The Weekly Chronicle.

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PLAIN WORDS ABOUT TRUSTS.

"The capital stock of the Standard Oil company is $100,000,000, and on this stock $48,000,000, or 48 per cent in dividends have been paid in the past year."—Democratic Exchange.

We have seen this paragraph hundreds of times, more or less, during the past three months but nobody has ever taken the trouble to answer the question "What are you going to do about it?" The question is not: Is the Standard Oil Company making $48,000,000 a year or $48,000,000 an hour, but: Is it acting in contravention of existing laws, and is it oppressing the masses of the people? For these latter offenses there is a remedy, but for the former no sensible and reasonable one has ever been proposed and we doubt much if any is possible. Where shall we set the limit of a corporation's earnings? At a million, or ten million? And it we fix a limit is it possible to give any sound economic reason for doing so? It is notorious that the prices of Standard Oil products are vastly lower than they were before the company was organized in 1871.

The Standard Oil Company has won its way through the advantage of immense capital, the application of intelligent business methods of production and by selling cheaper than its competitors. It derives no benefit from import duties. It has the whole world for a competitor. Russia produces 70,000,000 barrels of oil a year but none of it comes here because the Standard Oil Company can pay American wages to an army of 40,000 employes and undersell Russia in her own market. The company exports $50,000,000 worth of oil a year and it is hardly a matter of doubt that the traffic would be largely the other way but for the fact that the company is able to undersell all foreign competitors. Nor can it be doubted that but for the Standard Oil Company prices for oil would rule higher than they do in the home market.

These are the facts of the case as THE CHRONICLE sees them. It is not popular to talk about them and we know it. But a paper that cannot tell the truth has no excuse for existence, and there is an abundance of demogy in the world without THE CHRONICLE joining its ranks. As a matter of fact it is the fashion these days to denounce trusts, as the prime means of getting the ear of the dear people, while not one in a hundred of the denouncers could tell wherein the trusts are hurting him or them to save his immortal soul.

THANKSGIVING DAY 1900.

The American people have many things to be thankful for this blessed year of grace 1900. Among them are:

That Bryan has led the hosts of populism through a slaughter house into an open grave.

That the dread of a debased currency no longer disturbs the commercial and financial world.

That free trade will not bring disaster for at least four years.

That the American wage-earner is assured of employment and good wages for four years.

That neither Dick Croker nor Altgeld nor Towne, nor Sulzer nor Pettigrew will be in the next cabinet.

That the supreme court will remain undisturbed.

That there will still be "no class distinction in this fair land of ours."

That law and order will reign and mob rule and class hatred be avoided.

That the American farmer's home market will expand, as will the American manufacturer's world's market.

That the stars and stripes will not be hauled down but will wave everywhere as the symbol of peace, progress and humanity.

That both houses of congress are republican.

That Kansas and Nebraska are back in the republican fold.

That Bryan made so many speeches in so many states.

That the result of the election was so emphatic.

That the majority of American voters can be trusted to do the right thing at the right time.

That we have the best country and the best government under the sun.

That God reigns and the republican party still lives.

THE SEWER QUESTION.

THE CHRONICLE has not a shadow of doubt that the city council is sincerely desirous of carrying out the wishes of the majority of the citizens of The Dalles in the matter of sewers. THE CHRONICLE, however, seriously doubts that the council is justified in assuming, as it seems to assume, that the result of the last city election meant no sewers or no effort in the direction of permanent improvement of the present sewers in places where the experience of years plainly indicates the mere patching up of the rotten wooden sewers as they cave in is anything in the world but true economy.

At a special meeting of the council Wednesday night a motion to lay a 12-inch terra cotta pipe across First street and under the railroad track at the foot of Court street was voted down and a motion prevailed ordering the marshal to have the trenches filled in that were recently dug for the purpose of removing the obstruction at that point, caused by the caving in of the rotten wooden sewer. The marshal, of course, had the order carried out and the old sewer, with one side so rotted away that the lid or top plank lay at an angle of nearly 45 degrees, now rests under the pressure of about 12 feet of sand and gravel, and no one need be in the least surprised if the cellars and grounds that were recently flooded by sewage are in the same fix again before the winter is over. No action was taken regarding the Liberty, Laughlin and Union streets' sewers, although it is well known that these, too, have caved in in spots and will soon be in a condition to compel attention.

We mean no offence when we say the council seems to be at sea, for one of the most consciencious members, as he opposed the wasteful system of the eternal patching up of old rotten sewers, significantly added: "I do wish the property owners of this town would let us know what they want."

THE CHRONICLE believes the taxpayers of this city are willing to be taxed for an improved sewer system, taxed, that is to say, within reasonable limits. Whether right or wrong, they had little faith in the system drafted by Mr. Roberts. Besides they considered it too costly, and in addition they considered that proper and reasonable consideration had not been paid to large property owners who have spent thousands of dollars putting in their own private sewers. Be these things as they may, THE CHRONICLE would be more than pleased to place its columns at the service of any taxpayer who has anything to say on a subject that demands attention and is of deep and growing importance to the health and welfare of the city.

The bosses of the old, good, original patent lever, double acting, self-oiling and self-feeding Portland political machine are vociferously calling for legislative enactments to protect the machine from fraud. It looks as if some time last spring the people out west got onto the combination. There are too many old, useless wheels in the thing anyway, says the Baker City Republican.

