

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

TESTING STATION AT EUGENE.

Bureau of Forestry Has Matter Under Consideration.

Salem—The United States bureau of forestry has under consideration the establishment of a testing station at the University of Oregon at Eugene, and it is learned from a reliable source that the officials who have the matter in charge are very favorably impressed with the work of such a station here.

The work of such a station would be to make careful and accurate tests of the strength, durability, elasticity, etc., of all kinds of building and construction material, such as lumber, stone, brick, cement. Such a station would require an initial investment of \$5,000 for machinery with which to make the tests. The custom of the government has been to require the state to furnish the testing laboratory, while the government employs the expert to take charge of the work. After the laboratory has been provided there would be no further expense to the state.

The advantage to the state in the establishment of a government testing station would be in the advertising Oregon material would get as a result of the tests. A report of all tests would be published in government bulletins, and an official record would be kept showing the merits of Oregon building material.

The nearest government test station is at Berkeley, Cal., where the bureau of forestry maintains a station similar to that proposed for Oregon. In addition to setting before the world reliable information regarding the merits of construction material, these stations afford an opportunity to ascertain whether materials being used in construction work are of the character called for by contracts or whether they are suited to the purpose for which used.

COMPANY MAY BUILD PORTAGE.

Presumed Object of New Portland Contract Corporation.

Salem—The Portland Contract company, of Portland, filed articles of incorporation in the office of the secretary of state last week with Daniel Kern, Robert Wakefield and J. N. Teal as incorporators. The amount of the capital stock is \$10,000. While it is not so stated in the articles, it is believed around the capital that this is the corporation which will undertake the construction of the portage railway between The Dalles and Celilo.

The expressed purpose of the company is to take contracts for and to construct buildings, railroads, canals, bridges, etc., and to deal in lumber and logs, and transact other business such as construction companies often engage in. The incorporators named are authorized to open stock books and receive subscriptions to the capital stock.

Building for Medical College.

Salem—There is a movement on foot to secure for the Willamette university an exclusive building for the use of the medical college of that institution. It was announced by Dean W. H. Byrd, of the medical college of the university, that Hon. A. Bush had started the subscription list toward the realization of the \$17,000 required for the building, with a donation of \$2,500, and that a subscription of \$1,000 had been added thereto by the faculty of the university. Dr. Byrd says that a vigorous campaign will now be made.

Eugene's Carnegie Library.

Eugene—At a recent meeting of the city council arrangements were made for the purchase of a lot on Willamette street, between Tenth and Eleventh, for a site for the Carnegie library. The price to be paid is \$4,000. A gift of \$10,000 from Mr. Carnegie is to be used in erecting a library building and equipping the same with heating and lighting apparatus, fixtures, etc., and under the terms of the gift the city is to maintain a free library at an annual expense of \$1,000.

Harvester Catches Fire.

Pendleton—A combined harvester on the ranch of John Richardson, in South Cold Springs, burned up last week as the result of a hot box on the running gear. The harvest crew quickly released the horses and then attempted to extinguish the flames. The machine and straw were so dry, however, that the combine was totally destroyed in ten minutes. A small amount of grain was damaged. The loss is nearly \$1,500.

Electric Road is Assured.

La Grande—W. E. Davidson, president of the Eastern Oregon Development company, in speaking of the proposed electric railway for Union county, says that the road will not only connect all the towns in the county, but will connect Walla Walla county with Union county, and it is thought it will ultimately be extended to Lewiston, and thus establish a railroad between the Hill and Harriman lines.

Wharf Market.

Portland—Walla Walla, 79c; bluestem, 82c; valley, 83c.
Tacoma—Bluestem, 83c; club, 78c.
Albany—78c.
Salem—80c.
Colfax—Club, 66c; bluestem, 71c.
Pendleton—Club, 68½c; bluestem, 79c.
La Grande—Club, 6c; bluestem, 66c.

ELECTRIC ROAD IN UMATILLA.

Will Be Built If Portage Road is Constructed.

Pendleton—In the event of the construction of the portage railway between Celilo and The Dalles, which now seems assured, an electric railroad may be built between Pendleton and some point on the Columbia river. This rumor is current on the streets, and it is believed that something tangible lies behind it. It is understood that the promoters of this scheme are prominent residents of Umatilla county and that they will carry the project to a successful termination, provided the portage road is built, seems certain.

