

# Oregon School Students Win Panama Fair Trip

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—Ten young farmers, housekeepers and artisans who won first place in one of the ten industrial club projects at the recent State Fair in Salem, will have a trip for one week to the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco with all expenses paid. These competitors who have succeeded beyond all others in their particular kind of work were scored both on exhibits at the State Fair and reports and records of their work, which were forwarded to Professor F. L. Griffin, of the Agricultural college. The following list of winners in the various projects with places of residence have been given out for publication:  
Jessie Kent, canning and preserving, Perrydale, Polk county; May E. McDonald, sewing, Dallas, Polk

county; Franca Hawley, cooking and baking, McCoy, Polk county; Kenneth Bursell, pig feeding, Monmouth, Polk county; Charley C. Claus, corn, Brownlow, Jackson county; Audrey Meyer, potatoes, Lake Creek, Jackson county; Perry Pickett, vegetable gardening, Salem, Marion county; Paul Jaeger, manual arts, Sherwood, Washington county; Vernon Rains, poultry raising, Myrtle Creek, Douglas county; and Oscar Snyder, dairy herd record keeping, Creswell, Lane county. Both project and booth exhibits were judged by members of the Agricultural College Extension force.  
The expense of these trips will be borne by numerous business firms in Portland and other parts of the state who were interested in the work by O. M. Plummer. Details of the trip have not yet been arranged.

# \$500,000 Bonds Voted by Roseburg for Coast Road

Roseburg—By a vote of more than three to one, the voters of Roseburg have authorized issuance of bonds in the sum of \$500,000 with which to assist in the construction of a railroad between Roseburg and Coos Bay. Concurrent with voting the bonds, the voters elected a railroad commission composed of 10 prominent business men of the city to handle the improvement.  
The bonds are in reality a bonus and the \$500,000 will be paid to any company or any individual who will guarantee under sufficient bonds to con-

struct the railroad and operate the same for a term of years.  
The voters also voted to repeal the occupation tax and rejected issuance of bonds for park purposes.  
The councilmen elected were: William Hargreaves, ward one; D. R. Shambrook, ward two; A. J. Geddes, ward three; W. S. Hamilton, ward four.  
The election was one of the most spirited events held here in years and notwithstanding that only taxpayers were allowed to vote on the bond issues, more than 900 votes were polled.

# Jack Grant, of Dallas, Is State's Finest Baby

Salem—With an almost perfect score, Jack Grant, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Grant, of Dallas, was awarded a gold medal for being the finest baby entered in the eugenics contest at the state fair. Doris Lee Gordon, daughter of I. J. Gordon, of Portland, won the girl baby first prize, scoring a fraction of a point less than the Grant child.  
There was no perfect child as last year, when Jane Kanzler, of Portland, was so credited, but the judging this year was far more accurate and the scoring closer. More than 175 babies were entered against 80 last year, indicating the interest that is being taken in this feature of the state fair, which was inaugurated three years ago.

# Western Union Prospers.

Salem—That the year ending June 30 was a prosperous one for the Western Union Telegraph company is indicated by its report filed with the State Railroad commission. Its dividend was increased from 3 to 3 1/2 per cent.  
The company, during the year, increased its miles of wire 42,000, having 1,585,213 miles of wire June 30. It was operating in Oregon at that time 11,548 miles of wire, an increase of about 1000 over the previous year.  
It has 408 employees in this state, an increase of 11. The total cost of all its property is given as \$143,000,000. Its receipts for the year totaled \$45,500,000 and its expenses \$38,000,000. The company is carrying a funded indebtedness of \$32,602,000, and has a corporate surplus of \$9,740,000.

# School Land Point Won.

Eugene—Judge Harris, of the Circuit court, overruled the demurrer of the defendants to the amended complaint in the case of the State of Oregon against F. A. Hyde, in which the state seeks to recover school lands alleged to have been fraudulently obtained. The case affects thousands of acres of school lands in Oregon and may come to trial in the circuit court in Eugene within the next few months.  
Judge Harris recognized the demurrer to the original complaint, holding that the state in waiting for more than 10 years after the filing upon the lands had procrastinated unduly. The state in its amended complaint blamed the Federal government for the delay.

