

The Oregonian

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DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT. PORTLAND, Jan. 1. - 9 P. M. - Maximum temperature, 37; minimum, 29. Wind, light breeze from the west. Light rain in the past 24 hours. 0.1; total precipitation, 1.594. Barometer, 30.12; average, 30.27; tendency, 0.46; number hours of sunshine Saturday, 4:18; possible number, 8:38.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS. A decided fall in the barometer having occurred over the Washington coast, it is expected that a storm is approaching the Washington coast. It is snowing east of the Cascades, and light rain is falling on the coast. The weather is fair. High of the Cascades the barometric pressure has greatly risen.

WEATHER FORECAST. Forecasts made at Portland for the 24 hours ending at midnight January 2. For Western Washington, Western Oregon - Rain or snow; warmer, with fresh southerly winds, high of the coast. For Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon and Idaho - Snow; warmer, with fresh southerly winds.

A TYPICAL SILVER STATESMAN.

There is a person at Salem named Hofer, who publishes a little paper called the Capital Journal and is a member of the legislature. Any time he might be mentioned in connection with any subject would afford a subject to those who devote themselves to study of some of the infinite varieties of mental alienation. Hofer indeed has some sense; that is to say, it is not necessary to put him in confinement for his own protection or for that of society; but he has no sense of a practical or useful kind. He is flighty, crachety, visionary, vituperative, full of vagaries, and extremely violent toward everything which goes forth an endless stream of words on subjects that he is incapable of knowing anything about. He is usually as rancorous as voluble and absurd; and if his betossed mental bark ever had an anchor to windward it clearly was lost when by some mischance or oversight a republican convention permitted him to get a nomination for the legislature last spring. He now struts as a megacephalous prodigy, talks maudlin statesmanship with incoherent vituperation, and fills his paper with violent diatribes against all things outside the bellum in which he dwells.

Naturally, the Oregonian has long been the main butt of his fury. That sort of mental disorder is always extremely violent toward everything which is strongly rational and sane. As the session of the legislature approaches, poor Hofer grows worse in his lunacy. He rails and raves and rages without intermission, chiefly at The Oregonian, which he instinctively hates as an exponent of the laws on which order, property, business, industrial and social morals and the general welfare of society are founded. Naturally, such as he attack with fury those who stand in the way of that inverted order which would prescribe shams, humbugs, delusions, freaks, frauds and follies as rules or experiments for the government of mankind. Frantic desire for innovation, and rabid fury against economic laws as ascertained and established through human experience, are among the chief qualities of this type of mind. Poor Hofer is a specimen of a type of many who do not see things in their entirety nor in their relation to other things; who do not understand how small a part any one man or any one country bears in the general world of affairs; who therefore are tortured with opinions silly, chaotic and unrelated; who know nothing of history or of the results of human experience, but think that in this contention about money who are dealing with an entirely new matter to mankind. This narrow ignorance begets the most irrational and dangerous opinions. It makes men as absurd as if they were to deny the primary truths of geometry, or the causes that produce the changes of the seasons. The evil consists in the fact that all these persons can vote, and that some of them are elected to congress and to the legislature, and the result is the desperate condition to which the intrusion of this fatuous ignorance has brought financial affairs in the United States. Oregon is now asked to make it worse, and there are Hofer's in the legislature. It is as if the reservation Indian should dispute the law of chemical affinities, or reject the laws of the tides or of planetary motion; only worse, for this would be harmless, while the other throws into confusion all the affairs of civilized society.

Of course, Hofer is a silver fanatic. It matters not to him that the world's ratio of silver to gold is 32 to 1; his ratio is 16 to 1, and the legislature of Oregon must elect a senator who will make the world accept it. He pretends that the national republican platform calls for free coinage of silver, and that "that platform treats silver fairly by placing it upon its right to coinage as American mints upon equality with gold." That platform so clearly does nothing of the kind, but so exactly the opposite, that nothing but inability to understand the meaning of plain words, or unaccountable dullness in interpreting them, could put up such a pretense. The platform distinctly declares that there are to be such "restrictions" as will maintain the parity—restrictions of silver coinage, of course, for no restriction of gold is necessary for the purposes—and no honest intelligence has ever interpreted the platform in any other way. Even the populists, who to seize upon everything favorable to their idea, have actually denounced the republican platform because it calls for restriction of the coinage of silver, and they carry in their own platform an unequivocal demand for "free and

