

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

LABEL ALL FRUIT.

Growers Find Several Ways of Obeying New Law.

Salem.—Now that the fruit-shipping season has begun, growers are confronted with the necessity of complying with the new law, enacted by the last Legislature, requiring that every box or package of green fruit shall be marked with the name and address of the grower and packer. Here at Salem there are various methods of complying with the law, and some fruit is going out with no mark at all. The only fruit shipped thus far is strawberries, packed in small boxes, 24 in a crate. Some growers stamp their names and addresses upon each small box, so that the consumer will know by whom the fruit was grown, and so that if there is anything wrong with it the dealer will know where to make the complaint. Others mark the name and address only upon the crate. In almost all instances the stamp placed upon the box or crate gives only the name and address, and does not say whether the person whose name appears is grower or packer, or both. The section of the new law bearing on the subject is as follows:

"Any person, firm, association or corporation engaged in growing, selling or packing green fruits of any kind within the State of Oregon shall be required, upon packing any such fruit for market, whether intended for sale within or without the State of Oregon, to stamp, mark or label plainly upon the outside of every box or package of green fruit so packed the name and postoffice address of the person, firm, association or corporation packing the same; provided, further, that when the grower of such fruit be other than the packer of the same, the name and postoffice of such grower shall also prominently appear upon such box or package as the grower of such fruit."

Rain Welcomed in Clackamas.

Oregon City.—Light rains are falling in nearly every section of Clackamas county, and with a falling barometer there is prospect of wet weather continuing for several days. General satisfaction is expressed by farmers, as the rain of last week was not of sufficient duration to be of material benefit. Crops generally are in prime condition, and with favorable climatic conditions give forth every promise of a prolific harvest. June rains are always beneficial to late potatoes, and will be welcomed, as there is a heavy increase in the potato acreage this year. Farmers in the south end of Clackamas county have planted extensively, because of the late floods in the Sacramento valley.

Price of Prunes Raised.

Salem.—Probably influenced by rapid advances in the price of prunes in California, packers here have been raising their offers for 1907 contracts and on June 1 4½ cents for the 40-50 size was freely offered. This price has been refused by several growers, however. According to the latest advices from California, a 4-cent basis price was offered there several days ago, or 5½ cents for the 40-50 size. Now that buyers are active and the market advancing, the growers are doing a great deal of figuring before making contracts. At the same time, it is reported that quite a number of contracts have been made. W. C. Tillson & Co. report having made contracts for about 45 cars.

Contract Spuds at \$10.

Salem.—The largest deal in potatoes ever made in Oregon was closed here when Lachmund & Pincus contracted 35,000 bushels of the growing crop at \$1.10 per hundred. The buyer is George Burthe, representing L. Scateno, of San Francisco. Lachmund & Pincus are well-known hop dealers, and growers, but this year they have 142 acres of spuds. The short crop in California has turned buyers to this state, resulting in the remarkably high price named in the contract made today. The figures are net, the buyers furnishing the sacks. The contract calls for September and October delivery. This is the first potato contract reported in this vicinity this year.

Arc Lights for Medford.

Medford.—Dr. Ray, manager of the Condor Power Co., who recently purchased the Medford lighting plant, tendered a banquet to the Commercial Club last evening, and today began the installation of a modern arc system of street lighting. For the first time in its history, Medford is using arc lights for street lighting.

New Railway Corporations.

Salem.—The Portland Eastern Railway Company was incorporated today by E. P. Clark, Arthur H. Fleming, E. B. Colwell, Robert T. Linney and C. W. Miller, with a capital stock of \$5,000,000. The company proposes to build a railroad from Portland to Clear Lake, Wasco County, by Salmon River and Troy Lake Pass.

New Government Survey.

Washington.—A. H. Sylvester, of the Geological Survey, is at work topographically surveying land in Oregon, including Bull Run forest reserve and that portion of the Cascade forest reserve which includes Mount Hood. This area covers the drainage basin for the Portland water supply.

WILD BELGIAN HARES.

