



WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World

OF INTEREST TO ALL OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings of the Past Week in Brief and Comprehensive Form.

By a cave-in at a West Virginia coal mine four miners lost their lives.

Haiti is taking active steps to end the civil war, fearing American intervention.

General Miles considers the coast fortifications of the Northwest to be in excellent condition.

The cable steamer laying the trans-Atlantic cable from Victoria, B. C., covered 164 miles the first day.

The death list of the Alabama church disaster is growing. One hundred and ten dead are reported.

Explorer Baldwin, who has just returned from an Arctic expedition, holds the old idea of an open polar sea as baseless.

An Ohio school teacher has lost his position because he made white girls and colored girls who had been quarreling kiss.

Ten thousand people attended an open air mass meeting in New York organized in sympathy with the striking coal miners.

The American Line steamship St. Paul, which arrived at New York a few days ago, had a narrow escape from destruction by fire on her way across the ocean.

England has sent a cruiser to Colon to protect British interests.

A barbed wire plant at Pittsburg was burned, destroying property worth \$150,000.

The next meeting of the International Journal School convention will be held in Jerusalem in 1904.

The United States will station a war vessel in the tropics and be prepared for emergencies at all times.

The sovereign grand lodge of the Odd Fellows has made a national organization of the Patriarchs Militant.

A panic in a Birmingham, Ala., Negro church cost 78 lives, and as many more were seriously injured.

Two wrecks occurred on the Northern Pacific in Washington, in which an engine was killed and several passengers injured.

A mob attacked a Pittston, Pa., colliery, and after driving the nonunion men from the mine, set fire to the breaker. Considerable damage was done before the flames were controlled.

Stanley Spencer, an English aviator, made a successful flight of 30 miles over London in an airship of his own invention. The craft was completely under his control during the entire trip.

The sword has been abolished as a cavalry weapon in Canada.

The alleged St. Louis legislative bodiliness have been indicted.

Russia has set October 8 as the date for the withdrawal of her troops from Manchuria.

Columbia has filed a protest against American guards being on the trains of the Panama road.

There is much comment throughout the East by the press regarding Speaker Henderson's withdrawal from the race for election to congress.

The president has started on a tour through Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois.

The fund for the relief of fire sufferers has reached \$2,500 in Clarke county, Washington, and Portland has raised \$5,000 for the Oregon needy.

Lieutenant Peary has arrived from the Arctic. While he did not get so close to the north pole as other explorers, he made many important discoveries.

China is on the verge of another Boxer uprising which may equal that of 1900, according to mail advices received at the state department from Minister Conger.

Danger from forest fires in Oregon and Washington is now over.

Speaker Henderson declines to accept the nomination for congress in Iowa.

Nicholas Fish, a well known New York banker, met death in a mysterious manner.

Pennsylvania coal operators held a conference, but took no action toward ending the strike.

Mrs. Waggoner, the woman who discovered Conitt's body, has eloped with the convict's brother.

The government will supply men to fight forest fires in Colorado and Wyoming, where it has got beyond all control.

St. Louis authorities are having much trouble with packers on account of bad meat being placed on the market.

The French marine minister made a sensational speech in which he discussed the results of possible wars with Germany, Italy and England.

Rockport, a small town in Kentucky, is in the hands of a drunken mob. Citizens are afraid to ask for outside aid for fear the mob may burn the town.

PREPARING FOR TROUBLE.

Six Hundred Marines Awaiting Orders to Go to Panama if Necessary.

Washington, Sept. 23.—Secretary Moody has finally decided to augment the United States naval forces on the isthmus by the addition of 600 marines if Commander McLean's advice indicates that these are needed. He has given orders to Commander Pillsbury, of the United States ship, *Prairie*, now at Boston, to proceed with his ship to Norfolk. At that point 600 marines will be gathered ready to take ship when Secretary Moody's advice indicates the necessity for their presence on the isthmus.

The *Prairie* should arrive at Colon within a day or two with 350 marines aboard, so that, with the *Prairie* men, the marines on the *Cincinnati*, who are already ashore at Colon, the United States will have what is regarded as an ample force to carry out its treaty obligation of maintaining free traffic across the isthmus.

Orders have also been sent forward to the *San Francisco*, now at Norfolk, to coal and provision and proceed to San Juan, Porto Rico, there to await any emergency which may arise. There is only one United States warship, now in Venezuelan waters. The little gunboat *Marblehead* and the *Montgomery* are due to arrive shortly at Cape Haytien.

