will be a credit to the town. The school authorities are advertising for bids for its construction. The building will be two stories high and will have four class and recitation rooms. Its cost will be about $3000.

President Smith Inspecting Farms.

E. L. Smith, of Hood River, president of the State Board of Horticulture, is in Coos county on a tour of inspection. While there Mr. Smith will visit most of the principal farms in the county.

Planing Mill Burned at Haines.

The Haines Lumber Company's planing mill, at Haines, was burned last week. The loss is $5000. The plant was owned by James Mitchell, of Baker City, who carried no insurance.

MAY BE FOREST RESERVE.

Commissioner Richards Gives Reasons for Withholding Large Tract.

Register Dresser, of the Oregon City land office, has received from Commissioner W. A. Richards, of the United States land office, a letter relative to the telegram of recent date withdrawing certain public lands in that district from settlement. The letter directs the withdrawal, temporarily, of all vacant unappropriated lands in townships 5 to 13 south, both inclusive, range 4 east, from settlement, entry, sale or other disposal, under the public land laws, pending the determination as to the advisability of including said area within the Cascade range forest reserve.

Regarding the rights of settlers who have already located on lands included in the specified area, Commissioner Richards says:

"Neither this temporary withdrawal, nor the permanent reserve of the lands which may follow, will affect any bona fide settlement or claim properly initiated upon the lands prior to the date hereof, provided that the settler or claimants continue to comply with the law under which their settlement or claims were initiated, and place their claims duly on record within the prescribed statutory period. The withdrawal operates to defeat all settlement claims or other claims initiated subsequent to this date, regardless of the date upon which you receive the telegram."

DAILY ATTENDANCE SMALLER.

Though Oregon's School Population Has Greatly Increased.

Superintendent of Public Instruction J. H. Ackerman has just finished compiling the annual school statistics as gathered from the reports recently filed in his office by the several county superintendents. As the reports for last year covered a period of 16 months, there is no basis for comparisons except in a few particulars.

The school census for the year ending in June, 1903, shows that there are in the state 143,757 persons between the ages of 4 and 20 years. At the same time last year the school population was 138,466, so that an increase of 5291 is shown.

The average daily attendance in all the public schools of the state during the preceding year has been 64,219, while for the preceding year it was 66,779, or a decrease of 2560. A decrease in the average daily attendance at the same time that there is an increase in the school population is probably due to the scarcity of labor and the high wages, which, together, take many of the older boys out of school during the greater part of the year.

Protest Against Withdrawals.

A special meeting of the Roseburg board of trade and citizens generally has been called to protest against the withdrawal of any more public lands from entry in that portion of the state. Other commercial bodies in the western part of Oregon will be invited to co-operate in protesting to the officials in Washington, D. C., and to our senators and representatives in congress against the further extension of our already immense forest reserves. Such recently proposed extensions will work serious hardships on many bona fide settlers now located on some of these lands,

To Clear Coos Bay Channel.

Replying to an earnest request submitted by Congressman Hermann, based upon a petition of the Coos Bay chamber of commerce, Secretary of War Root wires that he has apportioned $10,000 as an emergency aid for removing the recent shoal formation in the Coos ba yentrance channel, which delays deep-draft vessels. As the shoal is constantly enlarging, commerce there would have materially suffered had it been necessary to await congressional action.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 76@78c; bluestem, 78@81c; valley, 79@80c.

Flour—Valley, $3.60@3.85 per barrel; hard wheat straights, $3.60@3.85; hard wheat, patents, $4.10@4.50; graham, $3.35@3.75; whole wheat, $3.55@4.00; rye wheat, $4.00.

Barley—Feed, $20 per ton; brewing, $21; rolled, $21@21.50.

Oats—No. 1 white, $1.07½; gray, $1.05 per cental.

Millstuffs—Bran, $23 per ton; middlings, $27; shorts, $23; chop, $18; linseed dairy food, $18.

