

# HAPPENINGS FROM AROUND OREGON

## START BIG PRUNE ORCHARD.

Syndicate Will Plant Big Tract Near Capital City.

Salem—One hundred and sixty-five acres of raw land have been purchased by a syndicate of Salem business men in the center of one of the best fruit districts in the vicinity of Salem, the Rosedale district, and it will be set out at once with Italian prunes. The trees have been ordered for 50 acres of the purchase, and they will be planted at once.

The land is located seven or eight miles south of Salem, and will be traversed by the Oregon Electric when that line is extended on to Albany. The purchase was made of Arthur Edwards by Charles McNary, Dr. T. C. Smith, Harry E. Albert and Frank Durbin, an attorney, a dentist, a banker and a hop grower and buyer. It is the first time that a group of men have entered the prune business in so systematic a way in this vicinity.

The whole tract is not to be set out at once. The best methods will be adopted and studied with a view to making money. Other improvements will be put on the tract, including a unique summer home, which may be occupied from time to time by one or more of the families of the men who are the proprietors of the model orchard. It will be a plantation for farmers and prune growers in Marion and Polk counties to emulate, and as an educational feature alone it will be a valuable asset to the prune growing industry in those counties.

## Convention to Carve New State.

Medford—The Southern leaders in the movement to carve a new state out of Southern Oregon and Northern California, to be known as Siskiyou, are active with arrangements to call a convention to devise ways and means.

According to present plans the convention will gather in Yreka, Siskiyou county, California, not later than March 15, and remain in session three days. Prominent men from all over the territory affected have signified their willingness to attend and aid in the movement.

As planned, the new state will embrace seven California counties and five Oregon counties. The movement grew out of widespread dissatisfaction with the treatment, alleged to have been accorded the territory by the two states. California, it is said by those advocating the formation of the new state, has long neglected its northern portion, while Southern Oregon has suffered in a like manner, it is claimed, at the hands of Portland and the Willamette valley. The move to create the new state is popular through the affected territory.

## Florence Sees Bright Future.

Eugene—Florence, at the mouth of the Siuslaw river, has been petitioned by T. J. Monroe of Coos Bay for a franchise for an electric light plant. The petition will probably be submitted to a vote of the people. Florence is growing rapidly as a result of the beginning of jetty work at the mouth of the river. The citizens are working for a railroad to the Willamette valley via Eugene. It has been rumored that the Southern Pacific company would build a line from Eugene to Florence to reach Coos Bay, but the citizens place more faith in the promise of the promoters of the Eugene & Western company, which has made preliminary surveys and expects to begin construction work soon.

## Clean Up Club at Eugene.

Eugene—A movement has been started in Eugene to form a clean-up club among the pupils of the city schools. The object will be the cleaning up of the streets, alleys and yards of the city. City Superintendent of Schools G. S. Stockton and Manager Freeman of the commercial club, have agreed to work together for the organization of the pupils' club and the commercial club will give prizes for the best work.

## Negotiate for Light Plant.

Marshfield—Negotiations are on for the sale of the Coos Bay Gas & Electric company. Billingsby & Co., of Chicago, whose representatives are now in the city, are handling the deal. The property consists of the electric and gas plant furnishing light and power for the Bay City, and certain franchises for a street railway in North Bend. It is understood that the deal will probably be closed.

## Land Board Affirms Loans.

Salem—First mortgage loans from the school fund drawing 6 per cent interest were approved by the land board to the amount of \$59,200. There remained \$305,000 of the school fund yet uninvested January 1.

## \$1,000 for Lane County's Fair.

Eugene—The Lane County Fair association has decided to ask the county court for an appropriation of \$1,000 annually for the fair and appointed a committee to interview the court at its next meeting.

## DAIRY EXHIBIT AT STOCK SHOW

Opportunity Given Model Dairy to Show Farms in Miniature.

A unique exhibition of proper dairy methods is being arranged by the state board of health in connection with the Oregon livestock show at the fair grounds next fall. One of the leading promoters of the plan is E. L. Thompson, whose model dairy at Clover Hill farm, near Deer Island, has won attention throughout the Northwest. Mr. Thompson said:

"The fair next fall will give us the biggest educational opportunity we have ever had. We want to show cattle that are best adapted for dairy purposes by reason of breeding, care and the tuberculin test. We will have a model dairy in all its parts ready for operation. This will, of course, be in miniature, but effective, nevertheless. We will show how feed should be raised and how it should be mixed for the health of cows, the largest production of the best possible milk.

"Correct barn construction, the way the stalls should be arranged, sufficient ventilation, adequate gutter drainage, the proximity of feed, milk rooms and manure heaps, will be gone into thoroughly. We will also show how milkers should be dressed, and how they should be clean in person and in habits, to prevent contamination, and keep dirt from getting into the milk, will all be practically illustrated.

