

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

RUSH TO MOUNT RASTUS.

Phonolite Find is Attracting a Great Many Prospectors.

Phonolite City—George B. Small has returned from the new Mount Rastus district. He says that there are fully 300 people in the camp at present, and hundreds more are on the way. Men of experience from all over the country are flocking to the phonolite found in the new district. Mr. Small says that if the values are there, it would be a rich camp, as the phonolite is all right. A townsite has been selected and surveyors are busy laying it out into city lots. Purchasers of town lots are numerous. Phonolite in good localities sell readily in the latecomers who have money. The country where the phonolite is found extends from 18 to 20 miles. Prospectors are busy hunting lead. In 30 days at the present rate of work there will be from 3,000 to 5,000 men in the new district. Men to whom the work is in great demand. Most all the men who go in are eager to find and locate claims for themselves and have no time or inclination to work for any one else.

SELL THE LAND IN A LUMP.

of Klamath Marsh Will Then be Reclaimed.

State Treasurer Moore is of opinion that the proper plan for the state to pursue in disposing of its Klamath marsh, should be to finally acquire them, is to sell the entire tract in a lump to the highest bidder. He believes this is advisable for the reason that if the tract is sold to various persons it is impossible to unite the several tracts in any enterprise looking to reclamation of the land. In order to make the land of value to its owner it must be drained, and the same man that drains part of it will drain all of it. If it be sold in tracts, a part of the purchasers will back and do nothing, leaving the enterprise to bear the expense of draining the marsh, while all share in the benefits. Under circumstances, it is doubtful whether any one would undertake the reclamation work and also whether it would be purchasers for any but a part of the swamp land.

Nibley Buys Timber Holdings.

Medford—A deed has been filed in the county recorder whereby J. Nibley and wife sold a half interest in timber holdings, located on the mountains in the vicinity of Medford, to C. W. Nibley for \$5,000. The tract of about 1,000 acres is one of the largest timber deals in the county for some time. Nibley is given nearly 10 years in which to remove the timber. He is given the right to establish sawmills and other necessary machinery and transportation lines on the property to be used in carrying away the product.

Two Thousand Head of Hogs.

Enterprise—Kiddle brothers of Enterprise are receiving 2,000 head of hogs at different points in Walla Walla. About 400 of the number are pigs, while the balance are feeders, which they will drive to Island and intermediate points to fatten. The price paid was four cents for feeders and one half cent for fat hogs. The price of wheat and all other crops is so high in this county this fall that farmers are selling off their hogs rather than feed them the chances.

He Buys Two Large Tracts.

Enterprise—At an aggregate cost of \$10,000, Nels P. Johnson of Weston has bought two pieces of property representing nearly 600 acres. The first tract was made from Henry Pinkney. The property consisted of 79 acres and was bought for \$2,000. The second piece of property is located near Enterprise and consists of about 500 acres and was bought for \$8,000, from W. Nye.

How He Raises Big Crops.

Enterprise—George Randall, a resident near New Era, reports that he has raised 150 bushels of potatoes per acre on a ten-acre field. The potatoes of the Burbank variety and of the average size. Mr. Randall attributes his success in growing this large crop to the fact that he does not use the same ground to this crop two or more successive seasons. He crops potatoes only about four years from the same field.

To Exploit Clackamas Mines.

Enterprise—In the organization of the Ogle Mountain Mining company, the initial steps have been taken for the development of the Ogle creek section in Clackamas county. A capital stock of \$1,000,000, the organization has been launched by the newly named incorporators: P. A. John B. Fairclough, of Oregon; J. V. Harless, of Molalla, and F. J. J. of Portland.

Making Sugar at La Grande.

Enterprise—The sugar beet factory at La Grande has already received 10,000 tons of beets, and has worked up about 10,000 tons of these, which will make 1,000 more tons of beets and the factory will run until about November.

REACHING FOR OREGON CITY.

City and Suburban Leases Roadbed From Southern Pacific.

