

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

MODEL ORCHARD.

Scientific Apple Culture Will Be Applied in Marion County.

Salem—The Salem Fruit Growers' union is promoting a plan of developing a model orchard of 100 acres near Salem. The orchard is to be devoted to apples and the trees are to be reared under modern scientific methods. The company will invest in suitable land and have it put in the highest state of cultivation by early spring, when it will be planted in the best varieties of apples under the supervision of one of the ablest horticulturists obtainable.

Since this project has been agitated it has also become known that a large eastern syndicate is quietly taking options on several thousand acres of land within 10 miles of Salem. If the necessary quantity can be secured and this fact is now practically certain, these lands will all be similarly treated. The fruit, however, will not be confined to apples, but the land will be planted to whatever fruit it is best adapted to.

This movement is one of the most important in the history of the fruit development in Marion county, and will do much toward advancing the fruit interests in the Willamette valley. The method of this syndicate is to sell the orchards in small tracts to eastern buyers.

GOOD ROADS FOR MARION.

Big Mass Meeting Will Convene at Salem for This Purpose.

Salem—Marion county is to have good roads. A movement has been started to interest the people of the entire county in a campaign for better highways. To secure the widest co-operation, a mass meeting has been called for December 8, 9 and 10, when farmers and business men will seriously consider the advancement of the county, the building up of the rural communities and the gathering of funds to further the work.

Already eight road districts are making special levies of taxes for road building. They are scattered well over the county, showing something of the interest in the movement.

It is believed that the coming year will see an unparalleled development of good road building in Marion county. For this reason a good start is desired, and the co-operation of every man in the county is earnestly sought.

The principal business of the meeting will be to devise methods of securing funds for the promotion of permanent road work. This is an all important topic in connection with the movement, and it is probable that there will be ideas advanced which will be of wonderful value to every one.

There are 50 road districts in the county. Each of these districts has a supervisor, and it is probable nearly all of the supervisors will be here. The meeting is for every man, no matter what his occupation or his standing in the community, so long as he is interested in road building.

New Corporations.

Salem—Articles of incorporation were filed in the office of the secretary of state as follows:

Astoria Lodge, No. 150, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; incorporators, R. J. Pilkington, J. C. Clinton, W. C. Laws, F. J. Carney and F. C. Fox.

Bijou company; principal office Portland; capital stock, \$5000; incorporators, G. A. Metzger, L. L. Cohen and Helena F. Adamson.

Portland Stationery & Woodenware company; principal office, Portland; capital stock, \$150,000; incorporators, C. D. Bruus, T. Wallace Buis and Charles C. Duncan.

Notarial Commissions.

Salem—Notarial commissions have been issued to Ben M. Patterson, Corvallis; Joe M. Flaherty, Lebanon; T. J. McClary, Gates; A. C. Morgan, Morgan; John W. Oliver, G. L. Webb, Isaac Sweet, M. A. M. Ashley and Alice Agler, Portland; M. Langley, Forest Grove; T. T. Bennett, Marshfield; J. L. Campbell, Glendale; Bartlett Cole, H. F. Doaner and D. J. Forbes, Portland; Walter J. Logus, Nehalem; Samuel G. White, Cove; E. D. Whiting, La Grande; LeRoy Park, The Dalles; E. W. Haines, Forest Grove; C. W. Corby, Newberg; and Lot L. Pearce, Salem.

New Telephone Line Ready.

Ontario—The new independent line connecting Ontario with Burns, Drewsey and Harney, a distance of 150 miles, is now completed, and Manager E. A. Fraser, of the M. M. company, was the first man at this end of the line to talk over the long distance line. This new line now gives direct communication between Ontario, Vale, Westfall, Beulah, Drewsey, Harney and Burns.

Governor Benson Returns.

Salem—Governor Benson and Dr. E. L. Steiner, superintendent of the state asylum for the insane, at Salem, arrived at the capitol from the south, where both went early last week to enjoy a short duck-shooting trip on the coast at Winchester bay, at the mouth of the Umpqua river, in Douglas county.

Box Factory at Klammath Falls.

Klammath Falls—W. F. Burns is establishing a box factory near the depot, where he proposes to use the output of the Klammath Lake mill. The plant will use 3,000,000 feet of lumber annually.

