

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

Medford's fire damage during the last nine months was only \$40,395.72.

The general indebtedness of the city of Pendleton was reduced by \$24,000 during 1923.

No automobile show will be held in Eugene this winter or spring, according to a decision of dealers of the city.

A total of 427 accidents in Oregon industries were reported to the state industrial accident commission during the week ending January 17.

One hundred and twenty-five men are now engaged in clearing the right of way for the government section of the Roseburg-Readsfort highway.

A census taken by 25 high school boys under the direction of automobile dealers showed that 964 of 1716 families in Astoria own automobiles.

The January campaign against accidents carried on by the employees of the Crown-Willamette paper mills at Oregon City has proved a big success.

Protest has been made by Willamette valley farmers over the new rail rates on hay from eastern Oregon to Willamette valley and Coos bay points.

The prohibition force for Jackson county, whose expenses have been running from \$350 to \$1500 a month, has been reduced by the county court to three men.

Some movement in hops is again in evidence in the Willamette valley, but, according to dealers, it is in the nature of a flurry and promises no permanent results.

Sam A. Koser, since May 23, 1920, secretary of state, has announced that he will be a candidate for reelection at the republican primary contest to be held May 16.

Crews are being assembled at Dee, where work will be started soon on construction of a new concrete dam across Hood River by the Oregon Lumber company.

Bids for the improvement of approximately 84 miles of road will be opened at a meeting of the state highway commission to be held in Portland February 4 and 5.

A favorable report has been made by the senate commerce committee on the bill giving the consent of congress to the construction of a bridge across the Columbia at Cascades.

North Powder's financial standing seems to be good. The treasurer and recorder report that the city will be out of debt in a year with the exception of the bonded indebtedness.

H. C. Topping, sheriff of Jefferson county, missing for several weeks following the discovery of a \$2000 shortage in his accounts, has sent his badge and keys to the county seat at Madras.

Stenographers at Salem are addressing more than 70,000 envelopes in which will be enclosed income tax return blanks under the state law enacted at the last session of the legislature and approved by the voters.

Freight and passenger traffic was suspended on the Southern Pacific line between Eugene and Coos Bay when logs rolling from a train in tunnel fifteen, at Canary, jammed the tunnel and brought down some of the walls.

Application for authority to construct a three-mile branch line in Umatilla county, extending from its main line to Umapine, was filed with the interstate commerce commission by the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company.

According to the official report issued by Dr. J. F. Rankin, dairy herd and meat inspector, Clatsop county is practically free of bovine tuberculosis. Of the 6618 head of cattle tested by him during 1923, only 1.63 per cent reacted to the tuberculosis test.

Acquisition of between 800,000,000 and 1,000,000,000 feet of timber in the eastern part of Tillamook county by the Shanghai Building company, federally incorporated, with headquarters at Shanghai, China, was announced in Portland. Nearly \$4,000,000 is involved.

Parents of children under eighteen who are allowed to roam the streets after 9 o'clock at night are to be arrested and prosecuted under charges of contributing to the delinquency of minors, it was decided at a conference of all juvenile law enforcement officers in Portland.

The total bonded indebtedness of the state of Oregon on December 31, 1923, was \$69,246,830, according to the annual report of O. P. Hoff, state treasurer. Highway bonds top the list with obligations aggregating \$38,395,250. World war veterans state aid bonds total \$20,000,000, district interest bonds \$1,491,530, and rural credit bonds \$450,000.

Seventeen hundred and twenty-seven seagoing vessels entered the Columbia river during the 1923 season of navigation, according to a report issued at the office of the deputy collector of customs at Astoria. This immense fleet represented a net registered tonnage of 4,323,830.

The last of the 1923 wool clip of Lake county was sold a few days ago to Eiseman Brothers at 35 1/2 cents a pound. There were 189,000 pounds of wool in the lot, which included clips belonging to O'Keefe brothers, J. D. Kellaher, J. H. Owen, O'Connor brothers and J. L. Lyon.

