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**OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**TAX LAND IN RESERVATION.**

One Hundred Thousand Acres in Klamath Subject to Ruling.

Salem—The right of Klamath county to tax 100,000 acres of land owned by the California & Oregon Land company inside the Klamath Indian reservation has been sustained in an opinion rendered by Attorney General Crawford. The land in question was formerly owned by the Oregon Central Military Wagon Road company, having been acquired by that company through a Federal grant to the state of Oregon for aid in building a military road. The owners of the land objected to having it assessed and taxed, giving as a reason for their position that the land is in the possession of the Indians and thereby of the United States, and is thereby exempt from taxation.

In his opinion Attorney General Crawford quotes from two decisions of the United States Supreme court in cases involving title to this land. In each case the government was trying to defeat the company's title, but in both cases the company won. The Supreme court held that the company's title is perfect and beyond challenge. Authorities are also cited to show that private property inside an Indian reservation is subject to the jurisdiction of the state for the serving of process and for taxation. In view of these adjudications upon the subject, the attorney general holds that the conclusion is irresistible that the lands are subject to taxation the same as any other private property. The opinion was rendered in response to a request from County Judge Baldwin, of Klamath county.

**HOOD RIVER CHERRY CROP.**

Shipments Will Reach Between 5,000 and 7,000 Boxes.

Hood River—The Hood River cherry crop, which is now being gathered and shipped, will amount to between 5,000 and 7,000 boxes. The crop is of good quality. The greater part of the crop has been bought up by a California buyer, who is paying 5c a pound for the fruit. He is putting up a strictly fancy pack, and is making shipments for the New York market.

The berry crop is nearing the final wind-up. Over 100,000 cases were shipped from Hood River this season, returning to the growers \$140,000. The yield exceeded the early estimates by at least 40 per cent. It is believed by the shipping associations that as much money would have been realized with a crop of only 75,000 cases.

**City Files on Water.**

Eugene—A committee from the city council drove to Vida, 20 miles up the McKenzie river last week to file on the waters of that river for power to operate a municipal electric light plant. At the city election in April, 1904, the voters decided that the city should own its electric light and water plants, and the council is now preparing to secure a site for the light plant. The franchise of the Lane County Electric company, which now supplies the city with lights, expires in about four years, when the city will enter the field.

**Belmont Group Reported Sold.**

Sumpter—It is reported that Gilkey and Kershaw, owners of the Belmont group, in the Greenhorn district, have sold their property at a snug sum. The amount said to be realized is \$30,000, with a holding still in the group on a share proposition. Neither Mr. Gilkey nor Mr. Kershaw could be seen, therefore the report could not be verified by them. This is the same property for which such phenomenal clean-ups have been made during the past three months.

**Cut Fir When Line is Finished.**

Dallas—The Dallas Oak mills are now running on full time. The mills will continue to cut oak lumber until the extension on the Dallas & Falls City railroad is finished, when it is understood the mill will be enlarged and will cut fir on a large scale. This mill is on the Falls City road, and is already supplied with switching facilities and yard accommodations for a 50,000-foot mill.

**Susanville's Good Crop Prospect.**

¶ Susanville—Prospects for a good harvest this year in the immediate vicinity were never better and farmers are all making preparations for an unusually big yield of hay and grain. All the stock on the ranges is doing finely and from present outlook there will be enough grass to last till far in the winter. It has rained constantly here since early in March.

**Coal Find Near Cottage Grove.**

Cottage Grove—Cottage Grove men have discovered a good vein of coal somewhere near town, but are very backward about telling the location. The specimens they brought in will burn with the best, and have the appearance of coking coal. A small per cent of the specimens brought in are slate, but not enough to cause much trouble.

**LAND FRAUD CASES IN MARION.**

Jury List Has Been Drawn, Composed Mostly of Farmers.

Salem—The jurymen who will serve at the July term of the Circuit court in this county, when the land fraud cases will probably be tried, have been drawn from the jury list by Sheriff Culver, and Clerk Rowland. The panel is composed chiefly of farmers, comparatively few business men being on the list.

No arrests have yet been made in the land fraud cases, nor have the names of the indicted men been made public. It is understood, however, that the men charged with complicity in the state land frauds are well known operators residing in Oregon and in the East, and that they can be easily taken into custody when wanted. Some of them have indicated their willingness to come to Oregon whenever called upon to do so, but it may be necessary to issue requisition papers in order to bring others to the jurisdiction of the Oregon courts.

The jury at this term will also try Wright and Monte on the charge of passing rifles over the prison walls in 1902 for the aid of Tracy and Merrill in making their escape.

**MERLIN PEACH YIELD.**

Crop Both Heavy and Early, Reports Arthur Hussey.

Grants Pass—Arthur Hussey, of Merlin, reports the peach crop in that vicinity as heavier than it has been for a number of years past, and says several of the larger growers have had men employed for several days thinning out the crop. The Merlin district is a very favored locality for peaches, frost seldom catching them, and the soil being of a very productive nature. The largest peach growers of that district are A. C. Ford and Charles Dorey, although Henry E. Booth has a splendid orchard coming into bearing this year. The early spring all through the Southern Oregon country makes the crop an exceedingly early one this year, and Mr. Hussey reports that the Early Crawfords will be ready for market about August 1 this year.

**Cottage Grove Crops.**

Cottage Grove—The crops around town are in fine condition and some of the grain will outclass most yields heretofore made. Much of the fruit was damaged by the late frosts, however, and in some cases entirely ruined. Cherries are scarce. Strawberries are three boxes for 25c, and about off the market. There will be a good crop of pears and apples on the uplands, but the valley fruit here is almost ruined. The warm weather has brought garden stuff to a fine growth. Some of the corn in town is three feet high.

**Sawmill and Electric Drills.**

Sumpter—A crew of men is now engaged at the Standard mine on the erection of a sawmill recently shipped there. The installation of the electric drills will also be made immediately. The Standard expects to be a heavy shipper of smelting ores to the smelter here during the present summer. Roads are now in pretty good shape again, and the result is that shipments are constantly being made to this place from the outlying mines.

**Motorists Need Licenses.**

Salem—A number of owners of motor cycles and probably several owners of automobiles are liable to a fine of \$25 for failure to take out state licenses, as required by the act of 1905 for the regulation of the use of automobiles, etc. Thus far licenses have been issued by Secretary of State Dunbar to 144 owners of automobiles and 11 motor cycles. Of the 11 motor cycles five are owned in Salem and five in Roseburg.

**Open New Timber Tract.**

Rainier—George Rockey has built a railroad to his camp, about one and a half miles from Rainier, and his engine has arrived. Mr. Rockey will open about 300 acres of choice timber land.

**PORTLAND MARKETS.**

Wheat—Club, 82@83c per bushel; bluestem, 89@90c; 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, 20@21c dozen.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@21¼c per pound.  
Strawberries—\$2.00@2.50 per crate.  
Apples—Table, \$1.50@2.50 per box.  
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, old, \$1@1.20; Oregon, new, \$1@1.25.  
Hops—Choice, 1904, 19@21c per pound.  
Wool—Eastern Oregon, best, 19@23c; valley, 26@27c per pound; mohair, choice, 31@32¼c per pound.

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