unlimited coinage of silver and gold at 16 to 1." Free coinage of silver therefore is exclusively the populist idea; it is not the republican or the democratic idea. The two great parties, ultimately in power during the last twenty years, have always refused it and always must and will, because no party in power can permit the country to lose the standard of best money and fall to silver monometallism, with the world's market 32 to 1 and silver money, unsupported by gold and parity lost, worth only the market price of silver—that is, at 16 to 1, only 50 cents on the dollar.

This demonstration, always unanswerable, never fails to make the silver fanatic, the advocate of base money, the person of flighty imagination and disordered intellect, who chafes at the world's law of values and thinks he can reverse it, roar and howl and spit out his epithets of "goldbug," "plutocrat," "imperialist," "tyrant" or "minion of brass" and go shouting upon Hofer, upon seeing this number of The Oregonian, will have another violent attack of his silver and fat-money "limps." But we suspect his greatness as a member of the legislature oppresses him more than his influence and power will affect the market relations of gold and silver and their use as money throughout the world. Hofer is a member of the bizarre crack-brain who hasn't sense enough to devote himself to his incorrigible stupidities without continually assailing with personal invective or rank vituperation those who talk sense and mind their own business. Taken alone, he is not worth this attention, or any attention at all; but he is a member of the legislature, through one of those curious expedients made in convention; and he is a spokesman through his travesty of journalism for a squad who are making an effort to elect a senator committed to a demand for debasement of the money of the country. Of these unarranged or disordered intellects Hofer is an excellent type, in some respects the best perhaps of them all in Oregon.

A SUBSIDY, OF COURSE. The correspondent who contends that exemption from taxation of church property is a subsidy, is a man who is charged upon other property which does pay taxation, is perfectly right. The churches get the benefit of state protection, and other property pays their share of the cost. This is as direct a subsidy as if money were raised by taxation and paid direct to the churches. Any argument for exemption of property which takes issue with this condition is a subsidy, and if the exemption cannot be defended without proving that it is not a subsidy, it cannot be defended at all. The subsidy must be justified, or the exemption must be given up, and churches must submit to taxation, like factories and warehouses. This is why nearly all the arguments of the clergy for exemption of churches from taxation have failed. Most of them evade the principle that exemption is a subsidy, or so far as they recognize it, justify the subsidy on grounds not admitted by the secular citizen. The only ground on which churches may justly expect support from the state is their efficiency as a moral force. Through their constant inculcation of high standard of morality; through their enforcement of sound rules of conduct upon all within their influence; through their perpetual service to the people of spiritual order and beauty; of ethical culture and moral enlightenment, they serve the civic purpose of the state in a way not to be ignored and which it is right to encourage and reward.

The clergy are inclined to dodge the police theory of religious effort, on which alone state subsidies to churches can be justified. It is un-American, as our correspondent says, if not unchristian, to subsidize churches as agencies for dissemination of theological dogma or denominational doctrine. It is even improper to maintain at cost of the state organizations for teaching Christianity as a system of theology, as differentiated, for example, from Buddhism or Mohammedanism. There is no more to do with Jesus as putative founder of a religious system than with Confucius or Gautama. It has no right to subsidize a church as a mere church, and does not recognize the benefit of religious teaching merely as such.

But there is no plainer fact in the whole field of civic effort than that the churches sustain and advance the highest effort of the state in their inculcation of religious morality and crime and inculcate good conduct. They are schools of good citizenship, as well as of good, bad and indifferent theology. The state may ignore them in the latter capacity, but cannot afford to despise their aid in the former. They are a mighty auxiliary police force, bringing positive and constant benefit, which costs the state nothing, though the state could afford to pay well for it, if it could be separated from the theological teaching, whose value is doubtful.

