

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## CURE OF THE INSANE.

### Good Record the Past Year at the Oregon Asylum.

Salem—An unusually good record in the curing of patients has kept down the number of inmates of the state insane asylum and has probably averted congestion at that institution. When the last legislature met, there was every reason to believe that the construction of a new wing would be absolutely necessary within the ensuing two years. An appropriation for an addition of three wards was made, but the appropriation was included in the omnibus appropriation bill and was held up by the referendum. Construction of new rooms was therefore made impossible.

The usual rate of increase in population at the asylum is 50 per year, and at that rate the institution would have been crowded to the limit before another legislature could take action. Of late, however, a large number of patients have been discharged.

Should the next legislature make an appropriation for a new wing, containing three wards, it will be at least two years from the present time before the addition would be ready for occupancy. There is now room for 68 more patients in the men's department and ten in the women's department. Unless, therefore, the present low rate of increase continues, the building will be full before the capacity can be enlarged.

In any event it will be necessary to transform one of the men's wards into a ward for women, and probably it will be necessary to use some of the men's smoking rooms for dormitories.

## BUSINESS IS PROMISING.

### Portage Railroad Saves Farmers Five Cents a Bushel on Wheat.

Salem—That the operation of the portage road from The Dalles to Celilo has resulted in an increase of 5 cents a bushel to wheat growing farmers, who were able to reach the portage road, is the report made by Superintendent L. S. Cook, to the Portage Railway commission. Not all the wheat that brought the increased price was shipped over the portage road, however, for Mr. Cook says that the O. R. & N. Co. has met the cut brought about by the operation of the state's railroad and farmers have profited in that way.

The O. R. & N. met the cut by absorbing drayage at Arlington and by other means and thereby secured much of the shipping. Only 18,139 sacks of wheat went over the portage road during November, but more could have been secured by seeking contracts and more will be secured when the shippers become familiar with the rates.

## SALEM WOULD CAN FRUIT.

### Movement Started to Form Company to Handle Output.

Salem—A movement has been started for the organization of a co-operative company among the fruitgrowers for the purpose of constructing and operating a cannery. The plan is to form a corporation with 400 shares of stock at \$25 a share. Not more than 20 shares can be held by one person, and transfers can be made only through the board of directors. The board will consist of nine men and will have charge of the business of the concern.

The purpose is to secure to growers the highest possible price for fruit. The movement was started by S. J. Lemmon, an Eastern fruit packer, who expects to take the management of the co-operative cannery.

## New Cut-Off Nearly Done.

McMinnville—The new St. Joseph-Lafayette cut-off, which is nearly completed, will enable the Yamhill division of the Southern Pacific to have regular trains over the new road within a short time. The new stretch of track is nearly two and a half miles long, and will do away with keeping up the nine miles of road from Whiteson to Lafayette and the big bridge near the latter place. If the present schedule remains in force, three trains a day will run into Portland—at 6 and 8 a. m. and 3 p. m.

## Snow Falls Early.

Burns—The first snow storm of the year has visited this county, and snow is now 12 inches deep in the valley and three feet on the mountains. This is more snow than fell all last winter, and old settlers say it is more than has fallen this time of year since the hard winter of 1887-88, when 75 per cent of the stock perished. The early snow indicates a long, cold winter, but the stockmen have plenty of fodder for five months' feeding.

## Complaints on Illegal Fishing.

Tillamook—Deputy Fish Warden H. A. Webster has filed two complaints in Justice Habersack's court on account of the alleged violation of the fishing law in Tillamook bay. One is against the Elmore Packing company, and the other against W. W. Ridehaigh, manager of the cannery at Garibaldi.

## DIGGING LONG TUNNEL.

### Baker City Irrigation Co. to Conduct Water Through Hill.

Baker City—The 500-foot tunnel of the Baker City Irrigation company through the hill on which is situated the city reservoir is under way by a gang of 40 men, with all the necessary machinery. Work was commenced at both ends simultaneously, and unless the plans of the engineers go wrong, the two crews will meet in the middle of the hill.

When completed this will be the greatest irrigation tunnel in Eastern Oregon.

The entire cost of the tunnel will be about \$40,000, while the system this company is putting in will cost over \$100,000. The headgates are on Powder river, about seven miles above Baker City. The ditch follows the foothills down to the big reservoir hill, where a tunnel was found necessary. After leaving the tunnel the water will be taken around the east side of Baker City and put on about 5,000 acres of land adjoining the city limits on the northeast.

