

# NATIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

## NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

### DIFFICULTIES FOR POSTAL BANKS

#### Other Securities Beside Municipal, State and County Bonds Suggested.

Washington—In the opinion of the postmaster of one of the larger cities in the State of Washington, difficulty will be experienced in that state if state, county or municipal bonds are required as security for postal savings funds to be deposited in national and state banks under the provisions of the new postal savings bank law. Other forms of security, equally as good, in the judgment of this postmaster, will have to be accepted by the government, or the banks will be unable, in a great many instances, to receive the postal bank funds.

The new law authorizes the deposit of these postal bank funds in properly inspected state or national banks, and provides further that "the board of trustees shall take from such banks such securities in public bonds or other securities, supported by the taxing power, as the board may prescribe, approve and deem sufficient and necessary to insure the safety and prompt payment of such deposits on demand."

The postmaster in question, whose name is withheld at the request of the postmaster-general, has laid before the department a suggestion which seems to have considerable merit, and which may facilitate the opening of postal banks in the State of Washington if it is acted upon. The suggestion appears to have merit, and deals with a situation which must be met when the postal banks begin business.

#### FARMERS GET HIGH PRICES.

#### Alaska Offers Truckers Chance of Quick Fortune.

Washington—"How would you like to be a truck farmer in Alaska?"

This is a hypothetical question asked by the United States Department of Agriculture in an official report from the department. The report says:

"Would you care to run a truck farm with strawberries selling at \$1.25 to \$2 a quart, cucumbers \$2 to \$5 a dozen; celery 50 cents each, tomatoes 50 cents to \$1 a pound, and other products at proportionate prices? Or would you prefer general farming with a few pigs and chickens as a side line, with hay selling at \$60 to \$100 a ton, hogs 20 cents a pound, young pigs 75 cents a pound, and eggs \$2 a dozen?"

"These prices are received in Alaska under favorable market conditions, but the prospective settler should consider the difficulties and expense of farming as well as the high prices of his products."

"Alaska is not generally given much consideration from an agricultural standpoint, and yet, despite the rigorous climate, a large variety of grains, small fruits and vegetables is being successfully grown."

#### MISSION NOT UNDERSTOOD.

#### Filipino Asks Dickinson for Boon Congress Alone Could Grant.

Manila—Jacob M. Dickinson, the American Secretary of War, has found it necessary to define the limitations of a cabinet officer and explain to the Filipinos the nature of his visit to their country.

At Lucena a reception was given in honor of Mr. Dickinson and Governor-General Forbes, and one of the members of the assembly who was presented to the secretary urged immediate independence for the islands. Another assemblyman, as alternative, urged a popular constitution and an elective senate.

Secretary Dickinson, in replying, stated that there were limitations to the position of a cabinet officer, and regretted the Filipinos apparently had been misinformed as to the significance and purpose of his visit. He told them that congress was the only place where the political status of the islands could be discussed.

#### Ohio Man for Ballinger's Job.

Washington—A persistent rumor that President Taft had offered the portfolio of the interior department to President W. O. Thompson, of the Ohio State University, is attracting attention. It is in the way of confirmation of the report that Senator Crane's recent trip into the West was made for the purpose of suggesting to Ballinger that he should resign from the cabinet. Much credit is given to the Thompson rumor. It is known he is in favor with progressives in his state, also numbering many regular Republicans among his supporters.

#### It Is Up to the President.

Washington—Secretary Ballinger has sent word to Beverly that he will resign any time he is asked to do so by the president, but not until then. This is the report that is current here. The secretary made plain this attitude to Senator Crane in Minneapolis, a fortnight ago, and the senator has communicated it to the president. This report adds color to the growing impression that in the effort to get rid of Ballinger, Cannon and Aldrich without soiling his hands, the president has come to grief.

#### Appeal for Jailed Americans.

Douglas, Ariz.—Appealed to by four of its members who were in prison at Guaymas, Mexico, and denied release on bail, the Order of Railroad Conductors asked the Washington government to intervene. No formal charges have been lodged against the four imprisoned conductors. The Mexicans hold them upon the broad ground of violation of the railroad regulations.