SEARCH FOR OIL KEEPS UP.

Malheur County May Be Largest Oil Field in West.

Union—J. P. Wilbur, director of the Union National bank, of Union, stated that he is quite certain that oil will be discovered in paying quantities in Malheur county, where he has just been to look into the oil prospecting going on there.

"Seven out of 22 incorporated oil and gas companies in Malheur county," stated Mr. Wilbur, "are drilling steadily day and night at depths varying from 500 to 1700 feet. After a recent thorough examination by Chester Washburn, United States oil geologist, he stated positively that, in his estimation, Malheur county would in time be the largest oil-producing field in the West."

If oil is found in the quantities expected by Mr. Wilbur, he thinks it will be piped to Portland, and will thus aid in developing this part of the state, as well as the place where it is discovered. The discovery of oil, Mr. Wilbur declares, will aid in the reclamation of much arid land in Eastern Oregon and Idaho, as cheap fuel for pumping the necessary water will then be available.

Valley of Orchards.

The Rogue river valley now has some of the largest orchards in Oregon. Thousands of acres are given to apples and pears, the latter having been very profitable in recent years. One of the largest orchards in the valley, if not the largest in the state, is that of the Western Orchards company, consisting of 1050 acres, all set to young trees. The farm consists of 1700 acres, all of which will be set to trees within the next few years. Next spring 250 acres will be set to apples and pears, the land having received special cultivation this year. The orchard now represents \$240,000, and is owned by men in Chicago, who became interested in Oregon fruitgrowing a few years ago. J. A. Westerlund, an old railroad man, is manager of the property.

Schools Get More Money.

Ashland—Taxpayers of Ashland, at a special school meeting, voted to raise over \$20,000 by special tax for the support of the free public schools of the city for the ensuing year. This is in addition to nearly \$10,000 estimated receipts from the state and county fund, and includes a provision for the installation of departments of manual training and domestic science in the schools for the coming year. The total taxable property of the district is nearly \$3,000,000. One additional grade and one more high school teacher are provided for in the estimates for next year.

Newport Short of Fuel.

Newport—With wood all around us, dry wood cannot be had in the local markets. Dealers say they cannot get enough cut in the summer to last during the winter, yet there are people who complain that there is no work to be had. Dealers offer good wages to woodcutters, but few there are who care to labor.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$1.15; club, \$1.03; red Russian, \$1.01 1/2; valley, \$1; Turkey red, \$1.04; forty-fold, \$1.04.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50; brewing \$28.50 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$33.50; cracked, \$34.50 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$31@31.50 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$15@19 per ton; eastern Oregon, \$15@21; alfalfa, \$16@18.50; clover, \$15@16; cheat, \$15@16; grain hay, \$15@16.

Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$1@3 per box; pears, \$1@1.50 per box; quinces, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$9@9.50 per barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, 60@70¢ per sack; sweet potatoes, 1 1/2¢ per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75¢ per doz.; beans, 10¢ per pound; cabbage, 8¢@1¢ per pound; celery, \$1.75@4 per crate; horseradish, 9¢@10¢ per dozen; pumpkins, 1@1 1/2¢; sprouts, 8¢ per pound; squash, \$1@1.10; tomatoes, 75¢@81¢.

Sack Vegetables—Turnips, 75¢@81¢ per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.25; rutabagas, \$1.10 per sack; parsnips, \$1.25.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 36¢; fancy outside creamery, 32 1/2@36¢ per pound; store, 22 1/2@24¢. (Butter fat prices average 1 1/4¢ per pound under regular butter prices.)

Eggs—Fresh Oregon, extras, 45¢ per dozen; eastern, 35¢@36¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 15¢@15 1/2¢; springs, 15¢@15 1/2¢; roosters, 9¢@10¢; ducks, 15¢@16¢; geese, 11¢@12¢; turkeys, live, 20¢; dressed, 15¢.

Pork—Fancy, 10¢ per pound.

