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PRUNE LAND VALUABLE

Owners of Many Fine Orchards Refuse High Prices Offered For Property.

A great number of prune growers flocking to the Willamette valley search for prune lands and it is the opinion of growers in this section that property values will advance at a rapid pace as the knowledge of the excellent conditions that exist here is becoming widely known by prune growers everywhere.

The big Jory farm which was purchased a few days ago by Messrs. H. H. Hucklestein, Constable and Babcock for \$119 an acre, was subsequently placed on the market for \$300. There have been several offers for this land in Paris but the owners decided to take this property off of the market and develop the entire tract as a show orchard, in this way benefiting the prune industry of the valley.

Otto Hansen, president of the Gold Creek Mining and Milling company, has had his tract of 130 acres, which is about 7 miles of Salem in Polk county, on the market for some time, but as the values of land have been climbing up at such a rapid pace coupled with the fact that his young prune trees are doing so well he has taken the farm off of the market and will hold until the trees are bearing and property values have reached their proper level.—Salem Statesman.

Was Former Resident of Polk County.

Dr. A. B. Starbuck went down to Portland yesterday morning to attend the funeral of his grandmother, Mrs. Susan Starbuck who died at her home in that city Saturday, aged 77 years and 7 months. Mrs. Starbuck was born in Indiana, November 16, 1831, and crossed the plains to Oregon in 1863. In the Spring of 1866 she and her husband settled on a farm five miles west of Salem, in Polk County, where they lived until 1893 when they moved to Portland. Rev. T. H. Starbuck, of Portland, is her stepson. She is also survived by her husband and the following children: Mrs. Polly A. Frizzell, of Portland; Mrs. Clara McComey, of Independence; Claude Starbuck, of California; Frank Starbuck, of Portland; Mrs. Laura Ruble, of Centralia, Washington.

ACCEPTS NEW POSITION

President Ressler of Monmouth Normal Will Have Department in Agricultural College.

President E. D. Ressler, of the State Normal School at Monmouth, has accepted the position in the Oregon Agricultural College, as professor of industrial pedagogy, a branch of study which will be taught next year for the first time. President Ressler will also make institute work an important feature of his department, and will aid the teachers in the different schools throughout the state to inaugurate work along the lines of industrial training.

President Ressler graduated from Otterbein University, Ohio, in 1891, taught in the public schools of that state for five years, and then took post-graduate work at the Ohio State University, receiving his M. A. degree in 1897. He then removed to Oregon, where he was City Superintendent of the public schools at Eugene for four years, organizing the first High School in that city and graduating the first class in 1901. During the following year he was assistant professor of education at the University of Oregon, and for the last seven years he has been president of the State Normal School at Monmouth, bringing that school through the last two years with no aid whatever from the state, and serving without pay for over a year and a half.

Upon the recommendation of the Roosevelt Country Commission this department of industrial pedagogy was installed in the college, not only for the benefit of the regular college students, but also to provide a department in the state where the public school teachers can obtain instruction in the practical and theoretical industrial training work to be a part of the regular grammar school instruction in many of the schools of the state.

Form Prune Pool.

A prune pool was formed Saturday which will comprehend over a fifth of the prune crop of the Willamette valley, including 2,000,000 pounds of prunes. Four hundred and forty tons are already in and by next Saturday it is assured there will be over twice that amount which represents about 800 acres of the finest prune land in the entire United States.

RECEIVES ODD LETTER

County Clerk E. M. Smith Is Twenty-Seventh Man to Investigate Peculiar Inquiry.

County Clerk E. M. Smith received Saturday from the clerk of Benton county, a letter of inquiry which has aroused considerable interest in different parts of this state since March 17, when it first came into the state. It was sent by Mrs. Phillip Hollingshead, of South River, Ontario, Canada, and was somewhat vaguely addressed to the "Register of Oregon." Twenty-seven accommodating county clerks in Oregon had already searched their records in vain for the information desired by the author of the letter, before it fell into Mr. Smith's hands Saturday.

