

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

No flags can be purchased in Albany. So great has been the demand that the supply there was entirely exhausted.

Reports from Baker say that the long, cold winter, together with the scarcity of feed, has left the stock in poor condition.

G. G. Brown, clerk of the State Land Board, says that May 22 has been set as the date for opening bids on the next issue of rural credits bonds. The next issue will be for \$599,000.

The gathering of cascara bark is getting to be an industry of some importance in the Willamina community. A. R. Ford, merchant of that city and Butler, shipped out 40,000 pounds of it this week and received \$3500 for it.

Deputy District Attorney Charles Robison, of Multnomah county, who has charge of the arson squad in that county, has been appointed Deputy Fire Marshal under Fire Marshal Stevens by Insurance Commissioner Harvey Wells.

Attorney General Brown has rendered an opinion to the effect that under a law which will become effective May 21, a county assessor may assess wheat in a warehouse, even though the owner is unknown, and the owner will be personally liable for the payment of the taxes.

By a deal recently closed, M. J. Kinney, of Astoria, sold to the Crown Willamette Paper company, of Oregon City, a tract of 100,000,000 feet of spruce, fir and hemlock timber in the upper Lewis and Clark River district. The price is understood to be in the neighborhood of \$175,000.

The director of the United States Geological Survey has obtained from Secretary of State Olcott a list of all automobile owners in Oregon, to provide them with data relative to the topographic maps of the state. These are maps, the director says, in which every automobile owner is interested, and he desires to get them into the hands of all such car owners.

With shipments of strawberries starting, Spence Wortman, deputy sealer of weights and measures, has sent out letters to all of the district sealers in the state urging that vigorous prosecutions follow any violation of the berry-box laws. He declares that the department has exhausted every effort to acquaint the merchants and growers with the law, and that any violations in the future will mean prosecution.

"A disease commonly known as the hip and leg ulcer is playing havoc among the hogs and sheep of various sections of the state," says N. S. Robb, county agricultural agent at Eugene. "The disease confines itself to these two classes of livestock and is especially bad in sheep. It spreads much more rapidly in sheep than in hogs and unless its appearance in the flock is checked by the isolation of the victims the results are bad.

Two thousand gallons of wine belonging to Fred Stetler, was destroyed at the Stetler ranch, 14 miles from Hillsboro by Sheriff Applegate, acting on a Circuit Court decree. Some of the liquor was 17 years old. Stetler, who was allowed to keep 350 gallons for personal use, will have to pay a fine of \$1184 and costs.

The Siuslaw harbor will be investigated as a shipbuilding site, according to Earl Stanley Smith, of Eugene, who says he was so informed by Theodore Brent, vice chairman of the United States Shipping bureau. Mr. Brent while at Marshfield gave instructions to lay out 12 ways for the building of ships in that harbor, according to Mr. Smith.

The guards on the Oregon Short Line bridge near Ontario, where an encounter took place between guards and prowlers Tuesday night, have been doubled. It is believed one of the strangers who attempted to place a bomb was badly wounded and his body whirled away in the swift stream. The prowlers and guards fought a battle, due to the guards kicking a bomb off the rails.

B. Blaser, who represents a chemical wood by-products concern, has been on Coos Bay for several weeks for the purpose of establishing a manufacturing plant that would handle 100 tons or more daily of charcoal and other lumber by-products, which a chemical process would save. Mr. Blaser has been negotiating for a suitable site and has discussed the matter with the North Bend chamber of commerce and property owners at Eastside.

A Pendleton Home Guard will be formed this week to train Pendletonians in case they are called to the colors. A meeting has been called and Dan P. Smythe, former captain in the National Guard, will preside.

Snow has seriously interfered with La Grande gardeners. For three days snow has been falling. In harmony with the balance of the winter the weather is the most unusual this week of any mid-April month of which there is any record.

FRUIT DAMAGE HEAVY

Sacramento Grape Crop is Cut 40 Per Cent and Apricots Probably 70 Per Cent by Severe Frost.

Marysville, Cal. — Five million dollars' worth of damage was done in Yuba and Summer counties early Monday by the heaviest frost that has visited the Sacramento valley in 25 years.

Estimates made by grape men, wine and raisin growers, indicate that 40 per cent of the 1917 crop was damaged. Apricot growers declare more than 50 per cent, and perhaps 70 per cent, of the crop was destroyed.

Prunes are, in some sections, a total loss, while in other sections they escaped all damage.

Peaches, which would have made hundreds of growers rich in Sutter county this year, except for the frost, are in some orchards a total loss. In all the large orchards the frost did great damage. Less than 40 per cent will be harvested. Peaches in Sutter county were contracted for at \$35 to \$45 a ton. The peach loss will perhaps be \$2,000,000.

