

## OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

### LIBRARIES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

#### Light Tax Not Burdensome in Oregon—Convention of Officers.

Salem—Two departures in public school work are proving very successful wherever tried and promise to become permanent features of the public school system. They are the common school library, supported by special taxation, and the convention of school officers. Four counties have levied the library tax, amounting to 10 cents per capita upon the school population, and it is found that by this means the country schools are provided with books as good as those accessible to the pupils of town schools.

"The tax, being one-tenth of 1 mill, is not felt," says Superintendent Alderman, of Yamhill county, "and it puts the best books where they do the most good. The library law has now been in operation two years and has given complete satisfaction. While the amount that some of the small districts get is small, yet it is in proportion to the number of pupils. I consider the law a boon to the country boy and girl and I think it ought to be made mandatory on the county courts."

Conventions of school officers have been held this year at Baker City, Dallas and McMinnville, at each of which there was a very full attendance of school directors and clerks. Addresses were made by Superintendent Ackerman, by the county superintendent and outside educational workers, and those present held discussions of topics of general interest to school officers.

Consolidation of schools and school districts was one of the principal topics discussed at these conventions and the members of school boards learned the plan and purpose of this latest move for the improvement of the rural schools.

#### Briggs Strikes It Rich Again.

Grants Pass—David Briggs and boys, who were made rich in a day by the fabulous surface wealth of the Wounded Buck claim, on Upper Sucker creek, have located a claim on Upper Chetco, away up in the mountains near the Curry county line, and will work the rich ledge they have found there. They have had samples from this claim recently assayed here, and, while they do not give the returns the Wounded Buck quartz has given, the proposition appears very promising, and the lucky family will move their scene of operations from the Upper Sucker to the Chetco. The Wounded Buck is under bond to a company for a consideration of \$100,000.

#### Government Gets Site.

Baker City—A deed has been filed with the county recorder from W. A. Honston to the United States for 100 feet square on the corner of Main street and Auburn avenue. This was the site selected for the government building soon to be erected in this city. The deed calls for \$4,800, the amount appropriated for the purchase of a site, while, as a matter of fact, the property brought over double that amount, the balance having been raised by adjacent property owners.

#### Electric Companies Consolidated.

La Grande—The La Grande electric company has consolidated with the Cove Power company, and they have incorporated under the name of the Grand Ronde electric company. The directors are Walter Pierce, J. A. Thomson, T. H. and Clarence Crawford and T. R. Berry. The consolidation was effected because the La Grande plant needed more power. The power from Cove will have a fall of 890 feet and will require 3,700 feet of pipe to convey it to the power station. The force will create 800 horse power.

#### Wind Puts Crops in Danger.

Weeton—"The grain is in a safe condition yet, but if the high winds continue blowing it will dry out what moisture there is in the soil, and, unless rain comes soon, would seriously interfere with the grain that is sown," says James Kirkpatrick. "There is always a tendency to raise a cry of distress as to the future outlook of the crops, and, in truth, we have never seen it seriously injured yet, providence always providing at the needful time."

#### Great Stacks of Cordwood.

La Grande—At Kamela, 25 miles west of here, there are 3,000 cords of wood stacked up in the yards awaiting shipment to different wood dealers in towns west of there. At Meacham, near by, almost as much more is piled up. Wood is now selling on board the cars in the mountains at from \$2.50 to \$3.25 per cord, and it is said there is scarcely a cord left in the timber. When cars are available, big shipments will be made by the dealers.

#### Oregon Supreme Court Reports.

Salem—Volume 44 of the Oregon supreme court reports is out of the bindery and the books have been delivered at the office of Secretary of State Dunbar for distribution to the judges and district attorneys and to be placed on sale to those who wish to buy. The state sells the volumes at cost, \$3.50, and those who get the reports by mail must incure 27 cents for postage.

### PLAN TO RAISE PORTAGE FUND.

#### Prominent Umatilla Men on Committee to Canvass the County.

Pendleton—At a mass meeting of business men and prominent farmers the subject of raising \$5,000 as Umatilla county's portion asked by the Open River association for the portage road was discussed and plans decided upon. A committee was appointed to take active charge of the work and is composed of the following: George Peringer, M. M. Wyrick, W. P. Temple, T. J. Kirk, extensive wheat raisers, and County Commissioner Horace Walker.

The committee will make a thorough canvass of the county. It will be the plan to divide the county into districts and each member of the committee have charge of the district he may choose. In this manner it is believed the entire county can be covered in a few days and the desired amount raised without difficulty. A large portion of the amount asked for has already been donated.

#### Timber for Land Hunters.

Grants Pass—It is quite evident that there will be a grand rush for the woods when the final announcement is made of the release of the forest lands of Southern Oregon, which were withheld from entry several years ago, but which are soon to be thrown open to buyers, settlers and squatters. While the lands are not the regular forest reserves, they cover a large portion of the well-timbered sections of Josephine, Jackson and Curry counties, Southern Oregon, and parts of Siskiyou and Del Norte counties, California. A great portion of them is covered with fir and pine, with considerable sugar pine.

