

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

STUPIDITY OF CANDIDATES.

Aspirants for State Legislative Honors Show Great Density.

Salem—Men who seek to be lawmakers or judges have the greatest trouble in preparing their primary petitions in such a manner as to comply with the provisions of the direct primary law. If it were not a cruel unkindness to those who aspire to these high and important offices, many stories could be told of the great difficulty some of them have had in understanding the law and complying with its terms.

One candidate for the circuit bench has propounded a simple question concerning the requirements of the law, and has volunteered his own opinion as to its meaning, whereas the law itself contains a plain and unequivocal provision directly at variance with his views. Should he have as great difficulty in understanding the law after he secured a place on the circuit bench, there will be plenty of causes for appeal to the Supreme court.

Seven times Secretary of State Dunbar has been compelled to write to one man regarding the manner of preparing his petitions, and that man wants to come to Salem and help make laws for the state of Oregon. There is still a possibility that he will not get his papers drawn in substantial compliance with the law and will be shut out of the privilege of being a candidate in the primaries.

Petitions are now being rushed to the office of the secretary of State and the clerks in that department are being kept busy early and late checking up the papers, to see that they contain the required number of names, from the specified number of counties and precincts.

March 30 is the last day upon which nominating petitions can be filed for places on the primary ballot. Democrats express the fear that some of their candidates will not get their petitions completed by that time.

Roads Over Umatilla Reserve.

Pendleton—Agitation continued for years for public roads across the Umatilla reservation will at last be successful. Under an act of congress, public roads may be laid out across a reservation in the same manner as elsewhere, except that the road has to be approved by the department. In the past it has been held that the county had no rights upon the reservation, and consequently the use of the roads has been at the pleasure of the Indians. For several years the taking of sheep across the reserve has been prohibited.

Abandon Cascade Road.

Albany—Charles Altschul, representing the Willamette Valley & Coast Cascade Mountain Wagon Road company, has notified county clerk B. M. Payne that the company will abandon the road across the Cascade mountains and will not be responsible hereafter for repairs or for accidents on the road. As a result, a number of men here are taking steps to file on some of the lands of the company's land grant under the timber and stone act. The road was built a third of a century ago.

Josephine Farmers Talk.

Grants Pass—Farmers living in the Applegate valley have formed a telephone company to be known as the Applegate Valley Telephone company. Arrangements have been made with the Pacific States Telephone company by which they can connect with the latter company's lines in Grants Pass. Farmers living around Merlin, down Rogue river and on Jump-off-Joe will have a meeting in a few days to form a company to run a line from those sections to Grants Pass.

Old Deed is Filed.

Albany—A deed has been recently filed for record here that was made before Oregon was a state. It was signed by Joab Powell and Anna Powell, November 25, 1858, and acknowledged before Jacob Snoderly, a justice of the peace. It was written with a quill on a large sheet of paper, now yellow and dimmed. Powell was a pioneer minister, and has many descendants in Linn county.

Material for Central Railway.

La Grande—A carload of plows, scrapers and other tools for grading have been received at Union for use in work for the Central railway of Oregon. Some of the Eastern parties interested in the electric railway enterprise have also arrived at Union and their presence is accepted as the signal for the commencement of active operations.

Oregon Horses for Japan.

John Day—Henry Trowbridge and C. I. Officer, stockmen of the Izee country, have purchased a band of 100 horses for a contract of Seattle shippers with the Japanese government. The horses are all young geldings, from 15 to 15½ hands high, and without blemish. From \$40 to \$60 per head was paid.

POPULATION DECREASES.

Inaccurate Work by Assessors in Taking Census.

Salem—According to county assessors' returns already examined the total population of Oregon will be less than that given by the Federal census of 1900.

In many instances the returns show on their face that no attempt was made at accuracy, and this lack of care is of such a nature that Secretary of State Dunbar will hardly be able to complete the tabulation of the state census of 1905 until some time this fall, possibly not before next winter.

There was no appropriation made to provide extra help to do this work, consequently it must be done by the regular office force. The primary and general elections furnish all the work the employees of the office can handle for some time to come. It will be necessary to work overtime to tabulate the returns of the primary election, and to get the official ballot out for the June election.

The census returns in many instances were not properly extended. It will be necessary to go over all the papers and check them up, a slow and tedious process. With the present help, it will require weeks, and possibly months, to tabulate the returns properly.