# Hay Warehouses Filled.

Baker—Farmers of Baker county are storing large quantities of hay in the warehouses at Haines and a large amount of hauling is being done to the hay center of the county. Portland markets are reported to be overstocked, causing extreme dullness in prices, and farmers are counting on better conditions. The Baker county hay crop is far above average and the crop is said to be so large that in event it is not taken ultimately by the Portland market it cannot all be fed to stock. The Baker warehouses are already filled. A few shipments are being made by those farmers who do not care to take any chance on advancing prices. Others are shipping hay on contracts made earlier in the year.

# Grand Jury Action Asked.

Salem—Governor West announced that the evidence obtained by Miss Fern Hobbs, his private secretary, in her investigation of the charges against M. J. Gersoni, district attorney of Tillamook county, had been turned over to the grand jury. The charges against Gersoni are incompetency, failure to attend to his duties and gambling.  
Governor West said he had asked for the official's resignation, but that he had declined to give it. Gersoni was appointed by Governor West when the county attorney bill passed at the last session of the legislature became operative.

# Special Session Obviated.

Salem—Having been informed that the \$450,000 allotted by the Interior department for irrigation work in this state would be available until June, next year, Governor West said that he would not call a special session of the legislature. Believing that the appropriation expired the first of next year, the governor some time ago announced that a special session was a possibility. His plan then was for legislative action securing the money to the state. Under the present arrangement action may be taken at the regular session.

# Charts of Cities Ready.

Salem—John H. Lewis, state engineer, announces that topographic maps prepared by the state, in co-operation with the United States Geological survey, of Portland, Oregon City, Boring, Mount Hood, Halsey, Eugene, Blalock Island, Umatilla, Tolocasset, Sumpter, Ironside Mountain, Baker City, Mitchell Butte, Klamath, Ashland, Crater Lake, Grants Pass, Riddle, Roseburg, Coos Bay and Port Orford are ready. Copies may be obtained from the director of the United States Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

# Wrecked Cattle Caught.

Baker—After nearly two weeks of incessant work, Curtis Haley and A. E. Lucas have completed a roundup of the cattle which escaped from a wrecked train near Sumpter last month. They drove in on horseback with 200 of the cattle which escaped at that time and scattered all over the hills. All but six of the herd were found. They turned the cattle over to the Sumpter Valley railroad. The company assumed liability for the loss. It is said that the men who conducted the roundup were handsomely rewarded.

# Astoria Building Started.

Astoria—The corner stone of Astoria's new Young Men's Christian association building was laid this week with appropriate ceremonies, and in the presence of a large crowd of spectators. The stone was laid by Mrs. D. K. Warren, who donated the site for the structure. Addresses were made by a number of men who have been actively identified with the association's work in this city and vicinity.

# Lumber Industry Revives.

Baker—The Stoddard Lumber company mills at Whitney are preparing to resume work within the next week. The mills have been shut down owing to the falling off of orders after the start of the war in Europe. Large orders received from the trade in America, however, have caused a revival of the business. Logging operations have started near Whitney, a large number of teams and men having been sent out under Joe Neilson, the company foreman.

# Ontario Has Tax Fight.

Ontario—Proprietors of the two newspapers and the two leading mercantile companies of Ontario were summoned before the board of equalization at Vale to show cause why their tax assessments should not be raised. This action was taken at the instance of the Vale Enterprise, and is accepted as an incident of the county seceding just opened.

# Occupation of Island by Japanese Concerns U. S.

Washington, D. C.—Declining in the absence of all the facts to express any opinion as to whether the Japanese landing on the island of Jaluit, one of the Marshall group in the Pacific ocean, is in violation of the announcement by the Japanese foreign office at the beginning of the war, that Japan's operations would be confined to the Far East, Secretary Bryan was plainly expecting the early arrival of some official statement of the ultimate purpose of this act.  
Already the Japanese military operations against the German concession in Shan Tung are being studied, probably animated by the appeal from the Chinese government against violation of Chinese integrity. The landing on the Marshall islands, however, has not yet been made the subject of representations to the State department, possibly for the reason that there is no one in a position corresponding to that of China.

# NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS.

Portland—The specialists of the fruit and vegetable utilization laboratory of the Department of Agriculture have completed arrangements for a commercial test of the recently discovered method of concentrating apple cider by freezing and centrifugal methods. As a result, a cider mill in the Hood River valley will this fall undertake to manufacture and test on the retail market 1000 gallons of concentrated cider, which will represent 5000 gallons of ordinary apple cider, with only the water removed.  
The new method it is believed makes possible the concentrating of cider in such a way that it will keep better than raw cider and also be so reduced in bulk that it can be shipped profitably long distances from the apple-growing regions. The old attempts to concentrate cider by boiling have been failures because heat destroys the delicate flavor of cider. Under the new method nothing is taken from the cider but the water, and the resultant product is a thick liquid which contains all the apple juice products and which can be restored to excellent sweet cider by the simple addition of four parts of water. The shippers and consumers, therefore, avoid paying freight on the water in ordinary cider. In addition, the product, when properly barreled, because of its higher amount of sugar, keeps better than raw cider, which quickly turns to vinegar.

Wheat—Bid: Bluestem, \$1.02 per bushel; forty-fold, 98¢; club, 95¢; red Russian, 88¢; red Pife, 90¢.  
Oats—Bid: No. 1 white feed, 25¢ per ton.  
Barley—Bid: No. 1 feed, \$19 per ton; brewing, \$21.50.  
Millfeed—Bid: Bran, \$23.50 per ton; shorts, \$24.  
Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$25.50@26 per ton; shorts, \$27.50@28; rolled barley, \$26@27.  
Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$16@17; grain hay, \$11@12; alfalfa, \$12@13.50.

Vegetables—Cucumbers, \$1.50 per box; eggplant, 7¢ per pound; peppers, 6¢; artichokes, 85¢@1 per dozen; tomatoes, 35¢@1 per crate; cabbage, 1¢ per pound; peas, 10¢@11¢; beans, 6¢@8¢; corn, 75¢@1 per sack; celery, 50¢@55¢ per dozen; cauliflower, \$1.25; asparagus, \$2.25 per box; sprouts, 10¢ per pound.  
Onions—Yellow, \$1@1.25 per sack.  
Green Fruits—Apples, 75¢@1.50 per box; cantaloupes, \$1@1.50 per crate; casabas, \$1.25@1.50 per dozen; pears, \$1@1.25 per box; peaches, 30¢@60¢; grapes, 75¢@1.75 per crate; cranberries, \$8.50 per barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.35 per sack; Yakima, \$1.35; sweets, 2¢ per pound.  
Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, case count, 31¢@32¢ per dozen; candled, 33¢@35¢; storage, 27¢@29¢.  
Poultry—Hens, 14¢@15¢ per pound; springs, 14¢@15¢; turkeys, young, 18¢@20¢; dressed, 22¢@25¢; ducks, 10¢@14¢; geese, 10¢@11¢.  
Butter—Creamery prints, extras, 35¢ per pound; cubes, 30¢@31¢.  
Veal—Fancy, 13¢@13 1/2¢ per pound.  
Pork—Block, 10¢@11¢ per pound.  
Cattle—Prime steers, \$6.75@6.90; choicest, \$6.50@6.75; medium, \$6.25@6.50; choice cows, \$6@6.15; medium, \$5.25@5.75; heifers, \$5.50@6.50; calves, \$6@8; bulls, \$3@4.75; stags, \$4.50@6.

Hogs—Light, \$7@7.50; heavy, \$6@6.50.  
Sheep—Wethers, \$4@5.50; ewes, \$3.50@4.50; lambs, \$5@6.10.  
Seattle—The apple trade by far led all the fruit staples, on Western avenue in point of demand, and prices for good stock were such that growers recovered much of the earlier losses and the situation brightened considerably. On the present level of 90¢ to \$1 for the average good fruit, growers, it is stated, will net 40¢@50¢ per box. Onions are firm. Good locals not adapted to keeping requirements are selling at 75¢ per cwt. Walla Walla are about cleaned up at 85¢@90¢. No Oregon are being offered.  
Celery is brisk at 40¢ per dozen.  
There are no good Concord grapes on the market. Prices run from 19¢@22¢ and frequently less. Grapejuice and jellies are about all buyers can see in present offerings.

