

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## CONTAINS MANY DIFFICULTIES.

Oregon State Primary Law Hard for Candidates to Follow.

Salem—Another very serious problem has arisen in connection with the direct primary law. The law requires that candidates for state offices shall file petitions from not less than seven counties, and that at least 10 per cent of the precincts shall be represented in each of the seven counties. Two per cent of the votes cast at the last state election for supreme judge by each party must be represented on the petition. It has been the supposition until recently that so long as the required number of counties and precincts were represented by the signatures of one or more voters that the bulk of the signatures on a petition to make up the 2 per cent might come from one county, so long as the required number of names was filed with the secretary of state. It is now discovered that there must be 2 per cent of the vote cast by the party represented in each county and precinct represented, as well as throughout the state.

The attorney general will probably be asked to render an opinion in regard to the number of signatures required from the counties and precincts. To secure 2 per cent of the voters in seven counties, and 10 per cent of the precincts in each of the seven counties, and in addition have 2 per cent of the party vote in the entire state, will add to the difficulties of securing a petition.

## FORM NEW ORGANIZATION.

Independent Telephone Companies of Oregon Unite.

Portland—In order to fortify themselves and protect their interests, representatives of the independent telephone lines in Oregon met here last week and formed a permanent organization. It will be known as the Oregon Independent Telephone association, and is formed after similar organizations in other states of the Union and affiliated with the national association of independent telephone lines.

The objects of the association are to encourage development; foster and stimulate the growth; protect the mutual interests; promote and systematize uniformity of accounting, operation, maintenance and construction of independent (non-Bell) telephone interests, and to defend the same from unfair encroachments of competition by co-operation and by such other available means as may, from time to time, seem advisable.

## Favor Woolen Mills.

Albany—The business men of the city met and discussed the proposition of securing the new woolen mill for this city. Judge Stewart, of the stock committee, withdrew from the active work of soliciting subscriptions, and Frank J. Miller was selected to fill the vacancy and the committee will push the work. The purpose of the committee is to secure subscriptions to the stock aggregating \$15,000 toward the capital of \$100,000, when the mill will be built and fitted up. The business men at the meeting were enthusiastic in support of the project, and the spirit manifested was in favor of co-operation among the business interests of the city for the upbuilding of Albany and its industries.

## Plans an Electric Line.

Forest Grove—At the meeting of the Forest Grove city council last week, State Senator E. W. Haines, in behalf of the Forest Grove transportation company, a new organization, applied for a 25-year franchise for an electric railway in Forest Grove, to run from the Southern Pacific depot to the business section of the city, about two miles. According to the terms of the ordinance, the new line must be begun in 90 days, and completed in eight months. It is to carry the United States mail, express and passengers. Senator Haines furnishes electric light to Forest Grove from his plant about 12 miles distant, and, it is understood, will furnish power for the new road from his plant.

## Buys Ranch in Gilliam.

Condon—A. S. Hollen has purchased the 860-acre ranch on Trail fork, Gilliam county, belonging to J. W. Booth. The transaction, which involves about \$15,000, is one of the most important real estate transfers for some time here, and gives Mr. Hollen a most valuable farm and stock ranch. In the deal Mr. Booth takes residence property in Condon valued at about \$5,000, consisting of several fine dwellings. Mr. Hollen is proprietor of the Condon Flouring mill. He will take possession of the ranch about March 1.

## Few Hops Left in Josephine.

Grants Pass—Several sales of hops have been made here recently at from 9 to 10 cents. About 500 bales have changed hands, and by February 1 but few hops will be held by the growers in Josephine county. There are quite a few baby hops still held and a few old ones, though not to exceed 500 bales in all.

## AMEND IRRIGATION LAWS.

Irrigationists Say Conditions in Idaho Are Better Than in Oregon.

Salem—Prominent irrigators of Oregon are considering the advisability of asking the next legislature to amend the irrigation laws in several particulars. At the present time all the contracts with the state for the reclamation of desert lands under the Carey act are based upon the theory that the owners of the canals and ditches are entitled to collect a perpetual annual rental from the landholders. In Idaho the landholders will eventually own and control the canals, ditches, headgates, etc.

In the contract with the state of Idaho for the construction of the Twin Falls canal it is provided that a company shall be formed among the landowners on the basis of one share of stock for one share of water right, and that within seven years the control of the canals, ditches, dams and headgates shall pass to the corporation formed among the water users. Previous to the formation of this company and before the expiration of the seven years' limit, the construction company is entitled to collect annually not exceeding 80 cents an acre. The same theory of ownership prevails in all government work.

