

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

BUY FORESTRY BUILDING.

State Board of Agriculture Proposes Moving It to Salem.

Salem — At the meeting of the state board of agriculture last week John H. Albert, of the Lewis and Clark fair commission, submitted a communication suggesting that the board take steps to secure the forestry building erected at the Lewis and Clark fair and move it to Salem.

Mr. Albert said that neither the city of Portland nor the Oregon Historical society has taken action toward preserving the building, and he thought it would be a good plan to move the structure to Salem and erect it in the state fair grounds near the Southern Pacific track, where all persons passing on the trains could see it. He thought the huge structure of logs would not only be an attraction at the state fair, but when so situated would be a perpetual advertisement for Oregon's timber resources.

The Board of Agriculture appointed a committee composed of W. H. Downing, J. D. Matlock and Frank Lee to ascertain the cost of transporting the building to Salem, and also whether the owner of the land upon which the building now stands will permit it to remain there until the legislature meets in 1907.

WOOLEN MILL FOR ALBANY.

Subsidy of \$15,000 Will Insure Rebuilding on Larger Scale.

Albany — The Commercial club appointed a committee of leading business men to secure \$15,000 in subscriptions toward reorganizing the Bannockburn Manufacturing company, to rebuild the woolen mill recently burned, replacing it with a mill double the capacity. The company is to have \$100,000 capital and a practical woolen manufacturer is to run the mill. The new factory will give employment to 100 people.

The proposal is to bring machinery for a six-set mill from Massachusetts, the owner to take stock in the mill for the machinery and run the plant. The old building is to be rebuilt with money subscribed for stock in Albany, the old company to put in its property at half cost and raising \$40,000 additional stock. This will give the company a complete plant with a working capital of \$40,000. Business men here are taking hold with a will and the plans promise success. Over \$2,000 was subscribed by three men on the spot.

The Commercial club re-elected the entire board of directors and officers, President M. H. Ellis and associates holding another year.

Statistics of Feeble-Minded.

Salem — An effort has been made by the commission authorized by the last legislature to inquire into necessity or the advisability of establishing a school in this state for the feeble minded, to find out how many unfortunates of this character are to be found in the state. A report received at the office of the secretary of the State Library commission, compiled from a census taken in several Eastern states, shows the average number of feeble minded persons is 2 to 1,000. On this basis there would be about 1,000 feeble minded persons in Oregon.

Candidates Must File Notice.

Salem — Secretary of State Dunbar calls attention to the fact that it is necessary for candidates for state or district offices to first file a notice of intention to become a candidate with the secretary of state, before or at the time of beginning the circulation of petitions for the primary elections. A candidate is permitted to write a platform, not exceeding 100 words, to be filed with this declaration, and to have printed on the official ballot a condensed platform, not exceeding 12 words.

Census Returns Slow.

Salem — Only 17 of the 33 counties of the state have filed their census returns with the secretary of state. Scarcely any of the reports are complete. Duplications have been discovered in several instances, while glaring inaccuracies are alleged in others. Klamath county only reports eight Indians, whereas the great Klamath Indian reservation is in this county, and should have been reported, according to state officials. Names, residences and places of birth are improperly recorded on many returns.

Lincoln County Shows Decrease.

Salem — Lincoln county's assessment summary for 1905 has been received at the office of the secretary of state. It shows a decrease of 10 per cent in the valuation of taxable property, the total for 1904 being \$1,039,592, as compared with \$939,454 in 1905.

Mill at Enterprise.

Enterprise — Otto Brothers have installed a chop mill near here, a large race affording power. The flouring mill in Enterprise is frequently compelled to close down, but the chop mill can be run at any time.

MAKING READY IN KLAMATH.

Government Engineer Lippincott Now On the Ground.

Klamath Falls — Supervising Engineer J. B. Lippincott, for the Reclamation service in California, and having charge of the Klamath project, arrived here Sunday. Mr. Lippincott came to Klamath Falls to clear up all preliminaries and arrange for paying all obligations against the government in connection with the Klamath irrigation project.

Several private companies were bought out by the government officials, or arrangements were completed for the purchase of all conflicting irrigation ditches put here previously by private concerns, and though the payments had been authorized by government, none of these private companies received their money. This had caused considerable speculation, and the coming of Mr. Lippincott, with the announcement that his mission here was to clean up all these claims, so that the contractors awarded the contracts for work on the irrigation canals could proceed at once after the bids were let, places all who heretofore had wondered if the government would proceed with actual ditch work in much clearer position regarding the future of the project.

Mitchell Estate Small.

