

OREGON RAISES THE BEST FLAX

TOOK FIRST PRIZE AT THE CENTENNIAL

A TEST IS TO BE MADE NEXT SPRING

One Hundred Acres Are to Be Planted and Buildings For Its Manufacture Put Up

That Oregon can raise the best flax fiber in the world is the opinion of Mrs. W. P. Lord, of Salem, says the Oregonian. She has made an exhaustive study of the subject, which convinces her that if the flax industry is encouraged systematically it will do more to produce settlement of the uncultivated lands of the eastern and southern portions than anything else.

"Last Spring," said Mrs. Lord, "an engineer employed on the Government canal at Klamath Falls, reported to the Agricultural Department at Washington that he had found wild flax and hemp growing where he was excavating, and requested the department to furnish seed for an experiment. The engineer was referred to Mr. Bosse, who furnished the seed with full cultural directions, and asked for reports and samples as the crop came on. The subject appealed to the Klamath Falls Improvement company, and it invited Mr. Bosse to be its guest to supervise the harvesting. The result was satisfactory in both flax and hemp. The company has financed 100 acres of hemp for the coming Spring, with the necessary buildings for machinery to convert flax and hemp into fiber.

Test Is Satisfactory
"A full test made the past fall and submitted to a manufacturer who probably has handled more twine than any other man in the United States and knows about good fiber, and his verdict is most encouraging. Of the hemp he says: 'It is the best grown in the United States and equal to the best Italian, which is often used in the making of heavy linens. For sail cloth and tenting material it is unsurpassed, and will make the highest grades of hemp twine.'"

"A good flax farm in Belgium is worth \$500 an acre, and the annual rent for flax is \$50 an acre.
"Oregon, for all round development, needs manufacturing enterprises. The enterprise of the Southern States in introducing mills for the manufacture of cotton has resulted in a wonderful growth for that whole section. Can we not reason from this a similar prosperity in flax growing and weaving linen?"

Oregon Product Leads All
"Probably many of the newcomers to Oregon may not know that Oregon flax fiber took the first prizes over all Europe as far back as the Centennial in 1876. One of the nine judges, an Irishman, informed me that this came as a surprise to all the flax-growing countries of Europe. They all, as you might say, 'sat up and took notice,' and have never forgotten it. Nothing could have been fairer than this judgment. There were no tables to indicate countries, each man entered his own opinion in his notebook, which was handed in for collaboration. The nine men had selected the same flax on every count—length, strength, elasticity, gloss—and several others known to the fiber trade. As this Irishman said: 'This flax was not only the best at the Centennial, but the best in every respect that it was ever my privilege to handle.'"

WOMAN HAS THRILLING EXPERIENCE WITH OCTOPUS

Monster Measuring Eight Feet Nearly Drags Curious Female Into The Sea

LONG BEACH, Dec. 12.—Mrs. Jessie McDonald of Tucson, Ariz., had a thrilling experience with a large octopus on the pier this morning. While fishing she hooked the monster. She had a strong line, and several spectators went to her assistance and the devil fish was hauled in.

Mrs. McDonald, who is visiting here, had never seen one of these creatures, and was unfamiliar with its ways. She went up to examine it, and in an instant one of its powerful tentacles was wound about her ankle,

while another grasped the edge of the pier. The octopus, which measured eight feet, began to drag her toward the edge, and she fainted. In another minute she would have been pulled into the sea had not E. B. Counts, a fisherman, gone to her assistance with a large knife.

Gone to Crescent

Mrs. Joseph Ringo and children left for her home in Crescent Monday morning by way of Portland and Shanko. There is so much snow on the road between For Klamath and Crescent that it is impossible to get there from this side, and the only way is to go to Portland and from there by rail to Shanko and then take the stage. The stage road below Shanko is kept open during the winter. Mrs. Ringo will visit in Portland for a few days before going on to her home.

GIRL SHOTS MILLIONAIRE

JURY RETURNS A VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL

Trial Was Most Sensational One—While Dying the Victim Accused the Girl of Crime

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Dec. 14.—Hattie Leblanc, 17 years of age, was acquitted of the murder of Clarence Glover, a wealthy Cambridge laundryman. The verdict was reached this morning after a few minutes' deliberation and was wildly cheered. The trial was most sensational as Glover in his dying statement, accused the girl of killing him. Mrs. Glover was the most important witness for the state. The relations of Glover and the girl formed a large part of the testimony. The defendant's attorneys declared, during the trial, that Mrs. Glover had killed her husband.