All the contracts for the reclamation of arid lands under the Carey act in this state allow the construction companies the right to collect \$1 an acre perpetually, the company agreeing to keep the canals and ditches in repair.

## Fruit Inspector in Linn.

Albany—The Linn county court has appointed E. C. Armstrong, residing at Marion station, Marion county, to act as fruit inspector for Linn county, temporarily, on the recommendation of Horticultural Commissioner C. A. Park, of Salem. Mr. Park wished to secure here a man who would be ready to begin war on pests at once. The court will at once elect a man for permanent appointment who will be asked to take a short course in training under Professor A. B. Cordley, at the Oregon Agricultural college.

## New Railroad for Gilliam.

Salem—Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state for the Oregon Northern Railway company. The incorporators are: William J. Mariner, R. W. Robinson and C. E. Jones. The road runs from Blalock, in Gilliam county, to Hardman, in Morrow county. The capital stock is \$25,000, divided into 1,250 shares of \$20 each. The principal place of business is Heppner.

## Contracts at Interest.

Salem—The State Land board reports interest bearing contracts outstanding December 31, as follows: School land contracts, \$669,516.30; Agricultural college, \$28,993.82; University, \$3,788.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 71@71c; bluestem, 73@74c; red, 68@69c; valley, 73c.

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

Barley—Feed, \$23.00@23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.00@24.50; rolled, \$23.50@24.50.

Buckwheat—\$2.50 per cental.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13.50@14.50 per ton; valley timothy, \$9@10; clover, \$9@10; cheat, \$8.50@9.50; grain hay, \$8@9.

Fruits—Apples—75c@1.50 per box; persimmons, \$1.25 per box; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$13@13.50 per barrel.

Vegetables—Beans, 20c per pound; cabbage, 1@2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$3@3.50 per crate; pumpkins, 1/4@1c per pound; sorrots, 7/8c per pound; squash, 1 1/4@1 1/2c per pound; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—Oregon, No. 1, \$1@1.25 per sack; No. 2, 75@90c.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 65@75c per sack; ordinary, 50@60c; Merced sweets, 2c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2@32 1/2c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 29@30c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12 1/2@14c per pound; springs, 12 1/2@13c; mixed chickens, 12@12 1/2c; broilers, 15@16c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 15c; turkeys dressed, choice, 17@20c; geese, live, 9@11c; ducks, 15@16c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@11c per pound; prime, 8 1/2@9 1/2c; medium, 7@8c; 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@4c; country steers, 4@4 1/2c.

Veal—Dressed, 3@8 1/2c per pound.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy 6@6 1/2c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 7@7 1/2c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c per pound.

## SECOND IN TRADE.

Large Volume of Business With Germany During 1905.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Trade between the United States and Germany, whose commercial relations are now the subject of negotiations between the two countries, aggregated in the fiscal year 1905 over \$300,000,000. A report issued today by the bureau of Statistics of the department of Commerce and Labor, says:

"The imports from Germany were \$118,000,000 in value and exceeded imports from that country in any earlier year. The exports to Germany were \$194,000,000 in value and exceeded our exports to that country in any earlier year except 1904, in which year the total was over \$214,000,000, this decrease in 1905 compared with 1904 having occurred in raw cotton and being due altogether to a fall in prices, since the quantity in 1905 was greater than in 1904. Imports from Germany increased \$37,000,000 in the period from 1895 to 1906 and exports to that country increased \$10,000,000 in the same time.

"Germany stands second in the order of magnitude of our trade with foreign countries, both as to imports and exports.

"Manufactures are the bulk of the \$118,000,000 worth of merchandise imported from Germany.

"In manufactures, especially copper, mineral, leather, scientific instruments and certain manufactures of iron and steel, our exports to Germany show a steady growth. The value of copper in bars and plates exported from the United States to Germany amounted to over \$14,000,000.

## WILL TRY TO GET FACTS.

Missouri's Attorney General Says He Does Not Expect Much.

New York, Jan. 9.—Attorney General Hadley, of Missouri, said tonight that he would probably ask for a hearing in the Supreme court in this city on Wednesday or Thursday to determine whether H. H. Rogers and other directors of the Standard Oil company must answer questions at the hearing before Commissioner Sanborn regarding the control of oil companies operating in Missouri.