## Potato Rate Reduced.

Salem—An order has been issued reducing the rates on potatoes and onions to the same general level as the grain rates on the Southern Pacific road, which is one of the few roads in the Northwest that has charged more for the transportation of potatoes and onions than for grain and mill feed. The railroad commission has decided that these charges of the Southern Pacific are unreasonable.

## Stayton Votes Down Bond Issue.

Stayton—The proposition to vote at \$10,000 bond issue for the new high school building was defeated at a special school election today by a vote of 76 to 27. Bonds of \$850 were voted for the purchase of six more lots for school purposes.

The Oregon Library commission will be glad to loan program material to teachers for Lincoln's and Washington's birthday. The only charge will be postage. Address Oregon Library commission, Salem.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$1.16@1.17; club, \$1.06; red Russian, \$1.04; valley, \$1.06; 40-fold, \$1.10. Barley—Feed and brewing, \$29@29.50 per ton. Corn—Whole, \$25; cracked, \$36; per ton. Oats—No. 1 white, \$32@32.50 per ton.

Hay—Track prices: Timothy: Willamette valley, \$18@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$21@22; alfalfa, \$17@18; clover, \$16; grain hay, \$16@17.

Butter—City creamery extras, 39c; fancy outside creamery, 34@39c per pound; store, 20@25c. Butter fat prices average 1½c per pound under regular butter prices.

Poultry—Hens, 15½@16½c; springs, 15½@16½c; ducks, 20@23c; geese, 12@14c; turkeys, live, 22@24c; dressed, 25@27½c; squabs, \$3 dozen.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 31@32½c per dozen; Eastern, 23@27c per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 11@11½c per pound. Veal—Extras, 12@12½c per pound. Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$1@3 box; pears, \$1@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$8@9 per barrel.

Potatoes—Carload buying prices: Oregon, 70@90c per sack; sweet potatoes, 2½@2½c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, \$1@1.25 per dozen; cabbage, \$2@2.25 per hundred; cauliflower, \$1.75 per dozen; celery, \$3@3.50 per crate; garlic, 12½c per pound; horseradish, 9@10c per pound; pumpkins, 1¼@1½c; sprouts, 7@8c per pound; squash, 2c; tomatoes, \$1.50@2.25 per box; turnips, \$1.50 per sack; carrots, \$1.25; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Cattle—Best steers, \$5@5.50; fair to good, \$4.50@4.75; strictly good cows, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good cows, \$3.50@4; light calves, \$5@5.50; heavy calves, \$4@4.50; bulls, \$2.50@3.75; stags, \$3@4.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$5.50@5.50½; fair to good, wethers, \$4.50@5; good ewes, \$5@5.50; lambs, \$5@6.50.

Hogs—Top, \$9.10@9.25; fair to good hogs, \$8.60@9.

Hops—1909 crop, prime and choice, 20@22½c; 1908s, 17½c; 1907s, 11½c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c pound; mohair, choice, 25c pound.

Hides—Dry hides, 18@18c per pound; dry kip, 18@18c per pound; dry calfskin, 19@21c per pound; salted hides, 10@10c salted calfskin, 15c per pound; green, 1c less.

## PARIS STILL SUFFERS.

Floods Increase and Death and Destruction Spread.

Paris, Jan. 28.—Waters of the Seine creep slowly higher, each inch widely extending the area of destruction, desolation and ruin.

Flood conditions had become much worse at 2 o'clock this morning, particularly in the south and east sections. In the old Latin quarter the situation was critical.

The sidewalk of the Quai des Grands Augustins collapsed and fell into the Orleans company's tunnel beneath, further extending the flood through the ancient streets, practically the Rue Jacob and around the Institute of France.

Many sewers burst in the Twelfth arrondissement, one of the biggest in Paris, the whole of which is now submerged and has been plunged into darkness on account of the breaking of the gas mains.

Official figures of the stage of the water are difficult to obtain, and the city council at a stormy session tonight charged M. Lepine, prefect of Paris, with concealing the gravity of the situation. The prefect defended his attitude by saying he was governed by the necessity of not unduly alarming the people.

In the meantime terror has been struck in the hearts of all. The crust of the city seems ready to sink into the flood. Every hour drains are bursting in new localities, causing a subsidence of the streets, or a bulge of several feet, while the overflow of the surface water from the river is transforming the inundated districts into formidable lakes and the streets into canals.

## INVESTIGATION WAS CORRUPT

Four Chicago Grand Jurors of 1908 Forced New Inquiry.