The object of the department in sending down the *San Francisco*, it is stated, is to have a vessel ready to meet a call for reinforcements, either in Venezuela, Haiti or the isthmus. The duty assigned to the *San Francisco* should not be confused with that given the gunboat *Bancroft*. That vessel probably will not be able to go into commission until October 1, and will proceed to San Juan to station ship. It is expected that the *San Francisco* will get away in three or four days.

TO BEGIN RAIL-LAYING.

Columbia River & Northern has Finished Grading—Equipment on the Way.

Portland, Sept. 23.—Work on the Columbia River & Northern, from Lyle to Goldendale, has reached the stage at which rail laying will soon commence. Of the entire 42 miles of the line, 25 have been graded and considerable of the remainder has been graded in part and needs only finishing up. Rock work in cuts and fills is now keeping the construction gangs busy. A large shipment of rails has been received from Hamburg, Germany, and the work of track building will be commenced in a few days. A second shipment of 2,000 tons of rails will arrive on the *Hollywood* in about 15 days.

General Manager H. C. Campbell has received information that the equipment for the road will leave Chicago this week. The equipment consists of two locomotives, two passenger cars and 55 freight cars, which will be sufficient for the needs of the road for the next few years. Mr. Campbell is also informed that three grain warehouses, each 60 by 150 feet, have been constructed along the line of the road, and that one of these will be enlarged 50 feet to meet the needs of the line. As there are no railroad facilities in the Klickitat valley, and the farmers and lumbermen must do all their freighting by team to Grants or The Dalles, the progress of construction of the new road is a matter of no small concern to the residents of Goldendale and the rest of the valley. The road will be in operation about the first of the year.

TO REWARD ARMY OFFICER.

General Chaffee Recommends a Medal of Honor for Williams.

Washington, Sept. 23.—Lieutenant Kenneth P. Williams, First Infantry, has been recommended by General Chaffee for a congressional medal of honor for his skill and bravery in leading the relief expedition to the rescue of the marine detachment, which completed the most famous march across the island of Samar. A noteworthy portion of General Chaffee's letter reads as follows:

"Not again in your military career, nor in that of the men accompanying you on this arduous undertaking, will conditions likely arise that will render you the opportunity of rendering such unselfish and never-to-be-forgotten services to your country, which entitles you to greater thanks and to the nation's gratitude."

Rear Admiral Rogers' letter states that "the marine detachment would undoubtedly have perished to a man, had it not been for the indefatigable exertions of Lieutenant Kenneth P. Williams."

Big Car Shortage in Sight.

New York, Sept. 23.—An official of one of the leading trunk line railroads is quoted by the *Journal of Commerce* as expressing the belief that in the near future the railroads of the country, particularly those reaching the Atlantic seaboard, will experience one of the worst car shortages in their history, due to the demand for an early movement of crops and the crush of general merchandise traffic. Should the coal miners' strike be settled soon the shortage probably will be greatly aggravated.

Show Train in Collision.

Choctaw, O. T., Sept. 23.—An east bound Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf freight train ran into the rear of the Sells-Downs show train here at 5 o'clock this morning. Two sleeping cars of the show train were completely demolished, and many of its occupants were pinned beneath the wreckage. Two persons were killed and 26 injured, all but four seriously. All of the casualties were in the show train.

NEWS OF OREGON

Items of Interest Gathered from All Parts of the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL DOINGS

A Brief Review of Improvements, Growth and Development Along All Lines Throughout Our State.

An effort will be made by the next legislature to cut down the expenses of the state printing office.

The pulp mill near Skamokawa, which was recently destroyed by fire, will be rebuilt at once.

The assessor of Yamhill county places the gross value of all property in that county at \$5,125,262.25.

In the trotting race for two-year-olds, at the state fair, Helen Norte reduced the Pacific coast record to 2:26 1/4.

The office of Indian agent at Umatilla has been abolished and the agency and school placed in charge of a bonded superintendent.

Dallas citizens have voted to enter into a contract for the construction of a new water works system to the extent of \$12,000.

The Oregon Woolgrowers' association, in a session at Pendleton, adopted strong resolutions favoring the continuation of the scalp bounty law.

The game law regarding Chinese pheasants has been grossly violated in Linn county, but Game Warden Quimby finds it almost impossible to do anything.