Begin to Overrun Woods and Fields of Linn County.

Albany.—As an aftermath of the Belgian hare fad which swept this part of the state about 10 years ago, considerable country west of Albany is populated with the little animals. People driving along roads out of this city can see them any evening and many have been killed recently by farmers. They live in the thickets along the roadsides.

The Belgian hare fad found a strong foothold in Albany. Hundreds of the animals were imported and for a time a public display was maintained by enthusiasts, a large hall being rented for that purpose. Many local citizens became as familiar with Belgian hare pedigree as a horseman with his horses.

But the fad died out and what hares were not killed were turned loose. A few evidently found their way into the country west of Albany and have lived there ever since. This year for the first time they have become numerous enough to attract considerable attention. The number is growing every year but the hares do very little damage.

400 Fire Wardens.

Salem.—The Oregon Forestry Commission met here and elected Governor Chamberlain chairman and E. P. Sheldon secretary. The other members present were: S. C. Bartrum, Roseburg; L. S. Hill, Eugene; J. W. Baker, Cottage Grove; H. B. Van Dusen, Astoria and E. R. Lake, Corvallis.

It was decided that about 400 men interested in the protection of forests from fire will be appointed fire wardens without pay from the state, though most of them will be in the employ of timber owners. Fire hundred copies of the new forest fire law will be printed for the information of wardens.

First Wool Pool Sold.

Salem.—William Brown & Co., of this city, have bought the Scio wool pool, 20,000 pounds, at 21½ cents. This is the first pool of Valley wool sold this year.

Hood River Berries at \$3.

Hood River.—Strawberry receipts today were 1500 crates. The berries went at \$2 per crate, one carload shipment being made.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Millstuffs—Bran, city, \$17; country, \$18 per ton; middlings, \$24.50@25.50; shorts, city, \$19; country, \$20 per ton; U. S. Mills, dairy chop, \$15.50 per ton. Wheat—Club, 86@87c; bluestem, 88@90c; Valley, 86@87c; red, 85c. Oats—No. 1 white, \$28@30; gray, nominal.

Flour—Patent, \$4.80; straight, \$4.25; clear, \$4.25; Valley, \$4.30@4.40; Graham flour, \$4@4.50; whole wheat flour, \$4.25@4.75.

Barley—Feed, \$22@22.50 per ton; brewing, nominal; rolled, \$23.50@24.50.

Corn—Whole, \$26; cracked, \$27 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@23; clover, \$9; cheat, \$9@10; grain hay, \$9@10; alfalfa, \$13@14.

Domestic Fruits—Strawberries, 8½@10½c per pound; cherries, \$1.65 per box; apples, \$1@2.50 per box; gooseberries, 6@7c per pound; cantaloupes, \$2.50@3.00 per crate; apricots, \$1.50@1.75 per crate.

Root Vegetables—Turnips, \$2.00 per sack; carrots, \$2.50 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack; garlic, 7½@10c per pound; horseradish, 7@8c per pound; chicory 30c.

Fresh Vegetables—Cabbage, California, 3@3½c per pound; cauliflower, \$1@1.25 per dozen; lettuce, head, 35@45c dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; tomatoes, \$2.25@4.50 crate; parsley, 25@30c; artichokes, 65@75c dozen; hothouse lettuce, \$2 box; peas, 6@7c; radishes, 20c dozen; asparagus, 6c pound; bell peppers, 30@35c per pound; rhubarb, 4c per pound; cucumbers, 50c@1.50; spinach, \$1.50 per crate; beans, 12½@15c per pound; squash, 50c@\$1 per box.

Onions—Oregon, \$2@2.50 per hundred; Texas, 1c per pound.

Potatoes—Jobbing price: Oregon and Eastern, \$2.25 per sack; new potatoes, 5½@6c pound; sweet potatoes, 6c per pound.

Butter—City creameries: Extra creamery, 24@25c per pound. State creameries: Fancy creamery, 24c; store butter, 17@17½c.

