

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

CHANGE CRIMINAL LAWS.

Attorney General Crawford Would Remedy Many Defects.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford has started a movement for the revision of the criminal laws of the state by removing defects and enacting new laws, so that the guilty shall not escape upon technicalities. He has addressed a letter to each of the prosecuting attorneys of the state, asking them to submit to him such recommendations upon the need of criminal legislation as they may think best, and he will lay the whole matter before the judiciary committee of the next legislature.

In his letter Mr. Crawford says that probably every district attorney has in his experience found some laws which are so defective in their terms that men who are guilty cannot be convicted, and have found some offenses for which no statute whatever is provided. He says that the time to remedy the defects in the criminal laws is during a session of the legislature, and, in order that this may be done properly, the laws should be drafted before the legislature meets.

The prosecuting attorneys, he thinks, are in the best position to learn of the defects in the laws, and he wants them to suggest the changes that should be made. With recommendations before him from all the prosecuting attorneys, the attorney general will be able to lay before the legislature information that will enable that body to place the criminal laws in a much better condition than they have ever been before.

A very striking illustration of the defective condition of the criminal laws was found when the state land fraud prosecutions were begun in Marion county something over a year ago. There was no law under which men could be convicted after they had sworn falsely in making applications for the purchase of school lands.

There was no statute making it a crime to sign a fictitious name to an application for the purchase of school land. There was no law to be found for the punishment of a notary public who affixed his seal to an instrument which he had drawn, and to which he had signed a fictitious name.

At nearly every term of court men who are placed on trial escape punishment, although proven guilty, because the statute does not quite cover the crime committed. It is defects of this kind that Attorney General Crawford wishes to remove. He is not seeking to make crimes of small offenses which are of no importance, but merely so to correct the laws that it will be possible to secure conviction when men are found guilty of acts which every one recognizes as criminal in character.

Settlement Named After Wagon.

Arlington—Some 30 years ago a few men settled on a flat about 12 miles south of Arlington. In the crew was only one wagon—an old Schutler. In some way they began calling this neighborhood Schutler, from the old wagon. A few years later it was, as it is now, known as Schutler Flat. When the Condon branch railroad of the O. R. & N. Co. was built, a station was established near this place, and is named Schutler. This is one of the finest farming sections in Gilliam county, and thus from an old wagon a name is found for a fine wheat belt.

Grain Sack Problem Serious.

Pendleton—The grain sack problem promises to be serious for the farmers of Umatilla county, who will use 2,000,000 this year. At the present prices, 10 cents each, this means \$200,000 in this county. Other Eastern Oregon counties, it is estimated, will use at least 2,000,000 more, making a total of \$4,000,000 for this section. This entails the expenditure of nearly half a million dollars for grain sacks, which, together with the expense of harvesting the crop, represents an enormous expenditure of money before anything is realized from the crop.

Resume Work on Reservoir.

Eugene—Work on the big reservoir for irrigation purposes started at Lake Waldo, in the Cascade mountains, 100 miles east of Eugene, by A. R. Black last fall, will be resumed within a few days. Mr. Black has left here with a good sized force of men to continue the work. A year ago this summer Black filed on the waters of the lake and announced a big irrigation project for the upper Willamette valley. He claims to be backed by Eastern capitalists, and says he will carry his plans to consummation in the not far future.

Bend Ships Horses.

Bend—Many horses are being shipped from Bend and vicinity to Portland and other points in the valley. Many riders are out on the ranges rounding up all available horses. It is feared that considerable horse thieving has been going on in this section, as a number of valuable horses are missing, and as some suspicious characters have been seen on the ranges of late it is feared that the animals have been run off.

WILL SHIP 400 CARS.

Bountiful Yields From Grand Ronde Orchards is Assured.

La Grande—It is estimated by the principal fruit growers of Grand Ronde valley that the output for this section this year will be 400 carloads. The estimate on apples, which are the largest crop, is 314 cars; prunes, 65 cars; pears, peaches, plums and cherries, 20 cars. These figures are considered reliable, as there was but little variance in the different estimates given and the estimates on prunes all agreed. This forecast is made on the expectation of a continuation of the present favorable conditions, which could hardly be improved upon; the fruit is set on the trees as full as it can be to give first-class quality.

In securing the foregoing report it was also possible to obtain some interesting figures relative to the enormous increase in the apple orchard acreage. There are now 200,000 apple trees in this valley and of this number 146,000 are in bearing. That is to say, this is the number of trees of five years old and upwards. Five years hence, when the whole number of trees are in bearing, the yield of an average crop year will be a million boxes, or about 1,666 car loads. It is not too much to say that within a short time the apple crop income of this valley will be a million dollars a year.

Even at the cider factory price of \$5 per ton, ten-year-old trees will on average years yield at the rate of \$142.63 per acre.

While the apple is in the ascendancy as the commercial fruit of this valley, the cherry plays quite a part. Cannery representatives are here now making contracts for cherries at 4 to 4½ cents per pound. The La Grande fruit growers will have about 20 tons to offer, but this includes only the sweet varieties suitable for canning, such as Royal Anne and Centennials.

Old cherry trees in some orchards in the valley have yielded as high as 800 pounds to the tree. The price paid is \$80 per ton and at this rate old trees will yield \$3,200 and upwards per acre. All these figures and estimates are based on as reliable facts as are obtainable. It is not necessary to exaggerate the fruit industry of Grand Ronde. The truth is good enough.

Special Prizes at State Fair.