An immense warehouse is being erected at Medford. It is expected to be completed in time to receive the apple crop, the harvesting of which will commence about October 1.

M. P. Isenberg, of Hood River, has been appointed supervisor of the northern and eastern portions of the forest reserve, to succeed W. H. Dufur, whose appointment was recalled some time ago.

An enormous coal field is being developed in the Blue mountains, near Heppner. Nine distinct veins have been uncovered and the field covers an area of about 12 square miles. The coal is of a very high quality.

Captain H. L. Kelly, of Company A, Third regiment, O. N. G., at Oregon City, has resigned.

Petowya, a Umatilla Indian woman, has just died. She was 113 years old.

Extensive preparations are being made for the carnival and district fair to be held at The Dalles September 30 to October 5.

Two masked men entered the O. R. & N. depot at North Powder and at the point of a revolver compelled the agent to open the safe. They secured \$300, after which the agent was bound and gagged.

All holdings of the Necanicum Spruce Lumber company, including the sawmill, box factory and several thousand acres of timber tributary to the Necanicum and O'Hanna, have been sold to Minneapolis capitalists. The consideration was over \$100,000. The company plans extensive improvements.

The fall run of salmon at The Dalles is exceptionally good, the fish being of a large size.

Hopickers in a number of Willamette valley yards have struck for 50 cents per box. The increase was given in most cases.

The Mt. Angel college opened its 16th year with an attendance that promises well for the coming season. The new stone building to be used by the college is rapidly nearing completion.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 61 1/2 @ 62; blue stem, 64 @ 64 1/2; valley, 62 @ 64.

Barley—Feed, 19 @ 20; brewing, 20.

Flour—Best grades, \$3.05 @ \$3.75 per barrel; Graham, \$2.95 @ \$3.20.

Millstuffs—Bran, 17 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$18; chop, \$17.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.00; gray, 95 @ \$1.

Hay—Timothy, \$10 @ \$11; clover, \$7.50; Oregon wild hay, \$5 @ 6 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60 @ 65c per cwt.; ordinary, 50 @ 55c per cwt.; growers prices; sweets, \$2.00 @ 2.25 per cwt.

Butter—Creamery, 25 @ 27 1/2; dairy 17 1/2 @ 20c; store, 12 1/2 @ 15c.

Eggs—24 @ for Oregon.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12 1/2 @ 13c; Young Americans, 13 1/2 @ 14c; factory prices, 10 @ 11c less.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00 @ 4.00; hens, \$4.50 @ 5.50 per dozen, 11 @ 11 1/2c per pound; springs, 11 @ 11 1/2c per pound, \$3.00 @ 3.50 per dozen; ducks, \$3.00 @ 4.50 per dozen; turkeys, live, 13 @ 14c, dressed, 15 @ 16c per pound; geese, \$4.00 @ 6.00 per dozen.

Mutton—Gross, 2 1/2 @ 3c per pound, dressed, 6c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2 @ 7c; dressed, 7 @ 7 1/2c per pound.

Veal—7 @ 8c per pound.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3 @ 3 1/2c; steers 3 1/2 @ 4c; dressed, 6 @ 7c per pound.

Hops—16 @ 17c; new crop 20 @ 22c.

Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 15; Eastern Oregon, 8 @ 14 1/2c; mohair, 25 @ 26c pound.

TROOPS RUN STREET CARS.

Strikers Interfered and the Riot Act was Read to Them.

Glenns Falls, N. Y., Sept. 20.—The twentieth day of the Hudson Valley Street Railway strike saw a car start from here over this division in charge of deputy sheriffs and militia and manned by non-union men. As the car proceeded north from the power house jeers came from the bystanders. On its progress through the bank square the conductor was struck by a bystander and the car stopped, the militia getting off and clearing a space around the car. After a short delay it proceeded.

A car from the power house to Fort Edward was stopped several times by breaks in the trolley wire, and at Andy Hill a crowd of several thousand assembled. A false alarm of fire was rung, and the hose cart run on the track and left standing, and an attempt was made to place the hose on the rails. The car was sent ahead and demolished the hose cart.

District Attorney Pratt read the riot act to the crowd, which, after a time, dispersed. Sheriff Austin called on Captain Dennis, of Company I, National Guard, stationed at Whitehall, and that company reached the power house early, where they are encamped near Company K.

