

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

WOOL AT HIGH PRICE.

Million and a Half Pounds Change Hands at Heppner Sale.

Heppner—The first wool sale day in Heppner as arranged by the Oregon Woolgrowers' association resulted in 1,500,000 pounds of wool changing hands, bringing to the growers a little over \$202,000. This is by far the largest sale ever made in a single day in Heppner, and from every point of view was very satisfactory. Previous conditions this year have been discouraging to the sheepmen and the industry in general, owing to the bad sheep market, but these wool sales added so much encouragement that there is a different feeling, not only among the growers but in all lines of business, for the sheep is a prominent factor in the business affairs of Morrow county.

For almost every lot of wool offered, the growers received more than they expected. The average price received was about 13½ cents per pound, which is fully a cent better than received last year, owing to a better quality of wool, this being caused by the open winter and favorable spring, causing slight shrinkage and good staple. The early grass caused sheep to take on flesh and the fleeces were heavy, many fleeces averaging a pound more to the sheep than last year. The advance in price and the increased weight of the fleeces has added thousands of dollars to the pocketbooks of the prosperous sheep-growers.

The sales will take out about half of the wool which will be handled in the Heppner market. It is estimated that about 1,500,000 pounds yet remain in the hands of the growers in this territory. Other sales days have been arranged for June 8 and 23, to be held here for the sale of this wool. The sealed-bid method in which sales days are designated when a number of growers and buyers can get together, was inaugurated three years ago. The bids of the buyers are placed in a hat, the highest offer taking the clip, if the grower desires to accept it. This method has been very successful, there having been but very few private sales.

BIGGEST SAWMILL ON COAST.

To Be Erected at Astoria by Hammond and Other Interests.

Astoria—Negotiations are said to be in progress whereby the interest of A. B. Hammond and the Seaside lumber company in the southern and western portion of this county are to be united and the largest sawmill on the coast is to be erected. The lumber company is composed of wealthy Eastern men, who own a large tract of spruce timber in the Necanicum district. Mr. Hammond also has extensive interests in that section, and by combining the two sufficient timber is available to keep a large mill in operation for many years. Unquestionably the closing of this deal would mean the extension of the Astoria & Columbia River railroad south to Tillamook.

New State Grange Officers.

Corvallis—The State Grange elected the following officers at its meeting held here last week: Master, B. G. Leedy, Tigardville; overseer, J. Clem, Freeewater; lecturer, Mrs. Clara H. Waldo, Macleay; steward, C. L. Shaw, Albany; assistant steward, W. A. Young, Clatskanie; treasurer, H. Hirschberg, Independence; secretary, Mrs. Mary L. Howard, Mullino; gatekeeper, S. N. Wardfield, Alesia; Ceres, Mrs. Ruby Boyd, Beaverton; Pomona, Mrs. Anna Craawell, Gresham; Flora, Miss Lella West, Scappoose; lady assistant steward, Mrs. Ida M. Thorp, Gresham; member executive committee, Austin T. Buxton, Forest Grove; members legislative committee, J. Vorhees, Woodburn; W. M. Hilleary, Turner.

Baker City Prepares for Fair.

Baker City—At a mass meeting of citizens held here it was resolved to organize a fair association for the purpose of providing a race track and grounds for the Eastern Oregon District Fair, which will be held here this fall. There was a large number of prominent citizens present, and most of whom signified their intention to subscribe liberally for the stock of the association. Two years ago the district fair was a failure here because there was no race track and no suitable buildings for the accommodation of exhibits.

Scouring Mills Operate.

Fendleton—The scouring mills got under way with night and day shifts last week, and will run full time until the wool clip is exhausted. Thirty-six hands are employed in all. Washington wool has been coming in for several days.

EUGENE GETS THE FAIR.

Douglas County Is Pacified With a Cash Bonus of \$500.

Eugene—H. L. Traver, F. A. Rankin and J. M. Williams have returned from Roseburg, where they were successful in securing the location of the next exhibit of the Second Southern Oregon District Agricultural society at Eugene. There has been a strong desire to have the fair here again this fall, and the local directors have been working for some time with that end in view. Douglas county at first objected on the ground that they were still in debt \$2,000 on their grounds at Roseburg, which they hoped to be able to raise if they had the fair there.

At a meeting it was arranged that the fair should come to Eugene this year and that Douglas receive from Lane county \$500 bonus, and also that two new directors will be chosen from this part of the district to succeed those from Douglas county, who soon retire.

Reservation Land For Sale.

Oregon City—The Oregon City land-office has been authorized by the interior department to offer for sale townships 5 and 6, ranges 7 and 8 west, in the Grand Ronde Indian reservation. The sale will be made by separate sealed bids, which will be received between August 1 and August 8, and opened at 1 o'clock p. m. August 8. Each bid is to be accompanied by a certified check for 20 per cent of the amount bid, the same to be credited on the purchase price and the balance paid on establishing his citizenship.

