

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

PRUNES SOLD GREEN.

Salem Growers to Ship 30 Cars to Eastern Market.

Salem—A new era in the prune business of the Willamette valley was ushered in, when the independent prune pool, representing about 2,000,000 pounds of fruit, practically decided to accept a proposition from the Earl Fruit company, of San Francisco, for about 30 car loads of green prunes, to be picked and shipped to the Eastern markets at once. The price offered is 40 cents per crate of 24 pounds, the prunes to be accepted and paid for at this rate before leaving Salem. The growers are told they will also get all that the prunes bring in the market over and above this figure. Each car will hold 12 tons.

The Eastern Washington and Idaho crop has been sold green for several years. Last year the output of that section was 1,600 tons. This year there is a light crop, amounting to only about 350 tons, and the dealers in green fruits are seeking to make up the deficiency by buying Oregon's Italian prunes, which are admitted to be better than either the California or Washington products. Last year the growers of Washington and Idaho realized 30 cents per crate of 24 pounds, or about 80 cents per bushel, for their green prunes, which the Salem growers consider more profitable than selling the dried fruit.

Leading growers state that 30 cars can be picked from the orchards of the members of the pool at this time and not decrease the output of dried fruit to any extent, as the prunes that remain will attain a much larger growth than if none were removed.

Activity in Gold Mines.

Grants Pass—There will be much activity among Southern Oregon mines this fall. Many mining men looking over the field in order to obtain good options on some of the best paying property. In conjunction with this movement on the part of buyers, some of the owners are introducing the diamond drill. One of these machines arrived this week to be used upon the property of the National Copper company, located 17 miles from this city. It is understood that the Buckeye group of mining claims will also have a machine of the same kind here within a few days to make tests on their properties which are in the same neighborhood.

Big Tract Subdivided.

Grants Pass—Subdividing of large tracts of orchard and farming land until continues in this part of Rogue river valley. Along the Applegate river, near Murphy postoffice, 500 acres of land, with 200 acres under irrigation, and sufficient water rights and ditches to irrigate 150 more, besides abundance of water in the river that may be appropriated for the remainder of the premises will be subdivided into ten-acre lots and planted into fruit. There will be an earnest effort on the part of the owners to sell only to men with families, who desire to have homes in a pleasant climate, and to be close to the railroad in order to market fruit.

Has Automobile Record.

Vale—If the degree of prosperity can be measured by the number of automobiles owned in a city, Vale can boast of prosperity. It has been established that Vale has more autos than any city its size in Oregon and some extend it to the United States. Vale has one auto to every 40 inhabitants, this estimate including men, women and children. A year ago an automobile had never been seen on the streets.

Regular Mail Service Now.

Prineville—After three years' constant effort by patrons of the discontinued Crook postoffice, which was located in the Bear Creek country, 55 miles south of Prineville, regular mail supply was begun Monday, July 19. A series of four postoffices have been established by the postoffice department for the accommodation of the residents of the district affected, some 400 in number.

Harvesting Starts at Weston.

Weston—The wheat harvest has just begun in this vicinity. Many machines are now at work, and the wheat will soon be in the sack, as ideal harvest weather prevails. Fall wheat is yielding about 40 bushels per acre, and the few samples brought in test 60 pounds to the bushel. Smut is unusually prevalent, because of the damp, cloudy weather early in the year.

Cool Bay Wants Artillery Company.

Marshfield—The members of the Young Men's Commercial club are becoming active in boosting Cool bay. One of the steps taken is to push the organization of an artillery company here. A committee headed by Dr. E. Mingus will confer with the National Guard officers. Many young men have already signified their willingness to become members.

SECURES LAKE TRADE.

Klamath Merchants Boost for Good Roads Over Mountains.