The Saratoga Citizens' Corps, known in the state national guard as Company L, Second regiment, was tonight ordered to proceed at once to Mechanicville and stillwater in connection with the strike on the Hudson Valley street railway system. The orders were issued on the strength of a report received here that two persons had been shot near Waterford this afternoon.

AMERICANS COULDN'T LAND.

Japan Holds Marcus Island, but Will Have to Face Indemnity Suit.

Honolulu, Sept. 14, via San Francisco Sept. 20.—The schooner *Julia E. Whalen* has returned from Marcus Island, arriving here September 10, without having accomplished the purpose for which she set out. When she arrived at Marcus there was a force of Japanese marines on shore, and they were prepared to resist the landing of the Americans. Under the circumstances Captain Roschill, of the *Whalen*, decided not to attempt to land, his force being much less than the force of the Japanese, and the Marcus Island guano company will now make a claim against the Japanese government for indemnity, basing its claim on the alleged title of Roschill to the island. Captain Roschill arrived at the island on the day after the Japanese warship *Kasagi* left. The *Kasagi* landed 16 armed marines and left them on the island to protect the interests of the Japanese government, being compelled to return home for coal. Her commander left with lieutenant Akimoto, in command of the marines, a letter from K. Ishi, secretary to the imperial minister of foreign affairs, addressed to Captain Roschill and stating the position of the Japanese government in the matter. The letter stated that the warship had been compelled to leave on account of a lack of coal, explained that Japan claimed the island by virtue of occupancy previous to that of Roschill, and expressed a hope that he would avoid any conflict and leave the controversy to be settled by the American and Japanese governments. The guano company will make a claim on the Japanese government for possession of the island, alleging that Captain Roschill's occupancy was prior to that of the Japanese, and will also ask for indemnity for the loss of the trip of the schooner *Whalen* to Marcus.

MISSIONS GET \$57,933.

First Instalment of Their Share of the Chinese Indemnity.

Boston, Sept. 20.—The officers of the American board of foreign missions announced today the receipt of \$57,933 through the state department at Washington. The amount is 25 per cent of the award made to the board by the commission now in session in China for losses on mission property in the Boxer outrages of 1900. This money is said to come very opportunely to reimburse the treasury for sums already expended in rebuilding in North China and also to meet other urgent calls of the same sort. The total award very nearly equals the amount of the claim presented by the board two years since, the charges and reductions being merely nominal. The award of the personal losses of missionaries has not yet been made, but will soon be forwarded from Peking to Washington.

Wool Industry in Wyoming.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Sept. 20.—The state board of sheep commissioners has compiled a report showing the total number of sheep in the state on July 1 last to be 6,724,478, a considerable increase over last year. The average weight of fleeces is given as 7 1/2 pounds, while the average shrinkage of the wool is 65 per cent, as against 67 per cent for last season. The wool clip for the year amounted to 32,963,120 pounds, an increase of 3,000,000 pounds over 1901. Wyoming ranks first as a wool producer.

Raid on Italian Counterfeiters.

Chicago, Sept. 20.—Federal officials made a raid into "Little Italy" today for the purpose of getting a gang of counterfeiters and their bogus coin. Four Italians were arrested and a number of spurious 10-cent pieces were found, but as yet no trace of the plant has been discovered. Italian residents were much surprised over the arrest of the alleged principal, Antonio D'Andrea and his wife. D'Andrea was once a priest.

BARREN WASTE

Fire Made Clean Sweep Along Lewis River.

PROPERTY LOSS \$1,000,000 OR MORE

At Least Sixteen Lives Have Been Lost and Thirty Families are Homeless Planning for the Future.

Portland, Sept. 22.—The verdant valley of the north fork of the Lewis river is an ashen waste. Within its confines are devastated homes, farms and thousands on thousands of acres of ruined timber land. The loss in timber alone is over \$1,000,000. Sixteen persons lost their lives and 30 families have been rendered homeless. It is hard to realize that within 35 miles of Portland such complete devastation has been brought upon defenseless farmers, and that men, women and children have been burned alive or suffocated by the blinding smoke.

The ground along the north fork of the Lewis river is of a very broken character. Rugged, timbered hills rise abruptly from the rich meadow lands near the Lewis, and the timber country has found many sections of valuable fir timber on their rough sides. A long rough road to Woodland, near the Columbia, is the only outlet for those living around Speleah valley prairie and beyond. Only 18 miles of this road are now passable for wagons, for the fire, in its course, has burned the numerous log bridges, and pack animals are the sole means of conveyance into the burned district. Speleah prairie is the only natural treeless space for many miles around, for the bottom lands as well as the hills are covered with fir, cottonwood and alder trees.

