

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

TO SECURE SETTLERS.

Southern Oregon Towns Unite for Common Welfare.

Medford—Rogue river valley, fair as a garden and bounding with manifold products of the soil, surrounded by high hills rich in mineral wealth, and lying on the main line of railroad communication with the outside world, has witnessed a demonstration of enthusiasm never before equaled by its citizens. Pursuant to a meeting recently held at Grants Pass, at which 60 were present from Medford, a representative gathering of men from Ashland, Grants Pass, Gold Hill, Central Point and Jacksonville convened upon invitation of the Medford Commercial club last week to discuss means and adopt plans for organization to secure more settlers and increased advantage in all lines for the Rogue river valley and for Southern Oregon as a section.

The organization will unite all towns of the valley and will comprise all commercial bodies in the cities named. Delegations were met at the depot by the Medford Commercial club with a band, and the visitors likewise brought musicians, whose efforts added to the enthusiasm. Dinner was served for 400 by J. F. Raddy, of the Nash hotel.

William Colvig presided at the meeting at the Davis opera house. W. I. Vawter delivered the address of welcome, followed by the best speakers from towns represented. The tone of the addresses indicate that the entire valley will be united in working for the advancement of every enterprise of common interest to this section of the state.

Water Rights on Walla Walla River.

Salem—State Engineer J. H. Lewis has addressed a circular letter to attorneys interested in the suit involving irrigation and power rights in the Walla Walla river. The letter suggests a series of questions to litigants which, when properly tabulated, will show the facts in each case without a great mass of conflicting testimony. The suit pending in the Circuit court of Umatilla county was originally started to determine the rights of a few claimants, but when the court came to consider the priority of various claims, other water users' rights were involved.

The Dalles to Advertise.

The Dalles — The Dalles Business Men's association has opened quarters in the Vigt block, with J. S. McDonald as secretary and manager. Mr. McDonald is recently from Detroit, Mich., and is a promoter of ability. He is preparing a line of advertising, descriptive of the resources and possibilities of The Dalles and vicinity, to be circulated in the East in localities where people are looking to the West for homes and for investments. The association is enthusiastic in the belief that much good will result.

Overhauling Beet Sugar Factory.

La Grande—The work of overhauling the machinery at the sugar factory has begun and is being rapidly completed. Half a dozen mechanics are employed. In a short time the factory will be completely renovated and overhauled in all departments. Mr. Taylor, the new factory superintendent, is expected to arrive from Logan, Utah, within a few days. The demand for seed is much greater than in any previous season, as the acreage is very much larger than ever before.

Brings Settlers to Medford.

Medford — Edward Andrews, who went to the Dakotas recently to secure settlers for the Rogue river valley, has arrived from the East with the first installment of his party. There were 17 in the car, all homeseekers, from the vicinity of Mankato and Crystal Springs, Minn., and Mitchell, South Dakota. The country looks good to them and they will locate here. More are expected to follow soon.

Establish New Course.

Willamette University, Salem—President Coleman has announced that a friend of the university had given the institution \$2,000. Half this sum will be used as a loan fund for students who need help, and \$1,000 will be used in establishing a university course in electrical engineering. Willamette will then be well equipped in these lines.

Opinion on Bond Taxation.

Salem—The attorney general, in reply to a query from the assessor of Lane county, holds that city bonds and county warrants may be taxed the same as other property. He says the state constitution distinctly authorizes taxing such property. He says that all money due from the state or any subdivision thereof is subject to taxation.

Plants 50-Acre Orchard.

The Dalles — Carl Williams of the firm of A. M. Williams & Co., is preparing to plant an orchard on 50 acres recently purchased from C. L. Phillips. The land lies south of The Dalles, and will be devoted entirely to Royal Ann cherries and Crawford and Solway peaches.

ENLISTS AID OF PRESIDENT.

Fulton Persuades Him That Umatilla Sheepmen Are Right.

Washington—President Roosevelt has assured Senator Fulton that he would overrule Secretary Hitchcock and see that Umatilla county sheepmen holding permits to graze in the Wenaha forest reserve are accorded the privilege of driving sheep across the Umatilla Indian reservation in going to and returning from their summer range. Mr. Fulton took the matter up with Indian Commissioner Leupp and found that he was willing to accept the proposition, provided Indian property can be properly protected. The senator assured him that sheep could cross the reservation without damaging Indian property.