This is the only justification for exemption of church buildings and ground, pure and simple, from taxation, and it is justification enough; direct subsidy through the exemption. The churches are subsidized as an auxiliary police force, as an auxiliary moral force. This does not raise the question of theological differences. Dispute would be fierce enough about the public benefit of the theological teaching of the different churches. There is no dispute of the value of the ethical principles which all profess and teach. It is for this alone that they are subsidized, and, of course, the subsidy exemption should be confined strictly to property which is used solely for religious and ethical teaching, without pay. All church property which is held for sale or to yield an income should pay tax, precisely like secular property.

High compliments were paid to The Oregonian yesterday from all sources for its New Year's number. The demand for it proved that it was just what was wanted. The scope and variety of its matter, and the number and excellence of the illustrations made it the most attractive paper ever issued here. An extra edition of 21,000 over the regular daily issue was exhausted early, and at noon the plates were again on the press for an edition of 25,000 more. Never before were so many papers sold in a day in Portland as The Oregonian did yesterday. The success of it is the desire for peace, though China undoubtedly would like to gain time for military preparation by a truce. Japan probably will not be beguiled into stop-

ping offensive operations by anything short of a definitive treaty to her mind. If China is foolish enough to think she can keep up the war, the empire will be broken, province by province. In detail, and the danger the war lasts, the reader will be the terms of the final treaty.

A THEOCRATIC REACTION.

The trouble with Dr. Parkhurst is that he does not recognize the limitation of his usefulness as a public reformer. This is partly the fault of the people of New York, who, in the first bubble and gush of enthusiasm over the destruction of Tammany, fed him doses of adulation liberal enough to turn a much stronger head than he is. He has been taught to overvalue himself all his life because an emotional, fickle populace overvalued him for a few days. This has spoiled Parkhurst, as it has spoiled many another citizen of good intentions but infirm judgment. Dr. Parkhurst did the community high service by helping to rouse public sentiment against entrenched corruption, at a time when it was growing ripe for overthrow. Disappointment was broken down without him, because its time had clearly come, but the work would have been slower and harder. He served the useful purpose of the preliminary beaters, human or animal, used in hunting large game, to drive it out of the bush within reach of the real hunters, whether hounds or sportsmen. He started Tammany into a panic, and the practical agencies of reform could get it.

This service has been fully recognized both by the legislative committee of investigation and by the municipal reform committee which carried the city election. Both these bodies considered Dr. Parkhurst with great consideration and honored with exemplary patience his ethical posing as the sole prophet of municipal reform. His treatment of them has never been anything more than called into being by his creative fiat to execute his supreme will, so long as the effect of this performance was merely sentimental.

STATE LIFE DIPLOMAS.

While it was merely a question of destroying a corrupt system, the committee and Dr. Parkhurst could work together, though his real usefulness ended when the legislative investigation was begun seriously. Or, to be more exact, Parkhurst and the committee worked, without offering it serious impediment. But when time for reconstruction came, Parkhurst was as useless and troublesome, with his ignorance of practical conditions, his pride of opinion and his arrogance of assertion, as men like Thaddeus Stevens had to drop Parkhurst or see their work made fruitless by a fanciful and impracticable conclusion, sure to bring reaction worse than the original corruption they destroyed. They did it as gently and decently as possible, and they are bearing the railing he pours upon them for the necessary divorce as patiently as they bore his pompous assumption of creation and ownership while his union with them lasted.

The practical problem for the state legislature and the new city government is to establish a police force which shall repress crime, limit vice and deal honestly with the vicious classes as with the decent classes. If they can do this best by reorganizing the police department under its present head and with some of its most efficient and least tainted members, they wish to do so, realizing the difficulties of a clean sweep and the embarrassment of an entirely green force. Moreover, these practical reforms do not expect to abolish certain forms of vice. They do expect to put an end to blackmail for their toleration. That, after all, is the worst crime proved against the present system. They expect to govern the city in the practical spirit of men of affairs, who know the necessary limitations of social repression.

Here came necessary separation from Parkhurst, who wishes to govern the city in the spirit of a Puritan theorist, who expects to put an end to vice, and civilization and deeply rooted as human existence by the imperious decree of a priestly dictator; who wishes to govern legislature and mayor and city administration as New England ministers of the seventeenth century governed town meetings, by priestly thunders and pulpit decrees. The break between Parkhurst and the committee came finally upon the question of Byrnes, whom he had sworn to destroy because Byrnes once showed contempt for his dirty spies, but it was inevitable from the beginning of their joint work. The city of New York is not likely, in this generation, to endure the enthronement of a Cotton Mather as dictator in civil affairs.