This land will be devoted to fruit raising and small farming. E. L. Smith, of Hood River, is at the head of the company building this ditch, and it is the first and only irrigation project of any magnitude in Baker county.

## Linn Farms May Yield Oil.

Albany—Are the foothills of Linn county charged with crude oil that will make the owners of the land fabulously rich? This question is agitating the minds of a large number of people since the investigation of the land has been taken up by A. A. Horter, William S. Harris and W. P. Keady. For some time these men have been prospecting in the coal fields around Lacombe, and now have arranged to lease several hundred acres in that neighborhood for the avowed purpose of boring for oil.

## Linn County Taxes Fixed

Albany—At the regular December term of the county court for Linn county the tax levy for Linn county for all purposes was fixed. The total levy to be paid by residents of the county who are not subject to a city tax will be 21 mills. This includes state, county and the several special taxes, divided as follows: State, 6.5 mills; school, 5.4 mills; county, 3 mills; roads and bridges, 4 mills; indigent soldiers, 0.1 mills; special road, 2 mills; total, 21 mills.

## Bright Outlook for Show.

Albany—December 19 to 23 are the dates set for the annual exhibition of blooded fowls under the auspices of the Linn County Poultry association. This bazaar promises to be one of the best yet held, and many prizes will be offered for the best exhibits, for many of which there is material in Linn county.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 72c per bushel; blue-stem, 74c; valley, 73c; red, 68c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.00; gray, \$26.50 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$22.50 per ton; brewing, \$22.50@23; rolled, \$23@23.50.

Rye—\$1.50 per cental.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14.50@15.50 per ton; valley timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$8@9; cheat, \$8.50@9.50; grain hay, \$8@9.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@1.50 per box; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box.

Vegetables—Beans, wax, 12c per pound; cabbage, 1@1 1/4c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per crate; celery, 45@75c per dozen; cucumbers, 50@60c per dozen; pumpkins, 1/4@1c per pound; tomatoes, \$1@1.25 per crate; sprouts, 7c per pound; squash, 1/4@1c per pound; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—Oregon yellow Danvers, \$1@1.25 per sack.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 65@75c per sack; ordinary, 55@60c; Merced sweets, sacks, \$1.90; crates, \$2.15.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2@30c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 35c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12c per lb; young roosters, 10@11c; springs, 11 1/2@12c; dressed chickens, 12@12 1/2c; turkeys, live, 16c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 17 1/2@18c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 14@15c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@11 1/2c per pound; olds, 5@7c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c per pound; valley, 24@26c; mohair, choice, 30c.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4; country steers, 4@4 1/2c.

Veal—Dressed, 3@7 1/4c per pound.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 7@7 1/2c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 7@7 1/2c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@7c per pound.

## NEEDS A STRONG LEADER.

### Russian Nation Blindly Staggered in Throes of Revolution.

St. Petersburg, via Eydtkuhnen, Dec. 11.—But one question is being asked at present in this unhappy country: Where is the revolution leading Russia?

It is the one all important subject before the people, and happy would be the man who could foresee just what is ahead. But this is impossible. The best informed men can only guess at what may come to pass. All is chaos and disorder, and what is worse, there is no light ahead. Russia today might well be likened to a giant staggering down a blind alley in the blackest midnight. He knows not where his path leads; he cannot tell where pitfalls are before him. The end of it all can only be guessed and no prediction is of any value.

For this revolution is a terrible thing. It has paralyzed industry, it has ruined all business, it has tied up the postal and telegraph service, and when it desired, it has effectually stopped all railroad traffic. It has been responsible for crimes unspeakable; it has caused the blood of Russian patriots to flow from one end of the empire to the other; it has arrayed class against class and man against man; it has bred mutiny in the navy and created dissension among the soldiers; it has caused the peasants to rise against the tyrants who for centuries have dominated them and ground them to the earth. It has practically nullified the authority of the government and given to the proletariat powers he never dreamed of possessing 12 months ago, because he has learned how he may bend all authority, even that of the czar, to his will.

## MARTIN TO FRONT.

### South Dakota Representative Wants Commerce Controlled.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—The Washington correspondent of the Post wires as follows:

Eben W. Martin, of South Dakota, hitherto counted as one of the most conservative Republicans in the house, has brought trouble to the door of the party leaders by introducing a bill of a substance so strongly paternalistic that it casts some of the radical measures into the shade and by comparison makes the others appear as bulwarks of conservatism.