Klamath Falls—Ranchers from the Silver Lake section, in Northern Lake county, are coming to Klamath Falls for their supplies. Already several of them have made the trip of approximately 175 miles and have returned home with their wagons loaded with provisions purchased from the merchants of this city. The one drawback to getting all of the trade of Northern Lake county is the poor condition of the roads. At this season of the year it is possible to travel over most any kind of a trail, but with the first light storms the roads become practically impassible. Northern Lake county is anxious to do its trading in this city and the merchants of that section are willing to have their freight shipped via Klamath instead of Shaniko, the way it has been coming. The distance is about the same, but the freight rate is lower. It is very likely that steps will be taken by Klamath county to improve the roads to this isolated section, so that the vast territory in the remote parts of both Klamath and Lake counties will be enabled to get all their supplies from Klamath Falls.

This city is so situated that the arrival of the railroad has made it the natural distributing center for all Southern Oregon. The only drawback is the road question. Klamath county is now prepared to build good roads at a reasonable cost, but the county is too large to construct highways in every section in a short time. The opening up of the Lake county traffic to Klamath Falls also makes an opening for Portland wholesalers, who will have to hustle in order to meet the competition of Sacramento and San Francisco.

Electric Line Promised.

Eugene—To add to the efficiency of the local street railway system, the Portland, Eugene & Eastern Railway company has received from the factory in the East an additional motor car and two trailers, the business of the line having outgrown the equipments. New lines are also being built and projected. A prominent official of the company, while in Eugene a few days ago, said that a portion of the proposed line between Eugene and Salem would be built this year as far north as Junction City.

State Veterinarians Named.

Salem—Governor Benson has appointed the following members of the Oregon state veterinary medical board to serve for four years: Dr. Alexander Reid, Morrow county, reappointed; Dr. F. T. Motz, Baker county, to succeed Dr. D. C. McNab, Umatilla county.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, nominal; club, \$1.15; valley, \$1.15. New crop: Bluestem, \$1.05; club, \$1; Russian, 98c; valley, 97c.

Corn—Whole, \$35 per ton; cracked, \$36 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$20@22 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$21@23; mixed, \$16@20; alfalfa, \$14.

Grain bags—5½¢ each.

Fruits—Strawberries, 2¢ per crate; cherries, 5¢@11¢ per pound; gooseberries, 6¢; apricots, \$1.25@1.50 per box; currants, 8¢ per pound; loganberries, \$1.25@1.50 per crate; raspberries, \$1@1.15; blackcaps, \$1.50; blackberries, \$2; wild blackberries, 9¢@10¢ per pound.

Potatoes—1@1.75 per hundred; new, 2@2¼¢ per pound.

Vegetables—Beans, 6¢ per pound; cabbage, 1¼¢@1½¢; cauliflower, \$1 per dozen; lettuce, head, 25¢; onions, 12¼¢@15¢; peas, 5¢@7¢ per pound; radishes, 15¢ per dozen.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 29¢ per pound; fancy outside creamery, 27¢@28¢; store, 20¢. Butter fat prices average 1½¢ per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, candled, 27¢@28¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 14¢@14½¢ per pound; springs, 18¼¢@19¢; roosters, 9¢@10¢; ducks, young, 11¢@12¢; geese, young, 9¢@10¢; turkeys, 18¢; squabs, \$2@2.25 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 10¢@10½¢ per pound.

Veal—Extras, 9¢ per pound; ordinary, 7¢@8¢; heavy, 7¢.

Hops—1909 contracts, 15¢@16¢ per pound; 1908 crop, 11¢@12¢; 1907 crop, 7¢; 1906 crop, 4¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16¢@23¢ per pound; valley, 23¢@25¢; mohair, choice, 24¢@25¢.

Cattle—Steers, top, \$4.50; fair to good, \$4@4.25; common, \$3.75@4; cows, top, \$3.50; fair to good, \$3@3.25; common to medium, \$2.50@2.75; calves, top, \$5@5.50; heavy, \$3.50@4; bulls and stags, \$2.75@3.25; common, \$2@2.50.

