

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

NOT SO BAD AS PAINTED.

Most Crops in Pendleton Section Are Turning Out Well.

Pendleton—Investigation of the condition of growing wheat in various parts of Umatilla county shows the damage sustained in the March cold spell was slight. Instead of many thousand acres to be reseeded, as at first reported, not more than 2,000 acres in the entire county have been reseeded. Many farmers secured seed wheat and vintrol, in many instances paying fancy prices for bluestem, which was scarce, only to find that their grain was not injured or only slightly. The only section where there was any loss was the northwestern part, where the soil is light and there was comparatively no snowfall. The scare was due to the fact that the tops of the grain in some places was frozen, but this is considered a benefit instead of an injury by many, as they say that it has caused the grain to stool out more than otherwise.

The fruit is also coming out nicely and the damage will not be nearly so great as was feared. The peaches suffered most, but there will be a partial crop and unless a later frost occurs there will be a full crop of all other varieties of fruit.

TWO CENTS AN ACRE.

Estimate for Coming Year by Secretary of Waterusers' Association.

Klamath Falls—Secretary Applegate, of the Klamath Waterusers' association, in his annual report to the stockholders' meeting here, April 7, stated that the receipts of the association to March 31, 1906, were \$6,728.66, while disbursements were \$6,851.20, leaving a deficit of \$122.54. Principal expense was filing and recording deeds, etc., \$1,405.20; salary of attorney, \$1,500; salary of secretary, \$1,200, and directors' per diem and expenses, \$603.19.

He estimates expenses for the coming year at \$3,000. As there are about 150,000 acres subscribed to the association, the assessment per acre will only be about 2 cents. There are about 20,000 acres of private land under the project as yet unsubscribed.

Favors Spelling Reform.

Salem—State Superintendent Ackerman is a firm believer in the reformed spelling, so much talked about by Andrew Carnegie. He says that there is only one way to bring about the reformation speedily and effectively, and that was for the newspapers of the country to agree to adopt the new mode of spelling. Should this be done, Mr. Ackerman says that the country at large will accept the new form and forget the old inside of one year. He said that the National Educational association had adopted the new form.

Initiative Printing Bill.

Salem—There has been much speculation as to the probable expense entailed upon the state by the initiative measures which have been proposed for the people's adoption at the June election this year, hence the following figures, obtained from the secretary of state, will be of interest showing the amount thus expended: Paper, \$1,017; printing, \$3,472; binding, \$1,610; total, \$6,099.

Postpone Booth-Kelley Indemnity Bill.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain has wired Senators Fulton and Gearin to have the senate postpone action on the Booth-Kelley Lumber company's indemnity bill, authorizing the company to select lands in lieu of its holdings in the Klamath Indian reservation, until a copy of the bill is received and the matter investigated by state land authorities.

Curry Healthiest County.

Wedderburn—Curry county is one of the healthiest in Oregon. This county boasts only one physician, showing that it is a desirable place to live, even if it is off the map of homeseekers. No epidemic of any kind ever visits this place, and the physician is not often needed.

Discovers Black Diamond.

Wedderburn—While panning in the creek near Langlois, this county, W. E. Elliott discovered a black diamond. The stone is as large as a kernel of corn, and has all characteristics of the diamond. It shines at night and is an excellent glass cutter.

Money for School Fund.

Salem—Receipts of the State Land board from sale of public school lands, deferred payments and interest on loans amounted to \$27,636.65 for March. This sum has been paid to the state treasurer to be added to the permanent school fund.

REALLOT WENAHA RESERVE.

Sheepmen Jubilant Over Confirmation of Reconsideration.

Pendleton—There is joy among sheepmen of Umatilla county over the news that the Wenaha reserve will be redivided, for it is understood that the allotment is to be made again. Several days ago J. E. Smith received a letter from Ranger J. M. Smith, inviting the Oregon men to meet at Walla Walla April 27 to consult regarding the division of the reserve. It was supposed that the meeting would be merely to hear complaints, and that little or no good would result to the Oregon sheepmen. However, Dan P. Smythe, secretary of the Umatilla county association, has been informed that the reserve was to be redivided.

When the Wenaha reserve was first allotted among stockmen several months ago Oregon men complained bitterly because in making the division the Oregon part of the reserve had been practically given over to Washington growers, thus cutting off many Umatilla county men from their summer ranges.

There is a general belief that a more equitable division will be made this time, as the Umatilla county men will be on hand to assert their rights.