Mr. Levi Ankeny, of Walla Walla, in the hope of being elected to the senate by the legislature of his state, says if elected he will contend for free coinage of silver. This is so contrary to all that Mr. Ankeny knows to be practicable, desirable, proper and right, so contrary to his knowledge and experience, and, as he well knows, to the interests of business and the general welfare of the country, that he could not do it, if it could be separated from the theological teaching, whose value is doubtful.

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Secretary Carlisle's refusal to stand for the senate in Kentucky leads observers to interpret his scheme of financial reform as a bid for the democratic presidential nomination in 1908. The man under whose administration the treasury revenues were equalized increased \$100,000,000 in two years is not likely to be an available candidate for president on a platform of wildcat state banking.

A COMING CENTENNIAL.

The Hundredth Anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase. The people of St. Louis are taking steps to celebrate April 30, 1804, as the 100th anniversary of the Louisiana purchase. It is proposed to make the celebration an event that will rival the world's fair at Chicago.

Penoyer led yesterday pass without pardoning anybody. He cannot afford to rest even on a holiday, if he means to empty the penitentiary before he goes out of town. He has only ten more working days, and several thieves and murderers, embezzlers and violators of women remain in confinement.

Long before the purchase was made, the danger to the United States of attack from the west had been fully recognized, and in the purchase of Louisiana, the Pacific as a boundary, Mr. Jefferson showed that prophetic sense of our possibilities of greatness which, next to the right of individual liberty, was the dominating idea of his life.

It is a curious contradiction that Mr. Jefferson, who more than most men feared the loss of national independence, should have changed America from a little group of independent states to a vast federation that is practically an empire.

ONE WHO DESIRES AN AMENDMENT TO OUR SCHOOL LAWS.

WOODBURN, Or., Dec. 31. (To the Editor.)—In the department of superintendent last week, School Superintendent J. G. Stephenson, of Linn county, chairman of the committee on school laws, reported many very timely and excellent changes amendatory of our school act, among which was one asking for the repeal of the section that authorizes the state superintendent to examine state to issue, on examination, to their graduates, state certificates, state diplomas, and later on, state life diplomas. In my opinion, it is high time that this was done, for several very weighty reasons, some of which are:

As was well said in the discussion of this question, "It matters very little who prepares the questions for the candidates, and impracticable to examine the papers submitted." "Ay, there's the rub!" There are now too many standards in the state, good, bad and indifferent, and what is the logical sequence? Our state general character is not improved, then, to illustrate by a personal experience: Some three years ago, upon applying to the board of education of the city of San Francisco for a city high-school certificate, I was told by the superintendent, "We do not attach much importance to your Oregon life diploma, but we will issue a certificate to you on your Illinois state life certificate, provided that you make the diploma appear on its face anywhere," and I am assured that in the state of Washington they are regarded in the same way.

The state of Illinois, whose educational laws are so well known, has the second in the Union, with a population many times that of Oregon, with only two normal schools with large attendance, efficient faculties and generously equipped, and yet it has a high percentage of wealth, for a number of years authorized normal schools to grant to their graduates state life certificates. The result was that many incompetent persons obtained diplomas that they were not professionally fit to hold, and as it militated against the reputation and success of said schools, the best friends of these institutions, if I mistake not, induced the legislature to repeal the law of the school act, and certificates now are issued on examination by boards appointed by the state superintendent of public instruction.

Were such a course pursued in Oregon, it would, we feel confident, greatly enhance the value of our state papers, and our state normal schools would, instead of being a by-word and reproach as some think they are, be held in high esteem, and that such schools richly merit. It is true that the first effect of such a change might, for a short time, unfavorably affect their attendance, but as it is a change for the better, and as the people and actual teachers that technical and professional training that is so vitally essential to the successful educator, our schools would be enabled to increase their strength for usefulness and the less fortunate ones would go to the wall in conformity to that inexorable law of the survival of the fittest.

