

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

COURSE TO BE IMPROVED.

Correspondence School Closes Second Year's Work.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—The second year of the correspondence study department of the University of Oregon has just closed with an enrollment of more than 350 students. This is a material increase over the number enrolled last year, and there is hardly a county of the state not represented among the students.

In all respects the results of the work of the past year have been most satisfactory, and the plans for the coming year include expansion in all departments.

Dr. Herman Burr Leonard, of the department of mathematics, who has had a number of years' connection with correspondence schools in the East, and who has been very successful in his correspondence courses in mathematics at the university during the past two years, has been put in general charge of all correspondence work. He will be assisted in the office work by Miss Mazelle Hair, formerly an instructor in the department of English literature, and the work in the field will be in charge of Professor L. R. Alderman. Plans for the coming year include several courses each in the departments of mathematics, English literature, English composition, botany, history, education, economics, mechanical drawing and physics, and an enrollment of 500 students is expected. The correspondence study work will begin in September.

LAST MODOC BOND IS PAID.

Southern Oregon Resident Secures \$113.47.

Salem.—The state treasurer's office recently paid the last of the Modoc war bonds. The claimant was Charles Sherlock, a Southern Oregon man, and he drew from the state the tidy sum of \$113.47. The face value of the bond was \$75.90, interest coupons \$27.52, interest on bond \$10.05, making a total of \$113.47.

These bonds were issued under an act approved October 22, 1874. The bonds matured January 1, 1880, and interest ceased December 1, 1881. For many years there has been but one bond unredeemed and recently a friend of Sherlock noticed the statement of the bond issue in the annual report of the state treasurer, and lost no time in calling the attention of Sherlock to the fact that the state owed him money which it was willing and anxious to pay. Sherlock furnished undisputed proof of his right to the sum, which was accordingly paid him.

Country Developed by Road.

Corvallis.—As a result of the connecting of the Corvallis & Alesia railroad with the timber belt southwest of Monroe, heavy shipments of logs for the Corvallis sawmills are arriving daily by train. The line taps a forest area in which there are three billion feet of the finest standing timber. A site has been purchased in the suburbs of the city for an added sawmill of 150,000 feet capacity. The railroad is 25 miles in length and was built by H. C. Carver, \$3,000 having been contributed by the people of Corvallis and Benton county in aid of the undertaking. The line runs through a rich agricultural district and will transport large quantities of grain and other products. It connects Corvallis and Monroe.

Planting New Orchards.

Central Point.—The dividing of large farms into small home tracts, the planting of orchards, the rapid development of mining and timber properties, the building of substantial factories, business blocks and residences, the installation of a modern waterworks system and other public improvements, and the phenomenal increase in population are factors in continued prosperity of Central Point.

Oil Well Down 470 Feet.

Astoria.—Excellent progress is being made in boring for oil at the Hess place, on Young's river, and a depth of 470 feet has been reached. A little over 400 feet down a strong flow of gas was struck and this still continues. This is considered a very satisfactory indication and the boring will be continued until 500 feet is reached, unless oil is struck before that time.

American Mining Congress.

Salem.—Announcements of the next meeting of the American Mining congress have reached the executive office at Salem. Governor Benson will be privileged to appoint 10 delegates from this state to the congress, which meets at Goldfield, Nev., September 27, 28, 29 and 30 and October 1 and 2.

Hawley Returns Home.

Salem.—Congressman Willis C. Hawley, of the First district, has returned to his home at Salem. Mr. Hawley expressed pleasure at being able to return to his state after the long special session. He said he thought the time was well spent.

IMPROVING FAIR GROUNDS.

New Sewer System, New Entrance and Many New Buildings.

Salem.—Work has been started on the system of sewerage authorized by the last legislature for the state fair, and the fair grounds will present a busy scene to visitors until the fair opens on Monday, September 13. Besides 35 convicts employed on the grounds, Secretary Frank Welch had advertised that as many men will be employed in digging ditches as can be hired for 25 cents an hour. A 22-inch sewer will be laid from the fair grounds through north Salem to the site of the new Deaf Mute school, where the state board of agriculture will co-operate with the state board of education in the completion of the project. The sewer will run from the Deaf Mute school, thence to the river about one mile and a half from the fair grounds.

The sewer for the fair grounds was almost demanded by the state board of health. Besides benefiting the state institutions, for which it was primarily constructed to serve, it will give the city of Salem additional needed sewerage, and those property owners who have donated right of way will be privileged to use the sewer.

A mammoth entrance is being built which gives the grounds this year a more imposing appearance from the outside. Several new buildings are under course of construction that will give more room for the display of exhibits.

All the work is under contract to be finished by September 13, at which time the fair is billed to open for one week. The entries are beginning to come in, and the office force at the fair grounds is swamped with work attending to the classification of the stock entries. It is believed the fair this year will easily surpass all previous exhibitions.

