

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

REPORT ON OREGON.

Irrigation Expert Investigates State and Issues Circular.

Washington—Oregon farmers who resort to irrigation, will be deeply interested in a 30-page circular just issued by the department of Agriculture, entitled "Investigations of Irrigation Practice in Oregon." The book is written by A. P. Stover, irrigation engineer, who spent last season in Oregon making a study of irrigation as it is practiced, so as to find out the errors that have been made and gather data which would be helpful in instructing the irrigators how to avoid mistakes of the past. The report is not as comprehensive as might be desired, but contains a great many valuable suggestions, and is worth the perusal of every farmer who is obliged to artificially water his lands.

Mr. Stover made a study of the precipitation in various parts of the state, and to a limited extent gathered data on the discharge of the principal streams that can be utilized for irrigation. He states, in opening his report, that the greater part of the arable land of Oregon lies in the arid section and can be brought under intensive cultivation only by irrigation. He found that the low water flow of most of the streams of Eastern Oregon has already been appropriated for private irrigation, but as yet practically no steps have been taken to conserve the winter floods.

He finds that little of the water now being diverted is used economically, so that there is a large supply for future development.

Because of its comparatively low elevation and consequent mild climate, Mr. Stover says that Northeastern Oregon has advantages over the southeast.

The practice of winter irrigation, now practiced along the Umatilla river, is described, and the value of this practice is indicated. It is shown that these Umatilla lands, under the Maxwell flood water canals, yields a net profit of \$24 an acre, when planted in alfalfa. It seems that the Umatilla valley, however, is exceptionally well adapted for this sort of irrigation, because of the unusual formation of the soil and the underlying bedrock. Few localities will be found where winter irrigation will be as successful. On Butter creek, where winter irrigation has reached the highest stage of perfection, fruits are successfully grown by combining the principles of winter irrigation and dry farming.

Several pages are devoted to a detail description of irrigation canals along the Deschutes river, which have been in operation for the past few years, and also of the Maxwell and Irrigon canals in the Umatilla country. For some reason there is nothing in the report bearing directly on private irrigation in the Klamath country. The report, however, contains something of interest to all irrigators, and will be furnished by the department upon application.

Fix Hop Picking Price.

Salem—One dollar per 100 pounds, or 50 cents per box, will doubtless be the popular price paid for hop picking in the valley this year, since this seemed to be the predominant sentiment as expressed at a meeting of about a score of members of the Oregon Hop-growers' association, held in this city last week. The prevailing tendency on the part of growers, also, is that hops will go to 20 cents by harvest time and all present were in favor of holding out for that figure at least.

Dry Weather Hurting Hops.

Salem—The continued dry weather is showing its effect upon the hop crop, especially in old yards, and those not cultivated as thoroughly as they should be, and it is declared by many that the yield will be far under the 215,000 bales that has been predicted. Yards that have been well cared for are standing the dry weather in good shape. The potato and corn crops are also keeping a good appearance where cultivation has been good, and the second crop of clover is coming on in good shape.

Linn County Wheat Heavy.

Albany—New wheat is coming into the Red Crown mill in Albany daily now. This is the Portland Flouring Mill's Linn county branch, and annually receives all the wheat it can get in this vicinity. The new wheat this year is quite heavy, and is running well up in yield. In many localities the yield is reported more bushels to the acre than in years past, and everywhere the crops are good.

Harvesting in Yamhill County.

McMinnville—Harvest is now in full swing in old Yamhill. Most of the threshing crews began work last week. The runs will probably extend from 25 to 30 days. The harvest this year will be the largest for a number of years. Wheat is yielding 23 bushels to the acre. Oats yield 40 bushels to the acre and weigh 39 pounds to the bushel. Barley is yielding from 50 to 60 bushels to the acre.

MORE JUDGES NEEDED.

Supreme Court Badly Behind With Its Appeal Docket.

Salem—The fact that the Oregon Supreme court is about a year behind in its work and has been losing ground in the last few months has revived the suggestion that the number of judges be increased from three to five. There are now on the docket ready for trial 87 cases appealed from Western Oregon counties. There are also some on the Eastern Oregon docket at Pendleton, but the exact number is not known. The cases now ready for trial extend back as far as December, 1905. There are also on the preliminary docket 84 cases which will be ready for trial in the next few months, so that there is every prospect that the supply of cases to be heard will not diminish.

The causes of the court getting behind in its work are several. The number of appealed cases has been unusually large and several cases of extraordinary magnitude have occupied an unusual amount of attention. Then there has been a change on the bench, which always causes some delay. Judge Hailey was appointed to the supreme bench last winter. He had extensive business interests at his home in Pendleton and could not at once adjust his private business so as to give his whole time to his judicial duties. Then the political campaign came on and took considerable time for two months.

