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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1918.



OREGON WEATHER

Probably rain in westerly +
+ and fair in easterly portion. +
+ Moderate southeasterly winds. +

CHROMITE ON THE FIRING LINE

The mineral chromite is the source of the metal chromium, which as an alloy in chrome steel and in several chemical compounds, occupies an important place on our battle front on both land and sea. The compounds furnish the strong and durable yet subdued and protective colors that are used to dye the soldiers' khaki clothes and tan the upper leather of his shoes. Chromite readily forms alloys with iron and gives hardness to the steel that is used for armor plate on our war vessels and for the armor-piercing projectiles which they hurl at the enemy. It is one of the essential elements in steel, which is now so largely employed in making high-speed tools for cutting steel in the manufacture of munitions.

Unfortunately for the United States the present domestic output of chromite is scarcely one-fourth of the quantity needed for war and domestic uses, so that the other three-fourths must be imported. Hitherto most of our imported chromite has come from Rhodesia and New Caledonia, and, notwithstanding the scarcity of ships, much of it still comes from those distant lands. In response to our call for chromite Canada has rendered us most efficient help. In 1916 she sent us 10,936 long tons and in 1917 she more than doubled her shipments of chromite to the United States. At present we are facing a deficit in the supply of chromite and we should spare no effort to increase the output of this country as well as that of adjacent countries.

The domestic production of chromite in 1916 was about 47,000 long tons and last spring the prediction was made by government geologists that in 1917 it would reach 48,000 long tons. According to J. S. Diller, of the United States Geological survey, department of the interior, the latest returns indicate that this prophecy has been fulfilled. The output of Oregon in 1917 was greatly increased, as well as that of Colorado, Del Norte, and other counties in California. Washington and North Carolina have entered the list of producing states, and Maryland promises to become a large producer. The output in 1917 including 1,000 tons from Alaska.

Most of the known bodies of chromite are small, and those that lie far from lines of transportation are not available for exploitation by the ordinary miner because of the

THE NEW OAT CAKES IN BULK

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PHONE 11

difficulty and expense of getting the ore to the market. Many of the deposits are in national forests, particularly in the Klamath mountain region, and could be made accessible for exploitation by means of government roads, whose construction would permit an increase in the domestic production, which otherwise is likely to decline.

Much of the chromite on the Pacific coast is of low grade, averaging 40 per cent of chromic oxide, and on that account of less value than the imported ore, which generally contains 50 per cent or more of chromic oxide. The shipping value of 40 per cent ore f. o. b. railroad at points on the Pacific coast is 70 cents a unit—that is, \$28 a ton—whereas domestic ore of the same grade was offered in Philadelphia \$1.20 per unit, or \$48 a ton, with a bonus of 2 cents per unit for higher grades and a penalty of 4 cents per unit for lower grades.

The most encouraging feature of the chromite industry on the Pacific coast is the increase in the work of concentrating the ore so as to raise its value. Before concentration, however, the composition of the best ore to be treated should be carefully determined, and if the amount of chromic oxide in the pure ore is less than 35 per cent concentration is not likely to be profitable. Spotted ore—that is, serpentine mixed or spotted with black grains of chromite—may be concentrated to advantage if the grains of chromite are high grade ore and constitute 20 per cent or more of the rock. If the best ore in hand is chemically of low grade because the chromium that it may have contained has been replaced by aluminum, a higher grade of ore can not be obtained by concentration. Concentrating plants are already in operation or in the course of construction in Eldorado, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, and Fresno counties, Cal., and if the price of chromite continues to rise the number of plants will be multiplied and will make more of the lower grade ore available. Some of the ores are of low grade because they contain magnetite and such ores may be enriched by the use of a magnetic separator. A large quantity of low-grade ores may be mined if the relatively greater cost to the manufacturer of using such ores is offset by higher prices.

Our domestic production of chromite apparently can not be so much increased as to offset the present deficit, nor can our current imports from distant countries be easily maintained. We must get a larger supply from nearer sources. Cuba has hitherto furnished us but little chromite, though it is reported to contain large deposits of low grade. Nicaragua is shipping a small quantity of ore to this country. At Antioquia, Colombia, chromite is reported to be so abundant that it has been used to build the walls of houses. Brazil has valuable deposits of several hundred miles northwest of Bahia and may yet become a contributor to our needed supply.

