

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

SEARCH FOR PLATINUM

Government Experts Investigate Prospects in Coos County.

Marshfield—That platinum exists in Coos county seems to be the opinion of experts and that the development of the mineral is being looked into by men of money there is no doubt. Dr. D. T. Day, who has charge of the mineral division of the geological survey in Washington, D. C., has been making investigations. He was sent out for the purpose of investigating the possibilities of platinum mining developments along the coast. He is quoted as saying that he has found some platinum in the ore examined so far, and has stated that he will give instructions to miners as to how to save the platinum which he believes is now lost in large quantities in the process of mining for gold. A. L. Macdonald of Schenectady, N. Y., where mining machinery is manufactured, is accompanying Dr. Day. They have gone down the coast to make further investigations. The results of the work will be of vast importance to the mining interests of Coos and Curry counties.

CO-EDS TO HAVE HOME.

Society Women of Eugene to Assist in Building Bungalow.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—To build a handsome bungalow to serve as the general headquarters and center of co-ed student life at the university of Oregon is the unique plan of a number of prominent Eugene society women, including the wives of several university professors.

The bungalow is to cost about \$3000, and will be constructed along craftsman lines. It will have one large room for meetings and social affairs, with a small kitchen, bath and rest room. The building will be constructed on a lot just outside the college campus, owned by the University Young Women's Christian association, which will be in charge of the bungalow after it is completed.

President Campbell is much pleased with the interest the women are taking in the bungalow.

"Fake" Label on Apples.

Hood River.—The members of the Hood River Apple-Growers union, which comprises 90 per cent of the orchardists, are up in arms over the report from New York that quantities of apples were on the market there bearing the wrappers of the union which were not up to the high standard of quality maintained by that organization. The wrappers of the union are regarded as an absolute guarantee of high quality in the east, and when these apples were found to be inferior in selection and pack, many complaints poured in upon Steinhardt & Kelly, who bought the entire output of the union this year.

Largest Hatchery in World.

Salem.—The largest salmon hatchery in the world, to be owned and operated by the state of Oregon, will be formally opened at Bonneville, Monday, November 15. The new central hatchery cost more than \$12,000, and has an egg capacity of 60,000,000 and nursery ponds sufficient to feed 5,000,000 young fry. The hatchery is now nearly completed, and is being operated under the direction of Superintendent J. W. Berrian.

10,000 Bushels of Potatoes.

Oregon City.—J. H. Brown, of New Era, comes very near being the "potato king" of Oregon. He raised 10,000 bushels this year, beside 3400 bushels of wheat and 250 bushels of clover seed. Mr. Brown ships nearly all of his products to California, where the excellent results of his scientific farming are well known.

Linn County Gets New Town.

Albany.—The Linnhaven Orchard company, which plans to set out a 3000-acre orchard in the northern part of Linn county, will establish a new townsite. It will be called Linnhaven. The site of this new town has not been definitely chosen, but it will be near the center of the colossal orchard.

Capital Stock Increased.

Klamath Falls.—At the adjourned meeting of the Klamath Watershed association the capital stock of the association was increased from \$2,000,000 to \$6,000,000 by 9000 majority, while the proposition to increase the par value of the stock from \$20 to \$30 per share was lost by 2145.

Poultry Show for Pendleton.

Pendleton.—At the meeting of the Umatilla-Morrow County Poultry association, January 25, 26 and 27 were set as the dates for the big exhibition of birds. Great interest is being manifested, and it is expected that there will be the finest display of poultry in the history of this section.

Big Turnip at Dallas.

Dallas.—William Shewey is exhibiting a turnip which measures 34 inches in circumference. It is solid throughout and very heavy. The turnip was grown on fern land a few miles from town.

Hoyard Bails for Good Price.

Dallas.—E. E. Williams and I. N. Yankum have purchased of Thomas Holman 100 acres of hoyard, located near Eola, for \$30,000 cash.

APPLES BELL HIGH.

Fancy Hood River Spitzenbergs Bring \$3.50 Per Box.

