

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

FINE CROP OUTLOOK.

Eastern Oregon Farmers Rejoicing Over Recent Rain.

The Dalles—The rain and snow which fell here last week aggregated one inch moisture. Showers still continue and the snow on high elevations, which varied from four to six inches in depth, is gradually disappearing.

This will further retard plowing and seeding, which, owing to the dry condition of the soil, had but fairly begun throughout the country. When this last storm fell, farmers from the Tygh ridge wheat belt reported that the conditions for spring grain have not been as favorable in many years as now, because of the heavy freezing which loosened the ground to a depth of 18 inches, and the thorough soaking from the deep snow and heavy rain.

Owing to the long drouth and the lateness of fall rains, there is less acreage in winter wheat than usual, but under the present favorable conditions for spring seeding, there will be about the usual annual acreage in grain. The fruitgrowers regard the late snow storm as most beneficial, since it checks the budding until danger of killing frosts is past. No loss of sheep is feared, since lambing on the sheep ranges of the county has not yet begun.

Electric Line at Milton.

Milton—The Walla Walla Valley Traction company now has its tracks laid down to the head of Main street in this city, and it will be only a few days when there will be hourly service between this city and Walla Walla, Wash. This will be a great benefit to Milton and vicinity, and will materially aid the already rapid growth of Milton. This city is now in a very prosperous condition; all the principal streets are being brought to proper grade, and many changes for the better have recently taken place. There will soon be a \$15,000 hotel erected.

Rate on Logs Will Stand.

Salem—The state railroad commission made public the result of the hearing at Dallas, in the case of the people of Falls City against the Salem, Falls City & Western Railroad company, protesting against the raising of rates by the road on logs and lumber. After an impartial hearing and investigation of the matter, and there being no further remonstrance against the rate being increased after it was thoroughly understood and had met the approval of the commissioners, it was decided to allow the railroad company to make the increase.

Abandon River Surveys.

Salem—Because the state legislature did not co-operate with the state legislature in appropriating more money for the work of the state geological survey in connection with the reclamation of arid lands throughout the state, District Hydrographer J. C. Stevens, of the United States geological survey, announces that part of the work will have to be abandoned and a number of the stations cut out for lack of funds to carry on the work.

La Grande Settlers Rejoice.

La Grande—Two thousand entrymen in this district, who have been waiting for a month to two years for patents from the government, will be affected by the president's recent instructions to the general land office to expedite the issuance of patents. The local land office is six months behind in the work here, a great majority of papers being held up in Washington.

Large Sums in Short Time.

Marshfield—Prominent business men of North Bend subscribed \$70,000 in two hours at a special meeting for the purpose of establishing a building and loan association in that city. The capital stock of the association will be \$100,000. It has been established for the purpose of aiding in the upbuilding of North Bend and Coos Bay.

Big Orchards in Jackson.

Medford—According to the report of Horticultural Commissioner Carson, of the Third district, 350,000 fruit trees have been added to the orchard wealth of Jackson county during the past year. The acreage reported exceeds 7,000, and of this amount, the larger portion has been devoted to Comice pears and Spitzenbergs.

Tax Money Received.

Oregon City—Sheriff Beattie has collected up to date about \$190,000 in taxes. The time for the granting of rebates for prompt payment is over, and all the big taxpayers of the county have paid in.

Local Insurance at Eugene.

Eugene—The Merchants' Protective association has decided definitely to form a local mutual fire insurance organization, and a special meeting will be called within a few days for that purpose.

PRIZES FOR ESSAYS.

Sons of American Revolution Want Essays From Pupils of Oregon.

The Oregon society of the Sons of American Revolution offers prizes to the pupils of the public schools of the state of Oregon, for essays on subjects connected with our war for independence. Prizes of \$30 and \$20 will be given for the first and second best essay respectively, written on any of the following subjects: "Joseph Brant and the Indians of the Revolution," "Public Schools as a Means of Americanizing the Children of Aliens," "Separation of Church and State in America."

The essays are limited to three thousand words each, must be written in the student's own handwriting on one side only of the paper, and accompanied by a certificate of the writer's teacher, stating that the writer is a pupil in a designated class, and that the teacher believes the essay to be the pupil's own unaided work. The essay must be signed by the writer, giving also his or her postoffice address. They should be forwarded to Mr. A. M. Smith, Fenton building, Portland, Oregon, and should reach their destination not later than the 25th of May, 1907.

In awarding these prizes the committee will be governed by considerations of: Originality, accuracy of statement, manner of treatment, orthography, syntax and punctuation. These prizes are offered to encourage love of our country and the study of its history.

