

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## NEW LINES IN CLACKAMAS.

### Capital Seeks Investment in Electric Railways.

Oregon City—Consequent upon an increase in population from 23,000 in the Spring of 1905, as shown by the assessor's census, to 30,000, which is considered a reliable estimate of the county's population at the present time, Clackamas county is experiencing a new era in its growth and development.

Several agencies are contributing to this material development of the county and its resources, foremost among which is the building of electric railway systems. Idle capital recognizes as a desirable investment the building of transportation lines into Clackamas county, where the various resources are still undeveloped and merely awaiting the encouragement that will follow direct communication with a market.

The interests back of the Oregon Water Power & Railway Company, which has already done a great deal in building up this county, are recognized in the proposed building of an electric line from Canemah to Salem, and this enterprise is assured, rights-of-way having been secured and surveys made over the entire route. The same interests, it has lately developed, caused the mysterious survey to be made between this city and Molalla and Willhoit Springs some three months ago. This will be a branch line operated by the same company and will penetrate one of the richest sections of the valley. Assurance is given that this line will be built.

The survey is now being made for another proposed electric line between this city and Molalla, with the celebrated Willhoit Springs as the ultimate terminus. This is being done by the Oregon City and Molalla Railway Company, a corporation in which Oregon City business men own a controlling interest. Its route is via Beaver Creek, through a rich timber and agricultural section, and the promoters of the enterprise promise to begin construction work within a few weeks.

Oregon City is becoming metropolitan. A free mail delivery service for the city has been ordered established December 1. An improved telephone system is being installed by the Pacific States Company, while the Home Telephone Company will begin installing its system soon, having completed the construction of its line to the Clackamas river, just north of this city.

The great increase in sales of realty is added evidence of the growth of the county. Large farms are being subdivided and disposed of in smaller tracts, with the result that a larger acreage is being placed under cultivation.

## RAILROAD PETITION DENIED.

### No Reduction of Assessment of Property in Linn County.

ALBANY—Before the Equalization Board of Linn County adjourned its sessions the Oregon & California Railroad Company appeared by its agent, George Scriber, and requested a reduction in the taxation value of the property from \$19,000 per mile on the main line in the county and \$11,000 per mile on the branch lines, to \$10,400 and \$5,400, respectively. A reduction in the assessment on its timber land from \$7 to \$3 an acre was also asked. The company has 66,054 acres of the finest timber land in Linn County. After hearing the claims of the company, the board decided to let the assessment stand as fixed by the Assessor. The total assessment of the railroad company is \$1,732,148, of which \$1,269,700 is on its roadbed and rolling stock and \$462,248 on timber land.

## GIVEN BETTER FACILITIES.

### Good River Now Ships Apples in Refrigerator Cars.

HOOD RIVER—Refrigerator cars were taken out over the Mt. Hood Railroad and for the first time apples are to be shipped direct over the new railroad. At several points along the road where there are large orchards the railroad company has built sidings so that growers can load almost direct from their orchards. This is proving a great help to fruit growers on the east side of the valley as the apple crop is so large that they are experiencing considerable trouble in getting their fruit hauled to the railroad.

## Chinook Becoming Scarce.

HOOD RIVER—Employees of the Government fish station on the Clackamas River, who have been taking salmon eggs at the mouth of the White Salmon River, have completed their work for this season and report that the number of eggs secured this year is the smallest since the work of endeavoring to preserve the salmon in the Columbia River was taken up. Altogether but 5,000,000 eggs were taken this year as against 16,000,000 last year. The work commenced on September 19 and was stopped about the middle of October.

## FOR LONGER TERMS.

### Superintendent Ackerman Favors Change in Present Law.

Salem—That the apportionment of public school funds should be made upon the basis of the number of teachers employed, and not upon the number of children in the district, is one of the most important recommendations in the biennial report of Superintendent of Public Instruction J. H. Ackerman, which was made public today. This very radical change in the plan of distribution is suggested as a means of enabling the sparsely settled district to employ as efficient a teacher and have as many months of school during the year as the larger and more favored district. This privilege, Superintendent Ackerman says, is one to which the smaller district is entitled. California has such a law.