Another change will be made the first of the year, when Judge Eakin goes on the bench.

Clover Muller in Linn County.

Albany—For the first time in the history of Linn county a clover huller has begun a season's threshing. Frank Roth and Ernest Howard, proprietors of the huller, have already listed about 1,000 acres of clover to hull which assures a 40 day's run and success for the venture. In the past three years the rise of the clover industry in this county has been remarkable and even if the present phenomenal increase in acreage does not continue, clover hullers running the season will be an established feature of Linn county's annual harvest.

Lane County Poultry Show.

Eugene—At a meeting of the Lane County Poultry association it was decided to hold the first annual poultry show in Eugene from December 12 to 15, 1906. There are several bird fanciers in and about Eugene and a poultry show will be a success here. Secretary Williams was instructed to arrange for competent judges for the first show. County Assessor Keeney was chosen as assistant secretary of the association.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 68@69c; bluestem, 70@71c, valley, 71@72c; red, 65@66c.
Oats—No. 1. white feed, \$30; gray, \$29 per ton.
Barley—Feed, \$23.50 per ton; brewing, \$23.50; rolled, \$24@24.50.
Rye—\$1.50 per cwt.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$11@12.50 per ton; clover, \$8.50@9; cheat, \$6.50@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$11.

Fruits—Apples, common, \$50@75c per box; fancy, \$1.25@2; apricots, \$1.25@1.35; peaches, 75c@1; pears, \$2; plums, fancy, 50@75c; blackberries, 5@6c per pound.

Melons—Cantaloupes, \$1.50@2.25 per crate; watermelons, 1@1½c per pound.

Vegetables—Beans, 5@7c; cabbage, 1½@2c per pound; celery, 85c@1 per dozen; corn, 15@20c per dozen; cucumbers, 40@60c per box; egg plant, 10c per pound; lettuce, head, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; peas, 4@5c; bell peppers, 12½@15c; radishes, 10@15c per dozen; rhubarb, 2@2½c per pound; spinach, 2@3c per pound; tomatoes, 60@90c per box; parsley, 25c; squash, \$1@1.25 per crate; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, \$1@1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack.

Onions—New, 1½@1¾c per pound. Potatoes—Old Burbanks, nominal; new potatoes, Oregon, 75@90c.

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

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 21c per dozen. Poultry—Average old hens, 18@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 13@13½c; springs, 15@16c; roosters, 9@10c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 15@17c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22½c; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 11@12½c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, nominal, 12@13c; olds, nominal, 10c; 1906 contracts, 15@16½c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best 18@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Veal—Dressed, 5½@8c per pound. Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4½@5½c; country steers, 5@6c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 7@8c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, fancy, 8@8½c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@8½c per pound.

MANY TO MEET AT BOISE.

Interest High in Coming Session of Irrigation Congress.

North Yakima, Wash., Aug. 7.—During the first week of September the National Irrigation congress will be in session at Boise Idaho, with an attendance of several thousand delegates. Exhibits of fruit and honey are being prepared by different localities and states. The premiums are liberal. It is expected that the governor of Washington will appoint 25 delegates, that each commercial club will appoint ten, and that each board of county commissioners will appoint five. It is believed that if a full delegation attends the convention it will be able to secure the next national congress at some point in this state. It is hoped that the various fruitgrowers' associations and the State Beekeepers' association will have on exhibition products of the orchard and apiary which will take silver cups and other premiums. The Yakima County Horticultural union is arranging to send elegant exhibits of fruits and honey. The delegation from that county will ask the convention to pass a resolution memorializing congress to appropriate \$300,000,000 for reclamation of arid lands in the West.

The State Beekeepers' association has secured a Bigelow observatory hive, stocked with pure bred Italian bees, for the purpose of giving object lessons in the apiary. It will be used at the monthly meetings of the association to teach the farmers and high school classes. It will be one of the interesting features of the display at the Washington State fair. The secretary of the fair has agreed to set apart one of the prominent corners in the main pavilion for the apiary exhibit, and \$200 has been appropriated for premiums in that division.

The three days' midwinter convention of the State Beekeepers' association will be held at the Agricultural college at Pullman next January, and the observatory hive will be in full operation to instruct the students of that college. The students of the Idaho Agricultural college, which is only nine miles from Pullman, are also invited to be present at that meeting.

The business of beekeeping is an adjunct of the orchard, bees being the best friend of the fruitgrower, for the reason that these insects cross pollinize the blossoms and increase the yield. These two industries go hand in hand, and are rapidly becoming valuable sources of income.

