

The Oregonian

Subscription rates: Daily, Sunday included, six months... \$8.00; Daily, Sunday included, three months... 4.25; Daily, Sunday included, one month... 1.50.

How to Remit: Send postal note, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin currency at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates: Entered as Second-Class Matter, Oct. 3, 1879. Postoffice at Portland, Ore., Feb. 1, 1879. Paid at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917.

Important: The postal laws are strictly enforced on which postage is not fully prepaid are not delivered to destination.

Eastern Business Office: The S. C. Heckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 42-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 53-55 Western Commercial Station.

Kept on Sale: Chicago—Auditorium Annex, Postoffice News Co., 178 Dearborn street. New York, rooms 42-50 Tribune building.

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Los Angeles—B. E. Amos, manager seven street west. San Francisco—B. E. Amos, 1015 Broadway.

Portland, Thursday, Feb. 7, 1907. Perpetual Franchises Again: Upon the subject of franchises of the gas company the gas committee enunciates two incontrovertible propositions.

privilege once granted is granted forever under our present system, the system ought to be modified in that particular. The City Attorney holds that these franchises must be revoked and common sense as well as common justice takes the same view.

There is nothing in the contention that the recent constitutional amendment in living cities the right to control their own charters virtually gave them authority to repeal existing franchises granted by the Legislature.

No one, of course, seriously expected the Portland City Council to take offensive action of any kind against the organized plutocracy of Portland. It is not built that way.

It is strange that the public-service corporations of Portland so sadly mistaken the temper of the people on the living question of franchise control. They are making the same blunder the great monopolies of Portland.

The unsatisfactory bar service at the entrance of the river has for a number of years proved a serious handicap to the commercial prestige of Portland.

The object of this organization, as set forth in the bill, is to maintain an efficient towage and pilotage service at the mouth of the Columbia River.

This method was tried in the old days of the Flavel regime, and the efficiency of the service has never since been equalled. Unfortunately, the exorbitant rates charged by Flavel more than offset the advantage of his good service.

three counties, and under proper management it will undoubtedly be possible to make the service self-supporting.

The Columbia River has very active competitors north and south, and it is highly important that more stringent measures be adopted for the protection and encouragement of our shipping.

The joint railroad committee at Salem, it appears, is willing that the Governor shall appoint the proposed Railroad Commission.

It is announced that several thousand tons of Japanese coal have been purchased for shipment to the coast.

While Senator Hodson, friend of the people, is playing for a few brief moments his new and unfamiliar role of legislator, he ought to have the Legislature investigate the Portland job printing trust.

Chinese rebels are said to be importing large quantities of arms and ammunition into the province.

The trouble with Expert Wiley was that he ran foul of an expert on experts. An expert always gets along better when he doesn't have to answer questions telling what he knows and how he knows it.

the career of a highway robber, and he must have chosen it deliberately if at all, has no further right to expect the government under which he lives to secure him in the enjoyment of life.

The ghost of that old scheme, a short passage from Europe via a Dominion port, has been revived in Canada.

Wheat gained more than a cent per bushel in the Chicago market yesterday, and the foreign market scored the heaviest advance that has been made this season.

A Chicago dispatch says that the hired men of Mr. Hill and Mr. Harriman are engaged in a wordy war as to the respective merits of their employers.

Senator Lodge as a pedestrian. Probably no member of either branch of Congress walks as much as Senator Lodge.

There is no normal school combine. Of course not. The normal schools and the other state schools just happen to have a "community of interest" and to be logrolling in the same old way to their hands on the state's funds and divide the spoils.

Mr. Jim Hill modestly says he owns only 7 per cent of the Great Northern stock. But he takes great care that the 53 per cent do none of the talking.

FARM FOR STATE'S PRISONERS. J. D. Lee suggests substitute for Jute-Mill and Road-Work Plans.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.) My present remoteness from the State Capitol precludes my keeping you advised as to the present and prospective work of the Legislature.

The preceding paragraph shows the urgent need for more land for the use of the penitentiary. My mature judgment is that the state should not delay the purchase of both clear and wooded lands.

Such an investment in land and utilization of convict labor would meet the wood bill of the state in a possession of a valuable tract of land than the original purchase.

How Portland Job Printers Combine to Cliché the Public. PORTLAND, Feb. 6.—(To the Editor.) If Senator Hodson would devote his attention, talents and energy to breaking up the "printing trust" of which he is a member, known as the Franklin Association, with its grievous overcharges for job printing, its private telephone wires, its long lines of composing (7) printing establishments, of prices made to inquiring customers for prospective work, thereby eliminating all competition, and its fines imposed on its members for cutting a price made by a competing (7) firm, he would accomplish more for his constituents, the business houses of Portland and the Northwest, than he could do in any other way.

Senator Bailey, of Texas, endeavored to chastise personally a man who called him a liar. If Bailey were to make a personal matter of it with every individual who regards him as something worse than a liar, he would be kept busy as busy as W. J. Bryan and get less fun out of his time.

Charles Hanson Towne. Oh, to think that the world will go on after we are dead. Love is a good thing, but the old, old words will be said.

STATE'S NEED OF WATER CODE. Oregon's Development Blighted by Want of It, Says Professor Young.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 5.—(To the Editor.)—The development of Oregon has been checked and even permanently stunted by the years of delay in the enactment of an adequate water code.

The present Legislature has no more important duty than the enactment of a code based squarely upon the principle of "beneficial use." The embodiment of this principle in the Oregon water code has been delayed.

When the formal meeting of the New Jersey Legislature was recently called, in accordance with the constitution, which requires that a joint session of the body be called every day while the contest is on for the election of a United States Senator, only two legislators were present.

PORTLAND, Feb. 4.—(To the Editor.)—Portland is having unusual winter weather. The "silver thaw" and the heavy frosts have almost ruined the trees and lowered the Spring to come.

First Man—Who's the elderly looking Senator? Second Man—That's Senator Snow, the grand old man from Utah. They're still taking his seat away from him.

OPEN LETTER TO BARON HAYASHI. Japanese Ambassador Petitioned to Strive Against Branch of Peace.

PORTLAND, Feb. 6.—(To the Editor.)—The following letter has been sent to Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Ambassador at Washington:

Please to allow in your ward teaching the contentions between your government and ours—not to discuss its merits, but earnestly to protest, in behalf of the best people in this country, and in yours and for the highest and best interests of both, never to attempt its adjustment by the sword.

Protest From an Art Admirer. Prudish Detachment of Work at Art Museum is Objected to.

ROGERS TO GIVE YOUNGER MEN A CHANCE. Cincinnati Enquirer.

IN 1950. Ever Womanly. Set her among the angels! Let her shine a star.