Chicago, Jan. 28.—Four members of the Federal grand jury which investigated the so-called beef "trust" in 1908 forced the government, through Judge Landis, to start the present inquiry, according to a report current here today.

Concerning the inception of the present action, it is said there would have been none, had the four dissatisfied jurymen not sought the aid of Judge Landis.

This quartet, it is said, was willing to indict the packers in December, 1908, and finally became so indignant over the increasing price of meat that they informed Judge Landis that they thought it was time for the government to begin another inquiry.

The report of the four jurors alleged that enough evidence was submitted to the 1908 grand jury to warrant true bills, and that, in spite of this, there was a sudden apathy on the part of those behind the prosecution. They also said that if the investigation was not renewed immediately they would make a statement to the public setting forth their theory of why the prosecution had been dropped.

Following the jurors' complaint, Judge Landis is said to have made the investigation that resulted in the present action being started. Judge Landis, it is asserted, got in touch with the evidence submitted to the 1908 grand jury, and he is determined that the present action shall not be nullified by influence outside the grand jury room.

## INSURANCE FRAUDS.

Policies Written On Many Persons on Verge of Grave.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 28.—John J. Keane, P. J. Needham and T. T. O'Leary, agents representing a number of insurance companies in Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky and other states, tonight were arrested on warrants charging them with conspiracy to defraud.

The warrants were sworn to by S. C. Renick, secretary and treasurer of the Indiana National Life Insurance company.

While the amount involved is not stated, it is understood reach \$200,000 or more in policies alleged to have been written on the lives of persons virtually certain to die within a few months—the fraud consisting of the impersonation of sick and incurable persons by healthy ones employed for the purpose.

It is believed the alleged conspiracy is far-reaching and investigation will be made not only here, but in New Albany, Ind., and perhaps in other cities.

## Consular Agent Missing.

Chicago, Jan. 28.—Pietro Isnardi, Italian consular agent at Kansas City, Mo., has disappeared, according to a statement made here today by Guido Sabetta, the Italian Consul. Mr. Sabetta said he feared Isnardi had become mentally unbalanced because of persecution by a certain element of the Kansas City Italians. About \$2,000 is involved in the disappearance, but Mr. Sabetta said Isnardi's accounts with his government and with the American Express Co., for whom he is agent, are square.

## Latham Falls 150 Feet.

Caro, Egypt, Jan. 28.—Hubert Latham, the French aviator, fell 150 feet while making a flight at Heliopolis this afternoon. The monoplane was wrecked, but Latham was not injured.

# PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Washington, Jan. 31.—Postal savings banks were discussed at length in the senate today, Carter of Montana, leading off with an argument in favor of the bill for which he is sponsor and Heyburn hinting plainly that he would oppose it. Saying that the United States is the only first-class power which has no postal banks, and recalling frequent platform pledges, Carter proceeded to answer objections.

He denied that postal banks would menace the present banking system, saying the latter could not reach remote rural districts. He said postal banks would encourage thrift, draw money out of hiding and induce foreigners to deposit money in them, instead of sending it abroad. He contended that the new system would only be an elaboration of the use to which money orders are now put, that it was as constitutional as the money order system and would be a source of strength to private banks.

The army appropriation bill, as reported to the senate today, carries \$95,440,568, which is only \$142,860 more than is appropriated in the bill as it passed the house. The law for the present year carried more than \$102,000,000.

The senate committee on military affairs added \$517,860 to the amount fixed by the house for contingencies of the army nurse corps, transportation, etc., maneuvers, shooting galleries and ranges and for blank ammunition, but reduced by \$375,000 appropriation for barracks and quarters in the Philippines islands.

Representative Hays, the Republican insurgent member of the house from California, will not circulate the petition for a Republican caucus on the subject of amending the house rules, at least, not before Wednesday of this week.

Washington, Jan. 29.—The many-angled fight in the house over the question of revising the rules of that body took a new turn and assumed additional importance today when Representative Champ Clark, of Missouri, leader of the minority, introduced a resolution providing for the election by the house of a new rules committee of 15. Special significance is attached to the resolution by the fact that Mr. Clark is a member of the present rules committee.

Provision is made in the resolution "to revise, amend, simplify and codify the present rules of the house," and "report to the house at the earliest day practicable."

An investigation of the expenses of the immigration commission, a sequel to the recent flurry in the house over charges that members had "junketed on their trip abroad," is provided for in a joint resolution introduced by Representative Macon, of Arkansas, creating a joint committee of one senator and two representatives for the purpose. Mr. Macon was the author of the charges on the floor of the house.

Secretary Dickinson today informed Delegate Wickersham, of Alaska, in a letter, that he could not accede to his request that Major W. P. Richardson, of the army, be relieved from duty in Washington, as his services were required here in connection with the work of the board of road commissioners of Alaska, of which he is president.

