

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

HILLSBORO, OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

New York Italians have sent \$10,000 to sufferers from the Venustus eruption.

The dormant volcano at Palma, Canary islands, is showing signs of activity.

Two more men injured by the explosion on the battleship Kearsarge have died.

Anthracite operators have rejected the miners' offer and are preparing for a long strike.

Wives of striking French miners continue to wreck houses, mob women and fight the troops.

An insurance bill, along the lines recommended by the president in his message, is being drafted.

Charles E. Hughes, of New York, has been retained by the government to fight the coal monopoly.

Three persons were killed and four seriously injured by an explosion on the British battleship Prince of Wales.

The Postal Telegraph & Cable company has completed and is working order a new cable from San Francisco to China.

The opening of two Manchurian ports May 1 and one June 1 to the world's trade is announced by the Japanese government.

Voliva proposes to Lewis to arbitrate their troubles.

Russia says the Jews are in no immediate danger of massacre.

King Alfonso has gone to England to arrange the program for his wedding.

In a riot among coal miners near Johnstown, Pa., four men were killed and many injured.

Hermann's trial at Washington for destroying government letter press books has been postponed until April 25.

Admiral Goodrich, with his flagship Chicago, the cruiser Marblehead and the revenue cutter Perry will reach Portland May 5 for a short stay.

The New York legislature has passed another insurance regulation law known as the "anti-perjury bill."

The "big bill" only remains to be acted upon.

Governor Folk, of Missouri, will see that the Springfield lynchers are arrested and has two companies of militia on guard. Four of the leaders have been captured.

Fred O. Murray, newly appointed revenue collector at Buffalo, N. Y., has been indicted for grafting. The alleged stealing was from Erie county, of which he is ex-treasurer.

Prosecution of the steel trust has begun in Ohio.

Attorney General Hadley, of Missouri, is quite sick.

Four persons were killed in a panic in a Chicago church.

Another terrible earthquake in Formosa has killed thousands.

A Springfield, Mo., mob burned three negroes and wrecked the jail.

Mark Twain has announced his intention of leaving the lecture platform.

Russia has sent to the interested nations a proposed program of subjects for The Hague conference.

Sailors on Portuguese warships have mutinied and temporarily have the upper hand. Dislike of their superior officers is the cause.

Hearst has begun proceedings in the New York Supreme court to test the validity of the election of McClellan as mayor of New York city.

The American Smelting & Refining company will soon adopt an eight-hour day for its five Colorado plant. This will affect about 2,500 men.

Dowie and Voliva are negotiating for a compromise.

A great bank is being proposed to help Wall street men.

Roosevelt is being boomed for re-election despite his refusal.

Platt says he will not be a candidate for re-election to the senate.

Correspondents on the Isthmus say Colon could be made a model city.

The eruption of Venustus has almost entirely subsided, leaving a barren land.

Governor Higgins, of New York, has signed two more laws regulating insurance business.

The government will spend \$1,400,000 on the Jamestown exposition.

The meeting of the second Hague conference will be held some time after September 20.

The Pennsylvania's officers report that in target practice with 6-inch guns 17 hits were scored in 90 seconds.

Future Governor Smith, of the Philippines, is home for a rest. He says lower tariff rates with the islands is imperative.

The Northern Pacific announces that a third passenger train service will be added May 29 between St. Paul and Pacific coast points.

Prospects of the Columbia jetty bill are improving.

France is satisfied with the success of the Moroccan conference.

Ex-Senator Turner, of Washington, Would Call Convention.

Spokane, April 17.—A convention to amend the constitution of the United States, so that many of the reforms and laws demanded by the people may be carried out, is advocated by Judge George Turner, ex-United States senator, who has recently returned from Washington, D. C. A provision for the calling of such a convention is made in article 5 of the constitution, although never in the history of this country has it been applied.

"I am in favor of having a convention to amend the constitution called," said Judge Turner tonight. "Experience has demonstrated that there are omissions and corrections which it would be wise to regulate.

"In article 5 of the United States constitution it is provided that 'congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments which in either case shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the legislatures in three-fourths of the several states, or by convention in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by congress.'"

"I believe that there is an urgent need for such a convention. In my opinion it is the only way by which the necessary amendment can be passed to elect United States senators by popular vote.

"There is an amendment needed to the constitution to enable an income tax law. This measure has been passed by congress, but declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court. Such a convention would make possible a uniform divorce law and also the Federal control of life insurance matters, as advocated by President Roosevelt. The convention could go over the entire constitution."

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TO SECURE SETTLERS.

Southern Oregon Towns Unite for Common Welfare.

