

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

The Ben Jones bridge over Rocky creek, on the Roosevelt highway, will be dedicated September 17.

Mrs. Inga Bustad, 101 years of age, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. Brabaw, in Astoria, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Matthews last week observed quietly at the home in Salem their 67th wedding anniversary.

With an average attendance of 261 pupils, the high school of Forest Grove last year cost the taxpayers a total of \$26,975.44.

Mrs. John Scott, 60, of Creswell, was killed last week when the automobile in which she and her husband were riding overturned.

The DuBois lumber mill, now being erected on the site of the old Menefee mill in West Rainier, will employ 80 men on a single shift.

Grading of the new Union high school campus at Rainier is being rushed to completion before the opening of the term in September.

Horace May, while at work on a threshing machine near Condon Saturday, slipped and fell into the cylinder, his left leg being torn off at the knee.

Nine cars of pears were shipped to the eastern markets from the Medford packing houses recently, making a total of 15 to be sent from the city so far.

According to figures being compiled at Coquille by County Assessor Beyers, Coos county will have more than \$2,500,000 in values added to the tax rolls this year.

Roy Hewitt, professor of law at the Oregon Agricultural college, has been appointed dean of the Willamette university law school, it has been announced in Salem.

Portland dropped to fifth place among the cities of the Pacific coast in value of building permits issued during July, according to the survey of S. W. Straus & Co.

During the past school year there were 4384 students enrolled in the grade and high schools of Union county, according to the annual report of the county superintendent.

Arrangements are being made to entertain a large crowd at Wheeler August 26-27 when the Nehalem Bay fair is held. Voting is now in progress for a queen for the event.

A three-day racing program will be one of the features of the annual Linn county fair to be held in Albany this year. The fair will open September 13, closing Friday night, the 16th.

After having been shut down for two years, the Ackley Lumber company of Klamath Falls, employing about 50 men, has renewed its operations. Two shifts have been started.

The recent \$10,000 road bond election held in Waldport was carried two to one, and the city council will act with all possible speed to sell the bonds and have the roads built before spring.

Miss Margaret Boyd, 22, resident of Enterprise, and teacher in Baker high school, broke all records for swimming the length of Willows lake last Saturday when she accomplished the feat in two hours 35 minutes.

Union plumbers of Eugene have gone on strike following a refusal of the master plumbers to sign an agreement giving the journeymen \$9 a day, effective January 1, 1928. Between 30 and 35 men are out of employment.

Because an increase in population, and resultant gain in voters has created a burden on election boards, the number of precincts in Klamath Falls will be increased from 17 to 25, it was announced by County Judge Goddard.

A crew of electricians of the West Coast Hydro-Electric corporation arrived in Waldport last week to connect Waldport with light and power from Toledo, giving a 24-hour service. The job is expected to be done within ten days.

Klamath's dream of a mammoth Weyerhaeuser lumber mill and extensive logging operations is near fulfillment. This was indicated by George L. Long, general manager of the Weyerhaeuser Timber company in a brief but carefully worded statement to the press.

The new toll telephone line has been completed from Rhododendron Inn to Oregon Trail tavern, Government Camp, Battle Axe Inn and Swim. The line is connected at Rhododendron Inn and gives direct service to Portland.

Dry creek, a Curry county stream near Port Orford, which dries up each summer, is being seined as usual and the endangered fish are being taken from the pools and liberated in Garrison lake, a mile and a half from Port Orford.

Funeral services for Judge Samuel Townshend Burch were held last week in the old family home at Rickreall. Judge Burch, who was in his 97th year, had lived in Polk county for 80 years and was the county's oldest resident.

Pendleton sportsmen assisted game wardens and employees of the state game commission in liberating 6000 bass, croppies and cat fish in the McKay reservoir last week. The fish were shipped to the man-made lake from lakes and sloughs near Portland and are expected to thrive in their new aquatic abode.