Good green corn is scarce. Practically all the offerings are tough and close to unpalatable. Prices are \$1.50@1.75 per sack.  
Eggs—Select ranch, 37¢@38¢ dozen.  
Poultry—Live hens, 10¢@15¢ per pound; old roosters, 10¢; 1914 broilers, 13¢@14¢; ducklings, 10¢@12¢; geese, 10¢; Guinea fowl, \$9 per dozen.  
Apples—New cooking, 75¢@1 per box; Gravenstein, \$1@1.25; Jonathans, \$1.25; Winter Bananas, \$1.50; Kings, 75¢@1.  
Cantaloupes—Ponies, 75¢ per crate; standards, \$1@1.25; jumbos, \$1.25.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75¢@85¢ per dozen; beans, green, 6¢@6 1/2¢ per pound; bell peppers, Wenatchee, 9-lb. boxes, 50¢@60¢; beets, new, \$1.25 per sack; cabbage, local, 1¢ per pound; red, 1 1/2¢; corn, green, \$1.50@1.75 per sack; carrots, local, \$1; cauliflower, local, 75¢ per dozen; celery, local, 40¢; cucumbers, field, 35¢@40¢; eggplant, 75¢@1; lettuce, local, 40¢ per box; onions, green, 25¢@30¢ per dozen; Walla Walla, 85¢@90¢ per cwt.; Australian brown onions, \$1@1.25; local, 1¢ per pound; parsley, 25¢ per dozen; potatoes, White River, \$21 per ton; Yakimas, \$25; sweets, \$1.90@2 per cwt.; radishes, local, 15¢ per dozen bunches; rutabagas, Alaska, \$2 per sack; spinach, local, 75¢ per crate; sprouts, 10¢ per pound; squash, local, \$1.75@2 per cwt.; tomatoes, local, 30¢@40¢ per crate; turnips, new, white, \$1.25 per sack.

# Democrat Caucus Proposes Heaviest Tax on Liquors

Washington, D. C.—The caucus of senate Democrats on the war revenue bill failed to complete its labors Wednesday. Decision had been reached, however, that imposes the bulk of the \$100,000,000 emergency revenue measure on beer and whiskey, which will yield nearly \$50,000,000 annually under increased taxation.  
The caucus also eliminated proposed taxes on gasoline and automobile sales and cut in two the proposed \$2 per thousand tax on bank capital and surplus. Consideration of various stamp taxes and emergency levies on perfumery, cosmetics and proprietary medicines as proposed by the Democrats of the senate finance committee, was not reached.

First action of the caucus was to vote an increase in the proposed extra tax on beer from 50 cents to 75 cents a barrel, to make the total tax \$1.75 a barrel, with a drawback of 5 per cent for purchase of revenue stamps in advance.  
The amendment, urged by Senator Williams, of Mississippi, was carried by a large majority after Senator Stone had made a vigorous speech against it. A special revenue tax on rectifiers of distilled spirits of 5 cents a gallon also was adopted.  
Together the proposed taxes on liquors would yield an annual revenue of more than \$50,000,000.  
Democrats of the finance committee had agreed to the house tax of \$1.50 a barrel on beer, which would yield, at 50 cents over the normal tax, an added revenue of \$32,500,000 annually. The further addition of 25 cents a barrel by the senate Democrats would yield another \$16,000,000. With the 5 per cent discount for prompt payment figured, the least to be derived from beer would be approximately \$46,000,000.

# English Help Japanese in Ising Tau Bombardment

Pekin—A communication received here from a German source in Tsing Tau, the fortified position in the Kiau Chau territory, says forth that in a German sortie last Friday night the Germans lost one man killed and three wounded, while 25 Germans are missing. A British battleship, according to this same information, has participated in the bombardment of Tsing Tau. A German torpedo boat, recently engaged with the Japanese, has returned to the harbor undamaged. The German gunboat Jaguar was slightly damaged.

