

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

RE-ELECT OFFICERS.

Boys' and Girls' Aid Society of Oregon in Good Condition.

Portland—At the annual meeting of the members of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, J. C. Ainsworth, W. B. Gilbert and Robert S. Farrell were re-elected directors, and Miss Helen F. Spalding was chosen to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the resignation of Mrs. W. A. Buchanan.

The annual reports of the officers showed the institution in a flourishing condition. Superintendent W. T. Gardner's report gave a thorough resume of the work accomplished by the society the past year. Under the surveillance of the society in Oregon, Washington and Idaho there are 498 children. Of these there are 70 girls who are in respectable homes in Portland. Assistant Superintendent Gardner has been appointed to look after the children who have been placed in private families to see that they are doing well. In addition to this assistant the society now has county advisory boards to look after the children in the different counties of the state.

OREGON STATE FAIR.

Preparations Under Way at Salem for Greatest Ever Held.

Salem—The State Fair Board has begun preparations for the greatest State Fair ever held in Oregon. A portion of the money that would have been expended for premiums last year, when there was no State Fair, was used to make numerous improvements on the buildings and grounds in preparation for this year's fair. All main buildings have been repainted, stock sheds and race horse barns extended and improved and the racetrack has been regraded.

The board purchased a quantity of park seats and chairs from the Lewis and Clark fair, together with exhibit cases, all of which will be used this year to make the State Fair more attractive and comfortable. Many striking pieces of statuary and inside decorations have been removed from the Lewis and Clark grounds to the State Fair grounds, where they have been carefully repaired.

Epidemic Attacks School.

Aurora—A teacher at the public school recently discovered that one of the pupils had what she thought was chickenpox, and sent the boy home with a note to his parents to quarantine him. It proved to be chickenpox, but the pupil would not stay quarantined, and went back to school. The school directors consulted a physician. The doctor advised that the pupil be allowed to attend school, on the ground that he had already infected the scholars, and sure enough he had, and now half the children in town are affected.

Will Sentence Meldrum.

Portland—If Judge Wolverton imposes the maximum penalty on Henry Meldrum, former surveyor general for Oregon, he will go to jail with a sentence of 210 years of imprisonment hanging over his head. If the court imposes the heaviest fine the law allows, Meldrum will owe the government \$21,000. Judge Wolverton set Friday, June 8, as the day on which Meldrum will come before the court for sentence. A motion for a new trial is pending in the case.

Berry Pickers Scarce.

Portland—Portland employment agencies are not only besieged by railroad contractors for laborers, but calls are now coming in from Hood River and White Salmon strawberry fields for pickers. Thousands of men and women are wanted for this work and the cry for help adds to the embarrassment of labor agents who are already trying with all their might to secure laborers for railroad and construction camps.

Ackerman Resolves to Retire.

Salem—J. H. Ackerman, state superintendent of public instruction, has announced his intention to retire from politics at the end of his next term. Mr. Ackerman has the distinction of being the Republican and Democratic nominee, although he only accepted the Republican nomination, and his name will appear on the official ballot only as the Republican candidate.

Klamath Land is Reopened.

Washington—During 1904-5 1,500,000 acres of public lands in the Klamath region of Oregon and California were reserved, pending investigations to determine the feasibility of reclaiming under the Klamath irrigation project. Half of this area is now restored to entry, the balance being reserved as lands reclaimable for reservoir sites or rights of way.

Hop Prospects Excellent.

Aurora—Hops in this section of the valley, the banner hop-raising district of Oregon, are further advanced this year than in former seasons at this time. There is a large acreage, and all the yards are showing well.

MAY RETAIN LICENSE.

If Solvent, Insurance Companies Will Not Be Ousted by State.

Salem—Secretary of State Dunbar, who is ex-officio insurance commissioner of this state, when shown the statement that California and Nevada insurance commissioners would drive out companies that quibble over the payment of San Francisco fire losses, said that so far as Oregon is concerned he cannot take any note of what the various companies do in California or any other state so long as they comply with the Oregon law which entitles them to do business in this state.

There is on deposit with the state treasurer \$3,100,000, in interest-bearing securities, which the 60 companies doing business in this state have put up to secure the payment of any loss they may sustain and which has been finally adjudicated against them.

Fifty-eight companies have put up \$50,000 each and two companies \$100,000 each.

Only one company has notified the commissioner that it cannot continue to do business in Oregon on account of California losses and that is the Traders' Insurance company, of Chicago. All agents have been notified to cease writing insurance for that company.

The \$50,000 on deposit will be held to pay any losses sustained by Oregon policyholders in that company, or until all its policies have been legally canceled, when the deposit may be withdrawn.

Mr. Dunbar said that refusal or inability of an insurance company doing business in this state to pay any of its California losses would not be sufficient reason for him to cancel their Oregon license.

All he is authorized to do is to look out for the interest of Oregon policyholders, and if the companies comply with the insurance statutes of this state they can continue to do business, as they are solvent. If any of them become insolvent they put themselves out of business without any interference on the part of the commissioner of Oregon.

Treasure Mine Sold.