Cheese—Oregon full cream twins, 16c; Young America, 17c per pound.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14c; mixed chickens, 13½c; spring fryers and broilers, 18@20c; old roosters, 9@10c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 10@12c; turkeys, dressed, choice, nominal; geese, live, per pound, 8c; young ducks, 17@18c; old ducks, 13c; pigeons, \$1@1.50; squabs, \$2@3.

Eggs—17½c@18½c per dozen.

Veal—Dressed, 75@125 pounds, 8@8½c; 125@150 pounds, 7c; 150@200 pounds, 6c; 200 pounds and up, 5½@6c.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 4@4½c per pound; cows, 6@7c; country steers, 7@8c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 9c per pound; ordinary, 8@8½c; spring lambs, 10@10½c.

Pork—Dressed, 100@130 pounds, 8½@9c; 150@200 pounds, 7@7½c; 200 pounds and up, 6@6½c.

GRAINGROWERS COMBINE.

Farmers Will Hold Their Products Until Proper Price Is Paid.

Omaha, Neb., June 7.—The 200 delegates called into convention by the American Society of Equity yesterday practically completed the organization of the most formidable combine ever attempted for the purpose of controlling the prices of grain, to be known as the Grain-growers' Department of the American Society of Equity.

It adopted a constitution and set of by-laws which plainly indicated its objects. They state in so many words that the purpose of the organization is to control distribution and name a minimum price at which its members may dispose of their farm grain products, which are enumerated as being anything from wheat to broomcorn.

The matter of finances has not been overlooked, and the organization makes a pledge to its members whereby they may borrow money in any reasonable sum, which may be secured by their holdings of grain while it remains in a granary or elevator.

It was announced to the meeting that over 500 banks had pledged themselves to make loans to the members of the association when endorsements were made by properly accredited officials. The convention made itself felt in the matter of politics during the day, when Charles A. Walsh, of Ottumwa, Ia., a former secretary of the Democratic National Committee and at this time an organizer of Independence League Clubs for Hearst, was given plainly to understand that his presence in the capacity of an organizer was not required.

Mr. Walsh dropped into the city Tuesday, and it was stated that he would endeavor to get his propaganda before the convention. This idea was quietly but promptly sat down on. Many of the delegates did not know of his presence at the convention until after he had left the city yesterday afternoon.

With each committee report came a revelation. When the finance committee reported it was to the effect that all convention expenses had been arranged for and that a good fund was in sight for the field work which is to begin at once. Chairman Pauley of that committee and three other members, all bankers, were unanimous in a statement that 535 banks over the country were ready to furnish all the money necessary to carry out the objects of the association.

The plan is to make low rate loans to farmers on their grain after it is threshed and hold it in society granaries and elevators until the price demanded is available. The plan also contemplates a European agency for shipping grain direct to European markets.

A committee on crop intelligence reported a plan whereby all information is to be withheld until it is called for by the association statistician. A partial crop report was made to the convention, in which it was stated that wheat in Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and the Dakotas would average below 70 per cent of last year's crop.

BALLOONIST'S CLOSE CALL.

Lyman Beechey, Well Known at the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

Boston, June 7.—The breaking down of his motor, which allowed the airship he was navigating to be blown seaward, almost resulted in the death of Lincoln Beechey off Revere Beach yesterday. Beechey made a seven-mile journey from Revere Beach to Boston. On the return journey the motor became disabled when the aeronaut was a mile off shore, over Boston harbor, and the airship was carried some distance seaward.

Beechey managed partially to repair his engine so as to get back to the vicinity of Revere Beach. When several hundred feet off shore, the airship settled rapidly, and it looked as if Beechey would be thrown into the water. Men in rowboats and launches seized the drag-rope and towed him and his apparatus ashore before he struck the water.

Try to Burn Town.

Allentown, Pa., June 7.—What was apparently an effort of incendiaries to destroy the city of Allentown occurred here early yesterday, when firemen were called almost simultaneously to fight three fires in the business section of the city. The first fire occurred in the stockhouse of Bittner, Hunsicker & Co., one of the largest drygoods houses; the Prince Furniture Company, and the third at the furniture factory of Helfrich, Bohner & Co. An effort was made to draw the firemen from the business section by turning in a false alarm.