Salem—The state board of agriculture has voted to offer three special prizes for the best individual farm exhibits to be made at the state fair this fall. The prizes will be \$75, \$50 and \$25 in cash and in addition the Studebaker company will give a \$100 wagon, the E. S. Lamport company a \$40 set of harness and F. E. Shafer Saddlery company a \$10 robe. It is expected that a large number of farmers will compete for these prizes. Secretary Durbin will supply applicants with all the necessary information.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 72@73c; bluestem, 74@75c; red, 70@71c; valley, 72c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$31.50@32; gray, \$31.50 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$24@24.50 per ton; brewing, nominal; rolled, \$25@26.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$12.50@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, \$1.25@1.50 per crate; cherries, 75c@1 per box; strawberries, 5@7c per pound; gooseberries, 5@7c per pound; Logan berries, \$1.75 per crate.

Vegetables—Beans, 6@8c; cabbage, 1½c per pound; lettuce, head, 15@25c; onions, 8@10c per dozen; peas, 4@5c; radishes, 10@20c per dozen; rhubarb, 3c per pound; spinach, 2@3c per pound; parsley, 25c; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—New, 1½@2c per pound.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 50@60c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; new California, 2@2½c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@20c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 21@22c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@13½c per pound; mixed chickens, 12@12½c; broilers, 15@16½c; roosters, 9½@11c; dressed chickens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 17@17½c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22c; geese, live, 8½@9c; ducks, old, 11@12c; young, 12½@13c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 9½@12c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 18@23½c; valley, coarse, 22½@23c; fine, 24@25c; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Veal—Dressed, 4@7c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4½@5½c; country steers, 5@6c.

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

Pork—Dressed, 7@9c per pound.

DRIVE THEM FROM STATE.

California Declares War on Dishonest Insurance Companies.

San Francisco, June 15.—The official of California are agreed, it is said, that the insurance companies which refuse to meet their obligations and pay their losses in full will not only be driven from the state, but ruined before the world, if the widest publication of their methods can accomplish that end. Insurance Commissioner E. Marion Wolf is backed by Attorney General Webb. The attorney general expressed himself forcefully today regarding the proposition made by 60 companies at a meeting in Oakland Tuesday to pay only 75 per cent of adjusted losses.

"Under the law of California," he said, "the state insurance commissioner can revoke the license of any insurance company for the state when there is cause. Certainly the payment of only 75 per cent of losses would be cause. And not only would it be proof of unsoundness and unfitness to do business, but it will be the plainest evidence of dishonesty. It would be cause for the commissioner to revoke the state license of any company standing for such a proposition, and I know that Mr. Wolf, whose heart is in the situation, will take such action toward companies that enter such an agreement."

"This is the limit of his power of punishment under the California law, but he can go much further. The insurance commissioners of all the states stand together. Through them, Commissioner Wolf can advertise to all the world the dishonesty of the companies that refuse to meet their obligations. I am certain that he will use that power against those that give him cause."

There was no change today in the alignment of insurance companies on the proposition to make a general 25 per cent cut, but the companies that voted for full payment still hope to win over many of those that took the stand for a percentage settlement.

LIFE DISGUSTS DOWIE.

Aged Prophet Lay Down to Die Once, But Could Not.

Chicago, June 15.—John Alexander Dowie, on the witness stand in Judge Landis' court today, tremblingly begged for death to relieve him of his sorrows and his defeats. He declared also that should he die he would come back to earth again as Elijah the Restorer.

Dowie, in the course of his testimony, gave the following rules to guide a man who is about to die: "Do things in order—even when you go to die. Don't make a splash and mess of it. Go to your death couch and await the end in calm."

The occasion for the discussion of death came when Dowie, fighting for the ownership of Zion City and reclaiming possession, which is now in the hands of Wilbur G. Voliva, was telling of his first serious illness as part of the testimony on his present competency to rule the city which he built. Dowie made the amazing assertion that after he was first stricken he lay down to die, but awoke two hours later, alive.

"I was never so disgusted as when I awoke two hours later alive," he said, "and I am still alive and disgusted."

MASSACRE AND PILLAGE.

Bomb Flung at Christian Parade in Russia Provokes Riot.

Bialystok, Russia, June 15.—A Jewish anarchist threw a bomb among the Corpus Christi procession, which was in progress here today, and killed or wounded hundreds of persons. In consequence the Christians attacked and massacred the Jews and demolished their shops.

The bomb was thrown from the balcony of a house in Alexandrov street. A Russian clergyman named Federoff was among those killed.

Immediately after the explosion Jews began to fire from the windows of the house. Soldiers surrounded it and fired two volleys. Meanwhile the enraged Christians attacked the Jewish stores in Alexandrov and Suraz streets, demolishing the fixtures and windows, throwing the goods into the gutters, and beating and murdering the Jews. Many Jews fled to the railroad station, pursued by the mob, which killed several there.

Hold-Up Must Stop.

Washington, June 15.—Judge James Wickersham, of Alaska, will be confirmed by the senate before adjournment. Notice was served on Senators Nelson and McCumber today by the steering committee that the senate will not permit them to continue their hold-up of this nomination which it is apparent to practically the entire senate that Wickersham has been unjustly accused and that the fight against him is not being made in good faith. It is unusual for the senate to take such drastic measures with its own members.

Major Scott To Be Superintendent.

Washington, June 15.—Major Hugh L. Scott, Fourteenth cavalry, now in the Philippines, has been selected by Secretary Taft to succeed Brigadier General A. L. Mills, as superintendent of the military academy, who is to be given charge of an army department, probably in the Philippines.

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