

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

NO REFUSAL GIVEN.

Witness Says Importers 'All Paid For Underweighing.'

New York—As the corollary to the statement, made recently from the witness stand by George T. Lunny, alleged go-between of importers and government weighers in bribery operations, that he had never known a weigher who would not accept a bribe, James P. Hyland, formerly an assistant weigher, testified that he had never met an importer who refused to pay for underweighing.

Hyland was the chief witness of the day in the trial of George E. Bedell and other ex-customs officials on charges of making fraudulent weights. He said he sometimes took off 50 per cent from the weights and sometimes did not weigh cargoes at all, but merely guessed at the weights.

Hyland was assistant government weigher from 1891 to 1909. On the stand, he was asked if he had ever done any underweighing.

"I underweighed the very first cargo I was assigned to weigh," was the reply of the witness. He said he continued underweighing from that time on, receiving most of the corruption money from "Big George" Lunny, who has been described in the testimony as the "go-between" for importers and weighers in bribery operations to secure underweights. The underweighers always got half the amounts of the duties out of which the government was defrauded, Hyland testified.

Hyland said that at one time he was not satisfied with the amount of his "rake-off" at one dock, and offered Bedell \$50 a ship if he would transfer him to a more fruitful field. The transfer was made, the witness testified. Bedell was chief clerk to Deputy Surveyor Vail. He paid Bedell, on the average, just what he promised to, Hyland declared.

RECOGNITION NEXT STEP.

Satisfactory Adjustment With Nicaragua Thought Near.

Washington—Events are moving towards a satisfactory adjustment of the relations between the United States and Nicaragua. It was admitted at the State department that the Estrada government was to be recognized immediately, as far as it was possible to do so at this stage.

It is pointed out that there are various degrees of recognition, and as Estrada's government is, after all, a provisional one, the recognition would be on that basis.

Estrada's representative in Washington will be Senor David Arrellano, who achieved fame in this country and brought on his head the wrath of Zelaya by conducting a public demonstration in Managua in honor of the accession of Taft to the presidency.

SURETY COMPANY LIABLE.

Supreme Court Decision Protects Bank Guaranty Fund.

Guthrie, Oklahoma—Three surety companies, banking the funds of the Oklahoma school land office on deposit in the wrecked Columbia Banking & Trust company, of Oklahoma City, when the institution failed, were held liable for \$140,000 by a decision of the State Supreme court. At the same time the bank guaranty fund was relieved of responsibility for the same amount.

By the same court decision a Kansas City company, which had already paid \$30,000 bonds on state funds, and surety companies protecting the Oklahoma County deposit approximately \$70,000, are prevented from the recovering from the bank guaranty fund, which is thus \$240,000 better off by the Supreme court decision.

China's Imports Decline.

Washington—The growing commercial interdependence of Oriental countries, as against their former dependence on the Occident, is shown by the latest figures of China's foreign commerce, which have just reached the department of commerce and labor. In most cases China's imports from Occidental countries indicated a decline. The largest actual gains in imports were in merchandise coming from India, Japan, Russia, French Indo-China and Singapore. The figures show a larger decrease in imports from the United States than from any other of the special countries of the world.

Eastern Cities Growing.

Washington—The population of Springfield, Ill., is 51,678, an increase of 17,519, or 51.3 per cent as compared with 34,159 in 1900. The population of Watertown, N. Y., is 25,730, an increase of 5,034, or 23.2 per cent, as compared with 2,426 in 1900. The population of Oswego, N. Y., is 23,368, as compared with 22,199 in 1900. The population of Cohoes, N. Y., is 24,708, compared with 23,910 in 1900.

DEAD TIMBER TO BE SOLD.

Government Would Dispose of That Killed by Forest Fires.

Washington—Government timber that was killed by the recent forest fires that swept over large areas in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, is to be sold as speedy as possible by the forest service, provided purchasers can be found. A great deal of this timber, though killed by the fire, is entirely sound and fit for the mill, provided it is cut and removed within two or three years. It is this timber that is to be sold.

The sales will be made under the direction of the district foresters having jurisdiction over the states in which the big fires occurred; and these officials will be at liberty, if they so desire, to sell this burned timber at lower rates than have heretofore been asked for mature timber sold from forest reserves. There will be no instructions issued by the Washington office directing the sale of this timber at reduced prices, as the district officers will be permitted to exercise their best judgment. It is the desire of the forest service, however, that all timber killed by the fires be cut and removed as early as possible, and it is also the belief of the Washington office that a reduction in price might well be made as an inducement to mill men who are so situated as to be able to handle this timber.

In the main, the lands burned over by the August fires, so far as they lay within the boundaries of the forest reserves, will be kept in reserves, and will be reforested. Some of the lands, however, that prove to be chiefly valuable for agricultural purposes, now that the timber is burned off, will be opened to homestead entry. It is the understanding of the officials in Washington that the bulk of the land is suitable principally for forest purposes, however, and this land will in time be replanted unless it naturally reforests.