Engene—A mining deal of importance has been consummated in this city. Charles Harding Park, residing here, has sold the Treasure mine in the Blue river district to J. Rowland Ragsdale, of Manchester, England. The purchase price is not made public, but is said to be the highest ever paid for a mine in the district. The Treasure mine has long been known to be one of the richest properties at Blue river. Mr. Park has spent much money in its development, and in the erection of a ten-stamp quartz mill on the property.

Cherries Ripening Rapidly.

Aurora—Cherries are ripening fast and all kinds of fruits are ahead of former years. The severe cold snap of two days in March had no appreciable effect on fruit trees in northern Marion county.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 73c; bluestem, 74c; 75c; red, 71c; valley, 70c-71c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, 29c; gray, 28.50 per ton.

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

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, 12@13 per ton; clover, 7.50@8; cheat, 6@7; grain hay, 7@8; alfalfa, 12.

Fruits—Apples, 2.50@3.50 per box; cherries, 1.25@1.40 per box; strawberries, California, 1.25@1.40; Oregon, 10@16c per pound; gooseberries, 5@6c per pound.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 75c@1.25 per box; beans, 8@9c per pound; cabbage, 1.75@2 per 100; green corn, 60c per dozen; onions, 10@15c per dozen; peas, 3@5c; radishes, 15c per dozen; rhubarb, 3c per pound; spinach, 90c per box; turnips, 11@12.5c per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—Bermuda, 4c per pound. Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 60@65c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; new California, 2c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@20c per pound. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 19@20c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13½@14c per pound, mixed chickens, 12½@13c; broilers, 20@22½c; young roosters, 12½@13c; old roosters, 12@12½c; dressed chickens, 15c; turkeys, live, 15@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@23c; geese, live, 10@11c; geese, dressed, old 10c, young 12c; ducks, old 17c, young 20c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 11½@12½c. Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c; valley, coarse, 22@23c; fine, 24@25c per pound; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Veal—Dressed, 8½@9c per pound. Beef—Dressed bulls, 8c per pound; cows, 4½@5½c; country steers, 5@6c.

Mutton—Dressed fancy, 7@8c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, with pelt on, 8c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@8c per pound.

FAIRBANKS CITY BURNED.

Largest Town in Alaska Suffers Heavy Loss, Including Foodstuffs.

Fairbanks, Alaska, May 22.—Fire has broken out here and is threatening the town with destruction. The Washington-Alaska bank is burned. The flames have crossed First and Second avenues, and are rushing up Cushman street with great speed. The National bank is doomed. Nothing can save the town.

Seattle, May 22.—A special to the Post-Intelligencer tonight states that the entire business section of the town of Fairbanks, Alaska, was destroyed by a fire which started in the Fairbanks building, a three-story frame structure, at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Details of the disaster are very meager, but it is feared that the food supply of the town has been destroyed and great suffering may result.

Nothing was left standing in the section lying between the water front and Third avenue and Stacey and Turner streets. The work of the fire fighters was centered on the block of warehouses owned by the Northern Commercial company, in order to protect the food supply of the town, and the result is still in doubt.

The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000, and it is announced that the heaviest interests of the town are already preparing to rebuild.

No lives were lost.

Fairbanks is a mining town on the banks of the Tanana river in Alaska. It is the entrepot for the miners in the great Tanana section, one of the richest gold-producing regions in the great country in the north that was bought from Russia by the United States. The output of the Tanana mines has been enormous, and the town has lately assumed the proportions of a city, being credited with a population of about 15,000.

WILL AGREE ON STATEHOOD.

Conferees Will Recommend Foraker's Original Plan.

Washington, May 23.—An agreement on the statehood bill will be embodied in a conference report which will be reached this week, according to information today. What the terms of this agreement will be cannot be stated with preciseness, as the report has not yet been drafted. The plans which seem to be acceptable to both sides, however, are:

That Oklahoma and Indian Territory shall be admitted as one state at once; that Arizona and New Mexico shall be allowed to vote separately on the question of being joined in one state; that the vote shall be cast at a regular territorial election, when officers of the territories are voted for.

The proposition is generally known as the Foraker amendment of a year ago.

MORE ABOUT STANDARD OIL.

Garfield Preparing Further Sections of Report on Methods.

Washington, May 23.—Commissioner of Corporations James R. Garfield stated today that he would submit to the president further information on the result of his investigation of the oil industry. It has not yet been determined, however, whether this will be in one single report or several separate reports. The report recently submitted to congress covered the question of transportation and freight rates, and Mr. Garfield is now engaged in preparing reports on the production and refining of oil, the control of pipe lines, organization, foreign trade and conditions and competitive methods. The data for the first four has practically all been received, and the report on competitive methods is well under way. Mr. Garfield said he did not believe he would be able to submit to the president any of these reports before the adjournment of congress.

Readjust Philippine Coinage.

Washington, May 23.—Senator Lodge today introduced a bill at the request of Secretary Taft for a readjustment of the ratio of the Philippine coinage and for an increase in the elasticity of the present system. The bill is framed upon the recommendations of the Philippine commission contained in the annual report and in brief authorizes the commission, with the consent of the president, to change the weight and fineness of the silver peso and to recoin the existing peso so as to adjust it to the change.

Japanese Send \$30,000 More.

Washington, May 23.—The American National Red Cross received \$30,000 today from the Japanese Red Cross for the relief of the San Francisco earthquake sufferers. This brings the total Japanese Red Cross contribution to \$80,000.

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