

NEWS ITEMS

Of General Interest

About Oregon

Oregon & California Grant Land Taxes May Be Limited

Eugene—George M. Brown, attorney general of Oregon, intimated at a meeting of representatives of the Oregon and California land grant counties held in Eugene Wednesday night that there is a probability that the Federal government in the payment of back taxes on Oregon and California lands may take the position that the taxing power of the state was limited to \$2.50 an acre and that assessments based on the relative value of other lands in the counties were not valid.

He said the collection of the back taxes was a subject of great concern and he recommended that the counties take steps to procure the payment as speedily as possible.

While in Washington last spring Attorney General Brown said he consulted the secretary of the interior department and the secretary indicated the view that as congress had provided for the sale of the lands by the railroad company at \$2.50 an acre the lands possibly could not be assessed for a greater amount. At the time, as the representatives of the state of Oregon, the speaker said, he had held out for the payment of the taxes on the full value.

Attorney General Brown cited the provision of the act of congress vesting title to the Oregon and California land in the government, providing the taxes shall be paid as determined by the secretary of the interior department.

He commended the plan to form a federation of the land grant counties for the purpose of "having these lands sold, the timber sold and getting the lands back on the tax roll."

Referring to the action of congress he reviewed the history of the forfeiture suits. He said that when the litigation was first suggested he advised against it, fearing the creation of greater reserves within the state and the removal of the land from taxation. He called attention to the act of the legislature providing for the forfeiture proceeding and asserted "the people of the state of Oregon, through the legislature, invited congress to do the thing that it has done."

\$250,000 for Grain.

Baker—Contracts for wheat, oats and barley, aggregating 300,000 bushels and involving an outlay of more than \$250,000, have been made up to date for delivery to Coast and Eastern points, J. F. O'Bryant, local agent for M. H. Houser, of Portland, announces. The latest contract closed here was for 43,000 bushels of wheat and barley, wheat being taken at \$1.16, while barley went at \$1.75 a hundred. Oats are being sent to Portland, while other grains are all to be sent East to fill European orders.

Road Campaign Planned.

Eugene—A campaign throughout Lane county to create sentiment in favor of the construction of the Klamath Falls-Florence highway, as one of the projects to receive financial assistance from the Federal government under the terms of the Shackleford bill, will be inaugurated at a meeting to be held in Eugene on the night of September 1. Members of all the grange organizations in Lane county are to be invited to attend. Speakers familiar with the route from Florence to Eugene and thence to Klamath Falls will speak.

Noted Oregon Cases Set.

Salem—Attorney General Brown announces that two important cases pending before the Supreme court of the United States have been set for argument in October. They are Stettler vs. O'Hara and Bunting v. Oregon.

The first involves the constitutionality of the Oregon minimum wage law for women. Mr. Stettler is a Portland box manufacturer. The other case will test the 10-hour law now applying in sawmill and kindred industries of this state.

Strawberry Crop is Big.

Hood River—The Fruit Growers' exchange has announced final returns on the 1916 strawberry deal. The exchange handled 10,000 crates of fruit at an average of \$2.12 a crate. The average was cut short because of heavy rains beginning June 27. For more than a week, because of soft fruit, the price dropped from \$2.25 a crate to as low as \$1.80. The highest price received on any shipment was \$6 a crate at the opening of the season.

Coral Agate Brings \$100.

Newport—The highest price for which an agate ever sold in Newport was paid last week, when G. A. Kinsey, a wealthy Pittsburger, bought a coral agate from A. L. Thomas for \$100. Coral agates are probably the rarest of any agates found on the Oregon beaches, and the one purchased by Mr. Kinsey is of exceptional beauty. He has had the stone made into a brooch for his wife.

Bend to Entertain Child Musicians.

Bend—Arrangements are being made for the entertainment of the Burns community orchestra, made up largely of children, when they pass through here in September on their way to Salem to the State fair. Colonel William Hanley is back of the excursion to be taken by the orchestra.