The cause of the various fires which have wrought such destruction are really unknown, though many theories are held by the inhabitants of the affected country. There seems to be no doubt that more than one fire sent the sparks flying through the air to waiting brush piles and dead timber, where the breeze soon fanned the small blaze into another hurricane of flame, which, blown onward by the strong wind of its own creation, often directly crossed the path of the parent fire or started in a precisely opposite direction.

Small fires were seen simultaneously on outlying hills so distant from one another that the theory that all the fires sprung from one blaze seems impossible.

The extent of the burned district will also be unknown until the heavy pall of smoke rises completely and the men of the country have time for exploration. Ariel, which was practically the western limit of the fire, is 18 miles due east of Kalama, while Yale, another rural postal station, is nine miles further to the southeast, and about five miles from the boundary between Cowlitz and Skamania counties. Between these two postoffices the fire undoubtedly reached its greatest intensity, and it was in the neighborhood of Yale that 16 lives were lost. Just how sweep is unknown. The greater part of the destruction was wrought on the north side of the river, but several houses are now reported as burned on the south side of the north fork.

A plan is now under consideration to buy a large quantity of grass seed and sow the entire burnt district with green vegetation that will not only secure a means of livelihood for the farmers, but also prevent the recurrence of such an overpowering disaster. It is feared that two or three years hence, when the bark falls from the trees killed by this fire, a repetition is possible, but more strenuous measures will probably be taken to prevent the careless setting of slashing and camping fires.

Few of the farmers will try to leave the country, for they understand that when the district is once under cultivation the ground will be far more productive than ever before. What the loss to the settlers really amounts to cannot be learned at present, for many an outlying claims which they have not visited. An estimate of \$1,000,000 to represent the loss in timber alone is probably conservative. Another \$300,000 for the loss on the farms will not widely miss the mark.

The districts to the extreme south and north which were devastated by the fire are seldom visited only by an occasional timber cruiser or prospector, who occasionally penetrate the fastness of the upland hills.

Bank Deft of Big Sum.

Vienna, Sept. 22.—A further examination of the books of the Vienna Leader bank shows that the embezzlement of Edmund Jellinek, an official of the cashier's department, who died Thursday, are about \$1,150,000. The funds were effected by the manipulation of checks and by making false entries in the checkbook, somewhat similar to those in the Liverpool bank case. It has been discovered, however, that Jellinek has \$250,000 to his credit with various Vienna firms, in addition to investments of upwards of \$500,000 in industrial enterprises.

British Flag Raised Over Palos.

New York, Sept. 22.—Officials here have been told that the British government has raised the British flag on the island of Palos, which is near Trinidad, notwithstanding the protest of the Venezuelan government, says a dispatch to the *Herald* from the Port of Spain, Trinidad. Sovereignty over the island of Palos has been in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela for a long time, and England thinks to end the matter in this way.

POACHING MUST CEASE.

Russia Will Take Active Steps to Prevent Sealing on Siberian Coast.

London, Sept. 19.—In a dispatch from Odessa the correspondent of the *Standard* says the Russian minister of agriculture and state domain, M. Yermiloff, has announced that he has now taken effective measures for the suppression of the systematic poaching operations of Americans and Japanese among the seal and other sea animals on the northeastern coast of Siberia. Although anxious to comply with the reiterated representations of Russia, the Washington and Tokyo governments have failed to put an end to this illicit fishing in Russian waters.

M. Yermiloff, continues the correspondent, now gives formal notice that American and Japanese poachers captured within the limits of Russia's maritime jurisdiction on the Siberian coast will be liable to three months' imprisonment, and their ships and cargoes to confiscation. This order will be enforced by three fast gunboats. No discrimination will be made. The commanders and crews of poaching vessels will be subjected to the same punishment. In case of refusal to surrender or attempt to escape, the commanders of the Russian gunboats are empowered to fire upon and sink the sea pirates.

TO ASK FOR STATEHOOD.

Meeting of Governors of Five Indian Territory Tribes.