"I confess," he says, "that I did not have much hope when I came here that the Standard Oil directors would tell about the Standard Oil control of the Waters-Pierce Oil company and two other companies operating in Missouri, but since they have appeared in answer to subpoenas, I shall make the best effort I can to have them tell the facts.

"I don't care, of course, to have any body committed for contempt. I shall ask the court to have the witnesses directed to answer certain questions which they have declined to answer. If the court orders them to answer and they still refuse, I shall have to leave to the court the question of contempt.

"A refusal to answer in such a case would be next best for my purpose to an answer in the affirmative, since it would be equivalent to an admission."

## KENTUCKY IS RAMMED.

Battleship Runs Aground in Fog in New York Harbor.

New York, Jan. 9.—While the battleship squadron under command of Rear Admiral Evans was proceeding to sea today, the battleships Kearsarge and Kentucky ran aground in the harbor off the West Bank light house. The Alabama and Illinois were following next in line, and before they could alter their course, the Alabama collided with the Kentucky, striking her a glancing blow. The Illinois just got clear of the tangle and proceeded down the bay, anchoring outside the bar with the flagship Maine.

The starboard side of the Kentucky above the water line was quite badly damaged. She will come up to the navy yard tomorrow for repairs. The accident occurred shortly after 1 P. M. The Alabama stood by to render assistance to the Kentucky and Kearsarge and wireless messages were sent to the Brooklyn navy yard for tugs.

## Place for Consumptives.

Boston, Jan. 9.—Mayor John F. Fitzgerald, who presided at the meeting which closed the tuberculosis convention at Horticultural hall tonight, said in his speech that by tomorrow night the act calling for a board of trustees for the establishment of a hospital for consumptives to cost \$150,000 will have passed the board of aldermen, and will soon after receive his signature. The tuberculosis convention, which has been in session here for two weeks, has been a great success, the hall being crowded at nearly all the lectures.

## Damages to American Property.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 9.—Mr. Meyer, the American ambassador, has received from the consuls at Moscow and Odessa detailed reports of the injuries suffered by American property during the recent riots. A statement of the damages claimed will be forwarded by Mr. Meyer to the State department for instruction.

# AIR EVERY SCANDAL

## Senate Committee to Investigate Affairs of Canal.

## MAY ABOLISH CANAL COMMISSION

Latitude Will Be Given in Taking Testimony in Hope of Showing Mismanagement.

Washington, Jan. 13.—While the senate has labored to mask the truth, the fact is that next Tuesday Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, Theodore P. Shonts, John F. Stevens and, incidentally, John F. Wallace, are to be arraigned and tried before the none too impartial judges who constitute the senate committee on interoceanic canals.

The trial is to be called an investigation, but it means simply that every supposed scandal, every petty criticism, every report of friction between officials, every story of an unearned salary, every tale of a discharged employe and every fleeting bit of gossip is to be told in public, and from them all the members of the committee expect to get—possibly some of them hope to get—the basis for a direct charge of incompetence, or it may be of guilt. There is not a soul in Washington who believes that anything will come of the investigation save the knowledge already held that some of the heads of the enterprise have had their bickerings and their disagreements.

It may be that in the course of the hearings the public may learn the real reason for the resignation of Mr. Wallace. It may learn whether or not there was any truth in the reports of friction between Mr. Taft and Mr. Shonts. It may learn whether or not Poultney Bigelow drew the long bow, but that anything substantial can come from the investigation no one in his heart believes.

It is understood that the greatest latitude will be given in the matter of asking questions, and, if curiosity about personal differences between officials is to be considered one of the chief things which it is necessary satisfy, the senate and the people may have their fill of satisfaction.

The senate declares that President Roosevelt practically challenged the investigation and that it has been decided not to deny him. There was nothing for the president to do, apparently, in the present condition of affairs, except to "challenge" an investigation. There is a feeling in Washington that he took the course that he did to win eventually the right to conduct the canal construction unhampered by a commission of seven men.

If the result of the investigation leads to the statutory abolition of the canal body, it may be that trouble and rumors of trouble will disappear and that the work will go forward, showing that a strong hand is behind it.

## SEETHING WITH EXCITEMENT.

Young China Wants Reform Old China Adheres to Graft.

Pekin, Jan. 13.—Reports from the South and from the Yangtze valley region show the anti-foreign sentiment to be very strong. China undoubtedly is in a ferment of political excitement, but the movement is directed as much against the government as against the foreigners.