To Blot Out the Mange.

Salem—Frank Spike and A. B. Thompson, of Umatilla county, have been appointed local inspectors by the Domestic Animal commission to construct vats and dip the mangy horses that are worth saving and to kill such of the animals as are past curing. These appointments are made at the suggestion of the Stockmen's association there and they will have to bear the expenses.

Baker City Wool Sales.

Baker City—The first wool sales of the season in Baker county were consummated in this city last week. Shearing has only just commenced in this section, and these sales were made in advance of the clips being delivered in warehouse. The prices paid range from 10½ to 12 cents per pound.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 71@72c; blue-stem, 80c; Valley, 81@82c.
Barley—Feed, \$23 per ton; rolled, \$24.50@25.
Flour—Valley, \$3.90@4.05 per barrel; hard wheat straight, \$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.
Oats—No. 1, white, \$1.25; gray, \$1.20 per cental.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$19@20 per ton; middlings, \$25.50@27; shorts, \$20@21; chop, \$18; linseed, dairy food, \$19.
Hay—Timothy, \$15@16 per ton; clover, \$9@10; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.
Vegetables—Turnips, 80c per sack; carrots, 80c; beets, \$1; parsnips, \$1; cabbage, 2@2½c; red cabbage, 2½c per pound; lettuce, head, 25@40c per doz; parsley, 25c; cauliflower, 75@90c; cucumbers, \$1.25 @1.50; asparagus, \$1.25; peas, 5c per pound; rhubarb, 3c; beans, green, 15c; wax, 15c; squash, \$1 per box.
Honey—\$3@3.50 per case.
Potatoes—Fancy, 75c@81 per cental; new potatoes, 3¼ @ 4c per pound; sweets, 5c per pound.
Fruits—Estrawberries, \$3.25@4.50 per crate; cherries, 75c@82 per box; apples, fancy Baldwins and Spitzenbergs, \$1.50@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.50; cooking, 75c@81.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@20c; store, 12½@13c.
Butter Fat—Sweet cream, 18½c; sour cream, 17c.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 17@17½c per dozen.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 13@13½c per pound; springs, small, 20@22½c; hens, 13½@14c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, \$7@8 per dozen; geese, live, 7@8c per pound.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, new stock, 12½@13c; old stock, 10c; Young America, 14c.
Hops—1903 crop, 23@25½c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 17@18½c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 11@14c; mohair, 30c per pound for choice.
Beef—Dressed, 8@8c per pound.
Mutton—Dressed, 4@5c per pound; lambs, 6c.
Veal—Dressed, 4@7c per pound.
Pork—Dressed, 7@7½c per pound.

COAL PIERS BURN.

Lackawanna Loses Five Millions in Fire at New York.

New York, June 1.—Seven freight and coal piers of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad in Jersey City were destroyed today by a fire that started on the barge Allen C. Churchill, which lay alongside pier 12, on which a lot of barrels of oil were stored. The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000. The flames spread rapidly. Pier 12 was 800 feet long and was soon ablaze its entire length, and the firemen who were trying to fight the fire from the shore were able to accomplish but little.

The flames swept across to pier 11 and beyond, being finally checked at pier 5, which is a new coal trestle, steel-framed and iron-clad. Here the firemen and fireboats made a desperate stand and stayed the advance of the fire until the burning piers crumbled and fell into the water.

Although there was little wind, sparks fell all along the water-front for nearly a mile, endangering the Lackawanna station and even the Hamburg-American and Bremen line piers, where the firemen were kept busy playing streams of water upon the blaze and over the ships at their docks.

A number of canal boats and several tugs were burned, the loss of small boats being variously estimated at from 30 to 200. The number of freight cars is not known, but the loss on this class of rolling stock will be heavy. The Lackawanna road moved its passenger coaches out to the Meadows, and one train of freight cars was moved out and saved.

Piers 11 and 12 were full of general merchandise; piers 7, 8, 9 and 10 were used for coal and pier 6 was a grain-loading pier. No person was seriously injured.

Vice-President Loomis, of the Lackawanna, placed the total loss by the fire at \$5,000,000, based on the original cost of the piers burned, on the freight stored on them and to some extent the loss of business which must necessarily ensue. It also includes the burning of the canal boats and barges thickly moored between some of the piers.

The Lackawanna company carries its own insurance.

CAVALRY WILL BE SENT.

Marines Could Accomplish Little in a Rough Country.

Washington, June 1.—High officials of the administration are considering the expediency of making war on the Moroccan bandits if France declines to land troops and assume responsibility for the bandits' punishment. These officials have discussed the best method of procedure and have reached the conclusion that nothing but cavalry accustomed to campaigning in a mountainous country would be of service.

