

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

GOOD OUTLOOK FOR OREGON.

Large Freshman Class Enters State University This Year.

Eugene—Prospects are the best for a banner year at the University of Oregon. The freshman class will in all probability number 200, an increase of 50 per cent over last year. One favorable sign of the growth of the university in attendance and in its standing among the institutions of the West is the fact that a large number of Portland students who have been attending Berkeley and Stanford will this fall transfer to Oregon. Freshmen from Portland will number about 50.

A great advance is also noticed this year in the standing of the high schools throughout the state. Scarcely a high school from Roseburg to Pendleton but that will send from one to a dozen students to the university. The unsettled status of the normals will also contribute to the attendance at Oregon.

Accommodation for the increase has been seen to, and a good sized women's dormitory has just been completed. The new library, which has been under construction since about June 1, has been completed and accepted. The time for moving in has not been definitely set.

The campus this year will be a great improvement over the past. Captain Briggs has kept a small force steadily at work on the grounds all summer, and is getting them in splendid condition, in appearance very much like the Lewis and Clark fair grounds.

Public Wharf at Oregon City.

Oregon City—After trying for more than a year to bring about the establishment of a public wharf in Oregon City, the promoters of the project have at last been successful and the city council has authorized the establishment of a grade on Moss and Eleventh streets from Main street to the water front, this action being taken preliminary to the improvement of the streets leading to the site of the proposed dock. The cost of the new wharf will be about \$1,500, the money being subscribed with the provision that the streets be improved by the city.

Cars Still Scarce.

Eugene—The scarcity of cars on the Southern Pacific company's lines for lumber shipments still continues in this vicinity, and some of the mills are closing down for an indefinite period. The big mill of the Booth-Kelly company at Wendling closed down last week and Geo. H. Kelly, general manager of the company, says the mill at Saginaw will be closed on October 1. The mills at Springfield and Coburg are now running a day shift, and will probably continue in operation despite the car shortage.

Fruit Goes Out by Carloads.

Freewater—The Freewater Canning and Preserving company has leased its cannery to the Webber-Russell Canning company of Seattle. This firm is shipping by carloads peaches, pears and prunes to the coast cities. Ranchers everywhere are complaining of their inability to secure pickers, and a far more serious shortage in fruit boxes. However, the fruit season in this vicinity has been unexcelled for three years, and six and seven carloads are being shipped daily to eastern points.

They Seek the Noble Elk.

Albany—To kill an elk is the pronounced ambition of most of the hunters who are now leaving for the mountains in this part of the state. After a closed season of several years, it will be lawful to kill elk after the 15th of this month, for a period of one month. Each hunter is limited by law to one elk, but the members of the hunting parties now equipping for the mountains will be satisfied with this legal limit, though they are very desirous of killing that one.

Has Brood of 220 "Chinas"

Albany—Chris Van Dran, of this city, has raised 220 Chinese pheasants this season. He has been more successful this year in hatching and raising the birds than ever before. Van Dran was one of the pioneer pheasant raisers of Oregon, but this is the largest brood he ever raised in one season. The demand for Chinese pheasants is such that he could easily sell twice as many as he raises and could contract for all his brood in advance.

Record Price for Pears.

Medford—All records in the sale of Bartlett pears has been broken by the sale in Montreal, Can., of a car from the Byrral orchard in the Medford district, of car No. 1628 for the gross sum of \$2,550, or \$5.05 per box. This nets the growers \$3.77 at Medford. All the returns to date are highly satisfactory.

SEES HARD WINTER AHEAD.

Hood River Woodsman Reads Warning of Nature.

Hood River—Jim Tompkins, the Mount Hood woodsman, whose prediction last fall of a hard winter was verified, is out again with a pronunciation to the effect that the coming winter will discount that of last year, and will in effect be a "peeler." Mr. Tompkins again bases his prediction on the habits of the bears, which, he states, are more numerous in the lower valley than last year, and are foraging almost in the dooryards of the ranchers to fatten up for a "powerful spell of killin' weather."

"Them snow storms we had last winter," says Mr. Tompkins, "won't be a marker to what we'll catch this winter. Every sign known to nature is hollerin' it out loud. We're goin' to get a dandy. I tell yer. I ain't been a watchin' for these signs in them Oregon woods for 25 years fer nothin', and the bears comin' in close to town is a sure sign. Another one is the bark on the trees. Whenever it gets as thick as it is now, look out. Get plenty of wood, friends," concluded the woodsman, "and git it quick, fer you'll have use fer it mighty sudden."

TUTTLE ACT INVALID.

Unequal Assessment Makes New Road Law Unconstitutional.