Mr. Martin's measure aims to give the government control of every corporation in the country that is engaged in interstate commerce in fuel or food supplies. Two years ago Representative Martin forced consideration of his resolution asking for investigation of the beet industry. The resolution passed the house and the beef inquiry is on.

## HOCH STARTS OIL WAR.

### Would Spread Kansas Laws Over Entire Nation.

Topeka, Dec. 11.—Governor Hoch has started a national war on the Standard Oil company. Last year the governor threw the gaff into the Standard by means of several laws regulating the oil industry. Now he wants the same thing to happen in the other states of the Union and accordingly is sending letters to every other state governor asking for the passage of the same laws that Kansas has now on the statute books.

He recites the facts in the Kansas fight and explains the pipe line common carrier, the maximum freight rate and the anti-discrimination laws which cut the Standard tenacles, and concludes: "It is extremely desirable to extend the operation of these principles of government to other states, that the greatest possible good may come of them. I therefore most heartily recommend these enactments to the favorable consideration of the governors of sister states, and trust they may think the subject of sufficient importance to recommend to their respective legislatures, and I urge the legislatures of the several states to study these Kansas enactments and if thought wise to incorporate them or their essential features into the laws of their respective states."

## Big Game for Roosevelt.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Major M. H. W. Llewellyn, United States attorney for New Mexico, took luncheon at the white house today and urged the president to visit him next spring for the purpose of hunting jaguars & leopards, which are found along the Mexican border. He is hopeful of persuading the president to go. The major snapped his fingers in derision at the very idea of hunting for bobcats and coyotes. The major is confident that the joint statehood bill, merging New Mexico and Arizona, will pass this session.

## Many Coal Barges Lost.

Hawesville, Ky., Dec. 11.—At 9 o'clock tonight the towboats Harry Brown and Raymond Horner, with tows of coal for New Orleans were caught in a severe wind storm opposite here. The Brown lost 27 barges, while the Horner lost seven. Each barge contained 25,000 bushels of coal. The coal was valued at \$120,000 and the barges at \$64,000. No lives were lost.

# CONDITIONS WORSE VERY LITTLE DONE

## Troops and Workmen Fight on Streets of Riga.

## WARSHIPS TO REGAIN CONTROL

### Provisional Government Has Been Established in Baltic Provinces—Public Buildings Burned.

St. Petersburg, via Eydtkuhnen, Dec. 16.—It is stated upon the highest authority that two cruisers and two torpedo boats have been ordered by the minister of Marine, acting under instructions of Count Witte, after an audience with the czar, to proceed from Libau to Riga and shell the city, if the revolutionists refuse to surrender.

A provisional government has been established there and the public buildings are occupied by representatives of the home rule party, who have determined to make Riga the capital of the Baltic provinces.

Barricades have been erected everywhere, and steamers arriving at the port are unable to communicate with the shore. Public buildings have been burned. The population is fleeing and merchants are abandoning their business.

The new strike law provides heavy penalties, and drastic punishment for participants and instigators of strikes. They may be sent to prison for from 16 months to four years for an offense.

## Government Openly Defied.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Matin, under date of December 15, says the sudden return of the government to reactionary measures has aroused the interest of the revolutionaries, who are holding meetings and passing resolutions declaring their determination to resist the government. As the resolutions are passed they are forwarded to the ministers, who do not reply to them.

A St. Petersburg dispatch to the Journal, dated December 15, says:

"At a meeting of engineers tonight it was resolved to demand the immediate release of Schmidt, the leader of the mutiny at Sevastopol.

"Alarming reports are arriving concerning the troops at Moscow, who appear to be thoroughly disaffected, and who, in addition to demanding increased pay and shorter terms of service, ask for liberty to read all newspapers."

## DECREASE OF POSTOFFICES.

### Result of Rural Delivery—Local Parcels Post Proposed.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The annual report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General P. V. DeGraw says there has been a decrease of 575 in the new postmasters commissioned, as compared with the previous year. The actual number of postoffices in the United States at the close of the fiscal year was:

First class, 275; second class, 1,258; third class, 4,120; fourth class, 62,478; total, 68,131.

This, the report says, was a reduction, resulting mainly from the discontinuance of 3,492 fourth class postoffices during the year by reason of the establishment of rural free delivery. The aggregate compensation of the postmasters thus displaced amounted to \$198,994.

City free delivery had been extended during the year to 44 new postoffices, as against 69 in 1904. The gross receipts of free delivery offices during the year had increased 8 per cent and the cost only 2 per cent.