The president will confer with Mr. Hitchcock in the immediate future and see that some regulation is provided that will be acceptable to the stockmen. He declared that their request to cross the reservation was entirely reasonable and should be allowed.

The recent trouble at the reservation is believed to grow out of the fact that Agent Edwards favors giving this right to sheepmen.

Examines Booth-Kelly Bill.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain has received a copy of Senator Fulton's Booth-Kelly bill in response to a wired request. It authorizes the secretary of the interior to exchange certain lands in the Klamath Indian reservation, ownership of which has been vested in the California & Oregon Wagon Road company by the United States Supreme court. By its terms the company can select not exceeding 87,000 acres in townships 31 and 32, in one or more tracts, in lieu of an equal number of acres of road lands. The bill also grants waterpower rights and millsites and right to construct a railroad through the reservation. The governor will authorize the state land agent to investigate and report.

Look for Early Berries.

Milton — From present indications the strawberry crop in this vicinity will be from two to three weeks earlier than usual and, unless the unexpected develops, will be the largest on record. Fred Beller, a prominent fruit rancher, says that his strawberries were already commencing to bloom and he expected to have fruit on the market in less than a month. Fancy prices will be demanded for the early fruit, which will probably be placed on the market two weeks before the famous Hood River fruit has matured.

Quarter-Blood Indians May Vote.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford, in an opinion rendered upon request of M. K. Parker, of the Klamath Indian agency, holds that Indians of one-quarter blood may vote in this state. Such Indians are to be recognized as white people. He says a half-breed is to be considered a white man if his mother was a white woman, or an Indian if his mother was a squaw.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 69c; bluestem, 69@70c; 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, \$15@16 per ton; valley timothy, \$12; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$12.

Fruits — Apples, \$2@2.75 per box; strawberries, \$3.50 per crate.

Vegetables — Asparagus, 8½@12½c per pound; cabbage, 2½@2¾c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.25 per crate; celery, 75@90c per dozen; head lettuce, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@15c per dozen; radishes, 20@25c per dozen; rhubarb, 3½@4c per pound; spinach, \$1 per box; parsley, 25c; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, \$1@1.15 per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded burbanks, 65@70c per hundred; ordinary, 50@60c; new California, 5c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@20c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16½@17c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14@14½c per pound; mixed chickens, 13½@14c; broilers, 25@27½c; young roosters, 12½@13c; old roosters, 11@11½c; dressed chickens, 15@15½c; turkeys, live, 17@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 21@22½c; geese, live, 8@10c; geese, dressed, 10@11c; ducks, 17@18c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 8@10c; olds, 5½@7c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15@20c; valley, 24@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 28@30c.

Veal—Dressed, 8½@7½c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4@5c; country steers, 4½@5½c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 9½@10c per pound; ordinary, 6@7c; lambs, with pelt on, 10@10½c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@8½c per pound.

TO AMEND CONSTITUTION.

Ex-Senator Turner, of Washington, Would Call Convention.

Spokane, April 17.—A convention to amend the constitution of the United States, so that many of the reforms and laws demanded by the people may be carried out, is advocated by Judge George Turner, ex-United States senator, who has recently returned from Washington, D. C. A provision for the calling of such a convention is made in article 5 of the constitution, although never in the history of this country has it been applied.

"I am in favor of having a convention to amend the constitution called," said Judge Turner tonight. "Experience has demonstrated that there are omissions and corrections which it would be wise to regulate.

"In article 5 of the United States constitution it is provided that 'congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments which in either case shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the legislatures in three-fourths of the several states, or by convention in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by congress.'

"I believe that there is an urgent need for such a convention. In my opinion it is the only way by which the necessary amendment can be passed to elect United States senators by popular vote.

"There is an amendment needed to the constitution to enable an income tax law. This measure has been passed by congress, but declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court. Such a convention would make possible a uniform divorce law and also the Federal control of life insurance matters, as advocated by President Roosevelt. The convention could go over the entire constitution."

TERRIBLE SCENES AT KAGI.

Buildings Left by Former Earthquake Are Now in Ruins.

Tokio, April 17.—One hundred and nine persons are known to have been killed and 29 injured in the earthquake in the southern part of the island of Formosa last Saturday, but further details, it is expected, will swell the death roll, as the shock was more severe than that of March 17.