It was at first suggested that several hundred marines should be landed at Tangier and mounted. They would be sent in pursuit of the kidnapers of Ion M. Perdicaris and his stepson. This was considered inadvisable, as the marines would not be experienced in that kind of warfare. If an expedition is sent it will comprise trained cavalrymen from the United States.

The president and general staff think this government should send an armed expedition after the brigands. Secretary Hay and other administration officials discourage the idea and think France should take the necessary steps. There has been no intimation, however, that France will do this, but Mr. Hay feels sure that she will take action before Great Britain or the United States sends an armed force into the sultan's country.

Death for Wire-Cutting.

Seoul, June 1.—M. Hayashi, Japanese minister to Corea, has notified the foreign office that the Japanese military authorities are constantly complaining that telegraphic communication with General San is frequently interrupted. The Japanese military authorities suspect that the country people are cutting the lines at various unfrequented places. M. Hayashi states that the Japanese emperor has issued a proclamation inflicting the death penalty on all persons caught destroying telegraph lines, and asks that the Corean government take similar action.

Japan Wants Reply Soon.

London, June 1.—The Standard's Tientsin correspondent telegraphs that Uchida, the Japanese minister at Peking, has demanded an immediate reply to the inquiry previously sent to the Wai-Wa-Puas as to whether China is prepared to hold and administer the territory the Japanese have conquered, adding that otherwise Japan must appeal to other powers to undertake the responsibility at the expense of China. Minister Uchida has notified the Chinese government at Peking that Port Arthur will soon be captured.

Two Divisions of Fleet.

Paris, June 1.—The Echo de Paris' St. Petersburg correspondent learns that the Baltic fleet will leave in two detachments. The first, consisting of four battleships, is due to start June 24. The battleship Orle will be refloated. The dynamo, the only part of her machinery seriously damaged, will be changed.

FALL OF KINCHOU

JAPANESE COMPEL RUSSIANS TO TREAT TOWARD PORT ARTHUR.

Military Experts Deemed the Position Impregnable—Advance on Port Arthur Is Expected to Follow at Once—Russians Finally Beaten in a Hand-to-Hand Conflict.

Tokio, May 30.—After two days of desperate fighting, the investment of Kinchou has become a fact. The preparatory engagements of Sunday, Monday and Tuesday led to the final effort on Wednesday to take the heights of Kinchou, including the fortress known as the castle. An artillery engagement, beginning at dawn on Wednesday morning, lasted five hours, after which period General Oku, commanding all the army divisions, sent Lieutenant General Baron Kawamura, of the Tenth, Twentieth, Thirty-ninth and Fortieth regiments, to storm the heights. This was the beginning of the great battle, which ended at 7 o'clock on Thursday night, when the Japanese infantry, in a hand-to-hand conflict, drove the Russian defenders from the Nan Shan hill, said by military authorities to be practically impregnable. From this hill, Dalny is absolutely at the mercy of the Japanese from the west, as are the hills leading directly to the Port Arthur fortifications.

While General Oku, through Admiral Togo, telegraphs that the Japanese loss was heavy in the two days fighting, Tokio is wild with joy, and the streets are filled with men, women and children, marching in line behind bands, and all carrying lanterns.

The great triumph north of Port Arthur has confirmed the always strong belief with the Japanese that their soldiers are more than a match for the Muscovite enemy. As all the dispatches show that the Russians fought with desperate valor, there is no doubt also that their losses were heavy.

FEW BOOKED FOR NOME.

Laboring Men Have Had Unpleasant Experiences in the North.

Seattle May 30.—A year ago 2,000 steerage tickets had been sold by this time on the Nome liners. Up to the present time 500 have been booked on the first boats out of this port for the North.

From these figures operators are drawing the conclusion that there will be a shortage of common laborers in Nome during the coming season. In view of the fact that the Council City & Solomon railroad will use about 1,200 men during the season there is apparently some basis for the contention that more men should be taken North. Laboring men are not apt to flock toward Nome this year, for those who went North last year had a hard season. Most of them loafed about Nome without work, and the season was so short that those who found plenty of employment did not make much. While there is promise of a long season and more work than usual, laboring men regard the situation as one that only benefits the steamship companies.

IN FIRST DEGREE.

Norman Williams Found Guilty of Murdering His Wife.

The Dalles, May 28.—Norman Williams, forger, bigamist, uxuricide and murderer of women, sits in the shadow of the gallows now. Last night at 8 o'clock the clerk read from a typewritten piece of paper the fateful words: "We, the jury, find the defendant, Norman Williams, guilty of murder in the first degree."

