

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR HOME STATE

3,000 ACRES FOR ORCHARD.

COAL FIND STIRS CITY.

### Company Buys Big Tract in Yamhill County.

Portland—The purchase of a 3,000-acre tract of orchard land in Yamhill county, four miles from Sheridan, on the Southern Pacific, by the Clear View Orchard company, of Portland, is announced. The purchase was made from C. G. Andrews, a well known Western Oregon land owner and operator. The consideration is not made known, but Mr. Andrews retains an interest in the company and will serve in the capacity of secretary and treasurer.

The purpose of the purchasers is to convert the land into 10-acre orchard home tracts. The tracts have been laid out and a number of them have already been contracted for. Mr. Andrews said that eight homes were under construction, the cheapest of them costing \$2,800, others ranging in price from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Each tract is being planted to fruit trees by the company. Expert tree planters from Hood River have been secured to do the work. Eighty-seven men are now on the ground.

"We will make of this tract a modern Eden for 300 homes," said Mr. Andrews. "We intend to make every possible preliminary preparation for the coming of those who really want homes. Each tract is not only to be laid out and planted to fruit trees, but we are building the barns and the roads that go with the homes. We will establish our own telephone service, electric lights and water supply. At Sheridan we have secured ground for a fruit storage warehouse and will later build a canning factory. The land is in the center of an ideal market and Portland, Salem and the coast are but a few hours distant. The Southern Pacific furnishes excellent train service."

### WORK TO BEGIN JUNE 1.

### Contract Awarded for Stanfield-Coyote Cutoff.

Pendleton—Work on the construction of the Coyote-Stanfield cutoff will be started June 1, if nothing unforeseen arises to cause a change in the plans of the Oregon-Washington company officials.

From sources known to be reliable it was learned that practically all preparations are now made for beginning work on the above date. The contract for work has already been let to Twohy Bros., and it is understood they are ready to begin operations whenever orders to do so arrive from General Manager James P. O'Brien. The Coyote cutoff calls for the construction of an additional track from Coyote, on the Columbia river, across country to Stanfield.

The cutoff will eliminate eight miles of the present distance between those two points. However, the present main line track will be continued in use so as to provide a double track for the road. Work of building the cutoff will cost slightly less than \$1,000,000, and the building of the road will add much to the activity of this section of Oregon during the coming summer.

### SELECT CAPITOL SITE.

### Governor Owns Desirable Site, But Will Say Nothing.

Salem—Governor West has asked Speaker Rusk of the house of representatives, and President Ben Selling to advise the board in the selection and location of the new annex to the capitol. The governor owns a quarter block of land that is upon the location desired for the building, but so that there can be no charge made against him in the likelihood of the choice of his property, he will have nothing to do with it.

The governor says that if his quarter block is selected he will dispose of it to the state for the amount which he paid. He holds his lots at \$10,000, while the same amount of property adjoining his is held at \$18,000, or nearly twice the amount asked by the governor. The governor's property lies directly east of the capitol and between it and the Southern Pacific company's tracks. Speaker Rusk is now at Salem and the location of the new capitol annex will be made at once.

### To Cruise Coos Timber.

Marshfield—For the purpose of hastening the work of cruising all the timber in the county, it has been decided by the county court to put five more cruisers in the field in addition to the one man who was employed last season. The idea is to get all the timber cruised so that a fair valuation may be put upon it when the assessments are made.

### To Locate Hatchery.

Salem—Master Fish Warden K. E. Clanton went to Astoria recently for the purpose of definitely locating the new salmon hatchery on Young's river, for which provision was made by the legislature at its late session.

### Well Digger Uncovers Good Vein Mile West of Salem.

Salem—Discovery of what are declared to be bona fide coal deposits on a small tract on the Roberts ranch, about a mile west of Salem, in Polk county, have set the town agog. The discovery was made by men employed on the H. P. Chase drilling machine. They were seeking for water. At a depth of 36 feet the first coal vein was found. This vein was thin, being but five or six inches thick, but was well defined.

At a depth of 44 feet, a deeper vein was struck, but the coal was broken up and apparently scattered. The quality is declared to be excellent and the indications point to a discovery of some magnitude.

H. P. Chase said that the coal deposits discovered west of the river were found after drilling through a sandstone rock. "He says that while the present veins discovered are apparently small, the indications are excellent and that endeavors will be immediately made to determine just the extent of the deposits and the value of the find."