The town of Kagi was again the principal sufferer, the houses which escaped destruction in the former disturbances being now in ruins. Doko and several other towns and villages were also affected by landslides, which have completely changed the topography of the country. The officials are working feverishly to relieve the thousands of persons left homeless by the earthquake. Terrible scenes are reported around Kagi and Doko.

Later reports received from Formosa confirm the earlier rumors of the complete destruction of Kagi, where seven persons were killed and 35 injured. At Daigo 400 buildings were destroyed and at Ajensui 1,191 buildings collapsed and 749 were damaged and three persons were killed and 15 injured.

These later advices say that this shock was more powerful than that of March 17, but as the people had been warned they were able to escape.

Portrait of Franklin.

New York, April 17.—The portrait of Benjamin Franklin, from Dorchester house, London, the residence of Ambassador Reid, which has been restored to the United States by Earl Grey, arrived today on the American liner St. Paul, in a tin case addressed to President Roosevelt. In view of the approaching bicentenary Franklin celebration soon to be held in Philadelphia, Earl Grey, who, with Countess Grey, was recently entertained in this country, thought it fitting that the picture should be restored at this time.

Great Influx of Aliens.

New York, April 17.—A new high water mark in the tide of immigration will be set when the aliens who arrived at this port today on nine European steamships, and those due tomorrow on eight big ships which are expected to pass in Sandy Hook before nightfall, have been permitted to land on United States soil. On the vessels which arrived today were 11,839 immigrants. The steamers due tomorrow are expected to add at least a like number.

Revolt Against the Sultan.

London, April 17.—According to the Daily Mail's correspondent at El Arelah, Morocco, a young relative of the sultan will soon be proclaimed ruler in the south and a formidable revolt against Fez is maturing at the city of Morocco.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Thursday, April 19.

Washington, April 19.—The senate and house today passed, and President Roosevelt this evening signed, a joint resolution appropriating \$1,000,000 for the relief of the San Francisco earthquake and fire sufferers, the money to be expended under the direction and at the discretion of the secretary of War.

The resolution was introduced in the senate by Perkins and called for \$500,000. Upon the measure reaching the house, Tawney, of Minnesota, offered an amendment making it \$1,000,000. This passed the house, and when the resolution was returned to the senate the amendment was accepted without a question.

Wednesday, April 18.

Washington, April 18.—A pall hung over the house today by reason of the great calamity which has come to San Francisco and the nearby towns of Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda. Legislation went on, but in a most perfunctory way. There was no heart or interest in the bills under consideration. Members of the California delegation were besieged with inquiries and the members from San Francisco and Oakland districts showed the strain upon them, not being able to ascertain whether or not their families were victims of the shock and their homes destroyed.

The bill extending the national irrigation law to Texas was passed after nearly three hours' debate and the District of Columbia appropriation bill was taken up to continue before the house the remainder of the week.

Washington, April 18.—In a special message delivered to congress today, President Roosevelt declares the result of the recent trial of the "beef packers," in Chicago was a "miscarriage of justice," and that the interpretation placed by Judge Humphrey on the will of congress "is such as to make that will absolutely abortive."

Tuesday, April 17.

Washington, April 17.—To clear the legislative decks for pending money bills for the support of the government, the house today worked uninterruptedly from 11:30 to 5 o'clock. In that time 11 general bills were passed under suspension of the rules.

The bill to provide for entry of agricultural land within forest reserves was taken up on motion of Dixon, Montana. Mondell, Wyoming, thought if the bill passed it would bring vast areas directly under the bureau of Forestry that did not have a tree or bush. So far as these areas are concerned, it would repeal the timber and stone section of the present law and the commutation clause.

The bill was passed with one amendment, striking out the paragraph giving the secretary of agriculture the right to set aside such forest reserve land as was not occupied by a bona fide settler January 1, 1906.

Washington, April 17.—Preceding the taking up of the railroad rate bill in the senate today, Tillman called up his resolution directing the senate committee on finance to enter upon an investigation of the question of campaign contributions by the national banks and the resolution was referred to the finance committee. Tillman said that he would not confine the inquiry to the Republican committee, but would extend it to the Democratic committee. Foster spoke for almost three hours on the rate bill, contending for the validity of the proposed legislation.

Monday, April 16.