Portland — David M. Dunne has been appointed administrator of the estate of Senator John H. Mitchell upon the petition of John H. Mitchell, Jr., in the County court. The petitioner stated that the estate is valued at \$2,000, and the heirs are Mattie E. Mitchell, wife of deceased, and Mattie E. de Rochefoucauld, a daughter, residing in Paris; John H. Mitchell, Jr., and Hiram E. Mitchell, sons, and Alice and Mildred Chapman and Mitchell and Robert Handy, grandchildren.

Want Trees Destroyed.

Oregon City — Fruit Inspector James H. Reid will appeal to the courts of Clackamas county to compel E. J. Riley, an attorney of Portland, to submit to the destruction of his fruit trees. Inspector Reid says Mr. Riley's orchard, which is located in Minthorn addition, near Milwaukie, is infected with the San Jose scale, and that the only way in which the pest can be eradicated is to destroy the trees. Mr. Reid says he is determined to make a test case.

Say Agents are Frauds.

Salem — Agents are traveling over this state soliciting orders for books for traveling libraries. In some instances they represent themselves as being authorized by the State Library commission to solicit orders for books. The commission has no traveling book agents, nor has it authorized any one to solicit orders for traveling libraries, or books to be included in traveling libraries. Wherever such cases have been reported to the Library commission steps have been taken to advise people not to patronize these agents.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat — Club, 70@71c; bluestem, 72@73c; red, 67@68c; valley, 73c per bushel.

Oats — No. 1 white feed, \$27; gray, \$26.50 per ton.

Barley — Feed, \$22.50@23 per ton; brewing, \$24; rolled, \$24.

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@2.50 per box; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box.

Vegetables — Beans, wax, 10@12½c per pound; cabbage, 1@2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$3.50 per crate; cucumbers, 50@60c per dozen; peppers, 6c per pound; pumpkins, ¾@1c per pound; sprouts, 7c per pound; squash, ¾@1c per pound; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions — Oregon, \$1@1.25 per sack.

Potatoes — Fancy graded Burbanks, 65@75c per sack; ordinary, 50@60c per sack; Merced sweets, sacks, \$1.90; crates, \$2.15.

Butter — Fancy creamery, 27½@30c per pound.

Eggs — Oregon ranch, 30c per dozen.

Poultry — Average old hens, 11@12c per pound; young roosters, 10c; springs, 11@12c; broilers, 12@13c; dressed chickens, 12@12½c; turkeys, live, 17@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 21@23c; geese, live, 9@9½c; ducks, 15c.

Hops — Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@11½c; prime, 8½@9½c; medium, 8c; old, 5@7c.

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

Beef — Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4c; country steers, 4@4½c.

Veal — Dressed, 3@8c per pound.

Mutton — Dressed, fancy, 6@6½c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 7@7½c.

Pork — Dressed, 6@7c per pound

BATTLE IN MOSCOW.

Rebels Receive Reinforcements From Neighboring Cities.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27. — The battle in Moscow is still raging, the victory being undecided. Considerable reinforcements for the revolutionists have arrived from the neighboring districts of Yaroslav, Vladimir and Tambov. The loyal troops of the government now in Moscow number 8,000 cavalry and Cossacks, while the infantry regiments there incline toward the revolutionists.

The number of killed and wounded in the fighting thus far exceeds 10,000. The artillery and fires lighted by the revolutionists have destroyed many blocks of houses, and it is feared that Moscow will be involved in a conflagration before the present struggle is over.

Members of the government are reported to believe, from information which has reached them, that the Moscow affair is only a demonstration, and that the decisive battle with the revolutionists is to be fought in St. Petersburg before many days. In this city and its suburbs and on the frontier of Finland are concealed large quantities of revolutionary arms and ammunition. Eighty thousand laborers are expected to march on the capital from Narva and Revel at the appointed time. At present, however, the city is comparatively quiet.

Encounters with strikers in the suburbs have lately caused the death or injury of several hundred victims. The chief city surgeon, M. Rosen, says he examined the wounded and killed and found among them many schoolboys and young girls. This fact further affords proof of the cruelty of the Cossacks.

NO INTERVENTION.

Civil War in Santo Domingo No Affair of United States.

Washington, Dec. 27. — For the present there will not be any interference by the United States in the difficulty which has arisen in Santo Domingo. The trouble is regarded by the State department officials as entirely an internal one, and so long as outside interests are not menaced this attitude of non-intervention will be maintained.

If, however, conditions should change materially and lawless acts should be committed against Americans and American interests, involving the collection of the Dominican customs by this government, or other violence should occur which, in the opinion of the officials here would make it proper for this government to interfere, this step will be taken, and measures adopted to quell the trouble.

