

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

## CANAL DEED IS CLEAR NOW

No Further Obstacles to Construction of Cut by Government.

Salem—The Cello canal commission, composed of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, has signed the deed conveying to the United States the right of way for the construction of a government canal between The Dalles and Celilo.

At the request of the government officials, the state has several times made corrections in conveyances in order to remove defects from the chain of title, and now the commission feels confident that the title is perfect and that there is nothing, so far as the right of way is concerned, to prevent the government from proceeding with the construction of the canal.

The canal right of way cost the state \$74,000.

The Portage Railway commission, which is composed of these same officers, held a meeting and received the report of the engineer in charge of the work on the portage road. The report shows satisfactory progress, though it is stated that a "walking delegate" appeared on the scene last week and induced the workmen on the pledgers to strike for a nine-hour day at the same pay received for a ten-hour day. As a consequence the bridgework was retarded.

The greater part of the grading and bridgework has been completed, and one and three-quarters miles of track have been laid. Four cars of steel rails have been received and the track-laying will proceed rapidly. To all appearances, the road will be completed by the appointed time, May 15. There are now at work 29 teams and 136 men.

## Reseeding Done in Wasco.

The Dalles—Farmers whose crops were damaged by the severe weather of February have about finished reseeded, and the new-sown grain is coming up nicely. It is estimated that about ten per cent of the fall-sown grain in the county froze out, and had to be reseeded. This has been a heavy expense on those whose grain was frozen, and as spring sowing never yields as good crops as fall sowing, unless the season is unusually favorable, the wheat crop this year will be somewhat shorter than that of 1904, although, so far, the weather has been most favorable, and crops are making an excellent growth. The season is at least a month earlier than last year, which will enable the gardeners and orchardists to market their crops early, and thereby get the advantage of high prices that always prevail early in the season.

## Assessment Soon to Begin.

Pendle on — The deputies appointed by Assessor Strain to take the assessments and the state census will commence their work immediately. The work will be continued, but the values of the property will not be placed by Mr. Strain until late in the season, when he learns what stand the assessors of counties having railroads will take regarding values. Mr. Strain is in favor of placing the values of all property at their true worth. Umatilla county would thus show a property statement of nearly \$30,000,000.

## Halsey Ships Lots of Eggs.

Halsey—During March the three mercantile houses of Halsey exported 10,590 dozen of eggs. These eggs were all secured from farmers of the country adjacent to this city. The farmers received an average of 17 cents per dozen for the eggs, making a total of \$1,800 distributed among the farmers of this vicinity in exchange for eggs in one month. This is a record which cannot be equaled by any farming district of the same size in the state.

## [Clear Track for Grand Jury.

Salem—Judge Burnett has dismissed all trial jurors until May 22, the evident purpose being to give the grand jury time to complete its work of investigating the land fraud cases. The grand jury has thus far given most of its time to the investigation of numerous local cases and to the men who are supposed to have provided the rifles which Tracey and Merrill used in effecting their escape from the state prison in 1902.

## Oregon Fruit Crop is Assured.

Weston—The snow on the foothills has been a boon to the fruit and strawberry on the Weston and Basket mountains, near here having kept the blooms from maturing and being caught by the nightly frosts. With the continuance of the cool weather until the proper time for the trees to bloom the fruit and berry crop is assured. Wheat in the Weston district generally is in good condition, and will probably yield well if the weather continues good.

## Exhibit Independence Fruit.

Independence—At a meeting of the Lewis and Clark club the ladies decided to place an order with a Portland firm for 150 dozen of one-half pint jars. They will fill the jars with various kinds of fruit, which will bear the label of the Independence Lewis and Clark club. They will be given away to Eastern visitors to Oregon this summer.

## Polk Pioneers to Meet June 10.

Dallas—The executive committee of the Polk County Pioneer association met in Dallas and set June 10 for the annual reunion of the pioneers of Polk county, the meeting to be in Dallas. J. D. Smith, of Dallas, was elected secretary to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. W. Lewis.