As an example of what organization does, a few years ago the Yakima County Horticultural union incorporated and sold its shares of stock at \$10; the past year the dividends were 70 per cent, a warehouse 50x180 feet has just been completed, the material being stone and the structure two stories and full basement, one front being on the Northern Pacific railroad and the other on the North Coast road. The shares are now selling at \$20, and it is anticipated that the capital stock will have to be increased in order to accommodate the demand.

Fruit Inspector Brown, of Yakima county, says that in five years from now he calculates that 12,000 cars per year will be shipped from the warehouse at North Yakima.

Calls for Texas Rangers.

Colo Springs, Tex., Aug. 7.—As a result of yesterday's election tragedy, in which E. B. Adams, a candidate for tax assessor, and his brother, Sam Adams, were killed and several others wounded, the sheriff has asked that rangers be sent here to prevent further bloodshed. C. L. Williamson, one of the participants, heard that a brother of Robinson was looking for him. Alf Carnes stepped into the door of a saloon where Williamson was and was shot and seriously wounded by mistake for Robinson.

Americans Caused Trouble.

Mexico City, Aug. 7.—The Imperial charges that the recently circulated handbills, warning foreigners to leave the country by September 16, were put out by an unknown American, who went from station to station distributing and posting the pretended proclamation. The Imperial also asserts that certain railway camps in Texas and California have taken part in promoting the circulation of false and sensational reports.

Raise the Price of Bread.

San Francisco, Aug. 7.—As a result of the demands made by the union bakers for an increase of \$3 a week in their wages, which has been granted by the master bakers, the latter will raise the price of bread in this city. The manner in which it will be done has not yet been agreed upon, but it is said that most of the bakers favor a loaf not a trifle larger than one-half the size of the present loaf.

Commerce Outstrips Population.

Washington, Aug. 7.—The foreign commerce of the United States has grown more rapidly during the last decade than its population. Completed figures for the fiscal year 1906 just presented show that while the population has grown since 1896 but 20 per cent, imports have grown 57 per cent and exports 109 per cent.



To Can Cherries.

Get the large, dark ox-hearts if you can, but if not, the white ones will do, or the small dark red ones. The lighter colored they are the more sugar they take. Stone them, and let them stand all night. In the morning pour off the juice, add sugar to taste, and water, if there is not juice enough, and boil and skim it till it is a rich syrup; if the cherries are sweet a pint of juice and three-quarters of a pint of sugar will be about right. Heat your cans and put in the uncooked cherries till they are nearly full, and then pour over them the syrup and put on the covers; set the cans in the wash boiler and fill it with very hot water and let it stand all night. The heat of the syrup and that of the water will cook the fruit, but the flavor and color will be those of the fresh and uncooked cherries. This is the way used for all small fruits except strawberries, and one who tries it will never, never go back to the old method.

A Morning Stimulant.

An egg beaten in a cup and the cup filled with coffee should be given to one with a jaded appetite for breakfast. Stir the egg rapidly while pouring the coffee over it to prevent its curdling. Cream or milk and sugar should then be added as usual. Do not wait until the person becomes really ill before using strengtheners. They are for the anemic person, those who are recovering from an illness and those who are in condition which, if long continued, will result in serious illness.

Veal Loaf.

Chop two pounds of cold cooked veal very fine and work into it salt, pepper and onion juice to taste, a dozen chopped olives and a dozen chopped canned mushrooms. Add enough veal stock to make it very moist, then pack into a grease mold. Set this in the oven in an outer pan of boiling water and cook for two hours. When cold, set in the ice to get thoroughly chilled before turning out.

Baked Rhubarb.

Take one pound of rhubarb, the red kind, cut in small pieces; add one scant cup of sugar; put in an earthen or granite baking dish; cover and put in the oven. Bake in a slow oven until tender, the time varying with the variety of the rhubarb. When cooked in this way the taste is much more delicate and rich than the old-fashioned way of stewing.

Broiled Tomatoes.

Cut the tomatoes in halves without peeling. Dust the cut sides with very fine bread crumbs, salt and pepper. Set the halves in a wire broiler and cook with the skin side next to the heat. When done set on a hot plate and brown in the oven. The tomatoes may be baked in a very hot oven after preparing for broiling and be nearly as good and it is a much easier way to cook them.

Potato Fingers.

Grate six medium-sized cold boiled potatoes; add salt to taste; beat two eggs light with a little milk, add to the potatoes, then stir in enough flour to make a dough that can be rolled out on a well-floured board, with the palm of the hand, into rolls the thickness of the finger. Cut into finger-lengths, lay these side by side on a floured pan until all are ready, then fry in deep fat.

Fried Bananas.