Oregon City—Residents of Clackamas say that negotiations have been concluded by which the City and Suburban railway company, of Portland, has leased from the Southern Pacific company the railroad bed of that corporation between Willsburg and Clackamas. There has for many months been rumors of such a deal, and the announcement of its consummation causes much speculation locally. The feasibility of such an arrangement is recognized since it is known that the Southern Pacific company has taken the preliminary steps to construct another roadbed by which its west side trains may reach Portland from the east side, the Willamette river to be crossed at Oswego. From that point the route of the road will be northerly connecting with the main line at Willsburg. Another line will extend from the Oswego crossing point up the river joining the main line just below this city. In this way the railroad company proposes to avoid the existing heavy grades between this city and Willsburg, and at the same time shorten the route by four miles. The old line is to be used for local trains while the heavy traffic will be transferred to the new line.

GREAT HATCHERY AT ONTARIO.

Enough Salmon Can Be Propagated There to Keep Up Supply.

Salem—The new state salmon hatchery at Ontario is the largest of its kind in the United States and perhaps in the world, says state treasurer C. S. Moore. The State Treasurer and Secretary of State Dunbar have just returned from an official visit to Ontario, where they inspected the new hatchery. They report everything in satisfactory condition and feel confident of a good season's work. A large number of fish have been taken and a good supply of eggs seems certain.

"The new hatchery has a capacity of 40,000,000 young fry a year," says Mr. Moore, "which is greater than the capacity of all the other hatcheries in the state combined. We believe that the problem of keeping up the supply of salmon has been solved and that this will be clearly demonstrated in four or five years when the product of this hatchery begins to come back to the Columbia river. Cannermen say that only about 1,000,000 salmon a year are taken in the Columbia. If only one in every 20 of the fish we turn out at Ontario should come back, we would have enough to keep up the supply."

Lump Is of Iron.

Oregon City—It now seems an assured fact that the huge lump of iron found on a farm near this city recently is a meteor. An assay has been made, and it is found to be nearly pure iron, with a trace of nickel. It is excessively tough, and broke several hack-saw blades in efforts to cut off small pieces. The meteor is estimated to weigh about 25 tons. The object had nearly buried itself in the ground and has apparently been there for years. When struck with a metallic substance it rings like a bell.

Fruit in Grand Ronde Valley.

La Grande—Fruit picking and packing in the Grand Ronde valley is at its height. The Cove, which is about the best fruit producing section of the valley, is shipping apples, prunes and pears in large quantities. The prune harvest is exceptionally large. Seven carloads have been shipped from the Cove already this season. The second grade of prunes is sent to the dryer at Union, which is disposing of the large quantity of the crop.

Hay Destroyed by Fire.

Prineville—Fire destroyed about 200 tons of hay belonging to M. R. Biggs at this place, on the Wehdell creek and Ochoco creek. The origin of the fire is unknown.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 74c; blue-stem, 78c; valley, 76@77c.
Barley—Feed, \$20 per ton; brewing, \$21; rolled, \$21.
Flour—Valley, \$3.75@3.85 per barrel; hard wheat straight, \$3.75@4.10; hard wheat patents, \$4.20@4.50; Graham, \$3.35@3.75; whole wheat, \$3.55@4; rye wheat, \$4.50.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10; gray, \$1@1.05 per cental.
Millstuffs Bran, \$20 per ton; middlings, \$24; shorts, \$20; chop, \$18; linseed dairy food, \$19.
Hay—Timothy, \$16 per ton; clover, \$13; grain, \$10; cheat, \$10.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@27¢ per pound; dairy, 16¢@20¢; store, 15@16¢.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 14c; Young America, 15@16c; factory prices, 1@1½¢ less.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 10@10½¢ per pound; spring, 10c; hens, 11@11½¢; broilers, \$1.75 per dozen; turkeys, live, 15@16¢ per pound; dressed, 16@18¢; ducks, \$6@7 per dozen; geese, \$7@10.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 27¢; Eastern, fresh, 26¢.
Potatoes—Oregon, 65@75¢ per sack; sweet potatoes, 2@2½¢.
Hops—1903 crop, 19@22¢ per pound, according to quality.
Wool—Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 35@37½¢.
Beef—Dressed, 6@7c per pound.
Veal—Small, 7@8c; large, 5½@6c per pound.
Mutton—Dressed, 5@5½¢; lambs, dressed, 6c.
Pork—Dressed, 7½@8c.

