

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

VALLEY GRAIN LOOKS WELL.

Hops Give Promise of Yielding an Immense Crop.

Salem—Crop prospects in the country surrounding Salem are very encouraging. The reports of aphid and Hessian fly are heard only from the Howell prairie neighborhood and are not coming from any other section. An extensive travel as far south as Stayton, eastward to Scott's Mills and north to Hubbard reveals a splendid stand of grain and grass everywhere, with a promise of the greatest yield in many years.

Fruit is looking well.

In many places close to streams, where brush is plentiful, there is a plague of caterpillars, which are bothering the trees and form a source of troublesome annoyance.

Hops are fine; rank growth in all yards that are taken care of. A prominent grower says that Oregon will gather the heaviest crop of hops in its history.

Spring work has been well done throughout this county and there has been much substantial improvement made on the farms. There is a noticeable tone of prosperity everywhere. New dwellings, new barns, new fences greet the eye in all directions, while paint has added its beautifying influence quite generally.

A great deal of permanent road work has been done and along the highways a marked change for the better has been wrought by the tearing out of old rail fences, the substitution of neat wire fences and the clearing away of the unsightly, wasteful fence rows of brush, weeds and wild roses. The entire farming country breathes a spirit of progress and prosperity.

Oil in Vicinity of Lacombe.

Albany—Representatives of Eastern capitalists have recently been investigating the discovery of oil in the vicinity of Lacombe, Linn county, and it is generally believed here that development of the property on a big scale will be begun soon. The operations have been conducted with secrecy, however, and for that reason, very little definite information can be obtained. For years past indications of oil have been found at different points between Lacombe and Lebanon, and though there were no gushers, it is believed the oil was there in paying quantities.

Woolen Mills Are To Resume.

Pendleton—The Pendleton woolen mills, which have been idle for the past year, will be in operation inside of two weeks. The mill has been leased for a year by Jacob Shuerman, a well known wool buyer of San Francisco. Shuerman is a free lance in the wool business and will use the wool he has bought this season in the operation of the mills. The resumption of work on the mills will add a payroll of over \$2,000 a month to Pendleton's income. The mills will manufacture the Pendleton Indian robes again.

New Assistant Matron.

Chemawa—Miss Marie Johnson, of San Jose, Cal., has been appointed assistant matron at the Chemawa Indian school. Miss Johnson was in California during the earthquake, and was among those to have their homes shaken and destroyed. Miss Alice B. Preuss, of Lapwai, Idaho, has been appointed clerk at the Indian training school. Miss Preuss has had several years' experience as teacher in Idaho and elsewhere in the Indian service before coming to Chemawa.

Edward D. Jasper Wins Prize.

University of Oregon, Eugene—The Bennett prize, from the income of a gift of \$400 made to the university by Philo Sherman Bennett, of New Haven, Conn., for the best student paper on the principles of free government, was won by Edward D. Jasper, '06. Jasper is a senior of the department of economics. He registers from La Grande. The subject of his paper was "The Basic Principles of Lawmaking." This year is the first time the Bennett prize has been offered.

Pool of Timber Claims Sold.

Albany—A pool of 123 timber claims in Crook and Klamath counties was sold in this city last week to the Deschutes Lumber company for \$196,800, or \$1,600 a claim. About 100 of the claims were owned by Albany people and were taken up in the great rush for timber land about four years ago. The sale was affected by means of a pool of the claims and was handled by the holders of the claims themselves.

Lost Mountain of Gold Found.

Medford—A messenger just in from Elliott creek, in the Siskiyou mountains, reports the discovery of a mountain of free milling ore six miles from Joe Bar and three miles from the Blue Lodge copper mine, assaying \$30 to \$100 per ton, which appears to be the long sought mother lode of the Applegate section. Dr. Reddy, who is now on the ground, pronounces it the most marvelous ledge he ever saw.

GIFTS FOR BAY CITY SCHOOLS.

