

COLUMBIA REGISTER

Published Every Week

HOULTON.....OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Witte will soon resign as premier of Russia.

Shonts may succeed Taft as secretary of war.

A split among coal operators at the wage conference is expected.

President Mellen, of the Northern Pacific, denounces the rate bill.

Many Germans are eating dogs and cats because other meat is too dear.

The Standard Oil has confessed ownership of many supposedly independent concerns.

Ambassador Storer was removed from his post because his wife involved him in Catholic church politics.

The War department says it can state authoritatively that Shonts will not resign as chairman of the Isthmian Canal commission.

William Rockefeller, who, next to his brother, John D., is the richest man in the United States, is suffering from cancer of the stomach and there is no hope of his recovery.

General Wood has cabled the War department that the stories of the Moro battle were manufactured in Manila by yellow journalists. Only newspaper reports tell of the killing of women and children.

J. Pierpont Morgan is in deadly fear of assassins.

Grover Cleveland has just celebrated his 69th birthday.

Coal miners are working hard to prevent a general strike April 1.

Nebraska thermometers are registering from 5 to 10 degrees below zero.

John D. Rockefeller maintains an armed guard at his house in New Jersey.

The house and senate are likely to disagree on the type of canal to be built.

General Wood defends the action of the American troops at Mount Dajo, Philippine islands.

Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte insists that the United States should build a greater navy.

Customs authorities have decided that Chinese joss-house fittings are subject to a duty of 15 per cent.

Snow slides in Colorado have caused a number of deaths and a property loss that will reach close to a million dollars.

Last returns from the Colorado train wreck give the number of killed as 22. Telegraph operators are blamed for the accident.

New York proposes to establish a municipal seaside resort.

The president will not appoint a supreme judge for six months.

Susan B. Anthony's sister will stump Oregon in the suffrage campaign.

The Japanese parliament has voted to buy all railroads in that country.

The house will take up the amended statehood bill Wednesday, March 21.

Official figures show the population of Germany to be 60,605,183, against 56,367,178 in 1900.

The Ohio legislature is considering a bill which will give the courts power to punish witnesses who refuse to talk.

King Charles of Roumania, is near death. The crown prince is unpopular and a movement has been started to crown his 13-year old son.

The District of Columbia court has overruled Binger Hermann's demurrer to indictments for destroying public records. He will ask for an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Western railroads are facing a labor famine. Twenty-five thousand men are needed in the Northwestern and Southwestern states to build the roads that are already under way, and it is estimated that before June twice that number will be needed.

Denmark may put a tariff law into effect.

Russia suspects Japan of hostile designs in Siberia.

All railroads through Colorado are blocked by snow.

Senator Depew is too ill to attend to his duties in the senate.

The first severe blizzard of the winter has just swept New York.

The czar has ordered extreme measures to be taken to protect Jews from massacre.

CUT AWAY THE RED TAPE.

Purpose of Bill Regulating National Reclamation Work.

Washington, March 20.—In its general operation, the National reclamation law has proven quite as effective as its framers expected; indeed, the general work of national irrigation is progressing satisfactorily. In the administration of the Reclamation service, however, there has been some slight friction which has resulted in delays that have been bothersome, if nothing more.

No one can realize this more than the chief of the Reclamation service, Mr. Newell, and the director of the Geological survey, Mr. Walcott. To obviate these delays, the reclamation authorities have explained the situation to the president and he has approved their recommendations and at the joint request of these officials a bill has been introduced in congress which will, if enacted, prove of very material benefit to the Reclamation service.

Most of the friction and delay complained of is the result of red tape that exists between the Reclamation office and the Interior department proper. Their dealings are not direct, and in the roundabout course they follow many delays are likely to occur. The bill that has been laid before the house by Representative Cooper does away with this red tape by providing a more direct means of communication, at the same time giving the Reclamation service more leeway. The director of the Geological survey is made the director of the Reclamation service and he goes ahead with his plans, merely submitting them to the secretary for approval and not for review.

Another important change is made by the bill in the matter of apportioning and expending money for reclamation works. At present this money is entirely under the control of the secretary. At this time there is a very strong sentiment in congress against allowing cabinet officers to handle such funds in a free manner, and the tendency is to restrict lump appropriations and stipulate the various purposes for which the money is to be used. The Cooper bill permits the Reclamation service to send to congress each year a statement of the expenditures which it proposes to make during the following 12 months, so that congress shall specifically authorize the various expenditures. Thus, while the Reclamation service will retain the right to say how the funds shall be apportioned, their findings are always subject to the approval of congress.