Hood River.—The apple picking has come to an end in Hood River valley for the year 1909, and several crews are busy at present packing the fruit for market. A number of the larger growers have concluded their packing and their fruit has been hauled to the cold storage plant in the city, awaiting shipment to New York. The union is sending out several cars each day, consigned to Steinhardt & Kelly, who purchased the entire crop of fancy stock. The fancy Spitzenbergs were sold to the New York firm for \$3.35 per box, and since this deal was made the Davidson Fruit company of this city has paid as high as \$3.50 per box for fancy Spitzenbergs. The fruit in Hood River valley this season has been of a higher standard than any marketed in previous years. There has been a noticeable decrease in rust and other infections that mitigate in producing a lower grade of apples. The season's profit is very satisfactory, notwithstanding the fact that the crop was cut a little short.

Railroad Improves Line.

Dee.—The big steam shovel of the Mount Hood railway is digging ballast for the new track from Dee to Parkdale, a distance of six miles. When the work is completed passenger and logging trains can be run. The new line extends well up toward Mount Hood and through an excellent body of fir timber. The contract for the extension of the telephone line from this point to Parkdale was let to Harry Bailey of Hood River. The Home Telephone company of Hood River is the owner of the line.

New Sawmill for Wallowa.

Wallowa.—Plass Bros., a well-known sawmill firm of Elgin, have shipped their machinery to this city, where they will consolidate with the Bear Creek Lumber company, a new corporation recently formed. The Plass mill will be installed on the new company's holdings to cut the timber for a new mill, which will be installed next season. The company will put in a new band saw with a capacity of about 40,000 feet per day.

Asylum Bids Awarded.

Salem.—The board of trustees of the Oregon State Insane Asylum has awarded to the Northwest Bridge works of Portland the general contract for the new receiving ward building at the hospital for the insane.

High Price for Land.

Irving.—C. J. Fassett has sold his 30-acre ranch west of town to G. Tenike of Iowa, the price paid being \$110 an acre. Mr. Fassett has moved to Eugene, having bought property and will build a modern home.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.05; club, 95c; red Russian, \$2.14; Valley, 94c; Pife, 93c; Turkey red, 96c; 40-fold, 95c; 96c.
Barley—Feed, \$27.50; brewing, \$27.50 per ton.
Corn—Whole, \$33; cracked, \$34 per ton.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$28.50@29 per ton.
Hay—Timothy, Willamette Valley, \$14@17 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$12@20; alfalfa, \$15@16; clover, \$14; chow, \$13@14.50; grain hay, \$14@15.
Butter—City creamery extras, 36c; fancy outside creamery, 30@36c per pound; store, 22½@24c. (Butter fat prices average 1½c per pound under regular butter prices).
Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 40c@42½c per dozen; Eastern, 30@34c per dozen.
Poultry—Hens, 13¼@14½c; springs, 13¼@14½c; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, 15@15½c; geese, 10½c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; dressed, 30@31c; squabs, \$1.75 @2 per dozen.
Fork—Fancy, 9@9½c per pound.
Veal—Extras, 9½@10c per pound.
Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.25 box; pears, 75c@1.50; grapes, 50c@1.15 per crate, 10@12½c per basket; cashews, \$1.25@1.50 per dozen; quinces, \$1.50 @1.25 per box; cranberries, \$8.50@9.50 per barrel; persimmons, \$1.50 per box.
Potatoes—Oregon, 50@60c per sack; sweet potatoes, 1½@2c per pound.
Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c per dozen; beans, 10c per pound; cabbage, ½c @1c; cauliflower, 90c@1 per dozen; celery, 50@55c; corn, \$1@1.25 per sack; horseradish, 9@10c per dozen; peas, 10c per pound; peppers, \$1.50; pumpkins, 16@14c; radishes, 15c per dozen; sprouts, 3c per pound; squash, \$1@1.10; tomatoes, 25@30c; turnips, 75c@1 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.25; rutabagas, \$1.10; onions, \$1@1.25 per sack.
Hops—1909 crop, 23½@25c; 1908 crop, 20c; 1907 crop, 12c; 1906 crop, 9c.
Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@20c per pound; Mohair, choice, 24c.
Cattle—Best steers, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good, \$3.25@4; medium and feeders, \$3.50@3.75; best cows, \$3.25@3.50; medium, \$3; common to medium, \$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, \$7.25@8; medium, \$7.50 @7.75; stockers, \$6@8.
Sheep—Best wethers, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good, \$3.75@4; best ewes, \$3.75 @4; fair to good, \$4.50@3.75; lambs, \$6@6.25.

