

## OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### PORTAGE ROAD WILL PAY.

Low Water in River Has Interfered With Its Traffic.

Salem—“That the Portage railway will be self sustaining when regular traffic has been established, there is no doubt,” said Superintendent L. S. Cook, of the Cello Portage railway, when in Salem to attend a meeting of the Portage commission. “For various reasons we have not been getting the business we should have had at the start, but present difficulties will be removed and avoided in the future.”

“Low water has made it impossible for the boats on the upper river to take on wheat at some places to bring it down to Celilo. For example, at Quintin there was 12,000 sacks of wheat piled up on the shore, but the water was so low the boats could not get near enough to load. Some 150,000 sacks of grain along the Upper Columbia have been shipped out by rail, when under normal conditions of water, it would have come down by boat and the portage road.

“I cannot give exact figures at present concerning the expenditure and income, because we have not made settlements with transportation companies when the charges are collected by one line and the amount apportioned. In round numbers I should say that it costs us \$800 a month to operate the road and our income is about \$600 a month. If we were getting all the traffic that is available and naturally tributary to the portage road, we would have an income of \$1,200 a month and now make of perhaps \$1,000. We have handled 10,000 to 15,000 sacks of wheat this month, whereas we would have handled much more if the boats could have reached it.”

### WANT WATER FOR CANAL.

Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company Files on Water Rights.

Salem—The Deschutes Irrigation & Power company has made two water filings to secure new sources of water supply for its extensive irrigation system near Bend. The present source of supply is about two miles above the town of Bend, but it is understood that the land upon which the headgate is located is owned or controlled by A. M. Drake. The Deschutes company has now made a filing for 1,000 cubic feet of water per second about three miles further up the stream. The filing is for the purpose of securing water for the Central Oregon canal. The other filing is for 1,500 cubic inches per second at a point about 10 miles above Bend, at Beham falls. The filing is for the purpose of securing water for the Benham falls canal, which will extend eastward and northward a distance of 30 to 40 miles, bringing the water to Princeton and irrigating large areas of land north of the canal.

The Portland Irrigation company, represented by Edwin Mays, of Portland, has filed on 15,000 inches of water in Chewaucan creek, Lake county, the point of diversion being in section 34, township 33 south, range 18 east.

### Fruit Drier Closes Down.

Freewater—J. P. McMinn, proprietor of the large fruit drier north of Freewater, has closed for the season, after a very short run, owing to the scarcity of prunes and the active demand and high price paid for the green fruit, 75,000 pounds being the output this year as compared with 200,000 pounds last year. Hereafter he has shipped his prunes east, disposing of the same in the large cities at prices from 3 to 3½ cents a pound. He has sold half of this year's output at 6 cents a pound to Pendleton and Walla Walla merchants.

### Sandlake May Talk.

Cloverdale—The Cloverdale Telephone company this week completed ten miles of new telephone line to Sandlake. The company has also lately completed its line to Dolph. This gives Tillamook City telephone connection with every voting precinct in the south part of the county. There is hardly a farm house from Tillamook to Slab creek that has not telephone connection, and it is hoped next year will see the system extended to the valley by way of Westville. The system now embraces over 60 miles of wire.

### Road Opens Rich Region.

Sumpter—Sumpter is congratulating herself on the running of regular trains to Austin, opening up a rich country for business here. The first regular train went to Austin last week and carried a large excursion of business men, who are already laying plans for getting their share of the business of that country. The country through which the road travels after leaving Sumpter is covered with a heavy growth of pine timber. Much of this is owned by the Oregon Lumber company, whose big mills are located at Baker City.

### Work on Coquille Bar.

Bandon—Work on the north jetty at Coquille bar is now fairly under way, and will be completed probably within a year. This is part of the improvements along the Coquille river, for which the government recently appropriated \$55,000. The jetty will be extended 555 feet seaward. Contractors Wakefield & Jacobson, of Portland, have the task in hand, and extensive work had to be done before the actual work of building the extension was started.

### Winter Irrigation a Success.

Milton—W. T. Shaw, the well known Hudson bay rancher, was in the city recently and reports that irrigation on the line of the Hudson Bay ditch is increasing. This ditch uses the surplus water of the Walla Walla river, and as a result it can irrigate when the ordinary irrigation season ends.