Medford—Rogue river valley, fair as a garden and bounding with manifold products of the soil, surrounded by high hills rich in mineral wealth, and lying on the main line of railroad communication with the outside world, has witnessed a demonstration of enthusiasm never before equaled by its citizens. Pursuant to a meeting recently held at Grants Pass, at which 60 were present from Medford, a representative gathering of men from Ashland, Grants Pass, Gold Hill, Central Point and Jacksonville convened upon invitation of the Medford Commercial club last week to discuss means and adopt plans for organization to secure more settlers and increased advantage in all lines for the Rogue river valley and for Southern Oregon as a section.

The organization will unite all towns of the valley and will comprise all commercial bodies in the cities named. Delegations were met at the depot by the Medford Commercial club with a band, and the visitors likewise brought musicians, whose efforts added to the enthusiasm. Dinner was served for 400 by J. F. Reddy, of the Nash hotel.

William Colvig presided at the meeting. The program opened with W. L. Venter delivering the address of welcome, followed by the best speakers from towns represented. The tone of the addresses indicate that the entire valley will be united in working for the advancement of every enterprise of common interest to this section of the state.

Water Rights on Walla Walla River.

Salem—State Engineer J. H. Lewis has addressed a circular letter to attorneys interested in the suit involving irrigation and power rights in the Walla Walla river. The letter suggests a series of questions to litigants which, when properly tabulated, will show the facts in each case without a great mass of conflicting testimony. The suit pending in the Circuit court of Umatilla county was originally started to determine the rights of a few claimants, but when the court came to consider the priority of various claims, other water users' rights were involved.

The Dalles to Advertise.

The Dalles — The Dalles Business Men's association has opened quarters in the Vigt block, with J. S. McDonald as secretary and manager. Mr. McDonald is recently from Detroit, Mich., and is a promoter of ability. He is preparing a line of advertising descriptive of the resources and possibilities of the Dalles and vicinity, to be circulated in the East in localities where people are looking to the West for homes and for investments. The association is enthusiastic in the belief that much good will result.

Tuttle Road Law Constitutional.

Salem—Assistant Attorney General Van Winkle has rendered an opinion that the Tuttle road law is constitutional. Regarding assessment of property within one mile of the terminus of a road constructed under this law the opinion says it means both ends of the road, the starting point and the finish. Property owners within a proposed road district of residents of the county may join in a petition for a road to be built under the Tuttle law, or may protest. The right to assess property is clearly defined.

Overhauling Beet Sugar Factory.

La Grande—The work of overhauling the machinery at the sugar factory has begun and is being rapidly completed. Half a dozen mechanics are employed. In a short time the factory will be completely renovated and overhauled in all departments. Mr. Taylor, the new factory superintendent, is expected to arrive from Logan, Utah, within a few days. The demand for seed is much greater than in any previous season, as the acreage is very much larger than ever before.

Two Convicts Pardoned.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain has issued pardons to John Zavler, sentenced in 1902, for eight years, and to A. W. Hassey, sent from Douglas county for two years for burglary in January, 1905. Zavler was pardoned because of excellent prison record and doubt of guilt, complaining witness having admitted that the prisoner was not guilty. Hassey's pardon was recommended by the judge and district attorney.

Brings Settlers to Medford.

Medford — Edward Andrews, who went to the Dakotas recently to secure settlers for the Rogue river valley, has arrived from the East with the first installment of his party. There were 17 in the car, all homeseekers, from the vicinity of Mankato and Crystal Springs, Minn., and Mitchell, South Dakota. The country looks good to them and they will locate here. More are expected to follow soon.

Establish New Course.

Willamette University, Salem—President Coleman has announced that a friend of the university had given the institution \$2,000. Half this sum will be used as a loan fund for students who need help, and \$1,000 will be used in establishing a university course in electrical engineering. Willamette will then be well equipped in these lines.

Opinion on Bond Taxation.

Salem—The attorney general, in reply to a query from the assessor of Lane county, holds that city bonds and county warrants may be taxed the same as other property. He says the state constitution distinctly authorizes taxing such property. He says that all money due from the state or any subdivision thereof is subject to taxation.

Plants 50-Acre Orchard.

The Dalles — Carl Williams of the firm of A. M. Williams & Co., is preparing to plant an orchard on 50 acres recently purchased from C. L. Phillips. The land lies south of The Dalles and will be devoted entirely to Royal Ann cherries and Crawford and Solway peaches.

ENLISTS AID OF PRESIDENT.

Fulton Persuades Him That Umatilla Sheepmen Are Right.

Washington—President Roosevelt has assured Senator Fulton that he would overrule Secretary Hitchcock and see that Umatilla county sheepmen holding permits to graze in the Wenaha forest reserve are accorded the privilege of driving sheep across the Umatilla Indian reservation in going to and returning from their summer range. Mr. Fulton took the matter up with Indian Commissioner Leupp and found that he was willing to accept the proposition, provided Indian property can be properly protected. The senator assured him that sheep could cross the reservation without damaging Indian property.

