

# HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

## PESTS DESTROY ALFALFA.

Great Damage Done in Morrow County by Grasshoppers.

Heppner—Grasshoppers by the million are appearing in some localities in Morrow county. They have settled in great numbers in the Sand Hollow country, a farming district about ten miles northeast of Heppner, where they are doing considerable damage. They are doing the most damage to alfalfa and the hay crop, and in some places are taking gardens.

The first crop of alfalfa, which was immense, has practically all been saved, but it is feared that very little of the second crop can be saved, owing to the ravages of the millions of these insects that have been congregating in the alfalfa fields. At Hynd Bros., a big ranch in Sand Hollow, they are so thick in the alfalfa that in the evening after the insects go to roost on the heads of the alfalfa plants they can be scooped up by the gallon by taking a coal oil can or bucket and striking through the grass. It is only the work of a short time to fill a gunny sack. Some of them caught in this way are being fed to the hogs.

Along Willow creek, where there are many alfalfa fields, the grasshoppers are numerous and doing considerable damage in some places they are attacking wheat fields but are not doing much damage, owing to the fact that the grain is nearing maturity and is getting hard. However, they are stripping the green leaves from the stalks. In the wheat belt they have not appeared in sufficient numbers to cause any alarm and the damage to the wheat crop will be of little consequence.

## TENT CITY SPRINGS UP.

Prospectors Swarming to Southern Oregon Gold District.

Grants Pass—Numbers of prospectors are outfitting at Grants Pass daily and starting for the mines on Thompson creek and all through the Sucker creek country. They are coming from different points as far away as Idaho and Southern California.

The actual digging of gold at the Briggs claim, on Thompson creek, has stopped for the present, as they are now engaged in bringing a ditch from the headwaters of Thompson creek to the mine for the purpose of supplying water. All of the dirt moved will be sluiced or puddled in order to get all the values they carry.

Already a townsite has been located, and it is reported that there are now 50 tents up and prospectors with pack animals are arriving daily. Another strike of a large body of rich ore has been reported near the Briggs find.

## Damage in Umatilla Not Serious.

Pendleton—The damage to grain from the heavy rain which visited a portion of Umatilla county last week was not as extensive as at first believed. Farmers living in sections where the rain was heaviest report the grain lodged in many fields, but believe that most of it can be saved. John Crow, an extensive wheat raiser on the reservation, probably the largest loser, says his loss will reach \$5,000. The country around Warren station received a severe drenching. A number of bridges were washed out.

## Busy Month in Land Office.

Salem—June has been a busy month in the state land office as shown by the statement of receipts made by Clerk G. G. Brown. The rush has been due in some degree to the payment of balances on old notes and certificates of sale, which payments were demanded by the land board some time ago and were required to be paid prior to July 1. The business of the office amounted to more than \$1,500 a day during June.

## Pest of Grasshoppers.

Pendleton—Completion of cutting of the hay crop of Butter creek and Morrow county has saved it from what would probably have been serious damage by grasshoppers, which are more numerous than for several years in the hay fields of the western part of this county and in Morrow. The first crop, however, is nearly all taken off and the pest will be unable to work serious harm.

## Wheat Cutting is Commenced.

Helix—Wheat cutting has begun in the Cold Spring country west of here, near the Columbia, this section being among the earliest in the Inland Empire. Only a few farmers are at work, but in some parts of the county cutting will be continuous until Umatilla's big harvest is all in. No definite report has been received as to how the first cuttings are running.

## ALFALFA IS TAKING ROOT.

Successful Results of Experiments in Marion County.

Salem—The experiments conducted by Gilbert & Patterson in growing alfalfa on one of their farms near this city seems to be very satisfactory in its results. The alfalfa was sown three years ago, on bottom land. For two seasons the crop was very light but the alfalfa is now becoming well set and seems to be a good producer.

The first cutting this season yielded ten tons on three acres. The alfalfa is now a foot tall and there is every prospect for a yield of from one to two tons per acre for the second cutting, with some fall pasturage left. The dryness of the season has not yet had any appreciable effect upon the crop.

Where the alfalfa is growing there is about 12 feet of soil on top of gravel containing water. Presumably the roots of the alfalfa find their way down to the water or at any rate go deep enough so that the dry weather does not affect them.

