

NEWS ITEMS

Of General Interest

About Oregon

Membership of Eugene Cannery Association Makes Rapid Growth

Eugene—The volume of the canned goods business of the Eugene Fruit Growers' association, an organization in which 541 Lane county farmers are stockholders, increased 25 per cent during the past year, according to an announcement made in the annual report of the manager, J. O. Holt, read at a meeting held in the Eugene chamber of commerce.

More extensive operations of the cannery are owned by the association and planned for 1916, when departments for the manufacture of jams and preserves, in both glass and tin, will be added.

Mr. Holt reported that there had been some decrease in the volume of green fruit shipments on account of a short apple crop during the past year, and that the dried fruit output had been about the same as for the 1914 season.

In detail the report shows that the total amount of fruit and vegetables handled in all departments was 2,360,000 pounds, an increase of 10 per cent. The varieties of products canned numbered 37.

The cannery this year has handled a number of orders for the War department, some of the Lane county products being shipped to the Mexican border.

Rabies Is Investigated.

Klamath Falls—Field Agent E. T. Averhill, of the United States Biological Survey, who was sent into Klamath county to investigate the rabies epidemic situation here, has returned from the Bly country. He declared the two head of cattle that died of rabies on the Givens ranch on Sprague river were brought in from Harney county last fall, but that some of the lumber had grown on the ranch, and had therefore been bitten there.

Mr. Averhill said: "While I was at Bly, Clarence Taylor, living near here, killed a coyote which showed symptoms of rabies strongly. I sent the brain to Dr. Roberg for examination. I also sent in the brain of a cow which had been allowed to die of peculiar symptoms resembling rabies."

Pay No Delegate Expense.

Salem—No provision now exists in the election laws for the payment of expenses of delegates to the National conventions, according to an opinion given by Attorney General Brown. This opinion was in reply to an inquiry by I. S. Smith, senator from Coos county, and sponsor for the repealing measure passed by the last legislature. Under this opinion Secretary of State Scott announced that he would not audit any claims for delegates' expenses which might be made.

While the new law does not specifically repeal the section of the 1911 laws relating to the payment of delegates' expenses, it obliterates it from consideration by implication, the attorney general holds.

Cold Kills Range Cattle.

Baker—Cattle in the interior are suffering from the cold, and several deaths have been reported. W. H. Iker, Izee, Grant county, lost several calves and others were badly frozed in the ears and noses. In the vicinity of Ironsides, Malheur county, several cattle also are reported lost, while the ranges near Durkee have been fered.

In other parts of Grant and Malheur counties the snow is so deep that roads have been abandoned and travelers are compelled to go through the fields. Several cattle are reported snowbound in Eagle Valley, Baker county, and the loss of saving them has been given up.

Malheur Corn Tract Big.

Ontario—Malheur county is doing a share in tugging the corn belt into the Northwest and stretching it across Oregon. Estimates by County Agronomist W. W. Howard and the corn committee of the county grange place this year's acreage planted to corn in the Malheur and Willow Creek valleys at 3000 acres, with an average yield of 30 bushels. Exhibits from this crop were displayed at the State fair, the manufacturers' and Land Products show, the Panama-Pacific exposition and the corn show at Walla Walla.

Tax Ad Rate Put Up to Counties.

Salem—It is the duty of the various county courts to fix the rate to be paid newspapers for publishing delinquent tax lists, Attorney General Brown held in response to an inquiry from B. Tongue, district attorney of Washington county. The attorney general also held that newspapers that have been designated by County courts as official organs cannot be compelled to publish the lists, unless a specific agreement to do so has been made by them.

FIRST MONTH'S "DRYNESS" CUTS CRIME ONE-THIRD IN TWO STATES

Tacoma, Wash.—Strict enforcement of the state prohibition law, and decrease in crime in Tacoma and Pierce county as a result of the statute, were pointed out by county and city officers at the end of the first month without saloons.

