

The Weekly Chronicle.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF WASCOCO COUNTY.

COUNTY OFFICIALS.

County Judge..... Geo. C. Biakley
Sheriff..... T. A. Ward
Clerk..... E. Crossen
Treasurer..... Wm. Mitchell
Commissioners..... Jas. Darville, Frank Kincaid, Joel W. Kountz
Assessor..... E. F. Sharp
Surveyor..... Troy Shelley
Superintendent of Public Schools..... N. M. Eastwood
Coroner.....

SECRETARY RUSK'S REPORT.

If Mr. Jeremiah Rusk has not demonstrated the advisability of sustaining a department of agriculture he has at least demonstrated its usefulness when dominated by Mr. Rusk. In his report to the president the secretary is able to show with proper gratification a bunch of very encouraging facts. Of the \$1,000,000 worth of products from America last year nearly eighty per cent. he finds, were products of agriculture. And for much of this mighty percentage and the conditions which produced it he claims recognition on behalf of the department. It is certainly big enough to feel proud over, and it swells the total of exports to a sum exceeding the total of imports by \$200,000,000, the amount in which the world stands indebted to the United States. And, moreover, the liberal exportation has been of service in relieving the home markets from a surplus product big enough to have reduced prices below the cost of production. Among the suggestions made by the secretary none is more important than the one in regard to the grading of grain. "There are," the secretary says, "many reasons making a national standard of grain highly desirable. Some system of national inspection and grading must be established in the interest of the grain-growers under the control of the secretary of agriculture." An attempt to put this plan into execution would excite much discussion and dispute. That the systems of grain inspection in various states differ widely from each other is well known. A system of uniform inspection and grading would have very many things to recommend it.

DIVISION OF KANSAS.

It appears that the movement looking to the forming of a new state out of the western portion of Kansas is earnest. Such a division is urged by its promoters on the ground that the western half of the state is poor and its people are borrowing farmers. It is asserted that the populist tendency of the state operates to prevent the loaning of money and that the farmers who are in debt are unable to meet the demands made upon them. It is also pointed out that the western portion of the state gave a rousing republican majority at the November election and the two ends of Kansas are not in love with each other anyway. To the people of the United States outside of the borders of the state there would be one objection to two state governments ruling in the present territory of Kansas. Two more members would sit in the senate of the United States, and, with manifestly less behind them of local or national interests, would neutralize the senatorial representation of some such state as New York, Pennsylvania or Illinois. By the admission of many small western states recently the senate has been swollen in size by a lot of members who represent constituencies that by their isolation are swayed by purely local interests to a degree that is not beneficial to the nation at large.

The scheme originated in the 7th congressional district, where a syndicate has been organized to work the project through the legislature and then through congress. If the advent of the people's party into power destroys the credit of the state, as has been predicted, the west will be the greater sufferer. Eastern Kansas has for the last four years looked upon the western half of the state as a great drawback to its development and progress, and if the demand for division becomes general in the west, as now seems probable, there is little likelihood of objections being offered by the east. If a division were made on an extension of the west boundary of Harper to the state line on the north, each state would have an area of 40,000 square miles.

The Walla Walla Union-Journal, home organ of Senator Allen, calls upon the friends of the senator to refute the charges that are being made against him. The Union-Journal might try a hand at that itself, instead of calling upon others. To begin with it might explain why Senator Allen asked for only \$10,000 for the Columbia and Snake rivers in Eastern Washington while he was asking for \$500,000 for the Seattle ditch. The canal was so "popular" that it swallowed up the 8,000 republican majority which Gov. Ferry got three years ago, outside of King county.

A large shipment of shingles is to be sent from Puget sound to Philadelphia by sea. A ship is now being loaded with lumber, and will carry 1,500,000 shingles as part of her cargo. These will arrive in that city in time for the spring demand, and it is thought they will open the way for other and heavier shipments.

The death of Jay Gould has brought many expressive sentiments to the surface in the newspaper world, one of the most intelligible of which, upon the lesson of a life, comes from the Oregonian. We quote one paragraph: "The lesson of Jay Gould's life is doubly plain and wholesome, when it is compared with that drawn from the career and memory of other wealthy men. There is no support in it for the crazy socialist theory that wealth itself is a crime; that 'property is theft,' that the rich man is necessarily and justly without honor. It is not because Jay Gould was rich that he lived unrespected and died unregretted. It is not even because he used his wealth selfishly, employing it neither in charity nor in industry, nor in public enterprise, nor in that private extravagance and luxury which confers an indirect benefit by employing labor. The mere miser is an object of public contempt; but not of the aggressive and acrid detestation which Jay Gould inspired. He lived and died in dishonor, not because he was rich, but because his riches were ill-gotten. He was hated because he took money from others, by means not the less immoral because the law cannot reach and punish him. He was detested because his exceptional case demonstrated the French paradox; because his property was theft. The public judgment that held him unworthy of honor was none the less true in its discrimination, between him and other men no less wealthy, than in the estimate it made of himself. Riches are not immoral in themselves. Selfish use of riches is contemptible, but not detestable. The only rich man held in just and lasting dishonor is he who gets his riches dishonorably."

Orchardists will be glad to know that the scale bug is to be done away with. The Union-Journal says that Mr. H. H. Spalding of Almota has discovered what he thinks is a sure destroyer of the scale bug, an insect that has of late years been very destructive to orchards in the Snake river and Walla Walla valleys. Mr. Spalding is in Seattle attending a meeting of the state horticultural board, to report upon the success of his experiments. The report will be favorable. Mr. Spalding thinks the new preparation will be a success. It is being prepared by a Tacoma chemist and is composed of sixteen ingredients. One of the chiefest recommendations is its cheapness. One gallon of the mixture when it comes from the laboratory of the chemist is mixed with 200 gallons of water in preparing it for use. The dilution then only costs from three-fifths of a cent to one cent per gallon.