AGAIN IN FLAMES.

Aberdeen's Surviving Buildings Burned—Firemen are Helpless.

Aberdeen, Wash., Oct. 28, 3 A. M.—A fire, which promises to equal in magnitude the recent holocaust which destroyed the major portion of the business part of Aberdeen, is now raging, and the fire department is wholly unable to cope with it.

At an early hour this morning fire was discovered in the center of the Commercial block. With indescribable rapidity it has spread to the Glasgow block, the postoffice, the Becker block and the Y. M. C. A. building, all of which are now a mass of flames.

The fire department is utterly powerless to stay the progress of the flames, which the wind is fast driving toward the unburned portion of the town.

The Commercial block contained 10 stores, besides several which opened temporary quarters there after the recent fire.

The Glasgow block contained eight stores.

(Seven business blocks of Aberdeen were destroyed by a fire that broke out on the morning of October 16 and burned until 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The blaze started in a rookery called the Mock building, where men cooked their meals over gasoline stoves. Four men lost their lives and a half dozen were more or less seriously injured. The loss was determined to be about \$700,000.)

APPEAL TO RED CROSS FOR AID.

Macedonians Ask Clara Barton to Relieve Their Distress.

Washington, Oct. 29.—Macedonia's plea for aid in her distress was placed before Miss Clara Barton, the head of the Red Cross society, today. Constantine Stephanov, the special Macedonian delegate, told Miss Barton of the urgency of the situation and begged her to take immediate action to insure the forwarding of Red Cross relief to Macedonia. Miss Barton asked for detailed information as to the character and scope of the aid needed, and said: "The Red Cross feels that it would be a humane and noble thing for the American people to undertake to relieve the suffering in Macedonia. Such a thing would be in keeping with American tradition in other exigencies. The situation, in view of the approach of winter, would seem to require a systematic, substantial and immediate effort on the part of the people generally. Diplomatically the problem would be an extremely delicate one, and would require discretion and experience for its successful solution."

CHINOOK IS HER NAME.

Transformed Grant is Finished and Rechristened.

San Francisco, Oct. 29.—The last bolt has been driven in the big dredge Grant, or rather Chinook, as she is now called, for the gigantic craft was remarried to the deep seas yesterday and with the ceremony came change of name.

Captain Sanford, of the U. S. A. engineering corps, has arrived at Vallejo and will superintend tests to be made on San Francisco bar before taking the dredge to the Columbia river, where lies her special field of duty. These tests will be made today and if the Chinook is pronounced satisfactory she will immediately proceed to the Columbia river.

That she will work without a hitch is the opinion of Captain Sanford, who looked her over carefully and expressed the belief that she is admirably fitted to perform the task laid out for her.

The Chinook has been already a better investment than the government figured on, for estimates show that a large part of the sum appropriated for the work of reconstructing her will be returned to the navy department.

Railroads Won't Cut Wages.

New York, Oct. 29.—Emphatic denial is made here by representatives of several important Western railroads to widely circulated rumors that a concerted effort was to be made by Western roads to reduce wages. The opinion was generally expressed that no such plan was under consideration, and in some quarters that such a move would not be feasible. Reduction in expenses are being made by the Western roads in common with those in other parts of the country, but by reduction in shop expenses.

Blockade Exists at Port.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, Oct. 29.—The Dominican cruiser Independencia appeared off Puerto Plata, the port on the north coast of Santo Domingo, which point is in the hands of the revolutionists, today and prevented the Cuban mail steamer Maria Herrea from entering that port. The Independencia then left Puerto Plata, going towards the American mail steamer Cherokee, coming from Monte Christi, to prevent her from touching.

\$150,000 Fire in New York.

New York, Oct. 29.—Twenty houses, including stores and private residences, were destroyed tonight in a fire that swept over two city blocks in Kings Bridge, at the upper end of Manhattan island. The Kingsbridge hotel, formerly a famous road house, was completely destroyed. Total property damage, \$150,000.

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