### FIFTEEN ACRES OF GRAPES.

### Nyssa Business Man to Experiment on Large Scale.

Nyssa—Nyssa this year will have the distinction of planting the largest vineyard in Eastern Oregon, and probably in Southern Idaho. This vineyard will be planted on Bridge island, one mile south of Nyssa, and will consist of 15 acres of grapes, mostly of the Concord variety. S. N. Emison, one of the best known residents of Nyssa, where he has been a business man for a number of years, is behind the project.

Mr. Emison has conducted rather exhaustive experiments on grape culture here for the past three years. From Concord grapes he had planted three years before, Mr. Emison last year got an average of 56 pounds of merchantable grapes from each vine. When it is realized that 540 grape vines are planted per acre, it is seen that at the rate of production just mentioned an acre of three-year old grapes would produce 30,240 pounds of grapes, or a trifle over 15 tons per acre. A fair average price of grapes is 4 cents per pound, so that a production at the above ratio would bring \$1,209.60 per acre.

### TO "PLANT" PHEASANTS.

### State Buys 100 Pairs Reeves Species for Distribution.

Corvallis—Game Warden Stevenson, of Forest Grove, has just placed an order with Gene Simpson, the pheasant fancier, of Corvallis, for 100 pairs of the Reeves pheasant, to be delivered next September. These birds will be shipped by the game warden to all parts of the state and turned loose.

The Reeves pheasant is the largest of the pheasant family, and is a fine game bird. As they are hardy and increase rapidly in the wild state, it is expected soon to have the forests of Oregon well stocked with the birds.

Last year Mr. Simpson supplied the state with 100 pairs of the pheasants. They were distributed over Western Oregon and some were sent to Baker. They were set at liberty at the various points by persons who are co-operating with the game warden and who have studied the birds as closely as practicable under the varying conditions. Reports show that they have come through the winter in excellent condition.

### Referendum Petitions Circulated.

Salem—The first petitions having for their purpose to refer to the people at the next general election all of the University of Oregon appropriations of the late legislature, amounting approximately to \$500,000, have made their first appearance in Salem. The circulators are working hard for names and they believe they will get many in Marion county. The circulators, it is said, are from Cottage Grove. It is the impression here that the movement started in Yamhill county to refer the university appropriations has died out and the intention will not be prosecuted.

### View Sites for Armory.

Salem—Adjutant General Finzer and Colonel Jackson, of the Oregon National guard, were in Salem this week for the purpose of viewing proposed sites for the new \$50,000 armory to be built here this summer. A selection will be made within a few days, so that construction of the armory can begin at once.

### New Insurance Laws Good.

Sales—It is the general opinion that the laws relating to insurance enacted at the session of the legislative assembly just adjourned are in the main progressive and in the line of securing uniformity in legislation covering this important subject in the various states.

### FIRST MOVE FOR PEACE.

### Mexican Government and Insurgents Both Fear Intervention.

New York, March 15.—Before Senor de la Barra departed for Washington today he gave out here the proofs of an article which will appear tomorrow in the Independent, on "The Situation in Mexico," urging all his countrymen, regardless of "all divisions of party, all differences between men," to recall the "sacred interests of our country," and "to work together for the progress of true democracy and best development of the motherland."

The ambassador penned this appeal only last night, after his conference with Senor Limantour, the Mexican minister of finance, and he considered it so very important that at the very last moment he had it crowded into the locked forins.

Insurrecto leaders to whom the paragraph was shown said they considered it an invitation to come into camp, and its issuance makes more notable a trend of events that has been discoverable for the last three days.

After the first shock of surprise in the United States, and of alarm and distrust in Mexico caused by the dispatch of 20,000 American troops to the frontier, there began a series of formal diplomatic exchanges between the two powers, and a series of carefully weighed interviews and authorized publications in the daily press. Underneath this current ran a deeper tide of sympathy between countrymen who might be at odds, but were still countrymen.

"Intervention means war," said Senor Limantour, in so many words.

"Intervention," answered Dr. F. Vasquez Gomez, the insurgent representative at Washington, who has been here for three days. "The moment there is intervention there will cease to be an insurrection. Both sides will make common cause against a common enemy."

Frederico Madero, a brother of Gustavo, head of the junta here, let fall today that his brother had recently made a call on Senor Limantour. One of his friends said this afternoon that Gustavo had spent part of the morning with Secretary Dickinson, but the secretary himself dashed all intimations with cold water.

