

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

IRRIGATION IN MALHEUR.

Private Company Planning to Water 150,000 Acres.

Salem—According to advices received in the office of the state engineer at Salem, Trowbridge & Niver, a private reclamation company with a splendid record, is conducting a survey of a tract, including about 150,000 acres of arid land, some of which is in Malheur county in this state and some in Idaho. The object is to learn through the results of the surveys if it would be feasible to start a reclamation project covering this territory.

The land which is receiving the attention of the reclamation company's engineers lies between the Owyhee and Snake rivers. The water for irrigation will probably be taken from the Owyhee river. The project is in its incipient stage, and no definite information as to the plans of Trowbridge & Niver can be obtained.

According to State Engineer Lewis, the work done by Trowbridge & Niver, has proved highly satisfactory and in those districts in Idaho where the firm has already accomplished big results, the people of the state prefer the company's operations to the United States government's projects.

The day after Oregon's new water law went into effect last spring, Trowbridge & Niver sent a party of surveyors and engineers into the Owyhee river valley to take observations. The work has been continued until the present, which leads the state engineer to believe that the private company will shortly take up a large tract in this state for reclamation.

TUNNEL THROUGH MOUNTAINS

Indications Point to Huge Undertaking by O. R. & N.

Pendleton—Rumors in local railroad circles here predict the greatest railroad undertaking that has taken place in this section of the state for years, of which the crew of surveyors which are now working on the Stanfield-Coyote cutoff are the vanguard. This undertaking includes, among other active changes and improvements, tunneling through the Blue mountains and the elimination of several bad grades for the purpose of shortening the time and distance between Chicago and Portland.

This tunnel, which of necessity would be from three to five miles in length, would accomplish much in the saving of time and power. By pushing up Butcher creek canyon and there entering the mountains, the worst part of the grade and many windings would be eliminated, and on the east side of the mountain the famous Kamela hill would be avoided and the distance from Huron to La Grande reduced to 12 miles.

Rumor also says that considerable work will be done on Tellocasset hill, between Union and Baker City. It is believed that surveying camps will be established at Duncan and Encina and at other points within the next few days. If these improvements are actually contemplated by the O. R. & N., it is evident that it is not the intention of the officials to divert freight or passenger business down the Snake river, as has been proposed.

Will Prevent Floods.

Athens—A number of teams have been at work the past month straightening the part of Wild Horse that runs through the property of the Athens Land & Trust company, and through the city park. The creek has been changed in many places and made much wider and deeper. William Booher has charge of the work, and assures the land company and park commission that when it is finished it will be sufficient to carry all the flood waters that come down the in wet season and have heretofore flooded the valley.

Own Valuable Gold Mine.

Albany—The directors of the Mexican mines, owned by Linn county men, have just received word and assays from their mine showing they have struck a vein which goes \$105.90 to the ton of free milling ore. The letter stated that the mine is one of the greatest in Old Mexico. Considerable stock in the enterprise is held by Albany people. Dr. J. L. Hill of this city, is the president, Fred Ware secretary and L. E. Blain one of the directors.

Top Price for Peach Trees.

Talent—C. M. Lee has sold four acres of peach orchard to C. W. Hope for \$3,000. The tract is set to new varieties. Sixty trees of the Applegate variety are three years old; 80 trees two years old are of the Sooner variety. The rest are younger and of different varieties.

Eastern Man Buys Orchard.

Hood River—Twenty acres of the Klamber place on the west side have been sold for \$17,000. The trees are two and three year old Spitzenberg and Newtown trees. The purchaser is H. W. Rodman, who recently came from Iowa.

FARMERS REGISTER KICK.

Pass Resolutions Protesting Against Marine League Measure.

Pendleton—Resolutions protesting strongly against the efforts of the Merchant Marine league of Seattle to secure an order forbidding foreign vessels which bring coal to the Pacific coast from carrying wheat on their return trip were passed at a mass meeting of citizens, held in the Circuit court room at the court house here. When the vote was taken not a dissenting voice was heard and the indorsement was unanimous. Judge S. A. Lowell was made chairman and Charles A. Barrett, of Athens, secretary.

Congressman W. R. Ellis was present and voiced his sentiments against the proposed measure and extended his services in cooperation with the citizens. J. T. Lissuallen, president of the county organization of the Farmers' Educational & Cooperative union of America; Judge S. A. Lowell and C. A. Barrett were the speakers. As the proposed action of the Merchant Marine league would tend to lower the price of wheat, the protest was couched in vigorous terms.

A telegram was sent to the secretary of the navy by the meeting, asking postponement of action until the receipt of the signed circular of protest. Congressman Ellis also sent a personal telegram to the secretary, requesting investigation into the farmers' plea.