### COAL LAND THROWN OPEN.

#### Farmers May Make Surface Entry on Large Tract in Dakotas.

Washington—A delegation from North and South Dakota, headed by Governor Vassey from the latter state, conferred with the Interior department officials seeking an order looking to the surface entry of about 1,000,000 acres of withdrawn coal lands in the two states. The Dakotas were informed that the department already had taken practically the action for which they came to Washington.

Temporary regulations have been issued explaining the withdrawal of lands was subject, under the law, to surface acquisition, reserving the coal for the United States. William B. Newman, law examiner of the general land office, they were informed, had been sent to Lemmon, S. D., the headquarters of the Dakota land district, to assist in expediting the settlement of the agricultural claims.

### CHINA TAKING NEW TACK.

#### Minister Calhoun Reports Move in Empire's Government.

Washington—William J. Calhoun, American minister to China has notified the state department of a number of governmental innovations there which convinced the State department that an energetic and business-like management of affairs is to be expected from the Chinese empire.

The United States government is understood to be pleased with the elevation of Tong Shao Yi as acting president of the imperial board of posts and communications to take the place of Hau Shi Chang, who, with Prince Yi Lu Lang, has just been advanced to the grand council.

Tong is a graduate of Yale and a protégé of the Viceroy Yuan Shi Kai, under whom he advanced rapidly after the troubles of 1900.

### CASH FOR NATIONAL GUARD.

#### War Department Announces Apportionment of Militia Fund.

Washington—The war department has announced apportionment of \$4,000,000, the appropriation made by congress for militia of various states. Of this total fund allotted according to congressional representation and militia strength of respective states, Oregon will receive \$36,137, Washington will receive \$33,632 and Idaho \$21,032. This fund will be disbursed for the following purposes:

	Oregon	Wash.	Idaho
Arms and equipment	\$11,736	\$14,670	\$5,902
Rifle practice	2,911	4,530	2,354
Ammunition	7,206	5,571	3,745
Supplies	13,282	12,912	5,500

Enlisted strength of militia of various states is reported as follows: Oregon, 1,415; Washington, 1,244; Idaho, 642.

#### Third Degree Probe On.

San Francisco—As a member of the senatorial committee appointed at the last session of congress to investigate the methods of obtaining testimony in Federal courts, involving an inquiry into the so-called "third degree," United States Senator William J. Stone, of Missouri, began the hearing of evidence in this city.

He opened the investigation alone, his colleague, Senator Borah, not having arrived from Idaho. The charge that undue influence was brought to bear to secure the conviction of Dr. E. B. Perrine, accused of land frauds, is one of the matters being considered.

#### New Tariff Increases Imports.

Washington—Importations into the United States during the first year of the operation of the Payne tariff law were larger than in any previous year, as also was the value of those entering free of duty. The customs receipts, amounting to \$327,873,672, were larger than in any previous year except 1907, while the monthly average of customs receipts under the Dingley, Wilson or McKinley laws.

#### Warship Builder Retires.

Washington—Naval Constructor J. H. Linnard, for years senior officer of the bureau of construction and repair of the navy, at his own request was placed on the retired list.

Next to Rear Admiral Capps, the influence of Naval Constructor Linnard has surpassed that of any other man in the designing of the new navy. He entered the naval service in 1877.

#### Sympathy Sent to Japan.

Washington—An expression of sympathy of the American government and the people of the United States with Japan in the flood calamities, in which hundreds lost their lives in Japan in the last few days, was telegraphed by the state department to the American ambassador at Tokio.

### WEST WANTS ITS OWN.

#### Western Idea of Conservation Is Urged by Idaho's Governor.

Boise, Idaho—Governor Brady was asked for an expression bearing on the interview given out by Governor Norris, of Montana, in which the Montana executive stated in effect that there was a movement to secure control of the national conservation congress in St. Paul as against the Northwestern idea of conservation, which advocates not only the preservation of the forests and the fullest protection of the water power, but also their fullest possible use of general development and yet without monopolistic control.