## SPEND \$16,000 ON ITS ROADS

Marion County Plans for Better Highways with Farmers' Aid.

Salem—"The people of Marion county will contribute \$10,000, \$15,000 or perhaps as much as \$20,000 in labor for the improvement of the public roads this summer," said County Judge Scott, as he finished preparing a number of blank agreements for use in road districts where the property owners are circulating subscription papers.

"The county court has decided to spend its surplus road funds in those districts where the people contribute work, and it is very evident that this year will see more progress in road building than in any previous year in the history of Marion county. Our plan is to use what money is necessary in the building of bridges, and in the repair of roads in a few places where county work is of immediate necessity, and the balance of the fund will be divided among the districts. We do not know yet what rate of distribution will be adopted, but the amount distributed will be enough to encourage the enterprise of the people in road building by contributed work."

In the immediate vicinity of Salem work to the amount of at least \$7,000 will be done, and it will probably much exceed this amount. The business men of Salem have subscribed \$2,000, and the county court \$800 more, and to this the farmers will add \$4,200 or more in contributed work. In nearly every part of the county agreements are in circulation for the purpose of ascertaining what donated work can be secured. The initiative has been taken by the farmers, and the county court is giving whatever help and encouragement it can to the movement.

## Mount Hood Road Rates.

Oregon City—The Clackamas county court has fixed the charges that shall be made over the Mount Hood toll road. In arranging the schedule of charges, provision is made for automobiles, for which a charge of \$2 each will be made. In addition to automobiles the schedule includes the following items: Four wheeled vehicle, drawn by one span or yoke, \$2, with 40 cents for each additional yoke; vehicle drawn by one horse, \$1.25; saddle horse, 75 cents; pack horse, 40 cents; horse or mule, loose, 15 cents; cattle, loose, 10 cents per head; sheep, goats and hogs, 2 cents.

## Lumbering Picking Up.

Sumpter—The lumbering business in this section is picking up. The Oregon Lumber company has started its logging camps up along the line of the Whitney and Tipton branch of the Sumpter Valley railway, and all are running full blast. Service's sawmill, located on Deer creek, six miles below Sumpter, has started sawing on 2,000,000 feet of logs. This mill is expected to run five months on present orders. The Sumpter Lumber company is operating its planing mills, but has not yet made arrangements for cutting its logs at the mill south of town.

## Sheep Conditions in Baker.

Baker City—Miles Lee, representing Koshland Bros., has bought 100,000 pounds of wool at 16 cents. This cleans up the advance purchases of clips to be made. It is expected that shearing will commence in this county about May 20. Lee is paying 50 cents a fleece cash to bind his contract. Lambing in Baker county is just beginning, and it is estimated there will be about 105 per cent increase. Sheep are in good condition, the winter has been mild, and there is now plenty of green grass for the flocks.

## Blue River Exhibit Ready.

Eugene—The exhibit of ores from the Blue river mines for the Oregon display at the Lewis and Clark exposition, will be shipped from the mines to Eugene at once, and transported immediately to Portland. With what has already been shipped from there, the exhibit of the Blue river mines will amount to a carload. D. H. Weyant, who is the official ore collector for the state mining exhibit, has been here to see to the shipping of Blue river exhibit.

## Lorane Fair May Be Revived.

Cottage Grove—The farmers in the Siuslaw country, near Lorane, are considering the advisability of reviving the fall fair, which they were accustomed to hold until 1903. With increased population this fair would undoubtedly be a success now, if managed properly. The Lorane district is a good farming settlement, 10 miles west of here, and the farmers find ready help from the people of this town in anything they undertake.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 85@86c per bushel; bluestem, 91@93c; valley, 88c.  
Oats—No. 1 white, 28@29 per ton; gray, 27@28 per ton.  
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.  
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 17½@18c per dozen.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@22½c.  
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, \$1@1.15; common, 80@90c.  
Apples—Fancy, \$1.75@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.25.  
Hops—Choice 1904, 23½@25c per pound.  
Wool—Valley, 20@22c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 15@18c per pound; mohair, choice, 31@32c per pound.

