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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

The Jackson county fair opens September 18, at the natatorium in Medford.

Walter E. Keyes, mayor of Salem, and Miss Ida Heise, were married at Salem.

A return of \$115 from an acre of peppermint is reported by E. F. Martin of Eugene.

Elevator operators in Portland, of whom there are about 75, have organized a labor union.

Construction work on the Douglas county unit of the Pacific highway will begin shortly.

The pioneers of Jackson county held their annual reunion in Lithia park in Ashland Thursday.

Beal Galther, 20, was crushed to death between two large spruce logs at the Bade mill at Toledo.

Miss Martha Bechen has been appointed county agent for Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties.

Captain Lenus G. Krook, acting quartermaster at Fort Stevens, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor.

Fire entirely destroyed the Glenada shingle mill and a large quantity of shingles that were on hand ready for shipment.

The southern Pacific company reported to the public service commission a net shortage on its Oregon lines of 1021 cars.

During the month of August 4897 warrants were issued by Secretary of State Olcott, the largest number in the history of the state.

That the bean crop of Douglas county this year will exceed \$100,000 is the statement made by J. C. Hurd, county agricultural agent.

Oregon's greatest agricultural and industrial exposition—the 56th annual state fair—will open at Salem September 24, for a week.

Secretary Olcott has issued a statement showing that on July 1 there were \$11,929.63 in unclaimed bank deposits in the banks of the state.

Between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 pounds of prunes is the estimate of Douglas county's present crop as made by the buyers who are in the field.

Governor Withycombe has lifted the proclamation issued by him several weeks ago closing the hunting season in the timbered area because of forest fires.

The state highway commission has now under way 30 projects of construction, the total estimated and contract prices of which approximate \$2,100,000.

Soldiers who have been guarding the forests of Oregon with orders to "shoot to kill" all persons detected in the act of setting fires, have been withdrawn.

So great is the scarcity of men in the John Day valley that nearly all of the women at Long Creek are now working with their husbands in the harvest fields.

The Oregon Field Trial club has completed arrangements for the running of its thirty-second annual trials September 16-17, using grounds near Orsco station.

There have been no fires other than those started by lightning in the Cascade national forest this summer, is the assertion of Clyde E. Seitz, supervisor of the forest.

Lena Hayes, 9-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hayes, of Walterville, was drowned when she fell into the Eugene municipal power plant canal, near that place.

Nearly \$40,000 is the amount apportioned to the state of Oregon by the federal government to be used in the construction of trails and forest roads during the coming year.

A field geologist of the United States geological survey will be sent to Oregon to look over the prospects for oil and natural gas, at the solicitation of Representative McArthur.

The biggest automobile show ever held in conjunction with the Oregon state fair is to be staged on the state fair grounds north of Salem from September 24 to 29, inclusive, this year.

The Ashland city council has purchased 320 acres of timber land in the Ashland creek canyon as a matter of protection to the watershed of Ashland creek, which is the city water supply.

Baker county has petitioned the state highway commission for the survey of two roads from Baker, one to Carnucopia and one to Unity. The county will appropriate \$20,000 toward the construction of the Carnucopia road and \$4,000 toward the construction of the Unity road.

The 80 correspondence courses of the University of Oregon in high school and college subjects have been opened to soldiers who are citizens of Oregon stationed in any part of the world as the result of a ruling by Attorney General Brown that the extension courses may be offered to citizens beyond the borders of the state.

A petition numerously signed was presented to the Lincoln county court asking that a special election be held for the purpose of voting on a proposition to bond the county for \$200,000 to build roads.

The chief of engineers instructed the district engineer at Portland to proceed at once with the work of deepening the locks at Oregon City, for which work congress recently appropriated \$80,000.

That the fire which has been just halted in the Fort Rock section after burning over 20,000 acres of yellow pine, was undoubtedly of incendiary origin, is the decision of C. J. Buck, assistant chief forester.

At 9 o'clock Tuesday 7400 acres of land known as the Benham Falls segregation and located in the Bend, Alfalfa and Powell Butte vicinities, in Crook and Deschutes counties, was opened for homestead filing.

Admiral Capps has informed Senator Chamberlain that the shipping board is considering the proposal of Robert A. Miller, of Portland, to build ships of concrete but is not yet ready to enter into any contracts.

Dr. F. M. Brooks, of Portland, formerly of Silverton, was appointed by Governor Withycombe to succeed Dr. M. B. Marcellus as a member of the state board of health. Dr. Marcellus resigned to enter military service.

Pendleton leads the cities of the state in contributions of books to the war library, according to a statement made by Miss Cornelia Marvin, state librarian. That city has given 482 volumes and about 2000 magazines.

No more commitments to the state school for feeble-minded will be received from the state at large until all feeble-minded wards of the state now in other institutions are cared for, the state board of control has ruled.

President Wilson has sent to the senate the following nominations: Collector of customs, Oregon district, Portland, Will Moore of Pendleton, Or.; United States marshal, district of Oregon, George F. Alexander of Portland.

W. E. Finzer, for nearly 12 years adjutant general of the Oregon National guard, has been appointed a major in the United States army and ordered to report at once to Camp Lewis, American Lake, for service with the new national army.

This year's Pendleton Round-up, September 20, 21 and 22, is expected to break all records, both in attendance and in the quality of the contests and exhibition. The people of Pendleton are making arrangements to entertain 75,000 people for the three days.

Circuit Judge D. V. Kuykendall of Klamath Falls has decided in favor of the state in the last of seven cases against F. A. Hyde and his associates to recover lands which the state claimed were acquired fraudulently. The seven cases involved approximately 40,000 acres. All but one were decided in favor of the state.

