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MILLS START BIG INDUSTRY

Nearly a million dollars is being invested in two linen mills at Salem, one is completed and a second one will be built the coming spring. These are in addition to the state plant—and by the way, it is the largest flax manufacturing plant in the United States. These are the foundations for a big industry that will no doubt develop in the Willamette Valley, the state market agent believes.

The permanency of the flax business is what recommends it to any locality that can grow and manufacture flax. There is hardly a pound of waste from the field to the finished products—every part of the growth is utilized in some manner. It is a wonderfully valuable product. And flax growing is about like hay. With normal weather conditions it will yield about two tons to the acre, which the state is paying seventy-six dollars for. Under irrigation the yield is larger.

More than one hundred million dollars' worth of manufactured articles and by-products are imported into this country annually. The Willamette Valley is adapted to both growth and manufacture—soil, moisture, dearth of electricity and mild climate—and as there are nation-wide markets for all flax products it would seem that eventually both growing and manufacture would become major industries and of great benefit to the state. Flax experts who have investigated conditions of the valley state say that it is the only known locality where flax can be both grown and manufactured in the same locality.

The big developments at Salem have come about within the past three years. Governor Withycombe visioned a flax industry and he worked hard to make a demonstration start with prison labor. His failure was due largely to want of practical skill in the undertaking; then unfavorable weather at harvest time and state-wide unfavorable criticism added to his discouragement, and work stopped.

Governor Olcott left the wreck as he found it and advisors of Governor Pierce believed, like Mr. Withycombe, that there was a big future to flax growing and manufacture; that prison manufacturing would not compete with any other like business in Oregon, and he believed that he could make the penitentiary self-sustaining after a time.

The successful demonstrations at the prison have attracted wide attention and the two new linen mills. The prison plant provided the mills with flax in the various stages desired by them. Other mills will undoubtedly come, for it has been practically demonstrated that the much desired long fiber can be grown here in any desired quantity.

Just how fast the farmers of the valley should go into flax growing is a question, and it would be well for any grower to first investigate and know where his crop may be sold before planting; how much acreage the new mills will demand and how much the state will contract for. One of the big drawbacks has been the laborous work of hand pulling, but the state has purchased several machines for this purpose and will pull the farmers' flax at half the cost of hand labor.

LAND SETTLEMENT DEP. ITEMS

Plans for the 1926 land settlement program of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, affiliated with the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce is being discussed throughout the state with the various county Chambers of Commerce in an effort to concentrate the work in a state-wide cooperative organization.

Arthur Foster, manager of the Portland Land Settlement Department, started this week an itinerary which will take in a personal visit to the local chambers for preliminary organization. Later, members of the Land Settlement Committee will cement the program with joint meetings of assistance and encouragement.

On Monday Mr. Foster attended

a filbert meeting at the Salem Chamber of Commerce, the object of which meeting was to create a rural Chamber of Commerce in Marion county to be affiliated with the Salem Chamber of Commerce. While in the capital Mr. Foster discussed the land settlement program with the State Treasurer Thomas Kay and members of the state land board.

Tuesday Mr. Foster visited the chambers of commerce at Newberg and McMinnville. Wednesday cooperative work was started at Dallas and on Thursday Mr. Foster will return to Salem for definite land settlement organization.

Next week Mr. Foster is planning on going to Bend, and the last week of January or the first week of February will in all probability be spent in southern Oregon, where a harvest of land settlement work was accomplished in 1925, and where extensive plans are being made for 1926.

Some time later in the month of February, Mr. Foster will extend his tour to the coast counties. Toledo and Newport have already signified that they are anxious to create land settlement departments in their organizations.

The outlook for the migration of new settlers to Oregon during 1926 is very bright. Mr. Foster states that his records show that hundreds of families are contemplating coming here this year. State Treasurer Kay is in sympathy with the settlement of vacant lands and the vast acreages of logged-off lands, which on account of locality are particularly attractive to settlers of moderate means at this time.

ANNUAL FARMERS' WEEK TO BE HELD AT ASHLAND

Following the usual custom of having an annual Farmers' Week in Jackson county, the meeting for this year will be held in Ashland. Beginning on Tuesday, January 26, a three-day program will be given. Following is the schedule:

Place—Ashland City Hall.
Tuesday, Jan. 26

10 a. m., A. C. Bouquet—Garden and Truck Crops.

11 a. m., F. E. Price—Fertilizers.

1:30 p. m., C. L. Long—Small Fruits

2:30 p. m., A. C. Bouquet—Garden and Truck Crops.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

10 a. m., E. N. Bressman—Farm Crops.

11 a. m., F. C. Reimer—Peaches and Cherries.

1:30 p. m., A. L. Peck—Landscape Gardening.

Thursday, Jan. 28

10 a. m., H. E. Cosby—Poultry Management.

11 a. m., Dr. W. T. Johnson—Poultry Diseases.

1:30 p. m., H. E. Crosby—Poultry Management.