Veal—Extras, 12¢@12 1/2¢ per pound.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.50@4.85; fair to good, \$4@4.25; medium and feeders, \$3.50@3.75; best cows, \$3.50@3.75; medium, \$3@3.25; common to medium, \$2.50@2.75; bulls, \$3@3.50; stags, \$2.50@3.00; calves, light, \$3.25@3.50; heavy, \$4@4.75.

Hogs—Best, \$5@5.15; medium, \$4.50@4.75; stockers, \$4@4.25.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$4.25@4.75; fair to good, \$3.75@4; best ewes, \$2.75@3; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; lambs, \$5@5.25.

Wool—1907 crop, 15¢@16¢; 1908 crop, nominal; 1909 crop, 15¢; 1910 crop, 15¢.

Wool—Best Oregon, 16¢@17¢ per pound. Mohair—Crested, 25¢ per pound.

SWITCHMEN GO ON STRIKE.

Order Promptly Obedy by 2,300 Men Throughout Northwest.

St. Paul, Dec. 1.—After 15 days of negotiation between the Switchmen's union of North America and the joint committee of railroad managers, representing 13 railroads of the northwest, a strike involving 2,300 switchmen became effective at 6 o'clock last night. The men are employed by railroads running west and north of St. Paul from Lake Superior to the Pacific coast, and, unless speedily settled, the strike will mean a serious interruption to the traffic.

Twenty-three hundred men are involved. All hill line switchmen in Seattle, Tacoma, Bellingham, Everett, Spokane and other western division points are out.

Passenger trains where necessary are being made up by terminal superintendents and their assistants.

The railroad managers charge that the strike order is a violation of the spirit of conference pending to obtain arbitration under the Erdman law.

The switchmen declare the railroads forced the issue.

The demands of the switchmen are for double pay for Sundays, holidays and overtime; an advance of 60 cents a day of ten hours in the wages of switchmen, switch tenders, towermen, engine herders and assistant yardmasters; a modification of the rule providing for the payment of penalty in case of failure to permit switchmen to secure their meals in the middle of their shift at a stated period, which contemplates double pay in cases where it became necessary to work a portion of the meal hour, and the elimination of the physical examination and the age limit placed upon switchmen entering the service.

Both sides to the dispute issued statements tonight. That of the railroad managers declares that an increase of 2 cents an hour, or 20 cents a day, was offered by the railroads in territory west of Billings and Havre, Mont., but declined. Further increases were refused, the statement says, because pay of switchmen had been increased previously and now averages more than \$100 a month. The railroads say the strike order was issued while a conference with United States Commerce Commissioner Knapp and United States Commissioner of Labor Neill, looking to arbitration under the Erdman act, was pending. Bad faith in calling the strike is charged.

KILL JOHN D. PLOT TOLD.

Oil King Guarded to Prevent Assassination or Kidnaping.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 1.—Acting upon information given by a man who said he overheard a conversation in which plans to assassinate John D. Rockefeller were discussed, the police guarded Forest Hill, Rockefeller's home, all night. The information was given by Sawyer Smith, of Minerva, O., who said he heard the plot discussed by two men at Alliance, O.

Smith, who is a lumber dealer, said that while visiting in Alliance Sunday night he accidentally came near two men near a railway track. He heard the men plotting against Rockefeller, and said they declared they were to be well paid for either killing or kidnaping him.

It was agreed by them that it would be easier to kill, and the reward would be the same, Smith says. It is believed that in consequence of this warning Mr. Rockefeller decided not to attend a church banquet last night, at which he was to have spoken. Mr. Rockefeller left today for New York.

LORDS DEFEAT BUDGET.

King's Agents Are Without Authority to Collect Taxes.

London, Dec. 1.—The house of lords tonight, for the first time in 300 years, refused its formal assent to the budget, thereby making it illegal for the king's agents to collect taxes with which to carry on the government.

This action of the peers was taken in direct disregard of the advice of such able members as Rosebery, Morley, Lord James of Hereford, Lord Cromer, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Earl of Lytton, Lord Courtney and the Archbishop of Canterbury and of York.

The budget will now go before the country for its approval or rejection; that is, the crown, through the ministry, will dissolve the house of commons and order a general election. Whether the present liberal house and ministry shall be sustained in insisting on the budget will be the issue in the contest at the polls.

Rebels Defeat Big Force.