PRESIDENT WILSON ACCEPTS LINCOLN MEMORIAL AS GIFT TO NATION

Hodgenville, Ky.—President Wilson came to Kentucky Monday to pay homage to the memory of Lincoln. The President accepted for the Federal government the log cabin in which Lincoln was born in a speech devoted to an eulogy of the Civil war President. Standing on a hill topped by a magnificent granite memorial building housing the Lincoln cabin, he praised Lincoln as the embodiment of democracy.

"We are not worthy to stand here unless we ourselves be indeed and in truth real Democrats and servants of mankind, ready to give our very lives for the freedom and justice and spiritual exaltation of the great nation which shelters and nurtures us," he said.

The non-political character of the program was emphasized by the mention of the name of Charles E. Hughes, the Republican nominee, by one of the speakers in giving the list of directors of the Lincoln Farm association.

What was said to be one of the largest crowds ever gathered in this part of Kentucky came to Lincoln farm in special trains and automobiles and on foot. The President and his party were taken from the station to the farm in automobiles, accompanied by a troop of Louisville police. On the way the President stopped and laid a wreath on a statue of Lincoln.

At the farm he walked up a long flight of broad granite stairs lined with thousands of cheering persons to the Lincoln memorial building at the top. Inside he examined silently the one-room cabin made of rough logs and mud and then wrote his name in the register.

Ex-Governor Joseph W. Folk, of Missouri, president of the Lincoln Farm association, presided at the formal ceremonies. Robert J. Collier, vice president of the association, gave the gift of the deed to the farm to Secretary Baker, representing the War department.

American Rights Is Issue Before American-Mexican Commission

New York—The personal rights and their economic interests of Americans in Mexico must be considered in reaching a permanent settlement of the difficulties between the United States and Mexico, Secretary Lansing said here Monday in an address at a luncheon attended by members of the American-Mexican joint commission. Conferences looking toward a solution of the international problems which confront the two countries are to begin shortly at New London, Conn.

Secretary Lansing declared that if "suspicion, doubt and aloofness" marked the coming deliberations, the commission might expect to accomplish little and would leave the two nations "in the same tangle of misunderstandings and false judgments which, I feel, have been the chief reason for our controversies in the past." Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican commission, in reply, said the result his commission seeks is the same sought by the American delegates and that the mutual spirit of harmony might be inferred from the notes exchanged.

Secretary Lansing pointed out that the assembling of the commission "manifests to the world the spirit of good will and mutual regard which animates the republics of America in the settlement of their controversies."

"I need not assure you," Secretary Lansing continued, "that my government has been inspired throughout the past three years with a sincere desire to arrange in an amicable way the numerous questions which have arisen as a result of the civil strife which has shaken the Mexican republic to its very foundations and has caused so much loss of life and property, so much suffering and privation."

Word "Obey" Eliminated.

Chicago—The commission of seven bishops, seven pastors and seven laymen of the Protestant Episcopal church, appointed to revise the ritual of the church, has determined to eliminate the word "obey" from the marriage ceremony, it was learned here. The commission will report to the general convention of the church at St. Louis, October 11. Radical changes were proposed in the ten commandments, the burial and baptismal services and in arrangements of various prayers.

Revolt Spreading in Greece.

Rome—Information reached here Tuesday that the revolution in Greece is spreading and that martial law has been proclaimed in Athens, Piraeus and several other cities. The uprising is extending in Thessaly and Epirus, which, together with Greek Macedonia, in which the movement was started, constitute the northern half of Greece. King Constantine has been in ill health for several months, never having recovered from an operation for pleurisy. There have been no previous serious indications.

Food Gamblers Hard Hit.

New York—Food dealers who gambled on the expected isolation of New York from outside supplies as a result of the threatened railroad strike and held back shipments to unload at famine prices, found themselves overwhelmed by their own plot. Prices suddenly collapsed with the averting of the strike and the food gamblers were caught with vast quantities of supplies on their hands. One speculator is reported to have lost heavily.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS; GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.27 per bushel; fortyfold, \$1.24; club, \$1.23; red five, \$1.25; red Russian, \$1.22.

Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$23.50 per ton; shorts, \$25.50; rolled barley, \$35@36.

Corn—Whole, \$42 per ton; cracked, \$43.