Between 30,000 and 40,000 wild mustang horses of eastern Oregon are dying of thirst in Deschutes and Crook counties, according to advices received by A. L. Cross, head of the state work of the Oregon Humane society. A dearth of water already has brought about the death of hundreds of the roaming mustangs.

A decision favoring the city of Roseburg has been handed down by Judge Kendall in the action brought by A. W. Bashford enjoining the city from the collection of dog license. The city recently imposed a license fee of \$5 for male dogs and \$10 for females and a number of dog owners combined to prevent the enforcement of the ordinance.

Conditions improved in Oregon apple orchards in the past month and estimates of the crop have been raised 243,000 boxes since the July report of the government. The commercial crop of the state is now placed at 3,162,000 boxes, which compares with 3,100,000 boxes produced last year and 4,503,000 boxes the five-year average.

Price Robinson, a Norway farmer, near Marshfield, broke the neck of his prize bull when he fell across the animal's back after being tossed into the air. The bull, being led through a pasture, charged Mr. Robinson and tossed him high in the air. Coming down upon the bull's back, Mr. Robinson was badly hurt, but the bull's neck was broken.

D. L. Neidenheiser, Glendale mill worker, was brought to Roseburg recently, charged with starting a string of forest fires on Stouts creek, a tributary of the South Umpqua river near Perdue. These were the incendiary fires started last Sunday, a total of 34 fires having been started, nearly 20 of which obtained a fair start before being brought under control.

There were three fatalities due to industrial accidents in Oregon during the week ending August 11, according to a report by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were John Dorr, Portland, mill worker; John D. McKenzie, Lostine, truck driver, and James A. Neeley, Coquille, wood cutter. There were 869 accidents reported to the commission during the week.

An army of grasshoppers which recently took possession of an unplowed field near Turner a few days ago, moved across the road onto the Chas. Nannemann ranch, where it has done several hundred dollars' damage. The grasshoppers stripped six acres of corn of its leaves, destroyed the ears, stripped the foliage off two and one-half acres of strawberries and later played havoc in a filbert orchard.

The total production of milk by 1674 cows in 75 herds tested by J. O. Polzin during July for the Tillamook County Cow Testing association was 1,615,600 pounds. The butterfat production from these dairy herds, according to his report for the month, totaled 69,350.6 pounds, which gave an average production of 969 pounds of milk and 41.57 pounds of butterfat, and an average test of 4.29 per cent.

The total resources of Oregon's 253 banks, as disclosed in official reports as of June 30, 1927, amounted to \$335,960,161, according to an abstract prepared by Frank C. Bramwell, retiring state superintendent of banks. This total was smaller by \$10,030,017 than the resources reported one year earlier by 273 banks. It was slightly larger than the \$331,452,497 of assets reported by 280 banks on June 30, 1925.

Points off the railroad on the coast of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California have been provided with express service between Haddon and Crescent City. The American Railway Express company has established stations along the way at all important communal centers and the express is transported by the Coast Auto lines. This arrangement gives a strip of country 140 miles long a daily express service, as well as mail as often.

Dr. W. H. Lytle, state veterinarian, was re-elected to the office at a meeting of the state livestock board held recently. Harry West of Scappoose was elected president of the board, while M. R. Briggs of Prineville was elected vice-president.

Unless an organization is perfected in time to market the 1923 and 1929 prune crop and stabilize the price, thousands of acres of prune trees in Oregon and California will be pulled out or abandoned, according to Seymour Jones, state market agent.

COL. S. R. H. TOMPKINS



Col. S. R. H. Tompkins, one of the most colorful characters of the old army days during the winning of the west, who retires after 30 years' service.

KANSAS CLOUDBURST HITS MANY TOWNS

Topeka, Kan.—More than a dozen towns were flooded and many miles of lowlands inundated by terrific downpours in central Kansas, usually a sun-baked section where little rain falls at this time of year. No lives were lost, but heavy property damage was reported.

The flooded area is in a rich farming belt and the high waters took a heavy toll in wheat crops, horses and cattle.