Salem—In a decision just rendered Judge William Galloway, of the State Circuit court for Marion county, declared the Tuttle good roads law, as enacted by the legislative assembly of 1905, unconstitutional, because of its provisions of unequal assessment of costs for such improvement. The question was raised in the case of the St. Benedictine Abbey vs. the Marion County court and other county officials, in connection with the proposed construction of a macadam road between Marquam and Silverton for a distance of four miles. The law provides that the cost of such improvement shall be assessed to the property located within a radius of one mile upon each side and at each end of the proposed improvement, and the plaintiff complained that, under this system, a property owner at either end of the stretch of road to be improved would be doubly assessed in case the improvement be extended.

Eugene Immigration Scheme.

Eugene—At a banquet given by the Eugene real estate brokers it was decided to keep a man in Portland during September and October to divert Eastern emigrants to Eugene and Lane county. Support was pledged from the Merchants' Protective association and the Commercial club. Two hundred dollars a month has been subscribed for that purpose.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—(New crop)—Club, 82c; bluestem, 83c; Valley, 80c; red, 78c.
Oats—(New crop)—No. 1 white, \$23.50; gray, \$23.
Barley—(New crop)—Feed, \$22.50@23 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.
Corn—Whole, \$28 per ton; cracked, \$29.
Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$19@20; clover, \$11; cheat, \$11; grain hay, \$11@12; alfalfa, \$12@13.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 32½@35c per pound.
Poultry—Average old hens, 13c per pound; mixed chickens, 12c; spring chickens, 12½c; old roosters, 8@9c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; geese, live, 8@10c; ducks, 10c.
Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 27@28c per dozen.
Veal—Dressed, 6@8½c per pound.
Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 8@8½c; packers, 7½@8c.
Fruits—Apples, \$1@1.50 per box; cantaloupes, 50c@1.00 per crate; peaches, 40@85c per crate; blackberries, 4@5c per pound; prunes, 50@75c per crate; watermelons, 1@1½c per pound; plums, 50@75c per box; pears, 75c@1.25 per box; grapes, 50c@1.50 per box.
Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.75 per sack; carrots, \$2 per sack; beets, \$2 per sack; asparagus, 10c per pound; beans, 3@5c; cabbage, 2c; celery, 75c@1 per dozen; corn, 25@35c per dozen; cucumbers, 10@15c per dozen; lettuce, head, 15c per dozen; onions, 15@20c per dozen; peas, 3@5c per pound; pumpkins, 1½@2c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; rhubarb, 3½c per pound; squash, 50c@1 per crate; tomatoes, 30@50c per crate; sweet potatoes, 2½c per pound.
Onions—\$2.25@2.50 per hundred.
Potatoes—New, \$1@1.15 per hundred.
Hops—4@6c per pound, according to quality.
Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 16@22c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@30c per pound.

OPTIMISM PREDOMINATES.

Merchants Throughout Country Find Good Times Prevail.

New York, Sept. 3.—Remarkable for their optimism are the replies from more than 3,000 retail merchants, jobbers and bankers regarding the business outlook of the country, which are printed today in the Dry Goods Economist. They show that there is no evidence of business depression, that on the whole the retailers are purchasing as heavily as they did last year, and that all are looking for a continuation of prosperity.

There is not the slightest evidence of the pessimism that has pervaded Wall street. Where there is a trade depression, it is due to local conditions, as, for instance, in San Francisco, where on account of the labor troubles, the merchants have not purchased as heavily as heretofore, in other places the merchants for the most part state that it is because prices are so high that they look for a lower level and are purchasing for the immediate demand only.

Five questions were asked by the Economist of its subscribers in making the canvass of the business conditions. They are:

"What are the crop conditions of your section?"

"How are the farmers fixed financially?"

"Is labor well employed or otherwise in your city and vicinity?"

"Do you observe any condition which would cause you seriously to apprehend any decline from present prosperity?"

"Have you bought as freely as last year at this time?"

In classifying the replies, the states and territories were placed in five great divisions. In all of these on the whole the prospects for good crops are bright and, where the crops are lighter than heretofore, the higher prices more than compensate. In all sections there appears to be a scarcity of available labor, while unusually high prices are being paid.

"All's well," is the summary which the Economist makes of the situation in the entire country.

NEW ELECTRIC POWER.

Italian Inventor Promises to Revolutionize the World.

New York, Sept. 3.—Confident that he is the discoverer of an electrical device that is to revolutionize the world industrially and economically, Raffaele Bova, an electrical engineer, has come from Carcinia, Italy, for the purpose of demonstrating before America's best experts what his invention will do.