Permits for the importation of 1656 quarts of beer and 818 quarts of liquor other than beer, chiefly whisky, were issued in the county during January, according to the records of the county auditor. A total of 547 permits had been issued when the books closed. Of this number, 138 called for beer and 409 for liquor other than beer. In addition to these, there were 22 permits issued to druggists under the new law.

The total revenue of the county from this source was \$142.25. This sum came in almost entirely during the last half of the month, as during the first 15 days but 30 permits were issued. The last day of the month the number

MISS EMILY E. SLOANE



Miss Emily E. Sloane, daughter of Henry T. Sloane, millionaire carpet manufacturer of New York, has gone to France, where she is to become the bride of Baron Amaury de la Grange, who is a captain in the French army

issued was 64.

The auditor pointed out that the revenue for February, at the rate the applications are now coming in, would probably be double that of January. The auditor's entire time is taken in writing the permits and making out the affidavits, and if the applications continue to increase, additional help may be required. The county's net revenue will probably be small, as the expense is great.

Three prosecutions for violations of the law were conducted by the county attorney during the month. In each case the defendant was convicted.

Portland, Or.—One month of prohibition, and all's well.

All well, and then some. Look: Not a single family row has broken into the police court during the month. They were a common occurrence before 1916, nearly all due to booze.

Grocery stores have taken the place of corner saloons; rents have not been materially affected, say the brokers, and the number of vacancies left by saloons is astonishingly few.

More money is in circulation for groceries, dry goods and staple articles, says C. C. Colt, president of the Chamber of commerce, indicating that the working man's money spent for liquor is going into other channels of trade, replacing the industrial forces apparently left idle by the advent of prohibition.

And this is not all. Mrs. Lola G. Baldwin says the number of girls in the police court has fallen almost to nothing—a veritable revolution, she says.

Intoxicated motor drivers have ceased to exist, according to the police record. Reckless driving and speeding has been diminished many hundred per cent.

Three times as many persons, or nearly so, were arrested in December as January, or a reduction of from 2004 to 776. The number a year ago January was 1743, or more than twice as much as last month.

Flood In Philippines.

Manila—Floods in the Zamboanga province in some of the settlements in the upper Agusann district where the low country is entirely under water. Relief is being sent to Camp Keithly, which has been cut off from outside communication. The transport Lisicum sailed with supplies and materials to repair the road to Camp Keithly. The floods, which have resulted in great damage, are the result of 14 days' rain following a cloudburst.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS; GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

Stock Run Is Small.

Portland—Indications point to a small run of stock at the yards this week, unless weather conditions materially improve. Only two loads came in and but little is known to be in transit.

There was nothing doing aside from a few hog sales. A top grade load went at \$7.50 and others in proportion. The tone of the market was steady.

The range of prices at the local yard for various classes of livestock was as follows:

Cattle—Choice steers, \$7.25@7.75; good, \$6.75@7; medium, \$6.50@6.75; choice cows, \$5.50 @ 6.35; medium, \$4.75@5.20; heifers, \$4@6.40; bulls, \$2.50@4.50; stags, \$6@5.25.

Hogs—Light, \$6.75@7.55; heavy, \$6@7.

Sheep—Wethers, \$6@7.25; ewes, \$4.25@6.55; lambs, \$7@8.55.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.08; fortyfold, 99c; club, 97c; red five, 96c; red Russian, 96c.

Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$23.50 per ton; shorts, \$26; rolled barley, \$31@32.

Corn—Whole, \$37 per ton; cracked, \$38.

Vegetables—Artichokes, \$1.10@1.30 per dozen; tomatoes, California, \$1.50 @1.75 per crate; cabbage, \$1.50@2 per cwt.; garlic, 15c per pound; peppers, 20 @ 30c; eggplant, 15 @ 17c; sprouts, 8@9c; horseradish, 10c; cauliflower, \$2.25@2.50 per crate; celery, \$4.75@5; beans, 10@12c per pound; lettuce, \$2.47@2.50 per crate; peas, 8@10c per pound; cucumbers, \$1.75@2 per dozen.