Colos.—A wireless dispatch received from Bluefields says: After five hours of fighting yesterday 600 revolutionists under General Matuty defeated 1,000 government troops under General Esquez in the mountains above Bam. Several standards and a quantity of arms and ammunition fell into the hands of General Matuty when the government troops withdrew. The Zelaya troops lost 80 men killed and many wounded, while the revolutionists, who fought behind boulders and other protections, lost 20 men killed.

Exchange Seat, \$94,000.

New York.—A price within \$1,000 of the record was paid today for a seat on the New York Stock exchange. It brought \$94,000 as against the record figure of \$93,000 paid for a seat several years ago. The late E. H. Harriman's seat was sold to Robert H. Loeb for \$93,000 only two weeks ago. Since then another seat has sold for \$93,000.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Monday, December 6.

Washington, Dec. 6.—When the senate was called to order 81 members responded. Practically no business was transacted by either house, and as a mark of respect to the late Senator Martin Johnson, of North Dakota, the upper house adjourned after being in session only 13 minutes.

Brief as was the senate's 13 minute session, it was enlivened by an unsuccessful attempt on the part of Mr. Bailey to defeat the passage of the usual resolution that the daily sessions begin at noon, suggesting that the senate should convene instead at 2 o'clock. Mr. Bailey said he would like to see the senate hold night sessions that senators might devote the day to individual business.

The house session continued 40 minutes, in which W. W. McCredie, new representative from the Second Washington district, who succeeds the late Francis W. Cushman, was sworn in. Although only 341 members responded to their names, almost a full membership appeared on the house floor.

The following bills were introduced: Garner, Pa., to investigate entire customs service, particularly in regard to the sugar frauds; Hitchcock, Nebraska, for the establishment of postal savings banks; Mann, Illinois, for federal regulation of the "white slave trade," another by Mr. Mann for free admission of wood pulp; Hamilton, Michigan, to grant statehood to New Mexico and Arizona.

Resolutions of respect for the memory of Senator Johnson, of North Dakota, and of Representatives De Armond and Lassiter, who died in the recess, were adopted, and as a further mark of respect the two houses adjourned until noon tomorrow.

SECRETARY KNOX GIVES OPINION.

Says Groce and Cannon Committed No Serious Offense.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Secretary Knox called on the President today and discussed with him the increasing importance of the struggle with Nicaragua. Neither he nor the President made any comment for publication on the developments up to date.

The gist of the controversy is that neither Groce nor Cannon committed any grave crime cognizable by the laws of warfare, and therefore they were executed illegally and savagely.

Thomas Jefferson, when secretary of state, laid down this principle:

"No citizen has a right to go to war on his own authority; and for what he does without right he ought to be punished."

This, too, is considered good law by the state department, but how he is to be punished is provided for as above. That is to say, that there must be no executions without the commission of a grave crime.

If Groce and Cannon, as prisoners of war, conspired to escape, or if they were spies, they could have been shot summarily and the United States could not interfere. The present case is, from all the legal points of view, one justifying the intervention on which the United States government is now engaged by President Taft and Secretary Knox.

Favors One-Man Power.

Washington, Dec. 3.—It is understood that the house committee that has been investigating the construction work on the Panama canal will present to congress several definite projects. Among the most important, probably, will be a proposal to abolish the present canal commission and substitute a chief engineer, director and civil governor to direct the work under the existing organization. The members of the committee are convinced, it is reported, that the construction work on the canal would be expedited should Chief Engineer Goethals be permitted to proceed with his work free from hindrance by the governmental red tape with which he is now surrounded.

Stay of Gompers Mandate.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Indefinite stay of mandate in the cases of President Gompers, Second Vice-President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, was granted yesterday by the District of Columbia court of appeals on account of an application for a writ of certiorari. The labor leaders are under jail sentences for contempt of court in violating an injunction. Their case has been appealed to the supreme court of the United States.

Terminal Rates Must Be Paid.

Washington, Dec. 1.—The right of the interstate commerce commission to fix railroad terminal charges was denied by the United States supreme court today in a decision by Justice Brewer in the case brought by the commission against the Chicago Great Western and other railroads with terminals in Chicago.

Alleged Loper Arrested.