Most of the chromite we use is needed in factories in the eastern United States and on account of the difficulty and expense of long transportation from the western deposits one of our most urgent present needs is to increase the production of chromite in the Atlantic States. The mines of Maryland and Pennsylvania once supplied the world's chromite. The Wood mine, of Lancaster county, Pa., yielded about 95,000 tons of chromite, a quantity six times as large as the biggest body of chromite yet found on the Pacific coast. Here, too, many years ago, American ingenuity first contrived the buddle, a simple device for concentrating sand chromite, which in some stream beds is said to enrich itself so rapidly as to result in floods that the deposits may be reworked profitably at intervals of about 15 years. Two large concentrators are already at work in Jackson county, N. C., and it is hoped that similar operations may be begun at other places in the Atlantic states.

A recent examination by the geological survey of the old chrome mines in Lancaster and Chester counties, Pa., suggests the possibility of successfully concentrating some of the bodies of spotted chrome ore in that region.

BIG BEND DISTRICT WILL BE IRRIGATED

Salem, Jan. 23.—Plans for drainage and irrigation of the Big Bend Irrigation district, covering over 5,000 acres in Malheur county, has been approved by the state engineer. It also includes the reclamation of 9,000 acres adjoining, in Idaho.

DR. GETS HURRY CALL FOR AGED WANDERER

When Mrs. Louisa Dixon looked out of the window this morning and saw a man fall to the sidewalk, she thought it was another case of "Goodbye, fair world, I'm going home." She hurried out to see what could be done for the man, while one of the other neighbors called Dr. Flanagan. The doctor broke all the speed laws in creation rushing to the scene, but when he arrived the wanderer, who had fallen in a fit, was up and around. The man looked to be at least 70 years old, and did not seem to know where he was going or whether he was even on the way. He declined proffered medical aid, took a chew of tobacco and disappeared in the morning mist.

PROF. H. P. BARSS OF O. A. C. IS WESTERN COMMISSIONER

Corvallis, Jan. 23.—The plant pathologists of America have appointed Prof. H. P. Barss western commissioner on the war emergency board lately created to speed food production by reduction of the heavy losses due to plant diseases. The territory covered by the appointment embraces the Pacific coast states, Alaska and Hawaii. The most serious plant diseases affecting each of the districts will be sought out and their losses reduced through co-operative control methods.

CARE OF THE HUNTING DOGS

Little Washing and Much Brushing is
Regarded Best for the Health
of Any Canine.

In the matter of grooming, says Outing, a cardinal principal is expressed in the bench show handler's apothegm "little washing and much brushing." Soap and water are bad for any dog's coat. They wash away the natural oils, making the hair dry and brittle, and consequently the less washing the better the coat will be. The dog, however, must be kept clean. A good stiff brush vigorously and regularly applied will keep a pointer clean as a whistle, and the bristles act as a fine tonic, stimulating the growth of the hair and keeping the skin underneath clean and healthy.

For the setter's long coat the old English recipe is eggs rubbed in, allowed to dry and then brushed out again. The best combination is to use the whites for cleaning and to feed the yolks raw mixed up with bread or biscuits. This is the most effective use, for the whites contain no oil and make the cleaning easier, while the yolks are most valuable food. If the price of eggs, however, is prohibitive, cornmeal (white cornmeal very finely ground is the better) will answer the same purpose.

Tides and Storms.

When a tempest is approaching or passing out on the ocean the tides are noticeably higher than usual, as if the water had been driven in a vast wave before the storm. The influence extends to a great distance from the cyclonic storm center, so that the possibility exists of foretelling the approach of a dangerous hurricane by means of indications furnished by tide gauges situated far away from the place then occupied by the whirling winds. The fact that the tidal wave outstrips the advancing storm shows how extremely sensitive the surface of the sea is to the changes of pressure brought to bear upon it by the never resting atmosphere.

Gold in Montana.

The first discovery of gold in Montana is accredited to a halfbreed Indian, who in 1852 found "colors" in gravel near the mouth of Gol creek, a small stream that rises in the northeast corner of the Phillipsburg quadrangle, and the first workable places discovered in Montana were found on this creek in 1862, recites the Geological Press Survey, Bulletin. A small quantity of gold was taken out of these gravels by means of sluice boxes on the creek near the present site of Pioneer. The deposit afterward exploited by the Hope mine was discovered in December, 1894, and in 1895 Phillipsburg was founded just south of the mine. Since that time the Phillipsburg district has produced about \$50,000,000 in gold and silver.

Cards at the Courier office.