The Smoky Hill river, ordinarily dry in the summer, went on rampage near Salina, flooding the towns of Ellsworth, Wilson, Blackwolf, Dorance and Marquette. Reports from Dubuque said the water reached the second stories of homes and rescuers responded to many calls for help.

EDISON OBSERVES DAY

Golden Anniversary of Invention of Phonograph Observed.

West Orange, N. J.—Thomas A. Edison, the electrical wizard, celebrated the golden anniversary of his invention of the phonograph here.

A bound volume of congratulatory letters from governors of the various states, foreign rulers and others high in public and private life, was presented to him by Governor Moore.

The first words Mr. Edison spoke into his original phonograph in 1877 were from the nursery jingle, "Mary had a little lamb," to a congratulatory message from Mary Pickford, screen star, on the record of a dictating machine, was presented to the inventor. The original machine that recorded the human voice and reproduced the sounds was on display.

Sacco-Vanzetti Reprieve Given.

Boston, Mass.—A respite to and including Monday, August 22, for Nicola Sacco, Bartolomeo Vanzetti and Celestino Madeiros was granted by Governor Muller and the executive council. The fate of Sacco and Vanzetti is again in the hands of the courts. The supreme court of Massachusetts will consider the bill of exceptions of defense counsel, previously denied by Judge Sanderson, but who announced that he would permit his decision to be reviewed by the full bench.

Kansas City Babe Weighs 1½ Pounds
Kansas City, Mo.—Oliver Dewitt Welcher Jr., weight 1½ pounds, clothed in a dress borrowed from his sister's doll, was doing nicely.

THE MARKETS. Portland.

Wheat—B. B. bluestem, \$1.34; hard white, \$1.33; hard federation, soft white, western white, northern spring, \$1.32½; hard winter, \$1.31; western red, \$1.26.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$17.50; valley timothy, \$17@18; eastern Oregon timothy, \$22@22.50.

Butterfat—40½c.
Eggs—Ranch, 23@27c.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$9.25@9.50.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$10.50@12.25.

Lambs—Medium to choice, \$10.50@11.50.

Seattle.

Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.32; hard winter, \$1.29; western red, \$1.28; northern spring, \$1.30; bluestem, \$1.34; dark northern spring, \$1.40½; dark hard winter, \$1.38½.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$25; timothy, P. S. \$22.

Butterfat—43c.
Eggs—Ranch, 24@31c.

Cattle—Steers, choice, \$9@9.50.
Hogs—Prime, \$12@12.25.

Spokane.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$8.50@9.00.
Hogs—Good, \$11.50@11.65.

NORTHWEST FIRE LOSSES FOUND LOW

A Remarkable Number of the Blazes Are Caused by Lightning.

Portland, Or.—Fires in the 22 national forests of Oregon and Washington this year have not been as destructive as the news of the last two weeks seemed to indicate, the United States forest service concluded when summary reports were compiled.

Of 995 reported fires, 783 of them burned over less than one-quarter acre.

Fires burning areas ranging from a quarter acre to ten acres numbered 175. There were 37 fires which burned over more than ten acres. Of the 37, some were very large, bringing the total acreage burned over to date to 75,205.

A remarkable number of the fires was caused by lightning; 731 of the 995. Man is held accountable for the remaining 264 fires. The distribution among human agencies follows: Campers, 93; smokers, 82; railroads, 29; miscellaneous, 60. The number of fires caused by smokers has been increasing from year to year, and last year there were more such fires than there were of blazes left by campers; the figures for this year to August 10 show campers' fires leading. Sixty-one convictions for carelessness with fire or for criminal intent have been obtained.

Rainier national forest has had more fires (105) this year than any of the other 21 national forests. The Columbia is second with 84. The Deschutes and the Mount Hood forests each have had 83 fires.

COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT APPROVED

Spokane, Wash.—Members of the irrigation and reclamation committee of the house of representatives, United States congress, gathered in Spokane Sunday to begin a four-day personal investigation of the water resources and land areas connected with the Columbia basin irrigation project.