LEGS BROKEN, STARVES TO DEATH IN MOUNTAINS

VIENNA, Dec. 14.—Professor Oskar Mahler of the academy at Iglo, in Hungary, has met with a terrible death in the Tatra mountains.

On October 23d he started to climb the Barangostor peak alone, despite warnings that a guide was necessary. He never returned, and, though search parties were sent out, no trace of him was found. Only yesterday a party of climbers discovered his body, terribly emaciated and with both legs broken, in a shelter hut some distance from the peak. The professor had evidently lost his way and broken his legs in a fall among the rocks. Despite his terrible injuries he must have dragged himself to the shelter hut and there been starved to death.

FORGER VICTIMIZES HOTEL MAN AND IS CAPTURED

A man giving his name as Will Williams succeeded in persuading T. H. Constock, proprietor of the Comstock hotel, to cash a check for \$16 and left on Monday morning's train. His forgery was discovered shortly after he had left and in response to a telegram the officers at Weed arrested him, and Tuesday morning Deputy Sheriff Guthridge went after the man and brought him back.

Took Woman to Asylum

J. P. Summerlin, one of the attendants at the insane asylum at Salem, arrived from Lakeview Sunday night with a crazy woman whom he took to the asylum Monday morning. Mrs. Stare, one of the matrons at that institution, accompanied him from this city.

Visitors From Nevada

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Ferguson arrived in the city on Tuesday from their home in Ely, Nevada, for a short visit. Mrs. Ferguson is a sister of P. H. Goodwin, one of the engineers of the Reclamation Service in this city.

Went to Portland

Project Engineer W. W. Patch left for Portland Wednesday, where he will attend the opening of the bids for the diverting dam that is to be built in Lost River near Wilson's Bridge. The bids will be opened tomorrow.

Returns Home

C. M. O'Neill, the well known attorney, returned Tuesday from Spokane, Wash., where he was called by the serious illness of his sister.

FOG PLAYS HAVOC WITH THE WIRES

FREEZES, AND THE WEIGHT BREAKS THEM DOWN

LIMBS ALSO TORN FROM THE TREES

Cold Weather Does Not Permit Ice to Thaw, and More Trouble Will Probably Occur

The heavy fog and the cold weather of the past few days have played havoc with the wires in this city, and if the cold weather and the fog keeps up much longer the service will be demoralized.

The fog freezes so tightly to the wires that the wind cannot shake it off, and the coating of ice is sometimes as thick as a man's wrist. Especially on top of the hill is the trouble most severe, and there is considerable trouble there with the light service.

The electric wires between here and Merrill and between this city and Bonanza are also interfered with, and will necessitate inspection.

The coating of ice on the trees is also so heavy that some of the tall poplars are being stripped of their smaller branches, and stand up like flagpoles on the sides of the hills.

There will not be much relief until the weather moderates, and it does not appear as though that would happen for a day or two yet.

Judge A. D. Miller returned Monday from Salem, where he went as one of the guards with the prisoners, Durney, Schmidt and Henderson, who were taken to the penitentiary.

MILLIONAIRE IS SHOT BY WIFE

AFFAIR THE RESULT OF FAMILY QUARREL

Result Is That Both Have Been Charged With Assault With Intent to Kill

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14.—The statements made by Herbert Clapp, a millionaire clubman of this city, and his wife as a result of the mysterious shooting of Mr. Clapp at his home yesterday resulted in Mrs. Clapp being released on \$2,500 bail charged with assault with intent to kill, while Mr. Clapp who is in a hospital is similarly charged.

Clapp asserts that his wife woke him up and shot him after a fervid quarrel.

His wife asserts that she shot her husband to protect herself. She said: "I shot him before I thought. I did not want to kill him I only wanted to fix him so he couldn't hurt me." She asserted her husband struck and attacked her before she fired. Clapp will probably recover. He is most bitter against his wife and is determined to press the charge of intent to kill.

EASTERN STAR OFFICERS ELECTED TUESDAY NIGHT

Aloha Chapter No. 61 Has Capable Set of Officials Who Will Conduct Its Affairs

At the regular meeting of Aloha Chapter No. 61, Order of the Eastern Star, Tuesday night, the following officers were elected to fill the various stations:
Worthy Matron—Mrs. Cora Sanderson
Worthy Patron—Frank Armstrong, Associate Matron—Mrs. Mary J. Ankeny.
Secretary—Mrs. Jessie B. Mom. v. r.
Treasurer—Mrs. Jennie Hurn.
Conductress—Mrs. Minnie Henry.
Associate Conductress—Mrs. Jessie Mills.
Trustees—Mrs. Laura A. Willis, Mrs. Josie Baldwin, Mrs. Jennie E. Reames.