The promoters will not talk for publication, refusing to give any information at all concerning the project. "It is too soon to announce our intentions," said one of the interested persons, "for the portage road has not been built as yet."

It is understood that two objective points are now under consideration, the one being Umatilla and the other Wallula. The latter point will probably be chosen, as a road between that junction and this city would open up unlimited traffic out of Pendleton. Wheat raisers are anxious that the road be built, as the saving in grain freight rates will be enormous.

FARMERS ARE PANIC PROOF.

Umatilla County Assured of a Prosperous Year.

Pendleton—The financial depression and the business stagnation which usually precedes a presidential election has not and will not affect Umatilla county or any other community in the Northwest this fall. The immense crops and the general prosperity have stimulated trades in all lines so much that there is no likelihood of such a period. Although the deposits in the banks are no larger than is usual for this time of the year, money is more plentiful. Toward the middle of September, when farmers begin to get their money or their crops, the deposits will increase and outstanding paper will be paid off. As it is, few have received the money for the wheat sold, and only a few are drawing more than enough to pay off their help. Later they will draw their money and the general prosperity of the year will be felt more generally.

OVER 10,000 ACRES IN WHEAT.

W. J. Furnish Has Land Rented to 29 Tenants.

Pendleton—W. J. Furnish, probably the largest land owner of Umatilla county, has over 10,000 acres of wheat land rented on shares this season. The land is situated north and northwest of Pendleton, in the wheat belt that extends from Pendleton to the Columbia river. This acreage is apportioned out to some 29 renters, from whom Mr. Furnish is to receive one fourth of the crop on the better land and on third from the light yielding lands. So vast are his holdings that it is with difficulty that he can figure up the number of acres in wheat this season. Mr. Furnish does not attempt to farm any himself, and he said, "I don't even own a plow, but let other people do the farming."

Salem Mill Uses Oil for Fuel.

Salem—The Salem Woolen mills have commenced the use of fuel oil in the place of wood, believing it to be a cheaper material for generating steam. The state authorities have been considering for some time the question of using oil for fuel at the state institutions, and the experience of the woolen mill company will be watched with interest. The substitution of oil for fuel in the large manufacturing establishments and in the state institutions will greatly relieve the scarcity of wood, of the last three or four years.

Twice as Much Wheat Now.

Echo—It is estimated that 300,000 bushels of wheat will be hauled to Echo and stored in the warehouses this fall. Heretofore only about half this amount has been hauled to this point. It is not probable that the Henrietta flouring mills will be operated this year, as they have not been for the past two years. A company from Spokane has been trying to arrange for the leasing of them, but nothing definite has been given out.

Rich Specimen From Blue River.

Eugene—Development work has been very active in the Blue river district of late and some excellent ore bodies are being uncovered. A number of specimens of very rich ore from the Cuba and Oriental mines have just been brought down. The specimens were obtained from near the surface and bristle with gold which can be seen with the naked eye.

Indians and Japs for Beechfields.

La Grande—A large number of Umatilla Indians and Japanese imported from near Portland will arrive in the city this week to work in the vast beet fields this fall, pulling and hauling them for the sugar factory in La Grande. There will be over 20,000 tons ground this fall, more than any previous season.

Brush Fire Burns Good Timber.

Sumpter—A brush fire a few days ago communicated with a large lot of sawlogs belonging to the Oregon Lumber company and before the flames were checked 500,000 feet of good saw timber were destroyed. The fire occurred at the logging camp near Whitney.

GREAT NAVAL DOCK WANTED.

Puget Sound Yard is Again Finding Many Warm Supporters.

Washington, Aug. 30.—A determined effort will be made again this year to induce the secretary of the navy to recommend an appropriation for the constructing of a second drydock at the Puget sound navy yard of dimensions greater than any other in this country. It seems to be the consensus of opinion among officers familiar with the conditions at Bremerton that within a year or two another dock will be necessary, in order to permit the yard to carry on all the repair work its plant can handle. It is the general belief that the new dock should be of masonry and of sufficient size to permit the docking of two vessels at one time. There is only one dock in the country today which can accommodate two vessels, and that is the private dock at Newport News. Already the navy department has received from Naval Constructor H. G. Wright, of Puget sound, a recommendation that a second large dock be constructed at that yard, and similar recommendations have been made by other yard officials.

