

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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SWORN CIRCULATION. Daily average for eleven months ending November 30, 1911 2751.

SIX MILLION ACRES OF PUBLIC LAND RESTORED TO ENTRY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Refutation of the claim of critics in congress that the conservation policy means the locking up of the west, was presented by Secretary of the Interior Lane today in a statement showing that an area of 5,000,000 acres of withdrawn public lands were restored to entry during May and June. This is an area, Secretary Lane pointed out equal in size at most to two Alaskan territories or to three and a half states the size of Texas.

Conservation principles were applied in classifying the lands, some being definitely valued as coal properties and made available for purchase under the coal land law while others were found to be not valuable for water power sites, reservoirs, coal or potash deposits. Coal lands restored to entry or purchase in Colorado alone totaled two and a half million acres, while rejected power sites covered 5,500 acres. Idaho had 1,000,000 acres of coal and phosphate lands and 10,000 acres of power sites reopened. North Dakota had 1,400,000; South Dakota 530,000; Oregon 87,000, and Wyoming 435,000 acres "unlocked" after full investigation of their values.

The total withdrawals, in all public land states, on July 1, amounted to 68,009,289 acres. Coal lands made up 58,000,000 of this total. As the classification work proceeds more of the public domain will be made available for settlement without giving away of huge fortunes in oil, coal or potash deposits to single individuals.

DIAZ PASSES THROUGH MEDFORD THIS EVENING

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Aug. 7.—General Felix Diaz, the Mexican special ambassador to Japan, today is en route to Vancouver, B. C., leaving here last night on the Oregon express. The general was accompanied by Senora Diaz and four or five secretaries.

General Diaz expressed enthusiasm over the progress in the building work at the Panama Pacific exposition grounds.

"This is a world's exposition and it means a great deal," he said. "I am surprised that you have made such headway. In my opinion, San Francisco is going to have the finest exposition in history."

INCREASE IN INSANITY ALARMS ALIENIST

LONDON, Aug. 7.—Sir James Brown, one of the most prominent alienists in England, presiding over the psychiatry section of the medical congress here, declared the most alarming symptom today was the increase of insanity. Since 1859, Sir James declared, insanity has increased 276 per cent in England, while the population in the same period had increased only 87 per cent.

PHOENIX

Chester Fitch was a business caller in town Tuesday. W. Wilson and family have moved.

John A. Perl Undertaker Lady Assistant 28 S. BARTLETT Phone M. 47 and 47-J-2 Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

SWEET CLOVER AGAIN

The Mail Tribune has several times called attention to sweet clover as a neglected resource of this region, and a forage crop whose merits are already recognized in the middle west.

Sweet clover grows wild in many barren stretches. It lines the banks and covers the gravel bars of the Rogue, and its tributaries, growing seven and eight feet in height. It is one of the best honey-producing plants grown. As a fattener for livestock it has no superior.

Sweet clover hay is quoted in Iowa papers as selling for \$12 a ton. Its seed is worth from \$16 a bushel up in eastern markets. Yet no effort is made here to utilize this most valuable product. Thousands of acres of barren and idle land could be made to yield profitable crops of sweet clover.

Commenting upon the use of sweet clover to revolutionize stock-raising, the Lincoln, Neb., News says:

It is fast becoming known that the wild sweet clover that should here be destined to become greater as a forage crop than alfalfa, because it will grow anywhere and no season gets too dry for it. You will see it along the highways in this dry weather, standing heat with little concern, and fully five feet high. It yields a heavy crop of seed that sells for about \$16 a bushel. That it will revolutionize the stock growing business in Western Nebraska and Kansas is the prediction. It comes on early in the spring, and for hay it must be cut before it attains too rank a growth and becomes bitter and woody.

Quack Cures for Fruit Tree Troubles

In a recent issue of the Mail Tribune an article entitled "Blight is Tuberculosis of the Roots" was reprinted from the Celina, Ohio, Standard. The reprinted article was prefaced by the Tribune's editor in the hope that all readers of the Tribune might appreciate the joke and have a good laugh at the expense of the ignoramus from Ohio. There was a time when the local papers were deluged by "rot" of this kind, but that time has passed. If there is one thing for which the local papers should be commended it is their refusal to print articles or letters which would tend to be harmful to the horticultural interests of the valley. While the great majority of readers in this district easily recognize a worthless or misleading article, there are always a few who would swallow one whole just "because it was seen in the paper." After all, it is not the Ohio orchardist who should be censured, but rather the editor of the Celina Standard for accepting the article and printing it. There are ways of finding out the truth and exposing matters of a fallacious nature.

This fellow from Ohio has about as much knowledge of plant physiology and pathology as the Hottentot Medicine Man had of medicine and who used as his principal remedy a tattered copy of the New York Herald. When asked what the paper was good for he said, "A small piece rubbed on a patient's stomach will cure any slight intestinal ailment; while a piece taken inwardly with a little water will cure the most serious of diseases." The Ohioan talks about the "flow of sap" and "organic diseases" with as much glibness as a parrot and with no evident conception of the meaning of the terms. It is hard to understand why some people assume a knowledge of plant physiology and pathology without any training whatever and give advice on these matters with that self sufficiency characteristic of the ignorant man. There is no reason why we should listen to the proffered advice of the untrained man in technical matters pertaining to the life of a plant than we should listen to the man who knows nothing about the practice of medicine. Plants like animals are living organisms, and a knowledge of the physiology and pathology of plants is on a par with the understanding of the physiology and pathology of animals. In both instances there must also be a full knowledge of the organism's structure. But all this is unnecessary in the mind if the Ohio man and his followers.

Reduction in Parcel Post Rates

From the Portland Journal. The reduced parcel post rates ordered by the postmaster general to take effect Aug. 15 are of great importance to small shippers in Oregon, particularly in the eastern part of the state where stage lines are still the chief means of transportation and where express rates are consequently high. Incidentally, it may be noted that the lower rates now to be in force are in accordance with the rates indicated as practicable in the original report made by Senator Bourne, the author of the bill, at the time of its introduction. The reduction, made after six months' experience, demonstrates the thoroughness of the study of the problem prior to the enactment of the law. It also demonstrates that those who insisted upon an increase in the original Bourne rates were unduly concerned over possible losses to the government.

There are several things that must be kept in mind when considering parcel post rates. For one thing, the distances under the parcel post are computed in a straight line, whereas express companies make their charges according to actual miles a package is carried. For instance, from Eugene, Oregon, to Bend, is about 90 miles in a straight line, whereas a package transported from Eugene, to Bend must be carried around by way

of Portland and The Dalles, making a distance of over 350 miles. The parcel post rates are computed on the air line while the express companies charge according to distance traveled.

Again, the parcel post service includes rural delivery, while the express service includes only city delivery. For instance, if a resident of Eugene wishes to send a parcel to a friend residing on a rural route near Bend, the government will not only take the package to Bend, but deliver it out on the rural route without extra charge. The address would be required to call for a package sent by express.

The reduced rates to be placed in effect August 15 apply only within a distance of 150 miles, which is now the second zone—the local and rural route service having been made the first zone. The new rate for the first zone will be five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional two pounds, as compared with the present charge of five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound.

For the second zone of 150 miles the new rate will be five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound, as compared with five cents for the first pound and three cents for each additional pound within 150 miles.

G. Davis of the Saturday Review was a caller in town Wednesday. Mrs. Allen Roberts leaves Thursday to visit her former home in Missouri. Phoenix has been without a meat market for several months, to the great inconvenience of the town and vicinity. There is a good opening here for an up-to-date market. With Medford trade is Medford made.

EXCURSION

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