"I have not been in communication with the Maderos, either directly or indirectly," he said tonight. "I have never met any of them and I have had no word from any of them. I carry no messages from them to Senor Limantour. My presence here has nothing to do with the Mexican situation."

The belief grows here, however, among those closely in touch with both camps, that some understanding will be reached. It was pointed out that if Francisco Madero, Sr., has already seen Senor Limantour once, he is likely to find means of keeping in touch with him as the situation may demand.

The Maderos are considered the wealth and brains of the revolution. They are not in sympathy with the Socialist movement in Southern California. "If those fellows win," said Gustavo Madero today, "we shall have to fight them."

### PLAGUE RAVAGES CONTINUE.

### Lives of 20,000 Lost in Harbin District Alone.

Washington.—The plague is continuing its ravages in China, as shown by the mail advices reaching the State department from American consular officers.

It is estimated that 20,000 people have succumbed in the Harbin consulate district since the outbreak of the epidemic. In Harbin and its suburb, Fuchiatin, 6,014, including 50 Europeans, died up to February 11.

The disease is playing havoc with the Chinese troops at Chang Chun, according to Japanese statistics, 350 deaths among them being reported up to January 26, the daily death rate of the town being about 50.

### Leading Citizens Escape.

Danville, Ill.—After returning 37 indictments, but 14 of which were for political offenses, the grand jury was dismissed Wednesday afternoon by Judge Kimbrough until April 17, the day preceding the city election. No politicians or leading citizens were indicted, the accused being precinct chairmen and workers about the polls. William C. Brown, member of the city election commission, was indicted for receiving money from a candidate to influence his vote in the election last fall.

### Robber Holds Up Hotel Clerk.

Washington—With the White House and police headquarters each one block away and the United States treasury just across the street, a robber entered the office of the Grand hotel on Pennsylvania avenue and held up the clerk at the point of a pistol and escaped with \$50.

## NATIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

### AMERICAN PRISONERS SAFE.

### Mexican Officials Promise Fair Trials to Captives.

El Paso, Tex., March 18.—Assurance of the safety of all Americans now confined in Mexican prisons is given in an official statement issued at Juarez tonight.

Americans now in custody will be given fair trials, but hereafter all insurgents, whether citizens of the United States or not, may be subject to the death penalty under summary military procedure.

The statement from the Mexican officials was issued relative to the 17 foreigners who are now imprisoned in the Federal jails at Casas Grandes. Fifteen of them are Americans. Pending their trials, they will be given the consideration due prisoners of war. Colonel Cuellar, in command at Casas Grandes, is suffering from wounds, and as soon as he is able to move, the prisoners will be marched 170 miles to Chihuahua to face the civil court. The two other foreigners are European "soldiers of fortune," who have fought in Central American revolutions.

The men are confined in cells in the adobe prison and are under guard of Mexican soldiers. Their rations consist of such as can be spared them from the military stores, for the town, about 150 miles south of El Paso, has had no food supplies since March 6, when the battle was fought in which the insurgents were defeated.

Colonel Manuel Tambored, military commander at Juarez, said:

"The Americans have not been shot, and will not be. Colonel Cuellar has so reported to us here, and to Mexico City. It is the intention to give the men a fair trial. This does not mean the same consideration will be given foreigners hereafter captured."

Colonel Tambored at first said he was advised that 40 foreigners had been captured, but later said the report was incorrect. He said he had not received the names of the Americans.

### BONDS NOT NEEDED NOW.

### Corporation Tax Decision Puts Government in Funds.

Boston—Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh says of finances of the government and the new Panama canal loan:

"Although it has been the general impression that a block of new 3 per cent Panama bonds would be issued immediately after the adjustment of the corporation tax, we are in no immediate need of funds. In fact, while I am having plates engraved for the bonds, neither the amount nor the time of issue has been decided."

"The first issue, however, will probably be not more than \$50,000,000. The decision of the corporation tax litigation in favor of the government has changed the complexion of the government finances for the moment. This decision involved a matter of \$52,000,000 to the treasury immediately. Of this amount, \$27,000,000 represents the amount collected last year. We estimate the income from the tax this year at \$25,000,000, so that with \$52,000,000, remaining in the treasury, the immediate necessity of a bond issue is precluded."

"The treasury will close the current fiscal year on June 30 with a total deficit of about \$30,000,000."

### TRUST SUES STEEL TRUST.

### Alleges It Controls the Cement Trust and Railways.

Washington, March 18.—Declaring that the United States Steel corporation uses its unlimited power to stifle competition in direct defiance of law, the Alpha Portland Cement company of Easton, Pa., today filed charges with the interstate commerce commission against the steel trust.