Hay—Timothy, old, $20 per ton; new, $14@15; clover, nominal; grain, $12; cheat, nominal.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@22½c per pound; dairy, nominal; store, 16@17c.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 14c; Young America, 14c; factory prices, 1@1½c less

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 11@11½c per pound; spring, 16@17½c; hens, 12@12½c; broilers, $2@3 per dozen; turkeys, live, 16@12c per pound; dressed, 14@15c; ducks, $4@5 per dozen; geese, $5@6.50.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 19@20c.

Potatoes—Old Burbanks, 70@75c per sack, growers' prices; new potatoes, Oregon, 80c@$1 per sack; California, 1c per pound.

Wheat Sacks—In lots of 100, 5½c.

Beef — Gross steers, $3.75@4.25; dressed, 6½@7½c per pound.

Veal—8c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, $3; dressed, 5½@6c; lambs, gross, $3 50; dressed, 7c.

Hogs—Gross, $5.50@5.75; dressed, 7c.

Hops—1902 crop, 15@16c per pound.

Tallow—Prime, per pound, 4@5c; No. 2 and grease, 2½@3c.

Wool — Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 35@37½c.

HEROINE OF A FEUD.

In the Midst of Persecutors She Obeys Honor's Dictates.

From one's reading of Kentucky mountain stories in newspapers and magazines he is accustomed to associate the women as well as the men, of those parts with uncouth dress, vulgar speech and habits anything but cleanly. The average female who dwells among the feudists is pictured in his mind as a tall and angular creature, who wears short skirts and chews tobacco; whose vocabulary of oaths is a varied one and who carries a gun and helps make moonshine whisky. This may be the typical mountain woman, but there is at least one wearer of petticoats in the Kentucky mountains who has education and refinement coupled with grit and determination which are truly phenomenal. Her name is Mrs. Elsie Ewen, and she lives at Jackson, Ky. Most women would run away and abandon such work as she is undertaking. Losing her home, having her husband made an exile wandering through the country dodging assassins, imaginary or real, she does not regret the steps he has taken.

MRS. J. B. EWEN.

Her husband, Capt. J. B. Ewen, had several contracts with large firms, from whom he borrowed money and whom he was paying back by loading lumber on cars. Among those for whom he worked were the Hargises, one of whom is a judge and friendly with Curtiss Jett, the man who shot Attorney Marcum. This assassination was witnessed by Capt. Ewen. He saw the bullet fired into the brain of the attorney, and, although offered $5,000 to swear that he did not see it and threatened with dire punishment if he told the truth, he followed his wife's advice and declared he would swear on the witness stand to what he had witnessed. A week later he was burned out of home and driven from town by threats of murder. His wife, however, stayed behind and will carry out her husband's contracts. The men whom she employs have been refused board, so she gives them shelter and meals. All her neighbors are hostile to her, but with her six children she feels she can carry out her plans. Two of her daughters are well educated girls and the others will be similarly trained.

GOD MOTHER OF BLAST FURNACES.

Miss Helen E. Reed of Sharpsville, Pa., is an unrivaled godmother of blast furnaces. All western Pennsylvania operators look upon her as the personification of good luck. She has started the fires in more furnaces than has

MISS HELEN E. REED.

any other young woman in the country, and the success that has attended the enterprises so inaugurated has been phenomenal.

Miss Reed's fame has extended beyond the borders of this State, and the last fiery christening over which she presided was in Toledo, Ohio. Nowadays Miss Reed's services are in great demand. Her home is in Sharpsville, where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philo Reed, reside.

The Trees We Read.

Nine successful novels recently published in the United States had a total sale of over 1,600,000 copies, says the Chicago Daily News. Since the average weight of each book sold was probably twenty ounces, a little calculation will prove that these 1,600,000 books contained approximately 2,000,000 pounds of paper. A manufacturer of papers asserts that the average spruce tree yields a little less than half a cord of wood, which is equivalent to about 500 pounds of paper. In other words, these nine novels swept away 4,000 trees, and they form but a small part of the fiction so eagerly read by the American public.

