

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

COMPLAIN OF GRAZING RULE.

Oregon Stockmen's Grievances Are Taken Up by Senator Fulton.

Washington—Senator Fulton has received many letters of complaint from stockmen of Oregon, who express dissatisfaction with the manner in which the forest service is managing the summer range in forest reserves. The sheepmen of Umatilla county feel that they have been unfairly treated in the distribution of range in the Wenaha reserve, and the sheep and cattlemen whose stock is permitted to graze in the Cascade reserve feel that they are paying too much for the privilege. So far as the Cascade reserve is concerned, the sheepmen object to paying 6 cents a head for the grazing privilege when sheep are permitted in other reserves at 4 and 5 cents each.

The forest service explains that the grazing season in the Cascade reserve is longer than in the reserves where the fee is smaller. So far as the Wenaha reserve is concerned, the range has been apportioned for the coming season, and it is too late to bring about a readjustment. To ascertain all the facts, with the view to laying the matter before the forest service in its true light, Mr. Fulton has requested the stockmen of Oregon to furnish him with accurate data, that he may adjust these matters before another grazing season opens.

The Dalles to Portage.

The Dalles—A company of local capitalists, under the name of the Columbia Transportation company, has bought the steamer George W. Simons from the D. P. & B. N. Co. It will be operated between Cascade Locks and the lower terminus of the state portage road. The boat will leave Cascade Locks at 6 o'clock in the morning and reach The Dalles at 10, making all way landings. It will lie here an hour, then run to the lower terminus of the portage, and returning will leave for Cascade Locks at 2 o'clock. It is the purpose of the company in buying and operating the boat to afford people along the Columbia opportunity to make The Dalles their trading point.

Many Buy Wallowa Timber.

Wallowa—Locators have been doing much business the past three months on account of a wild rush by local men and outsiders to secure claims in the pine, fir and tamarack forests of Wallowa county. Sections which sold at \$1.25 an acre were bought first, and only those claims remain which are in the \$2.50 sections. There are but a few more claims open for location, and it is expected the locating season will be closed within 30 days. Capitalists are buying much of this timber, and from individual holders claims purchased for less than \$500 are selling at from \$1,000 to \$1,600 each. These carry from 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 feet to the quarter section.

Enterprise Still Capital.

Wallowa—The Wallowa county commissioners, at their last meeting, accepted the offer of F. D. McCully, L. Knapper and Aaron Wade, to build a wooden structure in Enterprise large enough to meet the county's requirements for a courthouse, and to lease the same to the county for five years at an annual rental of \$650. The building is to be completed by August 1. It will be of wood, but comparatively safe, as it will be equipped with a fireproof vault. The board thus settled further controversy for five years regarding the permanent location of the county seat.

Fight for a County Seat.

Canyon City—The fight for the county seat now being waged between Canyon City, the present capital, and Prairie City, long aspirant for the honor, is waxing red hot. The laws of Oregon provide that a vote must be ordered by the county court if a petition, signed by not less than three fifths of the registered voters, is presented. The promoters of the removal have organized an improvement association, and among other things have secured subscriptions amounting to \$20,000 for a new courthouse.

Lane Fruit Is Unharmed.

Eugene—Dr. H. F. McCormick, Lane county fruit inspector, says it is his opinion that the freezing weather of the past few days has done no material damage to the fruit in this vicinity. Each thaw has been accompanied by cloudy weather. Had the sun shone warm and bright each morning the crop would have been ruined.

Hop Sale at Woodburn.

Aurora—Ed Herron, the hop buyer, this week bought the Joe Kennedy hop crop of 72 bales at Woodburn, paying better than 9 cents. The hops were shipped direct to London. M. H. Gilbertson, Uihman Bros.' agent here, went to North Yakima a few days ago to look after several big lots of hops there.

CREATED AT LAST.

President Sets Aside Blue Mountains for Timber Purposes.

Washington—President Roosevelt, on recommendation of the forest service, has signed a proclamation creating the Blue mountain forest reserve in Eastern Oregon, to embrace 2,627,270 acres. The reserve as created follows the general lines of the temporary withdrawal made three years ago, with the exception of 200,000 acres in the valley of the Silvies river, which has been eliminated because of the agricultural nature of the land. Around the edge of the withdrawal small tracts of agriculture and school land have been eliminated and the boundaries are so drawn as to exclude all land lying along the border which has passed into private ownership under any public land laws. The original Blue mountain withdrawal embraced more than 3,000,000 acres. About 500,000 acres have been left out, so as to make the reserve a compact body of forest land.

Long Winter in Wallowa.

Wallowa—Snow covers the entire Wallowa valley and county, varying in depth from five inches on the Innaha and Grand Ronde river bottoms, to 17 inches on the foothills of the Joseph mountains. Stockmen are somewhat anxious concerning feed. The unusual long season will necessitate using much more hay than is customary in average winters. Though this is a hay producing county, and though great crops of hay were put away last season, and much old hay was left over, it is expected that there will be no surplus.

Columbia County Breaks Record.

Salem—Columbia county breaks the record in the matter of payment of state taxes this year. State Treasurer Moore received a draft last week for \$6,360, the amount of general state and school tax, and \$265, the amount due for the support of the Agricultural college, from Columbia county, for the year 1906. Only half of this amount was due. The rest had not have been paid until December 31.

Luckiamute Mohair Pool.