Hay—Producers' prices: Timothy, Eastern Oregon, \$16.50@18 per ton; valley, \$15@16; alfalfa, \$14.50; wheat hay, \$12.50@13.50; oat and vetch, \$12@12.50; cheat, \$11; clover, \$10.

Butter—Exchange prices: Cubes, extras, no bid; 29c asked. Jobbing prices: Prints, extras, 32@34c; butterfat, No. 1, 31c; No. 2, 29c, Portland.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, exchange price, current receipts, 27c per dozen. Jobbing prices: Oregon ranch, candled, 28@30c; select, 32c.

Poultry—Hens, 13@14c per pound; broilers, 16c; turkeys, live, 18@22c; ducks, 11@14c; geese, 9@11c.

Veal—Fancy, 12@13c per pound. Pork—Fancy, 12@13c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c@1 per dozen; tomatoes, 35@66c per crate; cabbage, \$1.75 per hundred; garlic, 8c per pound; peppers, 5@6c; eggplant, 7@10c; lettuce, 20@25c per dozen; cucumbers, 25@50c per box; beans, 3c per pound; celery, 75@85c per dozen; corn, 10@20c.

Potatoes—New, \$1@1.25 a hundred; sweets, 3@4c.

Onions—California, \$1.50 per sack; Walla Walla, \$1.50.

Green Fruits—Apples, new, 75c@1.85 per box; cantaloupes, 60c@1.60 per crate; peaches, 25@70c per box; watermelons, 1@1c per pound; plums, 75c@1 per box; pears, \$1.50@1.75; grapes, \$1.10@1.85 per crate; casabas, 1c per pound.

Sack Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25; beets, \$1.25@1.50.

Hops—1915 crop, nominal; 1916 contracts, 10c, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, fine, 23@26c per pound; coarse, 30@32c; valley, 35c.

Cascara Bark—Old and new, 4@4c per pound.

Cattle—Steers, prime, \$6.50@6.75; good, \$6@6.50; common to fair, \$5@5.50; medium to good, \$4.50@5; ordinary to fair, \$4@4.50; heifers, \$4@5.75; bulls, \$3@4.25; calves, \$3@6.

Hogs—Prime, \$9.70@9.85; good to prime mixed, \$9.50@9.85; rough heavy, 8.75@9.25; pigs and skips, \$8.25@8.75.

Sheep—Lamba, \$5.50@8.25; yearling wethers, 5.75@6.50; old wethers, \$5.50@6; ewes, \$3.50@5.50.

Washington Wheat Market Hits High Marks

Walla Walla—Farmers declare they were offered \$1.20 Saturday for club wheat. It is reported some small and very choice lots of bluestem and turkey red were sold at \$1.31 to millers. Daniel Donovan this week sold 16,000 bushels of hybrid wheat, getting about \$1.10 net.

Odessa—Another advance of 1 cent a bushel on the different grades of wheat was marked up. Prices are: Bluestem, \$1.19, white Russian, \$1.17, red and club \$1.16.

Oakdale—Wheat holds steady, with some advance. About 25,000 bushels changed hands Saturday at from \$1.12 to \$1.16 a bushel. Saturday's quotation was \$1.17 for wheat and \$1.37 for oats.

Wilbur—Among the farmers who delivered new wheat to the grain growers' warehouse here were T. O. Grinstead, F. Ludwig, J. Rosman and W. F. Scheibner. The wheat tests 59 to 60 pounds to the bushel and grades No. 1. It is not so plump as that of last year, but is strong in gluten. The price was \$1.17 for bluestem and \$1.14 for club. Sales of small lots continue.

Colfax—With grain quotations soaring high the market here is inactive. Bluestem was quoted at \$1.23; fortyfold, \$1.17; red Russian, \$1.13; barley \$1.60 and oats \$1.30. It is estimated that about 50 per cent of the 1916 crop here has been sold.

