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OREGON NEWS NOTES
OF GENERAL INTERESTEvents Occurring Throughout
the State During the Past
Week.

Agriculture to be Given State Aid
Salem.—Agriculturists of the state, as well as their children, are hereafter to be instructed in scientific agricultural methods, for two bills with this end in view were enacted by the recent legislature, and both are comprehensive in their scope. In addition, two other important agricultural measures were passed—the one to prevent the introduction into the state of insects or diseases injurious to growing products and the other fixing the standard of purity for agricultural seeds.

Over the veto of the governor there was also passed a bill creating a state livestock and sanitary board, which is to exercise sanitary supervision over livestock and poultry, and it is believed that it will be extremely beneficial to livestock men.

BILL UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Filing of Dentistry Act Referendum Petition Not Ordered by Judge

Salem.—Circuit Judge Galloway decided that the Day bill, providing for a special election for referendum measures next November, is unconstitutional. The decision is far from clearing a situation that has caused state officials, and particularly Secretary of State Olcott, much thought. The decision was in connection with one declining to compel the secretary of state to file petitions for reference of the bill regulating the practice of dentistry. Judge Galloway held that the petitions were irregular in that they did not contain a copy of the bill, but only the caption.

Secretary of State Olcott said that he did not consider the decision, that the Day bill is unconstitutional final and it was his present intention to call the election for the other measures referred. However, he believes that John A. Jeffrey, who filed the suit to compel him to file the petitions in the dentistry proposition, will appeal the case, or that he or some other person will file suit to have him enjoined from calling the election.

New Law Joins Cupid

Astoria.—The new law that requires a man to produce a certificate of health before he can obtain a marriage license, which went into effect in this state is going to prove impracticable, according to local physicians, a few of whom have refused to issue the certificates requested because they could not conscientiously do so.

The fee provided by law is \$2.50 and local physicians declare they can not make a competent test under three weeks and furthermore say few of them have the necessary equipment for making a thorough blood test.

SUSPECT TRAIN WRECKERS

Derailment of Southern Pacific Cars Near Salem Injures Five

Portland.—A board of inquiry investigated the near wreck of the Willamette Limited out of Salem and came to the conclusion that the derailment, in which five passengers injured and the lives of every one endangered, was due to a deliberate attempt at wholesale murder on the part of unknown train wreckers. Following the announcement of the findings of the board, D. W. Campbell, head of the Southern Pacific in Oregon, offered a reward of \$5000 for the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties.

Detectives of the company have been assigned to the task of hunting down the persons responsible for the reckless deed and, attracted by the reward, which is said to be the largest of its kind ever offered in this state, a number of private detectives hurried to the scene of the wreck.

Rabbits Destroy Crop

Ficksburg.—The fine outlook in Christmas Lake valley for crops this year, will depend upon the state government of Oregon. Rabbits have done much damage, and at the rate of increase noticeable, before harvest time comes there will be little to garner unless strenuous methods are adopted to inoculate the rodents. The Ficksburg development club hopes to be able to secure the assistance of the state veterinarian or some competent official from the state agricultural college to start the good work.

Adams Is To Hang

Astoria.—Judge Eakin overruled the motion for a new trial in the case of Jack Adams, who was convicted on the charge of killing Barney Chamberlain in this city on February 17. This means that unless the governor intervenes Adams will hang. The case will not be appealed, as the defendant has no funds to carry it to the higher courts.

BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

With a cloudless summer day and about 1000 persons present, Weston's twenty-first annual reunion of Umatilla county pioneers was held.

During the wool sales at Heppner, 1,000,000 pounds was disposed of at prices ranging about three cents less than last year.

Dallas is planning the finest celebration of Independence Day ever held in that city. The Dallas Chautauqua will open July 4, to continue for one week.

A number of widows have applied for the mothers' pensions at the office of the county clerk at Albany, during the past few days, and their requests will be considered by the county court.

F. H. Snodgrass, ex-deputy warden of the penitentiary and now chief of the guards there, was arrested on a charge of having attacked and severely beaten a prisoner May 16.

If the efforts of the 22 widows with children who have made application for pensions under the law recently passed by the legislature are successful the state will expend \$510 a month in Douglas county alone.

George L. Blodgett, sentenced for life in the Salem penitentiary for the murder of Alice Minthorn at Portland in 1906, has been released under a conditional pardon given by Governor West.

A grand jury at The Dalles has returned an indictment against George F. Ross charging him with the embezzlement of public funds to the amount of \$884.63, while recorder of that city. He was given bonds.

Jackson county will issue a pamphlet along the lines established by California counties. The edition will be at least 50,000 and it will contain approximately 100 pages, including statistics and maps. The county court has authorized this work.

The big V-shaped harrow now being built at Astoria for the port commission will soon be ready for use in improving the channel across the shoal at the mouth of the Columbia. It will have a spread of 20 feet, with eight three-foot revolving discs.

Taking a dare to climb a tree while out with a party of joy riders near Medford, Miss Ramona Ladd, 18 years old, climbed to a height of 30 feet. A branch broke and she fell. She was carried to a hospital, and it is said that her back is broken.

The Tri-County fair will be held in Condon this fall on October 1, 2 and 3, according to the decision of the executive committee in a special meeting. The Tri-County fair is to be a permanent yearly event in Condon henceforth.

