

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Infor- mation of Our Readers.

Concrete monuments are to be used by Lane county in marking the line of county roads.

F. S. Crosby, Oregon pioneer of 1849, a resident of Albany, died in that city aged almost 92 years.

Members of the Northwest Water-front Employers' union will hold their biennial meeting in Portland April 10.

Former President Taft will lecture at Salem May 28 under the auspices of the students of Willamette university.

Striking laundry workers at The Dalles have returned to their positions, pending arbitration of the wage question.

The capacity of the state pheasant farm in Lane county is to be doubled this year, according to Game Warden Shoemaker.

D. A. Davis, 19 years old, employed as a deck hand on the steamer Dispatch, was drowned in the Coquille river near Bandon.

County fair stock totaling \$18,650 has been subscribed at Bend and enough more has been guaranteed to make up an even \$20,000.

Fifty superintendents and principals of the Eastern Oregon School association attended the annual meeting of the organization at La Grande.

Fruit growers of Marion county report orchards to be in a very promising condition. Forebodings of great damage last winter have not been realized.

Total deposits in the banks of the state on February 28, 1920, aggregated \$278,632,787.87, a decrease of \$27,697,955.46 since the call of November 17, 1919.

A branch of the state taxpayers' league is being organized in Hood River county to combat the Non-Partisan league and its alleged Oregon affiliation, the Land and Labor League.

The department of the interior has notified water users in the Klamath irrigation district that the 1920 rate for operation and maintenance will be a minimum of \$2 instead of \$1.25 for each irrigable acre.

Income and excess profits taxes aggregating approximately \$1,000,000,000 have been paid into the federal treasury as the first installment of the nation's tax for 1919. Oregon's portion was over \$7,000,000.

A conference of Morrow county school principals, directors and teachers at Heppner passed resolutions recommending the salary of school superintendents be fixed at \$3000 per year and a minimum salary of \$1500 for teachers.

The Oregon public service commission will hold a conference with members of the Idaho public service commission, officials of the Idaho Power company and the Oregon Irrigation power users, at Ontario, Malheur county, on April 8.

With the object of organizing the sheep and goat raisers in Douglas county, Agriculturist C. J. Hurd has called a meeting which will be held in Roseburg April 2, when the breeders will be urged to improve the grade of their herds.

Stockmen in the vicinity of Dixie and Durkee are greatly worried concerning the feeding situation on the surrounding cattle ranges. At present the grass is scarce on the low hills and there is no grass at all on the higher altitudes.

Two men charged with selling orchard tracts for the Mexican Land company were temporarily detained in Portland by H. J. Schaulderman, state corporation commissioner, and compelled to return money advanced by seven purchasers of the lands.

The minimum scale for common labor in the various sawmills of Coos Bay has been increased from \$4.80 per day to \$5.30 per day, as the result of a conference between five employers and five representatives of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen.

Sam A. Koser, assistant secretary of state, has mailed out several thousand pamphlets containing a digest of the election laws of Oregon. The pamphlet is a biennial product of the secretary of state's office and is much sought by voters and office holders in all sections of Oregon.

The state highway commission has requested the state board of control to issue \$2,500,000 of bonds to meet government aid in the construction of post and forest roads in Oregon under the provisions of the co-operative fed-

eral aid law enacted at the special session of the legislature last January.

The Marion county grand jury is expected to resume its investigation of the affairs of the state treasurer's department this week after being engaged with other business for several days. The auditors employed by the state to examine the books of the treasurer will complete their work on Thursday. Their figures and records probably will be turned over to Attorney-General Brown and later submitted to the grand jury for consideration.

A large number of cattle feeders from Umatilla, Wasco, Gilliam, Baker, Wallowa and Union counties met at La Grande to attend the first annual cattle feeders' convention.

The law enacted at the 1919 session of the legislature providing for a tax of 1 cent a gallon on gasoline and 1/2 a cent a gallon on distillate sold in Oregon has returned to the state up to March 1, 1920, proceeds totaling \$390,912.22, according to a report prepared by Sam A. Koser, assistant secretary of state.

John L. Rand, attorney of Baker, will be appointed a member of the board of higher curricula to succeed A. G. Beals of Tillamook at the expiration of the latter's term. Other members of the board are Jonah B. Wise, Portland; Charles A. Brand, Roseburg; J. E. Hodges, Oregon City, and C. J. Smith, Portland.

Forty head of purebred Hereford cattle were sold at La Grande Saturday at public auction by Andrew and Garrett Blokland. The bidding was very low, probably due to the bad weather which prevailed. Bidders from Union county, Bend and Baker bought the stock, the total amount raised by the sale being \$10,880.

Governor Olcott, acting upon a report from Dr. W. H. Lytle, state veterinarian, that a contagious disease of sheep known as scabies exists in practically all states outside of Oregon, issued a proclamation abrogating the present quarantine and making more drastic the regulations attendant to the shipment of these animals into the state.

