

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

ASSESSMENT TO BE COLLECTED.

Klamath Water-Users' Association Will Assert Its Corporate Power.

Klamath Falls.—Directors of the Klamath Water-Users' Association at a recent meeting instructed their attorney to proceed to enforce the collection of the assessment from the delinquent members, after giving reasonable notice that such action would be taken if payments were not made at once. About 120 of the 520 members are delinquent, averaging about \$7 for each stockholder thus delinquent, and the association will now assert its corporate powers.

Books of the association closed since January 1 have been reopened for subscriptions, but landowners will hereafter be obliged to pay an enrollment fee or penalty of 50 cents an acre in order to become stockholders.

Land Office Collections.

Salem.—Secretary Brown, of the state land board, has turned over to the state treasury cash received in his office for the month of April as follows: Common school fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, \$23,467.61; common school fund principal, payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure, \$907; common school fund interest, payments on certificates, \$3,633.87; common school fund interest, rents and payments on sales of land acquired by deed or foreclosure, \$484.55; agricultural college fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, \$1,379.25; agricultural college fund interest, payments on certificates, \$291.76; total, \$30,164.04.

Fire Risk Increase at Eugene.

Eugene.—Several months ago a representative of the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific visited Eugene and announced that nearly all the business houses of the city were improperly wired, and were not up to the standard set by the code. Effort was made by owners of buildings to have defective wiring made right, while others disregarded the notice. Now comes the information to fire insurance agents of this city that insurance rates have been advanced on account of defective wiring. The average increase is 50 cents per \$100. The announcement has created a stir among property holders, and steps will be taken to secure better wiring.

Examinations for Forest Service.

Roseburg.—Examinations will be held at Roseburg, Ore., May 14, for the position of forest ranger. Aspirants for positions who have not filed applications for examination with the United States commission at Washington should file at once with S. C. Bartrum, forest supervisor at Roseburg, from whom application blanks may be secured. The positions are under civil service. Examination will be along practical lines relating to forest patrol. Men between 21 and 40, of sound bodily condition, are eligible. Civil service examinations for the position of forest supervisor will be held in Portland, Astoria, Baker City and Eugene, May 18.

Salmon in Grand Ronde.

La Grande.—Superintendent Allen, of the Wallowa salmon hatchery, was in La Grande recently, and stated that the hatchery released a few days ago 1,000,000 fry and about the same amount will be ready to be released within a short time. Operations at the Wallowa hatchery so far are considered satisfactory. Salmon have commenced jumping in the Grand Ronde river at Oro Dell, a mile above La Grande. The salmon, which in the early history of the valley came up the river in abundance, have for the past number of years almost entirely disappeared. It is now hoped that the hatchery will be the means of restocking the river.

Improve Orchard Tract.

La Grande.—The Red Apple Orchard Company, which owns a large tract about three miles north of town in the foothills, is planning extensive improvements. About seventy-five acres will be cleared and the ground put in condition for the planting of apples. There is already a large area of growing trees, including fifteen acres of 12-year-old apple trees and forty-five acres of 2-year-old trees. There are five or six springs located on this tract, and it is the intention of the company to enlarge some of them, forming a lake, which will be stocked with fish.

Scouring Mills Resume.

Pendleton.—After being shut down since last October the Pendleton scouring mills will resume operations May 14. The mills are now being given a thorough overhauling and will be placed in first-class condition by that time. W. M. McDonald, of Boston, has arrived to take charge as superintendent.

Plant Big Orchard.

La Grande.—W. Lyman and L. Oldenburg have finished planting an apple orchard of ninety-five acres near Imbler. There are 4,500 trees of three varieties, including 2,500 Rome Beauties, 1,000 Ganos and 1,000 York Imperials. The balance of the tract, about sixty acres, was planted in potatoes.

Expect Heavy Fruit Crop.

La Grande.—Grande Ronde growers report the fruit prospects flattering for this season. It is expected that the crop will be twice as large as any previous year, and that there will be at least 500 earloads shipped from this valley. The apple and cherry yields will be very large.

SHEEPMEN PROTEST.

Oregon Men Not Satisfied With Allotment of Wenaha Reserve.

Pendleton.—Sheepmen of Umatilla county have made vigorous protest against the action of forest reserve officials at Walla Walla in standing by the allotment recently made of the range in Wenaha reserve. A remonstrance from Umatilla county has been filed with D. B. Sheller, forest reserve superintendent at Walla Walla.