All who were seen said they were in sympathy with continued reclamation and that the ordinary time checks on projects of great magnitude, which are naturally slow-moving, would eliminate the danger of overproduction.

All expressed satisfaction at being invited by the Columbia Basin Irrigation league to go over the project. "Seeing is believing," was the way one representative stated it.

Eighteen United States representatives, some accompanied by their wives and families, gathered here. It was the largest group of congressmen ever entertained at one time in this state.

The Columbia basin plan is to put 6,000,000-acre feet of water into storage, to deliver as needed to 1,883,000 acres of rich land, according to experts. This reclamation will mean the creation of assets that will equal the importance of adding another state to the union, it is confidently believed.

GROWERS WANT CULLS

Yakima Resolution Calls Upon Warehousemen for Return.

Yakima, Wash.—Resolutions demanding that fruit warehouses return all cull apples to growers were adopted at a meeting of the Yakima county farm bureau. Growers receive no credit for the fruit sorted out as culls, and the claim was made that the warehouse owners make an additional profit at the growers' expense by selling the so-called "cooker grade" apples.

The bureau decided to send three delegates to the freight rates meeting in Wenatchee.

De Valera Faction Takes King's Oath.

Dublin.—The republican deputies in the dail eireann, led by Eamon De Valera, for the first time since the establishment of the Irish Free State, took the oath of allegiance to the Free State government and the British crown. It was the first time the "die hard" republican leaders had admitted allegiance in any way to the crown since De Valera established the "Irish republic."

German Woman Flies Dives in River.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—Thea Rasche, German aviatrix, dropped in the Hudson here after an unsuccessful attempt to fly under the Poughkeepsie railroad bridge. The aviatrix, uninjured, was rescued by two boatmen.

Will Investigate "Blue Sky" Methods

Washington, D. C.—A second investigation into the sale of "blue sky" securities and the operation of other "get rich quick" frauds has been ordered by the federal trade commission.

MAURICE DROUHIN



Maurice Drouhin, one of the best commercial pilots in France, who may pilot the plane Columbia on the return flight from Europe.

CALIFORNIA GROWERS GET RATE REDUCTION

Washington, D. C.—A reduction of 13 cents a hundred pounds on California fresh fruit, other than oranges, lemons and apples, moving to the eastern half of the United States, was ordered by the interstate commerce commission, effective October 10, next.

By the same decision, the commission ordered the California fruit rates to Denver and Rocky mountain territory generally reduced at the same time by 12 cents.

Complaints of the California producing interests against the present rates were sustained almost completely by the commission.

Fruit growers of the Pacific northwest may have opportunity to reopen their fight for lower freight rates to the east as a result of the decision.

In contrast to the new California rates, the rate on the same commodities from Hood River and Yakima, the two great fruit shipping centers of the northwest, remains at \$1.69 to Omaha, \$1.87½ to Chicago, Pittsburgh and New York City and \$1.58 to Denver.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Lon Westermann of Seattle, Wash., was elected president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in national convention at Milwaukee.

James Oliver Curwood, author and noted conservationist, died at his home in Ososno, Mich., after an illness resulting from streptococcus infection.

A \$783,000,000 "melon," establishing a record profit for American industry, is to be distributed among holders of stock in the General Motors corporation.

Cash and players to the amount of \$75,000 were offered by the Chicago White Sox for the contract of Lyn Lary, sensational young Oakland, Cal., shortstop.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway announced that it would intervene to prevent the proposed merger of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads.

Captain Arthur V. Rodgers was killed at Los Angeles when his Tandem-motored monoplane "Angel of Los Angeles" crashed to earth and the pilot attempted to leap to safety.

Steps Taken to Combat Pellagra.

Washington, D. C.—A campaign to combat a feared epidemic of pellagra in the flood-stricken Mississippi valley as the people return to their water-swept homes was announced by the United States public health service. In warning there is serious danger of this plague rising to strike down the hard-pressed flood victims, Surgeon General Hugh F. Cumming declared that if pellagra did become rampant, there would be a heavy toll in lives lost and millions of dollars in material damage.