RESTORE VALUABLE LANDS

Large Areas Eliminated From Forest Reserves.

Washington—Under a plan of co-operation outlined by Secretaries Ballinger and Wilson, and now being carried out by the officials of the Interior department and department of agriculture, material areas of agricultural land, is to be eliminated from forest reserves and restored to the public domain. Some of this land has already been restored; a much greater area is expected to be restored during the coming winter, when reports on this summer's field work are collected and maps submitted to the heads of the two departments.

There seemingly misunderstanding in the minds of many as to just what Secretary Ballinger and Secretary Wilson are undertaking to do. Their purpose is simply to take from forest reserves lands that are not properly included in such reserves—lands that are not primarily valuable for their timber, or as protection to water supply. In other words, they are seeking to meet strong objections that have been raised against forest reserves in times past, by removing one cause for complaint.

EXTENDED CONTROL URGED

Beveridge Tells Bankers Government Should Supervise Trusts.

Evansville, Ind.—Urging government supervision of meat-packing companies, the "steel trust," the "sugar trust," the railroads and other great corporations, Senator Beveridge told the delegates to the convention of the Indiana Bankers' association that he "could see no reason why moral obligations should have to be made legal obligations for bankers and not for other persons in whom there is placed a public trust."

He added, "I spoke of packers, railroad management, steel trust and sugar trust men. And if the government controls banks, as it does, why should not it control railroads and other public corporations. The relationship to the people is just as great, if not greater than that of the banks."

Packers Give Bail.

Chicago—Seven of the 10 officials of the Chicago packing companies indicted by a Federal grand jury for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law appeared in the Federal court and gave bail for their appearance. Each defendant was obliged to furnish three bonds for \$10,000 each.

The three men who did not furnish bail are Louis F. Swift, president of the Swift & Co., who is in Europe; Thomas J. Connors, superintendent of Armour & Co., who is now returning from Europe, and Francis A. Fowler, department manager of Swift & Co., who is ill. Judge Landis ordered bench warrants issued for the defendants, but after attorneys for the absentees explained why they had failed to appear the order was recalled.

INSURGENCY WINS.

Poindexter Carries Washington by Big Majorities.

Seattle, Sept. 14.—Insurgency swept the state of Washington yesterday like a tidal wave. Poindexter is believed to have carried nearly every county in the state, with the possible exception of Pierce.

Late returns indicate that Warburton, insurgent, has carried the Second congressional district by a good plurality over McCredie, incumbent.

Humphrey has been defeated in the First district, and William La Follette, of Pullman, a cousin of Senator La Follette and an insurgent, has been elected to succeed Poindexter.

The vote of King county, with 47,000 voters registered, was probably only 30,000, and Poindexter's plurality in the county is estimated at 6,000. Poindexter carried Judge Burke's own precinct.

Incomplete returns from 30 polling places in Pierce county and Tacoma gave Burke 41, Poindexter 1,376 and Ashton 1,336. At this rate Pierce county will give Ashton a small majority.

Twenty-six precincts, city and county, in Pierce county, give McCredie 339, Claypool 358 and Warburton 1,333.

Poindexter's plurality in Whatcom county is estimated at 2,000.

Poindexter's plurality in Clallam county is estimated at 300.

At Poindexter's headquarters, his lead is estimated as high as 30,000.

STORM DAMAGES COTTON.

Crop on 250,000 Acres in Texas Is Ruined By Wind and Hail.

Galveston, Tex.—A severe wind hail and rain storm which swept over four or five counties did untold damage to crops, especially to the cotton crop, which was either stripped from the fields by the wind or ruined by hail of a size unprecedented in Burleson, Brazos, Houston, Grimes and Walker counties.

From reports just received it is estimated that the cotton crop was ruined on about 250,000 acres, which includes a few thousand acres of other crops.

In Burleson county, along the hill-sides, thousands of acres of unpicked cotton were beaten down by the hail and later washed into the swelling streams by the heavy rains.

GOLD THEIVES WATCHED

Detectives Suspect Alaskans and Wait for Them to Dig Up Ingots.

Seattle—It is settled in the minds of detectives that the \$57,000 robbery of gold bullion in transit from Fairbanks to Seattle was committed on the Yukon river steamer Tanana, and the men who are supposed to have stolen the precious ingots are under surveillance.

But the gold is buried in the earth, the detectives say, and even if they arrested the real criminals, they could not convict them and they might not recover the gold. So they purpose to starve the thieves out; to watch them until they dig up the gold and try to sell it. Any man who tries to sell Tanana gold at any market in Alaska or the United States will be held for examination. Reports of a second express gold robbery are false.

Maine Goes Democratic.