Guthrie, O. T., Sept. 19.—Pleasant Porter, governor of the Creek Indian nation, has called a meeting of the governors of the Five Civilized Tribes to be held at South McAlester, I. T., on Sept. 26, for the purpose of formulating a general plan for bringing the Indian Territory into statehood at the expiration of tribal government in 1906. Governor Porter says the Indians are opposed to statehood with Oklahoma. The other governors are Mosely, of the Chickasaws; Green McCurtain, of the Choctaws; Buffington, of the Cherokee; and Johnston, of the Seminoles. The meeting will be the most important held on Indian soil, as the five governors will plan to dissolve their governments to adopt that of the white man.

AMERICANS FEEL SAFER

Arrival of Warships at Panama Brings a Feeling of Relief.

New York, Sept. 19.—Among American citizens on the isthmus there is now a feeling of relief, as there is now a United States warship at each end of the Panama railroad, cables the Panama correspondent of the *Herald*. There are no indications of an immediate attack by the revolutionists.

In a personal interview with Acting General Superintendent Prescott, of the Panama railroad, regarding the application of the decree to natives employed by the corporation, he said that his company is doing everything possible to protect them, and its own property, in accordance with the treaty of 1846, embodying the contract with the Colombian government, and with the assistance of all the employees of the Panama road in attending exclusively to their official duties, company interests will be fully protected. The company's representatives are endeavoring to do whatever they can to facilitate traffic.

Indians in Distress.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 19.—Fredrick I. Moser, of San Francisco, the scientist and lecturer, has returned from a six week' exploration and collection trip among the Navajo, Moqui and Pueblo Indians of Arizona. Mr. Moser states that the Navajo tribe, numbering about 20,000 men, women and children, is rapidly approaching the starvation point, and that unless speedy and substantial aid is rendered them fearful distress and great loss of life will result. Continued drought has caused this state of affairs.

Coal Washery Burned.

Scranton, Pa., Sept. 19.—The Taylor company washery in North Scranton was destroyed by fire, which started at 12:30 o'clock this morning. It is alleged to be of incendiary origin. The watchman declared that he chased four prowlers from the premises just before he discovered the fire. The washery has been in operation for a month. This is the third Scranton washery to be destroyed by fire since the strike began.

Martial Law in Cape Colony.

Cape Town, Sept. 19.—Sir John Gordon Spriggs, prime minister of the colony, has announced that before the house of assembly and in the government *Gazette*, the repeal of martial law and the proclamation of the peace preservation act, which enables the government to control the possession, importation and registration of all arms and ammunition.

Boxers Surround City.

London, Sept. 19.—Cabling from Shanghai under date of September 17, the correspondent of the *Daily Mail* says Cheng Tufu is surrounded by 50,000 Boxers, but that their attempts to take the city have so far failed. Without immediate help, however, Cheng Tufu must fall.

OREGON PRUNES

Crop This Year Over a Hundred Carloads Short.

NO PROSPECTS FOR HIGHER PRICES

Quality of Oregon Crop is Very Good, but the Large Crop in California Will Keep the Price Down.

The prune crop of the Northwest will not be up to the usual mark this year. Though the acreage is larger, the yield will fall considerably below that of last year. In 1901 shipments to the East from the Northwestern states amounted to between 700 and 800 cars. This year shipments will be between 100 and 150 cars short. On the other hand, prunes will be larger, the favorable weather of the spring and summer having caused a material increase in the size of the fruit. This will be good for the growers, as it costs no more to dry prunes weighing 60 to 70 pounds than it does those weighing 30 or 40 pounds, and the increase in weight means a corresponding increase in the selling price.

From this it is, however, holders of prunes need not think they are going to find profit. There seems to be a general impression about the country that prices will be as good as last year, but the indications do not point that way. Growers must not overlook the present situation in California. In the Santa Clara valley, for Eastern shipment, packers are quoting 2 1/2 cents for the four sizes, which is 1/4 cent less than last year. The prune crop is large there, but not alone are prunes plentiful—all other fruit is in abundance. In the East it is the same story. The apple crop there, which is large, is a strong factor in the price situation. When dried apples are cheap people are as apt to buy them as they are to purchase prunes. The European crop is short, but Europe draws on this country for fruit to only a limited extent. Europe being an early buyer, has placed most of its orders, and its wants may be said to be practically filled.

There is only a limited demand for the Oregon crop for early delivery, according to Portland dealers, and as soon as that want is supplied, what stock remains on hand is apt to drag, or, to move it, lower prices must be made.

The prune crop in Eastern Washington and Idaho will be large this year. Clark county, it is reported, will not