Buying Timber for Speculation.

Engene—One of the largest timber land transactions in this vicinity is reported to have been consummated, wherein the Olean Land company, of Olean, N. Y., has secured 15,000 acres of timber in the vicinity of Gate creek. Besides this large tract, the same company is negotiating for several other bodies of good timber along the McKenzie river, aggregating probably 25,000 acres or more. It is said the purchasing company has no intention of cutting the timber from these lands, but is buying for purposes of speculation and will hold for an advance in price.

Electric Line in Six Months.

Astoria—W. L. Dudley, promoter of the proposed electric line between this city and Seaside, was here a few days ago and says the line will be completed and in operation within six months if the material is delivered within the specified time. He says permission from the government to build the bridge across Young's bay has been secured and the contract for the steel draw, as well as for 1,500 tons of 60-pound steel rails have been awarded. The rails are to be delivered within 90 days.

Small Force at Woolen Mill.

Fugene—The Engene woolen mill has started operations on a limited scale. The new company which recently purchased the property has been making improvements, and intends putting the mill into full operation as soon as possible.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 67c; bluestem, 68c; red, 65c; valley, 69c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.50; gray, \$27 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, choice, \$17@18 per ton; common, \$13@14; valley timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$12.

Apples—\$1.50@2.75 per box.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 8c per pound; cabbage, 1¼@1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.25 per crate; celery, 75¢@90c per dozen; onions, 40c per dozen; rhubarb, \$1.25 per box; spinach, \$1.25@1.50 per box; parsley, 25c; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65¢@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 75c@90c per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 50¢@60c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; sweet potatoes, 2¼@2½c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 25¢@27½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14¢@14½c per pound; mixed chickens, 13¢@13½c; broilers, 25¢@30c; young roosters, 13¢@13½c; old roosters, 12c; dressed chickens, 15¢@16c; turkeys, live, 16¢@17c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18¢@20c; geese, live, 8c; geese, dressed, 10¢@11c; ducks, 17¢@19c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10¢@10½c; prime, 8½¢@9c; medium, 7¢@8c; olds, 5¢@7c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15¢@20c; valley, 24¢@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 25¢@28c.

Veal—Dressed, 3½¢@4c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 2½¢@3c per pound; cows, 3½¢@4½c; country steers, 4½¢@5½c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 9¢@9½c per pound; ordinary, 4¢@5c; lambs, 10¢@11c.

Pork—Dressed, 6¢@8½c per pound.

OUR TRADE WITH CANADA.

Growth Has Been Enormous, Despite Attempted Reduction.

Washington, March 27.—Trade of the United States with Canada in the fiscal year 1905 aggregated \$202,949,213, against \$89,429,096 in 1895, according to a bulletin issued by the department of Commerce and Labor. It shows that in the years from 1875 to 1895 our trade with Canada increased \$67,000,000, and from 1895 to 1905 it increased \$114,000,000.

The larger portion of this growth has been on the export side. The imports increased from \$27,867,615 in 1875 to \$62,469,432 in 1905, and exports advanced from \$34,547,219 in 1875 to \$140,529,581 in 1905.

"This rapid growth in trade relations with Canada," says the bulletin, "is especially interesting in view of the varying conditions to which commerce with Canada has been subjected. During the period from 1855 to 1866 a reciprocity treaty was in force between Canada and the United States, but in the latter year it was determined, so that commerce between the two countries was unaffected by special trade arrangements until April, 1898, when the United States was placed at a slight disadvantage as compared with the United Kingdom, products from that country entering the Dominion of Canada being admitted, by special arrangement, at a reduction of 12½ per cent of the tariff levied on imports from other countries.

"August 1, 1898, the reduction of British products was increased to 25 per cent, and on July 1, 1900, was still further increased to 33½ per cent. Despite these advantages in favor of goods entering Canada from the United Kingdom, exports to Canada from that country grew from \$29,743,712 in 1875 to \$59,603,556 in 1904, while exports from the United States grew from \$64,928,825 in 1897 to \$140,529,581 in 1905."

The percentage of imports to Canada from the United States in 1905 was 60.6 and from the United Kingdom 24 per cent.

MISERY OF STARVING.

Japanese Live on Flour Mixed With Straw and Weeds.