Additional information may be obtained by writing to General Thomas M. Anderson, care of The Buckingham, Portland, Oregon.

Office Short of Clerks

Roseburg—The local land office says that there are from 500 to 600 final proofs awaiting action. Delay has been due to lack of clerical assistance, rather than to the president's former order, though action on some proofs was delayed to some extent by that order. Many of these cases have been pending since 1904, but most of them have accumulated since the reopening of this office, January 8, 1906, after a suspension of one year.

New Bank Examiner Chosen.

Salem—James Steele, of Portland, has been appointed state bank examiner. He is a brother of State Treasurer Steele and was one of the founders of the First National bank at Portland in 1868, and later was connected with the Merchant's National bank of that city.

Oregon Middy Graduate.

Washington—Ernest Durr, of Baker City, will graduate from Annapolis Naval academy this year, being the only midshipman from the Northwest to graduate this season, except Albert T. Church, of Boise. Church stands 12 in a class of 106.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 72c; bluestem, 74c; valley, 70c; red, 71c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$29@30; gray, \$28@29.

Barley—Feed, \$22.50 per ton; brewing, \$23; rolled, \$23.50@24.50.

Rye—\$1.45@1.50 per cwt.

Corn—Whole, \$24.50; cracked, \$22.50 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$15@16 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$17@18; clover, \$9; cheat, \$9; grain hay, \$9@10; alfalfa, \$14.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 32½@33c per pound.

Butter Fat—First grade cream 33½c per pound second grade cream, 2c less per pound.

Poultry—Average old hens, 15c per pound; mixed chickens, 14c; spring fryers and broilers, 20@22½c; old roosters, 10@12c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 13@15c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18½@20c; geese, live, 8c; ducks, 16@18c.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 19½c per dozen.

Apples—Common, 75c@1.25 per box; choice \$1.50@2.00.

Vegetables—Turnips \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1@1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack; horseradish, 7@8c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.50 per crate; celery, \$3.50@4 per crate; lettuce, head, 35@45c per dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; sprouts, 9c per pound; radishes, 30c per dozen; asparagus, 10c per pound; rhubarb, \$2@2.25 per box.

Onions—Oregon, 75@90c per hundred.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, fancy, \$1.35@1.50; No. 1 choice, \$1.10@1.25; common, 75c@1.

Veal—Dressed, 5½@9c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3@3½c per pound; cows, 5@6c; country steers, 6@7c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 10@10½c per pound; ordinary, 8@9c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@9c per pound.

Hops—9@12c per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best 13@18c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@23c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 28@29c.

PLUNDERED BY HILL-MORGAN

Attorney General Asked to Air Northern Pacific Scandal.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 19.—Reduced to the form of affidavits and of documents, the authenticity of which have been proved in legal proceedings, revelations concerning the wholesale plundering of the rights of stockholders in the Northern Pacific railroad are about to be presented before Attorney General Bonaparte. At the time of the Hill-Morgan reorganization of the Northern Pacific railroad, Brayton Ives, then a prominent New York banker, was the president of the old company.

In February of 1896 Mr. Ives, as president of the Northern Pacific, appointed from his board of directors a so-called "protective committee," claiming authority to proceed with the work of reorganization. Morgan & Co. were not only reorganization managers, contracting with themselves as syndicate managers, but they were also syndicate subscribers, and thus appeared in a three-fold capacity, being joined as syndicate subscribers with Mr. Ives and other directors of the old Northern Pacific company. Millions of dollars were collected in assessments levied upon the stockholders of the old Northern Pacific company, which it was thought by the public were to be used to rehabilitate the company.

Instead of being so appropriated they were gathered in and divided among the syndicate as commissions and profits. This is one of the features of the "sell-out" of the old Northern Pacific company and is one of the many amazing things connected with this remarkable reorganization for which a complete investigation is being demanded of the authorities at Washington.

ROCKEFELLER MAKES WILL.

Plans to Give An Immense Fortune to Use of the Public.

New York, March 19.—The Herald will tomorrow say that according to a member of John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s bible class, and who is also a personal friend of John D. Rockefeller and in a position to know of his affairs, the latter proposes to make a princely gift to New York City. It will amount to at least \$50,000,000. It will be partly charitable and partly educational. The Herald will add:

"This man said that when Mr. Rockefeller was conferring with his son at Lakewood, N. J., a fortnight ago, the meeting was not for the purpose of discussing any immediate gift, but was on the subject of Mr. Rockefeller's will, which document the oil king was then completing with the aid of his son and his lawyers. It was said that this document will astonish the world when it is made public.