Green Fruits—Pears, \$1@1.50 per box; grapes, \$4@5 per barrel; cranberries, \$11.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack; Yakima, \$1.75; sweets, \$2.75@3 per cwt.

Onions—Oregon, buying price, \$2 f. o. b. shipping point.

Apples—Spitzenbergs, extra fancy, \$2.25; fancy, \$2; choice, \$1.25@1.50; Jonathans, extra fancy, \$1.50; fancy, \$1.25; choice, \$1; Yellow Newtowns, extra fancy, \$2; fancy, \$1.75; choice, \$1 @ 1.25; Baldwins, extra fancy, \$1.50; fancy, \$1.25; choice, \$1; russets, orchard run, \$1.

Eggs—Jobbing prices: Oregon ranch, candled, 42 @ 44c per dozen. Buying prices: Premium quality, 37c; No. 1, 35c; No. 2, 30c; No. 3, 24c.

Poultry—Hens, small, 14 @ 15c; large, 15@16; small springs, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 18@20c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 24@25c; ducks, 13@15c; geese, 10c.

Butter—Creamery prints, extras, 34c; firsts, 32c, seconds, 30c pound. Butterfat: No. 1, 23c; No. 2, 29c.

Cheese—Oregon triplets, jobbing buying prices, 17c pound, f. o. b. dock Portland.

Veal—Fancy, 12@12c pound.

Pork—Fancy, 9c pound.

Hops—1915 crop, 94@12c pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 18@25c; valley, 25@26c; fall lambs' wool, 25c.

mohair, Oregon, 28c pound.

Cascara bark—Old and new, 34@4c pound.

Wheat Bids Raised.

Portland—There was an improved feeling in the wheat market here and bids locally and in the country were raised. Except in the case of bluestem, however, local prices are still under the dollar mark.

It was the recovery at Chicago, where big export buying sent prices up 3 cents and better, that turned the course of markets in the Northwest. Bids sent into the country averaged about a cent higher than in the preceding week. As to the extent of selling by farmers not much was known, as telephone communications are interrupted by the ice storm. New business in wheat with the East was put through for shipment from the interior.

Wheat bids at the Merchants' exchange averaged about 1 cent higher than on Monday, except or prompt bluestem, which was 3 cents higher.

Send East for Eggs.

Tacoma—Scarcity of local eggs, both fresh and cold storage, has caused dealers to send East for their supplies, the first shipment of eastern eggs rolling in this week. The new arrivals are of ordinary quality and are quoted at 30 cents a dozen. Several carloads have been ordered and will arrive as soon as possible. The demand for eggs is reported good.

Ranch eggs are unusually scarce, say dealers, and no definite market is recognized. This grade of eggs demands anything between 35 and 40 cents a dozen. The local cold storage product holds steady at 28c a dozen, but the supplies are about exhausted. However, dealers are hopeful that a change will occur in weather conditions and the hens will resume their duties.

BIG VALUE TO FARMER

Prairie Chicken Is Efficient Destroyer of Farm Pests.

Nearly 15 Per Cent of Birds' Food Consists of Insects, Bulk of Them Grasshoppers—Destroys Many Beetles.

The prairie chicken, now common only in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Manitoba, is one of



Prairie Chicken.

the birds which formerly occurred over a much wider range than at present and in far greater abundance. It has been reduced principally by hunters, as have so many of our finest species of birds. Many sportsmen declare allegiance to the highest principles of game preservation yet fail to practice these principles.

Like birds of its family the prairie chicken is very prolific, and if adequately protected would soon become numerous in its old haunts. The bird is easily domesticated, hence is eminently suited for propagation on preserves.