Tokio, March 27.—The misery and suffering in the famine district has been slightly relieved by the prompt and liberal aid from foreign sources and the abatement of the rigors of winter. The local authorities are trying to provide work for the able-bodied, but the extent of the work is inadequate, and tens of thousands are still on the verge of starvation.

Many parents are parting with their children, sending them to the already crowded Okayama orphanage. Several children are quartered at the Ueyno railway station in this city. Among them was a girl 6 years old, who was found treasuring a package of dirty old newspapers. On examination the package was found to contain a postal card, with the address of the parents of the child, who had been told to mail the card upon her arrival at her destination. The severity of the suffering undergone by the children is clearly depicted in the faces of those who are compelled to part from their homes, where the food consists of flour mixed with straw and weeds. The mixture is beaten fine, forming a paste, which contains only 25 per cent actual food value.

The government has remitted the lowest tax in the famine district, but this will not afford immediate relief. The liberal contributions from Americans are already effective, and the relief in the form of food and clothing is commanding the heartiest appreciation.

Another appeal for aid is presented by the sufferers from the earthquake in Formosa, hundreds of whom are homeless. The local government is busy providing food, caring for the injured, and recovering and removing corpses, several hundred of which are buried under the debris.

San Jacinto in Danger.

Los Angeles, March 27.—A dispatch to the Times from San Jacinto, Cal., says: Raging down its course in the maddest fury known in 25 years, the San Jacinto river threatens great damage to the town of San Jacinto, to the extensive ranching regions near by and to many other places down the valley. Bridges have been washed away, lands have been flooded, and it has been only with the greatest difficulty that the waters have been prevented from sweeping through the main street of San Jacinto and entailing heavy loss.

Fire Destroyed Eleven Buildings.

Fayetteville, N. C., March 27.—A fire which started in the Frank Thornton Dry Goods company's store last night, in the center of the city destroyed 11 buildings. Loss, \$300,000. No one was killed, but several persons were injured.

JEWES ARE DOOMED

Russian Police Have Planned Massacre at Easter.

SPURRING ON BLACK HUNDRED

Proclamations of Blood Issued, Says League of Writers, Which Appeals to Russians.

St. Petersburg, March 31.—The League of Russian Writers has issued an appeal to the Russian people to unite in the name of their consciences and self-respect to prevent the Jewish massacres which, they say, are beyond doubt being prepared in Southwestern Russia for Eastertide. The appeal says that it is not fancy but fact that the police and gendarmes are arranging to let loose the Black Hundred upon the members of the poor, helpless race. It recalls that the Kishineff, Goml and Odessa anti-Jewish outrages were committed at the instigation of Minister of the Interior von Plehve, Chief of Police Neidhardt and Count Podgerichanie, Chief of the gendarmerie of Gomel.

Just as in the past times St. Bartholomew day were arranged by agents of the government, the appeal declares, the recent proclamations emanating from the printing office of the police master at St. Petersburg and that of the military at Odessa leave no doubt that the authorities are privy to the present propaganda. The appeal further declares that M. Katselousky's book warning Jews to leave Russia immediately or be treated as the Jews were treated by the Spaniards in the middle ages was printed and distributed from the offices of the police masters of St. Petersburg and Ekaterinoslav.

The League of Writers claims to hold proof that massacres have been planned to take place at Alexandrovsk, Minsk, Brest-Litovsk, Rostof-on-Don and Kamenchug. It also points out that the anti-Jewish press is spreading insidious rumors to excite the ignorant.

BIGGEST OF ALL BATTLESHIPS.

Naval Officers Divided on Building of 22,000-Ton Monster.

Washington, March 31.—Since the decision of the house committee on naval affairs to recommend an appropriation of \$6,000,000 for the construction of a battleship larger than any now afloat, naval experts in Washington have begun a heated discussion of the size of battleships, which shows that Admiral Dewey is not supported by many naval officers in his advocacy of a battleship greater than the 18,000-ton British battleship Dreadnaught.

Naval constructors are agreed that an effective battleship with a displacement of 20,000 tons or more can be constructed for the American navy but the advisability of authorizing oneship of this type at the present time, and not making an effort to provide additional 16,000-ton battleships to supplement the quota of smaller ships, and thus make a desirable working unit out of them, is questioned by many naval authorities.

At least four battleships of the same speed and with similar batteries and equipment are necessary, according to the view of the constructors, to be effective in an engagement.

One great battleship, even if it be swifter and have more guns than other ships afloat, they contend, cannot accomplish anything in actual warfare, and is no more effective than the slower and less formidable ships with which it is joined in action.

