

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

FIRST CLIPS SOLD.

Scouring Mill at The Dalles Working Night and Day.

The Dalles—The scouring mill in this city is now running a double crew of sorters daily, and the mill night and day, turning out 8,000 pounds of scoured product every 24 hours. The wool purchases made thus far have been from stations along the line of the Northern Pacific in Yakima county, and at Columbia river points, such as The Dalles, Arlington and Echo, where the sealed bid plan that was inaugurated in the state three years ago does not obtain. The first clips shown are nearly all from the warm Columbia river ranges, which wools are more or less earthy and are sought only by dealers in the scoured product.

There seems to be no disposition on the part of the growers to hold this class of wool, and buyers are apparently glad to take them, as they are being absorbed by the dealers as fast as they are offered.

The choice Eastern Oregon wools sought for shipping in the grease, which are grown back in the interior, are now being sown. This class that in former years was marketed at The Dalles, and gave this city the distinction of receiving and shipping more wool direct from the grower than any other place in the United States, has since the completion of the Columbia Southern railway been transferred to Shaniko. There the wools are all offered under the sealed bid system. The first sale there is set for June 2, the second for June 14, and the third and last for July 1.

Pendleton leads off with the first sealed bid sale of the season on the 23d instant, and Heppner follows on the 26th with its first sale. The other two points in the state where wools will be offered upon sealed bids are Baker City on June 17, and Elgin on June 28.

Indians Work With Japanese.

La Grande—Nearly 100 Japanese are in La Grande from Portland and points in Washington to work in the Grand Ronde sugar beet fields this summer, and more are expected to arrive a little later on. The work will be to keep the beets thinned out and free from weeds. F. S. Bramwell, field superintendent of the sugar factory, stated that the sugar company alone has just completed seeding 2,800 acres of good land to beets, while many of the farmers have put in large amounts, the acreage being far ahead of last year.

Union's Fight for County Seat.

La Grande—The citizens of Union are determined to keep the county seat if possible. Knowing that there is no possibility of securing the restraining order to prevent the county clerk from printing the official ballot with the relocation clause thereon, a writ of review wherein they attack the jurisdiction of the county court in ordering an election for the relocation of the county seat from Union to La Grande, its former site, is made returnable June 24.

To Extend Ditch.

Freewater—Survey for an extension of the Milton, Freewater and Hudson Bay ditch has started about 12 miles west of here for the Pine Creek Irrigation company, whose incorporators are Chris Powers and Paine brothers, all of Walls Walls. The company proposes to cover between 5,000 and 6,000 acres by the extension. The incorporators hold a franchise covering the waste waters from the Milton, Freewater and Hudson Bay ditch.

La Grande City Hall Bonds Sold.

La Grande—At a special session of the city council the bid of J. W. Scriber for city hall bonds was accepted. Mr. Scriber offers a premium of \$175 on the entire issue. The bid gives the city the right to issue bonds in books of \$5,000 as the city may need the money to erect the city hall, and the city is to receive the accrued interest on bonds issued but not used after July 15, 1904.

Population of Eugene is 5,829.

Eugene—P. J. McPherson, enumerator of the school census for the Eugene school district, has completed his work and reports that within the city limits of Eugene he counted 5,829 inhabitants. The enumeration was carefully made and there is every reason to believe that the count is correct.

Wheat Caught by Frost.

Pendleton—Estimated damage to the wheat crop of Umatilla county on account of the last two frosts will reach 500,000 bushels. All the damage is in the Helix country and many farmers are cutting wheat for hay.

Ship Grain to New York.

Pendleton—Ten thousand bushels of wheat at Warren, a wheat station on the W. & C. R., near Helix, will be shipped in a few days to New York state.

School Money Borrowed.

Salem—The state land board has just approved 12 applications for loans from the school fund aggregating \$27,460.

MAY SAVE WATER.

Government Expects to Investigate Irrigation in Umatilla.