This decision was reached by State department officials during the day and was confirmed at a conference at the white house late this afternoon, in which the president and Secretaries Taft, Root and Bonaparte participated. The cabinet officers remained in the white house until nearly 6 o'clock. The gathering, however, was not called specifically for the purpose of discussing matters bearing on the developments in Santo Domingo, but to talk over a number of questions which the president was anxious to dispose of preliminary to his departure for an outing of several days in Virginia.

SMITH TO BE GOVERNOR.

Will Soon Succeed Wright in Philippine Possessions.

Washington, Dec. 27. — Despite denials and assurances recently credited to Governor General Luke E. Wright, there is no longer serious doubt of the administration's purpose to make a change in the head of the Philippine government. James F. Smith, formerly of San Francisco, now a member of the Philippine commission, is the man picked for the succession as governor general. His installation in the post is likely to be accomplished in the not distant future.

There is high authority for the statement that American prestige in the islands has waned seriously in the last year. The fact is hardly disputed by those familiar with conditions there. It was recognized by members of the Taft party, some of whom have expressed grave concern about it.

Abolish Hanging in Jersey.

New York, Dec. 27. — Assemblyman Berg, of New Jersey, has drafted a bill to abolish capital punishment in that state, and will go to Trenton tomorrow to ask Governor Stokes to grant reprieves to all condemned murderers until the legislature shall have acted on the question. If Governor Stokes accedes to the Assemblyman's request, two women, Mrs. Valentine and Mrs. Lotts, and a man awaiting death in the Hackensack jail, and three men under sentences in other county jails, will be given reprieves until well into spring.

China Makes Demands.

London, Dec. 27. — The correspondent of the Morning Post at Shanghai says that the Chinese foreign office has instructed the Chinese minister at London to negotiate with the British government regarding the mixed court dispute, to demand the dismissal of the British ambassador, and to insist on the punishment of the police concerned in the recent outbreak.

SALARIES TOO LOW

Poor Service Rendered by Cheap Clerks in Postoffices.

MONEY ORDERS SHOW INCREASE

Large Amount of Money Received in Dead Letters Mailed to Fraudulent Concerns.

Washington, Dec. 28. — In his annual report made today First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock says that the low salaries paid clerks in first and second class postoffices are decreasing the standard of efficiency. It is impossible, he says, to induce efficient men to enter his branch of the service, when the salary to begin with is but \$600 a year, with no certainty of promotion for perhaps several years.

Mr. Hitchcock strongly recommends a discontinuance of the practice of installing postoffices in public buildings devoted in part to other branches of the government service. The best type of quarters for postoffice purposes, he says, is a single large room in a one-story building.

Much embarrassment has been occasioned the postal authorities to provide emergency mail facilities in mining towns, and Mr. Hitchcock recommends an emergency appropriation of \$75,000 to meet such requirements.

There has been an increase of more than \$18,000,000 in the amount of domestic and of more than \$5,000,000 in the amount of foreign money orders issued during the year over the year preceding.

While the number of undelivered letters which are on their way to the dead letter office during the year was smaller than during the previous year, the number of undelivered letters with valuable enclosures greatly increased. General prosperity of the country is given as one reason; another is the suppression by the department of concerns using the mails for fraudulent purposes. Mail for such concerns containing money, money orders and commercial paper was received at the dead letter office in unusual quantities. Nearly 11,000,000 pieces of mail were received at the dead letter office during the year, including 1,668 that failed of delivery in the Panama canal zone.

Over 1,500,000 cases of alleged indecent and scurrilous matter received attention. In the summer the influx of offensive pictorial post cards became so great as to call for a special order by the department looking to the abatement of the nuisance. As a result of this order, many thousands of objectionable cards have been withdrawn from the mails by postmasters and forwarded to the department for destruction.

FLOUR TRADE MENACED.

Puget Sound Mill's Oriental Business Falls 30 Per Cent.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 28. — According to Superintendent Armstrong, of the Tacoma Warehouse & Sperry Mills company, the boycott in China is proving a serious menace to the milling interests of Tacoma. Where years ago full cargoes of flour were being shipped to China and mills were running overtime to fill orders, shipments to the Orient have fallen off over 30 per cent and mills are running only part of the time.

"The boycott in China has knocked the bottom out of the flour business, as far as exports are concerned," said Superintendent Armstrong. "Local freight keeps up well but we need foreign shipments. It would be good business policy to get that boycott out of the way as soon as possible."