### Car Shortage Felt.

Freewater—Owing to the scarcity of cars on this division the Peacock and Eagle mills are working at a great disadvantage on account of storage capacity being blocked with millstuffs ready to ship. Manager J. H. Hall advises he has 20 cars of flour and feed ready to move and can get but one car a day.

### WEIRD KITES AT A MORGUE.

Four Hindus Conduct Service Over a Dead Shipmate.

Four dusky Hindus called at the morgue late the other afternoon. They told the keeper that they had come from the steamship Virginia of the Cuban Mail Line, on which they were employed as stokers, to hold a funeral service over the body of Cadi B. Jaknow.

Jaknow's body was brought to the morgue Oct. 25 from the Virginia, on which he died. He also had been a stoker on the steamboat.

The four visitors were American made clothes, but carried turbans with them. They were dirty with coal dust and looked as though they had just come from the ship's hold. They called for water. The morguekeeper brought a pailful. The four took off their shoes and socks and washed their feet and hands and faces.

Then they set their shoes in order in a row along the side of the morgue in Twenty-sixth street and walked in. Inside they removed their outer clothing and adjusted their turbans. The plain pine box, covered with black cloth, which contained the remains of their shipmate, lay in the little chapel to the right of the morgue. The man in the coffin was tall and of fine physique, with the characteristic jet black whiskers of his race.

One of the Hindus took his position in silence at the head of the coffin. One stood on his right, another on his left a little behind him, and the fourth directly behind him, but still farther back, thus forming a cross.

The man at the head of the coffin bent his head and whispered. All four put their hands behind their ears and bent forward, as though intent on catching a response from the somber box in front of them. The two forming the arms of the cross then began a low chant; the one nearest the coffin bowed over it again and uttered a prayer in monotone.

Then, turning to the right, he gazed rapidly at the ceiling for several minutes, as though straining his eyes to see something. The other three looked to the left equally intent.

Standing thus, gazing ceilingward, the four broke out into another chant, then walked one at a time to the coffin, looked for a moment on the features of the dead man, and filed slowly out. Then they put on their clothes again and walked away without a word.

### KEEP THE BOYS BUSY.

It is Idleness That Fills the Reformatories with Criminals.

That “satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do” is as true to-day as in the days when men could see, or thought they could see, the horned head looking over their shoulders. It is now claimed that there is satisfactory proof, derived from prison statistics, that busy hands keep boys from starting into lives of crime.

A writer in the North American Review asserts that manual training is almost as good a preventive of crime as vaccination is of smallpox. It is said that the warden of a penitentiary was asked:

“What per cent of the prisoners in your care have received any manual training beyond some acquaintance with farming?”

“Not one per cent,” replied the warden.

“Have you no mechanics in prison?”

“Only one mechanic; that is, one man who claims to be a house painter.”

“Have you any shoemakers?” asked the visitor.

“Never had a shoemaker.”

“Have you any tailors?”

“Never had a tailor.”

“Any printers?”

“Never had a printer.”

“Any carpenters?”

“Never had a man in this prison that could draw a straight line.”

If these are facts and representative of the training of the hands ought to enjoy a well-deserved boom. Even if the picture here painted is too rosy to apply to any other penitentiary, it is, nevertheless, true that our boys will not learn much badness while they are busy with something that is worth while.

### His Vacation.

“There was a letter carrier out in Omaha,” said Representative Hitchcock, “who had not taken a vacation for twenty-five years. He worked every day. One afternoon he created great consternation in the postoffice by applying for two days' leave.”

“He went away for two days. Then he came back and went to work again. Everybody was curious to know where he had been, and finally one of the clerks asked him if he had had a good time.”

“Oh, yes,” said the carrier. “I spent my time walking around my beat.”—New York World.

“Skin Deep is Deep Enough.”

“Can't see why you're so smitten with her.”

“Why, because she's so deucedly pretty.”

“Beauty's only skin deep.”

“Well, great Scott! I'm no cannibal. That's deep enough for me!”—Cleveland Leader.