The prairie chicken is valuable not only as game, but as an efficient destroyer of farm pests, and any farmer would profit by having these birds reared on his place. Almost 15 per cent of the birds' food consists of



Ruffed Grouse.

weed seeds, including those of such pests as foxtail grass, smartweed, and ragweed. The prairie chicken eats a great deal of grain, but takes most of it from stubble. The bird is fond

VALUE OF STRAW FOR STOCK

Comfortable Stable and Good Bed is as Necessary for Animals as it is for Human Beings.

All stock should be given a thick bed of straw, leaves or sawdust. A comfortable stable and a good bed is as necessary for animals as it is for human beings. If straw is wanted for feed, forest leaves may be used instead.

Leaves contain a large percentage of ash, and though not so valuable as straw for litters, are very good. Sawdust makes an excellent litter for all stock. It not only adds bulk, which is of value, as thus the manure is divided, and is more easily and evenly distributed, but it decays both in the heap and in the soil, thus affording organic matter and ash to the plant, while it retains all the valuable qualities of the manure.

Sawdust absorbs the urine, and when this saturated sawdust is thrown out into a pile in the yard, it will soon ferment, and if the manure is not kept moist and well plas-

terized much of the ammonia in the manure will evaporate into the air. The better plan is to mix the horse manure with the cow manure, using plenty of plaster and wood's earth. A layer of each kind of manure mixed with a few shovels of wood's earth will add vegetable matter and prevent the loss of the urine, which is the most valuable portion of the manure.

Straw is worth fully \$2.50 per ton for bedding alone, and if dry and of good quality, worth twice this for feed. In cold, frosty weather plenty of bedding is a great comfort to a workhorse, and, in fact, to any animal. Bed the sheep pens with a little straw once a day. Most of the straw will be eaten if of good quality.

Marshy Land for Geese. Geese do well on wet or marshy land where hens and turkeys would not thrive.

Most Profitable Cow.

The cow to be profitable must be a vigorous member of a milk-producing breed.

GROWING SUGAR-BEET SEED

Outbreak of European War Has Cut Off Supply From Germany—Farmer Must Find New Source.

The greater part of the sugar-beet seed sown each year in the United States has formerly been imported from Europe, principally from Germany and Russia. The outbreak of the present war has cut off this supply and now the problem is to find new sources for obtaining seed. The growing of beet seed has been neglected in this country due to a decreasing sugar content in beets from native grown seed and also to the scarcity of the hand labor necessary in harvesting the crop. But now it is up to the American farmer to grow his own seed.

Although most of the factories have sufficient seed on hand for the 1916 sowing, yet a considerable acreage has been set to seed beets. The beets are set out early in spring in rows four feet apart, the crown of the beet being just level with the surface of the ground.

First a large thick cluster of leaves grows up to about 18 inches in height and then the seed stalks appear. Some beets send up but one large branching seed stalk but the majority have several, four to ten, of the tall branching stalks.

The beets are cultivated both ways similar to corn until about the first of July when the seed stalks get so tall, in some cases reaching up five and six feet, and bending over prevent cultivation. When viewed near by a field of these plants does not present a very prepossessing appearance, the tall, straggling seed stalks greatly resembling large plants of the narrow-leaved or curly dock.

Size of First-Class Tubers.

First-class potatoes, says an expert, should contain no tubers that will go through a hole one and seven-eighths inches square. It may be added that over-large potatoes should also be left out if one is putting up a car of first-class potatoes. The more uniform the potatoes, the better price they will usually bring.

Storage for Sweet Potatoes.

If sweet potatoes are put in a dry cave that can be heated by a stove they can be piled in and kept the same as Irish potatoes. Until they are dried out the cave should be kept at 65 to 75 degrees; after that there should be an even temperature of about 60. This is the experience of a market gardener.

Prevent Vegetables Wilting.

Cover carrots, beets, and other root crops lightly with dry sand to prevent wilting.