Washington—A consultation of irrigation experts has been ordered at Pendleton to determine the merits of the Umatilla irrigation project. The reclamation of between 100,000 and 200,000 acres of land, lying directly west of Pendleton, at an elevation ranging from 300 to 600 feet above the sea is considered feasible. Examination has shown most of this land to be unpatented, and that the Northern Pacific controls the greater portion of the patented area. It has been found impracticable to divert water from the Snake river, near Riparia, and bring it onto this land, and the experts will determine the feasibility of storing the flood waters of the Umatilla river in a system of reservoirs. If it is found such a system is practicable and that dams can be constructed on the respective reservoir sites, and litigation can be avoided, such as is threatened in Malheur county, the government will turn its attention to Umatilla, and leave the Malheur project to be disposed of later.

The government is now satisfied that one reservoir in township 3 north, range 25 and 26 east, can be built to hold sufficient water to reclaim 60,000 acres, but before this project is adopted, it is desired to know how much additional land can be reclaimed by waters stored in smaller reservoirs in that vicinity which can also be supplied by flood waters from Umatilla river. If the board reports favorably on its examination, a special effort will be made to perfect the plans for this irrigation project.

Better Wool, Worse Mutton.

Pendleton—The fact that \$2.75 and more was realized for dry ewes and two year olds, two and three years ago, while buyers are not offering more than \$2 for the same class of stock now, is not altogether due to conditions in the mutton market, though prices have fallen considerably. The tendency of Umatilla county shepherds to breed for wool since good prices prevailed is lowering the mutton qualities. Sheep bred for selling purposes usually have coarser, lower grade wool than those raised for their fleeces.

Dickering on Sheep Prices.

Pendleton—Seven eastern sheep buyers have just come into Umatilla county to see if they can pick up large consignments to take to the middle west, and while they are still quite a distance apart from growers on prices their presence makes the prospect more encouraging in the congested sheep districts, where it was feared shepherds would have to carry over all their last year holdings, together with the spring increase.

Can Start Off With 100 Cows.

Echo—It is estimated that 100 cows will be available to start should the Hazelwood Creamery company carry out its intention to install a branch here. Several farmers in addition to those already possessing dairy animals are scanning their herds for dairy possibilities, and with a district a dozen miles long up and down the Umatilla river to draw from, it is thought 200 cows could be secured by midsummer.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walls, 72c; blue-stem, 80c; Valley, 80c.
Barley—Feed, \$23 per ton; rolled, \$24.50@25.
Flour—Valley, \$3.90@4.05 per barrel; hard wheat straights, \$4@4.25; clears, \$3.85@4.10; hard wheat patents, \$4.40@4.70; graham, \$3.50@4; whole wheat, \$4@4.25; rye flour, \$4.50.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.20@1.22; gray, \$1.15@1.17 per cental.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$19@20 per ton; middlings, \$25.50@27; shorts, \$20@21; chop, \$18; linseed, dairy food, \$19.
Hay—Timothy, \$15@16 per ton; clover, \$10@11; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.
Hops—1903 crop, 23@25¢ per pound.
Wool—Valley, 16@17; Eastern Oregon, 11@14c; mohair, 30c per pound for choice.
Beef—Dressed, 5@8c per pound.
Mutton—Dressed, 6@7½c per pound.
Veal—Dressed, 6@7c per pound.
Pork—Dressed, 7@7½c per pound.
Vegetables—Turnips, 80c per sack; carrots, 80c; beets, \$1; parsnips, \$1; cabbage, 2@2½c; red cabbage, 2½c; lettuce, head, 25@40c per doz; hot house, \$1.75 per box; parsley per doz, 25c; cucumbers, \$1.75; asparagus, \$1.25; peas, 5@6c per pound; rhubarb, 3c; beans, green, 15c; wax, 15c.
Honey—\$3@3.50 per case.
Potatoes—Fancy, \$1.20@1.35 per cental; common, \$1@1.20; new potatoes, 3½@4c per pound; sweets, 5c per pound.
Fruits—Strawberries, \$1.50@1.75 per crate; cherries, \$1.50@1.75 per box; apples, fancy Baldwins and Spitzenbergs, \$1.50@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.50; cooking, 75c@1.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18c per dozen.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½c; store, 12@13c.
Butter Fat—Sweet cream, 18½c; sour cream, 17c.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 12¼@13c per pound; springs, small, 18@20c; hens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, \$7@8 per dozen; geese, live, 7@8c per pound.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, new stock, 12¼@13c; old stock, 10c; Young America, 14c.