Mr. DeGraw renews the recommendation that a rate of 3 cents per pound or any fractional part thereof be fixed on packages not exceeding five pounds mailed at the distributing postoffice of any rural free delivery route. This rate should apply only to packages deposited in the local postoffice for delivery to boxes of patrons on routes emanating from that office, and not to mail transmitted from one office to another.

## Army of Strike Breakers.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—The Chicago Employers' association, at a meeting to day, formulated plans for the establishment of a standing army of laborers, both skilled and unskilled and representing every branch of trade to be prepared to go to any city in the United States to fill the places of strikers when necessary. The scope of the association will be extended so as to include every city in the United States with a population of 50,000 or more. Employment bureaus will be maintained where nonunion workmen can register.

## Horizontal Reduction of Tariff.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Senator McCreaty yesterday introduced a bill to reduce the tariff of the United States by providing that there shall be levied upon all articles imported from foreign countries a rate equal to three fourths of the present schedule.

## Both Houses of Congress Slow in Getting to Business.

## CANNON ANNOUNCES COMMITTEES

### Senate Takes Up Railroad Rates and Refers Bill for Canal Appropriation to Committee.

Washington, Dec. 12.—With spirited debate on the subjects of railroad rate legislation, arising through the introduction of a bill by Mr. Tillman to authorize the Interstate Commerce commission to fix maximum rates, and of the Panama canal, due to a controversy over the reference of the emergency appropriation bill to a committee, yesterday's session of the senate continuously proved interesting for more than four hours.

An adjournment was taken without a mention of the late Senator Mitchell of Oregon, and so for the first time the death of a senator was permitted to pass unnoticed by the senate. The erasure of Mr. Mitchell's name from the rolls followed. Chaplain Hale recalled the situation to mind in his prayer by referring pointedly to corruption and death and by praying that members of the senate be given strength to bear each other's burdens.

After more than a score of senators had discussed the Panama bill it was referred to the appropriation committee by a vote of 40 to 23.

The senate then, at 4:50 p. m., went into executive session and at 5:10 adjourned.

## In the House.

The only matter of importance coming up in the house was the announcement of committee appointments by Speaker Cannon, after which adjournment was taken until Wednesday.

## Northwest Committeemen.

Humphrey, Wash., was placed on the merchant marine and fisheries committee; Jones, Wash., rivers and harbors; French, Idaho, public lands and immigration and naturalization; Hermann, Ore., Indian affairs; Williamson, Ore., mines and mining and irrigation of arid lands; Cushman, Wash., stays on interstate and foreign commerce and on private land claims.

The following are the principal committees with chairman: Ways and means, Payne; appropriations, Tawney; foreign affairs, Hitt; judiciary, Elkins; military affairs, Hull; naval affairs, Foss; insular affairs, Cooper; banking and currency, Fowler; merchant marine and fisheries, Grosvenor; territories, Hamilton; elections, Mann; rivers and harbors, Burton; railroads and canals, Davidson; agriculture, Wadsworth; postoffices and post roads, Overstreet; public lands, Lacy; Indian affairs, Sherman; manufactures, Sibley; mines and mining, Brown; invalid pensions, Sulloway; pensions, Loudenslager; claims, Miller; war claims, Mahon; irrigation of arid lands, Mondell; immigration and naturalization, Howell; printing, Wachter.

## FRANCE WEARY OF WAITING.

### Patience is Becoming Exhausted by Castro's Procrastination.

Washington, Dec. 12.—France has refused to withdraw her note to Venezuela, protesting against President Castro's treatment of M. Taign, the French diplomatic representative. M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, had a long conference with Secretary Root today regarding the Venezuela situation, which it can be announced on high authority is daily growing worse. France, it is understood, would have taken steps to protect her own interests in Venezuela before this, had it not been for the unwillingness of the French government to make any move which would hinder or embarrass the settlement of the American troubles with Venezuela. This is thoroughly understood by Secretary Root and although Mr. Russell, the American minister, is still endeavoring to assist in reaching a peaceful settlement of affairs at Caracas, it is evident that French patience is about exhausted.

## Bill for Federal Control.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A novel method of seeing Federal control over insurance is proposed in a bill introduced yesterday by Representative Landis of Indiana. The bill cites that congress has exclusive jurisdiction over the District of Columbia, the territories and the insular possessions of the United States. In consequence authority is given the department of Commerce and Labor to require full statements from all insurance companies doing business within such jurisdiction over which congress controls.

## Sympathy for Russian Jews.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Representative Sulzer, of New York, yesterday introduced a resolution of sympathy for Russian Jews.