Circular Letter Is Sent Out by Oregon State Superintendent.

Salem—J. H. Ackerman, superintendent of public instruction, has issued a circular suggesting that the respective public schools of the state devise ways and means for the raising of money to be turned into the San Francisco reconstruction fund for the rebuilding of schools destroyed by the fire. In all, 34 school buildings were destroyed by the fire at San Francisco, to replace which will cost \$6,000,000. The school authorities of the Bay City have been led to receive donations, as the finances of the city are strained to the utmost, and it would be a considerable time before the city, unaided, could replace the schools. It is their purpose, whenever the contributions from a given state shall reach a sufficient amount to erect a building, to name that building after the state giving the money. All the school officers and the public schools of Oregon have been mailed circulars by Superintendent Ackerman.

Wages Raised at Oregon City.

Oregon City—The Willamette Pulp & Paper company has announced an advance of 25 cents per day per man for every man employed at their mills in this city who is now receiving \$1.75 and \$2 per day. This advance affects the wages of about 500 men and means an increase in the monthly payroll of about \$3,750 per month, or about \$45,000 per annum. This increase in the wage schedule at the Oregon City mills, it is alleged by a representative of the Willamette Pulp & Paper company, has been contemplated by the management for the last three months.

Will Increase Business.

Medford—The Butte Falls Lumber company announces that it now has its sawmill plant at Butte Falls in condition to put out at least 140,000 feet of lumber a day, just as soon as the Medford & Crater Lake railroad is extended to its timber belt. The large acreage of timber sold during the last few weeks, and the fact that the larger tracts are under bond in that great timber section at the head of Rogue river and the two Butte creeks, is significant of an intention to rush this railroad through to completion shortly.

New Brewery Ice Plant.

The Dalles—The Eastern Oregon Brewing company of this city has just put into operation its ice plant and cold storage cellar. The Eastern Oregon Brewing company was incorporated a year ago by Dalles people, and bought the Columbia brewery of August Bucher for \$35,000. Since then the company has rebuilt the brewery at an expense of about \$50,000.

Fire Warnings Sent Out.

Salem—For the protection of the forests of Oregon fire notice warnings are being sent out by the secretary of state to all fire rangers. The notices are printed on cloth and contain the principal provisions of an act passed by the legislature.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 72@73c; bluestem, 74@75c; red, 70@71c; valley, 72c. Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$31.50; gray, \$31.50 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$24.50 per ton; brewing, nominal; rolled, \$25@26. Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$12@13 per ton; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$13.

Fruits—Apples, \$2.50@3.50 per box; apricots, \$1.50@1.75 crate; cherries, 75c@81 per box; strawberries, 7@9c per pound; gooseberries, 5@6c per pound.

Vegetables—Beans, 3@5c; cabbage, \$1@1.25 per 100; green corn, 40@50c doz.; onions, 8@10c per dozen; peas, 5c; radishes, 10c per dozen; rhubarb 3c per pound; spinach, 90c per box; parsley, 25c; squash, \$1 per crate; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@91 per sack. Onions—New, 1 1/2@2c per pound.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 50@60c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; new California, 2c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17 1/2@20c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 19@20c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12@13c per pound; mixed chickens, 11 1/2@12c; broilers, 15@16c; roosters, 10c; dressed chickens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 15@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22c; geese, live, 9@10c; geese, dressed, old, 10c; young, 12c; ducks, old, 14@15c; young, 15@16c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 10@12 1/2c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 18@21 1/2c; valley, coarse, 23@23 1/2c; fine, 24@25c; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Veal—Dressed, 3 1/2@6c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4 1/2@5 1/2c; country steers, 5@6c.

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

Pork—Dressed, 7@9c

LOSS WILL BE HEAVY.

Heavy Rainfall in Eastern Oregon and Washington Destroyed Crops.

