

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

SAYS ESTIMATE IS TOO HIGH

U'Ren Compiles Cost of Submitting Legislation to People.

Oregon City—William S. U'Ren, the father of the initiative and referendum, takes issue with the statements that have been published regarding the cost of voting under that law. Mr. U'Ren has carefully compiled the cost of initiating and referring legislative measures to the people under the act of 1907, which repealed the act of 1903. He admits that the postage expense in sending printed matter all over the state to 100,000 voters will be \$3,000, but he says that the cost of printing would be \$3,636 for 120 pages of measures, figuring on 100,000 copies, which is one-third more than have ever been printed. He says the binding will cost \$3,600 and the paper \$1,563.

The experience of Mr. U'Ren stands him in good stead in figuring on this matter. He bases the cost of addressing and filling 100,000 envelopes at \$4 per thousand, totaling \$400. The envelopes can be supplied and printed for \$5 per thousand, or \$500, and he believes that the cost of securing the names and postoffice addresses of 100,000 voters will not exceed \$1,500.

The publication of proclamations is not required by the new law of 1907, and the item of \$5,000 for that purpose must be eliminated from the cost. Mr. U'Ren believes that his estimate is conservative.

Marion Fruit Prospects.

Salem—Fruitgrowers of this section of the Willamette valley are looking forward to splendid crops in all varieties of fruits, especially in quality, and in consequence of the destruction being wrought to the crops in parts of the East by the recent severe frosts and other detrimental conditions of weather, there is also a fine prospect for good prices for Oregon fruits, both green and evaporated. Although the spurs on the prune trees are not so thickly set as last year, growers are pleased because what is lacking in quantity will be more than made up in quality and the price basis will be increased in proportion.

Adopt Interstate Regulations.

Salem—With the exception that the period of posting notices is fixed at ten days instead of 30, the Railroad commission has adopted the rules of the Interstate Commerce commission body, regulating the serving of notice upon the commission and posting of same in waiting rooms of railway stations when it is proposed to make a change in the regular schedule of rates, mileage, commutation, party, excursion and round-trip rates. Notice of the adoption of this rule has been forwarded to all railroad companies in the state.

The Dalles Fruit Possibilities.

The Dalles—This place is waking up to the fact that the soil and climatic conditions are perfectly fitted for the production of first class fruits, and especially for the raising of cherries and peaches. Men every day are turning their attention to the fruitraising industry, many investing in tracts of land varying in size from five to 40 acres, upon which they have planted orchards, with the prospect of splendid results. Nowhere can finer cherries and peaches be raised, and this season bids fair to be an exceptional one for a fruit crop.

Medford Road Buys Option.

Medford—Right of way agents of the Butte Falls & Western railway are purchasing options on land through which the contemplated survey will pass. The incorporators of the Butte Falls & Western have large timber holdings in the vicinity of Butte Falls, and contracts for the delivery of \$1,800,000 worth of sawed timber to the California Box company, which must be partially filled within the current year.

More Interest in Farming.

Prairie City—The upper part of the John Day valley, in which Prairie City is situated, is fast coming to the front as an agricultural district. It is usually considered and spoken of as a stock country, but of late years grain and fruit raising have given it the character of a farming section. Citizens have come to understand this, and are systematically taking up the various farming features.

To Bridge McKenzie River.

Eugene—The county court has decided to build a good bridge across the McKenzie river at Hendricks Ferry. For years the cost of maintaining the ferry at this point has been considerable at an expense to the county, and the high water has often put the ferry temporarily out of commission.

Buy Timber Tract.

Eugene—The Armstrong timber tract has just been conveyed to the Monroe Mill company. The land consists of 1,443 acres in the Lake creek district and the price paid, according to the deed, was \$27,500 or about \$19 an acre. The land is in township 17, ranges 7 and 8.

INSPECTION MAY BE CHEAP.

State Sheep Commission Inclined to Make Burden Light as Possible.

Salem—One of the most serious problems the Oregon Sheep commission will have to solve is the schedule of rates to be charged by county inspectors for the inspection of flocks for scab or other contagious infectious disease. It is probable the solution determined on will be to turn the duty of inspection over to the government inspectors, especially east of the Cascades, and confine the duties of the deputy state inspectors to supervise the dipping, with their compensation fixed on the basis of \$5 per day and expenses.

In order to make the expense as light as possible upon the sheepmen the commission first decided upon a minimum charge of 25 cents and a maximum of 1 cent per head per flock, where the number did not exceed 1,000 head. Then it was thought a maximum charge of \$1 per flock would be sufficient, inasmuch as there was not much work connected with the inspection, which consists principally of taking a birdseye view of the flock and looking for outward symptoms of scab and ticks, and requires only a few minutes' work.