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PRICES

Westinghouse Percolator, regular \$8 now	\$6.40
Universal Four-heat Grill, regular \$7.50, now	6.00
Riteheat Iron, regular \$5, now	4.00
G. E. Iron, regular \$5, now	4.00
Table Lamp, regular \$11, now	8.00
Table Lamp, regular \$12, now	9.00
Western Electric Sewing Machine, regular \$37, now	29.00
Sew E Z Motor, regular \$15, now	12.00
Table Lamp, regular \$4.50, now	2.50
Hotpoint Toaster, regular \$4.50, now	3.60
Westinghouse Toaster, regular \$2.50, now	1.50
Pyrene Fire Extinguisher, regular \$10, now	7.50
Warming Pad, regular \$7, now	5.60
Northwind Fan, regular \$7.50, now	6.00
American Beauty Curling Iron Heater, regular \$5, now	4.00
Westinghouse Curling Iron, regular \$4.50, now	3.60
Triangle Curling Iron Heater, regular \$3.50, now	2.00
Child's Electric Range, regular \$8, now	6.40

These special prices are strictly cash and will last only a few weeks. Come in now and look over the bargains. Absolutely nothing will be marked down lower than these prices so you are safe in buying now. None will be re-ordered and some things we have only one of a kind.

Bush Electric Store

"GOING OUT OF BUSINESS"

COUNTY AGENT'S NOTES

Oregon Pure Seed Regulations

Some farmers who have seeds to offer for sale have made inquiry relative to the regulations of their sale. Briefly it is as follows:

Requirement No. 1. All agricultural seeds sold or offered for sale in this state (for use in this state for seeding purposes) in packages of one pound or over, shall be plainly labeled in accordance with the following specifications:

- Name and address of the seller.
 - Kind of seed.
 - Purity and germination of same.
 - Locality where grown, if known.
- Exceptions—
- Flower seeds, or seeds of any kind in packages of less than one pound.
 - Seed offered for sale for feed, or export, or manufacture.
 - Seed which is sold direct to merchants to be re-cleaned or graded before selling.
 - Seed held in storage, but not offered for sale.
 - Seed grown, sold, and delivered by a grower on his own premises, without any guarantee as to its purity or germination, to purchaser who is to use the same for his own seeding.

Requirement No. 2. Seed containing noxious weed seed is not salable under the law, and must not be offered for sale for seeding purposes in this state.

It is explained that "agricultural seeds" shall include seeds of all cereals, grasses, forage plants, vegetable and garden plants, flower seeds being the only ones left out.

It is provided that seeds containing not more than two per cent of impurities may be marked "standard purity" but if greater than two per cent the marking must show how much.

It is immaterial whether the grower or the dealer has this test made. It can be had without cost to any one by sending a fair sample of any seed to the Seed Testing Laboratory O. A. C., Corvallis, Ore., with the request for a purity and germination test and it will be given just as soon as it can be made.

It is no doubt a fact that home grown seed properly cared for is just as good and often better than that which is sent in from the outside and it is surely hoped that we use all that is offered in the local market.

C. D. THOMPSON,
County Agriculturist.

OREGON OFFICIALLY FIRST IN WAR WORK

Portland, Jan. 23.—The name of old Oregon stands out proudly on a colossal report which will go down into history as one of the great documents of the war. It is the report of the provost marshal general to the secretary of war on the operations of the first draft under the selective military service act of 1917. Copies of the report were received in Portland this morning.

"Oregon first" is the outstanding feature of the report, studying it from every angle of its mass of detail.

In the ratio of actual enlistments to gross quota by degrees, Oregon is shown to head the list by a big margin. Her score is 157 degrees. The nearest approach to this is Utah with 114 degrees. Oregon also heads the list in ratio of those called to those registered. The chart shows that registration in this state was 100 per cent, and that less than 5 per cent of the registration was called. In the matter of ratio of enlistment credits to gross quota by degrees, Oregon is listed as second among 27 states and territories, with 90.11 degrees. Hawaii is first with 182.97. The 27 states and territories are those that were above the national average, all the rest being below. Washington is No. 21 in the list of those above, while California is 39 in the other list.

There were only three states with 70 per cent or over, the other two being Maine and New Hampshire. The cost per man certified for service in Oregon was \$4.86. Maine's cost per man was \$11.18.

One Objection.

"A girl should be educated to do things for herself."

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox, "only sometimes I wish Gladys wouldn't insist on doing her own singing and piano playing."—Washington Star.

Envelopes at the Courier.

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Basketball

ROSEBURG

VS.

GRANTS PASS

Thursday, Jan. 24

AT

Central School Building

GIRL'S PRELIMINARY BEGINNING

at 7:45 p. m.

Admission 25