Washington, April 16.—It took the house of representatives just one minute to pass Representative Jones' bill appropriating \$400,000 to continue work on the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia river. In accordance with his promise, Speaker Cannon this afternoon recognized Mr. Jones to call up the bill reported by the river and harbor committee last Friday.

The bill was read, and without a single word being said in its favor or in opposition, the speaker announced that the bill "would be considered as read a third time, engrossed and passed." This was all there was to it. It happened so quickly that few members present knew that nearly \$500,000 was being appropriated.

Crumpacker, of Indiana, called up house bill extending until April 11, 1909, the date for applying the coast-

Progress of Reclamation.

Washington, April 17.—The third annual general inquiry of the house committee on irrigation regarding the operation of the national reclamation act was begun today. Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock stated that, including the irrigation projects under construction, those which are contemplated and those approved but not begun, there will have been spent on June 30, 1908, \$37,000,000, and that the estimated receipts from the operation of the law up to that time will be \$500,000 more than that amount.

wise laws of the United States to the Philippines. Under the present conditions, these laws will apply July 1 next.

Opposition to the bill was made by Humphrey, of Washington, who said there was ample American shipping on the Pacific coast to take care of the commerce between the United States and the Philippines, and, if the time was not extended, these American ships would get the business.

The bill was passed by a vote of 217 to 27.

Washington, April 16.—A speech on the railroad rate bill by Heyburn, of Idaho, in advocacy of his court review amendment, led to more than two hours' technical debate in the senate today. The Indian appropriation bill was taken up for committee amendments, but was not completed, and consideration will be resumed tomorrow. Tillman, of South Carolina, at the opening of the session, offered a resolution providing for an inquiry by the committee on finance into contributions by national banks to campaign committees and why facts concerning them had not been disclosed by the comptroller of the currency.

Gives Up Attempt.

Washington, April 20.—Senator Fulton had another conference with the Reclamation service today in the hope of reviving the Malheur irrigation project, but met with no success. He learned that it has been finally determined to abandon this project, at least for the time being, because of the many difficulties that stand in the way.

Moreover, he was informed that a very early day the interior department will restore to entry a large portion of the land now withdrawn, in order that private capital may carry out plans to irrigate much land which the government intended to reclaim under its project. Just how much land will be restored to entry is not yet known, but all the land which private capital proposes to irrigate will be made available.

Cannon Gives Aid.

Washington, April 14.—Speaker Cannon today assured Representative Jones, of Washington, and Chairman Burton, of the river and harbor committee, that he will permit them to call up the Columbia river bill on Monday under suspension of the rules. This is the most satisfactory arrangement that could be brought about, for it means that the bill must be considered solely on its own merits, and can under no circumstances be confused or associated with any other river and harbor or appropriation bill. The merits of the bill are so apparent that it cannot be assailed.

Government Vessels to Rescue.

Washington, April 9.—The department of Commerce and Labor will lend all possible aid to the San Francisco sufferers so far as its facilities go. In dispatches to the inspector in San Francisco and to the officials of the Fish commission, Secretary Metcalf has directed the lighthouse tender Madrono and the United States ship Albatross to go direct to the stricken city and do everything practicable to aid the sufferers.

Pacific Squadron Safe.

Washington, April 19.—A telegram received at the Navy department this morning from the commander of the Pacific squadron, sent since the earthquake, reports that all is well with this squadron. The Chicago and Marblehead are en route from Long Beach to San Francisco, and will probably reach there some time tomorrow. The Boston and Princeton are also at Long Beach.

Remove Court to Portland.

Washington, April 20.—Senator Heyburn will offer a resolution in the senate authorizing the Federal judges who were soon to hold a term of court at San Francisco to remove all causes to Portland and hold court in that city. Mr. Heyburn contends that this cannot be done except by act of congress. Other senators interested believe no legislation is necessary.

Two More Quakes Friday.

Washington, April 20.—The Weather bureau today issued the following bulletin: "Two small after shocks of the San Francisco earthquake were recorded on the seismograph at the Weather bureau, Washington, D. C., during the night and this morning."

Quick to Protest.

Washington, April 16.—Since the debate on the railroad rate bill warmed up, certain senators have grown very sensitive about allusions to "railroad senators" and "friends of the railroads," and have lost no opportunity to deny that they themselves are unduly friendly to the great transportation corporations. Up to the present session, whenever there was talk of "corporation senators," these men were not so sensitive; they did not jump to their feet then to continually disclaim any particular friendliness for corporations.