Must Put Up Time Tables.

One of the rules of the state railroad commission is that bulletins giving the hours of the arrival and departure of all trains, be posted in every station. Practically all stations have for years been supplied with these bulletin boards but because of the carelessness or indifference of agents, time cards have not been posted for the information of the public. Newly painted bulletin boards are being sent to station agents for the O. R. & N. and the Southern Pacific, accompanied by a letter from the office of General Manager J. P. O'Brien, in which the attention of agents is called to the posting of bulletins.

Train Service Bad.

Members of the state railroad commission have addressed a letter to William McMurray general passenger agent for the O. R. & N., informing him that the local train service between Biggs and Pendleton is inadequate. In the absence of a necessary local service between these points, the commission argues that the heavy transcontinental trains have been obliged to look after this traffic with the result that these trains are frequently several hours late reaching Portland.

Grain Crop Will Be Large.

Elgin—There is every prospect of a bumper grain crop in Union county this season, a large snowfall together with unusually large rainfalls the past few weeks, insures sufficient moisture for a large crop. Thousands of acres were sown to fall grain last fall and unless unknown conditions arise the crop will in all probabilities be a record breaker.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 75c; bluestem, 77c; valley, 72c; red, 74c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$29.50; gray, \$28 @29.

Rye—\$1.45@1.50 per cwt.

Barley—Feed, \$22.50 per ton; brewing, \$25; rolled, \$23.50@24.50.

Corn—Whole, \$25; cracked, \$26 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$15@16 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$17 @18; clover, \$9; cheat, \$9; grain hay, \$9@10.

Apples—Common, 75c@1.25 per box; choice, \$1.50@2.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1@1.25; beets, \$1.25 @1.50; horseradish, 7@8c per pound; cauliflower, 75@1.25 per dozen; lettuce, head, 35@45c per dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; radishes 20c per dozen; asparagus 15c per pound; rhubarb 4@5c per pound.

Onions—Oregon \$3.50@4 per cwt.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks fancy \$1.40@1.65; extra fancy, \$1.75@2; No. 1 choice, \$1.25@1.40.

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

Butter Fat—First grade cream 26c per pound; second grade cream 2c less per pound.

Poultry—Average old hens, 15@16c per pound; mixed chickens, 15@15½c; spring fryers and broilers, 22½@25c; old roosters, 10@12c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 13@15c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18½@20c; geese live, 8c; ducks, 16@18c.

Eggs—19c per dozen.

Veal—Dressed, 5½@8½c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3@3½c per pound; cows, 5@6c; country steers, 6@7c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 10@10½c per pound; ordinary, 8@9c; spring lambs, with pelt, 12½@13c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@9c per pound.

Hops—7@10c per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 13@18c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@29½c.

EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO.

Shock Lasts More Than Four Minutes Over Large Territory.

City of Mexico, April 16.—An earthquake lasting four and a half minutes startled this city Sunday night. The earth rocked in a long, swinging motion, terrifying the inhabitants but doing no damage so far as can be learned at this city. Clocks stopped at 11:34 p. m. (Mexican time), and the perceptible motion of the earth ceased at 11:38½. The telegraph wires were put out of commission and for a short time the city was in darkness owing to the failure of the electric lights. The asphalt on one of the principal business streets of the city was cracked open for a distance of 10 yards. People fled from their houses into the streets.

Representatives of the Associated Press made rapid searches over the city but nothing beyond cracked walls and small fissures in the pavements could be found. At the police stations no deaths had been reported. A wall on Santiago street collapsed, killing a number of horses and wounding five men.

No reports have yet come from the American colony, but it is not believed that serious damage was sustained there, although the houses, unlike those in the old section of the city, are not built to withstand earthquake shocks.

Telegraphic communication as far south as the cities of Oaxaca and San Juan Bautista has been established, but beyond the report that the shock was very heavy in that region and along the gulf coast nothing more was learned.

ROUTE OF LONG RIDE.

Lieutenant McCabe Selects Course of 3,000-Mile Trip.

Washington, April 16.—Lieutenant E. Warner McCabe, of the Sixth cavalry, who has been picked by General Bell to ride from Silverton, Ore., across the continent on an Arab stallion, has asked that Quartermaster Sergeant Samuel Peterson, troop K, Sixth cavalry, be detailed as his orderly to accompany him on his long trip.

McCabe has also indicated that he will lay his route along the Oregon Short Line and the Union Pacific road from Silverton to Umatilla, Or.; thence to Boise Barracks, Idaho; Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.; Omaha, Neb.; Fort Des Moines, Ia.; Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; Columbus Barracks, Ohio; Pittsburg and Harrisburg, Pa., to New York City.