Taking everything into consideration, the wonder is that there are not more failures on the farm than there are, says the Live Stock Journal. No business in the city would long stand the easy-going management of the average stock raiser, and the man who would make a real success of it nowadays must be a good business man. Besides buying and selling and the employment of labor there are the planting, cultivating and harvesting of the crops, the selection, breeding, mating, feeding and care of live stock, the use of machinery, and a hundred other important things that require intelligence, skill and executive ability of a high order. There are a thousand little details of the business to be carefully looked after to make the ranch do its best.

People who talk so freely about the American farmer feeding the people of Europe do not stop to consider the great competitor which has sprung up in Asia. The population of India has increased from 220,000,000 to 289,000,000 within the span of a single generation, and is now increasing at the rate of 3,000,000 a year. These people are raising wheat far in excess of their home demands, and already their shipments are something enormous. This production will increase and the sales to Europe will grow. In the meantime Russia continues as a great producer of breadstuffs. The time is not remote when the American farmer must sell his wheat at home, and without a population of manufacturers, it will be pretty low in price, we imagine.

The Astoria papers think it will be an amusing scene to witness when the Astoria and South Coast Railway company pays over to the railroad commissioners the \$5,000 forfeit for not making its report to the board as required by law. However, they believe that Governor Penoyer should insist on the money being paid to the state, declaring that the board of directors is worth it, collectively or individually, and that the sum can be collected. Pulling teeth, it is thought, would be a pleasant pastime compared to getting this money.

Lieut. Peary is reported as declaring that he can find the north pole if the government will give him time to do it. If the gallant lieutenant can suggest what he or the government can do with the north pole after he has found it, he may be given liberty to make the attempt. Trips to the arctic regions are interesting for the tales of adventure they develop, but secretary Tracy appears to be of the opinion these are not essential to the welfare and happiness of mankind in this latitude. Lieut. Peary will try our climate for a while at least.

GREAT RAILWAY EXPLOITS.

In the multitude of stupendous undertakings connected with the Chicago fair the transportation problem has not been looked upon as anything but prosaic. Being a business matter it has not been supplied with dramatic interest. In European countries the efficiency of a nation's armament is measured in a great degree by the facility with which it can concentrate troops at a given point by means of railways. Concentration by transportation is one of the great strategic problems of modern warfare. The Chicago fair problem, happily, possesses none of the sanguinary aspects invested in the transportation of soldiers, but it is a much more stupendous undertaking. Heretofore in America great railway exploits in the way of transportation have been limited to fast trains with a small number of passengers or a temporary accommodation of a great amount of travel. The Chicago fair problem relates to travel that may continue for months and will be practically without limit as to numbers of passengers. In addition the tide will be moving both ways at once. This will invest it with an entirely novel characteristic and one which will multiply the difficulties. And, besides, people will not be content with a poor service, but will demand and expect much the same accommodations that are accorded in ordinary travel. Our Denver dispatch today intimates a relatively low rate which will tax the capacity of the roads to demonstrate the idea.

The fact of Gould's death was known before the opening of the New York stock exchange yesterday. The effect on the market was less marked than expected. Missouri Pacific declined only 1 1/2 to 54; Western Union only 3/8 to 85; Manhattan Elevated, 1/2 to 128; Union Pacific, 1/2 to 35 1/2. These are known particularly as Gould's properties, to which he paid special attention. On the London board there was practically no marked effect. Union Pacific declined fractionally, but immediately recovered. Secretary Foster says he does not believe the death of Gould will have any appreciable effect on the finances of the country, as his son George may be depended on to pursue a safe, conservative policy.

A man in Douglas county has sold 14,000 pounds of tomatoes raised on less than two acres of ground, and made 200 bottles of ketchup besides. He sold none of his tomatoes for less than fifty cents a bushel.

The Oregon Pacific now owes its employees over nine months wages. Over \$1,000 is due each of several of the road hands. Altogether it amounts to a good deal. But it is bound to come in a lump some day.

Monthly Meteorological Report.

Weather bureau, department of agriculture. Station, The Dalles, Oregon, for the month of November, 1892.

Table with columns: DATE, Wind, Rain, Clouds, etc. Rows 1-30 showing daily weather data.

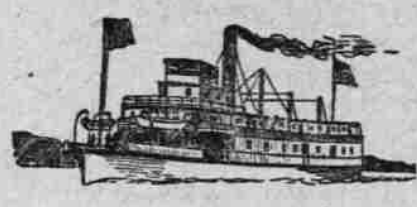
Mean barometer 29.971; highest barometer 30.468 (date 12th); lowest barometer 29.156 (date 28th.)
Mean temperature 45.2; highest temperature, 69 on 3d, lowest temperature, 28, on 27th.
Greatest daily range of temperature, 36 on 7th.
Least daily range of temperature, 1 on 22d.

MEAN TEMPERATURE FOR THIS MONTH IN 1873... 1874... 1875... 1876... 1877... 1878... 1879... 1880... 1881... 1882... 1883... 1884... 1885... 1886... 1887... 1888... 1889... 1890... 1891... 1892...
Total deficiency in precipitation during the month for 18 years, 54 inches.
Total deficiency in precipitation since January 1st, 4.84 for 18 years.

Number of cloudless days, 5; partly cloudy days, 7; Cloudy days 18.
Dates of frost 12th, 20th, 27th (killing).
Barometer reduced to sea level. T indicates trace of precipitation.
Solar halo on 1st, 27th with parhelia. Lunar halo on 29th.
SAMUEL L. BROOKS, Voluntary Signal Corps Observer.
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