Beef Goes Up at Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, June 7.—A general advance in the price of meats was announced in this city. Beef is the meat mostly affected. The increase in price to the consumer is from 5 to 10 cents a pound, according to cuts.

HAPPENINGS GATHERED IN AND AROUND WASHINGTON, D. C.

CONDITIONS WILL SOON CHANGE

Canadians Say Japanese Laborers Will Soon Leave United States.

Ottawa, Ont., June 6.—A report received at the department of trade and commerce from Alexander McLean, Canada's agent to Japan, gives a press opinion that within a short time the United States will have more difficulty in obtaining labor from Japan than it has now in keeping Japanese laborers out.

There is a growing demand for Japanese laborers from almost all the countries of South America and from Hawaii, which promises, with the demand for men for the development of Korea and Manchuria, to absorb the whole of Japan's supply of laborers. Within the last few months the emigrant companies who deal with Japanese labor as an export commodity have filled contracts in Mexico for 10,000 laborers.

PRESIDENT UNDECIDED.

Lawyers Urge Prosecution of Harriman, but Commission is Divided.

Washington, June 5.—Some definite conclusion is to be reached during the coming week in regard to the course to be taken by the Government in the disposition of the case developed by the Interstate Commerce Commission investigation into the Harriman road mergers. An important conference is to be held to consider the question at the White House in the week, which will be attended by the President, the members of the Interstate Commerce Commission, Messrs. Kellogg and Severance, special counsel for the Commission, and Attorney-General Bonaparte.

At present Mr. Roosevelt is undecided about what shall be done. He has received advice from some sources urging that Mr. Harriman be prosecuted, while other officials of the Government have taken the position that such a prosecution could not be successfully carried out. So far the President has not given any indication as to how he regards the case. It is believed he is not in favor of going any further with the crusade against Mr. Harriman.

The members of the Interstate Commerce Commission are also divided on the question of going after Mr. Harriman for alleged violations of the anti-trust law. Chairman Knapp is known to consider the case as developed against Mr. Harriman of such a character that it would be a matter of great uncertainty as to whether a conviction could be had. These views are believed to be shared by at least two other members of the Commission, though they have refused to state their opinions.

Investigating Japanese Riots.

San Francisco, June 6.—United States District Attorney Robert T. Devlin today took the testimony of three Japanese who were in the Japanese restaurant on Folsom street when that place was wrecked by a mob recently. Their testimony was conflicting and tangled, but did not differ in essentials from that given by two white witnesses examined last Saturday. Mr. Devlin expects to conclude his investigation tomorrow. Mr. Devlin is also investigating the reported importation of Japanese as contract laborers.

Censorship on Mail and News.

New Orleans, June 6.—Passengers arriving tonight on the steamer Anselm from Central American points say that what amounts to a censorship on the mails has been put into effect in Guatemala. Under the new rule they say that all mail must pass through Guatemala City before being distributed. The passengers also say that newspaper-reading in public is now curtailed, and that foreign newspapers are frequently smuggled ashore from incoming vessels.

Japan is Misinformed.

Washington, June 6.—Surprise was expressed here upon reading the Tokio story of Japan's dissatisfaction at the attitude of the United States in the race troubles at San Francisco. Officials here can only conjecture that there has not been a publication in Japan of all the official correspondence, which, it is believed, would favorably affect public opinion toward the United States.

Abandon Garrisons.

Washington, June 7.—Secretary Taft has briefly outlined his policy in regard to the reduction of the garrisons in Western Army posts as follows: "It is not proposed to remove cavalry from Fort Snelling. So far as the cavalry at Fort Assiniboine and Keogh are concerned, the absence of troops in Cuba and the necessity for concentrating squadrons at Fort Assiniboine and Keogh."

Increase in Circulation.