Admiral Endicott, chief of the bureau of yards and docks in the navy department, strongly recommended this new dock in his last annual report, and says he expects to renew his recommendations this year. He believes the Puget sound yard will be seriously handicapped, unless its docking facilities are increased immediately.

BANKS ARE PREPARED.

They Can Easily Meet the Demands for Cash Incident to Crop Time.

Washington, Aug. 30.—For the purpose of ascertaining the ability of the national banks to meet the demand upon them incident to the annual movement of crops, the controller of the currency, August 4, sent to the national bank examiners, with the exception of those whose districts are comprised within the New England states and the city of New York, a circular letter of inquiry as to whether the demand in their respective sections would be greater or less than last year, and whether it would come earlier or later than last year, and whether the banks are better prepared to meet the demand on them from their own funds, and if there would be any increase or decrease in the amounts the banks will have to borrow.

The result of this inquiry may be summarized as follows:

The demands of the banks will be about the same as last year and at about the same time. The banks are generally as well, but in most cases, better prepared than they have been in the past year or two to meet the demands made upon them. Banks in Arizona, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming and Washington are in a better condition.

GREAT IRRIGATION PROJECT.

Nevada is to Be Scene of Work for Engineers Next Spring.

Reno, Nev., Aug. 30.—Next spring a full corps of engineers and surveyors in charge of L. H. Taylor, of the geological survey, will begin a thorough survey of the Humboldt river valley from Elko to Winnemucca, for the purpose of preparing data for the irrigation of that immense territory, comprising in all over 1,000,000 acres of the finest farm land in the state. There is little doubt this will be the next irrigation undertaken, and that the actual construction work will begin immediately after the completion of the great Truckee-Carson project, which is now under way. The great news of the project exceed all that have heretofore been considered. At present there are about 300,000 acres of land under cultivation in the various valleys of the Humboldt. To this will be added fully 700,000 more, making the extent of the territory reclaimed fully twice that which will be brought under cultivation by the Truckee-Carson project, which is now the greatest that has ever been taken up by the United States government. The work will cost millions of dollars.

Second Army for Russia.

Berlin, Aug. 30.—A dispatch to the Tageblatt from St. Petersburg says the Russian government is determined to assemble a second great army in Manchuria consisting of three or four corps under the command of General Baron Kaulbars or General Soukhomlinoff. Its headquarters will be at Mukden. The object of this step is to meet the situation that will arise should Port Arthur fall, thus releasing the besieging army for operations northward. The Tageblatt correspondent names the various commands.

Militia May Again Be Sent.

Denver, Aug. 30.—Governor Peabody today sent a letter to Sheriff Bell, of Teller county, in regard to the mob which last Saturday deported 15 men and destroyed the store of the Interstate Mercantile company. The governor says he is informed that a similar mob contemplates a still further outrage, and offers to send the militia again to assist the sheriff in maintaining order. This is the first recognition by the governor of the outbreak.

Surrender or Downfall Certain.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 30.—There is a total paralysis of action on the part of the government at Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay, the authorities simply taking feeble measures of defense and awaiting developments. Little doubt is felt now that if a pacific solution is not reached in a few days the first determined move by the revolutionists will result in the surrender or downfall of the government.

GIVE UP IDEA

Chicago Aldermen Cannot End Packers' Strike.

THEIR EFFORTS ARE AT AN END

Two Important Meetings Are Held by Labor Unions, but They Are Without Fruit.

Chicago, Aug. 31.—"Absolutely nothing," in Mayor Harrison's words, summarized the result of the meeting of the aldermanic committee named to mediate if possible in the stockyards strike, after it had adjourned today. The committee does not expect to meet again. President Donnelly, of the butchers, Matthew Carr, Nicholas Gier and John Fitzpatrick met the aldermen in Mayor Harrison's office. They reported that the packers refused to make any concessions.

