

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR HOME STATE

ROUTES PUSHED WESTWARD

Oregon Electric Right of Way Reaches Santiam.

Salem—Right of way for the extension of the Oregon Electric railway company south from Salem to Albany and Eugene has been procured as far as the Santiam river, a point more than half way between Salem and Albany, except for three or four sections, to obtain which condemnation proceedings will be brought in the Circuit court for Marion county at once unless pending settlements are reached.

The Oregon Electric's right of way between Albany and Salem will be two and eight-tenths miles shorter than the Southern Pacific right of way and the Southern Pacific right of way is 28 miles long. The rails to be used between Salem and Eugene are 90-pound rails. The electric railway expects to make the run between Eugene and Portland with its through trains in 24 hours, and with regular trains three hours. Trains are to operate between Portland and Eugene in 1912, unless there is difficulty in getting bridge material for the structures across the Santiam and Willamette rivers. The Willamette will be crossed near Harrisburg, near where the Southern Pacific now crosses that stream and the Santiam between Salem and Albany.

As soon as the right of way matters can be settled, several crews will begin construction at different points along the right of way between Salem and Eugene. It also comes from a source here that preparations are under way to double track the Oregon Electric between Wilsonville and Portland this summer.

NEHALEM ROADS IMPROVE.

\$31,000 Appropriated in Single District; Cheese Output Larger.

Wheeler—The Tillamook county court is now advertising for bids for the construction of the first mile of the Wheeler road, to be built from the bridge across the south fork of the Nehalem river to the townsite of Wheeler. There will be a call for bids for the remaining mile as soon as the plats and profiles are made. This is but one of the many road propositions to be undertaken by the county court in this section. In this road district there has been appropriated \$31,000 for road work.

The new cheese factory being erected by R. Zweifel, about one mile above Wheeler, is progressing rapidly, and the factory will be able to commence manufacture of cheese about April 1. The other factories in the Nehalem valley, three in number, will also start about April 1. Indications are for a considerably larger output from this valley this season than last.

Work on the railroad has been going ahead rapidly during the past month of good weather. Track is now laid for about six miles above Wheeler, and is going down at about half a mile per day.

Governor West Plans Parole.

Salem—Governor West has devised another way to prevent building cells on the roof of the penitentiary for the keeping of the prisoners. Dr. Calvin S. White, state health officer, announces that the governor intends to parole some of the higher class prisoners and send them out to work on the farm connected with the state tuberculosis sanatorium. They will be prisoners who have nearly finished their terms and who have not been confined for the more serious offenses. They will take the place of the salaried attaches of the sanatorium, of whom there is at present such a number that by the time their salaries are paid there is not a great deal more than is necessary left for the feeding and care of the patients.

Dr. White says that the newly appointed superintendent, Dr. Fitzgerald, intends to increase the number of cows on the place, so that no milk will have to be bought. They will get chickens and pigs, and with the cropping capacity of the farm be able to make the institution nearly if not quite self-sustaining.

Elgin Acres Win Record Price.

Elgin—The record price for raw land was made Tuesday when Newton Roberts bought of Henry Hug a five-acre tract at \$150 an acre. This land could have been bought last year at \$60 an acre, and the whole 90 acres could have been obtained this year for \$100 an acre. The tract, in recent years, produced 60 bushels of wheat an acre.

Shipment Cost Alleged Great.

Salem—Complaining that it costs \$30 to ship a carload of freight from Medford to Eagle Point, a distance of only 11 miles, when it costs but \$120 to ship the same car from Portland to Medford, a distance of 329 miles, Von der Hellen Brothers, of Eagle Point, filed a complaint with the state railroad commission.

SCHOOL LAND LEFT.

Total Acreage 540,885. Half Is in Harney and Malheur.

Salem—George Brown, clerk of the state land board, has completed a revised list of the state school lands yet unsold. The total remaining acreage is 540,885. It is shown that in 19 counties there are no more state lands to be had: Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Lake, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Washington and Yamhill.

In addition there are about 50,000 acres of state school lands included in national forest reserves, which are made base for lieu selections. Governor West has recommended that these lands be selected by the state in one place and that the state make the 50,000 acres a state forest reserve, probably in the Cascade range, adjoining a government reserve.