Governor Brady stated that he would leave for Salt Lake to attend the preliminary conservation conference of the governors of the Northwest to be held there. He added that he expected to attend the national conservation congress at St. Paul, and that Senator Borah would also attend both meetings, at his request, as special representative of Idaho.

Continuing, the governor said: "The policy of conservation is important to every citizen of the United States, but it is absolutely vital to every resident of the Northwestern States. We are fighting for the right to develop a new country without an extra handicap being placed upon us. We are struggling for equality of opportunity for the right to develop our new states under approximately as fair a chance as the older states of the East have had."

"We are in favor of the policy of conserving the natural resources, there is no difference of opinion on that. But we think that the methods of administering the policy of conservation should be changed so that the development and progress of the states should not be held back, and we are appealing of the fair-minded people of the East who believe in right and justice to come to our aid; they outnumber us in the senate and house of representatives, and we must have their assistance."

"I am hoping that we shall get an equitable consideration of our point of view at St. Paul. If it occurs that we do not, I am in favor of a thorough organization of the Western States in order that the people of the East may thoroughly comprehend our position and give us relief."

### URNS COPPER INTO IRON.

#### R. L. Keogh, of Ottawa Institute, Makes Discovery.

Ottawa—R. L. Keogh, of the Ottawa Collegiate Institute staff, has made a discovery of great scientific and possibly financial importance. After years of labor and investigation, he has succeeded in transmuting copper into iron. This, he says, has never been before accomplished, and demonstrates the fact that the transmutation of the metals is possible.

Mr. Keogh states that the new element obtained from his experiments with copper answers the tests usually applied to the identification of iron. In support of his contentions he explains that he is willing at any time to allow competent judges to undertake the work of verifying his results.

"I do not think that the discovery I have made is at present of any financial significance," said Mr. Keogh, "but it is possible at a later date something of more importance will follow. I have been greatly handicapped in the work that I have been carrying on, owing to the lack of apparatus. Later something of greater importance may follow from the results that have already obtained. I intend to continue my researches on the transmutation of elements."

### FARMERS SELL OWN CROPS.

#### Field-to-Consumer Idea is Growing in Indiana—Build Warehouses.

Indianapolis—Within the next 30 days the most comprehensive efforts that have ever been made to organize Indiana farmers into devoted self-interest will be inaugurated and paid organizers will be at work in all parts of the state.

Steps have already been taken to raise a fund for the disposal of millions of dollars' worth of grain from a central depot in this city, and elevators and other buildings are to be erected from which agents of the farmers are to sell their products direct to shippers and consumers. The plan is much the same as that adopted by the big brewers in Kentucky and other states, and farmers interested in it believe it will be quite as successful.

### Cholera Rages in Russia.

St. Petersburg—The horrors of the cholera scourge in Russia, according to Professor Pein, of the Red Cross, who has been sent by the government to Southern Russia to study measures of combatting the disease, are steadily increasing. Children are starving in many instances, because their parents and adult relatives have died, leaving them unsupported. There is no indication yet of the epidemic diminishing, and thousands of new cases are being registered daily, according to reports, understating the full extent of the disease.

### Virginia Gives Statue.

Paris—Colonel James Mann, chairman of the Virginia commission appointed last winter by the general assembly of the state to present to the republic of France a bronze copy of the Houdon statue of Washington, at Richmond, arrived here, accompanied by State Senator Don P. Haysel and State Senator King.

# INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR HOME STATE

### WATER RIGHTS IS ISSUE.

#### State Commission Preparing to Hear All Willow Creek Cases.

Vale—The State water commission has advertised for meetings on Willow creek to determine the rights of all the water users on this stream. Under the new water code all the rights are to be settled in one suit. Willow creek is a flood water stream, about 100 miles long, and is used by the people from its head to its mouth at Vale. The Eastern Oregon Land company has agents in Vale with a view of securing some rights, while the Willow Creek Land & Irrigation company is planning to protect all its rights and Upper Willow Creek users arrived in Vale recently and are preparing their evidence.