## HE IS DEFIANT.

Castro Insults United States Minister Bowen.

Washington, April 12.—Throughout the diplomatic corps keen interest exists regarding the sensational answer which President Castro is said to have made to Minister Bowen's latest request for arbitration of the pending questions between the United States and Venezuela. Although the Venezuelan legation officials say the text of the dispatch was not included in the mail reaching the legation today, which left Caracas after the answer was delivered to Mr. Bowen, it has become noised among the diplomats that the answer was undiplomatic and almost threatening in wording.

The knowledge possessed by certain diplomats on the subject here indicates clearly that the character, if not the exact text, of the answer has been known for some time to the diplomatic corps in Caracas, and there is reason to believe that several foreign governments have already been advised of its text.

While diplomats who have inquired at the State department have been informed that practically no action will be taken regarding Venezuela until President Roosevelt returns from his Western trip, they also have received the information that, if the exact text of Castro's answer comprises an insult to the American minister, it will not pass unnoticed.

## WILL DOUBLE FIELD FORCES

Japan is Ready to Meet Russia's Reinforced Army.

Tokio, April 12.—Japan is meeting the Russian plan of reorganization and reinforcement of its armies in Manchuria with an extensive expedition from its own military organization. The details and figures are carefully concealed of what seems to be a plan to double the present army units, but it is reliably estimated that by autumn next the total military organization will exceed 1,000,000 men actually employed in the field. The fighting force is roughly estimated at 700,000 men, with increases largely in the infantry and artillery, although an enlargement in the cavalry branch is also contemplated.

As a result of the manufacture at the arsenals in Japan, together with captures and purchases of guns, it is predicted that this year will see a Japanese artillery superior to that of the Russians, in quality as well as numerically, and it is confidently believed that the Russians will be incapable of overcoming these numerical advantages. Wherever railway improvement are possible they will be carried out, when Japan will be sufficiently strong to take and hold Harbin, and simultaneously continue operations against the Russian forces to the eastward of that city.

## ALL BEEF TRUST SECRETS OUT

Seized Trunks Reveal Inner Workings of Packers' Combine.

Chicago, April 12.—An investigation by the Federal grand jury which is inquiring into the working methods of the alleged beef trust, of a much deeper nature and a wider scope, it is asserted, is to result from the examination of the contents of the eight trunks taken yesterday from the safety vaults in the First National bank building. When these trunks were opened, it is said, the entire secret transactions of the Aetna Trading company, a corporation through which the secret business of the big packers was transacted, was revealed to the jurors, and as a consequence many new witnesses will be subpoenaed.

The trunks and contents have been impounded by an order by Judge Sanborn, so that no one by legal process can obtain possession of them. Among the names of new witnesses subpoenaed today is said to be that of G. H. Godfrey, alleged secretary and treasurer of the Aetna Trading company, and R. H. Cowan, another official of the company. The initials "R. H. C." appear on each of the eight trunks taken from the vaults, and it is believed they belong to Cowan.

## Frauds in Trinity Timber.

San Francisco, April 12.—William H. Boren, indicted for subornation of perjury in the Frinity county land frauds, was on trial before Judge De Haven in the United States district court today. Boren's co-defendants, Harry W. Miller and Frank E. Kincart, will be tried in Portland. Boren is accused of having persuaded John M. Layton to falsely swear out an application for a parcel of land under the homestead act. It is claimed that the defendants were representatives of the Tacoma Land & Lumber company.

## Says Farmers Formed Trust.

Topeka, Kan., April 12.—Attorney General Coleman has rendered an opinion to the effect that the farmers of the state are organized in violation of the anti-trust law. The question was raised by the Kansas Graindealers association, and the attorney general will be asked to bring proceedings against the farmers. E. J. Smiley, secretary of the grain dealers, has been sentenced to serve 90 days in the county jail for violation of the anti-trust law.