Tomatoes and all truck gardens were badly damaged. In various parts of the county smudge pots were kept burning all night. In this way thousands of dollars' worth of almonds were saved. Thousands of dollars' worth of almonds were destroyed, however, in Yuba and Sutter counties.

Raspberry Crop Hurt.

Puyallup, Wash. — Valley growers are greatly troubled by the prospects of this year's berry crop, according to H. S. Palmer, head of the Puyallup Valley Fruit Growers' union.

"The Cuthbert red raspberry is hurt," said Mr. Palmer, "and I fear seriously so, from the reports that growers are bringing in to me daily. This is the result of the early frost last fall which is beginning to show in the new shoots.

"This damage to the berry crop extends also to the loganberry, which is hurt to an even greater extent. Indeed, if anything can be told from the early indications it is very doubtful if the loganberry crop will be much more than 25 per cent of normal this season.

Lind, Wash. — Spring seeding is nearing completion. Several good rains have fallen recently, and conditions so far are favorable for a good crop this year. The Woodard Brothers, who own several thousand acres south of Lind, are seeding six sections.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Portland — Cattle — Steers, prime, \$9.75 @ 10.50; good, \$9.50 @ 9.75; medium, \$9.00 @ 9.50; cows, choice, \$8.50 @ 9.00; medium to good, \$7.95 @ 8.25; ordinary to fair, \$7.00 @ 7.50; heifers, \$6.50 @ 9.00; bulls, \$5.50 @ 8.00; calves, \$8.00 @ 10.00.

Hogs — Light and heavy packing, \$15.00 @ 15.80; rough heavies, \$14.00 @ 14.50; pigs and skips, \$13.50 @ 14.00; stock hogs, \$12.00 @ 13.25.

Sheep — Wethers, \$9.75 @ 12.00; ewes, \$9.00 @ 10.75; lambs, \$10.25 @ 13.50.

Wheat — Bluestem, \$2.35; fortyfold, \$2.29; club, \$2.30; red Russian, \$2.27.

Oats — No. 1 white feed, \$50.50. Barley — No. 1 white feed, \$54.50. Flour — Patents, \$11.20; straights, \$10.00 @ 10.40; valley, \$10.20; whole wheat, \$11.40; graham, \$11.20.

Millfeed — Spot prices: Bran, \$37 per ton; shorts, \$41 per ton; rolled barley, \$53.00.

Corn — Whole, \$68 per ton; cracked, \$69.

Hay — Producers' prices: Timothy, Eastern Oregon, \$24 @ 26 per ton; alfalfa, \$18 @ 20; grain hay, \$16 @ 18.

Butter — Cubes, extras, 38c; prime firsts, 37c. Jobbing prices: Prints, extras, 41c; cartons, 1c extra; butterfat, No. 1, 42c; No. 2, 40c.

Eggs — Oregon ranch, current receipts, 32 @ 33c per dozen; Oregon ranch, selects, 34c.

Poultry — Hens, 21 @ 23c per pound; broilers, 30 @ 40c; turkeys, 22 @ 23c; ducks, 22 @ 24c; geese, 12 @ 14c.

Veal — Fancy, 14 @ 15c per pound.

Pork — Fancy, 19c per pound.

Vegetables — Tomatoes, \$3.75 per crate; cabbage, 5 @ 7c per pound; eggplant, 25c; lettuce, \$2.25 @ 2.75 per box; cucumbers, \$1.25 @ 1.75 per dozen; celery, \$1 @ 1.28 per dozen, \$6 @ 7 per crate; cauliflower, \$2; peppers, 45 @ 50c per pound; rhubarb, 2 @ 3c; peas, 9 @ 10c; asparagus, 8 @ 12c; spinach, 8 @ 9c; sprouts, 12c.

Potatoes — Oregon buying prices, \$4.00 @ 4.10 per hundred.

Onions — Oregon jobbing prices: No. 1, \$12.50 per sack.

Green Fruits — Strawberries, \$1.75 @ 2 per crate; apples, 85c @ \$2.35 box; cranberries, \$8 per barrel.

Hops — 1916 crop, 3 @ 6c per pound; 1917 contracts, nominal.

Wool — Eastern Oregon, fine, 35c per pound; coarse, 40 @ 44c; valley, 40 @ 45c; mohair, nominal, 65c.

Cascara Bark — Old and new, 7 @ 8c per pound.

BISHOP TELLS HOW TO SEE YOURSELF GO BY

Chicago.—Here are ten rules to "See Yourself Go By," as laid down by Bishop Charles Bayard Mitchell of St. Paul, in an address here:

Don't think you see yourself in a mirror.

Don't imitate Charlie Chaplin; be yourself.

Don't expect somebody to do your job.

Don't worry about your health.

Don't wait for dead men's shoes.

Don't lose your nerve.

Don't think yourself a failure.

Don't be a misfit.

Don't stop until you find your place.

