

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

REPORT ON OREGON.

Irrigation Expert Investigates State and Issues Circular.

Washington—Oregon farmers who resort to irrigation, will be deeply interested in a 30-page circular just issued by the department of Agriculture, entitled "Investigations of Irrigation Practice in Oregon." The book is written by A. P. Stover, irrigation engineer, who spent last season in Oregon making a study of irrigation as it is practiced, so as to find out the errors that have been made and gather data which would be helpful in instructing the irrigators how to avoid mistakes of the past. The report is not as comprehensive as might be desired, but contains a great many valuable suggestions, and is worth the perusal of every farmer who is obliged to artificially water his lands.

Mr. Stover made a study of the precipitation in various parts of the state, and to a limited extent gathered data on the discharge of the principal streams that can be utilized for irrigation. He states, in opening his report, that the greater part of the arable land of Oregon lies in the arid section and can be brought under intensive cultivation only by irrigation. He found that the low water flow of most of the streams of Eastern Oregon has already been appropriated for private irrigation, but as yet practically no steps have been taken to conserve the winter floods.

He finds that little of the water now being diverted is used economically, so that there is a large supply for future development.

Because of its comparatively low elevation and consequent mild climate, Mr. Stover says that Northeastern Oregon has advantages over the southeast.

The practice of winter irrigation, now practiced along the Umatilla river, is described, and the value of this practice is indicated. It is shown that these Umatilla lands, under the Maxwell flood water canals, yields a net profit of \$24 an acre, when planted in alfalfa. It seems that the Umatilla valley, however, is exceptionally well adapted for this sort of irrigation, because of the unusual formation of the soil and the underlying bedrock. Few localities will be found where winter irrigation will be as successful. On Butter creek, where winter irrigation has reached the highest stage of perfection, fruits are successfully grown by combining the principles of winter irrigation and dry farming.

Several pages are devoted to a detail description of irrigation canals along the Deschutes river, which have been in operation for the past few years, and also of the Maxwell and Irrigon canals in the Umatilla country. For some reason there is nothing in the report bearing directly on private irrigation in the Klamath country. The report, however, contains something of interest to all irrigators, and will be furnished by the department upon application.

Fix Hop Picking Price.

Salem—One dollar per 100 pounds, or 50 cents per box, will doubtless be the popular price paid for hop picking in the valley this year, since this seemed to be the predominant sentiment as expressed at a meeting of about a score of members of the Oregon Hop-growers' association, held in this city last week. The prevailing tendency on the part of growers, also, is that hops will go to 20 cents by harvest time and all present were in favor of holding out for that figure at least.

Dry Weather Hurting Hops.

Salem—The continued dry weather is showing its effect upon the hop crop, especially in old yards, and those not cultivated as thoroughly as they should be, and it is declared by many that the yield will be far under the 125,000 bales that have been predicted. Yards that have been well cared for are standing the dry weather in good shape. The potato and corn crops are also keeping a good appearance where cultivation has been good, and the second crop of clover is coming in good shape.

Linn County Wheat Heavy.

Albany—New wheat is coming into the Red Crown mill in Albany daily now. This is the Portland Flouring Mill's Linn county branch, and annually receives all the wheat it can get in this vicinity. The new wheat this year is quite heavy, and is running well up in yield. In many localities the yield is reported more bushels to the acre than in years past, and everywhere the crops are good.

Harvesting in Yamhill County.

McMinnville—Harvest is now in full swing in old Yamhill. Most of the threshing crews began work last week. The runs will probably extend from 25 to 30 days. The harvest this year will be the largest for a number of years. Wheat is yielding 23 bushels to the acre. Oats yield 40 bushels to the acre and weigh 39 pounds to the bushel. Barley is yielding from 50 to 60 bushels to the acre.

MORE JUDGES NEEDED.

Supreme Court Badly Behind With Its Appeal Docket.

Salem—The fact that the Oregon Supreme court is about a year behind in its work and has been losing ground in the last few months has revived the suggestion that the number of judges be increased from three to five. There are now on the docket ready for trial 67 cases appealed from Western Oregon counties. There are also some on the Eastern Oregon docket at Pendleton, but the exact number is not known. The cases now ready for trial extend back as far as December, 1905. There are also on the preliminary docket 84 cases which will be ready for trial in the next few months, so that there is every prospect that the supply of cases to be heard will not diminish.

The causes of the court getting behind in its work are several. The number of appealed cases has been unusually large and several cases of extraordinary magnitude have occupied an unusual amount of attention. Then there has been a change on the bench, which always causes some delay. Judge Halley was appointed to the supreme bench last winter. He had extensive business interests at his home in Pendleton and could not at once adjust his private business so as to give his whole time to his judicial duties. Then the political campaign came on and took considerable time for two months.

Another change will be made the first of the year, when Judge Eakin goes on the bench.

Clover Huller in Linn County.

Albany—For the first time in the history of Linn county a clover huller has begun a season's threshing. Frank Roth and Ernest Howard, proprietors of the huller, have already listed about 1,000 acres of clover to hull which assures a 40 day's run and success for the venture. In the past three years the rise of the clover industry in this county has been remarkable and even if the present phenomenal increase in acreage does not continue, clover hullers running the season will be an established feature of Linn county's annual harvest.

Lane County Poultry Show.

Eugene—At a meeting of the Lane County Poultry association it was decided to hold the first annual poultry show in Eugene from December 12 to 15, 1906. There are several bird fanciers in and about Eugene and a poultry show will be a success here. Secretary Williams was instructed to arrange for competent judges for the first show. County Assessor Keeney was chosen assistant secretary of the association.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 68@69c; bluestem, 70@71c; valley, 71@72c; red, 65@66c.