Ralph Smith agent of the Puget Sound Flouring Mills company, says: "We are shipping less flour than usual to China, and the boycott is responsible for it. I don't know what else could be the trouble. Home trade keeps up about as usual."

Volcano Smothers Savaii.

San Francisco, Dec. 28. — According to the passengers who arrived yesterday on the liner Ventura, the volcano on the Island of Savaii, in the Samoan group, is still in vigorous activity. The blaze from the crater at night, it is said, is visible at sea many miles away. The lava has covered an area of 30 square miles. This molten flow has filled 11 miles of a deep valley and is heading for the seashore. Natives whose homes are near the beach are preparing to abandon their houses and coconut groves on short notice.

Will Adopt Extreme Measures.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28. — After an exciting meeting of the workmen's delegates to the Union of Unions, it was decided to continue the strike and adopt the most desperate measures.

MACKENZIE PROMISES AID.

Recommends Total Appropriation of \$1,400,000 for Jetty.

Washington, Dec. 26. — Senators Fulton and Gearin today called on General MacKenzie, chief of engineers, in regard to the needs of the Columbia river jetty. General MacKenzie gave them renewed assurance of his friendliness and said he was doing everything in his power to secure money to keep work in progress.

He has recommended not only an appropriation of \$400,000 in cash, but has urged that authority be granted for the expenditure of an additional \$1,000,000. He explains that \$400,000 is required for "rocking" the jetty as far out as the end of the present tramway, but will not be ample for any extension. If authority can be secured for the expenditure of \$1,000,000 additional, it will be possible next season to push the jetty much farther seaward, and in fact approach the point where it is expected to end.

Major Roessler, in his report, recommended an appropriation of \$1,900,000 to complete the jetty. This is a higher figure than the previous estimate, but his estimate is reduced materially by the War department.

The Oregon senators will exert their best efforts to secure the appropriation recommended by General MacKenzie, and will furthermore insist upon the authorization of additional work to the extent of \$1,000,000. The other Northwestern senators and representatives will work in accord with them.

INVESTIGATES INSECT PESTS.

Government Solves Problems of Cotton and Wheatgrowers.

Washington, Dec. 26. — According to the annual report of L. C. Howard, in charge of the Bureau of Entomology of the Department of Agriculture, the main work of the bureau for the past fiscal year, ended June 30, 1905, was in connection with the cotton boll weevil, the cotton boll worm, importation of beneficial insects from abroad, investigations of insects damaging forests and deciduous fruit trees, work on insects injurious to vegetable crops and effecting the great staple field crops, and work in silk and bee culture.

The investigations into the cotton boll worm were such that cotton planters will, it is stated, be enabled to control that injurious pest.

Experiments on a large scale, extending over practically the whole of the wheat growing area, have been looking toward the elucidation of certain as yet unsolved problems in the propagation of the Hessian fly and of the joint worms of wheat, and also to determine the best time to sow wheat in the autumn in order to ward off the autumn attack of the fly. Investigations of the same insect in the spring wheat regions have been begun, since only recently has the Hessian fly spread into this new country.

IRRIGATE YAKIMA RESERVE.

Jones' Plan to Secure Water and Admit White Settlers.

Washington, Dec. 26. — As the first step in the direction of adjusting conflicting water rights on the Yakima Indian reservation, Representative Jones will introduce a bill, when congress reconvenes, authorizing the Yakima Indians to sell 60 acres of their respective allotments, and directing the secretary of the interior to apply a portion of the proceeds to the purchase of water rights for the remaining 20 acres of each allotment.

The passage of this bill will permanently provide for the irrigation of Indian lands and at the same time open the way for the settlement of a large portion of the Yakima reservation. This Indian land has been selling for from \$40 to \$50 per acre, and a large surplus will be realized for the benefit of the Indians.

Indian Commissioner Leupp is in favor of this plan and will lend his assistance to secure its favorable consideration by congress.

New York Traction Merges.

New York, Dec. 26. — A consolidation of the subway, elevated and surface traction lines of Manhattan island is believed to be probable, as a result of the sale of the interests of Thomas F. Ryan in the Metropolitan Street Railway system to August Belmont. The Metropolitan system includes practically all of the surface roads on the island, and Mr. Belmont is president of the Interborough Rapid Transit company, which operates the elevated roads and subway. The price paid was not made public.

Alfonso Betrothed at Last.

Paris, Dec. 26. — The Figaro this morning declares that a definite agreement has been reached between the British and Spanish governments regarding the betrothal of King Alfonso and Princess Ena of Battenberg, but that the official announcement will not be made for several weeks.