

WASHINGTON STATE BRIEF NEWS ITEMS

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

Secretary of the Navy Curtis D. Wilbur is to be a guest of Seattle August 29. Yakima reservation cantaloupes are bringing \$3 a crate. That is higher than war prices. Spokane postoffice receipts for July totaled \$79,418 as compared with \$79,586 for July, 1923.

The Southwest Washington Pioneers' association held its 13th annual picnic at Rochester. September 12, Defenders' day, is to be declared a legal holiday by Governor Hart, it is announced.

The Schott-Halsey Motor company has begun the erection of a \$35,000 garage building in Yakima.

Of 30 daily vacation Bible schools held in the inland Empire this summer the Union school at Yakima was the largest.

The lamb crop of Walla Walla county is reported to be the best in 20 years, its value being estimated at about \$165,000.

Six hundred women registered at Walla Walla after a local theater gave matinee tickets to all women who would qualify to vote.

The State bank of Kahlotus, Franklin county, has been closed. The failure was due to adverse crop conditions, officials state.

Explosion of gas in a conduit in the business section of Tacoma rocked buildings, shattered plate glass windows and set people scurrying. A manhole cover was hurled on top of a six-story building and the pavement lifted out of place. No one was injured.

Several forest fires, started from lightning during a thunder storm, swept over a large area in the Cascades, in a report reaching State Supervisor of Forests Pape from Enumclaw, King county. Some of the fires were reported gaining considerable headway.

The case against Russell R. Evans of Tacoma, charged with participation in the Anacortes bank robbery in April, was dismissed by Judge Harden in superior court at Bellingham. Evans was one of four prominent Tacoma men arrested by Skagit county officials for the robbery. The case against the other three were dismissed some time ago.

Extraordinary lack of humidity is affecting apple trees in some parts of the Yakima valley, causing the leaves to turn brown and curl in spite of apparently ample irrigation. District Horticultural Inspector W. L. Close has advised pruning to restore the balance between root absorption and evaporation from the leaves.

Establishing a new high record, the excise tax on gasoline sales in the state reached a total of \$398,863.68 during the month of July, according to figures compiled under the direction of Fred J. Dibble, director of licenses. The tax was over \$25,000 in excess of the amount collected in June, the previous record month, when the gross tax collected amounted to \$373,242.96.

A letter was received by C. C. Hutchins, secretary of the Vancouver chamber of commerce, from W. H. Frank, executive officer in the office of General Patrick, chief of the United States air service, Washington, D. C., stating that after completing the flight around the world at Vancouver en route to San Francisco.

D. C. Malone, alias A. J. Brown, leader of a bandit gang who attempted to rob the Saugum Valley bank at Toit, was killed; a companion, Ted Laabe of Jerome, Idaho, was fatally wounded, and Virgil A. Murphy, deputy sheriff, was slightly wounded in the leg when Sheriff Starwick and six deputies frustrated the holdup after receiving a "tip" from a criminal.

Forests Once Covered Whole United States

Before the coming of the white man forest fires were then as now caused by man or by lightning, says the research bureau of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association. The Indians practiced the burning of forests, prairies and swamps in order to encourage the growth of berries, to drive game and also as a measure. The early chronicles of the settlement of the United States contain many instances of the Indians setting destructive fires.

There is some reason to believe that it was recurring forest fires that created the great prairie regions of the middle states, part of the barren lands of Canada and the present extensive "parks" in the Appalachian and Rocky mountain regions. There is geological evidence that the entire United States below certain mountain summits was at one time or other forest land.

Within the last fifty years forest fires have destroyed the forest character of more than 80,000,000 acres of land in the United States. On the whole, forest fires have probably destroyed more timber in that period than has been utilized.

The Judge. It Must Have Been On The Catskill Line. by M.B.



IOWA RAIN STORM DOES MUCH DAMAGE

Des Moines, Ia.—Two men lost their lives, many head of cattle were destroyed and property damage totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars was done in a terrific rain storm that swept over eastern Iowa Monday night. Practically all of the cities and towns caught in the rain are flooded and the Wapsipinicon, Cedar and Big creek overflowed their banks and submerged farm land.

J. M. Schley and Declaud Barrett, farmers living near Bertram, were drowned. No damage was reported in this city.

The town of Olin, Ia., near Cedar Rapids, was reported under water with Walnut creek rising at the rate of an inch an hour and a heavy rain falling. Rescue parties worked all night taking families from their homes in boats and wagons. Every home in the town was flooded. The streets are littered with dead hogs and chickens.