Mrs. Minnie E. Ward is the outgoing worthy matron, while the last worthy patron was Dr. William Martin.

After the lodge work had been completed the members did ample justice to a delicious banquet which had been prepared for them.

PREPARING FOR A GREAT STRIKE

RAILROADS ARE PROCURING ENGINEERS

RESERVE FORCES BEING ASSEMBLED

Northwest Lines Claim They Have Men to Operate Mail and Passenger Trains

PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—The Canadian Pacific, the Milwaukee, the Union Pacific and the Great Northern railroads are reported to be assembling reserve forces in anticipation of the engineers' strike. It is rumored the roads have sufficient engineers to operate the mail and passenger trains and that there will be no delays. It is claimed the reserves are being assembled at Portland, Umatilla and Huntington, Oregon; Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma, Washington; at Pocatello, Idaho, and other Northwest division points.

RAILROADS CONSIDERING PROPOSALS OF ENGINEERS

Believed Their Demands Will Be Refused and That Arbitration Will Be Demanded

United Press Service
CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Representatives of sixty-one Western railroads are considering the men's proposals in the light of the recent strike vote. No formal answer has been made and no definite statement has been issued. A general belief is that the demands will be refused and that the roads will seek arbitration under the Erdman law.

VOTE ON FAIR BILL THIS WEEK

CONGRESS MAY ACT THURSDAY OR FRIDAY

California Delegation Confident They Will Secure the Endorsement of the Government

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Confident that sufficient votes have been pledged to win in the House of Representatives the members of the California delegation today concentrated their efforts toward gaining an early vote on the bill giving federal aid to San Francisco for the Panama-Pacific Exposition. They hope for an agreement in the House which will permit the bill to be voted on Thursday or Friday of this week. Director Hale and his colleagues hope to win by surprising New Orleans by immediate action before Congress.

BATTLE IS RAGING BETWEEN THE REBELS AND TROOPS

Conflict Has Been Going on Since Sunday—Loss of Life Is Said to Be Heavy

EL PASO, Dec. 14.—A battle has been raging about 30 miles from Pedernales, Chihuahua, since Sunday. The Mexico and Northern railway train was crowded with women and children refugees. It is reported the insurgents have seized two machine guns at San Andreas. The loss of life is said to be heavy.

On Business Here From Keno

Joel R. Hayes of Keno was here this week for the purpose of adjusting some property titles. Mr. Hayes, like many others who have recently settled in Klamath county, comes from California, he having been for a number of years a trusted official of the Oakland Street Railway Company. He has been for some time and is still associated with the enterprising land and cattle owners, C. V. and Frank Nelson at Keno. Mr. Hayes came to the city on Monday and returned Tuesday to Keno, after he had adjusted business affairs with local people.

Has a Dredging Contract

W. R. Bentley, who has been running the S. P. launch on the Upper lake for several months, but who resigned that position a few weeks ago, has secured the contract to

dredge a channel from Floris lake to the Pacific Ocean. The town of Lakeport, Curry county, is situated on Floris lake and is being boomed by a company that has secured the land in that vicinity. The channel to be dredged is 750 feet long and about 30 feet wide. Mr. Bentley left Tuesday for Stockton, where he will secure the dredger with which he will do the work.

Suit to Quiet Title

In the circuit court Tuesday a decree was granted in favor of the plaintiff in three suits to quiet title. The suits were by Almer Weed against H. T. Coffin, J. E. Lancaster and Mattie E. Waterbury, and Alonza Allen, and relate to lands a short distance north of the city which the senator had purchased at sheriff's sale. Judge Drake represented Senator Weed.

SPEND \$100,000 A MINUTE

CONGRESS DISPOSING OF VAST SUM

Averaged \$6,000,000 an Hour For the Time It has Been in Session So Far

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—It is estimated that the House is spending \$100,000 every minute. During the first seven working days of the present session Congress appropriated \$191,000,000 for the rivers and harbors, and the Indian and pension bills. Congress had been in session thirty-one and a half hours and the appropriations averaged \$6,000,000 hourly.

TWENTY-TWO MEN LOSE LIVES IN EXPLOSION

Superintendent of Virginia Mine Is Killed and Twenty-Six Men Are in Danger

BLUEFIELD, Va., Dec. 14.—It is reported this afternoon that twenty-two miners were killed and twenty-six entombed in an explosion in the Green mine at Tacoma, Virginia.