PERISH IN MINE.

Coal Shaft at Cherry, Ill., Scene of Terrible Disaster.

Cherry, Ill., Nov. 15.—At least 250 miners were killed here Saturday, in one of the worst mine disasters of history. The St. Paul Coal company's mine, owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, is the scene of the horrible disaster.

Figures differ as to the number of men in the mine at the time of the fire. Officials of the company insist that the list of fatalities may not reach 250, but the miners say that over 400 workmen were in the mine when the fire started and that few had opportunity to escape.

Fire started from a pile of hay into which a miner is believed to have thrown a torch. Flames quickly spread to the timbers and in a few minutes the passageways were a seething furnace, and escape was impossible.

Men who volunteered to enter the burning mine were brought out dead. Twelve bodies have so far been recovered, many of these being men who attempted to rescue work.

Water turned into the shaft made no headway against the flames, and early in the afternoon the mine was sealed up in the hope of checking the flames.

The survivors said many of the miners had retreated to the furthest ends of the veins, where they might huddle together, gasping what little oxygen remained in the sealed and burning mine in the hope that the rescuers might reach them before it was exhausted. The most hopeful of those seeking to aid the men doubt that many will be found alive.

The only men to escape were those near the main shaft when the fire started. They declared a careless miner had thrown a torch on a bundle of hay used to feed the mine mules. In a few minutes the smoldering mass was placed on a cart and started toward the main shaft about 150 feet away. Before it was reached a small explosion occurred and in a few moments the entrance was filled with smoke and flames. Those nearest the cages hurried to them and were hoisted to the surface. After four trips the cages ceased moving and no more miners came up.

WORKING FOLK LOSE JOBS.

New Beer and Tobacco Taxes Cause Hardship in Germany.

Berlin, Nov. 15.—Not only is the labor market suffering from the reduction of work in the cigar and cigarette trade as a direct result of the new taxes, but similar depressions are gaining ground in other industries, especially in that of brewers. There is every reason to believe that the depression will become more acute within the next few months, and that the Reichstag will be called upon to vote for a further sum for the relief of the workless factory hands, as the 200,000 pounds sterling already voted for this purpose is quite insufficient.

The brewers having put up the price of beer in consequence of the new taxes, the result has been a considerable decrease in the consumption, aggravated by a boycott organized by the Social Democrats. As a result of this, workmen have been discharged, and if the boycott continues the number of dismissed hands will increase. In August the average number of applicants for a hundred open situations in the brewing trade was 308 higher than in any other industry. In Wurttemberg the number of applicants showed the maximum of 383.

NAPOLEON'S FLAG IS FOUND.

Great Warrior's Invention Exhibited at Paris Army Museum.

Paris, Nov. 15.—Lord Archibald Campbell has presented to the Army museum here a curious relic of Napoleon. This is the flag which the latter flew in the Isle of Elba during his captivity there.

General Niox, custodian of the museum, has placed it in one of the rooms where it can now be seen. The flag, which seems to have been entirely invented by Napoleon, although some say that it was in part suggested by that of Cosmo del Medici, a former sovereign of the island, is rather a strange standard. It is square, white and fringed with gold, bearing three golden bees and a diagonal scarlet stripe. The staff carries a white and scarlet scarf, having also three golden bees.

Napoleon does not seem to have used the flag he invented elsewhere than in the Isle of Elba, where he was a de-throned and captive monarch.

Land Fraud Indictments.

Portland, Nov. 15.—Indictments charging them with forming a conspiracy to defraud the United States government out of about 7,000 acres of land in the vicinity of Irrigon, Umatilla county, Oregon, were returned by the federal grand jury Saturday afternoon against J. Thorburn Ross, Frank R. Holbrook and John E. Altshen, all of Portland. These men have been officers of the Oregon Land & Water company, a subsidiary corporation of the now defunct Title Guaranty & Trust company, and as officers of the former company they are charged with having committed the crime named.