J. H. Rose, S. M. Matthews, Francis Rose, C. T. Lacey, Pierce Smith and several others who have had ranches and used water from 15 to 25 years are among these, and the lower ranches, consisting of probably 30 users, are making up their cases. F. M. Saxton, the water commissioner for this district will be here the latter part of August to begin taking evidence.

It is conceded that whichever way the decisions are made the case will go through the Circuit and Supreme courts before being finally determined.

### BONDS ESCAPE OREGON TAX.

#### Property Owned by Harriman Can Leave No Revenue to State.

Salem—In response to a letter of several weeks ago from George A. Steel, state treasurer, Attorney General Crawford has just submitted an opinion that stocks and bonds of a corporation under the laws of Oregon are personal property governed by the laws of the domicile instead of the location of the corporation and therefore escape the payment of inheritance tax.

The question involved arose after the death of E. H. Harriman. As he held stock extensively in Oregon railroads and other properties of the state, could the inheritance tax act have been construed as against the Harriman estate, it would have added several hundred thousand dollars to the state treasury.

As it is the attorney general believes that these stocks and bonds, being personal property, are subject to the laws of whatever state Harriman may have been residing in at the time of his death.

### LINCOLN FAIR TO BE BEST.

#### September Festival Promises to Show Vast Growth.

Toledo—The second annual Lincoln County Fair and Festival, to be held at Toledo, September 6, 7, 8 and 9, promises to be the greatest fair ever held in the county. The stock exhibits will be many, and as this county is producing some fine graded stock, this exhibition will be productive of much good. Fruit, vegetables and all other kinds of farm produce will be brought here from every section of the county.

The fair committee, which is composed of representative men and women from every locality of the county, is determined to make this the greatest and best fair ever held here. New grounds have been leased and permanent buildings are being erected and the Lincoln County fair will hereafter be a permanent affair.

### Roseburg Pears Go East.

Roseburg—Three carloads of pears grown in the Eden Bower orchards, two miles north of Roseburg, were shipped recently by E. M. McKeany, of the Producers' fruit company, of Sacramento. Mr. McKeany pronounced the pears grown here equal to those grown in counties north of Douglas. The Eden Bower product brought an average of \$1.60 a box. Besides these, other Douglas county fruitgrowers have shipped East this season five carloads of pears from Winston, six cars from Dillard and one car from Myrtle Creek.

### Monster Sunflower.

Adams—Mr. and Mrs. George Bentley have a sunflower plant growing in their front yard which they claim eclipses the one grown by Major Lee Moorehouse, of Pendleton, two years ago, and which was written up in local papers as a champion bloom producer. The Moorehouse plant contained 28 blooms on a single stalk, while on the one in the Bentley yard there are 35.

### Plan Big Chicken Farm.

Medford—J. A. Armstrong is building what is, perhaps, the second largest chicken house in the state, the only one known to be larger is that at the experiment station of the Oregon Agricultural college at Corvallis. This house will be 186 feet long by 12 feet wide. Mr. Armstrong is developing a farm of 10 acres where eggs will be a specialty.

### OREGON LIBRARY COMMISSION.

#### Good Books for Winter Reading Can Be Had by Villagers.

Salem—The Oregon Library Commission has several new traveling libraries ready to send out into the state. The traveling libraries are intended for farming communities and small villages not enjoying library privileges and unable to support a library. There is absolutely no charge for the libraries except the transportation charges both ways. The books are packed in a strong wooden box and sent by freight; the weight averages 100 pounds. The library may be kept six months, and then returned to the commission and exchanged for another and different lot of books. The books must be loaned free of charge to all responsible persons in the community.