## Total Deaths by Earthquakes.

Lahore (Panjab), India, April 12.—Commissioner Jullundur reports that as a result of his investigations he estimates the fatalities resulting from the recent earthquake in the Kangra district at 10,000, and in the Palampur district at 3,000. The total number of persons killed at Dharmasala was 424, besides the Gurkhas, who were crushed to death by the falling of the stone barracks.

## FOUND IN TRUNKS

Federal Grand Jury Has Secrets of Beef Trust.

## BOOKS GARFIELD DID NOT FIND

Chicago Inquirers Dive Into Eight Trunks Containing Story of Packers' Dealings.

Chicago, April 11.—The contents of eight mysterious trunks, unearthed by government secret service men in the vaults of the National Safe Deposit company, occupied the attention today of the Federal grand jury which is investigating the affairs of the beef trust. A subpoena duces tecum for Daniel Peckham, secretary of the safe deposit company, was issued by Judge Landis to force the company to produce the trunks in the jury room. The trunks were taken to the office of District Attorney Morrison, where, it is said, they were opened and their contents examined.

What the trunks contained and what connection they have with the case is not known, as the government officials refuse to discuss the matter, declining to either deny or confirm the explanation current that the trunks might belong to the packers.

District Attorney Morrison instituted the action by which the trunks were seized after a witness, whose identity is carefully guarded, had started the grand jurors with revelations as to the former business methods of the packers. He is said to have testified that a double system of bookkeeping had been employed by certain packing firms, one set of books showing the secret relations of the alleged combine and being accessible only to trusted employes, and the other set showing figures to which the packers invited the attention of the government experts who investigated for Commissioner Garfield.

While Mr. Peckham declined to disclose the identity of the person or persons who stored the trunks with his company, he admitted that this was done on March 23, three days after the grand jury began its investigations.

Suspicious have been entertained for a long time by the Federal officials connected with the investigation that the readiness with which the packing firms welcomed an examination of their books by the government experts was not altogether genuine. The work of the secret service operators produced results, it is said, which tended to strengthen these suspicions, and when a witness who testified more than a week ago let drop the hint that Commissioner Garfield's experts had not seen all the books of the packers, he was called upon to explain.

## NO EIGHT-HOUR LAW ON CANAL

European Nations Will Appoint Engineers to Advise Commission.

Washington, April 11.—Chief Engineer Wallace, of the Isthmian canal commission, had an interview with Secretary Taft today, in which the conditions on the canal were discussed. Afterwards Mr. Wallace met those members of the commission who are in the city. As to the right of the commission to employ labor for more than eight hours per day, there is a belief that the eight-hour law does not apply to the canal zone.

Chief Engineer Wallace says that it would very seriously impede work to have the eight-hour law in effect during the construction of the canal. It would be impossible to make uniform hours for all labor, because some labor must be employed 12 hours, while 10 hours is the rule for most of the workmen.

The session of the canal commission today was devoted to an explanation of existing conditions on the isthmus, engineering and otherwise, by Chief Engineer Wallace, who attended the meeting as a commissioner for the first time. Chairman Shonts is expected to be present at the meeting tomorrow.

## Interstate Commission Overruled.

Washington, April 11.—In an opinion by Justice McKenna the Supreme court of the United States today affirmed the decision of the United States circuit court for the Northern district of Ohio in the case of the Interstate Commerce commission against the Lake Shore railroad company. The suit was brought to compel the railroad company to comply with the order of the commission to incorporate certain particulars in its report. The commission was overruled by the court's decision.

## Can't Convict for Deporting Miners.

Cripple Creek, Col., April 11.—District Attorney Clarence Hamlin today nolledd the cases of the people against Nelson Franklin and 46 other prominent citizens of Cripple Creek district who were charged with the deportation of certain persons August 20 last and prior to that time, and with looting union stores. Mr. Hamlin said the cases had already caused an expense of nearly \$5,000 and in his opinion there was small chance of convicting.

## Brands Officers as Cowards.

Gunshu Pass, April 11.—General Linievitch has pilloried a number of officers who displayed cowardice during the battle of Mukden, publicly disgracing them by posting their names at all the division headquarters, while some of them were ignominiously drummed out of camp.