#### Hammond Company's Title Clear.

Astoria—A deed has been filed for record whereby the Seaside Spruce Lumber company sells to the Hammond Lumber company 2,184.67 acres of timber lands in the Necanicum river district. The price is not made public and the consideration named in the deed is \$1. The transfer is understood to have been made in connection with the settlement of the claims held by numerous persons and firms against the Seaside company. These claims have all been settled and the mill property leased, so that it can resume operations at once, after a shut down lasting for several months.

#### Trappist Colony in Linn.

Albany—A colony of Trappist Fathers has been founded in Jordan valley, in the northern part of Linn county. Having been forced to leave their homes in France because of religious persecution, a number of these Trappist Fathers have come to the United States, and six of them located in Jordan valley, about three months ago, with the ultimate object in view of founding a Trappist colony there. They recently purchased considerable land, and are preparing to make extensive improvements, in anticipation of the arrival of more than 50 of the same order from France next spring.

#### Heavy Rains Loggers' Boon.

Astoria—The severe storms recently, with the accompanying large rainfall, has had benefits that many do not realize. It has been a boon for the loggers, and logs have been floated out of some streams that have been on their banks for a couple of years. How many feet of logs have come out of these streams to tidewater cannot yet be estimated with any definiteness, but it is fully 20,000,000 feet, and it may be double this amount in the Lower Columbia river district.

#### Epidemic Among the Chickens.

Albany—Several different citizens of Albany and vicinity have lost a number of chickens recently, they having died suddenly from some unknown cause. One Albany citizen lost all his chickens in a few hours, and a farmer named Cary living near this city, a few weeks ago lost 90 chickens in a short time. The fact that only a few flocks belonging to citizens living far apart have died, and that where any died almost all the flock died, leads to the supposition that death was caused by poisoned wheat.

#### Only Few Sales of Cattle.

Susanville—The sale of beef cattle has been light in this vicinity this season. A Portland buyer picked 107 head from a round up of several hundred, paying from \$2.10 to \$2.50 per hundredweight, the former figure being for cows. Few cattle will be wintered here, no more than to supply the local market. Some are being driven to Prairie City, but the greater number will be taken to various places down the river.

#### Power Plant Almost Ready.

Milton—The flume for the Milton city power plant has been completed and workmen are finishing the power house. The plant will be completed about December 15.

#### Northwest Wheat Markets.

Portland—Walla Walla, 85c; blue-stem, 85c; valley, 87½c.  
Tacoma—Blue-stem, 85c; club, 88c.

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| TIME CARD NO. 28.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| No. 2, for Yachima:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |           |
| Leaves Albany                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 12:45 P M |
| Leaves Corvallis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1:45 P M  |
| Arrives Yachima                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 6:20 P M  |
| No. 1, returning:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |           |
| Leaves Yachima                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 6:45 A M  |
| Leaves Corvallis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 11:30 A M |
| Arrives Albany                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 12:15 P M |
| No. 3 for Albany-Detroit:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           |
| Leaves Corvallis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 6:00 A M  |
| Arrives Albany                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 6:40 A M  |
| Leaves Albany for Detroit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 7:30 A M  |
| Arrives Detroit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 12:52 P M |
| No. 4, from Detroit:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |           |
| Leaves Detroit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 12:35 A M |
| Arrives Albany                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 5:15 P M  |
| Leaves Albany for Corvallis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 7:15 P M  |
| Arrives Corvallis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 7:55 P M  |
| 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.                                                                                                                                |           |
| Train No. 2 connects with the S. P. trains at Corvallis and Albany, giving direct service to Newport and adjacent beaches.                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
| Train No. 3 for Detroit, via Albany, leaves Corvallis at 6:00 a. m. and connects with the S. P. Albany-Corvallis local train leaving Albany at 7:30 a. m. Train No. 4 leaves Albany for Detroit at 7:30 a. m., arriving there at noon giving ample time to reach the Breitenbush hot spring the same day. |           |
| Train No. 4 connects at Albany with the Portland-Albany local, which arrives there at 7:15 and runs to Corvallis leaving Albany at 7:15 and arriving in Corvallis at 7:55 p. m.                                                                                                                           |           |
| For further information apply to EDWIN STONE, Manager.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |           |
| THOS. COCKRELL, Agent, Albany.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |           |
| H. H. CRONISE, Agent, Corvallis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |           |

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| DEPART                                                             | TIME SCHEDULES<br>Portland, Or.                                                                            | ARRIVE     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Chicago<br>Portland<br>Special<br>9:10 a. m.<br>via<br>Huntington. | Salt Lake, Denver,<br>St. Louis, Chicago and<br>East.                                                      | 5:25 p. m. |
| Atlantic<br>Express<br>8:15 p. m.<br>via<br>Huntington.            | Salt Lake, Denver,<br>St. Louis, Chicago and<br>East.                                                      | 9:00 a. m. |
| St. Paul<br>Fast Mail<br>6:10 p. m.<br>via<br>Spokane              | Walla Walla, Lewiston,<br>Spokane, Pullman,<br>Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago and East. | 7:15 a. m. |

Ocean and River Schedule.  
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