### Changeable.

The Wife—You see some shades of hair look better in sunlight and others look better when it is cloudy.

The Husband—It seems to be cloudy today; which colored hair are you going to put on to-day?—Yonkers Statesman.

Prize for Soldier Artist.

At the Simla Fine Arts Show, opened by the Viceroy of India recently, Lord Kitchener offered a prize of \$15 for a picture in any style or medium by a noncommissioned officer or soldier.

The Philosopher of Folly.

Never speak ill of a fellow man. To do so behind his back is cowardly. To do so to his face is dangerous.—Cleveland Leader.

Did you ever notice that the almighty dollar is the slave of a few and the master of many.

### TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

The good die young, and the good fellows usually make a premature flinch.

You can get everything free, even doctor's services, if you own a life insurance company.

A young man wants to know how to succeed. Hunt up the commandments and follow them.

When candidates have to pay their own expenses a lot of political beetles will have to find new jobs.

Hall Caine is a great admirer of the American trust millionaire. For some years Hall has been “out for the coin” himself.

When a college boy is killed in a row his relatives have the satisfaction of knowing that it was nothing but a hazing joke.

The McCalls and McCurdys never will be able to forgive young Mr. Hyde for giving the banquet that started all this trouble.

Judged by criticism, some persons seem to suspect John D. Rockefeller of attempting to drive a camel through a needle's eye.

Somebody has invented a new field gun which fires 300 shots a minute. Here is another strong argument in favor of universal peace.

“What will we do when the lobster finally disappears?” asks the Boston Globe. Some of us will be able to save money and sleep of nights.

The testimony appears to bear out Mr. McCurdy's theory that a life insurance company is not organized for the benefit of the policy holders.

There is in Cincinnati a man who has been granted \$10 a week alimony. He will probably never have any faith in the arguments of Grover Cleveland after this.

A Cleveland girl is suing a manufacturer of cushions for using her portrait to ornament his wares. The lady will have general sympathy in this obvious effort to save her face.

As to that offer of \$50,000 to Prof. Behring if he can prove that his consumption cure will do all he claims for it, he will be likely to get a great deal more than \$50,000 if he does prove it.

A loaf of bread fourteen feet long and weighing three hundred pounds was one of the sights at the recent Minnesota State fair. If bread is the staff of life, this must be the “big stick” of which so much has been heard.

The devil is going to have a mighty hard time when he comes to assign the place of honor. Besides the man who rocked the boat and the man who didn't know it was loaded there is the man who invented the phonograph.

Yale freshmen now amuse themselves by sitting in windows and dropping pieces of burning paper on people who pass below. The parents of some of these freshmen probably honestly believe that they will become great men some day, too.

One of our most successful merchants, a man who is many times a millionaire, recently summed up his business policy in the phrase, “The customer is always right.” The merchant takes every complaint at its face value and tries to satisfy the complainant, believing it better to be imposed upon occasionally than to gain the reputation of being mean or disputatious.

### primo. The kindly and gentle apostle

of longevity is advocating a serum as a remedy for old age. Now, as some writers have pointed out, the Metchnikoff term of life might not be an unimproved blessing. New problems of property, business control, education and so on would arise and perhaps require radical changes in our industrial order. But we all agree that a reasonable increase of the individual life is highly desirable. How can it be realized? Mr. Edison, the inventor, says that we eat and sleep too much and do not work hard enough. Complaints of overwork he dismisses as “absolute nonsense.” We cannot, as a rule, work too hard, he says, and many of us go off to Europe when all that is needed is a drastic reduction of food and sleep allowance. Mr. Edison overstates his case and is guilty of fallacies. He seems to think of sleeplessness when he talks of sleep and to forget that man does not live by work alone. We work to live, and life without leisure, without reflection, without time to think and loaf—the soul being invited as a companion—without elevated pleasure, is not life in the human sense of the term. Some overeat and err in other directions, no doubt, but there is such a thing as under-eating, too, and such a thing as insufficient rest. Exaggeration should be avoided in the treatment of this important question of health and longevity.