Notwithstanding this bill is approved in its entirety by President Roosevelt and by the house leaders. Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, chairman of the irrigation committee, says it is faulty and has asked permission to make certain amendments.

GREAT TRADE WITH EUROPE.

Our Exports Passed the Billion-Dollar Mark in 1905.

Washington, March 20.—Europe takes two-thirds of the exports of the United States and supplies practically one-half of the imports, says a bulletin issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor. Of the \$1,021,000,000 worth of merchandise sent to Europe in 1905, \$239,000,000 was manufactures, the other \$782,000,000 worth being largely foodstuffs and manufacturers' material.

In 1900 the exports to Europe crossed the \$1,000,000,000 line, and since then have averaged about \$1,050,000,000 per annum. In 1900 the exports to all sections of the world other than Europe were \$354,000,000 in value; in 1905 they were \$498,000,000, the growth since 1900 in exports to the non-European countries having been proportionately greater than to Europe.

Prior to 1890, the share of the imports drawn from Europe averaged about 55 per cent; in 1905, it was 48 per cent. This reduction, the bulletin says, is apparently accounted for by the growing demand in the United States for tropical and subtropical products, which are supplied almost exclusively by the other grand divisions of the world. The value of these products into the United States in 1905 was \$508,000,000, against \$303,000,000 in 1895.

Crushed With Iron Hand.

Sukhum, Transcaucasia, March 20.—The manner in which General Alikanhoff has crushed the revolution in the government of Kutais by razing towns, executing ringleaders of the movement and driving sympathizers with it to the mountains, has produced such resentment that acts of terror and the throwing of bombs at the troops are frequent. General Alikanhoff has proclaimed and is enforcing martial law with terrible vigor and revolutionaries and other persons caught with arms are immediately shot.

Pest in Eastern Persia.

Askabad, Russia, March 20.—News received here from Seistan, in Eastern Persia, says that a pest is spreading, that the populace is becoming panic stricken and that many persons are fleeing.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

COMPLAIN OF GRAZING RULE.

Oregon Stockmen's Grievances Are Taken Up by Senator Fulton.

Washington—Senator Fulton has received many letters of complaint from stockmen of Oregon, who express dissatisfaction with the manner in which the forest service is managing the summer range in forest reserves. The sheepmen of Umatilla county feel that they have been unfairly treated in the distribution of range in the Wenaha reserve, and the sheep and cattlemen whose stock is permitted to graze in the Cascade reserve feel that they are paying too much for the privilege. So far as the Cascade reserve is concerned, the sheepmen object to paying 6 cents a head for the grazing privilege when sheep are permitted in other reserves at 4 and 5 cents each.

The forest service explains that the grazing season in the Cascade reserve is longer than in the reserves where the fee is smaller. So far as the Wenaha reserve is concerned, the range has been apportioned for the coming season, and it is too late to bring about a readjustment. To ascertain all the facts, with the view to laying the matter before the forest service in its true light, Mr. Fulton has requested the stockmen of Oregon to furnish him with accurate data, that he may adjust these matters before another grazing season opens.

The Dalles to Portage.

The Dalles—A company of local capitalists, under the name of the Columbia Transportation company, has bought the steamer George W. Simons from the D. P. & B. N. Co. It will be operated between Cascade Locks and the lower terminus of the state portage road. The boat will leave Cascade Locks at 6 o'clock in the morning and reach The Dalles at 10, making all way landings. It will lie here an hour, then run to the lower terminus of the portage, and returning will leave for Cascade Locks at 2 o'clock. It is the purpose of the company in buying and operating the boat to afford people along the Columbia opportunity to make The Dalles their trading point.

Many Buy Wallowa Timber.

Wallowa—Locators have been doing much business the past three months on account of a wild rush by local men and outsiders to secure claims in the pine, fir and tamarack forests of Wallowa county. Sections which sold at \$1.25 an acre were bought first, and only those claims remain which are in the \$2.50 sections. There are but a few more claims open for location, and it is expected the locating season will be closed within 30 days. Capitalists are buying much of this timber, and from individual holders claims purchased for less than \$500 are selling at from \$1,000 to \$1,600 each. These carry from 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 feet to the quarter section.

Enterprise Still Capital.