Don't try to make your children duplicates of yourself.

paid. He simply could not stand the strain and left his place. This is a picture of what may be seen and is daily being reported all over Europe. Switzerland, Holland, Greece, tell of multitudes in dire need of food. The Scandinavian countries suffer less for food but more for some other necessities.

Neutrals Also Suffer.

Yet it is not safe to presume that in the outside world the wheat fields and the stock resources of Canada and India and Egypt, the Argentine and Australia, can be looked upon this year to make up Europe's deficiencies. Neutrals are suffering through the same causes, even if not so acutely, that are diminishing the productive power of Europe. Labor is scarce, machinery and credit are almost impossible to secure. Manufactured articles which represent the least of Europe's troubles thus far are not to be had by reason of both the industrial and financial breakdown.

The outside world cannot produce food for blockaded Germany and Austria. The naval power of the allies will not permit it to feed them. Whether it will be able to send its surplus to the entente nations must depend on the capacity of an overworked and under-toned merchant marine. There is more acute need for shipping than ever before in modern times, while the supply of it is being diminished day by day. The world is no longer on a normal basis. Credit and money, even gold money, mean little. The tonnage unit of shipping capacity is the standard by which the capacities of nations to live and support themselves must be gauged.

By all accounts there is no real hunger in England as yet, but Mr. Lloyd George has informed the nation that its food supplies are lower than ever before; he has required a drastic limitation of imports other than sheer necessities of life so that there may be cargo space to bring these necessities. England has not only to supply its own requirements from abroad but largely to provide the shipping that shall bring food to France and to Italy. It must find means to carry troops and supplies to the near East and necessities of war to Russia.

Wastage Also a Factor.

This rough outline explains how the war is coming to be looked upon as one more likely to be determined by economic than military attrition. Economic wastage, breaking down the physical strength and the morale of armies may help bring the war to the determinative military or naval victory. It is for that decision that England and her allies are desperately bidding. They believe that if Germany is now beginning to feel the pinch of hunger she will feel it more acutely a year hence, when the blockade will have become tighter and only partial crops will have been raised. England and her allies, unafraid, are tightening their belts and preparing for just this kind of war. Germany has undertaken to starve England; the allies to starve Germany.

Ducks Froze in Ice on Millpond.

Rushford, Minn.—Miss Sarah Winters, living near here, was forced to saw her flock of ducks out of the ice on a millpond near her home. The ducks appeared little the worse for their experience.

Church Built in Single Day.

Chicago.—Residents of Berkley, a suburb, started one Saturday morning to erect a church and had it completed for worship the following morning. The structure was worth several hundred dollars.

Invents Submarine Kiss.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—Rev. Francis R. Godolphin indulged in submarine kissing, according to a witness in the divorce suit of John W. Goodspeed. The pastor and Mrs. Goodspeed were madly in love, said the witness, and when they used to go swimming together they would dive and kiss under the water.

Russian railroads protect ties and telegraph poles against decay by soaking them for several months before use in strong brine.

BABIES STARVE IN THE STREETS

Neutral Traveler Paints Harrowing Picture of Pitiful Conditions in Vienna.

ONLY THE WEALTHY GET FOOD

Men, Women and Children Succumb to Hunger and Want—Gloom and Depression Weigh Heavily on People.

London.—From a neutral who has spent prolonged periods in Austria-Hungary several times since the war a Berne correspondent learns that never has the Austrian capital been in such a plight as now. Men, women and even children lately have succumbed to hunger and want, and he is assured that children have been literally dying in the streets. Nowhere is there enough to eat, he says, except among the wealthy classes and the well-to-do farmers. The organization for the distribution of provisions is wretched, despite the fact that a "People's Food Office" has existed in Vienna since December 1 last.

According to the organ of the Wholesale Purchasing Association of Austrian Consumers' associations, prices have risen, taking Austria as a whole, by 104.67 per cent since the war began, but in Vienna proportionately far more. It is not merely that all necessities have become so exceedingly expensive, but that they are not procurable. The few who have money still contrive to purchase enough, but the great majority who have not money either go constantly hungry or depend on public kitchens, which since their creation have supplied the poorer classes in Vienna alone with 38,253,815 meals, at a total cost of about \$2,165,000.

474,300 Dependents.

At the end of 1916 there were also, in Vienna alone, 474,300 persons in receipt of government relief—grants of assistance—in other words, about one in four of the entire population of the Austrian capital. These government grants since the start of the war until the end of last year had reached the sum of \$50,000,000, besides which there is a large number of destitute refugees in Vienna who have cost the state since the war began \$11,625,000. And yet the burgoemeister of Vienna has just been warning the public that they must be prepared for worse times still to come in the next two months.

