

PORTLAND NEWS LETTER

Portland, March 23.—Unless there is a rearrangement of present plans, the Cello canal will be opened for the passage of boats for five days in April, probably between the 10th and 15th, and it is expected that a number of steamers now on the upper river will be brought to Portland for overhauling and two or more boats will carry freight from Portland to Pasco, Kennewick and other points. Construction work on the canal is practically finished, but little remaining to be done except to clean out an accumulation of refuse and to build a few bridges for the passage of teams. The canal is being finished several weeks earlier than was expected, and it will probably be opened permanently for navigation on May 1st.

Owners of high grade livestock in this state will have a number of opportunities next Fall to show off their prize animals, four very important events being already on the list. Early in November will be held the Western National Dairy Show at Seattle, to be closely followed by the Cascade International Stock Show at North Yakima. The first week in December the Northwest Livestock Show will be held at Lewiston, Idaho, while the Fifth Annual Pacific International Livestock Exposition will be held at Portland, December 6 to 11. Breeders' associations in the East and Middle West are taking great interest in these events and are making unusually liberal appropriations to help out on the premium list.

In order to induce a great number of tourists to visit Oregon this year, automobile clubs and the various business organizations throughout the Northwest are planning to send invitations to similar associations throughout the East and Middle West to include Portland, the Columbia Highway and the Pacific Highway territory in their itineraries. The Portland Automobile Club is preparing a new tourist book for general distribution, which will contain a vast amount of descriptive matter and will be illustrated with cuts of some of the most attractive scenery within reach of the motorist.

The Portland Commercial Club has just received from the press advance copies of the new Oregon Almanac, a volume of statistics and information regarding every community in the state. These advance copies are being sent out as rapidly as possible to all papers and periodicals in the state, also to commercial clubs and similar organizations. In about two weeks the main issue of about 300,000 copies will be off the press, and will be sent out in response to written requests from individuals anxious to secure reliable data on Oregon.

"Farm Lands in Oregon" is the title of a booklet just issued by the Farm Land Bureau of the Oregon Development League. It contains a list of several hundred farms and small pieces of land for sale, with prices and terms. It is designed to bring together owners of land and prospective buyers without the intervention of middlemen or agents. Copies will be mailed to those interested.

Time and experience have fully demonstrated the utility of a virus as a rodent exterminator, particularly, squirrels, gophers and mice pests. Nearly all forms of poison have given away to strychnine coated wheat. The cupidity of manufacturers has in many cases, led them to diminish the amount of poison below the safety point, with the result that it has proven worthless in use. Disappointment has also arisen thru improper coating. Farmers today are depending more and more on the well-tried, tested brands of coated wheat for the destruction of squirrels and gophers. No stock, fruit, grain or alfalfa grower should jeopardize his crop by failure to act promptly this season.

These rodents are now awakening; soon, with the warm sun's rays, their whistle will be heard, and this is the psychological moment to sprinkle the poisoned wheat. A few grains in the early morning, dropped down each burrow, will turn the trick. The long fast makes the creatures ravenous and the poison is immediately effective. Fields have been sown, where thousands of these rodents have been destroyed in twenty-four hours, by this method.

GOING AND COMING

Miss Ruby Ayers, of Butter creek, was a week-end visitor in Heppner.

J. R. Olden, of Rhea creek, was a business visitor in our city on Saturday.

W. D. Newlen and wife came up from their home in the "Banana Belt" Sunday.

Matt Turner, young farmer of Weston, spent several days in Heppner the past week.

Nat Scott, Gilliam county stockman, was a business visitor in Heppner the last of the week.

Ralph Burnside was a business visitor in our city from the south end of the county on Monday.

John R. Jordan and family of Echo were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Aiken on Sunday.

Chester Saling, Hardman business man, was in the city on Monday.

R. H. Weeks, of the Hamilton ranch, took out a load of grain to his mountain home on Monday.

W. E. Straight and Fred Kelly, farmers and stockmen of Lena, were Heppner business visitors on Monday.

Ora Adkins and family, of Rhea creek, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Adkins in Heppner.

J. R. Nunemaker, Hood River fruit grower, came up from that city Friday last to spend a few days looking after business interests in this vicinity.

W. J. McCraw returned home Friday evening after an extended visit of several months to his old home in Virginia. He is much improved in health at this time.

Mrs. Henry Jones and daughter, Miss Stella, of Portland, are spending the week in Heppner looking after their property interests. Their ranch is leased at the present time by James Sheridan, a local sheepman.

George Perry came over from his Rock Creek farm last Saturday to pay his taxes at the sheriff's office. George recently made a trip over to the interior of Gilliam county and reports conditions there no better, if as good as they are here for crops.

Harold Cohn returned to his home in Heppner on last Thursday from Berkeley, California, where he had entered the University of California at the opening of the second semester. His untimely return was brought about through eye trouble, and he is now wearing glasses. His California doctor has forbidden him to do any more studying within the year.

M. S. Maxwell was down from his place at Parkers Mill on Friday and reports considerable snow in that vicinity. The roads are also in a muddy condition and will not likely dry up for some time. However, Mr. Maxwell states that Spring is opening up OK and a prosperous season is before the people out his way. He is adding considerably to his stock of general merchandise in anticipation of a good trade.

Young People Enjoy Picnic.
A large number of young people enjoyed the first picnic of the season at Byland's grove last Saturday evening. The affair was made jolly by the roasting of "wieners" over a huge bonfire, which made up a part of the feed which was indulged in during the evening. The party was made up of about twenty-five young folks.

Fine Display of Trout.
The finest display of trout which we have seen hereabouts for some time, was in the window of the Patterson & Son drug store last Sunday. There were eight of them, four being salmon trout and four of the rainbow variety. The fish were caught in the government reservoir above Echo by John Jordan and U. D. Holmes. These trout averaged about sixteen inches.

Suffers Relapse.
Mrs. Mattie Adkins is confined to her bed with a severe attack of stomach trouble. She suffered a light attack several days ago, but had seemingly recovered, only to be taken sick in a more serious manner.



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