Albania.

Albania lies 180 miles on the Adriatic sea and is 50 to 100 miles wide. It was formed originally, says William Jackson Armstrong in his "Heroes of Defeat," from part of Illyria, all of Epirus and part of Macedonia in the Eleventh century. From this territory sprung Pyrrhus, who defeated the Roman invader Philip and Alexander of Macedon, the conqueror, and Perseus, whose fame as a soldier covered the world sixty years after Christ; and Scanderberg, who, for forty years, defeated armies sent against him by the Turk. Ancient Albania lay in Asia, just east of the Caucasus.

It Sometimes Happens that Way.

Tom—Why did he marry her?

Jack—He didn't. She married him.—Somerville Journal.

WOMAN'S REALM

Bossism in the Home.

At least, that is the happy conclusion drawn by Lavinia Hart, writing in Collier's Weekly on "Social Problems in the Home."

Most girls about to marry, says the writer, tell each of their girl friends, in strictest confidence, that they have made up their minds to be "boss."

All men about to marry swell with the consciousness that they were born to boss—and their lives must justify their birthright.

The attitude of the man is a relic of prehistoric times, when man considered himself the chosen sex, and woman was of a different mental and moral construction from the woman of today.

The attitude of the girl is more often a matter of self-defense. She makes what she considers deep deductions from the lives of married folk around her and decides that she must boss or be bossed. She chooses the former.

Sometimes she is very successful—as a boss. The man she marries is a peace-loving individual who would rather give in that have scenes. The species is seen much abroad. He has the out-habit and never goes home until all the other places are closed.

Sometimes she marries a man who also has the boss bee in his bonnet. This is very hard on the natives within hearing distance, and not easy for the children. With both parents bosses, one is apt to get petted or pounded to death. Time does not adjust cases of this kind, which go on until one boss or the other expires from the wear and tear of friction.

Then sometimes the girl who would be boss marries a man who never thought about being one of the chosen sex, who cares neither to boss nor be bossed, whose sole motive and every means are to make the girl he marries the happiest woman in the world. And if such a one's skill in loving be as great as his good intention, his wife forgets all about wanting to boss, she obeys his unspoken wish as he fulfills hers, they mutually serve and sacrifice and yield, their house progresses without a head, but with plenty of heart, without a master, but wholly mastered, and in co-operation they solve the problem of domestic bossism.

So Longfellow solved it in "Hiawatha:"

As unto the bow the cord is,
So unto the man is woman;
Though she bends him she obeys him,
Though she draws him, yet she follows;
Useless each without the other.

A Hat in Black and White.

This smart little hat is intended for wear with shirt waist and tailor-made gowns. Of hand-plaited rice straw, black velvet ribbon is the sole trimming. The Tam O'Shanter crown extends almost to the brim and a bow of the velvet rests on the hair.

Queen Helena a Cook.

Queen Helena of Italy is a royal lady who has a very practical knowledge of cooking. At her father's curiously homely and unpretentious court Queen Helena learned many useful things, and among them the art of cooking. The Prince of Montenegro insisted that all his children should learn a trade—a rule which, by the way, obtains in the German imperial family—and the future Queen of Italy became not merely a good plain cook but also skilled in the preparation of the curious sweetmeats and patisserie of which orientals are so fond. The late King Humbert insisted on tasting his daughter-in-law's cookery, and so pleased was he with the dainty fare she set before him that he conferred on her, with mock ceremony, the title of "lady high cook to the King of Italy."

Our Spoiled Children.