Harvest Hands Needed in Eastern Oregon Grain Fields

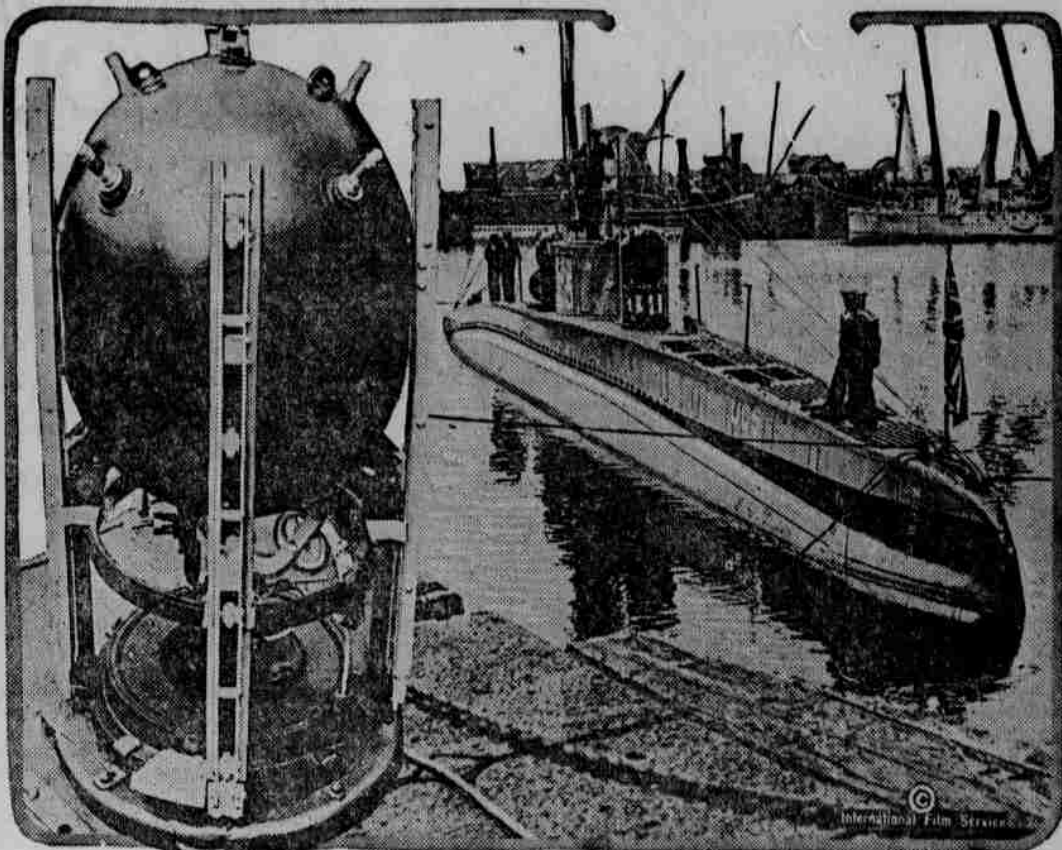
Condon, Or.—Farmers throughout this section of Eastern Oregon are experiencing serious difficulty in securing necessary labor for harvesting their grain crop. In some districts it has been almost impossible to employ harvest hands, while the available supply of labor generally, unless recruited from other agricultural districts, will be inadequate for the proper harvesting of this crop.

Common labor in the harvest field is being paid \$2.50 a day, while the more skilled labor is equally scarce, although the wage ranges from \$3 to \$4 a day.

Demand for Butter is Poor.

Portland—The demand for country creamery butter was not active, and receivers report stocks climbing. At the Produce Exchange there were no bids on extras or prime firsts, which were offered at 29 1/2 cents and 28 1/2 cents, respectively. Firsts were offered at 27 cents and 26 cents was bid. Dairy butter sold at 22 1/2 cents. The egg market was also slow. Case count was offered at 27 cents, and 26 cents was bid. Firsts were offered at 28 cents, with no bid. Tillamook triplets were offered at 16 1/2 cents, with no bids.

GERMAN MINE-LAYING SUBMARINE CAPTURED



This German submarine, the U. C. 5, constructed as a mine-layer, and capable of carrying 12 mines, was captured by the British and is now on exhibition in England. At the left is a close view of one of the mines found on the vessel.