It will, it is declared, give no less than \$250,000,000, for charitable and educational purposes, and it will be so bestowed that the benefit therefrom will almost be perpetual.

Rate War on the Atlantic.

London, March 19.—Herr Ballin, director general of the Hamburg-American Steamship line, who is here attending the shipping conference, today said there was every likelihood of a renewal of the rate war for the North Atlantic trade with the Cunard line. Within a fortnight he expects to see a decision one way or the other. Further Herr Ballin declared the German lines had a working agreement with the White Star line, and that all possibility of friction, owing to the removal of that line to Southampton, had now been obliterated.

Reports Massacre of Jews.

New York, March 19.—A Jewish morning paper tonight received the following cablegram from Podhilo, near Jassack, Roumania: "Terrible massacre since last Thursday. Town totally destroyed. All the Jewish population are ruined and houses pillaged. We ask help—Marcus Getzel, Elias Solomon, Shjen Sterberg." The names signed to the cablegram are said to be those of leading merchants of Podhilo. It is a place of about 6,000 inhabitants, 4,000 of whom are Jews. It is only 30 miles from Kishineff.

Fierce Gale Sweeps Bay.

San Francisco, March 19.—A fierce south and southeast gale swept the bay today, which drove small craft to shelter, caused vessels in the stream to seek positions of safety and made the ferry steamers roll unpleasantly. Outside the heads the gale raged with a velocity of 50 miles an hour, and the seas ran high. Several vessels were compelled to put back, owing to the rough condition of the weather.

Torpedo Boat Is Rammed.

Ajaccio, France, March 19.—During the maneuvers last night without lights the torpedo boat destroyer Epee rammed torpedo boat No. 263. A steam pipe on the last named vessel burst, killing two men and mortally injuring another. The Epee towed the torpedo boat ashore, where she was beached.

Japan Adds 24 Regiments.

Tokio, March 19.—In pursuance of the program to increase armaments, 24 infantry regiments have been organized, mainly concentrated in Northern Iales. The main base will be Kurume.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

ADVANCE WILLIAMSON CASE.

Hoyt Wants Decision Before Supreme Court Adjourns.

Washington, March 22.—Next Monday Solicitor General Hoyt, representing the attorney general, will submit to the Supreme court a motion to advance the appeal of ex-Representative Williamson in the hope that the case can be tried this session and before adjournment in May. In a formal motion, which he has prepared to submit to the court, Mr. Hoyt briefly reviews the progress of the Williamson trial from its inception to and including the action of the Circuit Court of Appeals on March 11, and then states that his motion to advance is based on the following reasons:

First, this is a criminal case; second, a constitutional question appears to be involved; third, it is a case of public importance involving the question whether the immunity from arrest granted to senators and members of congress by the constitution extends to a sentence of imprisonment after legal conviction; fourth, an independent writ of error from the Circuit Court of Appeals has been dismissed by that court as to Williamson.

COMPLETES NOBEL BOARD.

President Appoints Two More Commissioners on Industrial Peace.

Washington, March 18.—The president today appointed Seth Low, of New York, and Thomas G. Bush, of Birmingham, Ala., as representatives of the general public under the act of congress, establishing a foundation for the promotion of industrial peace, the basis of which is the Nobel prize fund, recently awarded the president of the Norwegian storthing. This completes the administrative board. Other members of the board of trustees are:

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine workers of America, as the representative of labor; Marvin Hughitt, president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company, representing capital; the chief justice of the supreme court of the United States, the secretary of commerce and labor and the secretary of agriculture.

Will Carry Relief to China.

Washington, March 21.—The United States army transport Buford will take a load of provisions at once to China for the relief of the famine sufferers. The War department advised the State department today that the transport, which is at San Francisco, is at the disposal of the Red Cross for immediate use in the shipment. The transport will stop at Honolulu on its way to Shanghai and probably will carry a special party of congressmen, who are to visit Honolulu as guests of the citizens of the Hawaiian islands.

Displeasing to Veterans.

Washington, March 19.—The United Spanish War Veterans, District of Columbia department, today adopted a resolution vigorously denouncing the action of the constitutional convention of Oklahoma in adopting a clause in its constitution disfranchising soldiers, sailors and marines, and characterizing such action as a direct insult to all American soldiers, sailors and marines "who have fought in the several wars in which the country has been engaged, and who have never known defeat in any war."

