

THE BEND BULLETIN

"For every man a square deal, no less and no more."

HARLES D. ROWE, EDITOR

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FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1907.

PROSPEROUS OREGON.

Never before in the history of Oregon has there been so large an immigration into the state as is now in progress. Thousands are coming from all parts of the country, particularly the Middle West, to visit our state, acquaint themselves with opportunities here and, if they are satisfied, to make their future home in some part of this great and prosperous commonwealth. This influx of people looking for a new country where they can better their condition, is sure to result in a greatly increased population for Oregon. And that means a greater development of Oregon's unparalleled resources in the next few years.

What is drawing these thousands of enterprising people into Oregon's boundaries? The answer is not difficult to find. Seldom, if ever, has the state been as prosperous as it now is. Reports from every section indicate great prosperity. Labor is scarce and is commanding the best of wages, great building activity is seen in all the cities, new lands are being put under cultivation throughout the state, irrigation projects are being developed, railroads are in process of construction, sawmills are humming, mines are being worked—in fact, the one common report from all sources is that Oregon is a veritable bee hive of activity and is on the eve of a great and substantial development.

It has been said that Oregon needed more population. Indications promise that it will soon have that need supplied. During the Lewis and Clark Exposition people from the older settled states had their eyes opened to the possibilities and resources of Oregon. They saw a state possessing great natural resources awaiting development—mines, fisheries, enormous timber wealth, extensive stockraising possibilities, rich orchards, and mile after mile of new, unbroken land awaiting the coming of the settler—and perceiving all this many have decided to leave the congested districts of the East with their high-priced lands and seek opportunities in resourceful Oregon. And their coming means much to Oregon's future prosperity.

FOREST RESERVES A BLESSING.

A number of Western papers are greatly wrought up over President Roosevelt's forest reserve policy. They condemn in strong terms his latest additions to the nation's reserves. An indignant article was sent from a western Oregon town to one of the Portland dailies regarding this matter. The sum and substance of its argument against the president's policy was in the statement that "a large number of our citizens were just ready to make filings on timber claims" and were thus deprived of the opportunity to make a few hundred dollars. And, by the way, the greatest opposition is coming from that class of people. The welfare of the country as a whole seems not to be of much concern to them as far as the forest reserve policy is concerned.

During the time of the recent damaging floods in western Oregon and Washington, it was truthfully stated that the cutting of the timber over large areas was largely responsible for the high water. With many miles of land stripped of its forest protection, the warm sun and chinooks melted the snow so rapidly as to cause floods on the lower

streams—floods that caused, in one year, hundreds of thousands of dollars damage. But it is an unwise policy that aids in preventing such floods and in so doing hinders a few hundred people from increasing their personal wealth.

However, the greatest lasting benefit from the forest reserves is the protection to the water sheds of the country and the saving of a small per cent. of our timber from total destruction by the lumber trust. Oregon, with its thousands of acres to be reclaimed by irrigation, should valiantly uphold any policy that tends to conserve and protect the natural water supply. With the mountain ranges stripped of their timber, millions of cubic feet of water would be wasted by winter and spring-time floods and later, when needed for growing crops, the water could not be had; simply because it had been wasted by an asinine policy that gobbled everything for the present with no provisions for the future.

It is stated that extensive tracts in Spain that were formerly fertile agricultural lands, are now dry, hot, barren and worthless wastes, due to cutting the timber from the land. A similar state of affairs could very easily be brought about in Oregon by letting the rapacity of the lumber barons and the selfish desires of a few individuals go unchecked.

Undoubtedly there is some land in the reserves that should not have been included. It is also practically certain that these tracts will be restored to entry. With the act in operation allowing homesteaders to file on agricultural lands in forest reserves, there is no reason to fear that the honest homesteader will not receive fair treatment.

Oregon is in a position where the welfare of her posterity demands ample protection of its water supply. And some day Oregon will thank President Roosevelt for his forest reserve policy.

There evidently is a growing sentiment in Bend in favor of Sunday closing of business houses. The city council is now considering the passage of an ordinance to that effect. It is a wholesome sign. No man can work well who works seven days of the week without rest. Sunday, as a day of rest, is needed by the physical man. Sunday, as a day of recreation and religious observance, is needed by everyone. It is a conceded fact in history that when any nation or state becomes lax and loose in its observance of the Sabbath that a moral degeneration is also found and crimes increase. The only objection to Sunday closing comes from those who maintain that their business will be injured. We believe this would prove, under trial, more a matter of fear than fact. Nevertheless there are some things in life better than accumulation of wealth, and a decent and religious observance of Sunday goes a long way toward obtaining this better part. Why not forget dollars one day of the week and look to the higher things of life?

H. Tomioka, a young Japanese who is working in Bend and at the same time is acquiring an English education in our public schools, recently wrote an interesting composition in his school work that touches on several American and Japanese questions, especially the recent war talk. Mr. Tomioka expresses sentiments in which all true Americans unite. His article shows him to be no mean student of American and Japanese national events, and will be of interest to Bulletin readers. It appears in another column.