Washington, Dec. 4.—John E. Early, an ex-soldier, alleged by some authorities to be a leper, appeared in Washington last night and today circulated freely about the city. This afternoon he was arrested as a menace to public health.

Change in Navy Gradual.

Washington, Dec. 3.—While the Meyer plan for the reorganization of the navy became effective today, many of the changes will not be made for several weeks. The transition will be gradual.

MAJOR ROWAN RETIRED.

Complete Continuous Service of Over Thirty-Two Years.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The United States army lost one of its bravest and most conspicuous officers today when Major Andrew S. Rowan, who lately has been on duty at Fort Douglas, Utah, was placed on the retired list after more than 32 years' service.

Major Rowan is known popularly all over the land as the "man who took the message to Garcia." He was a first lieutenant in the Nineteenth infantry when his great opportunity came during the war with Spain. Necessity arising from the dispatching of a trustworthy messenger to General Calixto Garcia to ascertain whether the Cuban army could co-operate with the army of the United States, Lieutenant Rowan was selected by General Miles. Garcia was somewhere in the interior of Cuba, surrounded on all sides by the Spanish forces, and the trip consequently was one fraught with great danger.

Rowan made his way to Kingdon, Jamaica, thence overland to the north coast of that island, where he slipped away in a sail boat for the south shore of Cuba, landing between Guantanamo and Santiago. He made his way to the interior of the island and found General Garcia in the neighborhood of Manzanillo. Part of the time Rowan had passed as a Spaniard and part of the time as a Cuban. Delivering his message, he started to return, well aware that if he had been captured he would have been hanged like Nathan Hale and Major Andre.

1,000,000 ACRES FOR ENTRY.

Secretary Ballinger Restores Valuable Land in Montana.

Washington, Dec. 1.—An especially important ruling was made today by Secretary Ballinger, of the interior department, when he restored to settlement and entry approximately 1,000,000 acres of land in eastern Montana, which was withdrawn some time ago for the purpose of making allotment to the Rocky Boy band of Chippewa Indians. There are about 150 members of this Indian band, and in times past they have proved very troublesome. This fact caused the officials of the interior department to make arrangements for them on a small portion of the Blackfoot reservation. They are now being rounded up in Montana, where they will be cared for during the winter.

Secretary Ballinger states that public notice of the time when the lands will become subject to settlement, which will not be prior to March 1, 1910, will be given in due time.

Zelaya Is Surrounded.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Minister Castillo, diplomatic representative of the provisional government of Nicaragua, today received a cable message from Provisional President Estrada, saying he had received proposals of surrender from Senor Calderon, representing President Zelaya. The proposal was rejected by Estrada. The message states that Zelaya's army has been encircled by the Estrada forces, and leaves the inference that nothing but an unconditional surrender would be considered.

Labor Leaders File Appeal.

Washington, Dec. 1.—In behalf of President Samuel Gompers, Vice-President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, Judge Alton B. Parker today filed a final appeal to the supreme court of the United States from the decision of the supreme court of the District of Columbia ordering the labor leaders jailed for contempt of court in violating an injunction. Each of the three defendants was present when Judge Parker filed the motion.

Secretary Caples Has Resigned.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Robert F. Caples has resigned his position as private secretary to Senator Chamberlain. James W. Beller, formerly secretary to Senator McCrery, of Kentucky, and lately employed in the office of Secretary Bennett, of the senate, has been appointed to succeed Caples, and assumed his duties today. Caples will leave soon for Portland to enter the real estate business.

Secretary of War Submits Report.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Secretary of War Dickinson in his annual report made public yesterday recommends a complete readjustment of United States troops and a comprehensive reorganization of the army establishment. He says there is also a shortage of militia organizations, and a radical change in the system of sheltering the army is advised.

To Define New Orleans Molasses.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The uses and limitations placed upon the name "New Orleans molasses" by the terms of the new pure food law, was the subject of a general hearing today before the board of food and drug inspectors of the department of agriculture.

McHarg's Successor in Office.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Benjamin S. Cable yesterday took the oath of office as assistant secretary of commerce and labor. He succeeds former Assistant Secretary Ormsby McHarg, whose resignation was a result of the Finckel-Ballinger controversy.