The Polk county records are as devoid of the information sought as have been the archives of the 27 other county courthouses which the letter has thus far visited, and it will be sent on from here to the clerk of Yamhill county in hopes that he may be able to find the answer sought. The text of the letter is as follows:

"South River, Ontario, March 17, 1909. Hon. Sir—To the Register office in Oregon. Did Alexander Crofford register his title in your office to Annie Weidrich or Ann Weidrich can you tell me of its whereabouts I understand Alexander Crofford had property and money in Oregon he went to live in Oregon about twenty-five years ago and was drowned in Oregon Bay about ten years ago. Also told me he would make his will to me. When he went away I cannot find out if Alexander Crofford did make his will to Annie Weidrich or Ann Weidrich. Hon. Sir please let me know about it all you can my name is now Mrs. Phillip Hollingshead, and oblige.

"Mrs. Phillip Hollingshead, South River, Ontario. The letter is rapidly becoming a unique document and will likely visit every county in the state before it completes its tour. It has been torn and pasted together twice already. Accompanying the letter is a Canadian money order for \$1 payable at the postoffice at Oregon, U. S."

It has already passed through the hands of the clerks in the Counties of Baker, Union, Wallowa, Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Wasco, Clatsop, Douglas, Josephine, Jackson, Lake, Klamath, Crook, Sherman, Harney, Grant, Wheeler, Hood River, Linn, Lincoln and Benton.

Fast Launch Service.

Arrangements were made by the Waters Brothers Investment company with the Charles K. Dennison Boat company, at the foot of State street, to give a fast passenger service between Salem and West Salem, preparatory to carrying passengers upon the opening of the Falls City & Dallas railroad. A 5 cent fare will be charged. Any immediate business will be taken care of by Mr. Dennison, who is a licensed engineer and pilot for the Willamette river.—Salem Journal.

Death Caused by Poisoning.

The two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Werner living near Perrydale, died Friday night from poisoning. Painters had been working about the house and it is supposed that the child swallowed some of the poisonous paints, either arsenic or lead. Dr. Starbuck was summoned from Dallas but was unable to reach the home in time to do anything to save the child.

MEXICO'S GREAT PROSPECTS

Dr. Kelly Writes Interesting Letter Concerning Wonderful Resources of Southern Republic.

The following letter from Dr. Harvey Kelly, formerly a resident of McCoy, but now living in Altar, Sonora, Mexico, will prove of interest to his many old-time friends in Polk County. The letter is in reply to a request for information concerning the agricultural resources of that portion of Mexico selected by the Doctor for a home.

Altar, Mexico, June 19. "I will try to give you a general report of the country in which I am located. Am sorry I cannot give you a more technical report, but since I have given more of my time to mining than to agriculture, I am not very well informed on the latter subject. However, I have given up mining and have bought some land, with the intention of raising wheat and barley this coming year. I have been nearly all over the State of Sonora in the three years that I have lived here, and having been raised on a farm, have some ideas of conditions here as to agriculture.

"This country resembles Eastern Oregon—that is, the greater part of it is range, while along the rivers and lowlands the Mexicans are carrying on farming and stockraising in their crude way, planting the ground every year until it gets very dirty with weeds, then letting it lie idle until the sun and lack of water kills the weeds. To plant grain, they plow very shallow; then broadcast and harrow in the grain; then, when it is ripe, they cut it by hand and trample it out with horses. Even in this way they get from 30 to 40 bushels of wheat to the acre, but since the farmer nearly always sells his crop six months ahead and for half price, they of course never make any money or progress. They make an easy living, and should they get a little money ahead, they stop farming until it is all gone—then borrow some money and commence again. The average Mexican is lazy and shiftless, and he farms just as his ancestors did 100 years ago. Of course, there are exceptions to this rule, but I am speaking generally. But they are good people—easy to get along with, and very polite.

"All kinds of grain grow well here, and I have seen just as large apples as are grown at Hood River. Vegetables grow the year round. The season is at least two months ahead of Oregon. At this date, June 19, the wheat is practically all harvested and sold. There never has been an over supply here with the subsequent low prices. Wheat never sells for less than 90 cents; potatoes, \$3 a sack; butter, 50 cents a pound; eggs never less than 60 cents a dozen, and everything else in proportion.

"Large American companies have taken the best of the very large tracts, and are selling the land for \$25 an acre, but there is still a big opening here for farmers who wish to buy 200 or 300 acres in different spots, or large tracts of grazing land, which can still be bought cheap. Here where I am situated, the best land, with permanent water right, can be bought for \$12.50 an acre, and it will raise anything that our best land in Oregon will raise. Alfalfa grows well, as they have found out in the last two years, and they cut four or five crops a year. Hog raising is very profitable, since all of the lard is imported. Hogs sell for about \$15.

