

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Postal savings on deposit at the Astoria postoffice December 1 amounted to \$351,788, an increase of \$5000 during November.

Ground was broken in Klamath Falls last week for the construction of a two-story brick garage to cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

The Madras state bank, which closed December 10, 1926, has declared a 50 per cent dividend to all commercial depositors and paid all savings accounts December 19.

More than 12,000 people from all parts of the United States and Canada visited Klamath Falls and the Klamath basin during the tourist season from June 1 to December 1.

Winfield Charles Clarke of Klamath Falls has been named by President Coolidge a candidate for West Point military academy. He will take the examination March 6, 1928.

Yamhill county's share of the state market roads for 1928 is to be \$34,943 or \$1189 more than the 1927 apportionment. The county is to match this from its own road fund.

Owners of property in the city of Astoria in 1928 will pay a tax levy of approximately .92 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, as estimated by Charles Henrys, county assessor.

Seven years in prison and a fine of \$2500 was the sentence imposed upon J. V. Burke, convicted president of the defunct Bank of Kenton in Portland, by Circuit Judge Stevenson, last week.

After four weeks of rigid quarantine the city of Marshfield lifted the ban at midnight last Friday. Schools reopened Monday, after being closed for four weeks on account of infantile paralysis.

Checks distributed during the past week by the receiver of the First National bank of Bandon brought the total liquidation of the bank's affairs up to 75 per cent. The institution failed two years ago.

Approximately two-thirds of Oregon's 130,000-pound mint oil crop has been sold, according to statements made by Salem dealers. The growers received an average of \$2.59 a pound for their product.

Mrs. Gemma Beach, 85, pioneer resident of Ontario, passed away in her sleep last Friday night. When she died last Saturday morning her aged husband went to ascertain the cause and found her dead.

Prominent Odd Fellows from all over the northwest gathered at Salem last week and participated in the diamond jubilee celebration conducted by Chemeketa lodge No. 1, the oldest lodge of the order west of the Rockies.

The interstate bridge will be made free of tolls, save for common carriers, December 31, 1928, according to a tentative agreement which was reached between the Oregon state highway commission and the Multnomah county commission, at a conference in Portland last week.

A representative of the state banking department will have charge of the liquidation of the defunct Farmers and Stockgrowers' bank of Vale, according to a decision reached at a meeting of the state banking board at Salem last week. The bank failed to open its doors Monday.

James M. Smith, Marion county commissioner, has issued a call for all county judges and commissioners in the state to meet in Portland January 25 and 26 to consider the proposed initiative measure looking to a reduction of motor vehicle license fees in Oregon to \$3 per year.

L. G. L'Veiling, district attorney of Linn county, was elected president of the Linn County Bar association at its annual meeting in Albany last week. A. S. Tassing of Brownsville was named vice-president; M. D. Shanks, Lebanon, treasurer, and C. C. Bryant, Albany, secretary.

Klamath basin as a seed pea source for California is regarded as a possibility, following an investigation of climate and soil conditions by a representative of the California Packing corporation. Officials of the packing corporation have tentatively agreed to provide seed for approximately 100 acres of Klamath land as an experiment.

President Coolidge has signed an executive order withdrawing from the public domain rocks and pinnacles along the Oregon coast. The order was made that the coast may be protected against misuse and the marring of its scenery.

The fifth anniversary of the fire that destroyed the heart of Astoria in 1922 was observed last week with speeches describing the big strides in progress and recovery the city has made in the past five years. Newspapers printed special editions.

Shipping of Christmas trees has become a large industry at Sandy this season, and for the first time carlots are being forwarded. Everett Bros. of Sandy are loading their fifth car for W. E. Gilbert, which will leave the docks Saturday for California. One car has also been shipped to Chicago.

Establishment of a radio broadcasting station in Salem will be undertaken within the next few days by J. R. Hughes and K. B. Aldrich of Portland. This was announced after information had been received from Washington that a permit would be issued by the federal radio commission.

Medford is ready to accept the community chest method of charity distribution. This was decided by prominent business men at the joint meeting last week of the chamber of commerce and the Lions club, at which members of the victorious Medford high school football squad were guests of honor.

Central Oregon stock will go into the winter of 1927-28 in the best condition in recent years, due to unusual fall range conditions. An abundance of green grass, still free from snow, covers the midstate range lands. The sheepmen and cattlemen in Crook, Jefferson, Deschutes and Lake counties have plenty of hay.

Lee Love and James Cooper, both pioneer residents of Douglas county, fell dead within a few hours of each other last week. Mr. Love died of heart disease while working in the barnyard at his home in Canas valley and Mr. Cooper collapsed and died while watching men unload stock near his home in North Roseburg.

With laying of steel completed, contractors have only six days of surfacing and after that approximately two weeks of trimming left before the Great Northern extension south from Bend to a connection with the Southern Pacific at Chemult will be ready for trains. It is expected that work will be finished by December 20.

Ticket validations in Portland between May 15 and October 31, the tourist season, totaled 12,756, or a gain of a fraction more than 10 per cent over the 11,591 reported for the same period of 1926, according to the report just made public. The figures give a fairly accurate check on the growth of rail tourist travel enjoyed by that city.

Strict enforcement of all laws affecting the importation of nut trees into Oregon, and steps looking toward the enactment of additional laws for the protection of the nut growing industry of the state, were urged upon the state board of horticulture in resolutions passed by the Western Nut Growers' association in its closing session at Salem last week.

A timber sale, resulting in the disposal of seven tracts of government timber on grant lands in five counties, was conducted by the Roseburg land office last week. The government realized \$92,626.17. The next sale is to be held January 16, and it is expected that the coming sale will be one of the largest to be conducted for several years. It will include some valuable timber lying east of Portland.