Most persons will be surprised to know that the meat diet in this country has decreased in fifty years by about 36 per cent. There has been a decrease in the amount of mutton, pork and even beef consumed by each individual. A higher standard of living than that of fifty years ago would have led to the supposition that more meat instead of less was called for by each person. The excellent variety found on the table now accounts for the difference in meat-eating. There is greater abundance of milk, butter, eggs and poultry than was known fifty years ago. A contributor to a current magazine, writing on the subject, says that in 1880 the supply of eggs was 920 dozen for each 100 persons, and in 1900 it reached 1,700 dozen. In the same period the supply of dairy products increased by more than threefold. According to the last census 623 bushels of wheat are consumed by each hundred persons, against 430 for the same number in 1850. Corn and potatoes give similar increase of percentages. The most surprising change has been in the amount of oats consumed—over fourfold in forty years. This has been decreased somewhat in the past few years owing to other cereals introduced as breakfast foods. Canning and other methods of preserving have increased the luxuries of the table. Many fruits and vegetables that were to be had only for a short season are easily secured the year round and at comparatively trifling cost. Fruits that were scarcely known fifty years ago are now in daily use. The tomato has found universal favor where once it was despised. Our grandfathers had hardly tasted the banana, while now twenty-five and thirty million bunches are consumed in the United States each year at a cost of nearly \$8,000,000.

The rapid progress made of late in all departments of agriculture promises that the number and quality of foods will greatly increase in the future. If Malthus were living to-day he would have to take into account many things he did not dream of when he figured that the human race is increasing in geometrical progression, while the means of subsistence are increasing only in arithmetical progression. His book was published in 1798, but he was soon obliged to modify his statements. To-day he would have to re-write his work and change almost every page.

### JOHN HAY'S ADAPTABILITY.

Many stories are told of the late Secretary of State John Hay to illustrate the remarkable good fortune which was his in finding at the completion of every task a new one awaiting him, which was an advance in his profession and an opportunity to develop himself. Most chapters in his career illustrate also the marvelous adaptability which made it possible for him to take instant advantage of every opportunity which offered.

When he was a young man acting as President Lincoln's assistant private secretary, Hay met Whitelaw Reid, then a war correspondent. In the years between then and 1870 Mr. Reid rose rapidly, and became managing editor of the New York Tribune under Horace Greeley.

In that year Hay, a young man of but 32, resigned his position as charge d'affaires in Madrid, returned to New York, and there met Reid again and dined with him. Later they walked down to the Tribune office.

It chanced that the foreign editor was away that night.—Hay's inevitable good fortune, and in the cable messages which came to the managing editor was one of especial importance.

“Here,” he said to Hay, “sit down and write me a leader for to-morrow on this thing.”

Half in joke, but entirely competent, Hay complied. The article proved excellent.—Hay had accepted the opportunity. Reid asked him to stay a week, then a month, and so John Hay entered journalism. Without a day's apprenticeship, without solicitation or expectation on his part, when he was, in fact, on his way to Illinois, where he expected to take up the practice of law, he received a high place on the foremost paper in America. He held the position five years, and was soon well known in the profession.

The Wise Ones have discovered that tea drinkers talk gossip while they drink, but that the smoker gossips about no one, and is at peace with the world. However, no one wants to see women acquire the habit of smoking.

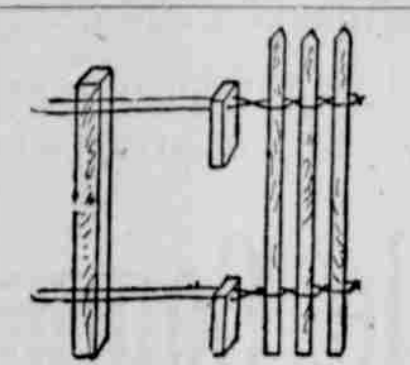
The title of a new poem song is, “I Don't Know Where I'm Going, but I'm on My Way.” Are you not in the same fix?