The president will confer with Mr. Hitchcock in the immediate future and see that some regulation is provided that will be acceptable to the stockmen. He declared that their request to cross the reservation was entirely reasonable and should be allowed.

The recent trouble at the reservation is believed to grow out of the fact that Agent Edwards favors giving this right to sheepmen.

Examines Booth-Kelly Bill.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain has received a copy of Senator Fulton's Booth-Kelly bill in response to a wired request. It authorizes the secretary of the interior to exchange certain lands in the Klamath Indian reservation, ownership of which has been vested in the California & Oregon Wagon Road company by the United States Supreme court. By its terms the company can select not exceeding 87,000 acres in townships 31 and 32, in one or more tracts, in lieu of an equal number of acres of road lands. The bill also grants waterpower rights and millites and right to construct a railroad through the reservation. The governor will authorize the state land agent to investigate and report.

Look for Early Berries.

Milton—From present indications the strawberry crop in this vicinity will be from two to three weeks earlier than usual and, unless the unexpected froeds, will be the largest on record. Fred Beller, a prominent fruit rancher, says that his strawberries were already commencing to bloom and he expected to have fruit on the market in less than a month. Fancy prices will be demanded for the early fruit, which will probably be placed on the market two weeks before the famous Hood River fruit has matured.

Work is Progressing.

Salem—The state land board conferred with H. D. Turney, president, Jesse Stearns, attorney, and C. M. Redfield, representing the Deschutes Irrigation & Power company. They asked the board and the state engineer to certify 53,000 acres of the 76,600 in the Deschutes Irrigation & Power company's system, as ready for patent. Mr. Turney explained that it would be at least a year before patents would issue, and in that time the company could comply with requirements of the board and engineer.

Opinion Under Carey Act.

Salem—Commissioner Richards, of the General Land office, says, in reply to a query from Chief Clerk Brown of the State Land board, that it is proper to reclaim desert land under the Carey act by pumping water, provided the cost was not too great to admit of permanence. Secretary Hitchcock concurs in the opinion. This question arose from the proposition of W. E. Barke to irrigate land in Harney county from wells.

Quarter-Blood Indians May Vote.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford, in an opinion rendered upon request of M. F. Parker, of the Klamath Indian agency, holds that Indians of one-quarter blood may vote in this state. Such Indians are to be recognized as white people. He says a half-breed is to be considered a white man if his mother was a white woman, or an Indian if his mother was a squaw.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 69c; bisestem, 69c; 70c; red, 66c; valley, 68c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.50; gray, \$27 per ton, \$27.50@28; barley—Feed, \$23.50@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, choice, \$15@16 per ton; valley timothy, \$12; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$12.

Fruits—Apples, \$2@2.75 per box; strawberries, \$3.50 per crate.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 8 1/2@12 1/2c per pound; cabbage, 2 1/2@2 3/4c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.25 per crate; celery, 75@90c per dozen; head lettuce, 25c; radishes, 20@25c per dozen; rhubarb, 3 1/2@4c per pound; spinach, \$1 per box; parsley, 25c; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; crotch, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, \$1@1.15 per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded burbank, 65@70c per hundred; ordinary, 50c@60c; new Cal f rina, 5c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17@20c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16 1/2@17c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14@14 1/2c per pound; mixed chickens, 13 1/2@14c; broilers, 25@27 1/2c; young roosters, 12 1/2@13c; old roosters, 11@11 1/2c; dressed chickens, 15@15 1/2c; turkeys, live, 17@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 21@22 1/2c; geese, live, 8@10c; geese, dressed, 10@11c; ducks, 17@18c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 8@10c; olds, 5 1/2@7c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15@20c; valley, 24@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 28@30c.

Veal—Dressed, 9 1/2@7 1/2c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulle, 3c per pound; cows, 4@5c; country steers, 4 1/2@5 1/2c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 9 1/2@10c per pound; ordinary, 6@7c; lambs, with pelt on, 10@10 1/2c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@8 1/2c per pound.

Powder Explodes in Turret of Battleship Kearsarge.

Washington, April 16.—Two years ago to a day later than the fatal Missouri disaster, as every sailor immediately recalled, on a Friday and the 13th of the month, seven men were done to death in the forward turret of the battleship Kearsarge by one of those accidents which acquire additional terror for sailors because of their obscure origin and the almost impossibility of prevention.

The Atlantic fleet had been for weeks engaged in most severe drills in the waters of the Caribbean sea, culminating in the quarterly target practice. This practice was about concluding with most satisfactory results up to Friday, and it was confidently expected at the department, upon the basis of preliminary reports received, that all records would be broken in the matter of rapidity of fire and efficiency of the gunners. But today came a cablegram from Rear Admiral Evans, commanding the Atlantic fleet, telling of a dreadful accident on one of his best ships, the Kearsarge. The news came from Caimanera, a little cable station at the mouth of Guantanamo