

## OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### FAIRGROUNDS A DELIGHT.

#### Attractive Plan of Beautifying Is Being Carried Out

Salem—Not the least important of the many improvements being made at the fair grounds in preparation for the Greater Oregon State fair, September 16-21, is the transformation of the unsightly and barren wastes of dry grass and weeds into beautiful landscape effects. This is the first appeal to the artistic sense that has been attempted along this line, and, although it has been found impossible to make all the needed changes in one year, the most glaring faults have been remedied. The concessions have all been removed to one district, and dozens of unsightly shacks destroyed. New walks have been laid throughout the grounds, the idea being to combine beauty with convenience as far as possible. Buildings have been moved whenever necessary, and other conditions made to conform to the new arrangements. The walks will all be of fine gravel, dressed with granite sand.

The main improvement is noticeable in the square between the main pavilion and the dairy building, which has been moved to a site northeast of its old position. The visitor is no longer confronted with the row of candy stands and lunch counters of all sizes, ages and colors, and the expanse of dry grass which formerly assailed the eye. The only remaining relic of the old regime is the fountain, with its familiar figure in the center, but even this has been repainted and remodeled until it is hardly recognizable, and is now surrounded with a bed of flowers, and a winding path.

There are many other flower beds also, in the shape of crescents, stars and other designs, and all will be in blossom fair week. The big center bed contains large, spreading palms. Where there are no flowers green lawns have been planted. Water has been piped to this section, and the work of beauty is being rapidly completed.

A pretty feature is the statues which will be placed in this square. Just east of the main wing of the pavilion, the large, reclining figure, representing the state of Oregon, was seen last year, and will again occupy the same position. In front of the pavilion, the fountain and its small statue have already been noted. Rack of this fountain, the large standing figure of Ceres, goddess of agriculture, which last year was located in the pavilion, but seemed rather cramped and out of place, will be set up. On either side of this statue two smaller images will be placed, making five pieces of statuary in all. They will be set upon suitable bases and bordered with flower beds. All these statues were secured from the Lewis and Clark exposition of 1905 in Portland.

#### Organize to Fight Railroad.

Salem—A concerted movement is on foot to effect an organization of the valley sawmill men with a view of taking up again the rate question on rough and finished lumber shipments to San Francisco bay common points. The mill men are still striving to bring about a restoration of the old rate of \$3.50 per thousand feet and, if the valley manufacturers can be brought together, it is proposed to take the matter before the Interstate Commerce commission at the earliest date possible.

#### Buys Apples at La Grande.

La Grande—Contract for the sale of more than 60,000 boxes of Grand Ronde apples at \$1.40 per box has been concluded between E. Z. Carbine, of this county, and C. E. Walker, of Kansas City. Sixty thousand boxes of apples means approximately 110 carloads. Loading of this monster order will begin as soon as the apple picking commences, or, in other words, at once.

#### Prune Dryers Start in Linn.

Albany—Prune picking is in full blast in all the orchards of this part of the state and nine dryers are running to their fullest capacity in the vicinity of Albany. The prune crop is one of the best in years and LaSelle Brothers, of this city, will send 150 cars of dried prunes to Eastern markets, the biggest shipment of prunes ever made from the Pacific Northwest.

#### Malheur Wins Pardee Cup.

Ontario—E. A. Fraser has received a telegram from Mayor Lackey, of this city, who has charge of the Malheur county exhibits at the National Irrigation congress, stating that this county had been awarded the Governor Pardee silver cup and a \$200 cash prize. The exhibit was prepared and sent at the expense of the business men of Ontario.

#### Oregon Hay for Alaska.

Athens—Great quantities of fine timothy hay are being brought down from the Weston mountains, and is being sold in bales to the Preston-Parton Milling company for from \$18 to \$18 per ton. This hay is loaded on cars and shipped to Seattle and Tacoma, much of which is shipped from there to Alaska.

### HAS NEW SCHEME.

#### W. S. U'Ren Would Elect Senators by Direct Vote.

Oregon City—W. S. U'Ren, the father of the initiative and referendum, has a plan to make Statement No. 1 nearly ironclad and to make the people of Oregon dominant over the legislature and any political party as well. He proposes to have a bill enacted into law next June through the initiative by which candidates for the legislature will be instructed to sign Statement No. 1 exactly as it is written in the law. The members of the legislature are further commanded to vote for the candidate for senator who is the choice of the greatest number of people.

Mr. U'Ren has been working on such a bill for several weeks and now has it drafted and all ready to spring. He believes that if the bill becomes a law there will be no question of the members of the legislature obeying the provisions it contains.