TO BE ENGINEER.

Panama Canal Position Given to John F. Wallace.

Chicago, May 12.—John F. Wallace, general manager of the Illinois Central railroad, will be chief engineer of the Panama canal. After having the offer under advisement for some time, he today wired Admiral Walker, chairman of the commission, his acceptance. The position will pay \$25,000 per year. Mr. Wallace will leave for Washington to enter upon his new duties early next month.

During the recent trip of the Panama canal commissioners to the isthmus, one of the subjects of discussion was the appointment of the chief engineer. It was agreed by everyone that the man selected must possess exceptional qualifications; must be not only an engineer, but an administrator and executive; must have mature judgment and yet energy of accomplishment, and must be well and favorably known, as a very great measure of the success of the commission would depend upon the chief engineer.

While the committee was at sea on the way to the isthmus, a letter was written to Mr. Wallace asking him to meet the members in New York on their return and talk over the matter. Subsequently there was correspondence with Stuyvesant Fish, president of the Illinois Central, who thus spoke of Mr. Wallace: "There is no professional engineer in my acquaintance who, I think, has, in a higher degree than Mr. Wallace, the special commercial and diplomatic tact which I conceive will be required. He not only has commercial sense, knows the value of money, but also has a very rare capacity in dealing with men, whether they be above him, his peers, or under him. It goes without saying that he is upright."

RUMORS OF FIGHT.

Russians Overtaken at Mao Tien Ling Pass and Defeated.

Tokio, May 12.—Admiral Togo reports that since the 6th of May many explosions have been heard coming from the vicinity of Port Arthur, but their cause has not been ascertained. The impression here is that the Russians, despairing of their ability to defend Port Arthur, are destroying their ships before leaving the place.

Paris, May 12.—The Matin's St. Petersburg correspondent says it is persistently rumored that there has been a big fight near Mao Tien Ling pass between the Russians and General Kuroki's army. The Russians, he says, lost heavily. Lieutenant General Zassalitch was among the killed.

Another Japanese Victory.

London, May 12.—The Daily Chronicle's correspondent at Shan Hai Kwan says the Japanese first army from the Yalu river is already threatening the Russian position at Haicheng. The second army, marching in three divisions in order to co-operate with General Kuroki, has defeated the Russians near Wafungtien with great loss, the correspondent says. He adds that the Japanese artillery was splendidly handled.

The Daily Chronicle notes that there are two Wafungtiens, one on the railroad north of Port Arthur, 20 miles from Pitsewo, and the other 40 miles west of Kaiping, on the road to Feng Wang Cheng.

CREDIT FOR VICTORY.

Japanese on the Yalu Did Not Take Feng Wang Cheng.

Tokio, May 12.—It appears that the capture of Feng Wang Cheng was effected not by the troops which fought on the Yalu, but by a mixed brigade under Major General Sasakii, which, by marching eastward on April 20, crossed the Yalu at Changcong and moved on Feng Wang Cheng by a mountain road.

The sole object of the Japanese foreign loan is to secure a gold currency system and to maintain the convertibility of notes. The loan will not be used to finance the war, and therefore the entire proceeds will be kept as a currency reserve, probably in London.

Japan Buying Submarine Boats.

Newport News, Va., May 12.—From a reliable source comes the information that a contract has been awarded the Newport News Shipbuilding company for the construction of four submarine boats destined for service with the Japanese navy in the Far East. Shipyard officials here refuse to confirm or deny the report, but it is believed here that the yard has been rushing work on warships contracted for in an indirect way for the mikado's government for some time past.

Protest to the Powers.

St. Petersburg, May 12.—Russia has protested to the powers, signatory of The Hague and Geneva conventions, against the action of the Japanese in firing on the Red Cross trains from Port Arthur, May 6, when of 200 sick and wounded, two were struck by the Japanese bullets. The general staff is authority for the statement that the health of the Russian troops is exceptionally good, considering the filthy Chinese hovels along the line of march.

Says Transports Were Sunk.