Out of Norman Williams' mouth came the evidence which is to hang him. "A self convicted murderer," Deputy District Attorney Wilson called him, and truly it was the amazing contradictions of Williams' stories as to when he last saw the murdered Nesbitt women that fastened first the suspicion and then the certainty of guilt upon him.

Russia May Favor the Jews.

St. Petersburg, May 30.—Interior Minister Von Plehwe has proposed to the council of the empire an important project for the repeal of the law under which Jews are forbidden to reside within 32 miles of the frontier. On account of the prevalence of smuggling some years ago, the Jewish pale was drawn back from the border. The new departure is considered one of the important steps in the execution of Emperor Nicholas' ukase, issued in the early part of 1903, promising freedom of conscience to his subjects.

Russians Not Using Floating Mines.

St. Petersburg, May 30.—A high authority at the admiralty said to the correspondent of the Associated Press today: "It is false to assert that the Russians use floating mines. They are not known in the Russian naval service. The Japanese used them constantly off Port Arthur."

LOST 3,500 MEN.

Japanese Paid Dearly for Kinchou Victory—2,000 Russians Killed.

Tokio, May 31.—The Japanese casualties at Nan Shan are now estimated at 3,500. The number of Russian guns captured exceed 70.

While Japan paid heavily for her victory she scored a sweeping and valuable victory over the Russians, in capturing 57 guns, clearing the way to Port Arthur and inflicting losses on the Russians, which, in the end, are expected to total 2,000 men.

It is doubtful if the Russians will stand again north of Port Arthur. They retired from the field beaten, and they failed to rally at Nan Quan Ling, where it was anticipated a second stand would be made.

The desperate onslaughts of the Japanese on the heights of Nan Shan were telling, for the Russians left 300 dead in the trenches there. A complete search of the field is expected to show a greater number of dead.

Nan Quan Ling was occupied yesterday morning by a force of infantry, artillery and engineers under the command of General Nakamura. The main Japanese force spent Friday night billeted in the villages around Nan Shan. The soldiers were greatly fatigued as a result of the constant fighting, but they entered with much spirit upon the new operations.

A force of Russians held San Chi Li Pu station, which is northwest of Dalny, but the Japanese drove them out. The Russians abandoned and burned the station and retreated in the direction of Port Arthur.

The estimates of the Russians engaged in the defense of Kinchou, Nan Shan hill and the south shore of Taiienwan bay vary, but it is evident that the Russians drew for men from the forces at Port Arthur and offered all the resistance possible. It is understood here that Lieutenant General Stoessel, commander of the military forces at Port Arthur, was in personal command of the recent operations.

MASKING REAL FORCE.

Russians Now See Object of Movements of Japanese Troops.

St. Petersburg, May 31.—The news contained in the following dispatch to the emperor from General Kuropatkin, is all that was officially given out tonight:

"On May 25 a Japanese force consisting of a battalion of infantry and a squadron of cavalry advanced on the main road to Liao Yang, but was soon compelled to retire toward Tkhouinez.

"A second Japanese detachment, consisting of a battalion of infantry, at the village of Dapu, in the Ai valley, fired heavily on our Cossacks from 10 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, but the Japanese infantry failed in an attempt to turn the Cossacks' right flank and intercept their retreat."

While the dispatch is brief and bald, it is considered extremely significant. The fact that the Japanese commenced to advance along the main Liao Yang road immediately they had forced the neck of the Liao Tung peninsula and cut off Major General Fock from any co-operation with the Russians in the north shows a thorough understanding between the Japanese commanders.

The authorities here believe the advance from Feng Wang Cheng has only been suspended, pending the elimination of Fock's force, and they expect that the advance upon Liao Yang will now be pushed in earnest.

It is evident that the continual shifting of and skirmishing by the advanced posts of the Japanese around Feng Wang Cheng have been merely successful in masking the real force, consisting of the third army, which is moving north from Takushan. It is expected that this force will be hurled upon Liao Yang, while the Southern Japanese force is busy with Port Arthur.

The fact that there is almost a complete suspension of press messages from Russian correspondents at the front is taken to indicate that important news items are pending.

Russians Must Seek Port.

St. Petersburg, May 31.—There is no attempt here to disguise the fact that the successful forcing of the neck of Kwan Tung peninsula proper puts a practical end to resistance to the enemy until he reaches the actual fortifications around Port Arthur. Although there are many strong positions in the more than 25 miles before the perimeter of the fortress is reached, the authorities admit that the Russians can offer little resistance, and must now retire within the fortress and prepare for the final struggle.

Declared a State of Blockade.

Washington, May 31.—Minister Griscoom cables to the state department from Tokio under today's date that the Japanese government declares the Liao Tung peninsula from Pitsewo to Palentan to be in a state of blockade.