#### Better Train Service Ordered.

Salem—Orders have been issued by the railroad commission requiring the Southern Pacific company to put on a special train out of Roseburg to make the run to Portland whenever north bound overland express train No. 12 is two hours behind schedule time of arrival at Roseburg and also to require the O. R. & N. company to run a passenger train each way daily between Portland and Pendleton, the eastbound train to leave Portland in the morning and the westbound to leave Pendleton in the morning, and requiring the trains to stop at each station, either regularly or by signal, for the accommodation of travel between these and intermediate points.

#### Must Not Invade Reserve.

Pendleton—In a letter just received by County Superintendent Wells from J. H. Ackerman, state school superintendent, the hopes of a public school for white children on the reservation are dashed. Not long since Professor Wells wrote the state superintendent if a district might be established upon the Uatilla Indian reservation. He had been asked to take the matter up by various white renters living on the reservation and who have children of school age. However, in his reply Superintendent Ackerman declared the county has no right whatever to extend its schools to the reservation.

#### Profits Pay for Land.

Jacksonville—Ten acres of fruit land within the corporate limits of Jacksonville, Oregon, cost W. I. McIntyre, a well known orchardist of that city, \$1,900 a year ago. This year he will more than have paid for the property with the proceeds of fruit sold from the tract this season. Mr. McIntyre is an enthusiastic fruit grower, who has adopted scientific methods of producing the different varieties of fruit.

### PORTLAND MARKET.

Wheat—Club, 82c; bluestem, 84c; valley, 81c; red, 79c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$23.50@24; gray, \$23@23.50.

Barley—Feed, \$23@23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.50@24.75; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Corn—Whole, \$29@30 per ton; cracked, \$30.50.

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, 30@35c per pound.

Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8@8½c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7½c; 150 to 200 pounds, 6@7c.

Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 8@8½c; packers, 7½@8c.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12½c; spring chickens, 12@13c; old roosters, 8@9c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 14c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 28@30c per dozen.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@1.50 per box; cantaloupes, \$1.25@1.50 per crate; peaches, 75c@1 per crate; prunes, 50@75c per crate; watermelons, 1@1½c per pound; plums, 50@75c per box; pears, 75c@1.25 per box; grapes, 40c@1.50 per crate; casabas, \$2.25 per dozen.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25 per sack; cabbage, 1½@1¾c per pound; celery, 75c@1 per dozen; corn, \$1@1.50 per sack; cucumbers, 10@15c per dozen; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; pumpkins, 1½@1¾c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; squash, 50c@1 per box; sweet potatoes, 2½c per pound.

Onions—\$2@2.25 per hundred.

Potatoes—New, \$1 per hundred.

Hops—Fuggles, 6½@7c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 16@22c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to shrinkage; mohair, choice, 29@30c per pound.

### TRUST IS WITH SPRECKLES.

Has Large Interest in Spreckels Company, but Does Not Compete.

San Francisco, Sept. 10.—John Spreckles, president of the Western Sugar Refining company, testified yesterday before United States Commissioner Richards in regard to the relations existing between his company and the American Sugar Refining company, of New York, the so-called Havemeyer sugar trust. It was established by his testimony that Mr. Havemeyer and his men own a large minority of the stock of the Western Refining company, but he denied that either he or his father, Claus Spreckles, has any interest in the American Sugar Refining company.

He declared that the price of sugar on the coast was held low enough to prevent competition from Mr. Havemeyer, except in a few special grades, which the Western does not manufacture.

Mr. Spreckles' testimony is to be used in a suit brought by the receiver of the Pennsylvania Sugar company against the American Refining company for \$30,000,000 damages as the result of the Havemeyer interests getting control of the Pennsylvania concern and shutting down the plant. The suit is both for conspiracy and for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and is brought in the United States District court of New York.

### GATHERING AT SARATOGA.

#### Fifty Thousand Grand Army Veterans Expected at Encampment.

Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 10.—Amid gaily decorated streets, veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic have been arriving all day for the Forty-first National encampment, which will be held here this week. Fifty thousand veterans are expected.

This may be the last encampment held anywhere but in Washington. At the business session of the organization a resolution probably will be introduced fixing that place as the permanent meeting place of the organization hereafter. It is also probable that within a few years the annual encampment will become only a meeting of delegates, for the veterans, it was stated by Grand Army officials, are becoming too feeble to attend the meetings in a body and to take part in the annual parade.

The encampment program begins today.