Who but the state educational papers issued by this grand state stand, on a parity with those of other states? They may and ought to do so; and by radically changing the plan of issuing certificates to a better one, that desideratum will be attained.

PERSONS WORTH KNOWING ABOUT.

The Duke of York will visit Canada next spring and spend the summer in the West. Philo Norton McGiffin, who is commander of the Chen Yuen, the largest warship of the Chinese navy, is a native of Washington, Pa.

Andre Reche, the nephew of the famous geographer of that name, was recently condemned to one month in prison and to pay a fine of \$100 by the Algerian courts for crying "Long live Liberty."

Enlie Olivier, the minister of Napoleon III, in 1870, who entered into the war with Prussia "le coeur leger," is on the point of publishing his recollections of the fall of the empire in L'Empire Liberal in seven volumes. The preface has just been printed in the Figaro.

Mr. Nat Collins, widely known as the "Lone Star" cowboy, was entirely unaffiliated in manner and simple and candid to an extraordinary degree. He, like Henry Irving, always looked upon an interview with a newspaper as a "man's man" thing, and he was never, throughly wrought out. He would go

to trouble to see that his views were properly put forth, and was always anxious to be an informant after he had dictated it, and what is of more importance than anything else, he invariably said things of interest to the public.

Dr. Edward S. Holden, director of the census, has been elected to the senate through the secretary of state of Saxe-Meininger, the diploma and cross of commander of the Saxe-Ernestine order. This order was founded in 1804, and reorganized in 1853, and is given in recognition of distinguished services in high official position, either military or civil.

FLAX UNDER DISADVANTAGES.

An Interesting Experiment Made Some Years Ago in Linn County. A farmer in Linn county, Wash., Dec. 27. (To the Editor.)—Now that the subject of flax culture is being discussed, I would like to report a case which came under my observation some 15 years ago. A man living some 15 miles south of Albany, Or., was induced by men in that town, perhaps the same mentioned by J. M., in your weekly issue of the 21st inst., to plant a tract of some 10 or 15 acres with flax, and to let the product be sold to him at a certain rate per ton, which I have now forgotten, but which was sufficient to inspire him with high hopes that he had found something better than the place of wheat, a crop that he was not making a great profit out of. The flax made a good average growth, but his trouble came when he undertook to gather it. As I remember it, he and his boys pulled a wagonload by hand, but when it came to be weighed, they found they had very small wages for their time. They hired Chinamen interestedly at about a dollar a day, but only realized barely enough to pay their wages, saying nothing of his day's work with the team, hauling it to Albany, where it was next tried to move it with a mowing machine, but the machine totally failed to cut it. It, however, was old and rusty, and the flax was so matted that it had succeeded. By this time he was disgusted with the whole business and one bright day set fire to the remainder and burned it. But that is not quite all. The ground had been covered with flax until it was so foul with wild oats, dog fennel and French pink, that it was practically impossible to raise more than 10 to 12 bushels of wheat per acre, but when he plowed it up and sowed it into fall wheat and the next year that piece of land was absolutely free from all trash, and he raised some 15 or 18 bushels to the acre from it.

It is a curious contradiction that Mr. Jefferson, who more than most men feared the loss of national independence, should have changed America from a little group of independent states to a vast federation that is practically an empire.

When Robert Louis Stevenson was in New York the society people of the 49th circle took charge of him, and he was bored to death by a crowd of brainless fops and a number of silly women who tried to talk up to him. The result was that he went away with a distaste for New York society, and ever afterwards made it a point to shun Americans.

A COMMON MISTAKE. Why Robert Louis Stevenson Shunned Americans. Atlanta Constitution. When Robert Louis Stevenson was in New York the society people of the 49th circle took charge of him, and he was bored to death by a crowd of brainless fops and a number of silly women who tried to talk up to him. The result was that he went away with a distaste for New York society, and ever afterwards made it a point to shun Americans.

