

CRUCIAL NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Efforts will be made this season to establish flaxraising near Albany.

Canyonville, a town of about 150 people, has furnished 19 recruits for the army.

Practically every man in Willamette university is taking some form of military training.

The Eddyville mohair pool, consisting of 23,000 pounds, was sold at 65 cents a pound.

The Wasco county industrial club held its annual Farmers' picnic at Tygh valley Saturday.

According to the census estimates, Oregon has 108,100 men of military age, between 21 and 30.

Election pamphlets for the special election June 4 have been mailed to 331,692 registered voters of the state.

Booster day, the annual festival event of Oregon City will probably be eliminated this year on account of the war.

Plans have been completed for the annual picnic of the traveling men of the state, to be held at Cottage Grove May 25.

The Lebanon high school, to aid the war victims, will forego the pleasure this year of eating ice cream at their May-day festivities.

S. A. Sanford of Roseburg and C. K. Corno of Toledo have been appointed appraisers for the federal loan bank of Spokane.

The dates for the annual Linn county pioneer reunion and picnic to be held at Brownsville have been set for June 20, 21 and 22.

But one fatal accident was reported to the state industrial accident commission last week, while the non-fatal accidents numbered 342.

All interior cities of Oregon are taking part in the food-raising campaign, according to reports from Grant, Harney and Malheur counties.

A committee consisting of five members has been named to have charge of the 251 acres to be put into flax by the Salem commercial club.

Potatoes and bean acreage will be exceptionally large in the Willamette valley this year. It is estimated 10,000 acres will be planted in beans.

The Booth-Kelly Lumber company has announced a wage increase averaging 50 cents a day for all workmen in the woods at Wendling and Springfield.

John Sherrar Harris, whose fame as a breeder of Angora goats 25 years ago was said to be world-wide, died at his home near Salem. He was 81 years old.

C. E. Porter, of Baker, has been named by the public service commission as chief grain inspector under the new grain inspection act which goes into effect May 21.

A concentrated campaign to exterminate harmful rodents from the agricultural areas of eastern and central Oregon will be started by the United States biological survey.

Miss Bertha Davis, of the domestic science department of the Oregon Agricultural college, says that vetch seed offers a good substitute for beans and is of about the same food value.

The western Oregon conference of Seventh-Day Adventists will hold their annual conference and camp meeting in Portland again this year, beginning May 29 and continuing until June 11.

Earl Buxton, cashier of the First National bank at Forest Grove, who disappeared mysteriously March 3, this year, is in Columbus, Ohio, according to word received by his family.

Due, it is believed, to the cool, wet spring, a small brown cut-worm has made its appearance in Umatilla county and is doing considerable damage to wheat, by working at the roots.

F. C. Harley, mayor of Astoria, was found guilty in police court of fighting on the public streets and fined \$40 with the option of 20 days in the city jail. The mayor said he would appeal.

Investments of all the insurance companies in the state of Oregon on December 31, 1916, amounted to \$27,958,249.87, according to a statement just issued by Insurance Commissioner Harvey Wells.

All the railroad companies operating in the state now have filed with the public service commission tariffs providing for a general 15 per cent increase on intrastate rates to become

effective July 1.

Wasco county sheepmen have just completed lambing and from reports the increase has gone far beyond the expectations of the sheepmen. The increase will average about 80 per cent of breed ewes.

The first complete referendum petition to be filed with Secretary of State Olcott was presented by Sanderson Reed, of Portland, and, if found properly signed, will hold in abeyance the operation of the Rogue river fish bill until the November, 1918, election.

George Forty, a noted deep sea fisherman of the Port Orford district, wants to help combat the soaring cost of living by marketing the eggs of murre, shags and other birds which are numerous along the coast.

The strike which has been in progress at the two mills of the C. A. Smith Lumber company at Marshfield was settled when the company and men agreed on a minimum wage of \$2.91 1/2 a day for common labor.