### NEW RULES TO BEGIN WAR.

#### Hague Conferen Requires Notice to Enemy and Neutrals.

The Hague, Sept. 10.—The fifth plenary sitting of the peace conference was held today. The whole American delegation was present. The following rules regarding the opening of hostilities were adopted, a few countries making reservations:

"The contracting powers agree that hostilities must not begin without previous unequivocal notice having been given, either in form of a declaration of war setting forth its motives or in the form of an ultimatum with the additional declaration of war.

"A state of war must be notified without delay to the neutral powers, the effect of the latter beginning after they receive notice, which can be given even by wire. In any case the neutral powers cannot protest against the lack of this notice, if it is established that they undoubtedly knew that a state of war existed."

### MOB SAILORS IN JAPAN.

#### Four Men From Cruiser Chattanooga Flee for Their Lives.

Tokio, Sept. 10.—While the United States cruiser Chattanooga was at Hakodate on her way here from Vladivostok, four of her men had a thrilling experience and a narrow escape from serious injury at the hands of a Japanese mob.

In a dispute over prices, one of the American sailors struck a Japanese shopkeeper. A mob quickly formed, armed with clubs, and started after the assailant and his three companions. Two of the sailors were forced to jump from a dock and swim to a sampan.

The others were rescued from the mob by the police, who took them aboard the ship.

#### Car Shortage Again.

Chicago, Sept. 10.—A New York special to the Record Herald says: Is the prosperity of the country again to be threatened this fall and winter by a shortage in freight equipment and cost merchants and farmers untold millions? This question is being asked in high railway circles in the East and on Wall street, and, as a rule, it is being answered in the affirmative. Men in the traffic world who control vast systems are shaking their heads and admitting that a recurrence of the disastrous car shortage is threatening.

#### Vaccinated by the Thousand.

Vienna, Sept. 10.—There are no signs of abatement in the smallpox epidemic. During the last few days 166,000 persons have been vaccinated. Public meetings and processions have been forbidden.

## NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

### TESTS TIMBER'S STRENGTH.

#### Ingenious Machine Worked by Forest Service at New Haven.

Washington, Sept. 11.—The Forest service for some time past has been carrying on a series of experiments at its timber testing station at New Haven, Conn., to determine the effect of continuous loads applied for long periods of time to wooden beams. The beams are tested by an ingenious apparatus, which is so arranged that the load on the specimens is constant, however much they may bend.

The most interesting part of the testing machine is a large paper covered drum, slowly revolving by clockwork, upon which a continuous record of the amount of bending in the specimen under test is recorded. This bending, or deflection, is shown on the drum by a pencil mark, the pencil being connected to the center of the beam by a system of levers so arranged as to considerably multiply the actual bending of the beam before it is recorded on the drum.

Information as to the effects of loads applied to wooden beams for long periods of time is not at present very definite, and it is expected that the results of the experiments now in progress at New Haven will furnish much valuable information which will be of great benefit to the lumber industry.

### DEFERS IMPROVING TRACK.

#### Southern Railroad Will Not Double Road Under Present Laws.

Washington, Sept. 10.—It was announced at the Southern Railway headquarters in this city that, owing to recent adverse railroad rate legislation in several Southern states, and to "general conditions," the double tracking of the Southern railway between Chattanooga and Olteway Junction, in Tennessee, north of Greensboro, N. C., has been ordered stopped, pending further instructions.

Contracts had been entered into for double tracking work in Tennessee aggregating about \$15,000,000. The money intended for the proposed improvement in Tennessee and North Carolina has been withdrawn and will be used in operating the road.

#### Latest on Fleet Movement.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Those politicians who are looking for an ulterior motive behind every move the president makes have discovered the real reason why the battleship fleet is to be sent around to the Pacific coast. The president, so they declare, is a candidate for renomination, and the fleet is to be sent to the Pacific to promote the political interests of Mr. Roosevelt. The presence of the fleet will demonstrate to the people of the coast that the president is their friend, and in return they will be expected to send to the Republican convention delegates who are pledged to Mr. Roosevelt.

#### Talk Business at Lunch.

Oyster Bay, Sept. 12.—President Roosevelt gave a luncheon today, at which Secretary Straus, of the department of commerce and labor; Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor; Lawrence F. Abbott, and Ernest Hamlin Abbott, of New York, were guests. Mr. Straus made a verbal report on his recent Western trip, and Mr. Neill took up with the president certain difficulties which have been encountered in the attempted enforcement of the eight-hour law. It is denied that the telegraph strike was considered.

#### A Little Slow, but She'll Do.

Washington, Sept. 14.—The battleship Kansas, sister ship to the Vermont, has just completed her speed trials, and, while her record is slightly below that of her sister ship and a trifle below the 18-knot speed which she was required to make in her acceptance trial several months ago, it is said at the Navy department that her record is entirely satisfactory. The average speed for four hours with full power was 17.81 knots and for 24 hours endurance trial 17.09 knots.