It consists of a small battery and transforming apparatus, which, he says, will run the largest dynamos without the use of steam or other energy. He says it may be applied to locomotives, steamships, lighting and heating plants or anything where electrical energy is employed. He calls his invention the "auto vibro electrica sorgente." In a statement he says:

"In building a fire one first must have a match. I have discovered the match of electricity, and with it start the fire that continues to burn. In other words, with a substance that may be obtained anywhere for a few cents I originate the force that sets the dynamo in motion and continues it in action. I am not relying upon theory, but have made many tests in Italy through which I increased the ordinary force manifold without the aid of steam or any other power except what I obtained from my small battery. I am using the electricity which exists in all of nature's elements and which has hitherto been wasted."

Mooney is Reinstated.

San Francisco, Sept. 3.—One of the first acts of the Taylor board of police commissioners was to reinstate Captain of Police Mooney. Captain Mooney was dismissed by the Schmitz board for criticizing the method of ex-Chief Dignan and the then board of commissioners. Mr. Mooney addressed his company on the necessity for greater alertness in the suppression of vice. He warned the men that the friendship of chief of police and police commissioners would not save those that he found derelict in any matter of duty.

Great Church in Danger.

London, Sept. 3.—The committee of architects appointed to inquire into St. Paul's cathedral has issued a report which declares that, while the cathedral is in no immediate danger, elaborate precautions are necessary to preserve it from disaster.

Cholera Slaying Chinese.

Shanghai, Sept. 3.—The epidemic of cholera among Chinese in lower Yang-Tee ports is spreading. About 200 persons died in the streets of Cuba, in the province of Ngan-Hwei and Kiu-Kiang, province of Kiangsi.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

LATIN-AMERICAN COMMERCE

Total Has More Than Doubled During Past Ten Years.

Washington, Sept. 4.—According to official figures, the trade of the United States with the Latin-American countries in the fiscal year just ended aggregated more than \$600,000,000, against \$234,000,000 in 1897. In Latin-American countries are included British Honduras, British and Dutch Guiana, and the West Indian islands under British, Dutch and Danish control.

The imports from the same countries in 1907 amounted to \$350,000,000, against \$155,000,000 in 1897, having thus a little more than doubled during the decade, while the exports thereto aggregated \$255,000,000 in 1907 against \$80,000,000 in 1897, having a little more than trebled during the decade. From the Latin West Indies and the French West Indian possessions the imports in 1907 were \$124,000,000, against \$24,000,000 in 1897, and the exports thereto in 1907 \$82,000,000 against \$17,000,000 in 1897.

Comparing the trade of 1907 with that of 1906, a gain of over \$20,000,000 in exports is shown, composed almost exclusively of manufactured articles, which form nearly 60 per cent of the exports to Cuba, about 70 per cent of those to Mexico, and about 85 per cent of those to Central and South America, while from all of the countries in question, the imports consist chiefly of foodstuffs and manufacturers' materials.

Great Engineering Feat.

Washington, Sept. 5.—A report has just reached the State department of what is declared to be the greatest engineering work of the kind ever attempted on the European continent. It is to be a canal under the Rove mountains to connect the port of Marseilles more directly with the river Rhine. Consular Clerk M. B. Kirk, of Paris, reports that the minister of public works in France and the counsel general of bridges have recently reported the expenditure of over \$15,000,000 for the construction of the tunnel canal, which is to be four and one-half miles long, 73 feet wide and 43 feet above the water level to the vaulted room. It will be completely lighted by electricity and possess a small railroad running along the side.

Evans' Fleet Starts North.

Washington, Sept. 5.—Admiral Evans has taken his big battleship fleet on a cruise northward from Hampton Roads. It is understood at the Navy department that the fleet will make no haste in going north, but will engage in drills and various kinds of fleet and squadron maneuvers on the cruise. The fall target practice is to begin next Monday and this will be the last opportunity the big ships will leave here to test their guns before they drop anchor in Magdalena bay, on the Western coast of the continent.

Roseburg National Bank Licensed

Washington, Sept. 6.—The controller of the currency has approved the application of A. C. Masters, C. W. Parks, I. Abraham, J. F. Baker, N. Rice and E. V. Hoover to organize the Roseburg National bank, with capital stock of \$50,000. F. P. Hill has been appointed a guard in the Cascade national forest, Oregon, and Thomas Monroe to a similar position in the Inmaha national forest. Mrs. Olive C. Swenning has been appointed a clerk, temporarily, in the Cascade forest.

No Fees for Return Certificates.

Washington, Sept. 3.—Commissioner Sargent has ordered immigration officials to inform resident Chinese who intend to visit China with the intention of returning to the United States, that the immigration officials will make out return certificates free of charge as a part of their duties. The order is issued as a result of Sargent's discovering while in Salt Lake recently that the Chinese believed return certificates must be made by a lawyer, and they paid \$5 to \$50 therefor.

