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No. 5 Mail & Express..... 2:08 A M

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OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

HIGH PRICE FOR WOOL.

Million and a Half Pounds Go Under Sealed Bids at Shaniko.

Shaniko—The highest price paid for wool in Eastern Oregon in 25 years was paid to the growers of this section of the state at the public auction sales here last week. The sales were conducted on the sealed bids system, and prices ranged from 21 to 24½ cents for Merino wools. One small clip of crossbred Lincoln wool sold for 26½ cents. These wools were formerly marketed at The Dalles, but since the completion of the railroad to this point sales have been conducted here. The prices are the highest paid this season at any Eastern Oregon point, and Wasco county maintains its reputation as the leading wool market in the state.

The high prices which prevailed at these sales are especially gratifying to the growers, by reason of the fact that their loyalty to the sealed bid system has been rewarded by from 3 to 5 cents per pound increase over prices paid those who contracted earlier. Fully three-fourths of the wools grown in the state were contracted during the winter and early in the spring, this section being the only noticeable exception where the offers of tempting prices failed to make serious inroads into the clip to be marketed.

Local growers who held are highly elated over the success of the public sales, while the few who contracted here are correspondingly sorry that they did not stand by the sealed bid plan. The success of this year's public sales firmly establishes the popularity and proves the wisdom of the plan.

This being the only point in the state where a large quantity of the choice wools would be offered for sale on the sealed bid plan, a large number of buyers were attracted to the sales, and 20 representatives of the leading wool merchants and manufacturers in the East and West were present.

SUIT BY ASYLUM AUTHORITIES.

Judge Galloway Sustains Demurrer by Secretary of State.

Salem—Judge Galloway has sustained the demurrer to the writ in the mandamus proceedings brought by asylum employees to compel Secretary of State Dunbar to issue a warrant for the amount of their monthly salaries. Judge Galloway holds that the Kay law passed in 1905, does not repeal the act of 1901 which prohibits the secretary from issuing a warrant when no appropriation is available.

Under Judge Galloway's decision it will be the duty of the secretary of state to issue a certificate of allowance and not a warrant for the amount of the salary roll. In accordance with the plan already announced, a notice of appeal was given and the question will be presented before the Supreme court as soon as possible.

Smelting Not the Only Plan.

Grants Pass—The big customs smelter projected for the Southern Oregon district by Messrs. Fleck, Corlies, Williams, Snowgoose and others is now an assured fact, and construction will begin this week. Articles of incorporation have been filed for the Rogue River Mining, Smelting and Power company. Smelting is not to be the only object of the new company, which expects to put in a huge dam. This, with the 60-foot fall the river has at Savage rapids, where the smelter is to be built, they feel sure, is capable of generating at least 45,000 horse power for irrigation and power purposes.

In 175 Feet on Buckeye.

Sumpter—W. F. Kippen, who holds the bond on the Buckeye group, located at the head of Little Cracker creek, reports the lower drift started last season as being now in 170 feet. He and associate, Thomas Kennerly, have not decided just where they will commence active work on the property. The rich rock already located is still showing up well, and Mr. Kippen has in his possession the little gold brick realized from panning only 17 ounces of ore taken a day or two ago from the ledge.

Covered by Inheritance Law.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford holds that a conveyance of real property made to a man's children with the reservation of possession until his death, is an advancement within the meaning of the inheritance tax law and that the property is subject to the tax. The opinion was rendered at the request of the state treasurer in the matter of the Johanna O'Brien estate.

Boring for Artesian Water.

Elgin—For several weeks a crew has been engaged in boring an artesian well near Alicel. Work is under the supervision of a contractor from San Francisco. The well at this time is a little over 700 feet in depth and as yet no rock and but little water that will flow has been found, but the work is still being continued.

HARVEST OUTLOOK IS BRIGHT.

Little Grain in Clackamas Injured by Continued Showers.