The government is between two fires. The young China party is clamoring because reforms are being executed too slowly, while the conservatives and the officials, the latter having their perquisites threatened, are resisting all efforts at reform.

In spite of the protests in Northern China, the foreign ministers have not changed their minds for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chile province, the only exception being the legation guards, the ministers believing that the Chinese government is both able and determined to protect foreigners in the event of a revolution.

## Demand a Lower Rate.

Juneau, Alaska, Jan. 13.—At a meeting attended by 35 Douglas City shippers last night a telegram was ordered to be sent that no contract would be signed with the two steamship companies now doing business unless a rate of 25 per cent less than the present rate be granted. At present only three contracts have been signed in Juneau with the two companies. All other shippers were waiting for some move by Tacoma or Portland. There is some agitation to get Tacoma to pool the issue with Portland.

## More Jamaicans for Canal.

Kingston, Jan. 13.—Four hundred men sailed from Kingston this afternoon on the steamer Tagus for Colon to seek employment in the canal zone. Each man deposited \$6.25 with the treasury under the immigrants protection law.

## HILL ON PHILIPPINES.

Occupies Attention of House Three Hours Telling What He Knows.

Washington, Jan. 6.—In a session of five hours today, the house placed on record a speech in favor of the Philippine tariff bill, one against it, and a 20 minutes' talk for tariff revision according to the Republican demand of Massachusetts. Hill, of Connecticut, occupied three hours, and was listened to with the greatest interest in detailing the knowledge he gained from two visits to the Philippines, the last as a member of the party of Secretary Taft last summer. He paid particular attention to the tobacco feature of the measure, and explained away much of the misapprehension as to the enormous products that might be expected from the islands. Their territory, he said, was small, and the fertile lands still further limited.

Mondell, of Wyoming, who has led the fight against the bill in the interest of the beet sugar industry of this country, spoke vigorously against the measure and against the policy of helping the Filipino people by granting them open markets in the United States. He said the passage of this bill would be the death knell of the beet sugar industry in the United States.

The abolition of the tariff on hides was pleaded for by Lawrence of Massachusetts, who presented the position taken by the Republicans of that state.

Information regarding immigration from Austro-Hungary contained in reports by Marcus Braun was asked for from the secretary of commerce and labor.

## MAY HOLD BALANCE.

United States May Act as Arbiter in Moroccan Conference.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The agitation in Europe over the coming Moroccan conference and the result it may bring has spread to this country and officials here are now deeply interested in the matter because of the recently developed fact that the American delegation has become the most prominent factor of the gathering.

It has been believed here that the various European governments which are so deeply interested in the conference, notably France and Germany, had agreed to a program which would be adhered to rigidly. The possibility of a split between these two governments on some of the questions involved may throw the United States into a position where its delegates with their votes will have the power to settle the question. In that event, it is considered, the position of the United States may become embarrassing.

It is learned on good authority that the United States government will do everything in its power to bring about a peaceful settlement of the issues which will be discussed at the conference. From this it appears that President Roosevelt has again determined to use all his power in keeping the world at peace. The difficulties of the situation are great and the American mission will undoubtedly have much work to do.

## Will Defeat Statehood.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The Republican "insurgents" of the house now contend they have formed a combination that will defeat the statehood bill and carry the Philippine tariff bill with it. They say they have 70 Republican votes which will be supported by a united minority, to defeat a rule prohibiting any amendment to the statehood bill. They will amend this bill, they say, by admitting Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state and leaving Arizona and New Mexico out for the present.

## Dolliver Will Fight Delay.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, will resist to the utmost any attempt of the committee on interstate commerce of which he is a member to defer action upon railroad rate legislation until the house has passed a bill. The present majority of the committee is opposed to giving the Interstate Commerce commission power to change rates. Three of the Republicans, however, stand with the Democratic members for regulation as generally defined by the president.

## Public Lands Withdrawn.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Withdrawals from all forms of disposal of public lands for proposed forest reserves have been ordered by the secretary of the interior, effective January 14, 1906, as follows: Nevada, Spring mountain reserve, 345,000 acres; Wyoming, Pear Lodge reserve, 107,020 acres.

## California to Celebrate.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Representative Kahn, of California, introduced a bill today providing for an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for an exposition in San Francisco in 1913 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the Pacific ocean by Balboa.