Mr. Wickersham based his request for the removal of Major Richardson on the ground that he was lobbying before committees of congress "for his special work in Alaska."

Washington, Jan. 28.—The postal savings bank bill was favorably reported to the senate today from the senate committee on postoffices and post roads, virtually in the form submitted by the subcommittee. Senator Carter, who will have charge of the measure, will seek an early opportunity to secure consideration of it by the senate.

The house committee on public lands voted today to report favorably the Mondell bill, admitting to entry the surface of coal lands in the United States. The measure affects about 30,000,000 acres of land in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

The bill makes it possible for actual settlers to make entry on the surface of coal lands under the homestead act or the desert land entry law and also makes possible withdrawals under the reclamation act. The United States would issue a patent to such lands, but would reserve all rights to coal on the land as well as the privilege of prospecting, mining and removing the coal.

Suggesting the creation of a committee on the budget to determine at the beginning of each session of congress the list of appropriations by each committee of the house, Representative Douglas, of Ohio, today insisted that only by such a method could military expenditures be kept down in the interest of larger allowances for agriculture.

On a point of order the house eliminated a provision authorizing the secretary of agriculture to purchase and destroy animals suffering from pluvio pneumonia.

The senate spent more than two

hours in an academic discussion of the tariff with especial consideration of its effect upon the present high prices of food products.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Regulation of the prices of food through the tariff is sought in a bill introduced today by Representative Sabath, Democrat, of Illinois. The bill places such articles of food as sugar, flour, eggs, vegetables and meat on the free list. The bill will go to the ways and means committee and is likely to remain there.

Representative Boutell, of Illinois, declared in the house today that time would prove the truth of President Taft's assertion that the Payne act was the best tariff law ever passed by congress.

A determined effort is being made by representatives from Pacific coast states to secure an appropriation for building a fleet of submarine torpedo boats for station on the Pacific coast, and the movement is under way to get an appropriation in the pending navy bill for ten submarines to be built immediately, all of them to be used on the Pacific coast.

The postal savings bank bill, drafted by Senators Carter, Dolliver and Owen, a subcommittee of the committee on postoffices and postroads, were perfected today and was introduced in the senate by Carter.

It was referred to the postoffice committee and probably will be reported back to the senate tomorrow.

Unless the Ballinger Pinchot investigating committee makes radical change from the mode of procedure it has adopted, its work will be interminable. One committeeman declared today that at the rate of progress set at first session, it would take 19 years to complete the inquiry.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Representative McCredie and Senator Jones today appeared before the river and harbor committee and urged an appropriation for Willapa and Olympia harbors, which up to this time have not been provided for in the bill.

Representative McCredie, who made the principal argument, showed the urgent need for both harbors, and asked the committee to grant the full amount recommended by the army engineers, viz., \$212,000 for Willapa and \$58,000 for Olympia.

The committee seemed favorable, though the amounts they will grant have not yet been determined.

All Oregon and Washington river and harbor projects that have been endorsed by army engineers will, it is understood, be cared for in the rivers and harbors bill soon to be reported to the house, though the full amounts asked for may not be granted.

Representative Fowler, of New Jersey, one of the original "insurgents," today introduced a resolution providing for a reorganization of the rules committee and the removal of Speaker Cannon from that committee. The resolution hits straight at the house organization and would shear the speaker of a great portion of the power of his office.

An error of \$60,000,000 is charged by the association of American magazine publishers against the Postoffice department in the latter's figures on the deficit in carrying second-class mail matter.

This and other mistakes are alleged to be in the departments figures, upon which it is proposed to raise the rate for carrying magazines through the mails.

Twenty-five leading magazine publishers appeared today as representatives of the Periodical Publishers association before the house committee on postoffices and postroads.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The house passed a bill today to create a bureau of mines in the department of the interior. The measure will not go into effect until July 1, 1910.

It directs the secretary of the interior to "foster, promote and develop mining industries in the United States and to investigate methods of mining and possible improvements for carrying on mining operations.

Broadening the work of the naval observatory so as to permit that institution to furnish the world with discoveries "that a great astronomer using such a plant would be likely to make," is provided in a bill introduced today by Representative Dawson, of Iowa.

Whether or not the United States retains the Philippines, improvements proposed in fortifications will be of permanent use to this government, in the opinion of Senator Warren, who today defended the provision of the fortifications bill setting aside \$800,000 for those improvements.

The fortification appropriation bill, carrying \$5,821,000, was passed by the senate today.

Responding to the wish of President Taft, expressed to Senators Penrose, Crane and Carter, all members of the postoffice committee, the subject has been undertaken with a determination to report a bill at an early date.