General Bell said today that he thought the trip, which will embrace more than 3,000 miles, might be made in 100 days, and even less if the horse had the necessary endurance. Complete statistics of the condition of the horse and rider, amount of food consumed and other details will be kept from day to day.

Pick Flaws in Douma.

London, April 16.—In a long letter to the London Times, the Russian jurist, Professor DeMartens, expresses the conviction that the second Russian parliament is absolutely unfit to work successfully for the benefit of Russia and cannot advance the nation in the direction of a constitutional system of government. Professor DeMartens bases his belief on the ground that legislative assembly find not a single word to disapprove of assassinations and murder, only enjoys speeches of discontent and unlimited hate and is quite unfit to discuss needful reforms, and cannot possibly construct new order in the state. He believes dissolution is absolutely inevitable and only a question of time.

Brazil at Peace Meeting.

Rio de Janeiro, April 16.—Brazil has received official information from the government of the Netherlands that she is to participate in the approaching peace conference at The Hague. The Brazilian government has denounced the existing commercial treaty with France, and it has been decided to denounce also the agreements with France, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Switzerland under which the consular representatives of the specified countries are allowed to intervene in the collection and settlement of inheritances.

Fruit Damage Is Heavy.

Kansas City, April 16.—There were killing frosts again last night in the fruit district of Kansas and Western Missouri, adding to the damage already done. All reports agree that heavy loss has been caused—millions of dollars, according to Secretary LaGoodman, of the Missouri Valley Horticultural association. Several days may elapse before the full extent of the injury can be estimated accurately. The weather tonight is cloudy and warmer and further frost is not expected.

Floods Do Great Damage.

Constantinople, April 16.—Continuous heavy rains have caused the rivers to overflow, seriously flooding Macedonia and Asia Minor. The plains of Brusa, Adabazar, Kutuahia, Adin and almost all the villages are submerged and there have been heavy loss of life and destruction of cattle and property.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

GRAFT IS DENIED.

Secretary Garfield Says Idaho Reclamation Service Is Clean.

Washington, April 16.—Secretary Garfield today exploded the charges of graft in the reclamation service in Idaho by officially notifying Director Newell that the accusations against Engineer D. W. Ross and his assistant secretary had been found to be without foundation and had been dismissed, following this announcement by promoting Mr. Ross from \$3,600 to \$4,000, and Mr. Horn from \$3,300 to \$3,600.

The report against Ross and Horn was made by Special Inspector A. R. Green, who spent some time in Idaho making investigations and who gleaned his information from government contractors. Green based his charges on statements made by the contractors on the Boise-Payette project. His conclusions were utterly disapproved by Secretary Garfield.

WILL CONFER ON GUNBOAT.

Zelaya and Figueroa to Meet—Joint Guarantee of Peace.

Washington, April 18.—Naval movements today show that the gunboat Boston has started from Amapala, Honduras, for Corino, Nicaragua, to convey President Zelaya to Amapala for the conference he will have there with President Figueroa. The Chicago will be used to convey President Figueroa to the conference, which will be held either at Amapala or on board one of the American vessels to be anchored in Fonseca bay.

At the State department today it was admitted that an agreement between the United States and Mexico had been entered into, by which a guaranty has been given that there shall be no hostile demonstrations between the forces of Guatemala and Salvador upon the frontier during the conference.

Foreign Crop Good.

Washington, April 17.—The European crop report of the Agricultural department, covering conditions abroad up to April 1, says that the heavy snow which fell last winter over the greater part of Europe, has, excepting in parts of Russia and the Balkan states, almost everywhere disappeared. That the protection afforded to winter cereals has been generally efficacious is being demonstrated by the vigor with which the plants in most countries seem to be responding to the quickening influences of spring.

Northwest Postal Affairs.

Washington, April 18.—Postmasters appointed:

Oregon—Antone, George C. Glover, vice E. L. Knox, resigned; Kingsley, Theodore Bushkul, vice W. L. Smith, resigned; Lamont, Millard T. Cowan, vice J. C. Rush, resigned.

Washington—Cascade, Thomas Moffett, vice Minnie Stevenson, resigned.

Rural free delivery route No. 1 has been ordered established June 17 at New Kamilchie, Mason county, Wash., serving 410 people and 86 families.

Changes in Forest Service.

Washington, April 18.—Forest inspector F. E. Ames has been placed temporarily in charge of the Tillamook and Umpqua forest reserves in Oregon. Acting Supervisor Anderson, of Grant's Pass, takes charge of the Ashland reserve. D. B. Shellar, formerly in charge of the Heppner reserve, has been transferred to the Yakima reserve, in Washington, being succeeded by T. R. Chidsey. William Cryder is promoted from manager to acting supervisor in charge of the Colville reserve, in Washington.