Oregon City — Damage to fall grain, which in localities has been felled to the ground, has resulted from the continuous showers of the last week. George LaZelle, a farmer from New Era, reports that the rains have lowered to the ground an acre field of his velvet chaff wheat, which he fears will have to be cut for hay. This field was one of the finest pieces of growing grain in the county, the stalks having attained a height of six feet, and the grain was well headed out.

Barring further unfavorable weather conditions, the grain crop of Clackamas county this year will be without precedent with respect to yield, Mr. LaZelle estimating that this field would have produced between 50 and 60 bushels to the acre. The aphid pest appeared on wheat and oats in some sections, but not to the extent but that a few days of warm weather will rid the grain of the destructive visitor.

Except unfavorable weather interferes with the harvest, the yield of hay in this county this year will be a record breaker, the stand of grass being exceptionally heavy and of fine quality.

AUTO LINE IN VALLEY.

Connecting Link Established Between Independence and Salem.

Independence—An automobile line has been put on between Independence and Salem. There is a missing link of 12 miles between these two points in the transportation facilities of the valley. For years there has been talk of a motor connecting the Southern Pacific lines on the East and West sides. This spring the roads have been improved and the automobile brought the solution.

Local capital at Independence and Salem has had the matter under consideration. A surprise was sprung when a ten-seat hotel bus machine was put on the run by the Oregon Suburban Auto company. It is understood the Oregon City Transportation company is largely concerned in the movement.

A regular schedule will be announced shortly. It is the purpose to connect as closely as possible with Southern Pacific trains at Salem and the motor cars here.

Good Sign of Prosperity.

Washington—These changes in salaries of Oregon postmasters have been announced: Increase—Albany, The Dalles, \$2,200 to \$2,300; Arlington, Burns, Condon, Elgin, \$1,200 to \$1,300; Athena, Monmouth, Myrtle Point, \$1,000 to \$1,100; Corvallis, \$1,800 to \$1,900; Dallas, Forest Grove, \$1,500 to \$1,600; Independence, \$1,300 to \$1,400; Junction City, Lebanon, Milton, \$1,100 to \$1,200; Klamath Falls, \$1,300 to \$1,500; La Grande, \$2,100 to \$2,200; Mount Angel, Woodburn, \$1,200 to \$1,400; Newberg, Ontario, \$1,400 to \$1,500; Oregon City, \$2,000 to \$2,200; Wasco, \$1,100 to \$1,300. Decrease—Sumpter, \$2,000 to \$1,700.

Golden Chariot and Orleans.

Sumpter—A prominent mining expert is here this week from Philadelphia for the purpose of inspecting the Golden Chariot and Orleans groups. The first named is located near here and the latter in close proximity to the Goleonda. Senator Fulche, of Pennsylvania, is interested in these properties to such an extent as to consider them worthy of investigation, and on the result of the expert's report will depend whether he and associates will take hold of the mines and develop them to a producing stage.

Salmon Reach the McKenzie.

Salem—According to reports that have been received by Master Fish Warden H. G. Van Dusen, the McKenzie river is full of salmon, this condition evidently having been brought about by the construction of a good fish way over the falls at Oregon City. Mr. Van Dusen is inclined to think the reports are exaggerated, but he is pleased with the outlook and has placed rocks in the river just below Gate creek, and hopes to take a large number of salmon for hatchery purposes.

PORTLAND QUOTATIONS.

Wheat — Club, 82@83c per bushel; bluestem, 88@89c; valley, 85c.
Oats — No. 1 white, feed, \$30 per ton; gray, \$30.
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18½@19c per dozen.
Butter — Fancy creamery, 17½@21½c per pound.
Strawberries—\$1.25@2.00 per crate.
Apples—Table, 1.50@2.50 per box.
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, \$1.25@1.35; new potatoes, \$1.25@1.50.
Hops — Choice, 1904, 19@21c per pound.
Wool — Eastern Oregon, best, 18@23c; valley, 27½@29c; mcta choice, 31@32½c per pound

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