Facts and figures are given in support of the contention of Oregon stockmen. These in substance are as follows: Of the total land in the reserve, 700,000 acres, more than half lies in Oregon. Only 35,357 Oregon sheep were admitted to the reserve, whereas 123,000 Washington sheep were allowed. To add insult to injury, 58,169 of the Washington sheep were allotted to range in this state. No Oregon sheep were allotted range in Washington. In selling the number to be allowed in the reserve the Oregon men were cut down 50 per cent, while the Washington men were allowed practically all they asked.

It is held by the Oregon stockmen that forest reserve rules were violated in the manner in which the reserve was allotted. The rules specifically provide that in allotment of range in reserve, stockmen of the state in which the reserve is located shall be given preference.

Accompanying the general remonstrance were affidavits from twenty sheepmen of this county, setting forth claims to land in the reserve allotted to Washington men.

JOHN DAY PROSPERS.

People Flocking to That Section from All Parts of Northwest.

Baker City.—Many people from over the Northwest are flocking through Baker City on their way into the John Day country to take up timber claims. A few days ago a party of Idaho people went to Sumpter en route to the timber belt, and another party went from this place.

For the past three months timber seekers have come from Western Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and much valuable timber land has been located. Last week two parties, one of eight and one of five people, went out. These were Idaho people, who were evidently satisfied with their locations, as the last party which passed through here was composed of friends of the former company. All are from Genesee, Idaho.

July Fourth at Chautauqua.

Oregon City.—At a meeting here of the board of directors of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association it was decided to hold suitable exercises at Gladstone Park, July 4 next, in celebration of Independence Day. The grounds will be thrown open to campers July 2, eight days before the convening of the Chautauqua. No steps have been taken by the people of Oregon City towards celebrating this anniversary, and all will probably unite in the celebration that is planned by the Chautauqua Assembly.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat — Club, 71@72c; bluestem, 72@73c; red, 69@70c; valley, 70c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.50@28; gray, \$27 per ton.

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

Hay—Valley timothy, \$12@13; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$12.

Fruits — Apples, \$2@3.00 per box; strawberries, \$1.25 @ 1.65 per crate; Oregon, 20c per pound.

Vegetables — Asparagus, 75c@1.25 per box; cabbage, \$2.85@3.00 per hundred; cauliflower, \$2.25 per crate; celery, \$5.00 per crate; head lettuce, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@15c per dozen; radishes, 20c per dozen; rhubarb, 3@4c per pound; spinach, 90 per box; parsley, 25c; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 3c per pound.

Potatoes—Fancy graded burbanks, 60@70c per hundred; ordinary, 50@60c; new California, 4c per pound.

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

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18@18½c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14@15c per pound; mixed chickens, 13½@14c; broilers, 20@22½c; young roosters, 12½@13c; old roosters, 11@12½c; dressed chickens, 16@16½c; turkeys, live, 17@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@23c; geese, live, 10@11c; geese, dressed, 10@11c; ducks, 17@18c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 12@12½c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c; valley, 24@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 28@30c.

Veal—Dressed, 8½@7c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4½@5½c; country steers, 5@6c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8@8½c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, with pelt on, 9@10c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@8½c per pound.

LAWS OUT OF DATE.

Inquiry Into Second-Class Mail Matter Is Proposed.

Washington, May 7.—Postmaster-General Cortelyou has recommended to congress the appointment of a commission to inquire into the subject of second-class mail matter, with a view to ascertaining what modifications of the present second-class laws are necessary to render its report to congress not later than December 10, 1906.

In order that all interests shall be represented, he has recommended that the commission consist of seven persons and be made up as follows: One senator, selected by the president of the senate; one representative, selected by the speaker of the house; one officer of the postoffice department, selected by the postmaster-general; one representative of the publishers of daily newspapers; one representative of the weekly, semi-weekly and tri-weekly newspapers, and one representative of the publishers of periodicals and magazines, the last three to be appointed by the president of the United States from among those recommended to him by representative publishers of such newspapers and periodicals, and a seventh member to be selected by the six, whose manner of selection is so specifically provided. An appropriation of \$25,000 is recommended to defray the cost of the investigation.

The postmaster-general in his recent annual report recommends to congress a thorough review of the whole subject of second-class mail matter and the enactment of a statute to take the place of those existing, which would render unnecessary the consideration of such questions as those upon which second-class matter now depend. In now recommending this commission, the postmaster-general in his communication to the committee on postoffices and post roads of the senate, says:

"The existing statutes regulating the second class of mail matter are out of date; they do not meet modern requirements of the publishing industry, and the administration of them unnecessarily and unreasonably hampers the publishers of bona fide newspapers and periodicals."