Paris, May 12.—According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Matin, a high official of the naval general staff, declares that the entrance to Port Arthur is still free, and that the squadron went out on May 9 as far as Pitsewo, where the torpedo boats sank a number of Japanese transports.

ON TO HAICHENG

JAPANESE ARE PUZZLING ADVERSARIES BY RAPID MOVES.

Investment of Niu Chwang Will Follow in Short Order—Kuroki, Besides Working in Manchuria, is Keeping in Mind the Necessity of Outflanking Keuropatkin at Liao Yang.

St. Petersburg, May 13.—Impending events of great importance to the military situation in Manchuria are foreshadowed in official dispatches given out late last night by the war commission.

On May 8 the Japanese forces cautiously moved from Feng Wang Cheng toward Haicheng, which is 32 miles east by north of Niu Chwang, and it is the opinion of the general staff that they should certainly reach their destination within two days. If the Japanese occupy Haicheng with Port Arthur effectively cut off, Niu Chwang would pass into their hands. The entire Liao Tung peninsula, in fact, save Port Arthur and perhaps Haiping, would be commanded by them.

The troops sent by General Kuroki to the southwest of Feng Wang Cheng, which troops, it established, do not belong to a third army, none having landed at Takuhan, crossed the Tayang river May 7, and should by this time be operating in the Liao Tung peninsula, provided they continued, as is regarded probable, the plan to complete the mastery of Southern Manchuria.

Besides acting energetically in Southern Manchuria and moving on Haicheng, General Kuroki kept in mind the necessity of outflanking General Keuropatkin at Liao Yang, as is shown in the fact that on the morning of May 10 he started a formidable force, consisting of a division of infantry and 40 guns and 1,500 cavalry, toward Saimatai. In view of General Keuropatkin's statement that an examination May 10 of the line between Saimatai and Feng Wang Cheng failed to show the presence of Japanese, the authorities are puzzled as to where the Japanese force came from.

A Japanese detachment is reported officially to have occupied Kwangtien on May 6, but it is believed likely to be a small scouting party belonging to General Kuroki's army.

CHINESE WARN JAPANESE.

They are Thus Able to Escape Ambuscade Arranged by Cosacks.

St. Petersburg, May 13.—General Sakarhoff sent a dispatch to the general staff today communicating a report of Lieutenant General Zassalitch, dated May 10, as follows:

"Troops which appeared to be a division of the Japanese guard have been advancing for the last two days from Feng Wang Cheng westerly in the direction of Haicheng.

"It is reported that a Japanese force consisting of about a division of infantry intended to march on Saimatai with 40 guns and 1,500 cavalry.

"From reports received from the river Danaw, it may be concluded that the Japanese army is concentrated in three groups, the two southern groups being on the lower section of the river Tayang at Hondouhanya, on the left bank of the river at Dayan and at Donamyo, in the same locality, and the northern group opposite Habalina on the road from Feng Wang Cheng to Salidza, 14 to 16 miles from Feng Wang Cheng.

"It is difficult to obtain information from the local Chinese. In one case we discovered that the Chinese had warned Japanese troops of an ambuscade, which had been arranged by cosacks."

Admiralty Scouts the Idea.