Rush Work on Road.

Baker City.—With a determination to reach Prairie City, in the John Day valley, by Thanksgiving day, the Sumpter Valley Railroad company is working about 300 men on the extension of 17 miles which runs over a mountain range. If the road reaches Prairie City so that trains run on Thanksgiving day, it is the intention of Baker's business men to send a large delegation into the John Day country on that date.

Land Used for 55 Years.

Cottage Grove.—Threshing has begun in full blast in the vicinity of Cottage Grove, the grain yields in some cases exceeding the expectations of the farmers. A field belonging to Felix Currin, four and one-half miles east of this place, that has been in crops successfully for 55 years, will yield 30 bushels to the acre in wheat of excellent quality. Other farmers expect about the same average.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, 93c; club, 88c; Red Russian, 86c; valley, 89c; Turkey red, 88c; forty-fold, 89c.

Barley—Feed, \$36 per ton; brewing, \$27.

Oats—\$28@29 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$12@16 per ton; Eastern Oregon \$17@18; mixed, \$15.50@16.50; alfalfa, \$13.50; clover, \$11@13; cheat, \$13@14.50.

Grain bags—5c each.

Butter—City creamery, extra, 31c per pound; fancy outside creamery, 27c@31c; store, 21c@22c. Butter fat prices average 1c per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, candled, 27c@27c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 15c; springs, 16c@16c per pound; roasters, 9c@10c; ducks, young, 12c@13c; geese, young, 10c@11; turkeys, 20c; squabs, \$1.75@2 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 11c@11c per pound.

Veal—Extra, 9c@10c per pound.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.25 per box; pears, \$1.50@2; peaches, 75c@1.50 per crate; cantaloupes, 1.75@2.50; plums, 35c@75c per box; watermelons, 1c@1c per pound; blackberries, \$1.60@1.75 per crate.

Potatoes—75c@1 per sack; sweet potatoes, 3c per pound.

Onions—\$1.25 per sack.

Vegetables—Beans, 4c@5c per pound; cabbage, 1c@1c; cauliflower, 4c@5c per dozen; celery, 5c@6c; corn, 15c@20c; cucumbers, 15c@20c; onions, 12c@15c; peas, 7c per pound; radishes, 15c per dozen; tomatoes, \$1@1.50 per box.

Hops—1909 contracts, 21c per pound; 1908 crop, 14c@15c; 1907 crop, 11c; 1906 crop, 8c.

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

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.

Sheep—Top wethers, \$4@4.25; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; ewes, 1c less on all grades; yearlings, best, \$4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; spring lambs, \$5.25@5.50.

Hogs—Best, \$5.75; fair to good, \$3@3.50; stockers, \$4@7; China fairs, \$4.75@7.

THIRTY BUSHEL WHEAT.

Montana Farmer Makes Success of Working Dry Land.

Caldwell, Mont., Aug. 20.—F. F. Irvine, member of the Montana board of control of the Fourth Dry Farming congress, and one of the successful dry land farmers of this vicinity, is now harvesting 40 acres of wheat, which he estimates will yield about 30 bushels an acre. This grain was planted in September on sod ground that had been plowed in May and June. Being the first crop from this ground Mr. Irvine regards his crop as unusually good. He says the field has been attracting attention and people have been coming in from miles around to see for themselves what can be accomplished by conscientious application of dry farming principles.

Mr. Irvine has informed Secretary John T. Burns, of the Dry Farming congress, that he will send a sample of this crop to Billings, Montana, for exhibition at the Fourth Dry Farming congress, which will meet at Billings, October 26-27-28 next.

WIND AGAINST WELLMAN.

Twice Prepares to Fly to North Pole, but Puts Back.

Hammerfest, Norway, Aug. 20.—A dispatch from Walter Wellman's Arctic expedition camp at Spitzbergen dated August 14 says:

"A north gale which had been blowing on the 5th dropped on the 12th, and Mr. Wellman made ready to start in search of the North Pole. The balloon was inflated and provisioned, and the motors were working smoothly. On the 13th the wind was still variable, but Mr. Wellman decided to get the airship out of the house.

"The officers and crew of the Thalia assisted in swinging the airship, which was of fine appearance, out of the shed. The wind, however, again freshened and at 6 o'clock in the morning Mr. Wellman ordered the airship back into the shed to wait for more propitious weather."

G. P. R. Discovers Fraud.

Montreal, Que., Aug. 20.—The legal department of the Canadian Pacific railway believes it has unearthed a huge conspiracy to mulct that and other corporations by means of false claims for damages for personal injury received in alleged accidents. The claimants are alleged to have a regular organization, with branches in Chicago, Toronto, Vancouver and other places, and to carry on a systematic scheme of fraud by means of false claims, false witnesses, etc. Three arrests have been made and others are promised.