Equally equal to gluten feeds and relatively cheaper. The corn and oat feeds, he thinks, are overrated, being really worth, on the basis of digestive matter, not more than four-fifths the value of bran. Oat feeds were still poorer. Hominy feeds were practically as valuable as corn meal.

**Back to the Farm.**  
Things on the farm are changing, and we already observe, if we watch the barometer of social life, that there is a tendency to get back to the country. Fifteen years ago, for instance, less than 50 per cent of the population were moving countryward; in 1900 the statistics show that 70 per cent were seeking homes in rural districts, and it is likely that the proportion now going away from the city reaches 75 per cent, says Opportunity. At last, with Solomon, they are discovering that "all is vanity" in the cities; that friendships are difficult, that neighbors don't know the names one of the other, that noise, dirt, confusion are there, and the struggle to live is at the desperate stage all the time. The telephone, the trolley line, free rural mail delivery—these are mitigating the unsocial side of rural life, and the beauty of nature is doing the rest. Intelligent men and women, seeking the health of their families, physical, moral and spiritual, are taking up homes where acres abound, and are giving to rural life something it has lacked before. The practical farmer finds in these additions to his neighborhood circle stimulus and cheer, and the children of the farm and of the families from the city find mutual pleasure in association. The movement is an all-around good one. It marks a new era in rural life and a change of inestimable value to those with courage enough to pull up stakes and leave the town. It is one of the most encouraging signs of the times.—Exchange.

**A Good Corn Crib.**  
The accompanying illustration shows a neat crib for corn, one that can be constructed cheaply and any size to meet the needs of the farmer. A good size or one that is commonly built is 30 feet long by 7 feet high. The timber should be well seasoned, and dressed and planed both in and outside. The roof is first boarded, then shingled. A cheaper covering would be roofing felt paper, tarred; but a shingle roof looks better, and in the long run is as cheap as the paper. The illustration gives a correct idea of the building, so that a detailed description is unnecessary. Obtain your lumber and tools, and if you possess ordinary ability at carpenter work, you will find no trouble in erecting the crib. The expense will be moderate, the size, of course, regulating the same.

**Practical Hog-Hanger.**  
The Ohio Farmer gave this plan twenty years ago for a hog hanger: The post (A) should set 4 feet in the ground, and the height above ground about 5 feet, 6 inches to the cross arms (E). Arms are of 2x4 stuff, 48 to 56 inches long. Top post is 18 inches above upper arms. The hole for rod B is drilled 18 inches deep from top of post. The lever C is of any desirable length, but the short end, G, must extend out beyond the end of the arms. D is the stay chain of a wagon, fastened by a clevis to the lever, and slips back and forth in the cut-out at H. The end of the lever (G) is lowered, the lower hook of D is hooked onto a gambrel stick, the carcass raised

**Cost of Making Beef.**  
That the cattle feeder has not been netting the cost of the beef he has marketed lately is an assertion not opened to dispute. It was the theme of L. H. Kerrick of Bloomington, Ill., one of the most extensive and successful feeders in the country, at the dinner given by General Manager Leonard of the Chicago Stock Yards, to Illinois editors. Mr. Kerrick, who never speaks without preliminary thinking, gave as his unqualified opinion that the beef supply of the United States during the next twenty-five years would not be made as cheaply or marketed at such low prices as have prevailed during the last quarter of a century. Among the reasons assigned for reaching this conclusion were: Appreciations in land values; increase in acreage devoted to dairying and other lines of extensive agriculture. A growing commercial demand for corn has furnished the beef makers with inexpensive raw material in the past—Live Stock World.

**Meat Corn-Crib.**  
The accompanying illustration shows a neat crib for corn, one that can be constructed cheaply and any size to meet the needs of the farmer. A good size or one that is commonly built is 30 feet long by 7 feet high. The timber should be well seasoned, and dressed and planed both in and outside. The roof is first boarded, then shingled. A cheaper covering would be roofing felt paper, tarred; but a shingle roof looks better, and in the long run is as cheap as the paper. The illustration gives a correct idea of the building, so that a detailed description is unnecessary. Obtain your lumber and tools, and if you possess ordinary ability at carpenter work, you will find no trouble in erecting the crib. The expense will be moderate, the size, of course, regulating the same.