Portland, Maine—Maine went Democratic Tuesday. It elected Frederick W. Plaisted, of Augusta, a Democrat, as governor, upset the heretofore solid Republican delegation in at least two, and possibly all four of the congressional districts, and to the surprise of the political leaders, Democratic as well as Republican, the last returns indicate the possibility that the next state legislature will be Democratic. The senate surely will have a Democratic majority. The house complexion is in doubt.

Fails to Fly Over Irish Sea.

London—Aviator Astor Loraine, who recently failed by 300 yards in his attempt to fly across the Irish sea, announced that he will make another try during the coming week. Loraine's failure was due to defective soldering in his petrol tank. Although he shipped sufficient petrol for the trip, the tank developed a leak, which continued during the last three miles of the trip, and Loraine was compelled to give up.

Walsh Estate Not Great.

Denver—The estate of the late Thomas F. Walsh, which had been approximated as high as \$100,000,000, was worth only \$6,500,000, according to the inventory filed by Judge S. A. Osborn, representing the estate. Of this valuation, \$3,000,000 is Colorado property.

Socialists Are Arrested.

Salt Lake City—Six members of the Socialist Labor party were arrested here, one after another, while trying to hold a street meeting at the corner of Second South and State streets, in defiance of the orders of the chief of police.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR HOME STATE

NEW O. A. C. POULTRY CONTEST

Joins Eugene Y. M. C. A. in Organizing Work for Children.

Corvallis—The poultry department of the Oregon Agricultural college, under Prof. James Dryden, is organizing a poultry raising contest for the boys and girls of Eugene, in co-operation with the Young Men's Christian association here. Some 50 entries have been made. The college offers \$200 in cash prizes.

At the college ten acres of land are given over entirely to the poultry husbandry department, which has now about 2,000 chickens. There are 20 colony brooder coops and 14 colony laying houses, beside the incubator house, containing 16 incubators of six different makes, and the brooder house. The work of the department is largely that of proving the laying qualities of the principal varieties, including Plymouth Rocks, Leghorns, and crosses of these two breeds.

In a recent letter from St. Petersburg, Russia, Prof. Dryden was assured by one of the government lecturers on poultry raising there that the O. A. C. poultry bulletins have been of great value in her work, teaching her, she said, "just what to say, and how to say, many things in a few words." The bulletins are published for general distribution in the state, and may be had upon request.

ROAD COSTS \$100,000 PER MILE

O. R. & N. Cutoff From Pendleton to Yakum Nearing Completion.

Pendleton—One of the most expensive bits of road building the O. R. & N. Co. has ever undertaken is now in progress between this city and Yakum and will be completed within the next two or three months. The work covers but 12 1/2 miles of construction but will cost approximately \$1,200,000.

The improvements in progress involve a complete change of the main line of the O. R. & N. Co. between Pendleton and Yakum; none of the old line will be used. The work shortens the present line 1.7 miles; eliminates 1361 degrees of curvature; reduces the maximum degree of curves from 10 degrees to 4 degrees, and reduces the grade from eight-tenths of 1 per cent, uncompensated, to six-tenths of 1 per cent, compensated.

On the new line there will be one 500-foot tunnel, cutting out the horseshoe bend; a high fill and a steel bridge of two 150-foot spans with concrete piers and abutments, through the reservoir of the Furnish-Coe Irrigation company.

SALMON RUN LIGHT.

Catch of Fall Fish on Columbia River is Very Poor.

Astoria—Reports from all the streams, both along the Oregon and Washington coasts, are to the effect that good runs of fish are coming in and the packing plants are doing exceptionally well. The gasoline schooner Gerald C, which arrived Saturday from Nusteca, brought 871 cases and ten tierces of salmon for Elmore & Co.

The catch of fall salmon on the Columbia river is very light at the present time, and some of the gillnetters who have been fishing with large mesh nets have taken them out of the water. Now that the weather conditions are changing, however, a good run of silversides is looked for.

Salt Salmon Prices Rise.

Astoria—Judging from the present market conditions the Alaska salmon packers who have not yet sold their packs of salt salmon will make unusually large profits this season. Last year Alaska salt salmon was selling for \$6 a barrel, but it is now quoted at \$9, with a strong demand and the indications are that the price will advance to \$10. It is understood that the Alaska Fishermen's Packing company, of this city, has fully 3,000 barrels of this salmon, which it has not yet disposed of.

German Families Coming.

Medford—H. A. Vogel has purchased the C. W. McClendon farm in Sams valley, 20 miles from Medford, for \$50,000. The farm contains 604 acres of land. Mr. Vogel intends to subdivide the property and improve each division to suit the tastes of German families from Iowa, his home state, who are planning to move to Oregon in search of a milder climate.

Train Service Alleged Poor.