### Picket Fence Device.

A simple effective plan for building a picket and wire fence without a machine is suggested by G. C. Schneider, of Ava, Mo. He says:

A device which will answer the purpose of a fence machine is made as follows: Take pieces of 2x4 a foot or so long, bore two small holes near the end of each, put the wires through these holes and fasten to post where you wish to begin. Then stretch your wire and staple to post some distance ahead, leaving the staples loose enough so the wire will slip when it is drawn tight. Let eight or ten feet of wire extend beyond the post and to those fasten heavy weights to keep the



PICKET FENCE DEVICE.

wire tight. Put a picket between the wires and turn the blocks over as often as you wish to twist the wire between each picket; then put in another picket and twist the other way, etc. To preserve posts, mix pulverized charcoal in boiled linseed oil to the consistency of paint and apply with a brush.

### Cost of Silage.

We have from time to time laid before our readers the cost of putting corn in the silo, says Farmers' Tribune. Some men are able to grow the corn at a cost of about 50 cents per ton of green matter. They are able to put it in the silo for another 50 cents, making the total cost of the silage in the silo approximately \$1 per ton. Sometimes the cost goes as high as \$1.50, sometimes even higher.

Sam Schilling, who is manager of Joel Pheasant's heard at Northfield, Minn., kept an accurate record of the cost of putting sixteen acres of corn in his silo last year and these figures were given before the Minnesota Butter Makers' Association this spring by Mr. Schilling. They are as follows:

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| 16 acres corn at \$8.....          | \$128.00 |
| Cost of cutting, \$1 per acre..... | 16.00    |
| Two men loading five days.....     | 15.00    |
| Four teams hauling five days.....  | 20.00    |
| Engine five days and man.....      | 25.00    |
| Fuel for engine.....               | 10.00    |
| One man to feed machine.....       | 10.00    |

Cost of 200 tons silage.....\$280.00  
Cost per ton of silage.....\$1.40  
The average yield per acre in this instance was 12.5 tons of green corn. The cost of the ensilage, including the raising, which was estimated at \$8 per acre, was a little high. Consulting the table, however, it will be seen that it required four teams hauling for five days to draw the corn to the silo per day. This means that the silage had to be drawn from some distance or more could have been hauled, but even at \$1.50 per ton silage is a very cheap food.

### Loading Corn Fodder.

Loading corn fodder may not be very hard work to the small farmer, but when one has the product of many acres to load it becomes a formidable operation. The work can be much more easily done if the following device is used: Make a leader by using a two-inch plank ten feet long with cleats of inch stuff nailed on one side at short intervals. At one end nail a cleat on the under side, which will be three inches wider than the board on each side. Tie small ropes to this



FOR LOADING CORN FODDER.

and with them fasten the rack to the back part of the wagon rack, the lower end of the plank rack resting on the ground.

This makes a stepladder up which it is easy to walk and if strongly made a man can readily carry up all he can get his arm around. With this plan one man can do the work of loading a wagon easily without spending the time necessary to bind the bundles. The illustration shows how easily the ladder can be made.—Indianapolis News.

Crops Without Irrigation.

The most widespread movement in the history of the country for the development of unirrigated lands in the West is in progress this spring. Hundreds of thousands of acres are being brought under cultivation as the result of government and other irrigation projects, but aside from this a plan far greater in its scope has been started for the successful use of farm lands without water.

The Fort Wayne and Wabash Valley Traction Line, operating fifty miles of interurban road in Indiana, has sent to farmers living along the line an offer to furnish power to run the machinery on their farms. Gasoline and steam engines are used extensively, but corn shelling, feed cutting and other work is also done by hand, and the company proposes to furnish dynamo and build a line for a distance of one mile on each side of the track at cost if farmers will agree to pay a reasonable sum for current. The farmers generally seem to favor the project.

### Good Outside Paint.

A substitute for white oil paint may be made as follows: Four quarts of skim milk, 1 pound of fresh slacked lime, 12 ounces of linseed oil, 4 ounces of white Burgundy pitch, 6 pounds of Spanish white, to be mixed as follows: The lime to be slacked in an iron vessel in the open air by pouring water upon it a little at a time until it is dissolved into a fine dry powder. Put the lime into a wooden bucket or keg and mix it in about one-quarter of the milk; the oil in which the pitch must be previously dissolved over a slow fire and cooled, to be added a little at a time, then the rest of the milk, and afterwards the Spanish white. Mix thoroughly and strain through a common wire milk strainer and it will be ready for use. This quantity is sufficient for more than fifty square yards, two coats. By adding a very small quantity of lampblack first dissolved in milk and thoroughly mixed a very handsome lead color can be obtained. If stone color is desired, after mixing in the lampblack add a small quantity of yellow ochre and Venetian red separately, first dissolved in milk. While using, stir frequently to keep it in solution.