Church Resists the State.

Nantes, France, Nov. 15.—In fulfillment of a warning sounded when the church placed a ban upon certain school books, which the clergy considered offensive to the Catholic church, the priests are refusing admission to Catholic school children who are using the books interdicted by the church.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

PEARL HARBOR PLANS WIN.

Hawaii Naval Station to Be Greatest in Pacific Ocean.

Washington, Nov. 13.—The president has approved the recommendation of the joint army and navy board for making Pearl harbor, in the Hawaiian Islands, the greatest naval station in the Pacific. In doing this, it was considered that a temporary naval station only would be constructed at Olongapo, and that the proposed improvement in Manila harbor would be abandoned. This will leave the protection of the ports to the army.

The determination to minimize the fortification in the Philippines and to make Pearl harbor a great naval station was not because of any intention of withdrawing American control from the islands. It was purely strategical, it was said. For years a fierce controversy has been waged as to whether the principal fortification in the Philippines should be located at Olongapo or Cavite. The naval officers favored Olongapo and the army Manila bay. The big floating dock is now at Olongapo, and under the present plan will be retained there.

MAKE TORPEDOES ON COAST.

Navy Department Seeking Location for Station in West.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The navy department has decided to establish a torpedo station on the Pacific Coast to manufacture and repair torpedoes for use on the Pacific Coast and by the ships of the Pacific fleets.

There is but one torpedo plant in the United States at present, that at Newport, and it is entirely inadequate, being able to turn out only 100 torpedoes a year. More than twice that number are purchased abroad.

The department proposes ultimately to manufacture all its torpedoes in this country, and to that end a plant will be established on the Pacific Coast as soon as Congress makes the necessary appropriation. The exact location of the plant has not yet been determined.

Changes Made in Navy.

Washington, Nov. 10.—Commander Roger Wells, executive officer of the battleship New Hampshire, has been ordered to duty in command of the cruiser New Orleans. Commander R. C. Evans has been detached from duty as recorder of the board of inspection and survey in this city and ordered to take command of the scout cruiser Salem. He will relieve Commander A. L. Key, the former naval aide to President Roosevelt, who will be tendered to the battleship Connecticut, the flagship of the Atlantic fleet, for duty as chief of staff of Rear-Admiral Schroeder.

California Busy on Fair.

Washington, Nov. 10.—To further the project for a world's fair in San Francisco in 1913, State Senator Ed I. Wolfe of California today conferred with Representative Kahn. Mr. Kahn will introduce a bill at the next Congress to appropriate money for the exposition. Mr. Wolfe recently introduced, and the California legislature passed, a bill to appropriate \$500,000 a year for five years for the exposition, which would have raised \$2,500,000, the citizens to subscribe an equal amount, making a total of \$5,000,000 available from the state.

Test Monster New Gun.

Washington, Nov. 10.—Preparations to test the biggest gun the navy has yet undertaken to try out will begin at Indian Head proving grounds when the new 14-inch cannon just completed by the Midvale Steel Company, of Philadelphia, arrives at the Washington navy yard. The monster is on its way here and everything is prepared to rush the finishing touches on it.

Peary Seeks No South Pole.

Washington, Nov. 11.—Commander Robert E. Peary, who has taken up his residence with his family in Washington, is not contemplating an expedition to the south pole. Mrs. Peary declared late today, when informed of a report that the commander would head an expedition to seek the south pole within the next five years, that she knew positively this was untrue.

Doctor Commands Ship.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Secretary Meyer today settled the controversy as to whether a line officer or medical officer shall be placed in command of the hospital ship Solace by designating Surgeon George Pickersell, of the medical corps, to command the vessel. The navigation of the ship will be in charge of a merchant sailing master.

Well Known Writer Dead.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Raymond Albert Patterson, a widely known newspaper writer, died here today. He had been connected with the Chicago Tribune for 31 years, 15 years as its Washington correspondent. He was a schoolmate of President Taft. He was 53 years of age at the time of his death.

Lahn Not in Disgrace.