Hogs—Best, \$8.25@8.50; fair to good, \$7.75@8; stockers, \$6@6.50; China fats, \$6.75@7.

Sheep—Top wethers, \$4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; ewes, ¼¢ less on all grades; yearlings, best, \$4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; spring lambs, \$5.25@5.55.

EQUIPMENT GOES IN.

Rush Orders Given for Railroad Construction on Deschutes.

The Dalles, July 26.—All yesterday four-horse teams, hauling wagons piled high with railway camp equipment, have trekked out of The Dalles, bound for the Deschutes river. Beginning at 7 o'clock in the morning it was not until 5 in the afternoon that the last of the 40 wagons shipped here by Porter Bros., railroad contractors, who are supposed to be working for the Hill railways, wended its way to the south-east.

Indications are almost conclusive that Porter Bros., intend to establish not two, but five or six camps, as if preparing to cover the entire ground of the Oregon Trunk line surveys. They themselves did not know, was the reply given by representatives of the Oregon Trunk to inquiries as to the number of camps and places of location.

Every indication is that men and equipment were secured hastily, and it is believed here to be true that the contractors only know in a general way where the camps will be established.

Either a sudden decision to contest with Harriman for the traffic of Central Oregon or the sudden acquisition of knowledge that the Oregon Trunk would be down and out very soon unless it began construction is believed to be the cause of the rushing of men into the Deschutes country.

Either alternative raises conjecture as to whether Porter Bros. are playing a hold-up game on Harriman or are backed by James J. Hill or actually intend to build a railroad themselves.

BLERIOT CROSSES CHANNEL.

French Aeronaut Makes the 22 Miles in 23 Minutes.

Dover, July 26.—Louis Bleriot, the French aviator, accomplished the remarkable feat of flying across the English channel Saturday in 23 minutes. The distance from his starting point, near Calais, to Dover, is about 22 miles, and he therefore traveled at the rate of nearly a mile a minute.

The aviator left the French shore at 4:30 and within a few minutes sighted the white cliffs of the English coast. He descended gracefully in the North Fall meadow, behind Dover Castle, at 4:53 a. m.

M. Bleriot looked little the worse for his hazardous trip, although his foot was burned by petrol. This gave him some trouble, and he had to be assisted to an automobile which was waiting. He drove to the Lord Warden hospital, where he was greeted enthusiastically.

A French torpedo boat destroyer followed the aeroplane, but so swift was the speed of the machine that the destroyer was soon left far behind. Although the start was made in calm weather, the wind soon rose and a strong breeze was blowing at the time of the descent, making the performance all the more noteworthy.

The French torpedo boat destroyer arrived at Dover at 6:50 with Bleriot's wife and a party of friends on board.

By his achievement Bleriot wins the special prize of \$5,000 offered by the London Daily Mail.

MOORS FIGHT SPANIARDS.

Tribesmen Put Up Desperate Fight Against Trained Soldiers.

Malaga, Spain, July 26.—The steamer Menorquin, with 80 wounded aboard, arrived here today from Melilla, where the hospitals are overcrowded. Passengers on the steamer declare that the residents of Melilla are panic-stricken, the successes of the Moors giving rise to the belief that they will swoop down on the city itself. Friday's battle was sanguinary, there being much hand-to-hand fighting.

The Moorish tribes now gathered close to General Marina's camp are estimated at 16,000. Their recent losses are said to have been nearly 1,000. The Spanish forces lost not less than 3,000 men.

When the battle became general, the Spaniards endeavored to trap the Moors between two lines of fire. The tribesmen, however, were too wary and fought desperately. They retreated only when they were literally hurled back at the points of Spanish bayonet. At dusk there was a lull in the fighting.

Victory for Americans.