GASOLINE SALES LARGER

Washington's July Tax Collection Totals \$298,800.

Olympia, Wash.—All records for gasoline sales and collections of gas tax for the state were broken by the July sales, which reached 14,943,184 gallons, netting the state on the 2-cent tax, \$298,863, according to report of the director of licenses. This is a gain of nearly 1,800,000 gallons over June, which was in itself a record breaker. As compared with July, 1923, a gain of more than 2,100,000 gallons is shown, the record that month being 13,662,143 gallons.

Since the 2-cent tax went into effect the first of January, 1924, sales aggregated 79,789,116 gallons, with collections of \$1,594,782, while total collections under the gasoline tax to date are \$4,247,014.

ALONG LIFE'S TRAIL

By THOMAS A. CLARK, Dean of Men, University of Illinois. (© 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

EXCUSES

OUR hired man had a number of distinctive characteristics; he was a real beau when he was dressed up, he had read more sensational stories than any other ten people I had ever met, he retailed enough baseless gossip to have entitled him to honorary membership in a women's duplicate whist club, and he had a faculty for offering excuses and alibis, in case he was detected in error or neglect.

If the bars were down and the cattle got into the corn, if he left the mules untied and they ran away and smashed things, if he forgot to water the garden, in the well-known words of Mr. Post, there was a reason. In fact, there were a dozen, if need be, all good and sufficient and no duplicates in the lot. This peculiar talent of his for explanation, however, father thought would be of more value in the diplomatic service than on the farm, so he let him go.

The person with an excuse usually feels himself safely armed against any contingency. If he should reach the railroad station late, but with a badly-working alarm clock to lay the blame on, he would feel injured if the train was not held for him.

"I meant to get there," Rudolph said to me, confidentially. "I sat up late, somebody had stolen my alarm clock, but I asked the maid to wake me, and then she forgot it."

His excuse was a good one, he thought, and should have saved him from any unpleasant consequences, but the fact remained that he didn't keep his appointment; it was his last chance—he lost the sale.

Men want efficiency in those with whom they do business, not the ability to explain why one has been inefficient. Nobody cares for excuses excepting that they show a desire on the part of a derelict to be polite. What is needed is to have things right the first time they are done, to have people on time, to have work accomplished within the limits set, and to be sure the message is carried to Garcia. We judge men by what they accomplish, rather than by the skill they display in explaining why they have failed.

FRANK J. IRWIN



Frank J. Irwin of New York, chosen national commander of the Disabled American Veterans in the recent convention at Salt Lake City.

Oil Company on Financial Rocks. New York.—The Middle States Oil corporation, a \$95,000,000 concern, has reached the culmination of a series of misfortunes with the appointment of receivers to handle its affairs. Joseph Tammity, former secretary of President Wilson, and Julius M. Mayer are the receivers.

We Believe It

Henry Teeper has got sum addy-noids of the nose that stops up both holes so him and Tod Kepple has traded places in the choir. Henry says there ain't no use tryin' to sing tennor with a feller's nose stopp' up.—Country Gentleman.

Back to Side Saddle

London.—Woman equestrians are gradually reverting to the side saddle when on horseback, as they find riding astride develops muscles not good for dancing. A well-known riding master says the side saddle gives women more grace and security, and girls from ten to fourteen years of age only are being encouraged to ride astride.

Fat Women Prized

Among the Bahamian tribesmen of Uganda the women are unusually fat, as corpulence is looked upon as a sign of beauty. Girls, before marriage, are not allowed to walk about, and are encouraged to drink as much milk as they can in order that they may become as fat as possible before their affianced husbands come to claim them. The fatter they are the bigger the marriage dowry the parents receive.

Always a Way

A thin man and a fat man were seated behind a lady who wore a wide hat. The thin man asked her to remove it. She ignored this request. "Sometimes the hair comes off with the hat," whispered the fat man. She proved it didn't in her case.