The girls of today have been petted and made much of from their cradles. Everything has been done to make the hard places easy and the rough roads smooth. There is a grading and leveling in the schools nowadays in order that children may learn without their knowing it. A sort of "ignorance-extracted-without-pain system" it is, from kindergarten to college. At home, if not at school, American children are regularly and unblushingly spoiled; and while the effects of such wholesale injury to the childish life often wear off with boys as soon as they go out into the world to compete with their equals on every side, in the case of girls the tonic of mingling in the affairs of life and work, without flattery or favors of any kind, is usually denied. With girls the petting and coddling continue long after womanhood is reached, and so the daughters do not get over the effects of the American manner of spoiling children as promptly and as thoroughly as do the sons. These spoiled children will have to love very earnestly and tenderly if they are to be really successful home-makers. The ability they have; the training needed, they often have, and can always get if they see their need of it, even if the illumination comes after marriage. It is the disciplined nature which will be most needed; the habit of doing distasteful things, and doing them cheerfully and continually; the power to give up cherished plans; to devise ways of helpfulness about things of small interest in themselves, and the regular practice of forgetfulness of self and remembrance of others in the recurring trifles of daily life.—Woman's Home Companion.

Hints Concerning Your Canary.

Put slippery elm bark in the drinking vessels.

For colds give a canary one drop of sweet oil at a dose.

A bit of fig or apple, and for one of the larger birds a live worm, will prove a tonic.

Taste the bird seed yourself to be sure it is pure. Never use hemp seed.

Be careful to dry thoroughly the perches after cleaning the cage. Damp perches are the chief cause of rheumatism.

Never hang the bird out of doors. Some one is sure to forget to bring him in when it grows too hot or too cool.

Thoroughly wash out all the vessels with hot water every day. The aphac, the parasite that forms in water left standing in a cage, is the deadliest enemy of a bird life.

If the bird shows signs of general debility, as moulting out of season, give him iron in much greater strength than he can get from a rusty nail in the water, and counteract the one bad effect of iron with sulphur.

Keep the bird out of draughts. It is best to hang his cage about five feet from the floor. If hung higher than that he will be too warm, for heat rises, and the hottest place in a room is near the ceiling.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Old Maids and Bachelor Girls.

The Old Maid was a woman who couldn't marry.

The Bachelor Girl is one who won't.

The Old Maid was a creature of tea and toast and tabby cats, and a fringe on the edge of somebody else's family.

The Bachelor Girl is up on fashions and sport, football and polo, and the backbone of the community in which she lives.

The Old Maid was an object of pity.

The independent, joyous lot of the Bachelor Girl makes her an object of envy.

All of which goes to show the change in the attitude of the public toward the status of woman.—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Venezuelan Women.

Venezuelan women are indeed beautiful. Descended from Spanish and Indian ancestors, they combine in their persons the beauty of the two races and with their lovely faces and graceful figures make a type of feminine loveliness that is unsurpassed. The Venezuelan woman's complexion is clear olive, but her rounded cheeks are painted by nature with the loveliest crimson and her beautiful dark eyes seem to express all the emotions of her heart. When she smiles her cheery lips reveal the most perfect of teeth and she looks so absolutely bewitching that you long to see her smile again.

Why She Left.

Mistress—What! going to leave already? Why, you have not been here a week!

Maid—I know it, mum; but I can't stand it here. Things run too smooth-like, mum.

Mistress—Why, what can you mean?

Maid—You see, mum, I has always been in places where they keep three servants.

Mistress—Oh, you are lonesome, then?

Maid—No, mum, not lonesome; but, you see, I misses the confusion.

Effect of High Heels.

The picture shows the bones of the foot according to nature and as they are deformed by wearing high-heeled shoes.

No Elapsing Years.

Claude—Miss Thirtyodd seems to hold her age well.

Maude—Hold her age! Why she hasn't let go of a single year since she's been twenty-five!—Baltimore Herald.

The Height of Shrewdness.

Mrs. Muggins—Mrs. Bjones is a pretty shrewd shopper, isn't she?

Mrs. Buggins—Yes, indeed. Why, I have actually known that woman to get a bargain at a church fair.—Seattle Times.

If They Live.

Mr. Cawker (quoting)—Boys will be boys.

Mrs. Cawker (correcting)—No; boys will be men.

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