Perry Gould, president of the Umatilla county association, has called a meeting of that body April 26, at which time a line of action will be agreed upon.

Oregon's Boundary Dispute.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford and State Engineer Lewis, after visiting Astoria to look up evidence in the boundary line suit pending between Oregon and Washington before the United States Supreme court, are more thoroughly convinced than ever that Oregon is in the right. Mr. Lewis contends that congress must have been guided in fixing the boundary line by the latest government surveys of the mouth of the Columbia river. By stipulation, oral evidence will be taken before a notary.

Land and Lot System To Be Used.

Astoria—County Assessor Cornelius has decided to use the land and lot system in preparing the 1906 assessment roll in place of segregating the property under the names of the various owners, as has been the custom heretofore. Mr. Cornelius believes the new system will result in a great saving to the county.

Governor Would Sign Protest.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain says that he does not think the United States quartermaster's office should be moved from Portland to Seattle, because Portland was the more central point. The governor expresses willingness to join in a protest to the secretary of war against the proposed change.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 68c; bluestem, 68@69c; red, 66c; valley, 68c.
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—\$2@2.75 per box.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 8@12½¢ per pound; cabbage, 2½¢ per pound; cauliflower, \$2.25 per crate; celery, 75¢@90¢ per dozen; head lettuce, 25¢ per dozen; onions, 40¢ per dozen; radishes, 20@25¢ per dozen; rhubarb, \$1@1.25 per box; spinach, \$1 per box; parsley, 25¢; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75¢ per sack; beets, 85¢@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 70¢@90¢ per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 65¢ per hundred; ordinary, 50@55¢; new California, 5¢ per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@22½¢ per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16@16½¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@13½¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 12½@13¢; broilers, 25@30¢; young roosters, 12½@13¢; old roosters, 10½@11½¢; dressed chickens, 13@14¢; turkeys, live, 16@17¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@21¢; geese, live, 8@8½¢; geese, dressed, 10@11¢; ducks, 17@19¢.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 7@10¢; olds, 5@7¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15@20¢; valley, 24@26¢ per pound; mohair, choice, 25@29¢.

Veal—Dressed, 3½@7½¢ per pound. Beef—Dressed bulls, 3¢ per pound; cows, 4@5¢; country steers, 4½@5½¢.

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

Pork—Dressed, 6@8½¢ per pound.

TRADE WITH ISLAND OF CUBA.

Imports and Exports for 1905 Far Exceed Any Previous Year.

Washington, April 10.—A report issued by the department of Commerce and Labor on the Cuban trade says:

Cuba ranks second in importance in the trade relations of the United States with other American countries. The total trade of the United States with the principal countries of America in the calendar year of 1905 was: Canada, \$203,000,000; Cuba, \$125,000,000; Brazil, \$111,000,000; Mexico, \$92,000,000; Argentina, \$39,000,000. The value of merchandise imported into the United States from Cuba in the calendar year 1905, according to figures prepared by the department of Commerce and Labor, was \$95,857,856, against \$57,228,229 in 1903, \$31,747,229 in 1900 and \$16,233,456 in 1897, in which year our imports from Cuba touched the lowest point in the last half century. The exports from the United States to Cuba aggregated \$44,569,812, against \$23,504,417 in 1903, \$26,934,524 in 1900 and \$7,296,613 in 1896, in which year they were smaller than in any preceding year in the last half century. In both imports and exports the figures of the year 1905 are larger than those of any earlier year in our trade with Cuba.

Sugar and molasses, tobacco, cigars and fruits are the principal articles forming the imports into the United States from Cuba. The value of sugar imports in 1905 was over \$72,000,000; molasses, \$1,097,153; leaf tobacco, \$11,879,938; cigars, \$3,855,820; fruits, \$1,236,028 (of which all but \$5,893 represented the value of bananas), and iron ores, \$1,537,890.

SWEPT BY TIDAL WAVE.

About 150 Lives and Much Property Lost in South Seas.

San Francisco, April 10.—The steamer Mariposa arrived today from Tahiti, bringing additional particulars of the storm which swept the Society and other South Sea islands last February. According to the latest estimates about 150 lives were lost and the property damage amounted to \$1,500,000. Among the Mariposa's passengers were B. Chalee, C. Brown and J. Harris, members of the crew of the British ship County of Rogburgh, Captain J. Leslie, which went ashore during the hurricane at Tokarva, in the Paumotu group of islands. Out of her crew of 24, ten lives were lost.