Put the Marines on Shore. Among the measures most desirable for congress to adopt for the benefit of the navy is a bill abolishing the use of marines on ships. The marines on board a service can be made the better it will be. On this score alone it would be well to drop the marine guard from the complement of each navy ship. But there are other important reasons for their removal, which are that they are watched by a species of sea police which is not as efficient as they would be under the control of their own commissioned and petty officers.

Let Us Have More Bonds and Redeem the Treasury Notes. Philadelphia Public Ledger. The question regarding places of redemption, which is a most important one, is to be provided for, by the controller of the currency, in discharging them. This is a slight improvement on the original bill, but it is not a satisfactory arrangement, and cannot be made so. There must be a central point of redemption.

They Find All Excuses. Cleveland Leader. Governor Flower of New York has once more refused to honor the requisition of Governor Hogg of Texas for the officials of the Standard Oil Trust, who were indicted by the grand jury at Waco recently for violation of the anti-trust laws of the Lone Star state. Governor Flower's refusal is a serious matter, and the indicted officials have never been in Texas court committed any crime in that state. If a possible excuse for refusing to proceed against a trust can be found, democrats in office are always sure to find it.

It's Weight in Gold. Philadelphia Record. The largest Bible in the world is in the Vatican library at Rome, and weighs 150 pounds and it is written in Hebrew. Three men can hardly carry it. As well as every relic preserved in that valuable library, it has its history, or more correctly speaking, its legend. In the year 1824 a syndicate of Russian Jews sent a messenger to Pope Julius II offering him its weight in gold for that Bible. Julius refused to consider their offer. At this rate the Bible would be worth nearly \$100,000.

A Modest Request. Willapa Pilot. The editor had the misfortune to lose a fine cow one night last week. There was quite a large whisp of hay hanging in plain sight of the cow, but through pure greed and cunningness she tried to get into another stall through a hole a foot square, and in the melee she broke her neck. And now the editor is willing to take a No. 1 fresh milk cow and two tons of hay on subscription, and hopes no one will get hurt in the scramble to ask the price with this modest request.

Georgios Colonel Parker. Walla Walla Statesman. To our morning contemporary we wish a happy, prosperous New Year.

Grandma Yates, the aged mother of James Yates, is lying at the point of death at M. Martin's residence, four miles west of Eugene. She is nearly 85 years old. H. E. Schmidt, of Morrow, Benton county, tells the Independence West Side that he intends leaving for Guatemala in a few weeks, as the representative of the Oregon colony.

Mr. C. Myers, a brother of Colonel Jeff Myers, of Linn county, died at Needles, Cal., last Saturday. The remains are to arrive at Seilo this morning, and will be buried by the Old Folks.

Mitcheil's new "country" embraces 33 sections of Wasco county territory, to-wit: A portion of the P. L. & L. Co.'s and Hon. Robert Mays' property; also a large scope of valuable grazing land.

The livestock belonging to Douglas county is marked with a hole in the right ear and a split in the left. The county is now the owner of a number of fine hogs and several head of cattle, beside some horses.

Archbishop Gross was at the Roman Catholic church in Astoria, Sunday, and preached an interesting sermon. Monday he invested two sisters with the black veil, a ceremony pledging the sisters to five years of convent life. Yesterday he was to say mass at the reservation church.

"During the week returns have been received by a number of our sheepmen who shipped their wool to Boston last season says John Frimley, Newk. "Upon looking over the prices received, we find they do not come up to the prices received by those who sold their clip in The Dallas market."

William Galloway, of McMinnville, president of the state board of agriculture, has appointed the following three members of the board as a committee on program: Jeff Myers, Z. P. Moody and P. H. Albert. The committee will also have a vacancy on the speed programme. The committee will make arrangements to run excursion trains here during the next fall week, and will try to secure the O. N. excursion program for this week also.

William Fletcher, father of Frank Fletcher, has shown a tenacity of purpose in befriending his son which is remarkable. In 1882, when his boy was arrested for the murder of a woman, Fletcher, although somewhat in debt, was prosperous. He immediately pledged his name and property, and raised money to secure counsel for defense, and his friends assure that the trials cost him \$50,000. He did not stop when his son had been convicted, but paid the expenses for defending Peter Gaskin in both trials, and to take up the balance of \$50,000. He went to Salem, Frank for life on charge of murder in the second degree, and Peter 19 years for assault with a dangerous weapon. Mr. Fletcher still kept at work. He finally secured a pardon for Governor Penneyner, and both boys came home. Now, in spite of his son's record, Mr. Fletcher still stands by him.