Pekin, July 21.—On account of the failure of the negotiations at the recent meeting of bankers in London and Paris, an attempt is being made at Pekin to close quickly the Hankow railway loan by increasing the amount so as to give Americans equal participation and not reduce the original allotment to the other three powers—Great Britain, France and Germany. This arrangement was agreed to by the Chinese foreign board Saturday and the four days' negotiations ended with the consultations of foreign bankers.

Lightning Hits Scientist.

Christiana, Nor., July 26.—Captain Engestad, of the Norwegian navy, was killed by lightning today. He was taking meteorological observations during a thunder storm. Captain Engestad was to have commanded the polar expedition ship Fram on the coming Amundsen polar expedition.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Monday, July 26.

Washington, July 26.—Hides will be put on the free list if the tariff on boots and shoes and other leather manufactures is reduced below the house rates. Unless the advocates of free hides are able to carry out this plan, the whole is to be called off. A decision on this effect was reached by the tariff conferees today.

The conference adjourned tonight until 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, but the house members assemble half an hour earlier that they may plan for executing their part of the agreement. It is expected that they will have a report from the house leaders as to the possibility of passing a rule conferring jurisdiction upon them to agree to lower rates on leather than those named in the house bill.

Saturday, July 24.

Washington, July 24.—The hide question was settled and unsettled today, and while there seems little doubt that eventually hides will go on the free list of the new tariff bill, the contest over their status cannot be regarded as closed. None of the questions made prominent through President Taft's interest in them were settled today, although the conference was in strict executive session all day. The conferees expect to spend a large part of Sunday wrestling with these problems.

Friday, July 23.

Washington, July 23.—While no agreement was reached by the tariff conferees today on coal, lumber, hides, oil, iron ore, the cotton schedule or wood pulp and print paper, it was said tonight that the prospects of settling these big questions tomorrow were excellent.

Heroic measures were used in an effort to adjust differences between the senate and house and to carry out President Taft's program for a reduction of duties on raw materials. All the conferees said tonight that the feelings they entertained for one another were more pleasant than they had been for many days.

Thursday, July 22.

Washington, July 22.—Today was one of conferences and concluded with a consultation at the White House tonight, participated in by the president, Senator Aldrich and Representative Payne, at which the chief executive was assured that harmonious settlement of the differences is likely.

The senators opposed to the free raw material program were consulted today by Mr. Aldrich, and a committee representing the same position on the house side conferred with Chairman Payne. In addition, the house conferees met to have the experts of the senate finance committee explain the senate changes in the cotton schedule.

Wednesday, July 21.

Washington, July 21.—Better progress was made today by the tariff conferees than on any other day since the troublesome disputes were reached. Many questions were settled without any renewal of hostilities.

The entire zinc schedule was adjusted. Spelter was made dutiable at 1½ cents per pound, which is a reduction from the senate rate of 1½ cents and an increase from the house rate of 1 cent. All the senate differentials were adopted. Zinc in sheets will be dutiable at 1½ cents, and sheets coated or plated with nickel or other metal at 2 cents. The house rate at 1 cent for old and worn-out zinc fit only to be remanufactured was adopted. Tungsten ore, which is used in the manufacture of ferro alloys, one of the chief component parts in the manufacture of low steel and steel parts of automobiles, was made dutiable at 10 per cent ad valorem instead of 15 per cent, as fixed by the senate.

Lemons will pay a duty of 1¼ cents a pound, the senate rate. This is an increase of ¼ cent over the house rate, and half a cent over the Dingley rates.

Tuesday, July 20.

Washington, July 20.—Wood pulp, print paper and lumber, to say nothing of hides, iron ore and other so-called raw material, are receiving the most serious attention from the conferees. The paper and pulp fight bids fair to be especially stubborn and probably will be somewhat prolonged.

Much progress has been made on the cotton schedule, but hosiery and a number of other leading items of cotton manufacture are causing the tariff arbitrators much concern. The drawback provision is practically the only important administrative feature that remains unsettled.