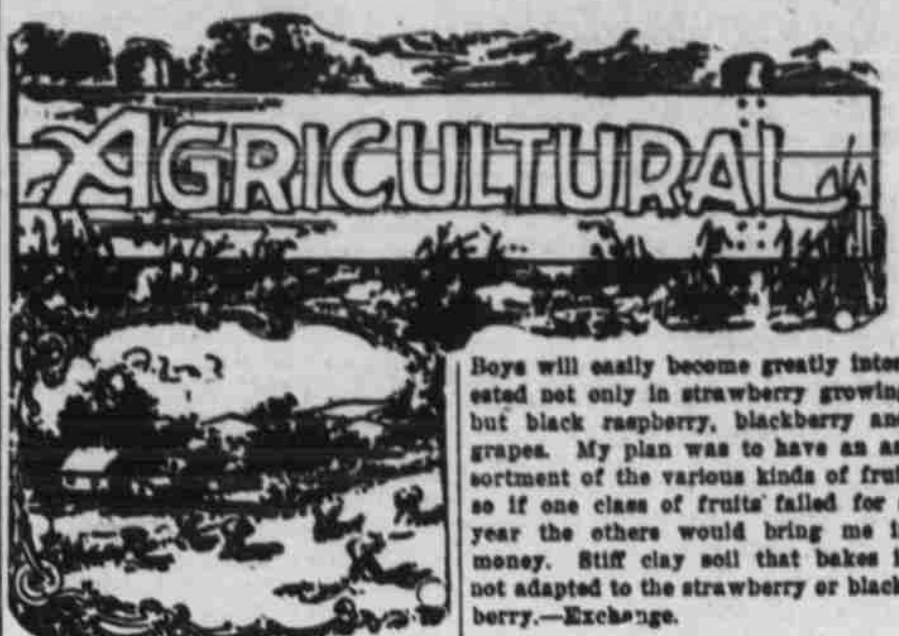
St. Petersburg, May 13.—The idea that the Russian squadron at Port Arthur has been destroyed to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy is scouted at the admiralty. "We are not going to repeat the mistake made at Sebastopol," said Vice Admiral Rojestvensky, commander of the Baltic fleet. "If the worst comes to the worst, the squadron will put to sea, engage the enemy and inflict as much damage as possible before going to the bottom. But you can say that it is a little early yet to talk of such desperation."

New Powder Great Success.

Vancouver, B. C., May 13.—Jana Tanimura, P. H. B., LL. B., of Tokio, Japan, trade commissioner to Canada, arrived on the Empress of Japan, and gives details of the new explosive used by Japan, referred to in an Associated Press dispatch from St. Petersburg. He says it was invented by a Japanese chemist, an apparently a development of lyddite, the basis being picric acid. He declares it explodes under water, and may be used in all weapons.

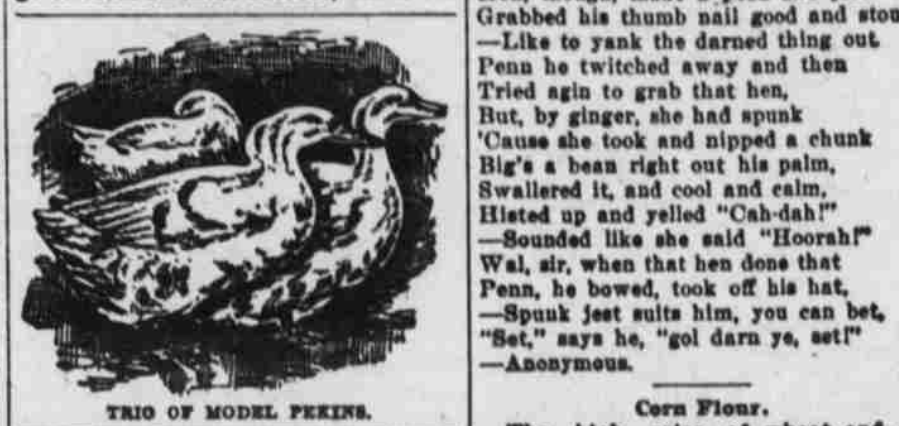
Caught in Ambush by Moros.

Manila, May 13.—Lieutenant Winfield Harper and 39 men of company F of the Seventeenth United States Infantry were caught on May 8 in an ambush by several hundred Moros. Two American officers and 15 men were killed and five men were wounded. The ambush occurred at Simpaton, on the east shore of lake Liganan, island of Mindanao.



AGRICULTURAL

Boys will easily become greatly interested not only in strawberry growing but black raspberry, blackberry and grapes. My plan was to have an assortment of the various kinds of fruit so if one class of fruits failed for a year the others would bring me in money. Stiff clay soil that bakes is not adapted to the strawberry or blackberry.—Exchange.