A Congressional union has been organized in Snohomish county. An ineffectual attempt to hold a mass meeting of the citizens of Everett, to lower freight rates was made by Dayton Saturday.

Mrs. S. J. Owens, aged 84, mother of Car Pomeroy Owens, of the Dayton yards, and Conductor H. C. Owens, left Dayton the other night for a journey to McKean, Kan.

At Chehalis, E. A. Lowry sold 188 bales of hops at 75 cents, and M. C. and D. H. Lowry 162 bales at 75 cents. This is the highest sale there this season, and the lowest since 1912.

Interviews with two ex-mayors of Spokane and its present mayor all agree that that city must have still fewer officers and less luxury. Charter revision will be the means chosen.

The officers of the Tacoma Equal Suffrage Club have called a state convention at Tacoma June 5. Everybody is invited. The purpose of the meeting is to secure the enfranchisement of women.

Captain Bubb, Indian agent of the Colville reservation, has issued an order directing all whites to move off the reservation. His order is based on a similar one issued by Secretary Noble, of the interior department, under Harrison's administration. The captain will enforce his order if it requires the aid of the military.

President Bryan of the Pullman agricultural college, announces by circular a winter school for farmers from January 23 to February 16, 1930, inclusive. This means three weeks of study and experimentation during the winter months. The instructions connected with agriculture, horticulture, soils, fertilizers, stock-feeding and breeding, dairying, insect pests, plant diseases, spraying apparatus, road-making and auto repair.

Walla Walla is pained to find, after carefully searching the last report of the interstate commerce commission, no notice of that town's application for lower rates on wheat. The commission has not completed the Pullman and Riverview, but Walla Walla, which subscribed \$50,000 to the business, is left out altogether. The commission has therefore loudly asked, "Why is this?"

About a week ago an old gentleman from Lewis county appeared before the local board of pension examiners at Montesano, by order of the pension department for review of his pension. He being well advanced in years, he was a cripple, scarcely able to walk with the aid of canes; was totally deaf in one ear, and could not read. He had been a soldier in the first world war, and was a total physical wreck. As remarkable as it may seem, this was the fourteenth time he had been ordered re-examined. He is drawing \$12 a month pension, and the idea seems to have been to deprive him of even this paltry sum, if possible.

PARAGRAPHERS' PLEASANTRIES. "John, were all those—those living pictures—er—nude?" "I—I think one of them had a cold on her lungs, Maria."—New York Herald.

"Dad, I'm a-waitin' for a Christmas present." "All right, take a bale of cotton an' go an' buy you a tin horn."—Atlanta Constitution.

Supervisor Byrnes is after the living pictures in New York, and they'll have all they can do to make a bare living.—Philadelphia Record.

Populist—When we dictate the country's financial affairs, you'll have money to burn. Banker—Yes; and that's about all it will be good for, too!—Puck.

"I see she has broken off her engagement with him. What was the trouble?" "He tried to make her concoct a present for a Christmas present."—New York Herald.

Little Dick-Teacher says if I study hard I may get to be president. Little Doc—Great teacher, you'd make "Why?" "You're 'frail to take a fish off the hook."—Street & Smith's Good News.

Chesney—Women would never be able to vote seriously. Tadburn—Why not? Chesney—Because they would want to go round and get samples of the candidates before making up their minds.—Brooklyn Life.

A Wabash girl of 19, who recently eloped and married, took the precaution to paste the number "23" in her shoe, so that if the preacher asked questions she might truthfully say she was "over 21."—Indianapolis Sun.

"Do you expect to get anything in your stocking this Christmas?" asked a facetious congressman of a colleague. "No," was the reply; "not in my stocking. I get everything in the neck nowadays."—Washington Herald.

Little boy—What's the difference between an advanced woman and any other woman? An advanced woman—Why, don't you know? An ordinary woman—Her husband has a good time, and she has a good time, but an advanced woman does.—Street & Smith's Good News.