Scranton Ready for Strike.

Scranton, Pa., March 31.—The announcement of a suspension of mining in the anthracite field was not wholly unexpected here. The companies have taken it for granted that there would be a strike and preparations were made accordingly. Stockades have been built, guards have been hired to protect property, and all the minor officials, firemen and office clerks have been asked to sign an agreement to help protect the company's properties in case of a strike. All the companies will make an effort to operate.

New Battleship is Speedy.

Boston, March 31.—The performance today of the battleship New Jersey in maintaining a speed of 19.18 knots an hour in a four-hour endurance run off the New England coast, coupled with her remarkable speed yesterday over a measured mile at Rockland, Me., at a 19.18 knot gait, places this vessel at the head of all American built battleships so far as speed is concerned.

GREAT DAM IS GONE

Flood Wrecks Government Irrigation Work in Wyoming.

WORKMEN HAVE NARROW ESCAPE

North Platte River Tears Away Big Diversion Dam, Bridge and Many Houses.

Casper, Wyo., March 29.—The North Platte river has been rising at an alarming rate during the past 48 hours, due to the rapid melting of snow of the previous week. The great diversion dam at Alvova, erected by the Reclamation service as a temporary structure to divert the waters of the river while the Pathfinder dam is being built, has been washed away, and its loss will seriously interrupt the completion of the government enterprise.

Although the heavy rains of the last few days has caused much apprehension among residents of this part of Wyoming, none were prepared for the overthrow of such a piece of engineering as the huge dam. When the waters swept through the immense masonry, many workmen barely escaped with their lives. The dam had been built at a cost of nearly \$100,000.

The steel bridge built by the government six miles below the dam at Pathfinder was also carried away. Small cabins, barns and property of all descriptions are floating down the swollen stream, which is spreading over the lowlands and causing great loss to stockmen and ranchmen. Miles upon miles of the lowlands are flooded, and it is feared much stock is drowned.

A report from Lander says that 3,000 sheep belonging to Charles Souther, which were shut in a large shed, were drowned and swept away.

PERKINS ARRESTED.

Charged With Giving Away Large Sums of Insurance Money.

New York, March 29.—On a charge that his connection with the contribution of \$48,702.50 from the funds of the New York Life Insurance company to Iornelius N. Bliss, treasurer of the Republican National committee in the campaign of 1904, constituted grand larceny in the first degree, George W. Perkins, a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., and until recently first vice president of the New York Life Insurance company, was arrested today on a warrant issued by City Magistrate Moss. When a detective went to serve the warrant upon Mr. Perkins, he found that a writ of habeas corpus had already been obtained from Justice Greenbaum, of the State Supreme court, and the matter was immediately taken out of the hands of the magistrate. Mr. Perkins appeared before Justice Greenbaum and, at the request of his counsel, the hearing was adjourned until tomorrow. Mr. Perkins was paroled in the custody of his personal attorney, Lewis A. Delafield.

GREAT SMELTER BURNED.

Immense Plant in Wyoming Destroyed When About to Start.

Grand Encampment, Wyo., March 29.—The great smelting, concentrating and electric and steam power plant of the Penn-Wyoming Copper company was practically destroyed by fire today, entailing a loss estimated at \$300,000, insurance half that amount. The smelter building was saved after a hard fight by the fire department. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

The plant had been closed down for the winter on account of the deep snow and improvements under way. Preparations were on foot to resume next month.

The fire will bring the business to a standstill for months. The Penn-Wyoming company handled the copper ores of a large part of the Encampment district in addition to the ores from its own mine, the Rudefha.

Legislates Out Officers.

Albany, N. Y., March 29.—The insurance bill postponing mutual insurance elections until November 15 was passed in the senate unanimously. The bill as passed by the senate was reported to the assembly late in the afternoon and was substituted for the identical assembly bill, which was on the order of their reading. This will probably bring it up for final passage tomorrow, and there is little doubt that it will be passed without material opposition and go at once to the governor for his approval.

No Coal on Iowa Market.

Des Moines, March 29.—In anticipation of a strike April 1, the visible supply of coal in Des Moines and Iowa has been absorbed by railroads and factories to the extent that not a pound of commercial coal can be had at any price. No orders for coal are taken by dealers at any price and other kinds of fuel are bringing exorbitant prices.