Salem—Complaint has been filed by the Upper Hood River Valley Progressive association with the State Railroad commission alleging that service on the Mount Hood Hood railway is inadequate and that on some occasions a distance of 23 miles between Hood River and Parkdale is made in six hours.

PENDLETON PLANS "ROUND UP"

Commercial Club to Send Excursion to Wild West Show.

Two sleepers carrying Portland railroad men will go out on the fast mail on the evening of September 30, bound for Pendleton, where the railroad representatives will witness the final day's festivities in the Pendleton "roundup."

The "roundup" is advertised by Pendleton to be "wild and woolly, fast and furious." Among the frontier sports and pastimes to be shown will be broncho busting, steer roping, relay and pony express races, wild horse races, packing contests, horseback tugs of war, steer riding, horseback pistol shooting, fancy riding and roping.

HOP CROP LARGE AND GOOD.

Scarcity of Labor May Prevent Some Being Harvested.

Eugene—The hop crop about Eugene this year is large and of fine quality, but the help is so scarce that it is doubtful if some of the growers will be able to harvest their crop. Hop picking is now in full blast in the most important yards, and on account of the dry weather the hops have developed to a large size with very few leaves, so that picking is easy. In the Robert Hayes yard 150 more pickers could be used to advantage, and unless some unforeseen circumstance relieves the situation some of the hops in this yard cannot be harvested.

Coos County May Get Sawmill.

Marshfield—It is reported that the Brookings Lumber & Box company, of California, may build a sawmill in Curry county either at Chetco or at Arch Rock. The company owns 25,000 acres of timber in Curry county.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices, export basis: Bluestem, 92c; club, 84c; red Russian, 82c; valley, 88c; 40-fold, 87c; Turkey red, 84c@90c.

Barley—Feed, \$22@22.50 per ton; brewing, \$23.

Hay—Track prices: Timothy, Willamette valley, \$19@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$21@22; alfalfa, new, \$15@16; grain hay, \$14@15.

Corn—Whole, \$32; cracked, \$33 ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$23@24 per ton; middlings, \$31; shorts, \$25@26; rolled barley, \$24.50@25.50.

Oats—White, \$27.50 per ton.

Green Fruits—Apples, new, 50c@ \$1.25 per box; plums, 40@75c; pears, 75c@1.25; peaches, boxes, 40@75c; logs, \$1.10@1.25; grapes, 25c@1.25 box; \$1.35 per lug; 20@22 1/2c basket, cranberries \$8.50 per barrel; watermelons, \$1 per hundred; cantaloupes, 75c@1.50 per crate.

Vegetables—Beans, 3@5c per pound; cabbage, 2c; cauliflower, \$1.50 per dozen; celery, 90c; corn, 12@15c; cucumbers, 25@40c per box; eggplant, 6c per pound; garlic, 8@10c; green onions, 15c per dozen; peppers, 6c pound; radishes, 15@20c per dozen; squash, 40c per crate; tomatoes, 30@60c per box; carrots, \$1@1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1@1.25; turnips, \$1.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.25 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 3c per pound.

Onions—New, \$1.50 per sack.

Eggs—Oregon current receipts 31@32c; candled 32@34c.

Butter—City creamery, solid pack, 36c; prints 37@37 1/2c; butter fat 36c; country store 24@25c.

Poultry—Hens 17c; springs 17c; ducks white 16 1/2@17c; geese 10@11c; turkeys, live, 20c; dressed, 22 1/2@25c; squabs, \$3 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 13c per pound.

Veal—Good average, 11@12c pound.

Cattle—Beef steers, good to choice, \$5.25@5.50; fair to medium, \$4.25@4.75; choice spayed heifers, \$4.50@4.75; good to choice beef cows, \$4.25@4.65; medium to good beef cows, \$3.75@4.25; common beef cows, \$2@3.75; bulls, \$3.75@4; stags, good to choice, \$4@4.25; calves, light, \$6.75@7; heavy, \$3.75@5.

Hogs—Top, \$10@10.75; fair to medium, \$9.50@10.

Sheep—Best Mt. Adams wethers, \$4@4.25; best valley wethers, \$3.25@3.50; fair to good wethers, \$3@3.25; best valley ewes, \$3@3.50; lambs, choice Mt. Adams, \$5.25@5.50; choice valley, \$5@5.25.

Hops—1910 crop, nominal; 1909, 10@11c; olds, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 13@17c per pound; valley, 17@19c; mohair, choice, 32@33c.

Cascara bark—4 1/2@4 3/4c.

Hides—Salted hides, 7@7 1/2c per pound; salted calf, 13c; salted kip, 8c; salted stags, 6c; green hides, 1c less; dry hides, 16 1/2@17c; dry calf, 17@18c; dry stags, 11@12c.

Pelts—Dry, 10 1/2c; salted, butchers' take-off, 40@75c; spring lambs, 25@45c.