Among other recommendations made in the report are: That the minimum length of the school year be increased from three to five months; that the levy for school purposes be increased from \$6 to \$8 per capita; that the inheritance taxes be turned into the irreducible school fund, and that a part or the whole of the corporation tax be turned into the common school fund to be expended each year for school purposes. In connection with the recommendation regarding the length of the school year, Superintendent Ackerman says there are too many districts satisfied to maintain school only the minimum number of months required by law.

"There is no reason why a child in a small, isolated district is not entitled to as many months of school as is the child in a more favorably situated district," said he. "Mere location should not be the test of the number of months' schooling to which a child is entitled." The suggestion that the rate of levy be increased is founded upon the need of more funds in order that longer terms of school may be maintained.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

WHEAT—Club, 64c; bluestem, 66c; Valley, 67c; red, 61c.

OATS—No. 1 white, \$24.50@25.50; gray, \$23.50@24.

BARLEY—Feed, \$21.50 per ton; brewing, \$22; rolled, \$23.

RYE—\$1.35@1.40 per cwt.

CORN—Whole, \$25.50; cracked, \$26.50 per ton.

MILLSTUFFS—Bran, city, \$14.50; country, \$15.50 per ton; middlings, \$24; shorts, city, \$16; country, \$17 per ton; chop, U. S. Mills, \$15.50; linseed dairy food, \$18; acalfa meal, \$18 per ton.

HAY—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$10@11 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14@16; clover, \$6.50@7; cheat, \$7@7.50; grain hay, \$7; alfalfa, \$11.50; vetch hay, \$7@7.50.

DOMESTIC FRUITS—Apples, common to choice, 25@75c per box; choice to fancy, 75c@1.50; grapes, \$1@1.60 per crate; peaches, 75c@1; pears, 75c@1.25; cranberries, \$9@9.50 per barrel; quinces, \$1@1.25 per box; persimmons, \$1.25@1.50 per box.

FRESH VEGETABLES—Cabbage, 1 1/2@1 1/2 pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, 75@85c per dozen; egg plant, \$1.50 per crate; lettuce, head, 20c per dozen; onions, 10@12 1/2c per dozen; bell peppers, 5c; pumpkins, 1 1/2 cents per pound; spinach, 4@5c per pound; tomatoes, 30@50c per box; parsley, 10@15c; squash, 1 1/2c per pound; hot-house lettuce, 25c per doz.

ROOT VEGETABLES—Turnips, 90c @ \$1 per sack; carrots, 90c@1 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack; garlic, 7 1/2@10c per pound; horseradish, 9@10c per pound; sweet potatoes, 2@2 1/2c per pound.

ONIONS—Oregon, 90c@1 per hundred.

POTATOES—Buying prices: Oregon Burbanks, fancy, 90c@1.05; common, 75c@90c.

BUTTER—City creameries: Extra creamery, 30@32 1/2c per pound. State creameries: Fancy creamery, 25@27 1/2c; store butter, 16@17c.

EGGS—Oregon ranch, 32 1/2@35c dozen; best Eastern, 26@27c; ordinary Eastern, 24@25c.

CHEESE—Oregon full cream twins, 14@14 1/2c; Young America, 15@15 1/2c.

POULTRY—Average old hens, 12 1/2@13 1/2c; mixed chickens, 12@12 1/2c; Spring, 12 1/2@13c; old roosters, 9@10c; dressed chickens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 17@17 1/2c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 21@22 1/2c; geese, live, per pound, 8@9c; ducks, 14@15c; pigsons, \$1@1.50; squabs, \$2@3.

VEAL—Dressed, 75 to 125 pounds, 7 1/2@8c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 6c; 200 pounds and up, 5 1/2@6c.

BEEF—Dressed bulls, 2@2 1/2c per pound; cows, 4@5c; country steers, 5@5 1/2c.

MUTTON—Dressed, fancy, 7c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, fancy, 8c.

PORK—Dressed, 100 to 130 pounds, 8c; 150 to 200 pounds, 7@7 1/2c; 200 pounds and up, 6@6 1/2c.

HOPS—1906, choice, 15@17c; prime, 13@17c; medium, 12@12 1/2c per pound; olds, nominal.

WOOL—Eastern Oregon average, best, 13@18c per pound, according to shrinkage; Valley, 20@21c, according to fineness.

MOHAIR—Choice, 26@28c.