The Oregon Fruit company will build plants in Eugene and Salem for polishing, grading and cleaning Oregon beans in connection with the enormous crop to be grown in the state during the coming summer.

J. B. Messick, county judge of Baker county, has filed suit against 12 leading members of the recall committee for \$30,000 damages, charging conspiracy with intent of slandering, defaming him and destroying his reputation.

Free chickens are to be distributed to boys and girls of Lane county by the Eugene chamber of commerce, as a part of a state-wide campaign to be launched by the Oregon State Poultry association to increase the meat production in the state.

Lectures and demonstrations at Independence and Monmouth closed the Southern Pacific-Oregon Agricultural college campaign of preparedness, after a trip of practically three weeks, covering most of the points along the Southern Pacific lines in western Oregon.

Both eastern and western Oregon are included in the itineraries that have been arranged for extensive speech-making tours by Oregon's three state highway commissioners—S. Benson, E. J. Adams and W. L. Thompson—for the week of May 21-26, inclusive.

The first sales that have been made of 1917 pack Columbia river salmon have been at prices about 40 per cent higher than those ruling last year, and there is every reason to believe that the total valuation of the pack will average that much over the output of 1916.

Voices of the farmers are being lifted in protest against further search of the rural districts of the state for recruits for the army and navy. They say the limit has been reached and if Oregon is to have a food crop of any proportions, men must be available to help till the soil and to harvest the products.

Lane county agricultural council adopted a resolution favoring the late opening of schools throughout the county next fall in an effort to meet the labor problem, which, it is anticipated, will develop in connection with the harvesting of the increased acreage of food crops now being planted.

Engineer U. S. Hansen and Frank Hablett, of Heppner, section foreman, were drowned in the turbulent waters of Willow creek, near Morgan, when the engine pulling O-W. R. & N. mixed passenger and freight train No. 25 dropped through a bridge, weakened by high water following a cloud-burst.

Fifteen-year-old Carl Tuell, committed to the boys' training school because of robberies of beach cottages in Lincoln county, in which he had participated with the notorious convict, Jesse Tuell, confessed to Sheriff Bert Geer, of that county, and to employees of the state training school, that he shot and killed Hall about a month ago at their lonely camp on the beach near Seal Rock. Hall's body was discovered by his brother at the camp.

Alumni of the Oregon Agricultural college are being called into service to assist the food production campaign. Assistant State Engineer Percy Copper, who is acting president of the association, and E. B. Lemon, its secretary, are sending out letters enlisting all of the alumni in the work that the Oregon Patriotic Service league has designated for them to do. Alumni are urged to see that all land possible, including their own, is tilled and that organizations be perfected so as to prevent duplications of effort.

Under an agreement made with representatives of the federal government that the state of Oregon, through its governor, may accept the provisions of the act of congress providing for the

creation of a federal and several state boards of vocational education. Governor Withycombe has accepted the terms of that act for the state until the legislature meets in 1919. The governor also selected the state board for Oregon. Those appointed on the state board are: J. A. Churchill, Superintendent of public instruction; W. B. Ayer, Portland; E. J. Stack, Portland, secretary of the Oregon Federation of Labor; Mrs. Charles Castner, Hood River, president of the Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs, and Mrs. George A. McMath, Portland, president Oregon Congress of Mothers. The federal act makes an appropriation of \$500,000 to be for the use of the states for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and \$700,000 for the use of the states for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919. The federal government will co-operate with the states in preparing teachers, supervisors and directors of agricultural subjects and home economic subjects. The allotment of funds to any one state in any year shall not be less than \$5000.

Seven of Portland's leading hotels annually disburse among Oregon producers \$350,000 for the products of the farm. Of that total at least \$210,000 is distributed direct to the small farmer for poultry, butter, eggs, milk, cream and vegetables. The remaining \$140,000 is paid out for ham, bacon, fish and fresh meat.