Wheat that grows over five feet high and produces from 100 to 150 bushels to the acre is on exhibition at the Medford commercial club. It is the property of E. P. Hughes, of Josephine county. According to Mr. Hughes, this is a Russian wheat of unknown name, originally sent to a farmer at Holland, Josephine county, by Congressman Hawley, four years ago.

Lane county is building twice the amount of road this year expected when estimates were made this spring but expenditures for roads have not increased. The cost of construction has been reduced by replacing teams and wagons with a great caterpillar tractor and trains of cars. The 75-horsepower engine, in a single load, hauls 32 square yards of gravel, equal to average loads for 20 teams of horses, and travels over the road at about the same speed.

The ten men selected for commissions as second lieutenants in the United States army by President W. J. Kerr, of the Oregon Agricultural college are: Lloyd D. Yates, Milton; Charles A. Fertig, Hood River; Fremont W. Walton, Salem; William V. Clarke, Portland; Cyril L. Myers, Portland; Darrel D. Johnson, Corvallis; Norval C. Carnie, Chicago; William J. O'Neill, Clouquet, Minn.; Vernon I. Basler, Grants Pass; William J. Averill, Corvallis.

Superintendent Churchill has received reports from several school boards that teachers are resigning without giving the notice required by law. This notice must be given prior to 30-day period before the opening of school, and under a new law failure to give such notice is cause for revoking a teaching certificate. No certificates have so far been revoked, but Superintendent Churchill is writing to the teachers warning them to fulfill their contracts or such action will be taken.

Because of the urgent need of completing rock work on the Siskiyou mountain grade of the Pacific highway and that part of the McMinnville-Tillamook road near Sheridan before the fall rains set in, the state highway commission, at a special meeting in Portland, decided to put into effect temporarily a ten-hour day on these two jobs. However, the basic day's work is to remain eight hours, as at present, and double time is to be paid the workmen for the additional two hours.

NAVAL HEAVYWEIGHTS.

And the Way One Bit of Official Red Tape Was Untied.

Since the chief requirement in a torpedo boat destroyer is speed, speed and yet more speed, it has always been the aim of naval constructors to keep the fittings of such vessels as light as is consistent with strength and to dispense with all fittings that are not absolutely necessary.

Some time in the year 1904, says Lieutenant F. H. Roberts in the Army and Navy Journal, a flotilla of destroyers sailed from the Atlantic coast to the Philippines by way of the Mediterranean and the Suez canal. It so happened that the commanding officer of one of the destroyers weighed about 230 pounds. His two assistants, both of them ensigns, each weighed more than 200 pounds. Out of a half dozen petty officers three were heavyweights, and in the crew were two or three others of the same size.

When the flotilla arrived in the Philippines the weather was hot and sultry, and the sun kept the steel deck of the vessel like a stove. The vessel's original allowance list had included one electric fan, and so the commanding officer immediately submitted a requisition asking that a fan be furnished for the wardroom and one in each compartment in which the crew were quartered, five fans in all.

The request in due time reached Washington, and some three months later was returned disapproved, since the bureau "did not wish to add any unnecessary weight to the vessel for fear of reducing its speed."

Nothing daunted, the commanding officer returned the requisition with a statement thereon of the weights of himself, his two commissioned assistants and other members of the crew and requested that one or two of the heavyweights be transferred, and that a man weighing about one hundred and fifty pounds be assigned to his place, and further requested that the disapproval of his requisition be reconsidered. Needless to say, the fans were forthcoming, and no one was transferred, not even the commanding officer.

Sea Smoke.

One of the peculiar phenomena of the arctic regions is "sea smoke." Explorers tell of a steam, as if from a boiling kettle, which rises from the water when the temperature is 15 degrees below zero. At 40 degrees the snow and human bodies emit this vapor, which changes into tiny ice particles, which fill the air and make a light noise like the rustle of silk. At 40 degrees tree trunks burst with a loud report, rocks break up, and streams of smoking water flow from great cracks in the earth's surface, knives break in cutting butter, and lighted cigars go out by contact with the ice upon the beard.

Lamps Guide to Heaven.

Suspended from tall poles that are to be found on the banks of rivers in China are quaint lanterns that sway back and forth in the wind, adding a picturesque touch to the landscape by day and weird illumination by night, says Popular Mechanics. Each of these lanterns has been placed by relatives of some person who has been drowned in the nearby stream in the hope that the spirit of the deceased may see the light as it journeys in search of heaven.

Sheridan's Retort.

Sheridan was at Brighton one summer when Fox, the manager of the theater, took him all over the building and explained its beauties. "There, Mr. Sheridan," said Fox, who combined twenty occupations without being clever in one, "I built and painted all these boxes, and I painted all these scenes." "Did you?" said Sheridan, surveying them rapidly. "Well, I should not, I am sure, have known you were a Fox by your brush!"

English Fish Laws.

Fish, because of its tendency rapidly to decompose, holds a peculiar position among foods. In England it is the subject of a special act of parliament. So long ago as 1698 men knew the evil consequences resulting from eating mackerel of uncertain postmortem age, so they passed an act providing that except during the hours of divine service this fish could be sold on Sunday. That act has never been repealed.

Blushing.

Anything that will make your heart send an extra supply of blood into the arteries and veins which supply your face with blood will make you blush. Embarrassment will do this. So will anger generally, although sometimes people get so angry that the blood is driven out of their faces. In this case they are so angry that their heart has stopped beating practically.

Newberg Lodge No. 104 A. F. & A. M. Regular meeting Second and Fourth Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting brothers always welcome. By order R. J. Moore W. M., G. O. Keeney Secretary.

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