Manila Gathering Honors Gen. Wood.

Manila.—Twenty thousand persons gathered to honor the memory of Governor General Leonard Wood, who died in Boston last Sunday. The gathering place was Luneta, where the first American soldiers landed in Manila 29 years ago. Prominent speakers represented the Filipino, the British, the Spanish and the American communities.

Seattle Auto Racer Fatally Injured.

Portland, Or.—In the sight of his young wife and 1500 spectators, Lloyd Krohn, 28, automobile racer of Seattle, sustained fatal injuries when his racing car crashed through the fence of the new speed bowl at the 12-mile corners of the East Line road.

TAX REDUCTION PLAN HIT BY DEFENSE ITEM

Increases Required to Meet Expenses of Army and Navy Program.

Rapid City, S. D.—A jar to the tax reduction plan by the next congress was given in the increased budget approved by President Coolidge, but the blow is not expected to be fatal to the hopes of taxpayers.

Recalling the surplus of \$600,000,000 piled up by the treasury during the fiscal year ending last June 30, administration leaders who have called here this summer have announced plans for a tax slash of at least \$300,000,000.

However, Director Lord of the budget seemed rather dubious about the tax reduction plan after relating that after the tentative budget just submitted to the president called for a material increase over last year and slightly more than the government expenses. The increases were required, he said, to meet expenses of the army and navy building program and for public building construction.

The new budget provides for the building of all ships authorized by congress, including sufficient funds to carry out the first year's work in all instances. Pending the Geneva naval disarmament congress which ended in failure, the president and the budget director had been reluctant to commend money for further construction.

So far as tax reduction is concerned there is no indication that the president will attempt to stop the movement for a slash which he believed heretofore was possible.

The present favorable outlook for a good grain crop and fair prices, especially for livestock, "will permit many borrowers to put their loans in good order," Eugene Mayer of the Federal farm loan board reported to President Coolidge.

"I was happy to tell Mr. Coolidge," he said, "after a trip through the northwest from the Twin Cities to the Pacific coast, that reports of this year's crop outlook have not been exaggerated."

GERMAN AVIATORS FORCED TO RETURN

Dessau, Germany.—Germany's first attempt to conquer the Atlantic ocean with heavier-than-air machines failed completely at 4:24 o'clock, German time, when the Junkers trans-Atlantic plane Bremen and its crew of three returned to its starting point at the flying field here after attempting for 22 hours to fight its way clear of the wind, rain and fog which held all Europe storm-bound.

The Bremen's sister ship, the Europa, which attempted the flight with the Bremen, was forced to earth at Bremen last night, two hours after the start.

The Bremen flew as far as Ireland before abandoning further attempt to get across the Atlantic.

"We turned back because we struck so much fog and heavy weather that we could see no chance of succeeding in the flight," said Friedrich Loose and Herman Koehl, pilots of the Bremen, after their landing here.

JUDGE GARY SUCCUMBS

Head of United States Steel Corporation Dies.

New York.—Elbert H. Gary, one of America's industrial giants, died in his home here Monday at the age of 80.

Judge Gary, who was chairman of the board of the United States Steel corporation, had been away from his desk for about three weeks because of a decline in his health, but his death was a surprise and shock to his many friends in the financial district.

He was one of the world's leading financiers, having organized the United States Steel corporation in 1901, with the backing of J. Pierpont Morgan. He had been head of the big company ever since. Because of the effect of Judge Gary's death on the stock market, news that he had died was withheld for hours and did not become known until some time after the stock market opened at 10 o'clock. There was an immediate decline in the price of United States Steel stock.

Two California Bankers are Arrested.

Bishop, Cal.—W. W. Watterson and M. Q. Watterson, guiding spirits of five Inyo county banks, which recently closed their doors, were arrested on warrants charging theft and embezzlement on 43 counts.

Osage River Flood Damage \$1,000,000.

Tuscumbia, Mo.—A million dollars' damage has been done in 10 counties of the Osage river valley, it was estimated as high water continued to sweep through the counties.