Although the rates of duty have been fixed on practically all of the steel products, there has been a protest against the increased rate on structural steel punched for use. It was thought that a compromise on lead and its products was in view, but this schedule also has proved difficult of adjustment. The duties on zinc in blocks and pigs, which were increased by the senate over the house rates, is another matter which is delaying the

settlement of the metals schedule.

Canal Nearly Half Dug.

Washington, July 24.—Substantial progress in canal construction all along the line is shown by reports coming to the Washington office of the Isthmian Canal commission. Excavation work approximates 80,000,000 cubic yards, almost as much as the total quantity of dirt taken out by the French during the period they were engaged in operations there. Less than 100,000,000 cubic yards of earth remain to be taken from the ditch. Colonel Goethals has estimated that the great waterway will be ready for the transit of ships by January 12, 1915.

Power Site Withdrawn.

Washington, July 24.—Carrying out the policy of Secretary Ballinger in preventing the monopolization of great water power sites by large corporations, Acting Secretary Pierce today withdrew for a temporary power site 25,086 acres of land along the Green river and its tributaries in Wyoming. All of the water power sites withdrawn will be reported by the secretary to congress in order that legislation may be enacted to preserve them to the government.

Sentiment Was Unanimous.

Washington, July 23.—In an official telegram from Teheran, received today at the Persian legation, announcing that the hereditary sultan, Ahmed Mirza, had been proclaimed shah, it was stated that the unpopularity and unworthiness of Mohammed Ali Mirza caused him to be deposed. The message said at a conference between the heads of the Mohammedan church, princes, high dignitaries and the old members of congress, the vote was unanimous against the deposed shah.

Cabinet in Saving Mood.

Washington, July 24.—A special meeting of the cabinet was held at the White house today further to discuss the matter of cutting down the estimates of the various departments for the coming fiscal year, according to the statements of several of the cabinet members before entering the consultation room with President Taft. The cabinet devoted its entire session yesterday to a consideration of estimates and ways and means of reducing them.

Taft Will Visit Oregon.

Washington, July 23.—Representatives Hawley and Ellis called on the president today to ask him to stop at other points than Portland while in Oregon. The president said that on his way south from Portland he would stop at Salem, and if his schedule permitted he would try to make other stops. In case he goes to Denver, he told Congressman Ellis he would endeavor to make short stops in Eastern Oregon.

Congressmen to Visit Hawaii.

Washington, July 23.—A party of 25 senators and members of the house is preparing to visit Hawaii. The visit is in response to an invitation extended by the Hawaiian legislature at its last session, and the party will sail from San Francisco on the steamer Siberia, August 24. Eighteen days will be spent in Hawaii, during which time the four largest islands of the group will be visited.

Probe Heney Case.

Washington, July 27.—If interest can again be awakened in the Heney case when congress reassembles next December it is more than likely that a special congressional committee will be appointed to probe into the employment of Mr. Heney, his work as a special prosecutor for the Department of Justice, and his remuneration, made from time to time, under direction of the Department of Justice.

Japan's New Ambassador.

Washington, July 27.—Baron Uchida, it is rumored, will succeed Takahira as ambassador of Japan to the United States. He was formerly connected with the legation in Washington. He has been connected with the Japanese embassy at Vienna recently. It is believed that, if he succeeds Takahira, the latter will be promoted to Baron Komura's post.

Meet Diaz at San Antonio.

Washington, July 27.—It seems probable that President Taft will meet President Diaz, of Mexico, at San Antonio, Tex., instead of El Paso late in September or early in October. This arrangement is probable because of President Taft's disposition to observe the ironclad precedent against American presidents visiting a foreign country.

Taft Stands by Newell.

Washington, July 25.—The Washington Post, in an article discussing the troubles between Secretary Ballinger and Director Newell, of the reclamation service, states that Mr. Newell has received assurance from the president that he is not to be deposed, even though his scalp is demanded by Mr. Ballinger.