The libraries are usually kept in the most convenient public place, a schoolhouse, postoffice, grange hall, store, or in a home. They are made up of the very best books for grown people and for children. Each library contains 50 popular and interesting books of fiction, history, travel, biography, science, sociology, and literature, books which old and young will enjoy.

If you are interested in a traveling library for your community, write to the Library Commission, Salem, for further information.

### CLAMBAKE ANNUAL AFFAIR.

#### Newport People Pleased Over Success of First Festival.

Newport—Newport will have an annual clambake owing to the success of the clambake on August 14. The oven is permanent and the necessary sea foods are easy to obtain.

Sunday was selected as the date for the recent clambake as the saloons are closed on that day. Rev. J. R. N. Bell defended the date, saying that he would feel as much at home at such a well-regulated clambake as he would if he were invited to a private dinner on Sunday. The crowds, he said, were the best he had ever seen, in church or out. All the visitors seemed to agree with him, as they have showered congratulations on the committee who arranged the affair.

The Corvallis & Eastern Railroad Company did the best it could, but many were compelled to stand in the cars. It is believed here that such crowds as have come to Newport this summer will force the railroad company to build around the bay from Yaquina, and thus do away with the ferryboat and waiting for the exchange of baggage.

### Small Fish of Fine Quality.

Astoria—The run of fish has showed some improvement, the seines on Sand Island making much better catches than last week. The fish are running small and are of a fine quality, but the large fish are not of the best, being so poor that cold storage plants have ceased pickling and smoking them.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, 96@98c; club, 86@88c; red Russian, 84@85c; valley, 92c; forty-fold, 87@88c; Turkey red, 90c.

Hay—Track prices: Timothy Willamette Valley, \$18@19 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$20@21; alfalfa, new, \$13@14; grain hay, \$13@14.

Barley—Feed and brewing, \$24.50@25 per ton. Corn—Whole, \$32; cracked, \$33 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$20 per ton; middlings, \$30; shorts, \$21@22; rolled barley, \$25@26.

Oats—New, \$29@29.50 per ton. Green Fruits—Apples, new, 50c@1.50 per box; apricots, 75c@1; plums, 75c@1; pears, \$1.25@1.50; peaches, 40@75c; grapes, 75c@1.25; blackberries, \$1.75 per crate; loganberries, \$1.50 per crate. Melons—Watermelons, \$16@1.25 per hundred; cantaloupes, \$1.50@3 per crate.

Vegetables—Beans, 3@5c per pound; cabbage, 2½@3c; cauliflower, \$1.50 per dozen; celery, 90c; corn, 25c; cucumbers, 25@40c per box; eggplant, 6@8c per pound; garlic, 8@10c; green onions, 15c per dozen; peppers, 50c per box; radishes, 15@20c per dozen; squash, 40c per crate; tomatoes, 30@60c per box.

Sack Vegetables—Carrots, \$1@1.25; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1@1.25; turnips, \$1.00.

Potatoes—New, \$1.25@1.35 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 4c per pound. Onions—Walla Walla, \$2.50 per sack; Oregon, \$2@2.25 per sack.

Eggs—Oregon candled, 28@29c per dozen.

Butter—City creamery, solid pack, 34c per pound; butter fat, 34c per pound; country store butter, 24c per pound.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 17½@18c per pound; Young America, 18½@19c.

Poultry—Hens, 18@19c; springs, 18@19c; ducks, 12@14c; geese, 16@11½c; turkeys, live, 20c; dressed, 22½@25c; squabs, \$3 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 13c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 12½@13c per pound.

Hops—1909 crop, 8@12½c, according to quality; olds, nominal; 1910 contracts, 13½c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 13@17c per pound; valley, 18@20c per pound. Mohair—Choice, 32@33c.

Casaca Bark—4½c per pound.

Hides—Salted hides, 7@7½c per pound; salted calf, 13c; salted kid, 8c; salted stags, 6c; green hides, 1c less; dry hides, 16½@17c; dry calf, 17@18c; dry stags, 11@12c.