Pendleton, Or., June 1.—Umatilla county has lost by a conservative estimate at least \$1,500,000 by reason of the flood. It is impossible to give detailed figures, for the waters in McKay creek and Birch creek, in the Milton country, at Weston and the Umatilla river are raging, and the fields are still flooded and out of sight. On every hand, however, as the water recedes, are left fields of alfalfa coated thick and weighted down with slime and silt. It is a worthless waste, and must not only be cut down but taken from the fields before other crops can be grown.

Practically all of the alfalfa crops of McKay creek are ruined. The territory varies from 100 feet to a quarter of a mile in width and is from 15 to 20 miles in length. All of the bridges are out, the water, though falling, is still raging and no definite information can be secured.

At Weston the town was damaged to the extent of \$5,000 and the same amount was lost in the immediate vicinity. In 54 hours 5 1/2 inches of rain fell, while on Weston mountain the fall was from 9 to 10 inches. Four out of seven bridges were washed out and three small store buildings were washed into the river.

The greatest damage, perhaps, is due to stock losses in the mountain ranges. Thousands of sheep had just been sheared and were unprotected. The storm swept into the mountains with an advance guard of cold fog, followed by heavy rain and snow. In the face of this blizzard the herders in many instances deserted their flocks, leaving 2,000 and 3,000 head to their fate.

Reports beginning to come in tell of disaster, though everything is unauthenticated as yet. Hemphill lost his entire band of 3,000 sheep. J. E. Smith lost 1,000 and Gus Lafontaine 1,000. Douglas Bett's herder left 3,000 to take care of themselves.

At Milton the loss will reach into the thousands. The orchards are flooded and the fruit trees covered with mud and slime. The alfalfa fields are masses of sediment, as are the strawberries, but the latter will not all be lost. It is hard to put an estimate on Milton's damage, because many of the fields will be saved. The estimate of damage is made by those who are familiar with the country and who know the area and the value of the crops. No actual figures are as yet forthcoming.

In Pendleton the loss will be great on account of the stocks of merchandise flooded in the cellars, and the broken levee and consequent flooding of homes. A conservative estimate of the damage here is \$50,000.

Walla Walla, Wash., June 1.—After four days and nights of drenching, Walla Walla and the surrounding country are gradually recovering from the unequalled torrents of water poured into the river and streams and submerging the fields. The big plants dependent upon the electric power company are still out of business, but there is hope now that within ten days the power will be supplied.

The damage done by the high water has been immense, but the reports coming in today show that the greater actual loss will fall upon the farmers and the fruitgrowers. A conservative estimate of the damage done to crops places the loss at \$250,000. This is not an exaggeration, as from all parts of the county come reports of bridges swept away, houses inundated and crops destroyed.

Trial is Postponed.

Caldwell, Idaho, June 1.—When the cases of Charles H. Moyer, William D. Haywood and George A. Pettibone, charged with the murder of former Governor Frank Steunenberg, came up in the district court yesterday, counsel for the prosecution, acting upon the suggestion made on Tuesday by Presiding Judge Frank Smith, filed a formal motion for a continuance on the ground that the habeas corpus proceedings instituted in the Federal courts in behalf of the defendants are still pending and serve as a bar to further proceedings in the state court until a decision shall have been rendered by the Federal Supreme court. Judge Smith granted the motion, and exceptions were entered by the defense and allowed. It is not likely that the case can be taken up again before December.

Favors American System.

Victoria, B. C., June 1.—The Yoro-zu of Tokio says the imperial family of Japan has decided to dispatch His Highness Prince Kamin as special envoy to America to show imperial concern for the disastrous San Francisco earthquake. Prince Kamin will leave for America on June 25.

A Pekin report says Tuan Fang and Taihung Chi, Chinese traveling commissioners to America and England, have memorialized the Chinese government commending the American economic system.

General Buchanan Will Retire.

Washington, June 1.—Brigadier General James A. Buchanan, lately in command of the department of the Visayas, Philippines, will be placed on the retired list of the army tomorrow on his own application.

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