Wallowa—The Wallowa county commissioners, at their last meeting, accepted the offer of F. D. McCully, L. Knapper and Aaron Wade, to build a wooden structure in Enterprise large enough to meet the county's requirements for a courthouse, and to lease the same to the county for five years at an annual rental of \$650. The building is to be completed by August 1. It will be of wood, but comparatively safe, as it will be equipped with a fireproof vault. The board thus settled further controversy for five years regarding the permanent location of the county seat.

Fight for a County Seat.

Canyon City—The fight for the county seat now being waged between Canyon City, the present capital, and Prairie City, long aspirant for the honor, is waxing red hot. The laws of Oregon provide that a vote must be ordered by the county court if a petition, signed by not less than three fifths of the registered voters, is presented. The promoters of the removal have organized an improvement association, and among other things have secured subscriptions amounting to \$20,000 for a new courthouse.

Lane Fruit is Unharmful.

Eugene—Dr. H. F. McCormick, Lane county fruit inspector, says it is his opinion that the freezing weather of the past few days has done no material damage to the fruit in this vicinity. Each thaw has been accompanied by cloudy weather. Had the sun shone warm and bright each morning the crop would have been ruined.

Hop Sale at Woodburn.

Aurora—Ed Herron, the hopbuyer, this week bought the Joe Kennedy hop crop of 72 bales at Woodburn, paying better than 9 cents. The hops were shipped direct to London. M. H. Gilbertson, Ulman Bros.' agent here, went to North Yakima a few days ago to look after several big lots of hops there.

CREATED AT LAST.

President Sets Aside Blue Mountains for Timber Purposes.

Washington—President Roosevelt, on recommendation of the forest service, has signed a proclamation creating the Blue mountain forest reserve in Eastern Oregon, to embrace 2,627,270 acres. The reserve as created follows the general lines of the temporary withdrawal made three years ago, with the exception of 200,000 acres in the valley of the Silvies river, which has been eliminated because of the agricultural nature of the land. Around the edge of the withdrawal small tracts of agricultural and school land have been eliminated and the boundaries are so drawn as to exclude all land lying along the border which has passed into private ownership under any public land laws.

The original Blue mountain withdrawal embraced more than 3,000,000 acres. About 500,000 acres have been left out, so as to make the reserve a compact body of forest land.

Long Winter in Wallowa.

Wallowa—Snow covers the entire Wallowa valley and county, varying in depth from five inches on the Imnaha and Grand Ronde river bottoms, to 17 inches on the foothills of the Joseph mountains. Stockmen are somewhat anxious concerning feed. The unusual long season will necessitate using much more hay than is customary in average winters. Though this is a hay producing county, and though great crops of hay were put away last season, and much old hay was left over, it is expected that there will be no surplus.

Columbia County Breaks Record.

Salem—Columbia county breaks the record in the matter of payment of state taxes this year. State Treasurer Moore received a draft last week for \$6,360, the amount of general state and school tax, and \$265, the amount due for the support of the Agricultural college, from Columbia county, for the year 1906. Only half of this amount was due. The rest need not have been paid until December 31.

Luckiamute Mohair Pool.

Independence—The Luckiamute mohair pool has been organized at Arlie and has the following officers: President, A. C. Staats; secretary, Maurice Fowler; I. M. Simpson, A. C. Staats and Maurice Fowler were elected a board of managers. The new association already has a membership of 35, representing 3,993 fleeces. It is probable 15 more names are to be added to the membership soon.

Cattle Bring Higher Price.

Pendleton—Three cars of cattle were shipped to Seattle from Pendleton a few days ago, bringing \$4.50 per hundred pounds. This is about 1 cent a pound higher than the last shipment made.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 65¢@67¢; bluestem, 66¢@67¢; red, 64¢@65¢; valley, 68¢.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.50; gray, \$27 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$23@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Buckwheat—\$2.25 per cental.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13@14 per ton; valley timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8.

Apples—\$1@2.50 per box.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 9¢@10¢ per pound; cabbage, 1¼¢@1½¢ per pound; cauliflower, \$2@2.25 per crate; celery, 75¢@90¢ per dozen; rhubarb, \$1.75@2 per box; sprouts, 8¢@10¢ per pound; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65¢@75¢ per sack; beets, 85¢@\$1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 80¢@\$1 per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 50¢@60¢ per hundred; ordinary, nominal; sweet potatoes, 2¼¢@2½¢ per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27¼¢@30¢ per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16¢@16½¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13¢@14¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 12¼¢@13¢; broilers, 20¢@22¢; young roosters, 12¢@12½¢; old roosters, 10¢@10½¢; dressed chickens, 14¢@15¢; turkeys, live, 16¢@17¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18¢@20¢; geese, live, 8¢@9¢; geese, dressed, 10¢@12¢; ducks, 16¢@18¢.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10¢@10½¢ per pound; prime, 8½¢@9½¢; medium, 7¢@8¢; olds, 5¢@7¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16¢@21¢ per pound; valley, 24¢@26¢; mohair, choice, 25¢@28¢.