Colonel Halford Retires.

Washington, Sept. 6.—Lieutenant Colonel Elijah W. Halford, pay department, U. S. A., was relieved today, having reached the statutory age of 64 years. Colonel Halford was attached to headquarters of the department of California, at San Francisco, and was one of the most widely known officers in the pay corps of the army. He was private secretary to the late President Benjamin Harrison from 1889 to 1893.

Northwest Postal Changes.

Washington, Sept. 4.—Nells A. Jensen has been appointed regular, Thomas Johansen substitute, rural carrier, route 2, at Enumelaw, Wash. Robert Patrick has been appointed postmaster at Newcastle, Wash., vice Eli Manning, resigned.

Strauss Fixes Date of Return.

Washington, Sept. 3.—Secretary Straus, who is in Yellowstone park, has written that he expects to resume department duty September 12, after discussing his intended inspection trip with President Roosevelt.

LANE'S NORTHWESTERN TOUR

Will Hear Rate Cases in Portland, Spokane and Seattle.

Washington, Sept. 5.—Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lane will be in Portland September 16 to hear arguments on complaint of the Oregon Railroad commission against the Chicago & Alton and various other roads, the commission alleging that the rate on de-tatured alcohol shipped from Chicago and Missouri river points is excessive.

Before reaching Portland Mr. Lane will hear arguments at Spokane, September 9, on complaint of the city of Spokane against the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and O. R. & N., alleging that their rate on sheet steel from Pittsburg to Spokane is excessive and out of proportion to the rate from Pittsburg to Seattle. On September 13 Mr. Lane will hear arguments at Seattle in several cases against the Northern Pacific, in which it is alleged that its rates on shingles from Avon and Edgcomb, Wash., to points in Minnesota and Texa are unreasonable.

UNCLE SAM FIGHTS PLAGUE.

Roosevelt Orders the Public Health Service to Aid San Francisco.

Washington, Sept. 7.—By direction of President Roosevelt, the public health and marine hospital service has assumed charge of measures to stamp out the plague in San Francisco. This step was taken today by request of Mayor Taylor, of San Francisco, who added that the city would do all that is possible towards providing funds to carry on the work.

Acting promptly on telegraphic instructions from Oyster Bay, Surgeon General Wyman issued the necessary orders and advised the mayor of San Francisco that the corps of the service officers already on duty there would be augmented and that additional measures would be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Cannot Give Tents to Sick.

Washington, Sept. 3.—The War department has decided to grant the request of the mayor of San Francisco for tents to accommodate the patients in city hospitals who are to be removed from the buildings to reduce the chance of extending the ravages of the plague. Acting Secretary Oliver was urged to comply with the application by Surgeon General Wyman, but failed to find any legal authority for the gift of the tents. He replied, however, that he would sell the city of San Francisco any number of the tents necessary. So far no answer has been received to his offer.

Has Scent of Lumber Trust.

Washington, Sept. 5.—An investigation of the lumber industry is being directed by Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of the bureau of corporations, which may develop sufficient information to warrant the government's proceeding against the lumber trust. At present the inquiry is proceeding in Wisconsin and Michigan and in the Southern states. It is along purely economic lines to develop the amount of standing timber. After the source of supply is ascertained, Mr. Smith will inquire into the cost of production.

Filipinos in Island Service.

Washington, Sept. 3.—Twenty-two of the young Filipinos who were educated in the United States have arrived at Manila to undertake a period of service for the government equal to the time spent in this country acquiring an education at government expense. Those having been graduated from the normal, engineering and agricultural courses will be given employment under the Philippine board of education and the law graduates will be given other employment.

Old Rumor Killed Again.

Washington, Sept. 6.—Rumors originating in Portland to the effect that headquarters of the department of the Columbia were to be removed from Vancouver barracks to Seattle are flatly discredited by Adjutant General Ainsworth, the one man above all others who keeps posted on such matters. When the attention of Senator Bourne was called to this rumor he took it at once to General Ainsworth, and secured from him a flat denial.

Philippine Wood for Lead Pencils

Washington, Sept. 4.—It is learned from Manila that samples of Philippine woods believed to be available for making lead pencils have been sent to New York to be tested. Lead pencil woods have become so scarce that if the Philippine woods are satisfactory it will create a large market therefor. The samples shipped to New York are of red lauan and balbacuan.

New Chief for Creeks.

Washington, Sept. 6.—The president today authorized the secretary of the interior to appoint Subchief Mety Tinger, of the Creek Indians, to succeed General Pleasant Porter as chief of the tribe.