#### Battleship Has Narrow Escape.

Washington, Sept. 14.—The battleship Indiana narrowly escaped destruction, according to a report made public by the Navy department, by a fire which started in the coal bunkers on September 5. The ship is now undergoing repairs at League Island. The heroic action of the crew in removing the ammunition saved the vessel.

#### New Rural Carriers.

Washington, Sept. 13.—Rural carriers appointed: Oregon—Hillsboro, route 2, William M. Tipton carrier; Paul Ray substitute. Washington—Cheney, route 4, Thomas R. Riggs carrier; James V. Cossallman substitute.

#### Shortage in Cotton.

Washington, Sept. 11.—The ginners' report of the government shows that 69.2 per cent of the normal cotton crop has been ginned, against 72.1 per cent a month ago. This accounts for the recent advances in cotton values.

### NEVER HEARD OF PUTER.

#### Land Grafters' Fame Already Dim in Government Offices.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Fame is short-lived. Only a few days ago a letter was received by the Forest service in this city asking for various bits of information regarding public land conditions in the state of Oregon. The letter bore the signature "S. A. D. Puter." The questions were leading ones and indicated that the writer was not dealing with an unfamiliar subject, rather that he was an old hand at it. Some of the questions could not be answered by the Forest service, so the letter was referred to the general land office, and came back with the answers and with this notation:

"Who is this writer Puter? We never heard of him."

The Forest service was no more acquainted with the man or the name than was the general land office, and when Puter's letter was passed from one official to another, it was always with the remark: "Never heard of him." It was not until a complete answer had been mailed to Puter that an official asked a newspaper correspondent if he had ever heard of Puter.

### OREGON LEADS ALL STATES.

#### Contributes Most to Reclamation Fund—General Increase Shown.

Washington, Sept. 10.—Oregon again leads all states in its contribution to the reclamation fund. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, the total receipts from land sales in Oregon amounted to \$1,429,760, nearly three times the receipts in the previous year, when the total was only \$545,346.

Last year, when timber entries in Oregon were tied up, North Dakota forged ahead of Oregon, but this year the receipts in that state were but \$300,000 less than in Oregon. There has been a general gain in land receipts through the West, Washington increasing from \$542,877 in 1906 to \$768,937 in 1907, and Idaho showing an increase from \$351,963 to \$709,169.

The total receipts from all states amount to \$9,484,938, and amount to and out of this total approximately \$8,000,000 will go into the reclamation fund, swelling the total to more than \$40,000,000.

#### New Lumber Rate Reported.

Washington, Sept. 13.—The Interstate Commerce commission today received from the Transcontinental Freight bureau notification of new rates on lumber from the Pacific coast to points in the East, this being the rate, recently agreed upon, of 50 cents per hundred. The new rates will become operative November 1. Notice of filing of the rate was sent to lumbermen on the Pacific coast who have informed the commission of their intention to enter complaint and ask for a hearing, but this hearing will not prevent the rate going into effect November 1. In the event the commission decides against the new rate, lumbermen will be entitled to a rebate on all shipments made at 50 cents.

#### Take Up Coast Defense.

Washington, Sept. 13.—An effort will be made by the War department to get an appropriation from congress during the coming winter for the completion of all fortifications exclusive of guns, at Portland, Me., New York and Boston harbors on the Atlantic coast and at San Francisco and Puget sound on the Pacific coast. General Murray, chief of artillery, has taken up the matter with the bureaus of the War department, presumably at the instance of his superior officers, with a view to getting the money. Searchlights are the principal items needed at all five points.

#### Choice Reduced to Three.

Washington, Sept. 12.—On the eve of Secretary of War Taft's departure for the Philippines, national political leaders are taking account of stock and invoicing the presidential situation as it has developed up to the present time. The situation today gives prominence to three men: President Roosevelt, Secretary Taft and Governor Hughes, of New York. Other persons whose names have been entered in the Republican presidential nomination race appear at this stage as nothing more than probable "also rans."

#### May Have Fuel Shortage

Washington, Sept. 12.—The fuel problem is quite as acute in British Columbia as in the states of our Pacific Northwest; indeed, British Columbia is suffering somewhat because much of its coal is now being exported to American ports on the Pacific coast.

#### Naval Station for Pacific.

Washington, Sept. 10.—That a strong recommendation will be made by Rear Admiral Capps, chief of construction of the navy, for building a naval station at San Diego is practically assured. It is believed his views are endorsed by Rear Admiral Cowles, the president's brother-in-law.