Washington, June 5.—The monthly circulation statement issued June 1 by the Comptroller of the Currency shows that at the close of business May 31, 1907, the total circulation of National bank notes was \$601,940,550, which is an increase for the year of \$42,810,890, and for the month of \$2,026,710.

TOKIO WAR PLOT.

Progressive Party Would Demand Indemnity and Apology.

Washington, June 11.—That the Japanese-Pacific Coast and the Progressives, a political party of Japanese, have entered into an alliance which has the earmarks of an international conspiracy, with the overthrow of the present ministry in Japan and the annulment of the clause in the immigration bill excluding Japanese coolie labor from continental United States, as the ultimate objects, was learned authoritatively here. The preliminary steps in this scheme, it is said, will be to induce the Tokio government to recall Viscount Aoki, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, for the alleged acts of violence against Japanese subjects residing in San Francisco.

With this end in view, representatives of the faction hostile to the Saonji ministry have been in Washington to consult with the Japanese Ambassador and the State Department officials regarding the objectionable clause in the immigration bill, the California school question and the recent riots in San Francisco. The report which they have sent to Tokio, it is alleged, will form the basis of a systematic campaign to bring about anti-American demonstrations in Japan, and to force Minister Hayashi, if possible, to demand indemnity and an apology on account of the Japanese disturbances in San Francisco.

SURVEYS IN OREGON.

Government to Map Bull Run, Kerby and Butter Creek Region.

Washington, June 7.—The Secretary of the Interior has approved of the plans for topographic surveys in Oregon and the allotment of funds for carrying out the same. The work of the season contemplates the survey of the country surrounding the source of Portland's water supply in the Bull Run and Cascade forest reserves, including a part of Mount Hood. The survey will cover an area of 1200 square miles. This entire country will be surveyed and mapped on a large scale, the entire work to cost \$7000.

Another survey will be made of the Kerby country, west of Grant's Pass, lying in the Siskiyou forest reserve, in Southern Oregon. This survey will cover about 900 square miles and cost \$6000.

A third topographic survey will cover a tract of the country on the south bank of the Columbia River along the Umatilla River and Butter Creek, west of Pendleton. The National Government has allotted \$3500 for this work and the state will expend \$2500 additional, under State Engineer J. H. Lewis. The purpose of this survey is to determine the irrigation possibilities of this particular region.

More Water for Panama Canal.

Washington, June 5.—In explanation of the cable report from Panama of the extensive revision in engineering estimates for the Gatun dam and lake, upon the sufficiency of which the success of the entire project depends, the following statement has been issued by the Isthmian Canal Commission: "Detailed surveys which have been completed on the Isthmus show that the area of the great Gatun Lake will be 225 square miles, or double the estimate made in the minority or lock-canal report of the board of consulting engineers."

Captures British Sealer.

Washington, June 7.—The Secretary of the Treasury has received a telegram from Captain Ainsworth, of the revenue cutter Rush, stating that he had seized the British sealing schooner Charlotta G. Cox, which was found illegally catching seals in Fairweather grounds, off Alaska.

The Rush also reported the presence of Japanese sealers in the same vicinity with a large number of seal-skins on board. The Japanese sealers, however, are not subject to seizure outside of territorial waters.

Root Will Visit Mexico.

Washington, June 11.—Ambassador Creel of Mexico presented to Secretary Root an autograph letter from President Diaz, inviting Mr. Root to come to Mexico, as the guest of the Mexican Republic. Mr. Root has accepted the invitation, notifying President Diaz through Ambassador Creel that he will visit Mexico in the latter part of the summer.

Alaska Forest Worthless.

Washington, June 5.—Request has been made by the Forest Service for release from temporary withdrawal of 3,500,000 acres of land at Norton Bay, Alaska. The restoration to the public domain of this land will be made because after careful examination the Forest Service has found it unsuitable for National forest purposes.

New Acting Commissioner.

Washington, June 7.—John C. Capers of South Carolina will be appointed Commissioner of Internal Revenue ad interim until December 1, when Pearl Wight of New Orleans will become Commissioner. Mr. Capers is the member of the Republican National Committee from South Carolina.