The list of counties and acreage of school lands remaining to be sold in each are as follows: Baker, 19,840; Benton, 200; Coos, 120; Curry, 940; Crook, 40,200; Douglas, 905; Gilliam, 3,520; Grant, 21,840; Harney, 145,280; Jackson, 400; Josephine, 260; Klamath, 92,220; Lake, 94,240; Lincoln, 360; Malheur, 175,520; Morrow, 1,960; Umatilla, 4,360; Union, 5,10; Wallowa, 3,320; Wasco, 3,560; Wheeler, 8,160.

This land is now sold by the state at a minimum of 77.50 per acre, some of it selling under bid as high as \$15 per acre. The receipts go to the irreducible school fund, which is loaned out to citizens of the state on good real estate first mortgage security at 6 per cent interest. The irreducible school fund now equals nearly \$6,000,000, the interest from which yearly produces more than \$300,000, which is apportioned among the counties according to the number of children in the counties between the ages of 6 and 21 years, as shown by the annual census taken by the county school superintendents.

ROOM FOR HOMESTEADERS.

Acreage Open Totals 2,500,000 Which Fifth is Tillable.

Lakeview—There are 2,500,000 acres of government land open to entry and settlement in Lake county, according to Arthur W. Orton, register of the United States land office here. Of this area about 500,000 acres is suitable for general agriculture and will produce the ordinary products of the temperate zone. There are also about 90,000 acres of lands owned by the state of Oregon in the county, which are for sale at low prices and on reasonable terms.

This area is one that would seem at first glance to require some time to settle were it not that last year in the government land office here there were 1,341 applications for a total of over 350,000 acres of diversified lands. Three-tenths of the area of the county is timbered, three-tenths agricultural, three-tenths grazing land and the other one-tenth mountainous or rough country that cannot be included under the other classifications. As the county has never had any advertising and is so far away from the present railroad lines, it is remarkable that so much land should have been taken last year, and there is every evidence that this year will see all the available valley lands filed upon by settlers. The present homeseekers are coming here with sufficient means to till the lands properly, and show evidence that they are the real developers of the country. The stockmen are welcoming the newcomers, as they feel that the growing of grains and grasses to feed the many thousands of head of stock that use the open range country during the winter season, will allow them to avail themselves of the markets in the early spring.

Independence Gets Newcomers.

Independence—Many newcomers are reaching Independence, and farm and city property is rapidly changing hands. One of the largest real estate deals that has taken place lately was the sale of Spurling Brothers' 202 acres joining Independence. W. W. Wilson was the purchaser for a consideration of \$15,000. Mr. Wilson will cut the place into small tracts. This is one of the finest farms in Polk county.

Newberg to Get Library.

Newberg—Word was received here last evening from Andrew Carnegie by the ladies having charge of the public library that he would give \$10,000 towards the erection of a public library at this place. Already a fine lot has been given, and it will be necessary for the city to give a bonus of \$1,000, which has been agreed to.

Proposed Road Opposed.

Salem—To declare invalid an order of the Marion county court in 1907, to construct the Silverton and Marquam road under the Tuttle act, Joseph Stupfel, in an action brought against Marion county, asks that the court be restrained from letting a contract for the road.

FEDERALS TRAP REBELS.

Scout Discovers Too Late That Approaching Forces is Enemy.

Agua Prieta, Mex., March 29.—Messages from Governor Torres, also messages to the rebel junta here, show that the rebels suffered a decisive defeat near Ures yesterday. Their loss is placed at 75 dead and many wounded. The messages to the rebel junta place the number of Federal dead at 30.

It is believed the rebel force which engaged in the fighting at La Colorado a few days ago, had divided, one section going around to the west of Hermosillo from the south, under command of Jesus Rivera. The other half, under command of a leader named Loyzien, marched to the east and north, joining Juan Cabral and 220 mounted rebels who had gone south from Carbo.

The rebels a few days ago ceased cutting the telegraph wires, and instead tapped the wires and caught the government messages. The government sent decoy messages which threw the insurgents off in their calculations. Rebels at San Rafael, near Ures, were joined by Giron and a force from Sahuapipa and the combined force under command of Loyzien took up quarters in the old Federal barracks.

Only two roads lead into San Rafael, and Loyzien placed two scouts to guard these. One of these scouts is said to have taken along a bottle of mescal, and when he saw the Federal army he thought the troops were rebels.

Colonel Ojeda, who had collected forces from Hermosillo, had obtained information that the rebels were at San Rafael, and before approaching the town, divided his forces into two wings, which neared the camp in the form of a great pair of shears. The rebel scout realized his mistake too late, and got into the rebel camp only a short time ahead of the Federal who closed in on the old barracks from both sides.