THE MARKETS

Portland Wheat—Hard white, \$1.50; soft white and western white, \$1.35; northern spring, \$1.30; hard winter, \$1.29; western red, \$1.28. Hay—Alfalfa, \$18.50@19 ton; valley timothy, \$19@20; eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@22. Butterfat—37@38c. Eggs—Ranch, 28@33c. Cheese—Prices f. o. b. Tillamook: Triplets, 25c; loaf, 30c per lb. Cattle—Steers, medium, \$6@7.50. Hogs—Medium to good, \$10@11.50. Sheep—Spring, medium to choice, \$8.50@11.

Seattle Wheat—Hard, soft and western white, \$1.35; No. 1 hard winter, western red and northern spring, \$1.30; No. 1 western red winter, \$1.29; Big Bend bluestem, \$1.68. Hay—Alfalfa, \$23; D. C., \$27; timothy, \$26; D. C., \$28; mixed hay, \$23. Eggs—Ranch, 28@37c. Butterfat—42c. Cattle—Choice steers, \$7@7.75. Hogs—Prime light, \$11.25@11.75. Cheese—Washington cream brick, 19@20c; Washington triplets, 21c; Washington Young America, 22c.

Spokane Hogs—Prime light, \$10.50@11. Cattle—Prime steers, \$7@7.50.

Indians Used Broadway

Weekagoesqwek path is the Indian title which was given to the road through Manhattan island, now known as Broadway, according to the New York World. The long, impossible-sounding name is that of a tribe which once occupied the upper end of the island and it signifies "People-of-the-Birch Bark." "Long before Hendrick Hudson made his memorable cruise up the river, the Indian pathway which, because of its great width, came later to be known as 'Broadway,' must have been a scene of great activity and used constantly, as an ordinary path without pavement would soon disappear through the action of rain and growth of vegetation. It was so thoroughly beaten down by the tramping of redskins that today, if modern improvements were taken away, the remains of the original path would still be found."

Wet-Weather Product

In Indo-China rice is grown under very different conditions from those in America. In Cochinchina there is no irrigation; the rice is planted at the beginning of the rainy season, and all the necessary water is supplied by the rains that fall continuously during the growing period. The use of seeders and drills is impossible, as the ground is entirely covered with water at seeding time. The rice is planted in little patches and then transplanted when a sufficient maturity is attained. In Tonkin and Annam large tracts of land are being prepared for irrigation and modern methods will be adopted.

Clytemnestra's Humor

Sophocles makes Electra describe Clytemnestra as "laughing triumphantly" over the murder of Agamemnon; but Electra was a proud, dignified woman. Killing an undesired husband is no laughing matter, though triumph over its accomplishment—when failure means death—is a legitimate emotion. Clytemnestra was a singularly august and composed sinner. Not from her did Orestes and Electra inherit their nervous systems; and not on their testimony should we credit her with an excess of humor alike ill-timed and unbecoming.—Agnes Repplier in the Yale Review.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Under Foreclosure Execution

Notice is hereby given: That under and by virtue of an execution and order of sale, issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Sherman county, in the cause pending therein wherein Frank C. Stramwell was plaintiff and Ruby B. Pettys was defendant, to me directed, dated the 19th day of July, 1924, upon a judgment and decree made, rendered and entered in said cause and court on the 20th day of November, 1923, in favor of the plaintiff and against the defendant, Ruby B. Pettys, for the sum of \$872.25, to gether with interest thereon at the rate of eight per cent per annum, until paid, and the further sum of \$100.00 attorneys' fees, and in which said judgment and decree it was ordered and adjudged and decreed by the court that the mortgage of plaintiff, covering the following described real property, situated in Sherman county, Oregon, to-wit: Lots one (1) and two (2), and the south half of the northeast quarter of section one (1) township four (4) south, range fourteen (14), east of the Willamette meridian, containing 160.09 acres, more or less, together with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, be foreclosed, and that said real property be sold, in the manner provided by law, for the satisfaction of said judgment, costs, attorneys' fees and accruing costs.

Now, therefore, I will, on Saturday, the 23rd day of August, 1924, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m., of said day, at the front door of the county court house at Moro, in Sherman county, Oregon, offer for sale, and sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand the following described property situated in Sherman county, Oregon, to-wit: Lots one (1) and two (2) and the south half of the northeast quarter of section one (1), township four (4) south, range fourteen (14) east of Willamette meridian containing 160.09 acres more or less together with the tenements hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging.

Dated at Moro, Sherman county, Oregon, this 22d day of July A. D. 1924. HUGH CHRISMAN, Sheriff of Sherman County, Oregon 5125a22

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