Yoakum is Optimistic.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Aug. 20.—B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the executive committee of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway, who is making a tour of the West to observe the crop and general business conditions, said today: "I find business conditions are good and improvement general all along the line. Cotton is in good shape. In some sections it needs rain. The corn crop has been hurt in this state in some sections, but there will be more corn than last year by reason of the increased acreage."

Ocean Falls After Quake.

Mexico City, Aug. 20.—A delayed dispatch from Acapulco says three severe earthquake shocks were felt there Monday. The ocean dropped far below the normal and along the entire shore line of the port the beach was exposed for a distance of 30 feet. The shocks are believed to have been those registered at the Washington observatory. The people of Acapulco are still living in the open, not having ventured to return to their homes.

Quake Tale Exaggerated.

San Francisco, Aug. 20.—Passengers arriving from Mexican ports today on the Panama steamer Acapulco, the first vessel to bring news of the earthquake of July 29, 30 and 31, declare that the reports reaching this country by wire greatly overestimated the loss of life resulting from the disturbances. They declare that only two persons were killed outright at Acapulco, although hundreds had narrow escapes.

Moors Cut Wires Again.

Madrid, Aug. 20.—Advices received here from Penon de la Gomers, on the coast of Morocco, say the Moors again have cut telegraph wires and isolated the Spanish garrison there. The bombardment at Penon de la Gomers is constant and there have been many casualties among the Moors. The Kabylis are mobilizing near Alhucemas preparatory to marching on Melilla.

Wreck on Laper Island.

Honolulu, Aug. 20.—The steamer Nilbau went ashore early today on the coast of the Island of Molokai, and has been abandoned by her officers and crew. The vessel, which is of 600 tons burden, will probably prove a total loss. The steamer Glendine has gone to the scene of the wreck to attempt to boat the Nilbau.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

NEW LEPROSY CURE.

Philippine Quarantine Officer Uses X-Ray Successfully.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The X-ray as a cure for some cases of leprosy has been demonstrated by the American health authorities in the Philippines, according to Dr. Victor D. Heizer, quarantine officer in the islands.

Dr. Heizer, in a report to Surgeon General Wyman, of the public health and marine hospital service, says the X-ray is suitable only for specially selected cases, and is valuable apparently only in the earlier stages. San Lazro hospital, at Manila, is the first institution in the world to use the X-ray for leprosy treatment.

Official figures show that on March 31, 1909, there were 2,446 lepers in the Philippines, segregation having reduced by more than 1,000 the number of cases during the last two years. At the beginning of the American occupation, 11 years ago, there were nearly 4,000 lepers.

Americans perfected the establishment for lepers on the island of Culien in 1906. It is estimated that under the Spanish regime 700 new cases developed every year. At present the number of new cases averages 300 annually.

Money Order Business Immense.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Money order transactions in the postoffices of the country have grown so in the last year or two that it now is necessary to maintain a force of about 750 accountants, bookkeepers, sorters and examiners in the office of the auditor of the department. There are 50,000 money order offices, from which 850,000 money order accounts annually are received by Auditor Chance. They are accompanied by 68,000,000 paid money orders, aggregating \$575,000,000. Postmasters are required to deposit surplus money order funds and about 2,500,000 certificates of deposit, aggregating \$550,000,000, also are received by the auditor for official record and inspection. The auditing of these vouchers and statements represents 140,000,000 separate transactions. Approximately 250,000 paid money orders, weighing 500 pounds, are received at the auditor's office each day. In the process of reassembling these vouchers numerically into states and offices of issue, every money order is handled seven times, or the equivalent of 1,750,000 each day. This work alone requires 165 expert sorters, all of whom are young women.

No Information Obtainable.

Washington, Aug. 20.—The acute nervousness manifested here today more strikingly by the dead silence at the Interior department and the suppressed but all pervading atmosphere of enthusiasm at the forestry bureau. Assistant Secretary Pierce, who is back again and is acting secretary of the Interior department, does not care to discuss the charges of misadministration made against Secretary Ballinger by Chief Forester Pinchot. Acting Commissioner Swartz, of the general land office, has just the same aversion.

Open Bids for Battleships.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Bids for the construction of the two battleships, Arkansas and Wyoming, authorized by the last congress, were opened at the Navy department today. These two battleships are to be among the most formidable fighting machines afloat. They will carry as heavy armor and as powerful armament as any known vessel of their class, will have a speed of 21 knots, which is believed to be the highest practicable for vessels of their type and class, and will have the highest practicable radius of action.

Seven Get Honor Medals.