2:30 p. m., Dr. W. T. Johnson—Poultry Diseases.

A serious effort has been made to work up an interesting program for both men and women, and the men listed above from the Resident and Extension Staff of the Oregon Agricultural College and Experiment Station are authorities on the subjects on which they are scheduled. Of special note to the poultry men is the fact that Dr. W. T. Johnson is to talk on Poultry Diseases, a subject which has not been handled in this section before by an authority.

Plan to attend this meeting and bring your neighbor.
Yours very truly,
O. A. C. EXTENSION SERVICE
By R. G. FOWLER, County Club Agent, Jackson County.

AGED RESIDENT PASSES

Rev. I. G. Shaw was called to Medford Wednesday afternoon to conduct funeral services for Mrs. Josephine Wilson, the pastor of that church being in Kansas at this time. Mrs. Wilson was an aged lady and her death occurred at her home on Griffin Creek.

She had been a resident of that section for many years and a daughter, Mrs. John Darby, survives her, also two brothers John and James Griffin, are living.

Funeral services were held at the Conger Undertaking Parlors and interment made in Griffin Creek cemetery.

PLANS BIBLE CLASS DINNER

The committee of arrangements for the Bible class dinner to be held Tuesday, February 9, 7 o'clock p. m., met the first of the week and devolved these plans.

Inasmuch as there is no kitchen equipment accessible that would permit of sufficient cooking to serve the large number of people expected, it seemed advisable as a means of solution to invite each lady to bring a basket containing enough food for herself and husband, with a little extra for possible visitors.

Each person will bring and be responsible for his own cup, knife, fork and spoon, the class furnishing the plates, also hot coffee, cream and sugar will be provided.

As a suggestion of foods from which to select what the ladies wish to bring the following list is offered: meat, sandwiches, salads, jellies and pickles and where it is convenient it is desired that a hot dish be brought, such as baked beans, scalloped potatoes, macaroni and cheese, etc.

Any further information desired may be gained by phoning Mrs. F. E. Stephenson, Mrs. J. E. Weaver, Mrs. J. N. Cornutt or Mrs. J. O. Isaacson.

We should add that any bachelor who does not find it convenient to bring a lady or a basket will do his part by helping pay for coffee, cream and sugar. Anyway, be sure that you are there.

MEDFORD WILL BE AIR MAIL CENTER

With the recent announcement that Vern C. Gorst, of North Bend, Ore., had been awarded the coast contract for the air mail service, plans laid by the postal service early last summer became a reality.

Under these plans, Medford will be a regular station for the air mail, with the landing field probably located near the fair grounds. Planes from the north are due here at 1:15 p. m., and from the south at 10:35 a. m. This arrangement gives the city a twice-a-day service which connects up with all coast points and with the eastern part of the country.

April 1 has been fixed as the date on which the new service will start. Ten airplanes, each with 200-horse power motors and capable of traveling 35 miles an hour, will be used. The present time of 37 hours between Seattle and San Francisco will be cut to nine hours, and local mail will get correspondingly speedy service.

The Medford postoffice, it is expected, will be the clearing house for all air mail for southern Oregon and northern California points.—Jackson County News.

JUDGE GARDNER MEETS DEATH

The people of Jackson county and other parts of southern Oregon are shocked to hear of the death this week of Geo. A. Gardner, of Medford and Jacksonville, at the Community hospital last Monday night.

Mr. Gardner was known almost entirely by the name of Judge Gardner, as he acquired that title while serving as county judge during a term of six years.

He was prominent in building up community interests, especially in Jacksonville and Jackson county, and was connected in membership with several fraternal orders, including the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World, and Modern Woodmen. His wife and daughter survive him.

Funeral services are announced for next Sunday afternoon, 2:30 o'clock, at the Presbyterian church in Medford.

AND STILL MORE BUILDING

The following building permits have been issued since the passing of the city ordinance requiring the same, which were furnished by City Clerk Hatfield. We were unable to get complete data of the many structures built previous to this time. The list of permits:

November 24, 1925 a building permit was issued to Hattie F. Taylor to construct a garage and woodshed on Sixth street, Lot 5, Block 37.

Nov. 27, to W. E. Chauncey, frame cottage, on the east side of Sixth street, Lot 4, Block 67.

Dec. 9, frame residence on South Pine street, Sam Poague, owner.

Dec. 19, to L. O. Davidson, house and garage, north side of Ash street.

Jan. 4, 1926, to C. A. Caseday, house, garage, woodshed, north side of Manzanita street.

Jan. 6, 1926, Mrs. Mary Price, frame bungalow, south side Manzanita street.

January 7, to W. W. Limbeck, garage, on Fifth street.

Owing to the general agricultural development, new settlers, subdivisions and the large increase in the local sawmill payroll, the new building owners are assured of the soundness of their business ventures.

There are several good contractors and builders now making their home in Central Point. If you are considering building, get their bids as they can save you money.