Enthusiasm for the proposed new road from Portland to the Clatsop beaches via Vernonia was augmented at a meeting in the grange hall in Vernonia with representatives of Portland, Seaside, Banks and Vernonia present. A resolution was adopted pointing out that since the new route would be about 40 miles shorter than the present Columbia highway and the expense of widening the present highway about the same as building the new road, the highway commission be asked to give early consideration to surveys of a short road from Portland to the seashore.

One-fifth of the net land area of Oregon and Washington is embraced within the boundaries of national forests, according to a statement for the last fiscal year issued from headquarters of the North Pacific district at Portland. There are 22 national forests in this district, covering a total net area of 22,959,974 acres—13,229,369 acres in Oregon, 9,352,103 acres in Washington and 377,602 acres in northern California.

A public meeting to consider an appropriation of \$275,000 for the construction of a courthouse was called for Roseburg, January 21, in an order signed by the Douglas county court. The court recently set aside \$260,000 from the Oregon & California grant land funds for this purpose and is adding \$75,000 already on hand, but in order to comply with the law must call a public meeting before the expenditure can be authorized.

A peppermint oil factory has been started in Salem quietly and is now running steadily at a capacity of 25 pounds per hour, it is announced. The plant is owned by L. O. Herrold, and is soon to be increased to 225 pounds per hour capacity.

The John DeWalt and O. J. Goar partnership boar went on a rampage last Saturday near Seio and attacked the horses belonging to these men, with the result that one of Mr. Goar's horses was so badly poisoned from the animals' tusks it had to be killed.

"BLACKSHEEP"

(Continued from Page 5)

"If this reaches you, remain near at hand until I can see you. Please understand I promise nothing, but it is very possible that you may be able to serve me. My aunt is giving a party for me Thursday night. I must leave it to you as to how best to arrange for a short interview the day following. A very dear friend needs help. The matter is urgent.

The match curled and fell upon Archie's fingers. A tense silence lay upon the garden. The Governor clasped Archie's hand tightly.

"It's about time for us to clear out," would come! And something tells me I am near the end. Even with all my faith, boy, it's staggering. And this is the very night of the dance."

"It's about time for us to clear out," Archie remarked.

"What! Leave this sacred soil when she's here? Not on your life, Archie! I shall not leave until I've had speech with her." The festive occasion offered an ideal opportunity for the meeting! It's going to be a big affair and we can merge with the happy throng and trust to our wits to get us out alive.

He urged Archie, still resisting, through the grounds to the front entrance, where they were admitted with several other guests who arrived at the moment. The stately old lady in the drawing room lifted a lognette as they approached, smiled affably and gave the Governor her hand.

"Mrs. Lindsay, my friend, Mr. Comly. He arrived unexpectedly an hour ago and I thought you wouldn't mind my bringing him along.

"I should have been displeased if you had hesitated a moment—my friend of yours, you know!"

Other arrivals facilitated their escape, and as they stepped into the conservatory the music ceased and there was a flutter as the dancers sought their seats, or stepped out upon the lawn. Archie, acutely uncomfortable, heard the Governor stifle an exclamation.

"That is she! Stand by me now! Our chance!" That chap's just left her. This is our chance!

A young woman was just seating herself in a chair at the farther end of the conservatory. The Governor moved toward her quickly. Archie saw her lift her head suddenly and her lips parted as though she was about to make an outcry. Then the

Governor bowed low over her hand, uttering explanations in a low tone. Her surprise had yielded to what Archie, loitering behind, thought an expression of relief and satisfaction. He moved forward as the Governor turned toward him.

"Miss Hastings, Mr. Comly."

"My name here," the Governor was saying, "is Saulsbury."

"I think," said Archie, "that the moment has come for me to retire."

"We shall not turn you adrift!" cried Ruth. "I have a very dear friend I must introduce you to."

"Oh, Isabel!"

Following her gaze he was glad of the slight pressure of her hand on his arm. Here at least was something tangible in a world that tottered toward chaos. For it was Isabel Perry who turned at the sound of Ruth's voice.

"Miss Perry, Mr. Comly!"

"Oh, Mr. Comly!" There was the slightest stress on the assumed name. "After this dance—"

She slipped away, leaving him staring, and Archie, in a dash, led Ruth back to the Governor.

At the conclusion of the number, Isabel remained, to Archie's discomfort, at the farther end of the platform, and when he hurried forward in the hope of detaching her from the group that surrounded her she did not see him at all, which was wholly discouraging. A partner sought her for the next dance and as the music struck up he made bold to accost her.

"I am not to be eluded!" he said. "I must have at least one dance!"

"My card is filled—but I am reserving a boon for you! You shall have the intermission."

He passed Ruth, returning to put herself in the path of her next partner. "This is your punishment for coming late!" laughed the girl. There was happiness in her eyes. "How perfectly ridiculous you two men are!"

"Suppose we talk a bit," said the Governor when they had found a bench on the lawn.

"It's nearing the end!" he said solemnly. "There are other changes and chances, perhaps, but the end is in sight. The whole thing was unalterable from the beginning; it makes little difference what we do now. And it's you—it's you that have brought it all about. We are bound together by ties not of earthly making."

"You are beginning to believe at last?"

"I don't know what to believe," Archie answered slowly. "Just how much do you understand of it?"

"Precious little! Your Isabel and my Ruth are friends, quite intimate friends indeed. That's news to you, isn't it?"

"Most astonishing news!"

"And now I'll prepare you a little for what I prefer you should hear from Isabel—I got it from Ruth—"

pistol shot in the Congdon house. It was echoing round the world!"

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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Hurry! Hurry!! Hurry!!! Only 8 More Shopping Days Till Christmas