Other vessels lost during the storm were the French schooner Tahtienne, 53 tons, with Captain Dexter and eight of her crew, and the French schooner Tonture, 28 tons, with all on board. The French schooner Hitsuimi, 19 tons, went ashore at Monihi. Her crew was saved. The French schooner Moruora, 37 tons, went ashore at Tikehon, but the crew was saved.

The French schooner Eimeo, 150 tons, is overdue and it is supposed that she is lost with all on board off Tikehon. Thirty seven cutters of 12 to 15 tons were also lost in the storm.

NEW JERSEY FOREST FIRE.

State Was About to Purchase Large Tract for Reservoir.

Egg Harbor City, N. J., April 10.—A forest and swamp fire was started here early this morning and in the course of a few hours assumed threatening dimensions. The fire's origin is unknown. It started a short distance from the home of Congressman John J. Garriott and did considerable damage. High winds fanned the flames into a roaring furnace and drove it in a westerly direction toward the towns of Weymouth and West Egg Harbor. The village of Carmentown was completely encircled and several buildings destroyed.

A path over a mile wide and over four miles long was covered by the flames. Thousands of acres of valuable timber which the state of New Jersey was about to purchase as a forest reserve were destroyed, making a tract of 25,000 acres almost worthless.

Bold Diamond Thieves.

New Orleans, La., April 10.—That he was robbed of diamonds valued at \$5,000 at the muzzle of a revolver in a store in a crowded street is the story told to the police by L. Moss, a jeweler. Moss said that while at work in his store, with hundreds of people passing, late last night, two men entered and asked to look at some diamond rings and brooches. After several trays had been put out, Moss says one of the men shoved a revolver in his face and the other took the jewels and escaped into the crowded street.

Cruiser Ready for Trial Spin.

Rockland, Me., April 10.—The new cruiser Washington, which has just been completed for the United States government, arrived there today and anchored outside the breakwater in readiness for her speed trials, which will take place off this port during the week. The Washington's contract calls for a minimum speed of 22 knots per hour.

ALL OF ONE OPINION

House Committee Unanimously Favors Jetty Bill.

ITS PASSAGE IS NOW ASSURED

Statements of Langfitt Remove All Doubts—Amendments Will Be Shut Out by Rules.

Washington, April 14.—The house committee on rivers and harbors today voted unanimously to favorably report the bill appropriating \$400,000 for continuing the construction of the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia river, Representative Jones was directed to make the report.

This action was taken after Major Langfitt had submitted to the committee his charts and drawings explained in these dispatches yesterday. The showing made was so strong as to convince every member of the committee of the advisability of immediately making this appropriation. The committee reported the Jones bill, which is identical in every respect with Senator Fulton's bill that passed the senate several weeks ago, because several members believed appropriation bills should originate in the house. Once the house passes the Jones bill, the senate will readily pass it, inasmuch as it is identical with the Fulton bill previously passed by that body.

There is every reason to believe this bill will soon pass the house. The report will be printed immediately, and some time today Mr. Fulton and Mr. Jones will call on the speaker to get him to agree to let the bill be called up for consideration and vote. Mr. Jones believes he will be allowed to call the bill up under suspension of the rules on Monday. If he can do this he will successfully shut off all amendments and probably secure prompt passage of the bill. If the bill is not brought up Monday, Mr. Jones will ask unanimous consent for its consideration at an early date. In that event the bill will not be subject to amendments.

THREE AGAINST ONE.

Great Britain, France and Russia Unite Against Germany.

St. Petersburg, April 14.—Great Britain has begun vigorously to press negotiations for an Anglo-Russian entente, with the purpose of completing the triple alliance of Great Britain, France and Russia against Germany, which has long been the aim of British policy. The development at the Algiers conference, where Great Britain, France and Russia acted in unison, and the participation of English bankers in the big Russian loan furnish a practical and favorable moment, and Great Britain is striking while the iron is hot.

Besides, the British government has recently given Russia proof of her desire to settle outstanding difficulties by inducing English bankers not to take the Persian loan, on the ground that it might be regarded as prejudicial to Russian interests.

BOTH MEN ARE CONVICTED.

Gaynor and Greene May Get Sentence of 17 Years.

Savannah, Ga., April 14.—Benjamin D. Greene and John F. Gaynor were found guilty of conspiracy against the government for presenting false claims and embezzlement in the Federal court for the Southern jurisdiction of Georgia yesterday and Judge Emery Speer will pass sentence upon them.