Meet Only in Washington.

Washington, March 19.—The work of the Interstate Commerce commission has grown so heavy that it has been decided to discontinue the hearings which have been conducted by members of the commission outside of Washington. Hereafter, when it is found necessary to conduct investigations in other cities, special agents will take the testimony and report to the commission and the arguments on the case will be heard by the commissioners in this city.

Coal Land Is Reopened.

Washington.—The general land office has issued a statement giving the location of the following public lands reopened to entry by the president's order of March 12 last: Montana, 2,000,000; Oregon, 710,000; Washington, 320,000. The land was, previous to the order of March 12, included in land classed as coal land and withdrawn from entry.

Cost of Pacifying Cuba.

Washington, March 22.—Extraordinary expenses to the United States up to date caused by the sending of an army of pacification to Cuba, aggregate about \$2,500,000, according to figures which have been prepared by the War department. It has not been determined exactly when the money will be collected from Cuba by the United States.

Supreme Court Takes Recess.

Washington, March 20.—The chief justice announced today that the Supreme court would take a two weeks' recess, from next Monday until April 8.

DISCUSSED ALTON DEAL.

Roosevelt Denies He and Densen Are Booming Taft.

Washington, March 21.—"Governor Densen and Attorney General Stead did not come to see me on any political matters at all."

The above were substantially the words the president used in his talk with Senator Hansbrough today when the latter asked him about the report that Saturday's conference at the White House with the Illinois officers during which Secretary Taft and his brother called, was for the purpose of launching a boom for Secretary Taft for the presidency.

From authoritative sources it was learned today that the visit of Governor Densen and Attorney General Stead had to do with the Chicago & Alton deal which figured in the Harriman investigation before the Interstate Commerce commission. The president was anxious to learn what was being done, or what the state contemplated doing in the matter.

Secretary Taft issued the following: "I had an appointment with the president at 3:30 p. m. Sunday and went to the White House to keep it. I found Governor Densen and Attorney General Stead with the president and I was introduced. They left immediately. There was no political conversation."

Much Land Is Reopened.

Washington.—The secretary of the interior has restored to entry a large quantity of government land which was withdrawn last summer on the supposition that it contained deposits of merchantable coal. In all 710,000 acres are restored in Oregon and 320,000 acres in Washington. The geological survey, after examining, reported its inability to find coal indications in this land. The land now becomes subject to entry under the general land laws. Oregon land is in the Portland, Roseburg, Dalles and La Grande districts, the Washington land in the Seattle, Olympia and North Yakima districts.

Ballinger's New Assistant.

Washington, March 20.—Land Commissioner Ballinger announces the selection of Fred Denett, of North Dakota, as assistant commissioner, succeeding George F. Pollock, of Ohio, who becomes chief clerk in the general land office. Pollock takes the place of James F. Macey, assigned to field service as inspector of surveyors. Mr. Ballinger states he will redistrict the field force in order to secure a more perfect organization, enlarge some districts, eliminating others, and bring all special agents under the control of field chiefs.

Extends Sympathy to Russia.

Washington, March 21.—The executive council of the American Federation of Labor today listened to addresses by Alexis Aladyn, representing the Group of Toil in the first duma of Russia, and Nicholas Tchykovsky, representing the revolutionary party, regarding the question of economic improvement, material advancement and political liberty for Russian workmen. The council unanimously adopted resolutions expressive of its sympathy in the struggle of the laboring men of Russia for their freedom and pledging co-operation.

Theft of Mule Caused War.

Washington, March 19.—One mule—a mule belonging to Senor Ireno Salgado—was the chief object of dispute between Nicaragua and Honduras when they began the quarrel which finally ended in the war that is threatening the peace of all Central America, according to the official communications exchanged by the ministers between the two republics, copies of which communications have been received in Washington.

President Confers With Yoakum.

Washington, March 20.—The president had a conference today with B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the board of directors of the Rock Island Railway company. This is the second conference the president has held with Mr. Yoakum within ten days. Mr. Yoakum declined to state the purpose of this interview.

Not Dead, but Sleeping.

Washington, March 21.—The ship subsidy bill is not dead, but sleeping. When congress reassembles, in December, the bill will be reintroduced; in fact it will probably be reintroduced in various shapes, and then the friends of subsidy will join hands and attempt to pass some compromise bill.

Will Open Antung to Trade.

Washington, March 21.—W. D. Straight, the American consul general at Mukden, notified the State department today that he has assurances that the Antung custom house will be opened by the Chinese soon.