**Pear Orchards Destroyed.**  
California pear growers are greatly alarmed over the ravages of the pear blight, which has already destroyed many trees and caused some growers to cut down their orchards. It seems that the coming pear crop will be a short one, probably not more than one-half to two-thirds a normal yield. The subject is of interest to Eastern pear-growers, as the competition of California Bartlett's has been a very marked feature of the pear market the past ten years.—American Cultivator.

**Cover Crops.**  
Some recent experiments with orchard cover crops indicated that the time of maturity of tree growth is affected by the kind of crop grown. In the case of peaches it is found that clover plowed under is likely to encourage growth too late in the season, causing tenderness of the wood. The difference in this particular, however, is not serious in regard to such fruit as apples and pears.

**Value of Inferior Wheat.**  
Damaged wheat, shrunken, shiveled wheat and screenings are all good for feeding purposes. Probably lambs utilize them to a little better advantage than other animals, although when ground they make good feed for pigs and cattle.

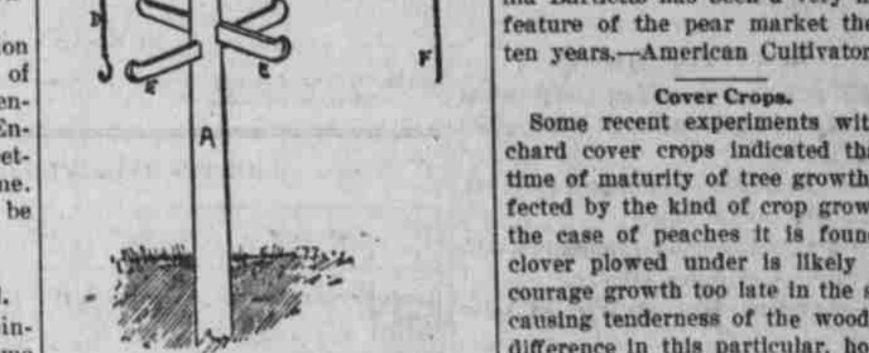
**America's Dairy Industry.**  
The development of the dairy industry in the United States is scarcely realized by business men. In 1808 the butter hauled over the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad was 400,000 pounds. Last year it was nearly 14,000,000.

**Notes From the Orchard.**  
Pruning may be done on mild days. Study spray pump catalogues. Order the necessary outfit quickly. Bind cloth around young trees to a safe distance above the snow line and save them from the rabbits.

Does the orchard need fertilizing? Queer if it doesn't. Something cannot continually come from nothing.

Look to the drainage of the orchard. See that all tile drain outlets are open and in working order.

Now is a good time to scrape the loose bark from fruit trees and whitewash the trunks. A little sulphur added to the wash is an improvement.



GOOD HOG-HANGER.

up until gambrel is a little higher than the arm, when it is easy to slide it over onto the arm.

**Pasture.**  
We see farm after farm without a good pasture. The pasture is one fundamental feature of the farm. It does not pay to use grain and hay when grass is better and cheaper. For the necessary food supply of the farm stock twenty acres of good pasture is worth more than twenty acres in rice, allowing for the difference in labor.

I am not much of a believer in specific rules, except one rule, and that is for every farmer to study his farm and see if he cannot make more out of it than he has been doing; keep a better book account of each crop and determine where the gain or loss comes in, investigate the value of grasses, forage crops and legumes.—Dr. S. A. Knapp, in Gulf Coast Farmer.

**Buying Cattle Feed.**  
In comparing the prices of feeds, Professor Taylor of the New Hampshire station finds that with cottonseed and linseed at \$30 per ton and gluten at \$20 per ton, cottonseed was cheapest to buy for winter feed with hay and silage. The distiller's dried grains, he states, have a feeding value