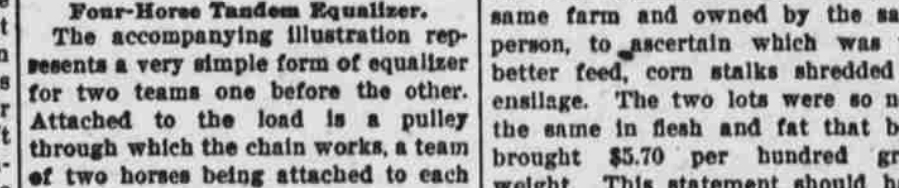
Stock Ducks.
In selecting stock ducks from which to breed your market ducklings, it is less essential to look for clearness of bill and perfection of tint than general suitable conformation. The drake in the accompanying illustration is a perfect type of breeder for market birds. The body is large, but not cumbersome, the carriage of the small head, alert, but not apprehensive, the feathers white and plentiful, but tight and compact, as though cut from a piece of ivory, the deep full keel and short, strong legs are all points that go to form an ideal breeder, either for

a duck or drake. In choosing breeders, it is also important that the ducks are fully as large as the drakes. The duck in the sketch is in reality somewhat larger than the drake, and won first prize when she was five months old. Large birds like these Pekins are very heavy feeders, but the ducklings are soon on the market, and the old birds with long, rangy bodies, such as these here shown, will hunt their entire living when allowed to roam at will.—Montreal Star.

Potatoes and Potash.
Here are two hills of potatoes, the difference in development of the plants and also in the product of the yield of tubers. A number of experimental plots were laid out. Three rows, each one rod long and 3.3 feet apart, were planted with potatoes of the White Star variety. Plot No. 5 received no fertilizer of any kind. Plot No. 3 had an application of kainit and acid phosphate. The illustration is taken from the West Virginia Experimental Station, Bulletin No. 20.

Now for the results: The potatoes produced by the three rows of plot No. 5 weighed 21 pounds, and the plants and the potatoes are represented on the left side of the picture. The potatoes produced by the three rows of plot No. 3 weighed 55.8 pounds, and the plants and the potatoes are shown on the right-hand side. The increased yield due to the use of kainit and acid phosphate was reckoned to be at the rate of 161 1-3 bushels per acre.

Four-Horse Tandem Equalizer.
The accompanying illustration represents a very simple form of equalizer for two teams one before the other. Attached to the load is a pulley through which the chain works, a team of two horses being attached to each



end of the chain. The front double-tree is provided with a ring in the center, to which the chain is attached. On the end of the chain is a grab hook, by means of which the front team may be hitched long or short as desired.

What Is Success?
Many men who have died poor and who have ever been poor have been great successes. Our Savior was a poor man, the poorest of the poor and yet no life was ever such a success as His. The mistake of this age is in judging success by wealth. A man may be worth \$100,000,000 and yet be an absolute failure. That is, he may be rich and yet be a hog. He is successful who goes through the world doing the most good, brightening the lives of his fellow creatures not only, but making life more comfortable for the lower animals, the horses, the cows, and chickens and wild birds.

Barn Whitewash.
A whitewash that looks much better than the bare boards and which will stay on about as long as a coat of paint is made as follows: Slake half a bushel of quicklime with boiling hot water. Add two pounds of sulphate of zinc and one pound of salt, these being first dissolved in water before adding to the whitewash. A pound of lamp-black and a pound of raw amber will give a pleasant dark color. It may be applied with a spray pump.

Wood Ashes.
Unleached wood ashes are rich in potash, varying in value according to the hardness of the wood burned. Hickory ashes are more valuable than basswood. Besides, potash ashes contain lime and a little phosphoric acid. Most clay soils have sufficient potash. Sandy soils need potash more than other soils. Do not mix wood ashes with any kind of manure before applying to the soil.

Strawberries.
I know of nothing that brings in money quicker or faster than the strawberry, providing the land is adapted to strawberry growing. The strawberry gave me my start when I was a poor man. The longer I grow fruits the more the people around me bought them. I never had a surplus.

The Packers' Power.
The only rational cause for the great falling off in prices paid by the packers for hogs and beef cattle is the determination of the packers not to give more. They are not in the packing business for either health or recreation, but for the money they can accumulate. Of course the less they pay for the animals and the more they get for the animal products the more money they make. This accounts for the high price to consumers of beef, pork, etc., as well as the low price of hogs and cattle.—Farm and Ranch.