# American Is Released.

London—George S. Speetz, a racing man, who said he was in the employ of W. E. D. Stokes, and who was arrested by Scotland Yard detectives on the charge of carrying letters between London and Berlin, has been released at the request of the American ambassador. He will sail for New York. Speetz was in charge of a racing stable at Vienna, and when the war began he came to London. Subsequently he made several trips to Berlin, which attracted the suspicion of Scotland Yard.

# Blame Put on French.

London—The Amsterdam correspondent of Reuter's Telegram company says that dispatches from Berlin deny indignantly the reported destruction by German troops of the property of M. Poincaré, president of France, at Ribecourt. They declare this property was the center of a heavy battle near Verdun, and that it was bombarded by French artillery. The charges of the Countess de Bays that the German Crown Prince looted her chateau also are ridiculed. It is declared that the Crown Prince never was in this mansion.

# FARM AND ORCHARD

Notes and Instructions from Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations of Oregon and Washington, Specially Suitable to Pacific Coast Conditions

# Moisture Content of Soil Governed by Fixed Laws

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—Since water is one of the indispensable factors of heavy crop production and since in many parts of Oregon there is generally a scarcity of this factor at the most critical period of many crops, a knowledge of laws governing the action of moisture in soils becomes a matter of prime importance to the farmer. As farmers become better acquainted with the methods of influencing favorably the moisture holding properties of the soil, they are more and more able to handle their soil in a manner calculated to increase its water holding capacity. Some of the leading principles which determine the power of soils to receive and retain moisture are discussed in Prof. Scudder's new bulletin, "A report of Eastern Oregon Experimental and Demonstration Work," from which the following facts are taken:  
Moisture occurs in soil in three forms—gravitational, or free water, capillary, or film moisture, and hygroscopic moisture. Since the last named is not highly important in crop production it need not be considered from the standpoint of practical control.

# Movement of capillary moisture is affected by the character of the soil in about the same way as gravitational moisture. In a sandy loam capillary moisture will move upward against the force of gravity in dry soil to the distance of about three feet. In a fine-grained silt loam it will rise five or six feet and in the finest-grained soil a distance of ten feet or even more. Capillary moisture does not rise so high in the coarser soils, but it moves more rapidly through them.

Upon this power of the capillary moisture to move upward against the force of gravity into the root area of the crop, depends, to a considerable extent, the amount of crop production. The moisture crops use is nearly altogether this moisture in the capillary from which the minute root hairs readily absorb from the films surrounding the soil particles until the soil is practically dry. As fast, however, as this surface layer of soil is dried up by the crop roots, the capillary movement of moisture from the lower depths of the soil brings new sustenance into the root area, renewing the films over the soil particles and over the roots themselves. With this rising moisture, of course, is brought the soluble plant foods from the deeper soil layers.

Gravitational moisture is that which comes to the soil as precipitation or from irrigation ditches or seepage and moves downward by gravity through the spaces between soil particles. Capillary moisture is that which clings to soil particles in minute films, and moves in the direction of drier soil, whether upward, downward, or sideways, disregarding the force of gravity.

The movement of gravitational water is regulated by the size of the pore space between soil particles. In coarse, sandy soil, or in roughly plowed soil with cloddy surface, pore space is large and percolation rapid, rainfall striking in at once and quickly padding into the subsoil. In fine grained clay soils and in soils where surface particles have run together so that the ground is smooth and hard, percolation is low and sometimes lacking altogether, the gravitational water running off over the top of the ground with more or less surface washing. This is also likely to occur in silt or clay loams that have been pulverized very finely and cultivated until ashy or dust-like. When percolation is greatly retarded or hindered altogether, the soil will run together and crust, and surface washing will occur if there is large rainfall. In surface soils that contain an abundance of decaying vegetable matter—organic matter or humus—gravitational water is more quickly absorbed because of the greater porosity of the soil and because of the spongy, absorbing character of the humus. Percolation is also more rapid where soils are covered with stubble or growing crops that fill the subsoil with roots. Melting snow also percolates more rapidly into soils in which there is standing stubble or growing crops, or which have a rough plowed surface. Where surface soil is run together and frozen, moisture from thawing snow penetrates it very slowly.