Indications of an early spring are seen in many parts of Eugene. Various bulb plants such as hyacinths, daffodils and crocuses are shooting up through the ground, wild flowering currant vines are beginning to show their pink blossoms and lilac bushes are budding and showing green.

The controversy over increase in grazing fees in national forests is temporarily settled with a ruling by the secretary of agriculture against any change, according to George H. Cecil, district forester at Portland. The continued depression of the livestock industry is given as reason for the action.

The Oregon public service commission has concurred with the Idaho public service commission in fixing the valuations of the Idaho Power company for rate making purposes. It was necessary for the two commissions to consider the valuations jointly in that the company operates extensively in both Oregon and Idaho.

Repeal of the law making it possible for the governor to send special prosecutors into counties of the state to supplant district attorneys, or amendment to the present law authorizing an appropriation with which to employ permanently a man for this work, will be submitted to the legislature at its next session by I. H. Van Winkle, attorney-general.

Just when Oregon motorists will be held subject to arrest for not equipping their cars with 1924 license plates has not been determined by the secretary of state, according to announcement. Approximately 3000 applications for licenses are being received daily, and it is because of this fact that the secretary of state has been lenient with car owners.

A new kind of pocket gopher is making its appearance in the Willamette valley and threatens to become a serious pest unless it is checked immediately, according to Ira N. Gabrielson, rodent inspector of the United States biological survey. The district south of Oregon City has been visited by the rodents. The gophers are about the size of a mole and are more destructive than the common variety of pocket gopher.

Ralph R. Lewis, poultryman of Odell in Hood River county, received word from the officials of the Puyallup, Wash., laying contest that his entry of five Single Comb Rhode Island Red birds stood second among all entries and first among all heavy breeds for the month of December. The pen laid 133 eggs or about 86 per cent. This is declared to establish a world's record for the breed for one month's laying at a public contest.

The public service commission has announced the establishment of joint through rates, effective February 19, between Gypsum, eastern Oregon, on the Oregon Short Line, and points on the lines of the Southern Pacific south of Portland on carload shipments of wall plaster, land plaster and gypsum rock. The new carload rate on a 60,000-pound car of land plaster to Eugene is 26 1/2 cents for 100 pounds, a reduction of 7 1/2 cents for 100 pounds, or 45 per cent.

Reductions in automobile insurance rates which may result in a saving of as high as \$200,000 in premiums to the motorists of Oregon in a year were made public when new insurance manuals were received in Portland. The reduction involves about 90 per cent of the insurance companies doing automobile coverage in Oregon. According to the new manual, fire and theft insurance has been reduced an average of 15 per cent. Liability insurance rates, it is estimated, have been cut 20 per cent on the average, while collision insurance has been cut 50 per cent on the average.

Permission to build 32 miles of railroad from Crane to Burns in the Oregon timber section was granted the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company by the interstate commerce commission. The new road already under construction, is being built to bring out the timber in the Malheur national forest in northern Malheur county purchased by Fred Herrick. Mr. Herrick has been conducting grading operations and the work will be carried to completion by the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company. The road from Crane to Burns will connect with a logging road of 80 miles from Burns north to Seneca in the heart of the timber to be milled. The 80-mile link is to be a common carrier, and it also is under construction by Mr. Herrick.

INCOME TAX IN NUTSHELL

WHO? Single persons who had net income of \$1,000 or more or gross income of \$5,000 or more, and married couples who had net income of \$2,000 or more or gross income of \$5,000 or more must file returns.

WHEN? The filing period is from January 1 to March 15, 1924.

WHERE? Collector of internal revenue for the district in which the person lives or has his principal place of business.

HOW? Instruction on Form 1040A and Form 1040; also the law and regulations.

WHAT? Four per cent normal tax on the first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the personal exemption and credits for dependents. Eight per cent normal tax on balance of net income. Surtax from 1 per cent to 50 per cent on net incomes over \$6,000 for the year 1923.