Independence—The Luckiamute mohair pool has been organized at Arlie and has the following officers: President, A. C. Staats; secretary, Maurice Fowle; I. M. Simpson, A. C. Staats and Maurice Fowle were elected a board of managers. The new association already has a membership of 35, representing 3,093 fleeces. It is probable 15 more names are to be added to the membership soon.

Cattle Bring Higher Price.

Pendleton—Three cars of cattle were shipped to Seattle from Pendleton a few days ago, bringing \$4.50 per hundred pounds. This is about 1 cent a pound higher than the last shipment made.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 68c; bluestem, 69c; red, 66c; valley, 69c.
Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.50; gray, \$27 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Buckwheat—\$2.25 per cental.
Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$17@18 per ton; valley timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8.

Apples—\$1.50@2.75 per box.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 8½@9c per pound; cabbage, 1¼@1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$2@2.25 per crate; celery, 75@90c per dozen; rhubarb, \$1.50 per box; sprouts, 8@10c per pound; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 75@90c per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 50@55c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; sweet potatoes, 2½@2½c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27½@30c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14@14½c per pound; mixed chickens, 13@13½c; broilers, 28@29c; young roosters, 13@13½c; old roosters, 11c; dressed chickens, 15@16c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18@20c; geese, live, 8@9c; geese, dressed, 10@11c; ducks, 16@18c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@10½c per pound; prime, 8½@9½c; medium, 7@8c; olds, 5@7c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c per pound; valley, 24@26c; mohair, choice, 25@28c.

Veal—Dressed, 3½@8c per pound. Beef—Dressed bulls, 2½@3c per pound; cows, 3½@4½c; country steers, 4@5c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8½@9c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 8@9½c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@6½c per pound.

ADVERTISE NORTHWEST.

School Teachers Asked to Enter Competitive Story Contest.

To the teachers of America: To evidence its appreciation of the National Educational association's selection of the Pacific coast as the scene of its next annual convention at San Francisco, California, July 9th to 13th inclusive, and to encourage delegates to include Portland and Oregon in their itinerary, the Portland Commercial club offers FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS in prizes for articles on Portland, Oregon, and this section of the United States, as follows:

First prize, \$1,000; second prize, \$500; third prize, \$250; fourth prize, \$200; fifth prize, \$175; sixth prize, \$150; seventh prize, \$125; eighth prize, \$110; ninth prize, \$100; tenth prize, \$90; ten prizes of \$75 each, \$750; ten prizes of \$50 each, \$500; ten prizes of \$25 each, \$250; twenty prizes of \$15 each, \$300; twenty prizes of \$10 each, \$200; judges, to be acceptable to the officers of the National Educational association, \$300; grand total, \$5,000. In order to be eligible for competition these articles must appear in a regular edition of some newspaper or other publication printed outside of the states of Oregon and Washington, said publication complete to be in the hands of the judges not later than October 1, 1906. These articles must be sealed and addressed to: Teachers' Contest, care Portland Commercial club, Portland, Oregon.

They will be opened by the judges. Prizes will be awarded strictly on the merits of the articles. Contestants can treat any phase of the subject that appeals to them—natural resources, scenery, irrigation, agriculture and horticulture, history, educational and religious advantages, climatic or social conditions, etc.—or in a more comprehensive vein. The judges will be absolutely untrammelled in making their decisions.

This offer is made, not so much with a view of having the country "boomed" in a common acceptance of that term, as to have the teachers of the country become more familiar with this portion of the United States and give expression to their views in such articles as will be acceptable to papers throughout the entire Union.

CANNOT EXPEL SMOOT.

Two-Thirds Majority of Senate is Required, and is Impossible.

Washington, March 23.—It seems certain, in the light of recent developments, that the campaign against Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, will fail. Mr. Smoot's enemies have been hoping to oust him by a majority vote of the senate, but senators who have given attention to his case find that the constitution stipulates that no senator shall be deprived of his seat except by a two-thirds vote of the senate.

The anti-Smoot senators have been taking the position that the protests were filed against Mr. Smoot before he took his seat, and, inasmuch as he was seated under protest, the majority vote can be applied, since it takes only a majority to exclude a senator-elect. But this view is not generally concurred in by senators. Mr. Smoot was seated, and, having been permitted to take his seat, the only way to get him out is to expel him, and this requires a two-thirds vote.

It seems absolutely certain that two-thirds of the senate is not in favor of unseating the Mormon senator, probably not a majority, and for this reason it is believed the much discussed case will fall flat.

Iowa May Oust Standard.

Des Moines, March 23.—The house, by a vote of 48 to 12, today passed the anti-discrimination bill, which is intended to oust the Standard Oil from Iowa or compel a revision of its business methods. The bill prohibits discriminating rates for oil and is patterned after the Missouri law. It provides a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for violation. Representative Cummings, the author, in presenting the bill, asserted that the Standard Oil company had made a price of 4 cents a gallon for oil in his home town recently, in order to drive out competition.

Italian Island Quaking.

New York, March 23.—A cable dispatch to the Herald from Palermo says: There have been 21 earthquake shocks on the island of Ustica during the last three days. The population lives in constant terror. A great valley has been formed in the center of the island and all the houses have been demolished. The shocks were vertical, not undulatory, and were accompanied by loud subterranean rumblings. The last shocks, which occurred yesterday, finished the work of destruction. Panic seized upon the 2,000 inhabitants.

New Drydock for Puget Sound.

Washington, March 23.—Secretary Bonaparte appeared before the house committee on naval affairs today and discussed naval appropriations. He urged an appropriation for a stationary drydock on Puget sound.

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