In its complaint the Easton company charges that the steel corporation either owns, or controls through its directors, nearly all of the eastern railways, including the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore & Ohio, the New York Central and the Union Pacific.

It is also charged that the Universal Portland Cement company, of Pittsburgh, which is controlled by the steel corporation, is given the preference by the above named railways in all cement contracts, regardless of price.

### Texas to Become Target.

Norfolk, Va.—The battleship San Marcos, formerly the Texas, is to undergo experimental explosive tests.

Detailed plans for the tests are being guarded with considerable secrecy at the Navy yard. It is known, however, that it is intended to maintain service conditions on the vessel as far as possible and her machinery and guns remain aboard.

The crew, as she goes out, will consist of enough men to man her boilers and pumps. The only living things to remain on board during the firing tests will be a dozen cats and a lot of chickens.

### TROOPS TO STAY ON BORDER

### But Taft May Abandon Joint Army and Navy Maneuvers.

Washington—Troops now concentrating in San Antonio, Tex., are to be kept in that vicinity. So are those centering at San Diego, Cal., and at Galveston, Tex. This statement is made on the highest War department authority, notwithstanding constant rumors to the contrary.

So far as the navy is concerned, it is declared that the gunboats on the East and West coasts of Mexico and Central America are simply exchanging places.

The patrol work of the troops on the Mexican border is arduous and trying, and for this reason the War department is making plans for relieving those now there after a short time. The men who are now doing the work are to be relieved at intervals, but there is no present intention on the part of the War department of increasing the number of patrols.

It is declared even to be possible that in the execution of the wish of President Taft to divest of an international significance the movement of troops and naval vessels, the projected joint army and navy maneuvers may be abandoned. As a result, Admiral Staunton, who has arrived in Cuba with his armored cruiser, will begin a series of drills and evolutions in that vicinity. Whether Admiral Staunton's squadron will be sent to the Texas coast at all will depend on developments.

### SHIPS READY FOR ANY MOVE.

### Marines at San Diego Distributed—Aviator Sent to Texas.

San Diego, Cal.—The ships here have been made ready for any eventualities. Colliers are to arrive within the next few days with coal and supplies. The marines sent here on the Buffalo have been distributed to the different cruisers of the fleet, of which there are five vessels now at anchor here. There has been no diminution of preparedness in any section of the naval forces on this station. The forces of General Bliss, in command of the provisional brigade here, as those of the navy, are prepared for immediate service. An indication of this was shown this evening when Company B, Thirteenth infantry, was detailed to reinforce Captain Evans on the main border and reported ready to leave in less than an hour.

Signal corps and Lieutenant G. E. M. Kelley, Thirteenth infantry, were detached from the aviation school at North Island tonight and ordered to report for duty on the signal corps at San Antonio.

### MUST FREE AMERICANS.

### Mexico Can't Hold Prisoners Captured on American Soil.

Washington.—An investigation having convinced the American government that Edwin Blatt, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Lawrence Converse, of Los Angeles, Cal., held prisoners at Juarez, Mex., had been captured on American soil, the State department asked the Mexican government to release them. The request was delivered to the Mexican embassy at Washington.

The case has been under investigation for several weeks by the departments of state and justice. The result has developed that the men were apprehended on this side of the boundary not far from the line.

It remains for the Mexican authorities to prove that the scene of the capture had been within the jurisdiction of Mexico, or else set the young men at liberty.

Blatt and Converse were arrested February 22 and were confined in the Federal prison at Juarez on charges in connection with the revolution against President Diaz. The State department, shortly after the arrests, was assured the men would receive fair trials.

### Rébel Agent Denies Strife.

Washington—That there is dissatisfaction in the councils of the representatives of the Mexican revolution in this country was denied emphatically in a telegram from Gustavo A. Madero, of New York, a brother of the leader of the uprising. The telegram read as follows:

"Referring to telegrams published at Washington stating that Dr. Vasquez Gomez and myself are not in accord, I beg to say that our relations were never better, politically and otherwise, and that my present sympathy for Mr. Limantour has not and will not change my political ideas, which are against the government of General Diaz and consequently against all members of said government."

### Washington is Surprised.

Washington—Officials of the State department and the Chinese legation here are puzzled to find a reason for the sudden delivery of an ultimatum by the Russian government to China in connection with the negotiations regarding Russian trade relations in Ill province.