The clothing question, especially the problem of how to provide any kind of boots or shoes, is almost as difficult of solution as the food question. Actresses and others, who before the war went about in elegant fanciful shoes, now are glad to wear any cast-off footwear, or even clothing, they can get, as also are many girls and women earning their living in offices.

Even more acute is the fuel question in Austria-Hungary.

The gloom and depression of Vienna, in short, with its restricted tram service, restricted electric lighting—even in private houses—limited gas consumption and, worst of all, restricted heating, with a degree of cold seldom experienced, is so distressing that the neutral who tells this story said if he had not been able to leave he would have lost his reason.

The hospitals, public and private, are all overfilled, and death is reaping proportionately as great a harvest among the civilian population as among the soldiers at the front.

In Vienna, and, indeed, in all the larger Austrian cities, there are now large numbers of houses and business premises to let. Moreover, as little removing as possible is done, because

\$50,000 TO DIVORCED WIFE

Deserting Husband Becomes Wealthy After Wife Severs Tie and Marries Another.

Chicago.—William Koeneman deserted his wife four years ago, then wrote to ask if he might come back. Although he was told he might if he would cease to make his regular spring disappearances, he did not return, and his wife divorced him.

Three years ago she was married to William Betters. Koeneman drifted down to Jamestown, Tex., and became rich. Then, having redeemed himself, as he figured it, he advertised in the papers of Kenosha, Wis., his former home town, for news of his wife. Thus he learned of her divorce and remarriage.

Mrs. Koeneman-Bettters has received from her former husband a draft for \$50,000 for the benefit of their two sons.

"Get another divorce and remarry him!" she said in reply to a question. "No, I love Betters too much, even though he is only a yardmaster and

this has become so costly owing to the shortage of labor, of vans and of horses. In many cases young married women have returned to live with their parents, or several women friends have clubbed together to take a flat or house. It is not dwellings alone, however, which are everywhere to let, but rows of business premises, shops, etc., also are standing empty.

The fifth Austrian war loan, which was to have closed on January 10 last, and which before that date was announced as so brilliant a financial success, has not yet been closed, and the banks in Switzerland are being inundated with circulars, some of them marked "confidential," and issued by the Vienna Banking association, offering all manners of inducements to the Swiss fly to walk into the Austrian spider's parlor. There is not a single Swiss managed bank in Switzerland which has been tempted by these reiterated offers of Austrian war loan stock. Austria, as a matter of fact, is already bankrupt. Her government does not allow any money to leave the country, even to pay for goods purchased in Switzerland since the war.

GIRL NOW BOARDING OFFICER ON COAST

San Francisco.—Women have long served Uncle Sam in the many branches of his affairs in this city, but now a new field has been invaded. Miss Elizabeth Clark, young and pretty, has established herself as the pioneer woman boarding officer of the immigration service. Here are some of the things she has to do:

Board incoming foreign vessels in every kind of weather, from sunrise to sunset, arising at 3 a. m. during the summer months.

Scale the Jacob's ladder to get aboard ships during rough weather.

Leap from the wharf to a rolling customs tug and from the tug, bobbing in the choppy seas of the Bay of San Francisco, to the side ladders of steamers.

PROUD OF 19-CENT TUBERS

Pennsylvania Farmer Who Minimized Potato Cost, Produces Some Real Whoppers.

Doylestown, Pa.—Farmer Edward Chittick of Plumstead township, who raised 209 bushels of potatoes on an acre of ground at 19 cents a bushel, brought some real "taters" to the county seat of Bucks, exhibiting "Murphys" that averaged a pound each, to show what kind he raised—and they were whoppers.

Thirty-one potatoes filled a half-bushel basket heaping full. One after another a dozen were measured, and they were fairly uniform in length. Most of them measured six inches across. They weighed about a pound apiece, and Mr. Chittick says he had some that tipped the scales at one and three-quarters pounds.

Mr. Chittick admits that he may have been a little low in some of his expense items; but it was very little. He did nearly all the work himself, and consequently the cost was less than if he had to hire the kind of labor most farmers must. The United States survey figures, he says, show that he was not much too low on his labor cost. As for cutting potatoes, he says he can cut ten bushels with a knife in half a day; but he keeps right down to business.

not as wealthy as Koeneman. But I am glad to have the money for the boys."

EVEN PICKLES ARE HIGHER

United States Government Buys Thousand Barrels for Army and Navy.

New York.—A government order for several thousand barrels of dill pickles for the army and navy has served to increase the price of next season's crop at Riverhead and Calverton, L. I., where a large part of the pickles are grown. Yesterday, J. Fred Smith, buying agent for a large Brooklyn pickling house, was interviewing farmers at Riverhead and Calverton regarding next season's crop. He made as many contracts as he could sign up for the entire crop, the price being \$3 per thousand. The ruling price had been from \$2 to \$2.25.

The United States marketed 3,731 short tons of asbestos of domestic production last year, a gain of 39 per cent from the year before.