TIPS FOR TAXPAYERS

No. 4
In making out his income-tax return for the year 1923 the business man, professional man, and farmer will be required to use Form 1040, regardless of whether his net income was or was not in excess of \$5,000. The smaller form, 1040A, is used for reporting net income of \$5,000 or less derived chiefly from salary or wages. All items of gross income must be reported. In the case of a storekeeper gross income usually consists of the gross profits on sales, together with income from other sources. The return must show the gross sales, purchases, and cost of goods sold.

The professional man, lawyer, doctor, dentist, must include all fees and other compensation for professional services. The farmer must report as gross income the proceeds of sale or exchange of products raised on the farm and the profits from the sale of products purchased by him and resold. He must also report gross income from all other sources. Taxpayers, in order to take full advantage of the deductions to which they are entitled, are advised to study carefully the instructions on the forms under the head "Income from business or profession."

Dr. S. Ralph Dippel, Dentist, Vitus building, Springfield, Oregon.

G. M. Spague, Mutual Life Insurance Co., Eugene, Ore., Phone 877

EDITOR OF GRASS VALLEY JOURNAL PASSES

William I. Westerfield, editor of the Grass Valley Journal for the past 26 years, died suddenly at his home of heart failure, at 7 o'clock Sunday evening, January 13, 1924, at the age of 69 years and one month.

The funeral services were held in the Grass Valley Auditorium Friday morning at 10 o'clock, the Rev. E. B. Johnson, of the Baptist church, conducted the services, after which the body was taken to Portland and laid to its final rest by the side of his daughter in Riverview cemetery.

William I. Westerfield was born at Lafayette, Yamhill county, Oregon, December 13, 1853. He came to Grass Valley in the fall of 1898 and took charge of the Grass Valley Journal and has been actively engaged in its publication up to the time of his death.

Mr. Westerfield was an active worker for all business and social activities that were of benefit to the community in which he lived and the county at large.

He was a member of Odd Fellows and Encampment lodges of Grass Valley.

Besides his wife he leaves a son, Floyd C. of Springfield, Oregon, two daughters, Mrs. Alvina Shodall and Miss Veda of Los Angeles, California, two brothers, George of Portland and Alexander of McMinnville, Oregon, and a host of friends throughout Sherman county who mourn his loss. —Grass Valley Journal.

FARM REMINDERS

(From O. A. C. Experiment Station)
The 1924 spray program which is off the press may be obtained by writing to the Oregon Agricultural college.

During the breeding season examine the male bird frequently to see that he is in good flesh. A tomato can wired to the side of the pens just out of reach of the hens makes a good place to feed the male and insures him getting his necessary feed.

Growers that have peaches susceptible to leaf curl are urged to spray before the end of this month. Chances of failure increase rapidly after the fore part of February because the tips of the buds come out then and

the infection is likely. Bordeaux mixture in the proportion of 4-6-50 is the spray used.

One rooster to 18 to 20 hens with the lighter breeds, and 10 to 15 birds of the heavier breeds is customary. This should give fertility and hatchability. An extra rooster is more desirable than one too few.

Several farmers growing potatoes on Weston mountain this year got a 12 1/2 per cent increase in yield by using landplaster on the cut potatoes. This treatment appears to preserve the seed pieces in the soil and is especially effective in rather cold, damp soils where sprouting is slow.

A larger proportion of bone-meal and oyster shell is consumed by the pullets when they start laying than later in the season. Pullets start laying before they have reached maturity, and minerals are needed for both growth and egg production until they are mature. Keep a supply of these necessary materials in a convenient

place for the birds.

Considerable alfalfa will probably be planted on the river bottom and other warm, well-drained soils of western Oregon next April and May. Stanning to secure the seed of the genuine Grimm alfalfa seed before stocks are depleted and to anticipate needs for landplaster which usually helps in getting a stand of alfalfa, is recommended by the station.

February is the month to sow red and alsike clover. This planting is usually made on fall grain the last two weeks of the month. Light freezing and thawing, or rains, usually serve to cover the seed. The clover seed business demands pure seed, consequently seed to be planted should be free from buckhorn. The experiment station seed laboratory makes seed tests free of charge, so anyone can know whether his seed is good.

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