

## REGULAR PORTLAND LETTER

Portland, Or., Feb. 27—Oregon's first state Irrigation Congress, which met in Portland, February 19-21, closed with the unanimous opinion that it was one of the most important and representative gatherings ever held. One hundred and fifty six delegates were in attendance from all sections of the state. It accomplished the chief objects for which it was called. The many interests which have been working separately for or against the Government, the Cary Act and the private projects have been brought together. They are now united in an organization which will endeavor to secure the passage of legislation that will offer every possible aid to the prompt development of all irrigation projects and at the same time protect to the fullest possible extent the right of the settler.

The official announcement by E. G. Hopson, project engineer, that the Secretary of the Interior would proceed with the completion of the Umatilla Project and would take care to protect all vested land and water rights was the principal piece of good news divulged at the Congress. The statement was preceded by a telegram from President Taft saying that he would endeavor to accord justice to Oregon and give to it its just share of the reclamation funds.

The resolutions adopted by the convention included a petition to Congress asking for an appropriation of \$15,000,000 a year for a series of five years for the construction and development of feasible irrigation projects, and that Oregon be given her full share in accordance with the provisions of the Original Reclamation Act, which apportioned funds for such purposes in proportion to the amount contributed by the sale of public lands.

The Congress also favored the enactment of legislation that will, as far as possible, give the control of the various irrigation projects into the hands of the settlers, the men who have, eventually, to pay all the bills. It also contemplates the organization of irrigation districts and the financing of the obligations of development, after the manner of municipal improvement districts.

Other resolutions favored the perfection of the present system of water titles, enactment of legislation to protect the settler against fraud and urging the investigation, by the Legislature, of the Kansas law which permits an official scrutiny of the assets and resources of people who file articles of incorporation.

The work of the Oregon Development League is concentrating its efforts to place people on the land, as opposed to city development, was commended. The irrigation of the large territory tributary to the John Day River was also favored.

The officers elected were: President, William Hanley, of Burns; C. C. Chapman, of the Oregon Development League, Wm. J. Mariner, of Blalock, and M. J. Lee, of Canby, vice-presidents; T. J. Hinkle, of Hermiston, secretary-treasurer.

The next meeting of the Central Oregon Development League will be held at Lakeview, August 20-22. This date was fixed by a conference of representatives of the Lakeview Commercial Club, the Oregon Development League and the Central Oregon Development League. Plans are being formed to take 400 business men

from Portland and other parts of the state to Bend by rail and thence to Lakeview by automobile, returning via Medford. Plans are being made to make the Lakeview meeting memorable.

### O. A. C. Neighborhood Orchard Demonstrations.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore., Feb. 29—Neighborhood orchard demonstrations were conducted on the Reed orchards near Estacada by Prof. C. I. Lewis and R. W. Rees, of the division of horticulture of the Oregon Agricultural College, today, Feb. 29, in which they will show the fruit growers of the district the proper methods of pruning, spraying, and caring for the orchards in spring.

### BACK OF A SNAKE.

It Can Easily Be Broken by a Crack With a Can.

The first impulse of a man on seeing a snake is to stamp on its head, which, according to the Rosary Magazine, is unwise. A snake's skull is very tough, as behooves a part of the body that is always liable to be knocked against stones, etc., owing to the extreme shortsightedness of all serpents.

The back, on the contrary, can be broken with a light rap, for it consists of a delicate system of ball and socket joints. Should snakes be harmless the best plan is to leave them alone; should they be dangerous a shot from a revolver is safe and effective. In case no revolver is at hand a rap with a cane will be sufficient, but care must be taken to keep away from the head of the creature.

A snake does not normally go about hitting its skull against hard objects. It does this only when in a hurry. Moving at its ordinary pace, it feels its way with its long, delicate, forked tongue.

In the same way when about to swallow its food it touches it all over with its tongue in order to ascertain where to take hold, and this process has given rise to the mistaken idea that a snake covers its prey with saliva prior to swallowing it. No doubt a considerable quantity of saliva is generated during the process of deglutition, but it does not come from the tongue, which is merely used as a feeler.

When a snake bites it bisects its head up to the nape of its neck and opens its jaws till they are in the same plane—i. e., at right angles to the body. These jaws are provided with six rows of strong, sharp teeth, four on the upper jaw and two on the lower jaw.

This is a very formidable arrangement, but when you remember that a medium sized constrictor can project its head with sufficient force to knock a man off his feet and will either on provocation or sometimes without it let go his catapult, rat trap machinery you are likely to avoid constrictors so far as is possible. Such a snake can take hold of a man and shake him or strip the skin and flesh from the part seized as if it were paper.

### Wake Up, Farmer.

Place your order for Burbank seed potatoes, home grown, at Craven's Grocery. 3-15

### Notice to the Public

The two leading magazines of the Pacific coast, the Pacific Monthly and the Sunset, have been consolidated under the title of "Sunset—the Pacific Monthly."

It is the intention of the publishers to spare no money nor effort to make Sunset—the Pacific Monthly a credit to the West and a magazine of national value and importance.

To introduce it to new readers, we will make the following special offer: Send 50c in stamps, and we will put your name on our subscription list for the next four months, and will send you free a copy of the superbly illustrated Mid-Winter number, and also the famous Sunset Indian poster, securely packed in a mailing tube. It will make a beautiful ornament for your front room or den.

Send your order to Fred Lockley, Northwestern manager, Sunset—the Pacific Monthly, Portland, Oregon.

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Monmouth, Oregon

### Church Directory.

#### EVANGELICAL CHURCH

W. A. GUEFFROY, Pastor.  
Morning service at 11:30 o'clock  
Evening service at 7:30 o'clock  
Sunday School at 10:00 a. m.  
Y. P. A. Meeting at 6:30 p. m.  
Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

W. A. WOOD, Pastor.  
Morning Service at 11 a. m.  
Evening Service at 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School 9:45 a. m.  
Y. P. S. C. E. 6:30 p. m.  
Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH.

Preaching Service, 11:00 a. m.  
Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.  
B. Y. P. Union, at 6:30

#### W. C. T. U.

Local Union meets every second and fourth Friday in the Evangelical church at 2:30 p. m.

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