OWEN-OREGON COMPANY PLAN GREAT EXPANSION

A budget calling for the expenditure of approximately \$900,000 for improvements on their local plant, has been approved by the executive committee of the Owen-Oregon Lumber company, according to an announcement made by Manager J. H. Owen of Medford.

Of this amount, \$300,000 is for the building of a modern, electrically equipped mill, with a daily capacity, double shift, of 320,000 feet. This improvement is still in abeyance, and a final decision will be made within the next two weeks. Plans for the new mill have been drawn.

The increase in the size of the mill's payroll is of especial interest to Central Point, as there are approximately 40 families living here, the heads of which are mill employees. The mill being located on the northern outskirts of Medford, those living here find it convenient to drive to work. This number indicates that people are realizing the advantages to be gained from living in Central Point because of the much cheaper living facilities as regards, rent, taxes, general living expenses, and the education of their children.

The local merchants sell at better prices because of this lower rent and taxes. True, there are towns with more stores, but few with larger stocks or stocks that are turned more often.

MANY HEAR SOUSA

On Wednesday afternoon and evening of this week John Phillip Sousa and his famous band entertained the people of this section at the Armory in Medford.

Many were in attendance from every direction and we daresay, none were disappointed in the performance. Every man was an artist and we feel that Sousa and his musicians have truly won the distinction and honor they enjoy.

The program was made up of several famous classical numbers, a vocal number of merit by a Miss Moody, a beautiful selection on the harp, the harpist's name not known to us, a few popular numbers, a little jazz, and the concluding numbers were the ever thrilling ones of "The Stars and Stripes Forever," composed by Sousa, and "The Star Spangled Banner."

CO. SUPERINTENDENT GIVEN RESPONSIBLE POSITION

Mrs. Susanne Homes Carter, our county Superintendent of Public Instruction, was elected vice-president of the Oregon State Teachers' association at a recent meeting in Portland.

Jackson county has ranked high in many state movements and now we point with pride to another achievement by one of our workers.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Boles drove to Medford Thursday evening to take their son Rolin, and a few others to the Scout meeting.

TO VOTE ON BOND ISSUE

Our district school board has been devoting considerable time of late considering plans submitted by architects from Medford, Salem and other points.

At a meeting held Wednesday night arrangements were completed to submit the proposition of issuing bonds for the erection of a new school building, to the voters of this district on February 11, 1926.

It is estimated that the proposed building will cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

P. T. A. CLUB NEWS

Miss Helen Cowgill, the Assistant State Club leader in Oregon, will be in Medford Saturday, January 23 to meet the club leaders, parent-teacher leaders and parents of club children of the districts adjoining Medford. This includes Central Point, Table Rock, Oak Grove, and Lone Pine.

It is hoped that former leaders, parents and teachers will take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about 4-H club work and to meet others who are interested in this important part of a child's education.

The meeting will be held in the Medford Public Library at 2 p. m., Saturday, January 23.

Two sewing clubs have already been organized in Central Point, with Miss Olva Hesselgrave and Miss Gladys Bond as leaders.

The parent-teacher circle has taken the responsibility for good club work upon its shoulders, with the following leaders:
Mrs. Warren Patterson, Chairman
Mrs. J. L. Burger
Mrs. Myrl Watson
Miss Hazel Stevenson
Mrs. A. T. Lathrop, president of the circle.

One hundred percent club is the goal for this year, which means that every child who enrolls and completes his work and makes a report. With the parents' co-operation this can be done.

HOME ECONOMICS

On Wednesday, January 27th, at 12 o'clock at the Lithia Springs Hotel, Ashland, there will be a luncheon for the women of the county. The Ashland ladies will have charge of the program. At 1:15 p. m. the meeting will adjourn to hear Professor Feck of the Oregon Agricultural College on "Landscape Gardening" as applied to Southern Oregon homes.

The cost of the lunch is 60c, and any ladies in this community wishing reservations made please call Mrs. A. T. Lathrop before Monday, January 25th.

Thursday afternoon, January 28th from 1:30 to 2:30 p. m., Miss Maud Wilson who has recently joined the staff of the Oregon Experiment Station and will do research work in Home Economics under the Prunell Bill, will talk about her work and how the women of Oregon may assist her, and the results she expects to attain.

NEW GIRL SCOUTS

(Scout Hall, Christian Science Church)
The Girl Scouts are a sister organization of the Boy Scouts. Having the same principles and high ideals.

Each meeting covers Scout work—First Aid, Practical Knowledge, Games and Song. Mrs. C. E. Bolds is Acting Captain, and has assumed leadership of the Girl Scouts until a regular captain has been secured. The girls are gaining interest each meeting under the able directions of Lieutenant Beeson.

Every girl between the age of 12 and 18 years is cordially invited to visit and become a Girl Scout. Regular meeting Wednesday, 4 p. m.

L. F. Pickett, who was formerly a partner in the Faber Store, is assisting in the store this week during the absence of Mr. Maple, who is ill and is confined to his home.