Washington, Nov. 10.—No reflection was involved in the order detaching Lieutenant Frank H. Lahn from the Annamual service of the signal corps, and directing him to join the Sixth cavalry. This was made plain today by officials of the war department.

SETTLERS WIN DECISION.

Real Workers on Irrigation Projects to Be Paid.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Settlers on government irrigation projects who assisted in constructing these projects, and who were paid in water users' certificates, since declared invalid by the attorney general, are to be paid in cash for such services as they rendered. This will be done under the decision of the controller of the treasury, who concurs in the view of the attorney general that the issuance of certificates was illegal, but who further holds that, inasmuch as actual work was performed in the interest of the government, it must be paid for.

He directs that this indebtedness be discharged by money from the reclamation fund. As the controller's decision is interpreted, it does not authorize the redemption of outstanding certificates but merely directs the payment of those settlers who performed construction work.

This, in effect, means that the certificates held by settlers who did the work will be accepted by the government as an indication of the amount due each settler, but does not justify the interior department in redeeming certificates held by speculators who performed no services.

There are about \$300,000 worth of certificates outstanding.

FISHERIES BRING MILLIONS.

Pacific Fisheries Industries Furnish Work for Big Army.

Washington, Nov. 11.—The preliminary report of the census bureau for the fisheries of the Pacific ocean for the year ending December 31, 1909, which is now complete, gives statistics confined to the fishing industry and does not include wholesale fish dealers or canneries. The final report will contain an analysis of the totals and will present statistics for other phases of the industry.

There are 6904 independent fishermen, 6951 wage-earning fishermen, and 257 vessels employed, valued at \$1,731,652. Outfits, such as bait, fuel, provisions, valued at \$567,622; 7268 boats, \$1,244,862; apparatus of capture, \$2,458,780, consisting of dredges, trawls, etc., \$8770; 9752 gillnets, \$1,135,500; lines, \$54,270; 382 pound and trap nets, \$769,360; 595 seines, \$134,630; 2537 trammel nets, \$66,570; 44 wheels, \$236,000; miscellaneous tackle, \$53,680; shore and accessory property, \$347,910; cash capital, \$117,370.

Typhoon Destroys Towns.

Washington, Nov. 16.—The destructive character of the recent typhoon that passed through Tacloban in the Philippines is indicated by a cablegram received today from the governor general of the islands, stating that it laid waste the populous towns of northern Lyte, thence passed through Capis and out over the China sea. The army post at Dagami was destroyed. Considerable damage was done to property in Tacloban. In Capis the provincial government building and railroad offices and houses built of light material were blown down. Growing crops were damaged.

Ballinger to Answer Glavis.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Secretary Ballinger will avail himself of the first opportunity to take up with President Taft the latest publication of the Glavis charges affecting the attitude of the interior department toward the Alaska coal lands. On the result of the consultation will depend the next step in the matter. Secretary Ballinger expects to hand to President Taft a copy of his first annual report. Interest attaches to this document as it will contain Mr. Ballinger's views on the general treatment of public land questions.

Argentina Feeds England.

Washington, Nov. 11.—Britons are coming to look to America for their supply of "the roast beef of old England," and are turning more and more to Argentina for meats and cattle. R. N. Bartlett, consul general at Buenos Ayres, informed the department of commerce and labor today that the traffic in beef from Argentina to England was growing rapidly, and that the British isles are becoming more and more dependent on the South American republic for their meat supplies.

Gain of Exports Huge.

Washington, Nov. 12.—An increase of more than \$21,000,000 in the value of the exports of domestic products from the United States is shown for last October, compared with a like period last year, the respective total being \$123,643,720, against \$101,783,048. Exports of wheat declined from 12,032,146 bushels for October, 1908, to 8,766,419 bushels in October last and the value of exports of meat and dairy products fell from \$11,933,312 in October, 1908, to \$8,364,840 in October, 1909.

Bridge Plans Approved.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The acting secretary of war, on recommendation of the chief of engineers and the judge advocate-general of the army, has approved the plans for the new O. R. & N. bridge across the Willamette river at Portland. Notification of this approval will be sent to the railroad company through Major Kavanaugh at Portland. This leaves the railroad without restraint in its construction of the bridge so far as the government is concerned.