Peel eight good-sized bananas and cut each into three pieces. Beat two eggs light, with one-half cup of milk and one-half cup of flour sifted with one level teaspoon of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Dip the bananas in the batter and fry in deep, hot fat until a light brown; drain and dust with powdered sugar.

Sweet Pickled Peaches.

Boil two pounds brown sugar, one pint vinegar and one ounce stick cinnamon twenty minutes. Dip half a peck of peaches quickly in hot water, and then rub off the fur with a towel. Stick each peach with four cloves, put into the syrup and cook until soft, using one-half the peaches at a time.

Dishcloths.

Put two tablespoonfuls of soda in a small tub of cold water, put the dishcloths in and allow to soak about one hour. Stir them with a stick. Then lift them into a pan of warm water, wash the cloths with soap and rinse in cold water. They need no boiling.

Mint Sauce.

Mince three tablespoonfuls of mint, add a tablespoonful of sugar, four tablespoonfuls of vinegar and a dash of pepper. Stir over the fire just long enough to dissolve the sugar, then set aside until cold.

WORTH KNOWING.

Women Are Prone to Collect Little Bits of Information.

For centuries women have put way all sorts of odds and ends because "they will come handy some time." This practice no doubt began with the first good housekeeper of a primitive tribe, and has gone on through the ages, until it is now one of the peculiarities of women's education. A man learns what makes for the particular end he has in view. A woman tucks away in her memory any interesting bit of information, and some day produces it, to the surprise of her masculine rival.

This habit makes women especially valuable as librarians. Here is an example of the actual worth of a scrap of knowledge.

A few years ago a shabby old book was sent from a parish library in England to be sold by auction in London. It was seven inches long and five wide. It consisted of thirty-eight leaves of vellum, on which were inscribed the four gospels. It had four illuminated illustrations, representing the evangelists, each seated on a stool, holding his gospel, and each having a circular gold nimbus.

The book was bought by the Bodleian Library for six pounds. Months afterward, when it came to be catalogued, a poem was found written on the fly-leaf, containing a reference to the rescue of the book from the bed of a stream, where it had been dropped by a careless servant, and where it lay until discovered by a passing knight. Of course the poet attributed the recovery of the sacred volume to a miracle.

The verses casually referred to the fact that when the book was lost it was being "conveyed to the king and queen."

"What king and queen, I wonder?" mused the librarian.

"Why, a story like that was told of the gospels belonging to Margaret of Scotland," said his woman assistant. Sure enough, a little research showed that there was scarcely a doubt that the book had belonged to Margaret, Queen of Scotland, who died in 1068. This book was fully described by her confessor more than eight hundred years ago. He related its being lost in the brook, recovered and conveyed to its royal owner, and used by her for many years.

So the worn old book which the Bodleian bought for a song is now one of the great library's priceless treasures—identified by a girl's knowledge of a queer story in the life of a queen who was also a saint.

IT IS THE RICHEST HILL.

Big Black "Butte" Was Once the Laughing Stock of Miners.

Under the title "A Billion-Dollar Mining Camp," the city of Butte, Mont., which is built on what is probably the richest hill in the world, is described in "My Business Friend." It is interesting to note how long the big black butte was the laughing stock of miners who wandered that way in search of gold, and always failed to find it, until at last some man, wiser than the rest, seized upon the possibilities of the inexhaustible supply of copper and the result was the development of the wealthy community which makes merry industry in the fissured hills and valleys to-day.

It is only during the last twenty years that Butte took its stand with the copper camps of the world, and during that time it has produced one-fourth of the entire supply. So largely does the world depend upon Butte that, should its copper mines shut down for a period of three months, a copper famine would be experienced and every industry depending on copper would be paralyzed until Butte could catch up again. At the three Montana towns of Anaconda, Basin and Great Falls, the latter said to have the greatest power next to Niagara, great smelters are busy day and night, thus taking from Butte a small percentage of the smoke which has made it a strangling town for the unaccustomed. In Butte there has lately been completed a stack 350 feet high, which will carry off the smoke from the Butte reduction works to such an elevation that it will not fall again, a black cloud, on the town. Butte may yet have a smoke law which will compel these high stacks to be erected at all of the mines, and while it will not make the surrounding country more esthetic, still it will be possible to breathe there and to have the pleasing sight of trees, shrubs, flower gardens and grass plots.

Alfonso Hands in a Petition.

The King of Spain not long ago went on strike. According to the Paris Figaro, his majesty handed his prime minister a sealed petition, with the request that it be granted unconditionally.

When it was opened it was found to be in the king's own hand. He was often obliged, he stated, to work twelve hours or more a day. He therefore demanded for himself an eight-hour day, and no work on Sundays and holidays.

Better a crying woman than a scratchy one.