Eggs for Hatching.
 Blue Andalusians, thorough-bred stock. Best winter layers.
 WM. P. DOWNING,
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Problems That Confront The Irrigator.

POTATO CULTURE.

From Farmers' Bulletin No. 35, issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

NUMBER OF EYES AND WEIGHT PER SET.

Many potato growers cut tubers into pieces containing one, two, or more eyes, laying greater stress on the number of eyes than on the size of the cutting. Extensive experiments at the Indiana station and elsewhere prove that of the two factors, number of eyes and weight of piece, the latter is the more important. Of course it is desirable that each piece, whether large or small, should contain at least one eye, and it has been generally profitable for it to be of such size as to contain at least several eyes; but whether it has one or many eyes it is important that the seed piece be heavy enough to furnish abundant nutriment to the shoots which spring from it. A single eye may give rise to several stalks, for each eye is a compound bud or cluster of buds. An eye can be bisected, and each half may then grow successfully if it is not a victim to which its exposed condition subjects it.

In one series of experiments it was found that the number of stalks growing in a hill was less dependent on the number of eyes than on the size of the seed piece whether cut or entire. In general, as the number of eyes per piece increased each eye became less prolific in sending up stalks, so that there was less crowding of stalks where large seed pieces with many eyes were used than would be expected from the large number of eyes planted. After numerous experiments touching on almost every aspect of this subject the investigator advised that tubers be cut so as to make each piece of a constant size or weight, whatever the number of eyes that might fall to its share.

NUMBER OF CUTTINGS PER HILL.

A custom not uncommon among those who plant small cuttings is to drop two pieces in each hill. They usually get a larger yield by so doing than by planting single pieces, the increase generally, though not always, being sufficient to pay for the excess of seed. This does not prove the practice profitable, for better results may be secured by planting a single piece weighing as much as the combined weight of the two pieces which would have been dropped in one hill. Thus the labor of cutting is considerably reduced and, what is more important, larger pieces improve the chances of getting a good stand in

an unfavorable season, because they have less exposed surface than two small pieces of equivalent weight, hence are less liable to dry out excessively when drought follows planting. They are also better able to resist rotting if wet weather prevails.

NUMBER OF STALKS PER HILL.

The most common objection urged against planting large seed pieces is, next to the expense, the danger of having the hills so crowded with stalks, and consequently with tubers, that a large proportion of the potatoes never develop to marketable size. This objection is probably valid for entire tubers, and also for halves planted very close in the row. The evidence available does not permit us to conclude that in the case of quarters used as seed there results any injurious crowding, and it may be questioned whether halves give rise to this trouble when planted under favorable conditions and at considerable distance apart.

The number of stalks that can be advantageously grown in each hill varies greatly with variety, season, soil, and distance apart. At the Indiana station it was found that when uncut tubers of 1 to 5 ounces were planted in hills 3 feet apart the gross yield of large potatoes and the net yield of large potatoes increased with every increase in the number of stalks per hill up to 9 stalks for Burbank and 8 stalks for beauty of Hebron, growing in both cases from tubers weighing 4½ ounces. Eight stalks per hill would probably be excessive for distance less than 3 feet each way. In experiments in Maine, extending over several years, 6 stalks per hill gave larger yields than 4 or 2 stalks, the amount of seed planted being the same in each case.

As to the effects of thinning the stalks, recorded experiments are inconclusive, and with ordinary seed pieces it appears to be unnecessary.

DISTANCE BETWEEN PLANTS.

In deciding on the proper distance at which to plant potatoes it is necessary to take into consideration the size of the seed piece that is to be employed. In general, small seed pieces should be planted close and the distance allotted to each hill should be greater as the weight of the piece is increased. Close planting for small cuttings is best attained, not by narrowing the row to less than about 2½ or 3 feet (for if the distance is much less horse cultivation becomes difficult) but by planting the seed close together in the row.

TUMALO ITEMS.

(Continued from page 1.)

improvements on it in the near future. The Farmers & Merchants line of poles are nearly all set and wire and phones will be put on as soon as freight can be gotten in.

Chas. Thornthwaite was a passenger on Monday's stage returning to Bend after a stay of several days at his homestead.

John Couch is doing some extensive improvements on his place two miles northeast of Tumalo and it looks as if a cyclone had struck there as he has the juniper pulled on several acres.

J. E. Wimer and C. Spangh went to the head of the Wimer & Jensen ditch yesterday and will turn down some water as the snow is nearly gone up there.

Wm. Baker was over Sunday from the Hightower & Smith mill, formerly owned by Dorrance Bros. He states that preparations are steadily going on there to start the mill soon.

Oren Waite of Lamonta, the general representative of The Dalles nursery, ate dinner in Tumalo Monday.

Taken Up.
 Black horse came to my place about Nov. 30, branded IC on right stifle; weight 750 lbs. Owner please call for same and pay feed bill.
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