INSPECTING U. S. CAMPS



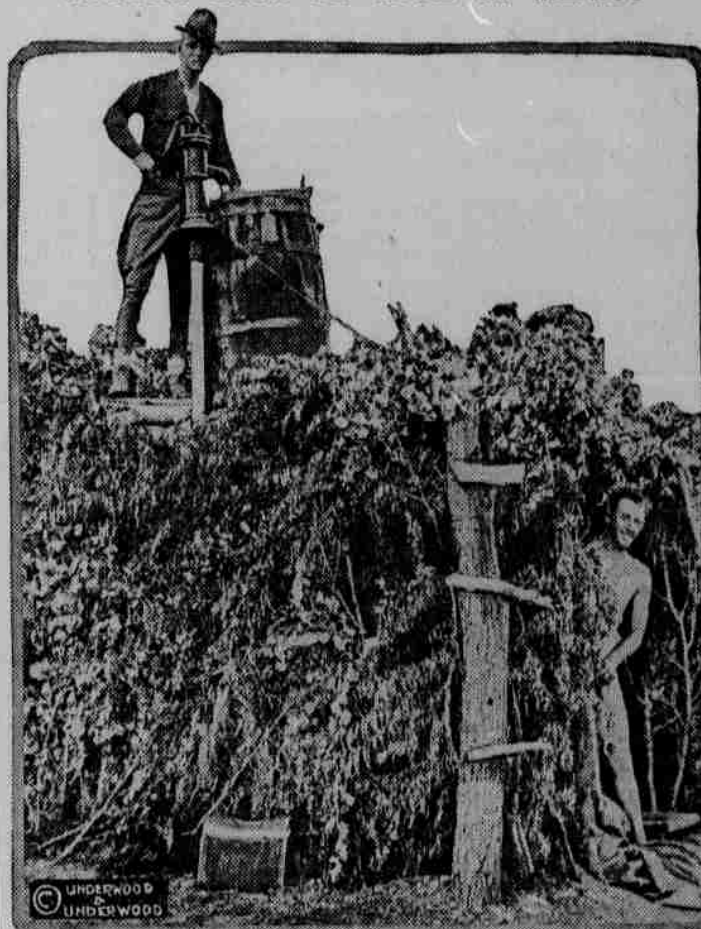
Dr. Richard P. Strong of Harvard university, specialist on sanitation and tropical diseases, photographed on the sands near the American base camp at Colonia Dublan. Doctor Strong is looking over the sanitary conditions there and at other camps of the American troops in Mexico. When the great typhus plague swept Serbia last year it was Doctor Strong who was chosen to head the expedition sent out by the Red Cross and the Rockefeller foundation to stamp out the disease in that stricken country. To him is due the credit of having wiped out the plague.

VINCENT ASTOR AN ENSIGN



Ensign Vincent Astor, First Aero squadron, New York Naval Militia, watching the making of a movie at Baysshore, L. I., where the First Aero squadron is in training. Ensign Astor has become a proficient flyer since he purchased his hydro-aeroplane about a year ago.

SHOWER BATH DE LUXE IN MEXICO



Shower baths are few and far between in dry, dusty Mexico, but our boys with Pershing's force in that country are not to be stumped by the absence of running water. At this camp they have constructed a bathhouse of tree limbs covered with leaves and herbage; a pipe was sunk into the ground and a pump fitted on top. One soldier pumps water into the barrel while his tent mate stands under the improved shower and enjoys the "Niagara."

ARRESTED IN FRISCO BOMB CASE



Thomas J. Mooney, labor agitator, and Mrs. Mooney, who have been arrested in San Francisco in connection with the preparedness parade bomb outrage. They are said to have entertained the chief suspect.

SHOVEL AND PICK.

Because of the heavy snowfall last winter, forest rangers found it necessary this spring to remove two feet of snow from the Beaver Creek nursery in Utah, so that the young trees might be uncovered by the time they were needed for spring planting on the national forests of that region. Part of the snow was taken off by use of shovel and pick. By spreading a thin layer of fine soil over another part, the natural melting of the snow was hastened sufficiently to make shoveling unnecessary.