The Green mine is 100 miles from here, and is owned by the Bond Coal company. Relief parties with oxygen helmets and surgeons' supplies are en route to the scene of the disaster. Superintendent James Brown entered the mine just before the explosion, and was killed.

CHINA SHOWER GIVEN FOR POPULAR YOUNG LADY

Friends of Miss Oka Swingle Entertain in Her Honor at the Home of Miss Robertson

The Misses Orem, Hawxhurst, and Robertson gave a china shower Friday at the home of the latter on 5th and Walnut streets, in honor of their friend Miss Oka Swingle, who is soon to become the bride of G. S. Zimmerman, a graduate of the Oregon Agricultural College, who is a resident of Willamette Valley.

The guests arrived about 3 o'clock and were delightfully entertained by games and music, followed by dainty and delicious refreshments.

The bride-elect was the recipient of many very beautiful pieces of china.

WILLIE KEESEE OF MIDLAND SUSTAINS SEVERE INJURY

Falls on Sharp Rock and His Temple Is Laid Open—Run Over by Auto Few Weeks Ago

Sunday afternoon, while Willie Keesee and several other boys were playing on the walk in front of Mr. Keesee's at Midland, Fred Feeze pushed Willie off of the walk and he fell on a large, sharp rock, cutting a gash on his temple that left the skull exposed.

It was an unfortunate accident, and will keep the little fellow out of school for some time.

He is the same lad that was run over by Professor Hawley's auto earlier in the fall.

Left for Washington

Postmaster R. M. Emmitt left for Washington Wednesday, where he will be instructed in the handling of the funds for the postal savings bank which is to be established in this city early in January. Mr. Emmitt expected to leave yesterday, but was unable to get away.

RECEPTION NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT

WEST SIDE SCHOOL TO BE OPEN FOR INSPECTION

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED

Excellent Program Has Been Prepared and Prominent Citizens Will Speak

The new West Side school will have a "house warming" Friday night when a reception for the citizens of the city will be held in the building, which is to be thrown open for inspection.

The building will be illuminated and a literary and musical program has been prepared that will be well worth hearing. Mrs. Don. J. Zumwalt will sing and besides other numbers on the program C. S. Moore, Judge George T. Baldwin, O. A. Stearns and others will speak.

Refreshments will be served and a most enjoyable evening is assured. The moon is shining brightly and there is no danger in going to and from the school at night.

Every citizen who has the interest of the school at heart should attend the reception and see what a building has been provided for the children's accommodation.

The teachers in the West Side school are: Miss Edna Adams, eighth grade, principal; Miss Ethel Gross, seventh grade, assistant principal; Miss Jessie Harmon, sixth grade; Miss Donna Bell, fifth grade; Miss Agnes Hannon, fourth grade; Miss Julia Waters, third grade; Miss Florence Foster, second grade; Miss Maud Laman, first grade.

C. ANDERSON VICTIM OF ROBERS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Man Said to Be From Klamath Falls Is Found Unconscious in Street in the Bay City.

Nothing is known of the man C. Anderson, who was the victim of footpads in San Francisco recently. All that is known about the affair is contained in the following dispatch from the Bay City:

"A man by the name of C. Anderson, supposed to have come from Klamath Falls, Ore., was picked up in an unconscious condition at Pacific and Dupont streets at an early hour in the morning, apparently the victim of robbers. Strapped to Anderson's leg with a couple of rubber bands was a certified check for \$130. All the money he had had in his pockets, however, was gone. No information could be obtained further than the fact that it is believed that his home is at Klamath Falls. He is being held at the central emergency hospital."

SHERIFF BARNES IS STILL CONFINED TO HIS HOME

Has Been Ill Since Sunday Morning After He Returned From Salem

Sheriff Barnes, who returned Saturday from Salem where he took Paul Durney and Henry Schmidt, who were sent up for highway robbery, and Lee Henderson, who pleaded guilty to forgery, was taken suddenly ill about 3 o'clock Sunday morning and has been confined to his bed since that time. It is hoped by his many friends that his illness will not result seriously.

Visiting Merrill Relatives

Miss M. I. Poore, one of the foremost instructors in the Oakland schools, arrived here Sunday and left the next morning for Merrill, where she will visit with her niece, Mrs. Ray Merrill, during the Christmas holidays. Ray Merrill came up after her last night.

Barney Chambers in Placerville

Barney Chambers, the popular proprietor of the Gun Store, has written his brother, "Scout," but does not say when he will return. He is in Placerville, Calif., at his mother's home, and as she is an old lady, being 82 years of age, it is believed that she is not well, and that it is her condition that is keeping Barney away from his business here. He has been gone since November 8th.