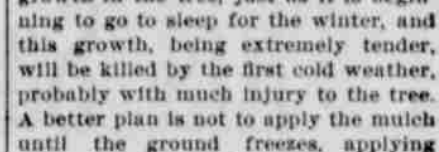
### Fall Mulching of Trees.

If it is thought necessary to apply mulch around the base of trees or shrubs as a winter protection care must be used not to do the work too soon, particularly if anything in the nature of a fertilizer is used, such as coarse stable manure, for there is always danger of inciting renewed growth in the tree, just as it is beginning to go to sleep for the winter, and this growth, being extremely tender, will be killed by the first cold weather, probably with much injury to the tree. A better plan is not to apply the mulch until the ground freezes, applying more, if necessary, later on.

By far the best plan of all is to use earth with which to protect the roots of the tree or shrub during the first cold days; put it on several inches thick for three feet around the tree. Later, if it gets too cold, a little coarse manure may be put on over the soil. By this plan the tree or shrub will have full protection without danger of inciting a late growth.

### A Good Grindstone.

A grindstone to turn with bicycle gear can be made after this cut, writes W. D. Watkins, of Athens, Ohio. Take sprocket wheels and chain off an old



GRINDSTONE WITH PEDAL GEAR.

binder or dropper. Gear so that stone will turn two revolutions to one of crank. You can grind anything on it with great speed.

### Grinding Corn for Swine.

We believe in feeding swine so that they will have something to keep them busy as well as for the best results to be obtained from the grain, so we feed the corn whole and usually until the corn gets hard and flinty, when it is either shelled and soaked a little to soften it or soaked on the cob. All other grains are ground because it has been demonstrated that the smaller grains go through the animals and do them but little good. Carrying out the plan of keeping the swine busy, we always have something for them to chew on—cornstalks, squares of sod, apples, potatoes and other vegetables, and we do not see that they take on fat any slower because of this plan of feeding. Pure water is given them in clean troughs twice a day during the winter and we know they thrive better for having it.—Exchange.

### Cottonseed as Fertilizer.

Cottonseed meal is used quite extensively in some sections of the country as a fertilizer. A good grade meal will carry about 6.8 per cent nitrogen, 2.9 per cent phosphoric acid and 1.8 per cent potash. Based upon the valuations that will be used by New England experiment stations in 1905 for computing the value of commercial fertilizers, a meal analyzing as above will be worth about \$29.00 as a fertilizer. Notwithstanding its high value when used directly in this way it will usually be found more economical to use it as a food for stock and to apply the resulting manure to the land. When used thus, from eighty to ninety-five per cent of the nitrogen and phosphoric acid and practically all the potash will be contained in the manure.

### Corn and Oil Meal for Hogs.

Hogs fed on corn and linseed oil meal at the Missouri station ate more feed, made greater increase in weight, with a smaller amount both of food and of digestible nutriment, and at less expense than with any other grain ration tested in the dry lot feeding experiments, the balanced ration of corn and oil meal being the most efficient and profitable of the rations tested. The quality of the pork produced was unsurpassed, and the tendency of these feeds to make real growth, as well as fat, was greater than that of any other ration tested. One pound of oil meal replaced from 3.85 to 7.1 pounds of corn, according as it was fed with five or twenty pounds of corn. Bone meal fed with whole corn effected a marked saving in the grain requirements per pound of gain.

If the garden is thoroughly underdrained, as it always should be, it should be fall plowed in ridges and the surface left rough, so as to expose the soil as much as possible to freezing. This is the more necessary because the garden is always a sheltered spot, where snow lies much of the winter, so that there are few times when the soil freezes very deeply. The garden is always the richest spot on the farm. It often is heavy with manure and needs the winter's freezing to lighten the soil and make its fertility more available.