FIRE DESTROYS CAPITOL OF NEW YORK STATE

Albany, N. Y., March 29.—The state capitol, erected at a cost of \$25,000,000 caught fire shortly before 3 o'clock this morning and is threatened with complete destruction.

The fire is fanned by a stiff breeze. It originated in the west end of the great structure on the third floor and the whole side of the building is wrapped in flames with which the firemen seem powerless to cope.

The capitol is one of the finest buildings of its kind in the country. The building is of drilled granite, four stories high, and houses the assembly, the senate, the court of appeals, the state library and the offices of many state officials.

At 4:05 o'clock the flames had swept across the entire west section of the building and were bursting into the senate finance committee room and the adjoining offices of the temporary president of the senate. At that hour the fire threatened to reach the senate chamber.

At 5 o'clock the fire was not under control. It was advancing across the front of the building and threatened to destroy the entire structure.

TOWN DEFIES INSURRECTOS.

200 Rebels Fail to Capture Village After Five Hours of Firing.

Parral, Mex.—Demands of 200 or more insurgents for the surrender of the town of Inde, situated several hours' ride from the national railroad, were refused by the jefe politico and as a result a fire lasting five hours was directed on the town. The insurgents lost eight men.

A boy was sent by the insurgents with a message to the authorities asking for surrender, promising no pillaging was to be done. The boy was detained and a short time afterwards a few shots dropped into the plaza. Just then the tri-color of the republic was run up the pole by order of the jefe as a defiance to the invaders, and then the firing commenced with vigor.

Head of Duma Quits.

St. Petersburg—A. J. Guchfok, leader of the Octoberist party, has resigned as president of the Duma. A few days ago he announced at a meeting of the Octoberist group that he intended to take this action. On that occasion the Octoberist deputies intimated that they would resign their seats in the Duma, but on advice of their central committee at Moscow they will retain their seats for the present. The bourse was very weak, owing to the critical political situation, and a panic developed in the Moscow bourse.

Two Americans Killed.

El Paso, Tex.—James T. Harper, of El Paso, a captain in the insurrecto army, arrived here from the interior of Mexico. He said Robert E. Lee, of Kansas City, Mo., and Martin Ryan, whose residence he did not know, had been killed in the battle at Casas Grandes on March 6. Harper said about 26 Americans had been taken prisoners. The official report said 17 foreigners were taken.

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

RELIEF STEAMER AT SHANGHAI

Buford Carries Food to Chinese Reduced to Eating Leaves.

Washington—The United States transport Buford, bearing the relief supplies to the starving people in China, which were collected in this country under the auspices of the American National Red Cross and the Seattle Commercial club, has arrived in Shanghai, according to a cablegram received by the officials of the American Red Cross.

The vessel will proceed immediately to Nanking and Chinkiang to unload her cargo.

Mail advices to the State department from Shanghai and Nanking retail pitiful tales of the indescribable suffering of the starving millions.

Mr. Bostick, a missionary, writing from Pochow, says the suffering poor have reached the extremes of misery. A few months ago they were living on wheat bran. With this exhausted, they have resorted to cooking leaves of trees and even dry wheat chaff.

Barefooted children, all but naked on freezing cold days, pitifully screaming "I'm hungry, I'm hungry," present a common street scene.

Mothers, no longer able to provide food for their offspring, throw them away, probably in the frantic hope that compassion will force some one to rescue them. Men, a few months ago able-bodied farmers, have been reduced to rags, shivering with cold and facing starvation.

"BUCKET SHOPS" UPHELD.

Columbia Justice Decides Law Unconstitutional.

Washington—An attempt by congress to define so closely the offense of "bucket shopping" as to make it impracticable in the District of Columbia has resulted in the complete failure of legislation on the ground of unconstitutionality.

Justice Wright, in the District Supreme court, has decided that the act referred to constituted an unwarranted interference with the right of the citizen to enter into contract relations and therefore was unconstitutional.

The statute is of local application only and does not necessarily affect the actions which the department of justice has begun at many other points against alleged bucket shop operators, for the prosecution in those cases has been under the postal laws on the plain ground of fraud.

This decision was rendered in the case of Edward Altamus & Co.

The movements of the government leading up to the indictments were shrouded in the greatest secrecy. On April 2, 1910, however, when indictments were obtained, raids on "shops" in seven cities were made simultaneously, wires were cut and customers were thrown into panic. Since then, according to Attorney General Wickersham, "bucket-shopping" has become a thing of the past east of Denver.