"As an indication of what is in fact involved in administration, it may be stated that the question of what is a bona fide newspaper or periodical is one about which there may be and often is much difference of opinion. The same is true of what constitutes a known office of publication, of what constitutes a publication originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, what is devoted to literature, the sciences, arts, or some special industry, what is a legitimate list of subscribers. All of these questions must, however, be determined in each case before second-class entry can be granted; but a publication having met all requirements is positively prohibited admission if it be 'designed primarily for advertising purposes or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates.' That such questions, especially the latter, are subtle and complex and render administration exceedingly difficult surely need not be stated."

Postmaster-General Cortelyou expresses the belief that such commission, if appointed, will be able to make recommendation that will be equitable to publishers, relieve them from present annoyance and restrictions, and at the same time protect the interests of the government.

SLIDE DAMS CREEK.

Mass of Soft Earth Holds Back Immense Quantity of Water.

Sacramento, Cal., May 8.—A special report from Woodland to the Sacramento Union says:

The threat of flood in the Capay valley, resulting from the slide of earth that has fallen from the mountain side and dammed the waters of Cache creek, is growing increasingly serious. It may be assumed that the slide in question was in some way the result of the recent earthquake, and it is now found to be 1,000 feet wide and to close completely the water course. Ever since the occurrence the waters have been steadily piling up behind it, and was found by measurements taken this morning that a depth of one hundred feet had been reached.

If it had been taken at an earlier stage the dam might have been blown up with dynamite and the waters released without danger to any locality, but it is now too late to do this, as it would but precipitate the flood that is feared. The dam is of soft earth and debris, and there is some hope that it may absorb the water or cut out gradually and the water pass in harmless quantities. Should it give way to the pressure the results will be very serious and a large area of country will be flooded.

Trolley Car Collision.

Trenton, N. J., May 8.—Fifteen people were injured by a head-on collision of cars on the Trenton-New Brunswick Traction Company's lines at Plainsboro, twenty miles outside of this city, at midnight. The cars, one from this city and the other from New Brunswick, were making their last trips for the night, and in accordance with the usual custom, ran by the signal. When rounding a sharp curve the headlight of one trolley car showed the approach of the other. Before the power could be reversed the cars met, and the passengers were thrown from the chairs.

Line Cut to Mazatlan.

Mexico City, May 8.—Engineers of the Mexican National Railway have succeeded in cutting a line from Durango to Mazatlan on the Pacific coast. The locating work has been going on for a year. It is probable that the interoceanic railway will build an extension to the oil fields from Teziutlan.

YEARS TO REBUILD AFTER STANDARD OIL

More Hopeful Estimates Made to Keep Up Courage.

LOSS WILL REACH \$400,000,000

Enthusiastic Talk of New City Next Summer Sure to Cause Heartaches in Future.

San Francisco, May 12.—Three weeks after the great disaster one is able to view the situation calmly and to compute with fair accuracy the loss suffered by San Francisco from fire. Strange to relate, the citizens of San Francisco for the most part do not appreciate the extent of the disaster. Sober judgment has been for the time confused by the extravagant recital of plans for rebuilding. Of course the city will be reconstructed as speedily as possible, but a best it is a question of years. The enthusiastic claim that next summer will see a new San Francisco. This is the talk which has brought elation for the moment and means heartache for the future. Five years will not see the city restored, and ten is certainly a safer figure.

The spirit of the people must be kept up and this perhaps is adequate excuse for the rather visionary tales which fill the public prints. The truth is sufficient to crush the weak and to bring dismay to the strong.

The city is without money. Great fortunes have been swept away. Landed estates are without revenue. The wheels of commerce move slow and halting. Thousands have been thrown from employment. Still, the spirit is here. It is this which must win the triumph. And it will win.

The loss occasioned by fire and earthquake will exceed \$400,000,000. No disaster in history approaches this. The total loss in Chicago in 1871 was \$190,000,000. San Francisco will collect in insurance about \$100,000,000. The city will therefore be out of pocket some \$300,000,000. This means an average of more than \$600 for every man, woman and child in San Francisco. How can the city spring at once into being under this enormous burden? It must pledge its future for the necessities of the present.

CITIZENS IN MISERABLE PLIGHT.

General Greeley Says Everyone Keeps Up Courage Remarkably.

Washington, May 12.—The War department received the following telegram over night from General Greeley, dated Presidio, San Francisco, May 9:

"While conditions improve slightly, the miserable situation may be indicated by the statement that all the food for 300,000 people in San Francisco is yet necessarily cooked on the public streets. The courage of every one continues wonderfully. Neither drunkenness nor disorder anywhere, except from adjacent towns occasionally. Mayor Schmitz is still adverse to closed saloons, which have been constantly urged by me.