Electric Roads for Rogue.

Medford—John R. Allen, the owner of the Pacific & Eastern railroad, now being extended towards the Klamath valley, will make an application at the next meeting of the council for a franchise to operate an electric road in Medford. He will also apply in the other cities of the Rogue river valley. A company composed of Wall street men are backing him. A company has been incorporated for a million and a half dollars and will start construction work immediately after the franchises are granted.

Hogs Equal to Fat Steers.

Condon—In a carload of hogs shipped from Condon, Fred Edwards placed a hog for which he received \$36.40. This is thought to be the record price for a single porker.

Large Crop Alfalfa Seed.

Union—From six acres of alfalfa 129 bushels of seed were taken this year. The market value of the seed is fully \$1,000. The crop was grown on the Townley farm.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1@1.03; club, 92c; red Russian, 90c; valley, 91c; five, 92c; Turkey red, 92c; 40-fold, 95c. Barley—Feed, \$26.50@27 per ton; brewing, \$27.50.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$28@28.50 per ton.

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

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$14@17 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18@20; alfalfa, \$16@16; clover, \$14; cheat, \$13@14.50; grain hay, \$14@15.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 36c per pound; fancy outside creamery, 33@36c; store, 22½@24c. Butter fat prices average 1½c per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Oregon, 35@36c per dozen. Poultry—Hens, 15@15½c; springs, 14½@15c; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, 15@16c; geese, 10c; turkeys, 16½@17½c; squabs, \$1.75@2 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 9@9½c per pound.

Veal—Extra, 10@11c per pound.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@2 per box; pears, \$1@1.50; grapes, 80c@1.25 per crate, 15c per basket; casabas, \$1.25@1.50 per dozen; quinces, \$1@1.25 per box; cranberries, \$8.50@9 per barrel.

Potatoes—50@65c per sack, sweet potatoes, 1½@2c per pound.

Sack Vegetables—Turnips, 75c@1 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.25; rutabagas, \$1.10.

Onions—Oregon, \$1@1.25 per sack.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 80c per dozen; cabbage, ½@1c per pound; cauliflower, 40@90c per dozen; celery, 50@85c; corn, \$1@1.25 per sack; horseradish, 9@10c per dozen; peppers, 5@6c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1½c; radishes, 15c per dozen; sprouts, 8@9c per pound; squash, \$1@1.10; tomatoes, 40@60c.

Hops—1909 crop, 24@26c per pound; 1908 crop, 20c; 1907 crop, 12c; 1906 crop, 8c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@22c per pound; mohair, choice, 24c.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.75; fair to good, \$4@4.50; medium and feeders, \$3.25@3.75; best cows, \$3.50; fair to good, \$3@3.25; common, \$2.50@2.75; bulls, \$2@2.50; stags, \$2.50@3.50; calves, light, \$5.25@5.50; heavy, \$4@4.75.

Hogs—Best, \$7.85@8.05; blockers, \$7.25@7.50; stockers, \$6@6.50.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good, \$3.75@4; best ewes, \$3.75@4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; lambs, \$5@5.50.

ERA OF LOW MORTALITY.

It Has Been Reached by the Civilized World.

Washington, Oct. 29.—"The civilized world has indeed arrived at an era of low mortality."

This conclusion is stated in census bureau bulletin No. 104, on mortality statistics for 1908, prepared by Dr. Cressy L. Wilbur, chief statistician for vital statistics under Director Durand, who has transmitted it to Secretary Nagel, of the department of commerce and labor.

The death rate of the registration state in 1908 was 15.3 per 1,000 of population, which was slightly lower than that for the entire registration area, 15.4 per 1,000, and it is the lowest on record. Dr. Wilbur states it is probably the lowest death rate that has ever occurred in the United States.

The death rate of the rural portions of these states was still lower, being only 14 per 1,000, while that of the urban population was 16.5 per 1,000; the latter including all cities having a population of 8,000 or more inhabitants in 1900, and being, as usual, somewhat greater than the rural rate. Such rates would have seemed quite out of the question a few years ago.

Nearly one-fifth of all the deaths that occurred were those of infants under one year of age and over one-fourth are of children less than five years of age.

Nearly one-fourth of all deaths registered were those of persons born outside of the United States. The states having the largest proportion of native-born Americans of native stock are, Dr. Wilbur states, the ones in which it is the most difficult to secure the passage of effective registration laws. Therefore, the actual mortality of Americans of native parentage is not fully represented in the registration area, although over two-thirds of the deaths registered were of native-born persons and one-third were of native-born with native parents.