A number of farmers in this section of the valley are experimenting with alfalfa, and though they have difficulty in getting a start they believe that the ultimate results will be satisfactory and that this fodder plant will become a common product in this section of the state. The fact that it need not be resown every year or two, that it is not affected by drouth, that it can be cut before and after the usual June rains, gives it its chief value as a farm product in the valley.

## Lay Dust With Oil.

Oregon City—Experiments that have been made on Main street with crude oil for keeping down the dust have met with success, so claim the city officials, and it is very likely that the oil will be used in the future by the city in solving the problem of fighting dust. The first test was a failure for the reason that the oil was carried on the shoes of pedestrians into the stores of the merchants. After two days the oil had dried and there is little or no dust in front of the stores where the oil was used.

## Berry Season Over.

Freewater—The strawberry season is about over around Freewater and Milton, and the big rush is in cherries. Final returns from the strawberry output show that little over half what was expected was realized. Only a few crates are going out daily.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Flour—Valley, \$3.90@4.05 per barrel; hard wheat straights, \$4@4.25; clears, \$3.85@4.10; hard wheat patents, \$4.40@4.70; graham, \$3.50@4; whole wheat, \$4@4.25; rye flour, \$4.50.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 67@69c; blue-stem, 77c; valley, 78c.

Barley—Feed, \$23 per ton; rolled, \$24.50@25.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.20; gray, \$1.15 per cental.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$19 per ton; middlings, \$23.50; shorts, \$21; chop, \$18; linseed, dairy food, \$19.

Hay—Timothy—\$15@16 per ton; clover, \$8@9; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 19@20c per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, new stock, 12@12½c; old stock, 7@8c; Young America, 13@14c.

Poultry—Fancy hens, 12½@13c per pound; old hens, 12@12½c; mixed chickens, 11@11½c; springs, 1½ to 2-pound, 18@19c; broilers, 1 to 1½-pound, 19@20c; dressed chickens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 14@16c; do dressed, 15@16c; do choice, 18@20c; geese, live, 7@8c; do dressed, 9½@10c; ducks, old, \$6@7 per dozen; do young, as to size, \$25@26; pigeons, \$1@1.25.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.50; beets, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.25; cabbage, 1½@1¾c; lettuce, head, 25@40c per doz; parsley, 25c per doz; tomatoes, \$1.25@1.50; cauliflower, \$1.75@2 per doz; celery, 75@90c per doz; cucumbers, \$1@1.25 per doz; asparagus, 50c; peas, 4@6c per pound; beans, green, 4@5c; wax, 4@5c; squash, \$1.25 per box; green corn, 60c per doz.

Honey—\$3@3.50 per case.

Potatoes—Fancy, 75@81c per cental; new potatoes, \$2.25 per cental.

Fruits—Cherries, 4@5c per pound; raspberries, 6c per pound; raspberries, \$1.25 per crate; apples, new, \$1@1.75; apricots, 80@81c per box; plums, 90c@1 per box; peaches, 90c@1 per box; cantaloupes, \$2.75@3 per crate; watermelons, 3c per pound; prunes, \$1.25 per box.

Beef—Dressed, 5@6½c per pound.

Mutton—Dressed, 4@6c per pound; lambs, 6c.

Veal—Dressed, 100 to 125, 6@7c per pound; 125 to 200, 5@5½c; 200 and up, 3½@4c.

Pork—Dressed, 100 to 150, 7@7½c; 150 and up, 6@7c.

Hope—1903 crop, 25c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 19@20c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@17c; mohair, 30c per pound for choice.

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Leaves Albany ..... 12:45 P M  
Leaves Corvallis ..... 1:45 P M  
Arrives Yaquina ..... 5:40 P M

No. 1, returning—  
Leaves Yaquina ..... 7:15 A M  
Leaves Corvallis ..... 11:30 A M  
Arrives Albany ..... 12:15 P M

No. 3, for Detroit—  
Leaves Albany ..... 1:00 P M  
Arrives Detroit ..... 6:00 P M

No. 4, from Detroit—  
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Trains 1 arrive in Albany in time to connect with the S. P. south bound train, as well as giving two or three hours in Albany before departure of S. P. north bound train.

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In 1900 election, 13,959,653 people voted for President. For nearest correct estimates received in Woolson Spice Company's office, Toledo, O., on or before November 5, 1904, we will give first prize for the nearest correct estimate, second prize to the next nearest, etc., as follows:

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20 Prizes—50.00 "	1,000.00
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