500,000 in Six Months.

Washington, April 17.—According to a statement issued today by the bureau of immigration, the total immigration to the United States from all countries for the six months ending March last aggregated 539,137 persons, which is an increase of 75,821 over a like period in 1906. The total number of immigrants from Russia for the six months ending March last was 103,364, being an increase of 21,631 over the corresponding period of 1906.

Exit Over Exoneration.

Washington, April 18.—The reclamation service, from Director Newell down to the lesser officers, held a jubilation today at the official exoneration of Engineer Ross of Idaho by Secretary Garfield. They claim the exoneration will invest the service with renewed confidence in the minds of the people, re-establishing it everywhere where charges by Special Agent Greene has called it in question.

Wants Clerks to Weigh Mails

Washington, April 17.—The Civil Service commission has been called upon by the Postoffice department to furnish a list of clerks for temporary work, beginning July 1, who will be employed in making arithmetical computations in connection with the weighing of the mails.

TEXAS VALUATION OF ROADS

Cowan Tells President How Capital Is Limited.

Washington, April 20.—Some interesting information on the operation of the Texas stock and bond law of 1903, under which a valuation of railroad properties of the state was made in 1895, was given to the president today by Judge S. H. Cowan, of Texas, a special employe of the Interstate Commerce commission and attorney for the Southwestern Cattlegrazers' association.

Mr. Cowan told the president that the Texas law had proven a success. It had not been put upon the statute books for the purpose of becoming the basis for rate-making, he said, but to fix a line beyond which the roads could not go in issuing stocks and bonds. He added that the valuation put upon the roads by the Texas commission having charge of the matter exceeded the cost of construction by 15 to 20 per cent, and the cost of the ascertainment of the facts had been comparatively small. So far as he was aware, Judge Cowan said, none of the railroads had contested a valuation made under the law.

BORAH GOES TO ROOSEVELT

Idaho Senator Asks to Have Action On His Case Postponed.

Washington, April 17.—President Roosevelt has been appealed to by Senator Borah, of Idaho, to review his indictment by the Federal grand jury with a view to postponing action until after the trial of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, the men accused of murdering Governor Steunenberg, of Idaho.

Senator Borah is the special counsel engaged by the state to prosecute these officials of the Western Federation of Miners. The appeal of Senator Borah places the president in a rather embarrassing position.

In the event the president withholds the action against Senator Borah, it will be charged that he is showing favors to those who are prosecuting the miners, and if he does not, Senator Borah will be seriously embarrassed in the prosecution of the miners charged with the murder of Steunenberg.

Civil Service in the South.

Washington, April 16.—Civil Service Commissioner McIlheny, who is a Southerner and a Democrat, is entering on what he terms a campaign of education in the South in regard to the function and character of the commission. He found that one of the greatest difficulties in securing efficient service for the government in the South was the fact that the whites have conceived the idea that the service is meant especially for the negroes, and as a consequence when an examination for positions is held it is generally attended largely by negroes, the proportion often being ten to one.

Heyburn Slowly Gairs.

Washington, April 19.—Senator Heyburn, of Idaho, who has been very ill in Philadelphia, was brought to this city today. He is improving slowly, though still very weak, and there is much ground to be gained before his condition will permit him to attend to any official business. He was accompanied here by Mrs. Heyburn, W. B. Sams, his private secretary, and a trained nurse. Today was the first time Mr. Heyburn was able to be moved since the inception of his attack of acute indigestion.

Will Relieve Congestion.

Washington, April 18.—After a conference with and upon the recommendation of Senator Bourne, Land Commissioner Ballinger has ordered Special Inspector O'Brien, of Denver, to proceed to Roseburg and assist the local land officers in clearing up the accumulation of business in their office. Work has fallen behind to such an extent that there are now pending about 700 land cases and contests awaiting action. When the Roseburg office is straightened out, similar work is to be done elsewhere in Oregon.

Would Be "Cadet" or "Middy"

Washington, April 16.—The State department has received an inquiry from Hamilton King, American minister to Siam, asking whether it would be possible to admit to the Naval or Military academy a nephew of the king of Siam.

McLaren Pension Examiner.

Washington, April 19.—On the recommendation of Congressman Ellis, Dr. A. P. McLaren has been appointed by the pension bureau as examining surgeon at St. Helens, Or., vice Dr. J. E. Hall, who recently resigned.

Cuba Accepts Taft's Program.

Washington, April 16.—The War department today received a dispatch from Governor Magoon, of Cuba, saying that the plans for the elections in the island, which were made by Secretary Taft, are satisfactory to everybody.