Advices were received by State Engineer Lewis that 5000 acres of land belonging to the Columbia Southern project, has been withdrawn from entry by the interior department. The original project consisted of 23,000 acres and the 5000 acres were included within the last few years.

The forestry service has ordered a telephone line to be installed connecting Prairie City with the summit of Strawberry Peak, 12 miles distant. A station will be erected on the extreme summit of the peak at a height of over 10,000 feet, which overlooks the entire forestry district of eastern Oregon.

Stone houses may replace the regulation two-roomed shanties which now form the abodes of homesteaders on virtually every quarter section in Christmas Lake and Silver Lake valleys. This is made possible by the discovery of a half dozen stone quarries on the side of Table Mountain.

Mandamus proceedings have been begun by the Oregon & California railroad company against Sheriff Reeves of Washington county, to require him to show cause why he will not accept a tender of \$19,755.06 in payment of the company's tax in that county. This amount does not include a special road tax of \$2,185.04.

After waiting since 1910 to be reimbursed to the extent of \$72 for overcharges on some household goods shipped from Mobile, Ala., to Roseburg, E. Lynn Tunnell has been notified by the state railroad commissioner that the interstate commerce commission has decided in his favor. The commission took his case up several years ago, and the delay was due to the fact that many railroad lines were involved.

The McMinnville council awarded a contract for street grading to a firm of Portland contractors, and Mayor W. T. Vinton refused to affix his signature. Contempt of court proceedings followed, and the mayor was fined \$300 and sentenced to six months confinement in the county jail without bail, or until such time as he sees fit to obey the orders of the circuit court that he sign the contract.

The Smith-Powers Logging company, one of the largest concerns of its kind on the coast, is making preparations to open two camps three miles above Coquille, where it has about 50,000,000 feet of timber. The right of way for a logging railroad to extend two miles into the timber from the main line is now being cleared and the road will be constructed forthwith. The logs will go to the C. A. Smith sawmill at Marshfield.

NEWS FROM OUR
NATIONAL CAPITALSenatorial Investigation Shows
Old Lobby Methods Are No
Longer in Vogue.

Washington.—Lobbying in its crude form has disappeared so far as Washington is concerned. This is shown not only by the results thus far obtained in the senatorial investigation into President Wilson's charge that an "insidious" lobby has been blocking his tariff revision plans, but by facts which are common property in the national capital.

Representatives of corporations do not pass money to senators and members as they did in the "good old times." Stock investments for legislators in which the latter without the risks reaped the profits either in the form of checks from brokers or certificates of deposit also have been relegated to the past.

Senator Says President Lobbyist

An unexpected turn was given to the "lobby" investigation when Senator Townsend, of Michigan, republican declared on the stand that the influence wielded by President Wilson and the democratic secret caucus on the making of the tariff bill constituted the "nearest approach to undue influence on members of congress" that the investigating committee would be able to find.

Senator Townsend's statements in relation to President Wilson were not in the form of charges. He expressly said he did not charge the president with using improper methods, but he insisted that the charges that lobbies existed and the activity of the president in support of free wool and free sugar amounted to an "undue influence," even though he did not use the "big stick" of patronage.

Minnesota Wins State Rate Fight.

The power of the states to fix reasonable intrastate rates on interstate railroads until such time as congress shall choose to regulate these rates was upheld by the supreme court of the United States in the Minnesota freight and passenger rate cases.

At the same time the court laid down far-reaching principles governing the valuation of railroad property for rate-making purposes, and, according to these, held that the state of Minnesota would confiscate the property of the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad company by its maximum freight and 2-cent passenger fare law. It enjoined the state from enforcing these laws as to this road for the present. In the cases of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern, however, it held that the roads had failed to show that the rates were "unreasonable" or "confiscatory."

The decision, regarded as one of the most important ever announced by the court, had been under consideration for 14 months. Railroad commissions from eight states and the governors of all the states filed briefs in support of the state in the cases, recognizing that the principles involved affected them all.

Tariff Blow Aimed at Tobacco Trust

In accord with suggestions of Attorney General McReynolds, Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, introduced an anti-trust amendment to the Underwood tariff bill which would levy a special additional excise tax on a sliding or graduated scale on manufactures of cigars, tobacco, cigarettes and snuff. The amendment, coming from a democratic member, will receive thorough consideration from the finance committee.

The progressive excise tax proposed would not reach a manufacturer until he controlled about 25 per cent of the total production of the articles.

National Capital Brevities.

Nothing that can be construed as an ultimatum is contained in the Japanese rejoinder to Secretary Bryan's reply to the original protest against the enactment of anti-alien land holding laws, which was submitted by Ambassador Chinda to the state department. The Japanese note was long and its nature entirely argumentative. It has become known at Washington that neither Standard Oil nor the tobacco trust has been actually dissolved to meet the requirements of the Sherman law, in the opinion of Attorney General McReynolds. Further action against these combinations is forecasted.

Representative Willis won an old-fashioned spelling bee conducted by the National Press club of Washington, after an evening of merriment in which the president and many other official folk engaged. Willis "spelled down" 15 Washington correspondents, seven senators and seven members of the house. Senator Poindexter was the "runner up."

Strong protests against the nomination of Rudolph Spreckels as ambassador to Germany are being made by German societies in this country. The administration has already approached the German government to ascertain whether Mr. Spreckels will be acceptable, and no formal reply has been received from the emperor.



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SOME TESTIMONIALS

Newberg, Oregon, May 5, 1913

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