Veal—Dressed, 3¼¢@7½¢ per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 2¼¢@3¢ per pound; cows, 3¼¢@4½¢; country steers, 4¢@5¢.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8½¢@9¢ per pound; ordinary, 4¢@5¢; lambs, 8¢@9½¢.

Pork—Dressed, 6¢@8½¢ per pound.

WILL QUIT CANAL.

Shonts Will Give Entire Attention to His Railroad.

Chicago, March 19.—A Washington special says:

Information from trustworthy sources makes it seem practically assured that Theodore Perry Shonts, of Chicago, chairman of the Isthmian Canal commission, intends soon to send his resignation to President Roosevelt. It is unquestionably the intention of President Roosevelt to nominate John F. Stevens, the chief engineer, to succeed Mr. Shonts. Mr. Stevens will combine the duties of the two offices.

Pressure from his associates on the railroad with which Mr. Shonts is connected has been strong for some time to bring about this result—his return to railroad work and his resignation from the canal board. Mr. Shonts had withstood the pleas of his business associates, but recent events have induced him to consent.

Mr. Shonts is still president of the Clover Leaf railroad, and it is said that the interests of that road, in the mind of his colleagues, demand that he return and take active charge of the property. It is said he owns securities in the road to the value of about \$3,000,000, and, in the interest of these holdings, as well as the holdings of others, it is declared that he feels he must no longer divide time and his labor.

There has been no secret that the relations between Secretary Taft and Chairman Shonts have been strained at times. They are probably today not of the most amicable nature. It is probable that Mr. Taft will succeed to the vacancy in the United States Supreme court caused by the resignation of Justice Brown, but will not take his seat before next October. Mr. Taft has his own views about the canal work, which are not in accord with those of Mr. Shonts.

When Mr. Taft goes to the Supreme court, it is the intention of President Roosevelt to turn the supervision of the canal over to Secretary Root's department. The secretary of war desires to arrange the construction plans to suit his own judgment before the transfer is made.

TIMBER LAND BILL READY.

Senate Committee Favors Repeal, but Fulton Will Fight It.

Washington, March 19.—The senate public lands committee today virtually completed the bill to repeal the timber and stone act and authorize the sale of public timber at not less than its appraised value, small dealers to be given preference in the sales and miners free use of timber for domestic purposes, the same as in forest reserves.

An amendment insisted upon by Senator Fulton, will be adopted giving the counties 10 per cent of the amount of sales in their respective limits in lieu of taxes.

The committee is also framing a bill to permit homestead entry of agricultural land in forest reserves. This bill is designed particularly to meet the principle objection to reserves in Idaho. Senator Dubois is strongly urging this measure and predicts its passage.

Mr. Fulton is the only member of the committee opposed to the repeal of the timber and stone act, but other Western senators agree with him and will join him in opposition to the bill when it comes up in the senate. In case it is impossible to prevent the passage of the bill by the senate, Mr. Fulton will seek to increase the amount to be paid counties from the receipts of timber sales from 10 to 25 per cent.

The Oregon senator is so thoroughly convinced of the inadvisability of repealing the timber and stone act that he will carry his fight to the house and seek to induce the house committee to table the senate bill, just as it has heretofore tabled a similar bill in the house. He feels certain that this legislation will be killed in the house, if not in the senate.

Trustees Endorse Tax Dodging.

Cheyenne, Wyo., March 19.—Irving Howbert, president of the Portland Gold Mining company, and his entire board of directors were re-elected at the annual meeting of the stockholders today. The re-election was bitterly contested by J. F. Burns, who was ousted from the presidency a year ago. The action of the trustees in removing the headquarters from Iowa to Wyoming to avoid paying \$1,000,000 accumulated taxes was indorsed. The secretary states that dividends in 1905 amounted to \$1,080,000.

Started 1 000 Rivets.

Baltimore, March 19.—The British steamer Belfast, Captain McKee, which arrived from Las Palmas, Grand Canary, today, brought mails from the drydock Dewey. Captain McKee reports that when he left Las Palmas repairs were being made to the dock, which had started a thousand rivets on the trip across the Atlantic.