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Seventeen hundred and twenty-seven seagoing vessels entered the Columbia river during the 1933 season of navigation, according to a report issued at the office of the deputy collector of customs at Astoria. This immense fleet represented a net registered tonnage of 4,989,890.

The last of the 1933 wool clip of Lake county was sold a few days ago to Eisenman Brothers at 39 1/2 cents a pound. There were 126,000 pounds of wool in the lot, which included clips belonging to O'Keefe brothers, J. D. Kellaher, J. H. Owen, O'Connor brothers and J. L. Lyon.

Indications of an early spring are seen in many parts of Eugene. Various bulb plants such as hyacinths, daffodils and crocuses are shooting up through the ground, wild flowering currant vines are beginning to show their pink blossoms and lilac bushes are budding and showing green.

The controversy over increase in grazing fees in national forests is temporarily settled with a ruling by the secretary of agriculture against any change, according to George H. Cecil, district forester at Portland. The continued depression of the livestock industry is given as reason for the action.

The Oregon public service commission has concurred with the Idaho public service commission in fixing the valuations of the Idaho Power company for rate making purposes. It was necessary for the two commissions to consider the valuations jointly in that the company operates extensively in both Oregon and Idaho.

Repeal of the law making it possible for the governor to send special prosecutors into counties of the state to supplant district attorneys, or amendment to the present law authorizing an appropriation with which to employ permanently a man for this work, will be submitted to the legislature at its next session by I. H. Van Winkle, attorney-general.

Just when Oregon motorists will be held subject to arrest for not equipping their cars with 1934 license plates has not been determined by the secretary of state, according to announcement. Approximately 3000 applications for licenses are being received daily, and it is because of this fact that the secretary of state has been lenient with car owners.

A new kind of pocket gopher is making its appearance in the Willamette valley and threatens to become a serious pest unless it is checked immediately, according to Ira N. Gabrielson, rodent inspector of the United States biological survey. The district south of Oregon City has been visited by the rodents. The gophers are about the size of a mole and are more destructive than the common variety of pocket gopher.

Ralph R. Lewis, poultryman of Odell in Hood River county, received word from the officials of the Puyallup, Wash., laying contest that his entry of five Single Comb Rhode Island Red birds stood second among all entries and first among all heavy breeds for the month of December. The pen laid 184 eggs or about 86 per cent. This is declared to establish a world's record for the breed for one month's laying at a public contest.

The public service commission has announced the establishment of joint through rates, effective February 19, between Gypsum, eastern Oregon, on the Oregon Short Line, and points on the lines of the Southern Pacific south of Portland on carload shipments of wall plaster, land plaster and gypsum rock. The new carload rate on a 60,000-pound car of land plaster to Eugene is 26 1/2 cents for 100 pounds, a reduction of 7 1/2 cents for 100 pounds, or \$45 per car.

Reductions in automobile insurance rates which may result in a saving of as high as \$200,000 in premiums to the motorists of Oregon in a year were made public when new insurance manuals were received in Portland. The reduction involves about 90 per cent of the insurance companies doing automobile coverage in Oregon. According to the new manual, fire and theft insurance has been reduced an average of 15 per cent. Liability insurance rates, it is estimated, have been cut 20 per cent on the average, while collision insurance has been cut 50 per cent on the average.

Permission to build 32 miles of railroad from Crane to Burns in the Oregon timber section was granted the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company by the interstate commerce commission. The new road already under construction, is being built to bring out the timber in the Malheur national forest in northern Malheur county purchased by Fred Herriek. Mr. Herriek has been conducting grading operations and the work will be carried to completion by the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company. The road from Crane to Burns will connect with a logging road of 80 miles from Burns north to Seneca in the heart of the timber to be lifted. The 34-mile link is to be a common carrier, and it also is under construction by Mr. Herriek.

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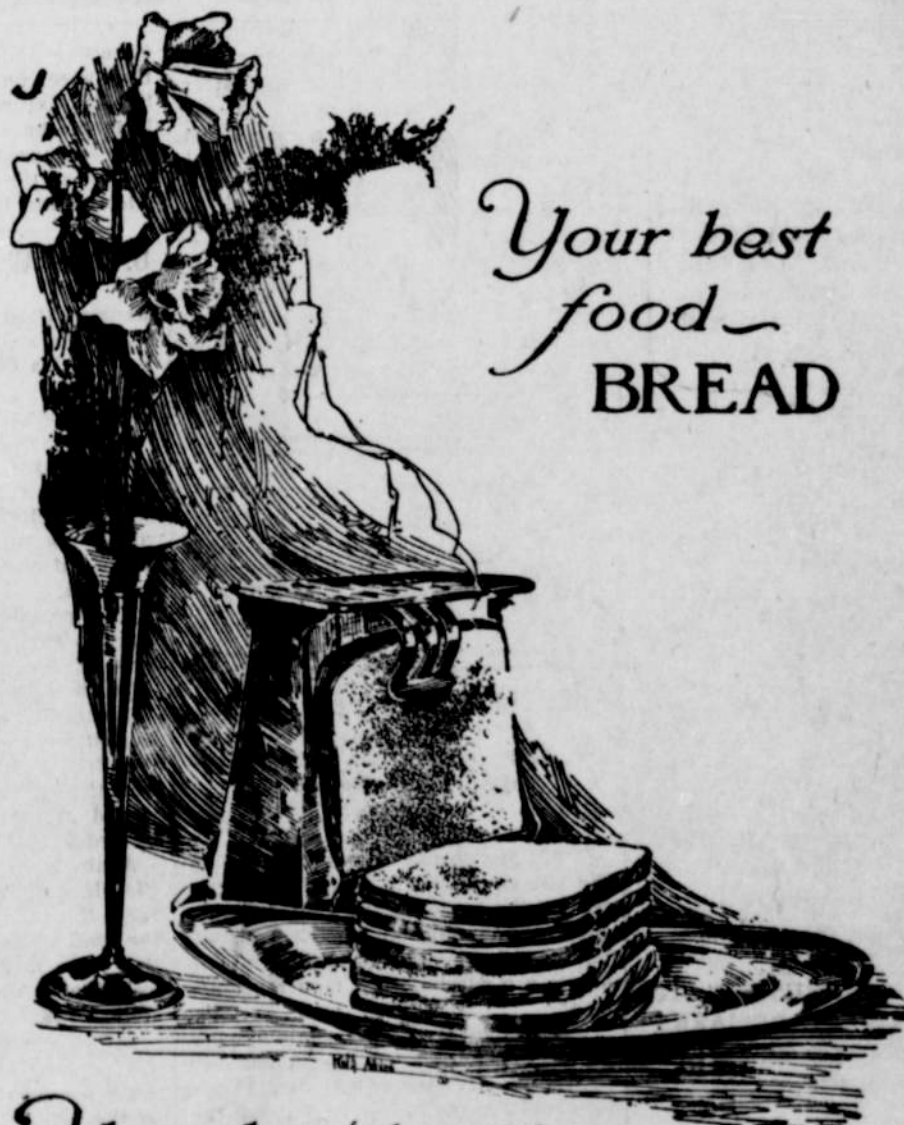


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