"As for climatic conditions, judged from my own standpoint, it is the ideal climate. It is far ahead of California. The summer is long, but the heat is very dry and we don't mind it much. The thermometer seldom goes above 90 degrees.

"Good labor can be had here for from 50 to 75 cents a day the year round, so you see the farmer does not have to do the hard work if he has sufficient acreage. As to the stability of the country, there is no question. We never feel in danger at any time from any cause.

"In my opinion, Mexico offers the same opportunities today that the West did 50 years ago, although it was discovered long before the States were. There is no place here for the working man without capital, as labor is both cheap and abundant. Dry farming is carried on to some extent with very good results, but in general the land requires water.

"A stock ranch of 10,000 acres was sold here a few days ago for 50 cents an acre. This land will be worth at least \$2 an acre within three years. These chances are all being taken up, and it will not be long until the land will be high in price, so if you want to get land cheap, now is the time to get in.

H. E. KELLY, M. D."

Plug Uglies to Meet.

All who take part in the Plug Uglies parade on Saturday, July 3, will please be present at a meeting to be held in Judge J. E. Sibley's office, Wednesday night, at 7:30 o'clock, for the purpose of arranging the details of the parade. Liberal prizes for the best costumes, etc., will be offered as an inducement for the young men of the city to take part in the parade.

ROAD NEARING COMPLETION

Dallas and Salem Will Be Connected By Rail Within Next Two Months.

Those inclined to prophecy might safely predict that the new branch of the Salem, Falls City & Western railroad, running from Dallas to Salem, will be completed, as far as the actual work of track laying is concerned, by the middle of August.

The work of laying the steel was begun only about a month ago and has not been carried on continuously since that time, the crew having been taken back to Black Rock for several days to tend to some urgent work required at that end of the line. Nevertheless the track has already been pushed forward as far as the Pierce Biggs place, about 9 miles out from Dallas.

A crew of 27 men are employed and the track is being advanced at a rate of about a mile a day. By July 10 a track will be run into the gravel pit, recently purchased by the company, near the Traglio place and the workmen will begin to bring out carloads of gravel ballasting for the newly laid road.

Grading on the roadbed is practically finished, having been carried up to within two miles of the Salem terminal of the new road. The little distance that remains to be graded will easily be finished by the first week of July. The bridgework is already completed, amounting, in all, to about a quarter of a mile, the most important and difficult bridge being across the Rickreall at the T. W. Bruk place near Eola. The heaviest cuts and fills have been made near Eola, where the country is rather rough and hilly. Between Eola and Dallas the greater portion of the land through which the road runs is quite level and the grading work was very easily and rapidly completed.

Although it is safe to predict that the track laying will have been completed by the middle of August, it will probably be at least a month longer before everything is ready for the commencement of a regular freight and passenger traffic.

For the passenger service, it is the purpose of the company to secure a fine high-power gasoline motor car of nominally 200 horsepower, although it is claimed that it can actually develop 225 horsepower. The new car will weigh about 60,000 pounds and will be 68 feet long and will have all the conveniences of the most up-to-date passenger coach. In addition to the passenger section, a portion of the car will be divided off for baggage transportation.

A peculiar feature in the appearance of the new cars is their strange shape. They are brought to a sharp point in front to decrease the air resistance, and the fact that the windows are of the porthole type, round, and set with the heaviest plate glass. The car develops great speed and power while the smoothness of its running and its almost total absence of jarring in starting and stopping makes it an ideal coach for passenger travel. The Salem, Falls City & Western will be among the first roads in the state to adopt this new style of car for use in its passenger service.

New Cleaning Establishment.

Bert Hoyt has opened steam cleaning and pressing parlors in the rooms in the Campbell building formerly occupied by Oscar Hayter's law office. Mr. Hoyt is prepared to clean, press and repair clothing in the best possible manner. Ladies work will be a specialty and all sizes of cloth-covered buttons will be made to order. He will clean and block hats and is prepared to do dyeing of all kinds. The new enterprise is one that will doubtless meet with ready recognition and liberal patronage.

Would Protect Elk.