The defendants were found guilty, with no recommendation, on each of the indictments. The verdict was returned a few minutes before 2 o'clock after the jury had been out three and a half hours.

The maximum sentence that the court may impose is an aggregate term of 17 years in the penitentiary and a fine of \$575,000, the amount of the alleged embezzlement.

Durnovo Will Soon Fall.

St. Petersburg, April 14.—Appearances indicate that, Premier Witte having the better of the fight with Minister of the Interior Durnovo, the downfall of the latter is only a question of a few days. The government today authorized the holding on May 4 of a caucus of Constitutional Democratic delegates to the national parliament. Minister Durnovo has been compelled officially to warn the governors of provinces to exercise greater care in employment of troops and police in repressive measures.

Troops Leaving Peking.

Tientsin, April 14.—Three hundred Russian troops arrived from Peking this morning and 1,100 Japanese troops are expected April 16. The remainder of the German troops will embark today.

WORST SEEMS OVER

Ashes From Mount Vesuvius Are Much Finer.

COUNTRY LIKE SAHARA DESERT

Distress Among Tens of Thousands of Fugitives Appalling—Help Badly Needed.

Naples, April 12.—The whole of the Vesuvius district, as far as Naples, Caserta and Castellamare, is one vast Saharan desert. Reports tonight from all sides state that the fall of ashes is not so heavy as it has been for the last few days, and the ashes are much finer, and from this it is argued that the prospects are much brighter.

The blockade of local traffic continues, but service on the main lines of railway has been re-established, although greatly disarranged by the indescribable confusion in the stations where foreigners, not fully understanding the situation, inveigh against the delays and discomforts to which they have been subjected.

This has been a disquieting day in Naples. The people, alarmed by what has happened, have deserted their shops, and the manufactories are nearly all closed. The crowds are in a temper for any excess. It would only require a spark to start a conflagration.

The distress among the tens of thousands of refugees is appalling. The government has forwarded supplies of food and money, several of the Italian cities have done the same, and private citizens are contributing money for the assistance of the sufferers. More help is needed.

REVISE EXCLUSION LAW.

New Bill Intended to Remove Grievances of Chinese.

Washington, April 12.—Representative Denby, of Michigan, introduced a bill today, making extensive revision of the Chinese exclusion act. It extends the operation of this act ten years and incorporates the recommendation of Commissioner General Sargent for American inspectors in China under the supervision of the Immigration service and for the re-registration of Chinese now in this country.

The bill is not intended to modify the basic principle policy of excluding Chinese laborers, but according to Mr. Denby is an attempt to find a compromise which shall harmonize differences with China.

It permits Chinese residents of this country to go and come under proper regulation in regard to return certificates, etc. It repeals the provision of existing laws permitting Chinese laborers to leave the United States and subsequently return only in case they have wives or families or debts due to them in the United States, and which limits their right of return to one year.

It admits Chinese applicants for the writ of habeas corpus to bail, a privilege now denied. It provides that any Chinaman resident in the United States, may receive a return certificate on exhibition of his certificate of registration or original certificate of entry and proof of his identity.

It repeals the provision of the existing law placing the burden of proof upon a Chinese arrested for being unlawfully in the United States to show his right to be here.

It repeals specifically the provision in the law of 1892, already held unconstitutional, that Chinese found unlawfully in the United States shall be imprisoned at hard labor for one year and then deported.

It enlarges the exempt class beyond those mentioned in the treaty of 1880 to include accountants, bookkeepers, bankers, members of the learned professions, editors or members of other classes not falling within the category of laborers, but it also provides that it shall be unlawful for any Chinese person entering the United States as a member of an exempt class to work for gain as a laborer.

Rails Blown From Under Train.

Pittsburg, Kan., April 12.—An unsuccessful attempt to wreck the south-bound St. Louis & San Francisco passenger train, known as the "Meteor," was made last night at a point between Turke and Scammon, south of Pittsburg. Dynamite had been placed on the track. The train, running nearly 60 miles an hour, struck the explosive and caused an explosion that tore out three feet of the track. The high rate of speed at which the train was moving carried it over the break without damage to the cars or injury to anyone.

Traveling Will Be Expensive.

Chicago, April 12.—The Central Passenger association has decided to increase the summer tourist rates which prevail every season to the Atlantic coast resorts. On an average the rates will be raised about 15 per cent.