The government announced its intention to appeal from Justice Wright's decision.

WOOL RATES ARE ASSAILED.

Growers Petition for Reduction in Tariff From Northwest.

Washington—Inequalities in the freight charges on raw wool from the Western and Northwestern wool states to Eastern wool markets, especially Chicago, St. Louis and Boston, are the subjects of a complaint made to the Interstate Commerce commission by the National Woolgrowers' association against the Oregon Short Line railroad and many other Western and Northwestern railroads.

It is averred that wool rates are unreasonable and discriminatory, and the particular preference is given by the roads to Pacific coast terminals.

The rates are asserted to be from 7 1/2 cents to 10 cents too high, in comparison with rates from other wool territory. It is declared that the defendant railroads are also violating the long and short haul provision of the law.

Drill Ships in Drydock.

Seattle—The cruiser Boston and the gunboat Concord were placed in drydock at the Bremerton navy yard to be scraped and painted preparatory to being turned over to the naval militias of Oregon and Washington to be used as armories and drill ships. The Boston will proceed to Portland under her own steam on or about May 15. The Concord will be stationed in Seattle harbor.

AFTER BIGGEST COMBINE.

Government Will Proceed Against Alleged Coal Trust.

Washington, March 29.—As the result of long investigation into what agents of the department of justice declare is the biggest trust in the world, announcement was made here today that criminal prosecutions of half a dozen of the most powerful financiers in the United States are to be begun by the federal government.

Agents of the department have reported their find of evidence showing that a billion dollar combine exists, fathered by the Pennsylvania railroad and which was organized to control the output of anthracite coal throughout the whole of the United States.

The government, it is alleged, will try to show that this gigantic combination has for many years secretly used its power to extort enormous profits from the coal trade, throttling all competition by withholding cars from concerns not in the trust. Dummy directors and secret alliances between the railroads and the mining companies are reported as the basis of the combine. The subsidizing of small railroads and the buying up of enormous coal holdings are said to have been the steps by which the trust gained control of the coal situation.

Officials of the department of justice assert that the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore & Ohio, and the Norfolk & Western railroads are the most prominent in the trust. It is also asserted that the Pennsylvania, through enormous holdings listed under dummy names, controls other roads. The Baltimore & Ohio and the Norfolk & Western are reported to have used the same device to conceal their properties and affiliations.

KNOX DRAFTS NEW TREATY.

Anglo-American Alliance Ready for Special Session.

Washington, D. C.—The drafting of a new arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain to include all disputes between the two countries has been begun by Secretary of State Knox. Negotiation of the convention will be expedited as much as possible, with a view to submitting it to the senate for ratification at the special session to begin April 4.

The treaty will be the first of its kind ever negotiated and will provide for arbitration on all disputes between the United States and Great Britain. The work of drawing up the new convention will be difficult, because the document will be the first of its kind. It will be used as a model for similar conventions with other countries.

Negotiation of a general arbitration treaty with Great Britain is the direct result of the speech of Sir Edward Grey, minister of Foreign affairs of Great Britain, in the house of commons several weeks ago, in which he said that a proposal for negotiation of such a convention would be welcomed by the British government.

While President Taft and Mr. Knox have been in favor of such a treaty for some months, they were not inclined to make definite proposal of the subject to Great Britain until official information had first been obtained as to the probable attitude of that country toward the proposal. The speech of Sir Edward Grey cleared up this phase of the situation and paved the way for actual negotiations.

The attitude of the senate will determine whether or not other conventions, similar to that negotiated with Great Britain, will be drawn up and submitted for ratification.

It is understood that preliminary exchanges have been made through the State department to ascertain the attitude of the French government toward a general arbitration treaty covering all future disputes. These conventions, if ratified and put into operation, will be a long step towards international peace.

Negro Official Sworn In.

Washington—William H. Lewis, the Boston negro, recently named by President Taft for the position of assistant attorney-general of the United States was formerly sworn into office. Mr. Lewis' nomination failed of confirmation by the senate, and Mr. Taft gave him a recess appointment. The new official of the department of justice called at the White house to thank the president.

Postal Banks Extended.

Washington—In the list of 45 additional postal savings depositories announced by Postmaster-General Hitchcock are Astoria, Or., Hoquiam, Wash., and Kalispell, Mont.