Where water is abundant through precipitation or irrigation, gravitational moisture percolates downward through the soil until it reaches a layer of rock or of soil impervious to water. The water accumulates on this impervious layer, filling all the pore spaces. The level to which the free water fills the pore spaces is called the water table. Under dry farming conditions there is rarely, if ever, sufficient rainfall to supply enough gravitational moisture to fill the subsoil pore spaces so that in such areas there is usually no water table.

The capacity of soils for holding moisture in capillary form varies as the texture of soils varies. The sandy loams of Central Oregon hold about 15 per cent of their dry weight in capillary moisture and the silt loams of the Columbia hold 18 per cent. Average soils hold a maximum in each acre-foot of depth of about 2 1/2 inches of water in capillary form. It is thus seen that the total annual rainfall of 10 inches in the Columbia Basin may be held in the form of this film moisture in the first four feet of soil. This is understood when it is realized that a cubic foot of soil contains an enormous number of particles, the surface areas of which aggregate one to four acres in extent. It takes but an exceedingly thin film of moisture to equal a layer of water a foot square and 2 1/2 inches deep over so great a surface. The finer-grained the soil is the greater the surface area of the soil particles contained in a cubic foot, and the greater the capacity for holding capillary moisture.

A sure sign that fall has arrived: a football player has been seriously injured.  
It's poor satisfaction to be the last man in a political race and highest man in the cost of the campaign.  
Courage and hot lead win battles in Europe. It is much easier and safer to be wounded with the former.  
Mary had a little vote.  
She cast it prohibition.  
To wave a dry goods banner  
Is the height of her ambition.

# Judging and Scoring Hogs.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.—"Judging hogs and scoring hogs are two vitally different matters" says G. R. Samson, swine specialist at the Oregon Agricultural College. "The points of value noted in scoring are not given specific percentages in judging, yet the judge unconsciously has them in mind when placing a class of hogs. Where definite scores of points are allowed for the different parts of the hog, this is spoken of as scoring rather than as judging, although it may be seen that the ultimate outcome of scoring, as of judging, is to determine which of the animals is the best. In judging, the sum total of the points is what the judge is concerned with, or what is the relative merit of the hogs before him, rather than the particular parts of the hogs which may differ."  
"We use a score card in learning to judge hogs in order that we may know the relative importance of the parts of the hog. It is not supposed that an expert judge will be compelled to consult his score card in placing a class of hogs. Neither is it supposed that the hog owners will need to make use of the score card in deciding which of their animals is most suitable for show or market. But boys who are learning to judge the merits of hogs, will find it of decided advantage to know just how much each point counts in the grand total which determines the placing of the hogs."  
"The purpose of judging hogs is to determine which one of two is the better, or which one of a larger number is the best, and which ones of the remaining animals are successively second, third, fourth, etc. In deciding on these points the competent judge of hogs takes into account a certain number of points which are of help to him in deciding the particular place in which a certain class of animals belongs. He first considers the purpose for which the animals he is judging are kept; that is, whether the hogs are intended for meat immediately; for the production of pigs, which in turn are to be used for meat; or whether the animals themselves are to be fed for a period of time before becoming meat.  
"It will be noted that the ultimate purpose for which all hogs are raised is to produce meat, and this point may well be kept in mind when judging all classes of hogs. However, the relative importance of the different points which are considered in judging hogs, differs according to the purpose for which the hogs are judged. Pigs which are intended for immediate slaughter are judged primarily for the amount of meat which they will make, and the proportion of that meat which will sell at a relatively high price. Some of the points which are of vital importance in breeding stock, or in feeders, are practically ignored in the market hog."

# An Ugly Bull.

We wish we could impress upon owners of bulls the idea sufficiently that a bull is as dangerous as a charge of dynamite. We wish also that we could get owners of bulls to buy a read power in which to work the bull at least two hours a day. With a little expense the bull could run the separator and save the buying of a gasoline engine. All that will make the bull more safe and tractable and effect a saving in the expense of keeping him.—Hoard's Dairyman.

The Germans dropped bombs on a French race track. The reports are that not even a race horse blew up.  
"October brings elaborate ball," says a society note. Wonder if it refers to baseball, football or just a dance?  
The amateur strategist wants to know if the wings of an army can be used when the army is put to flight.