It appears that the month of maximum mortality in 1908 was January, with 67,763 deaths and that of minimum mortality was June, with 49,701 deaths.

ZELAYA BOTTLED UP.

Insurgents Have Nicaraguan President in Tight Place.

New Orleans, Oct. 2.—Passengers arriving today on the steamer Imperator from Bluefields, Nicaragua, report that, when they left Bluefields three days ago, President Zelaya was virtually bottled up at Managua. A general advance by General Estrada is being checked by want of ammunition.

Several of the passengers on the Imperator stated that general news of the revolutionary movement was unreliable, as the revolutionists were inclined to exaggerate their successes. They said their own assertions regarding the serious situation faced by President Zelaya were based on their personal observations.

Captain John Pedersen, master of the Imperator, said General Estrada had already established a provisional government over Grayton, Cape Gracias, Bluefields and Rama. The strictest discipline was being maintained, all saloons were closed at nightfall and drunkenness and disorders were immediately suppressed.

Captain Pedersen confirmed the Associated Press dispatches from Port Cortes telling of the capture and holding of a launch sent by the revolutionary leaders to Port Barrios. The launch, he said, was to have brought a large supply of ammunition to the insurgents.

De Lara Out on Bonds.

Los Angeles, Oct. 29.—L. Guiterrez de Lara, the Mexican attorney held by the United States immigration authorities on charges of being an anarchist and illegally in this country, was released from jail today on \$3,000 bond pending his hearing before Chief Inspector Ridgway, of the immigration service. De Lara's bond was signed by C. C. Reynolds, a prominent and wealthy hardware merchant, and Alfred M. Salyer, a well-known local business man.

Dummy Entries Claimed.

San Francisco, Oct. 2.—In the trial of Dr. G. W. Dwinell, Rex Dexter and John Gilpin before the United States district court here on a charge of subornation of perjury in connection with the dummy entry of timber land in Northern California, Benjamin French, one of the alleged dummy entrants, took the stand again today. He testified that he and his brother had entered claims in Siskiyou county as the result of a letter from Dr. Dwinell, promising them \$200 each for their holdings.

Epidemic Hits Academy.

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 29.—Forty students of the Georgia Military Academy near here, were rushed to the city today suffering from an illness which has affected the school in epidemic form. They were distributed among several hospitals. The nature of their illness has not been learned.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

NEW RATE PROBLEM.

Steam-Electric Question Comes Before Commerce Commission.

Washington, Oct. 30.—Whether steam railroads shall co-operate physically with electric lines is a question which has been presented to the interstate commerce commission and which is to be argued in Cincinnati in a few days.

The case at issue is of unusual importance because up to the present time the steam railroads of the country have refused to enter into any arrangement with the electric lines for through routes and joint rates either for freight or for passengers. The law does not explicitly require physical connection between two roads—either steam or electric—but it has been the policy of the commission in interstate business to require such connection to be made between two steam roads, where the conditions appear to demand or even to warrant the connection. The making of through rates and joint rates for both freight and passengers naturally follows the physical connection of the two roads.

The extensive construction and operation of electric lines has increased the demand for their connection with steam roads. Many of them endeavored to effect a joint arrangement with steam roads, but in practically every instance the efforts have been of no avail.

Gompers Rebukes Elliot.

Washington, Oct. 30.—Referring to a statement of Dr. Charles W. Elliot, former president of Harvard university, that the government should prohibit labor unions on the ground that they have monopolistic tendencies and are opposed to democracy, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, said: "Since his retirement as president of Harvard, Dr. Elliot has nothing to do but talk. He now lives in an age which he cannot understand. Since the time when he was mentally capable of appreciating industrial and commercial conditions, great changes and development have taken place."

Monster Cigar From Philippines.

Washington, Oct. 27.—Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards, chief of the bureau of insular affairs of the War department, has received the largest cigar ever made in the Philippine islands. It was the first cigar admitted free of duty under the new tariff act, which allows the free admission of 150,000,000 Philippine cigars each year. The cigar was made by a Manila factory and measured 42 inches in length and about 10¼ inches in circumference. It weighed about nine pounds.

Minister Espinosa Resigns.

Washington, Oct. 29.—Dr. Don Rodolfo Espinosa, the Nicaraguan minister to the United States, announced today that he had resigned and that Zelaya, the deposed president of the republic, had accepted his resignation. Dr. Espinosa stated that his brother, Emilio, was practically at the head of the revolutionists under Estrada, the provisional president, and he gave this as the cause of his resignation. The resignation of Espinosa is regarded here as a severe blow to Zelaya's tottering government.

Government Will Appeal.