Oats—No. 1, white feed, \$30; gray, \$29 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50 per ton; brewing, \$23.50; rolled, \$24@24.50.

Rye—\$1.50 per cwt.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$11@12.50 per ton; clover, \$8.50@9; cheat, \$6.50@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$11.

Fruits—Apples, common, \$50@75c per box; fancy, \$1.25@2; apricots, \$1.25@1.35; peaches, 75c@1; pears, \$2; plums, fancy, 50@75c; blackberries, 5@6c per pound.

Melons—Cantaloupes, \$1.50@2.25 per crate; watermelons, 1@1½c per pound.

Vegetables—Beans, 5@7c; cabbage, 1½@2c per pound; celery, 85c@1 per dozen; corn, 15@20c per dozen; cucumbers, 40@60c per box; egg plant, 10c per pound; lettuce, head, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; peas, 4@5c; bell peppers, 12½@15c; radishes, 10@15c per dozen; rhubarb, 2@2½c per pound; spinach, 2@3c per pound; tomatoes, 60@90c per box; parsley, 25c; squash, \$1@1.25 per crate; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, \$1@1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack.

Onions—New, 1½@1½c per pound.

Potatoes—Old Burbanks, nominal; new potatoes, Oregon, 75@90c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@22½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 21c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 13@13½c; springs, 15@16c; roosters, 9@10c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 15@17c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22½c; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 11@12½c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, nominal, 12@13c; olds, nominal, 10c; 1906 contracts, 15@16½c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best 16@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Veal—Dressed, 5½@8c 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, fancy, 8@8½c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@8½c per pound.

DARK HOUR IN RUSSIA.

New Mutinies Break Out as Fast as Others Are Suppressed.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—Nearly 3,000 sappers, sailors, pioneers and miners at Cronstadt mutinied about 11 o'clock last night. They planned to seize the forts and the bridge leading to Fort Cronstadt, but their plans were foiled by the precautions taken by the commander. After a severe fight the loyal troops opened fire on them with machine guns, and as they had no artillery available and the arsenal had been stripped before they could seize it, they had no alternative but surrender. A court martial began sitting this morning, and is sentencing the mutineers to death by hundreds.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—The crew of the armored cruiser Pamjat Azova mutinied off the Estonian coast and is now in full possession of the ship, which has sailed northward in the direction of the Finnish gulf.

Reval, Aug. 3.—The cruiser Pamjat Azova has arrived in the roadstead here in the possession of the loyal portion of her crew. One hundred and fifty of the mutineers have been sent ashore and imprisoned. The mutineers were overpowered by the loyal sailors while the ship was at sea.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—The crew of the Russian cruiser Asia, which was sent to Abo, has hoisted the red flag. The vessel has left in the direction of Sveaborg.

The ministry of marine has confirmed the report that Admiral Birleff had gone to Helsingfors on board the school ship Asia, whose crew has mutinied.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—Military disorders have broken out at Reval. Details cannot be obtained.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—Although the mutinies at Sveaborg have been ended and the one at Cronstadt has been practically put down, the outlook is still black. The revolutionists, whose hands were suddenly forced by the premature rising at Sveaborg, apparently are undaunted at these initial reverses and intend to persist in their program of calling a general strike on Saturday or Monday.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—On the heels of the other bad news comes the startling statement that the emperor has flatly refused to accept the conditions to which Premier Stolypin agreed in his negotiations with Count Heydon, Alexander Guchkoff, Prince Nicholas Lvoff, Paul Vinogradoff and Senator Koni for the reorganization of the cabinet.

There is an increasing apprehension that the emperor purposes to take the final step of turning the country over to the military dictatorship of Grand Duke Nicholas.

The Streets of St. Petersburg are again filled with patrols.

ISLANDS' RICE IMPORTS SMALL.

Ide Says They Produce More, Merchants They Eat Less.

Manila, Aug. 3.—Governor Ide has received reports stating that during the fiscal year ending June 30 the importations of rice to the Philippines decreased 61,072,411 pounds, valued at \$3,084,783 in gold. Commenting on the reports Governor Ide says:

"From these reports it appears that the number of pounds of rice imported into the Philippines during the fiscal year of 1906 was something less than three-sevenths of the importations of 1901, and the cash sent out from the islands for rice was less than four-elevenths of the sum sent in 1894. If the same ratio of decrease for a year or even a semester, no more rice will be imported and in two years the islands, besides supplying the home demand, ought to be exporting rice."

The publication of these reports has caused a controversy. The local shippers contend that the decrease of importations is a result of the poverty of the people, who, it is alleged, are not buying rice, but are living on yams and other food. The shippers declare that the Philippines will never export rice.

Catholics for Limited Divorce.

Buffalo, Aug. 3.—At today's meeting of the American Federation of Catholics a resolution was adopted defining the position of the federation on the question of divorce. It recommends the enactment of laws granting a separation or limited divorces in those states which have no such laws, and in states which grant absolute divorces the federation asks that the applicant be allowed to ask for a limited divorce on the same grounds under which an absolute divorce is granted. Limited divorce in extreme cases is recommended.

Wilson Will Surprise Packers.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Secretary Wilson left today to pay a surprise visit of inspection to several slaughtering and packing houses in the East. Upon leaving his office the secretary gave instructions that to all inquiries regarding him the answer should be that he is gone away and it is not known when he would return.

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