"The Red Cross finance committee, Dr. Devine and myself concurring, will issue free food after Saturday next only on alternate days, except in camps under strict military control. Red Cross agents are to be present on alternate days of nonissue to provide for exceptional cases of need that may arise.

"The average issue in San Francisco, Oakland, etc., still exceeds 250,000 a day. A possible method by questioning, exclusion and otherwise is being made to reduce the food issue. Of course, extreme destitution and much suffering occurs on the part of many people who resort to charity only in extreme cases. Altogether I am encouraged."

"GREELEY,"
"Major-General Commanding."

Irish Members Protest.

London, May 12.—On the resumption of the debate on the education bill in the House of Commons today, John Redmond, the Irish leader, in behalf of the Irish Nationalists, protested against the system of education which was being forced on the Catholic minority and which violated their conscience. Ireland, he added, had always been denominational in principle, believing that religion was the most necessary part of the education of children. The bill was passed on its second reading by a vote of 410 to 214.

Relief Funds Exceed \$5,000,000.

San Francisco, May 12.—The finance committee today reported relief subscriptions as follows: Actually promised, \$5,007,711; unconfirmed promised, \$310,750; total, \$5,318,461.

Witness to Give Details of Bribery of Railroad Men.

MAY TRY MANAGER FOR PERJURY

Testified Before Interstate Commerce Commission That Money Was Not Being Used to Bribe Railroads.

Chicago, May 10.—The government has a rod in pickle for the Standard Oil Company, when the investigation into rebates and other methods is taken up here tomorrow by the interstate commerce commission. It was learned tonight that a witness had been secured who is in a position to tell, giving all necessary data, dates, amounts, etc., of how the Standard Oil Company engaged in wholesale bribery of railroad employees in order to crush out the independents. This man was employed by Manager Mayer, of Kansas City, who has charge of the tremendous distributing stations in Kansas and Missouri.

It is said he was entrusted with the work of buying up information from railroad employes, who told of orders received by independents, of their plans for shipments in advance, and various other details, so that the Standard Company was in a position at any moment to take such steps as were necessary to crush or hopelessly cripple its small adversary.

The name of this highly important witness is closely guarded, but it is said his testimony will create a tremendous sensation and bring before the federal grand jury a large number of western railroad men who have been in the secret employ of the Standard.

Mr. Mayer, it is also intimated, is open to prosecution for perjury, as he swore before the interstate commerce commission, when it sat at Kansas City, that he had never given any of his agents money to be used in bribing railroad or other men. The testimony will show, it is said, that the railroad spies were on the secret Standard Oil payroll at from \$10 to \$30 a month, depending upon how much information they could give.

SOLD SECRETS TO AMERICA.

Two Germans Sentenced for Treason to Empire.

Leipzig, Germany, May 10.—Before the imperial supreme court here today Otto Senftenleben, an ex-clerk in one of the government departments in Berlin, and Konrad, a mechanic, were found guilty of treason in selling to representatives of the American legation at Brussels a submarine mine with anchoring apparatus and drawings belonging to them.

The prisoners were also charged with selling similar drawings to Russia, and with having constructed a mine in Brussels, which was bought from them through a French intermediary.

Senftenleben was sentenced to four and Konrad to three years at penal servitude and five years' loss of civil rights and to police supervision. Aucke, a commercial traveler, was acquitted.

GREAT DAMAGE TO STEAMERS.

Columbia Needs \$100,000 of Repairs, Puebla \$15,000.

San Francisco, May 10.—Considerable damage was done by the earthquake to vessels on the ways or in course of construction at the Union Iron Works.

Besides the freighters Mexican and Columbia, being built for the Hawaiian-American Steamship Company, which were damaged about \$15,000 each, the Columbia, which has been long on the Portland run, and the City of Puebla, a Seattle boat, were damaged.

The damage to the Columbia will be \$100,000. The boat is now submerged, having sunk with the dock on which it rested. The City of Puebla was less seriously damaged; \$15,000 will cover her losses.

Works for Philippines.

Washington, May 10.—Secretary Taft by a personal canvass of the senate today endeavored to revive sentiment in favor of Philippine tariff legislation at the present session of congress. He made arguments in favor of a reduction of schedules on sugar, tobacco and rice to 50 per cent of the Dingley rates. The measure left sleeping in the senate Philippine committee provides for a reduction on these articles to 25 per cent of existing schedules. He was willing to go further and to eliminate the proposition for eventual free trade with the Philippines.

Discredited in Washington.

Washington, May 10.—At the war department it was stated today that nothing was known of the reported surreptitious purchase at Brussels of plans for a submarine mine. Attention was also called to the fact that there is no military attaché to the American legation at Brussels.