Washington, Oct. 29.—"The government will at once institute an appeal from this decision," announced Attorney General Wickersham today in reference to the action of Judge Holt in the Circuit court at New York yesterday sustaining the plea of the statute of limitations interposed by the defendants, Kissel and Harned, to the indictment against them jointly with the American Sugar Refining company. The attorney general said Judge Holt's decision was of far reaching consequence.

Cold Weather is Coming.

Washington, Oct. 27.—Cold weather is about to grip the country from coast to coast. The sheet of rain that swept across the United States radiating from a storm center near St. Louis, has passed along until now it is sweeping down upon the Middle Atlantic coast. The disturbance is expected to pass out to sea, after which the wind will sweep the country from the North, varying a trifle according to the section.

Favors Ten Equal Payments.

Washington, Oct. 29.—Secretary Ballinger today expressed decided objection to making material change in the method of collecting water payments from settlers on government irrigation projects. He is not in favor of graduated payments, small for the first year or two, increasing thereafter, but would adhere to the plan of ten equal payments now in force.

General Coppinger Ill.

Washington, Oct. 30.—Brigadier General John A. Coppinger, U. S. A., retired, son-in-law of the late James G. Blaine, is seriously ill with pneumonia at his residence in this city.

TARIFF WAR IN SIGHT.

France Gets Out Her Ancient Chip and Carefully Polishes It.

Washington, Oct. 28.—A tariff war of such gigantic proportions as to threaten demoralization of trade between this country and France and eventually to lead to the prohibition of French imports into this country, is looming up.

Although France has not issued a proclamation imposing a maximum duty on all American products received in that country, it is admitted that a preliminary notice has been published indicating that such a proclamation will be issued.

It is expected here that the change in the duties charged by France will become effective November 1.

The apparent cause of France's resentment is the fact that Germany is given a longer time than France to comply with the conditions of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill.

Under the new law President Taft is given authority to prohibit imports from countries discriminating against the United States. Officials here believe Taft will be forced to take this action against France, in case the threatened rise of duty on American goods is made.

PRIVATE CAPITAL FAVORED.

Government Will Allow Individuals to Build Malheur Project.

Washington, Nov. 2.—Secretary Ballinger, in response to telegraphic inquiries from Oregon, has declared that the government cannot build the Malheur irrigation project because it has no available funds. This leaves the project at the disposal of private enterprise, if still desirous of undertaking its construction.

It is understood that if the money could be had, Secretary Ballinger would authorize the construction of this project immediately, but the condition of the reclamation fund is such that there will be no money available for at least a year, and perhaps for a longer period.

It is the understanding of the department that private enterprise stands ready to build this project, and if a practical private project, acceptable to landowners, is undertaken, there will be no opposition from Washington.

Asks for More Doctors.

Washington, Nov. 2.—"I do not mean to say that the negro doctor alone should practice among his race, but I do think that any fair minded person will agree with me that we ought to have a fair proportion of negro doctors to practice among negro patients," said Dr. Booker T. Washington, of Tuskegee institute, in addressing the matriculating students of Howard university. Dr. Washington admonished the students that the high medical standard already established must be maintained. He said there are about 2,500 negro physicians in the country and urged that that number be doubled.

Japan Will Keep Pledge.

Washington, Nov. 2.—That Japan intends to keep its pledge with China to remove its military forces from Chien-Tao, a territory lying between Manchuria and Corea, which long has been in dispute, is indicated by the fact that by today all Japanese troops will be entirely withdrawn. Announcement to this effect was made at the Japanese embassy yesterday by Mr. Keishiro Matsui, counselor of the embassy and charge d'affaires, who has just received a cablegram from his government in regard to the matter.

Oregon to Get Full Share.

Washington, Oct. 29.—Secretary Ballinger is determined to give Oregon its full share of benefits under the national reclamation law. In addition to the amounts heretofore allotted, Oregon, by 1912, he says, will be entitled to about \$2,700,000, and in the near future he will take up with the reclamation service various undeveloped projects in Oregon with a view to starting work on one or another as soon as the necessary funds become available.

Kohlsaat for Chinese Post.

Washington, Oct. 27.—There was a persistent rumor today at the State department that Judge Kohlsaat, of Chicago, was being considered favorably for the post of minister to China. Neither Secretary Knox, of the State department, nor Assistant Secretary of State Huntington Wilson is in Washington. The successor to Mr. Crane has become an important consideration for the State department.

Medal for Saving Shipmate.

Washington, Oct. 28.—For his heroism in rescuing a shipmate who had fallen overboard in the harbor at Seattle, Michael Millis, a boatswain's mate on the cruiser Pennsylvania, has received a silver medal sent by the treasury department.