## JAPANESE PROBLEM SERIOUS.

Think the United States is Thoroughly Prejudiced Against Them.

Washington, Oct. 31.—While nothing of an official nature has been allowed to leak out, it is nevertheless a fact that President Roosevelt and the State Department are deeply concerned over the growing anti-American sentiment that has apparently taken deep root in Japan. Private advices and confidential telegrams to the State Department confirm press reports telling of the unfriendly attitude of the Japanese and add to the uneasiness of administration officials.

It can be stated on authority that the administration is anxious to avoid a rupture with Japan. The East appears to be in entire sympathy with this view, but in the West a different sentiment prevails, and it is the enemy of the people of the West that is largely responsible for the present delicate situation.

The Japanese have come to the conclusion that their people are not more welcome in the United States than are the Chinese, and while no bar has yet been raised against them, they fully expect that in the near future the Chinese exclusion act will be extended to cover all subjects of the Mikado. If such a move is made by the American congress, it will certainly give affront to Japan, and serious consequences would most certainly follow.

The people of the East do not look upon the Japanese with that same contempt that is shown west of the Rocky Mountains. In this part of the country the Japanese are viewed sentimentally; they are known principally for their deeds in war and for their recent defeat of the great Russian army and navy. In the West the Japanese are viewed from a practical standpoint, for there they are known intimately. The difference is that the West is flooded with Japanese laborers; in the East there are none. The East judges the Japanese by the few people of that race who live here. They are principally diplomats or students; citizens of the highest type. There are no Japanese laborers in the East. On the other hand, the Pacific Coast and the Rocky Mountain region knows little of the Japanese diplomat, but has an intimate knowledge of the Japanese laborer, and he is a very different type of man.

The East, knowing nothing of the Japanese labor problem, is at a loss to understand the unfriendly attitude taken by the people of the West, and if the Western contingent in congress attempts to extend the Chinese exclusion law to embrace the Japanese, the issue will meet with determined opposition from this end of the country. The further fact that the administration is anxious to preserve friendly relations with Japan will be another great obstacle in the way of the advocates of Japanese exclusion, and the fight, once begun, will be vigorous and protracted.

The bulk of Japanese in this country being confined to the Western states, it is natural that the current opinion in Japan should reflect the sentiment of the Japanese herds in this country. The Japanese laborers, being made aware of the unfriendliness of the white laborers in the West, as well as the unfriendliness of the employers of labor, very naturally conclude that this sentiment is general throughout the United States, and having reached this conclusion, it is to be expected that their views would reach their home country. Their animosity crops out at frequent intervals, notwithstanding the efforts of the Japanese government to keep it down.

That the Japanese are in an ugly mood is manifest by their readiness to make much out of little incidents that occur in the United States. Only a few days ago Asahi Kitagaki, the only Japanese midshipman at the Annapolis Naval Academy, voluntarily resigned because he was deficient in his studies and unable to keep up with his class. He took this action on the advice of the Japanese Embassy in this city. Any other midshipman would have been dropped without the privilege of resigning. It was promptly announced that no other Japanese would be appointed to the vacancy, and immediately the report was spread that the United States government was displaying discourtesy to the Japanese government, when, as a matter of fact, the announcement was made in accordance with a recent act of congress, which stipulated that no more foreigners should be admitted to the Naval Academy. The incident stirred the Japanese in the United States and caused another ripple at home.

In like manner the Japanese took offense because John D. Rockefeller made some caustic remarks on the treachery of the Japanese in business.

## McCreery to Be Minister.

Mexico City, Oct. 31.—It was stated here last night that Fenton R. McCreery, who for the past nine years has been secretary of the United States Legation and Embassy here, would be appointed United States Minister to Columbia to succeed Minister Barrett, who is to be made United States Minister to Brazil. Lloyd C. Griscom, present United States Ambassador to Brazil, will succeed George von L. Meyer as Ambassador to Russia, who will become Postmaster-General in March 1907. Mr. McCreery said he had no official knowledge of his promotion.

## Want Dry Elections in Austria.

Vienna, Oct. 31.—The Austrian temperance societies united in presenting to the parliamentary committee which is formulating a universal suffrage bill an appeal that it embody in the law the American practice of closing saloons during polling hours.

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