Representative Hawley introduced a bill at the request of the order of Elks, setting aside sections 12 and 13, T. 10 S., R. 10 W., to be known as the Siletz Elk Preserve. The bill authorizes the appointment of a superintendent of the preserve at a salary of \$900. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Elks, which convened in Dallas, Texas, last year, a resolution was adopted asking the government to set aside a suitable preserve for the better protection of elk.

Death Ends Suffering.

Mrs. Bessie Steinback died Sunday at the home of her brother-in-law, C. F. Smith, in this city, after a long illness, her death being due to a complication of ailments. The deceased was about 45 years of age and had been in Dallas about three weeks, having been sent here from Alaska. She is survived by her husband who is in Alaska and one son. The funeral was held this afternoon at Chapman's Chapel and the remains were taken to the I. O. O. F. cemetery for burial.

Professor Ralph Moore and bride, of Bay City, are visiting at the home of his uncle, A. S. Campbell. Professor Moore is principal of the Bay City schools and is enroute for Monmouth, where he will take up studies for life papers.

Summer Rates East

During the Season 1909

via the

Southern Pacific Co.

from

DALLAS, OREGON

To OMAHA and Return - - - \$61.90
To KANSAS CITY and Return - \$61.90
To ST. LOUIS and Return - - - \$69.40
To CHICAGO and Return - - - \$74.40

and to other principal cities in the East, Middle West and South. Correspondingly low fares.

On Sale June 2, 3; July 2, 3; August 11, 12

To DENVER and Return - - - \$56.90
On Sale May 17, July 1, August 11

Going transit limit 10 days from date of sale, final return limit October 31.

These tickets present some very attractive features in the way of stop-over privileges, and choice of routes; thereby enabling passengers to make side trips to many interesting points enroute.

Routing on the return trip through California may be had at a slight advance over the rates quoted.

Full particulars, sleeping car reservations and tickets will be furnished by any Southern Pacific local agent, or

WM. McMURRAY, GENERAL PASSENGER AGENT, PORTLAND, OREGON

Electricity for Lighting

Is only expensive to people who are wasteful and careless. To you, who are naturally careful, it does not come high.

It is economical because it can be quickly turned off when not needed. With gas or kerosene there is the temptation to let light burn when not needed to save bother of lighting and adjusting. In some homes the electric light bills amount to only one or two dollars per month. You can probably get some kind of artificial light for less money than electric light, but does it save you anything when it limits opportunities for work and recreation—ruins your eyesight—smokes your walls—mars decorations and increases household work. You could probably save a dollar tomorrow by going without your meals but it wouldn't be economy. It is not so much what you save, but how you save that counts.

WILLAMETTE VALLEY CO. RATES—Residences on meters, per Kilowatt 15c; Residence, flat per month, 15c; 50c. RATES FOR BUSINESS HOUSES—25c per drop and 5c per Kilowatt up to 10 drops; over 10 drops 30c per drop and 5c per Kilowatt up to 40 drops; over 40 drops 17c per drop and 5c per Kilowatt. A drop figures 16c or less. For power rates apply at the office. We are always ready to explain the "ins and outs" of the lighting proposition to you, call on us or phone to us, we are never too busy to talk business.

Willamette Valley Company

E. W. KEARNS, Manager for Dallas.

Office on Mill street, just north of the Court House. Phones Bell 421, Mutual 1297.

Tom

C.

Stockwell

The

Phonograph

Man

Dallas, - Oregon



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We desire to call your attention to the fact that we have just taken possession of this business, which Mr. Boyd has successfully conducted during the past two years. We solicit your liberal patronage and promise in return the most prompt and courteous service. We carry a full line of Watkin's famous goods.

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Come, Help Us Celebrate The

4th of July

AT DALLAS

We promise you two days of continual rounds of pleasure. Prepare for the event by supplying yourself with the necessary Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Under wear etc.

A big reduction on all our light weight summer wash goods.

We are showing a good line of Ladies' White Tailored Waists; Men's, Ladies' and Children's Oxfords in Tan, Oxblood and Black.

Don't forget we have a new snappy line of Boy's Knee Pant Suits very moderately priced, we invite your inspection.

A few Men's Suits to close out at bargain prices. Now is the time to buy your 4th of July suit and save enough money to pay your expenses while celebrating at Dallas.

Campbell & Hollister
THE CASH STORE