Washington, Aug. 20.—For gallant conduct while under fire of the enemy in the Philippines or in Cuba, five officers and two enlisted men yesterday were awarded medals of honor by the War department. Those thus honored were Major James Church and Major Paul Straub, of the Medical corps; Lieutenant George Shaw and Charles Beckman, Twenty-seventh infantry; Lieutenant Charles E. Kilbourne, Signal corps, and H. T. R. Quinn and Seth Ewald, privates.

Coal Output Less.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The effect of the national depression beginning in 1907 and continuing in 1908 was the most powerful factor in the marked decline in the production of coal in the United States in 1908, according to statistics compiled by the geological survey. The total production in 1908 was 415,842,698 short tons, having a spot value of \$532,314,117.

Slight Quake Recorded.

Washington, Aug. 20.—The seismograph at the weather bureau in this city recorded a slight tremor of the earth at 2:22 o'clock this afternoon, but in the opinion of the observers this disturbance did not assume the proportion of an earthquake.

WANT MORE BATTLESHIPS.

United States to Lead World With Battleships of Great Power.

Washington, Aug. 19.—Congress may be asked next winter to provide for two 30,000-ton battleships, each with 12 14-inch guns, and each costing \$12,000,000. It is stated that such a program has been pretty carefully studied out.

After considerable preliminary work, the first 14-inch gun has been constructed at the Midvale works, and is shortly to be tested at the naval proving grounds at Indian Head. If it is deemed desirable to have guns of 14-inch caliber, it will immediately become a question whether there shall be 10 or 12 of such guns on each battleship. The proposition of two years ago, during the Newport conference, was to have 10 14-inch guns instead of 12 12-inch guns, the former caliber to have a relatively diminished velocity.

It was finally decided, however, that when the 14-inch gun was developed it should be of a hitting power commensurate with the increase of caliber compared with the 12-inch gun. There is an inclination also to adhere to 12-inch guns in the battleship battery, and it is possible that with the adoption of the 14-inch gun there will be 12 instead of 10 of those rifles, in which event the next battleships to be authorized will be of at least 30,000 tons displacement, and estimated to cost approximately \$12,000,000 each.

It is likely such a battleship will have the same speed and endurance as the 26,000-ton battleships now building. Much may depend in the determination of this question upon the plans adopted by European navies.

Million Cigars From Philippines.

Washington, Aug. 24.—One thrifty Philippine commercial concern managed to get into the United States 1,000,000 cigars and, it is thought, other tobacco products, in advance of certain rules and regulations which the war department and the treasury department were preparing.

The cigars and other stuff arrived on the day the tariff went into effect. As the tariff allows importation free of duty of only 150,000,000 Philippine cigars, the proportion which has already come in is regarded as large.

The cigars are understood to be of inferior grade, and it is said that the long sea voyage from Manila has a deteriorating effect upon them, but it is claimed now that some concerns have invented a method to offset this.

Pure Food Scrap Renewed.

Denver, Colo., Aug. 24.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson and Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, will be in Denver Tuesday to attend the annual convention of food commissioners. As a result, it is expected that another controversy between Federal officials will be brought to Denver, this time not over forestry and irrigation, but over the use of benzoate of soda in food.

Supporting Secretary Wilson are several members of the Scientific Referees Board, while Dr. Wiley's chief supporter is Commissioner J. Q. Emery, of Wisconsin, president of the association.

Another feature will be reports Tuesday afternoon on results of food, dairy and drug control in various states.

New Tariff Works Well.

Washington, Aug. 4.—The new tariff law has gone into operation with surprising smoothness, according to Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Reynolds. "We expected to be overrun with questions, many of them silly," said Mr. Reynolds yesterday, "but the number of inquiries each day has been little more than we have had under the Dingley law."

This is ascribed by the Assistant Secretary to the bills having been passed by a republican congress. The phraseology is much the same as under the old, only the rates have been changed. The operation is considered easy for the collectors.

Wool Importations Increase.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Wool importations into the United States in the fiscal year just ended exceeded those of any earlier year except 1897, when abnormal importations were made in view of the prospective transfer of wool from the free to the dutiable list. The total quantity of wool imported in the fiscal year just closed was 265,600,000 pounds, against 126,000,000 in 1908, 203,000,000 in 1907, 249,000,000 in 1905, and 351,000,000 in 1897, when, as already suggested, the importations were abnormally large by reason of the prospective transfer of wool from the free to the dutiable list.

Philippine Bonds Sold.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Bids were opened at the bureau of insular affairs today for \$1,500,000 4 per cent, 10 to 30-year Philippine public works and improvement bonds. This issue is the balance unaided of the \$5,000,000 authorized by the acts of congress, last amended February 6, 1905.

State Department Pleased.

Washington, Aug. 20.—The news from Peking that Americans would participate in the Hankow railway loan was received here with intense satisfaction, it being a victory for the State department.