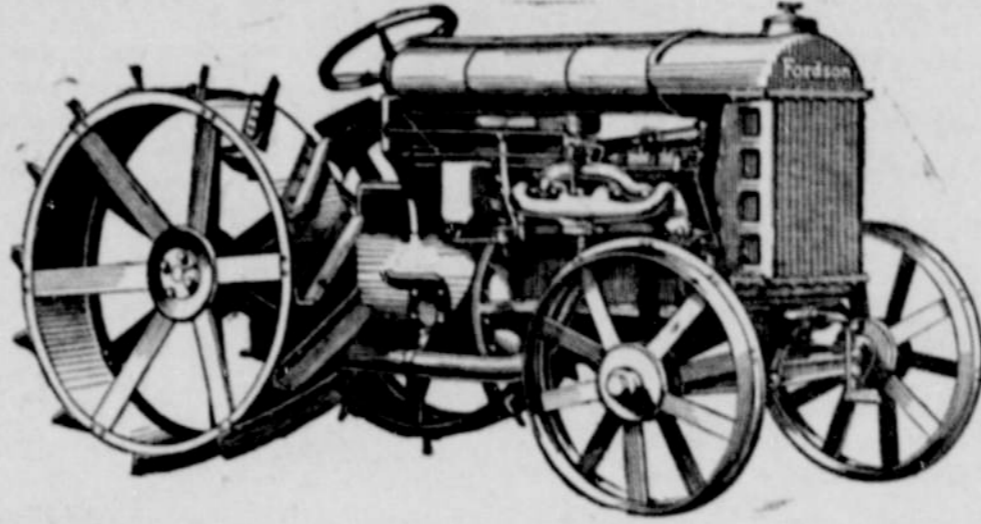
Two new sawmills will be erected in the upper Willamette country south-east of Eugene at once. E. E. Smith and associates, under the name of the Oakridge Lumber company and who recently bought 7,000,000 feet of government timber on Salmon creek above that town, have bought the machinery for a mill of 35,000 feet capacity. The other mill will be erected by the Edwards Lumber company at Landax and this plant will have a capacity of 25,000 feet.

Purchase of Swan Island and removal of the west half of it from the river; closing of the present crooked, dangerous east channel and the creation of a straight west channel 1600 feet wide, together with the construction of a gigantic mole on the east side of Swan island, providing terminal and dockage facilities superior to those of any other city on the Pacific coast, form the salient features of a \$10,000,000 harbor development plan submitted to the Portland city council by a committee of fifteen.

Eighteen thousand acres of Indian lands in the Umatilla Indian reservation will be leased upon sealed bids on May 8. Announcement of the availability of this land for lease has been made by E. L. Schwartzlander, superintendent of the reservation. There are about 208 parcels in the offering. Not more than 800 acres can be leased to one person. The rules under which the land is leased also provide that two year leases only will be expected except when both parties agree to a four-year lease.

According to W. H. Canon of the Roseburg United States land office, inquiries concerning the Oregon and California lands are coming in at the rate of about 100 a day. Although considerable interest is manifested in these lands the rush that was expected prob-

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ably will not materialize. Most of the requests for information are from ex-service men who desire to exercise their preference rights. It is expected that there will be a large number of filings when the lands are opened to entry.

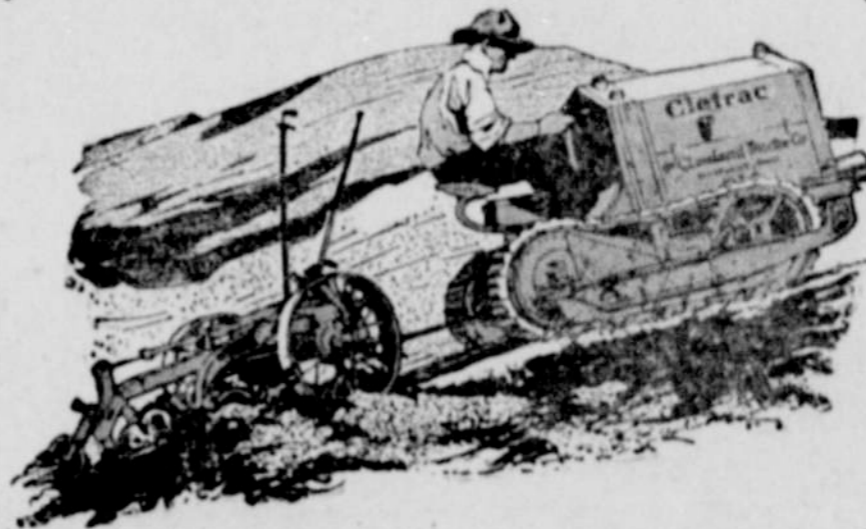
Attorneys for the settlers on the central Oregon irrigation segregation made their first definite move in a campaign to oust the Central Oregon Irrigation company from control of the irrigation system and the lands which it waters, by filing a suit in equity to prevent the company from collecting any maintenance charges or from enforcing the collection on outstanding contracts until the irrigation system is put into condition to supply water for the acreage which has already been purchased.

The fruit situation throughout the Willamette valley is good except in instances where the trees and vines were winter injured, said J. O. Holt, manager of the Eugene Fruit Growers' association and field director of the Oregon Growers' association, after a trip through the valley. Mr. Holt says that all loganberry vines that had not been trellised before the freeze came are in fine shape, but as a rule the vines that were up on trellises were killed down to the snow line. There is a vigorous growth of new shoots on these vines.

Fourteen cents a pound is being offered by Salem buyers for the strawberry crop for 1920, according to announcement. Several contracts at this price have been executed while other growers are said to be considering the offer. It is said that the product is for shipment to eastern markets for use of a fruit juice corporation. The loganberry situation remains unchanged and quite a number of contracts are being written at 12 cents a pound. Salem canners are meeting with considerable opposition this season, a number of outside buyers being on the ground at the present time.

The Oregon League of Women Voters, with headquarters in Portland, filed articles of incorporation at Salem. The officers and incorporators are Maria Hadden, Portland, president; Josephine Othus, Portland, recording secretary, and Thella Scruggs, Portland, treasurer.

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