Although the foregoing figures are those of the hotels which handle the bulk of the transient travel in Portland, they do not show all that the transient travel means to the Oregon farmer.

Hundreds of tourists frequently take their meals at a grill, restaurant or cafeteria not connected with the hotel at which they are registered. If obtainable these figures would materially swell the grand total of what this business means to Oregon producers.

One of the arguments used against the six million road bond bill is that the roads to be hard surfaced under the provisions of the measure will be "scenic roads" rather than market roads. The figures quoted above would indicate that the farmer has a direct and material interest in any plan of road building such as is provided for if it will make more accessible a market such as Portland affords for his products.

As an illustration of what good roads mean to the farmer one Portland hotel pays one producer annually \$5000 for eggs alone. He pays 33 cents a dozen under contract throughout the year.

There is no question but that with the completion of the roads designated in the bond bill Oregon will attract a good share of the tourist business now largely monopolized by California and estimated to be worth to that state annually \$20,000,000.

ARE YOU THE OWNER OF AN AUTOMOBILE?

If there were only one reason why every automobile owner should go to the polls June 4th, and vote "Yes" on the \$6,000,000 road bond bill it is because automobile owners will pay for these improvements by their increased licenses.

But they will save several times the amount of their license in wear and tear of machines, tire mileage and gasoline.

Auto owners will have to pay the increased fee regardless of whether or not the road bond bill is approved at the June election.

If the \$6,000,000 road bond bill is approved by the people, the money derived therefrom will be expended in the construction of a state-wide system of permanent roads.

County money now spent on main trunk lines will be used on laterals and less traveled roads if the road bonds carry at the special election on June 4th.

"During the past winter, sheepmen in my section of the state lost fully 40 per cent of their lambs owing to the weather and the inability to transport feed from the railroads because of the impassable condition of the roads," reports G. M. Blakely, a prominent Grant County sheepman. "With the good roads provided in the \$6,000,000 road bond bill we would have been able to get the necessary stock food and reduced to a minimum the loss of lambs. With the bottomless roads we now have in our part of the state, that was impossible. This is an element that enters into the prevailing high cost of living. Less stock means constantly increasing higher prices. The people of my county are emphatically for the road bond bill and any other legislation that will improve existing conditions in the matter of transportation in rural communities."

Considering the activities of State Master Spence on the one hand and the number of favorable resolutions passed by individual granges on the other, so far as the grange is concerned in the bond proposition it appears a case of whether the dog shall wag the tail or the tail wag the dog. Hillsboro Independent.

Monmouth Heights

The Antioch school closed Friday with an all day picnic, with a program in the morning and an old fashioned basket dinner at noon. After dinner there was a number of races by the pupils.

The program was well rendered by the pupils with the help of their teacher Miss Martha Skeries. Fifty one guests were present and all report an enjoyable time.

Miss Freda Skeries of Salt creek visited with her sister Martha Thursday and Friday.

Mrs. Etta Eggleston is visiting her daughter Mrs. Letha Petre near Walla Walla, Washington.

Will and Clem Fishback put in the forms for a concrete dam for Ed Rogers last week.

C. C. Mulkey and wife and Allen Clark of Monmouth were callers at the Fishback home on Saturday.

Dan Calbreath and wife and Miss Mabel Riddell were in attendance at the Grange in Monmouth Saturday.

August Ohms of Canada was a Saturday and Sunday visitor with his sister Mrs. George Heck

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Ed Wunder and family of Independence spent Sunday with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wunder.

Mrs. Lettie Johnson and son Earl of Elkins spent Sunday with her brother and sister the Fishback children.

Wm. Fishback was a business visitor in Dallas Monday.



MIDGET

The Watch for Hand-Bags

IT is becoming a national habit among women to carry the Midget in their hand-bags, not only because it tells time truthfully, but because it stands the many little bumps and jars it naturally gets during a day's shopping.

Besides, it is not expensive to replace, if lost. The price is \$2.75

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