No evidence was offered as to violations of health laws in housing employees at the stockyards, Mr. Donnelly saying he had not yet prepared the data. The union leaders withdrew and not long afterward the committee adjourned.

Two important meetings were held by labor unions tonight to discuss the packing house strike, but no action was taken at either gathering.

The first meeting was held by the packing house teamsters, who went out on a sympathetic strike. The session was turbulent, but the sentiment was strongly against returning to work. Cornelius Shea, leader of the national organization of teamsters, was present. He asked the men to take a vote on the question of whether they would return to work, but they refused to take such a vote. Several speakers who advocated the vote were shouted down.

After the adjournment of the teamsters' meeting, the representatives of the allied trades employed in the stockyards, held a meeting. Nothing was settled at this gathering and the meeting will be resumed in the morning.

The executive board of the Meatcutters' union and members of the Allied Trades council conferred today, but the peace proposition proposed was so complicated that their efforts came to naught.

MAY BOTTLE KUROPATKIN.

German Experts Believe Japanese Will Encircle Liao Yang.

Berlin, Aug. 31.—German military men are discussing the situation of General Kuropatkin with the keenest interest. They have information that the defenses of Liao Yang are of extraordinary strength. The fortifying of the town was entrusted to General Melishko, who enjoys here the reputation of being a master of military engineering. During the past two months he has fortified all the strategic positions around Liao Yang in a manner well nigh impregnable.

The German critics think Liao Yang's defenses about equalize the difference in numbers between the Russians—estimated at 180,000—and the Japanese, numbering 240,000.

The danger of General Kuropatkin's situation is recognized as being bottled up like Field Marshal Bazaine, who surrendered Metz to the German forces in 1870. It is doubted by the experts if General Kuropatkin will be able to prevent the complete encircling of Liao Yang, which would mean probably the eventual loss of his army.

ASSAULT ON ARTUP RESUMED.

Report That Japanese Have Received Reinforcements Confirmed.

Chefoo, Aug. 31.—Severe fighting was resumed at Port Arthur on August 27, according to Chinese who left there on the evening of that day. One of the Chinese was arrested and compelled to carry the dead from the battlefield of Pa Li Chuang, which the Japanese attempted to capture on August 26. Thirty carts were used to carry the dead, numbering 400, from the trenches and outskirts to the city. A policeman told the Chinese that the efficient soldiers in the garrison at Port Arthur numbered over 10,000.

Arabia Arrives at Shanghai.

Shanghai, Aug. 31.—The German steamer Arabia, belonging to the Hamburg-American line, has arrived here from Vladivostok. This is the vessel that was captured by the Russian Vladivostok squadron in July. A prize crew was put aboard her and she was taken to Vladivostok. All the white men among her crew were well treated by the Russians. She was tried before a prize court which condemned 20,000 barrels of flour and 71 railroad car bodies. The remainder of the cargo and the vessel were released.

Said to Be Damaged.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 31.—From an excellent source it is said that the ill-starred Russian battleship Orel, which already has suffered two accidents, will not be able to join the Baltic squadron. According to reports, when her engine trials were made was discovered workmen had introduced iron filings into the valves and cylinders. It probably will require many months to repair the damage. This is the second failure of the Orel to go out on a trial trip.

Boer Treasure Found.

Johannesburg, Aug. 31.—Mr. Kemp, a cousin of General Kemp, the Boer commander, has discovered beyond Spelonken, in the Northern Transvaal, the treasure removed from Pretoria before the entry of Field Marshal Roberts. The value of the treasure is \$1,250,000, of which the government will receive half.

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County Assessor..... W. L. Baling
County Surveyor..... J. Kethly
County School Superintendent..... Jay W. Shipley
County Coroner..... Dr. Kistner
Stock Inspector..... S. C. Kirk

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Coun. J. J. Roberts, Geo. Noble, E. W. Rhea, Phil Cohn, Tom Quaid
Recorder..... O. E. Farnsworth
Treasurer..... J. P. Williams
Marshal..... L. W. Briggs, D. C. Gurdane

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Directors..... T. J. Matlock, E. M. Shutt, J. M. Hagar, Clerk—L. W. Briggs.

Precinct Officers:
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