The Baker City Republican beseaches the approaching ligislature to restore the grand jury system. It says government by district attorney is too much like the Spanish system. And the Republican, as usual, is pre-eminently correct.

Perhaps there won't be a fur flying time when Don Dickinson goes into the cage to "reorganize" Mr. Altgeld.—Washington Post.

LOVE LETTERS TO ORDER.

The Strange Occupation Followed by Certain Persons in the City of Mexico.

Perhaps there is no more characteristic sight in Mexico than the so-called "evangelistas" who ply their trade in the plazuela de Belem and the plazuela of Santo Domingo, relates the Mexican Herald.

They write love letters, blackmailing letters and all sorts of letters for those who do not know how to write, at a rate of three, six, nine or more cents, according to the length of the missive. They also undertake without extra charge to write the address on the envelope and to attach the required stamp, but for the latter they make an extra charge of one cent.

One of the Santo Domingo evangelistas is now in prison meditating over the fact that to defraud the government even out of five cents may be a very serious matter in the eyes of the law. The name of this evangelista is J. P. Vasquez. His services were engaged by Mrs. M. Inez Hernandez to write a letter to her husband, who is absent from the city. After he had written the letter Vasquez asked Mrs. Hernandez if she wanted a stamp.

On her assenting he attached a five-cent stamp and collected six cents in addition to his regular charge for writing the letter.

With the addressed and stamped envelope Mrs. Hernandez went to the branch post office in the Exiaduana building and, not knowing in which box to drop it, asked the postal inspector, Manuel Espinosa, who happened to be in the post office, for information on the subject. Mr. Espinosa took the letter to read the address and was about to return it to Mrs. Hernandez when he noticed that the color of the stamp was extremely dim. By still closer scrutiny he discovered that the stamp had been already canceled and the faintness of color was due to a chemical treatment that had been applied for the purpose of effacing the ink of the seal.

The inspector asked the Hernandez woman from whom she had bought the stamp and she led him to the stand of the evangelista from whom she had made the purchase. The evangelista at first denied having sold the stamp to the woman, but as two other women who had been present testified that they had seen him sell the stamp, he was taken to the police station and from there to Belem.

PEOPLE COMING AND GOING.

Wednesday's Daily.

Fen Batty, of Victor, is in town.

C. J. Bright is registered at the Umatilla House from Wasco.

Charles Fraley and daughter, of Kingsley, paid the office a pleasant call yesterday afternoon.

Miss Maud Gilbert left on the Iralda this afternoon to spend Thanksgiving with her parents in Hood River.

Mrs. D. M. French, son and daughter are expected from Portland tonight to spend Thanksgiving at home.

J. H. Hadley, of Glenwood, who was a pioneer farmer of the Dufur neighborhood, is in the city laying in his winter supplies.

Fred Grunow, who has been visiting relatives in this city for the past week, was a passenger on last night's train for St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. C. Gertrude French will arrive from Portland on tonight's train and spend Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Smith French.

Mrs. Amanda Thornbury arrived here on last night's boat from Portland and will spend Thanksgiving with her daughters, Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Kinersly.

Tunis Swick, a prominent sheepman of Hamilton, Grant county, is in the city. Mr. Swick has the proud distinction of being one of the only two men in Grant county who were out and out for the gold standard when that question first entered into Oregon politics.

BORN.

This morning, November 28, to Mr. and Mrs. O. McNeil, of this city, a daughter.

Report of Fairview School.

Following is a report of the school in district No. 48 for the month ending Nov. 23, 1900:

No. days taught, 20.
No. days attendance, 690.
No. pupils enrolled, 43.
Average daily attendance, 35.

The following pupils were neither absent nor tardy: Edna Kaylor, Minnie Kaylor, Linnie Kaylor, Lydia Crabtree, Vida Crabtree, Claud Falcott, Alva Criss and Harry Reed.

Visitors—Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Crabtree, Mr. Lee Morris, Mrs. A. Stogsdill, Miss Dora Davidson, Fay Snodgrass, Guy Stogsdill, Earl Crabtree and Raymond Crabtree.

G. W. MCCLURE, Teacher.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that on the 31st day of October, 1900, H. R. Blue, of Portland, Or., was duly adjudicated bankrupt; and that the first meeting of his creditors will be held at room 543, Worcester building, Portland, Or., on the 12th day of December, 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m., at which time the said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

Portland, Or., Nov. 27, 1900.

ALEX. SWEEK,
1t Referee in Bankruptcy.

Let Acts Speak Our Thankfulness.

Tomorrow we shall all be eating good dinners of turkey, chicken, pumpkin and mince pie or other good things, it is to be hoped with thankful hearts. Many will attend church and express in suitable words the thankfulness which they will doubtless feel. This is excellent. But we are led to ask whether in this, as in other matters, actions do not speak louder than words. If we are truly thankful that our lives have been cast in pleasant places, should we not best express our feelings by aiding to make happy the lives of such as have not been so fortunate? Nor would we recommend careless or thoughtless giving. The gift should invariably be accompanied by that attribute of the giver that is found in earnest consideration and in the ascertaining of the amount of good likely to result from the gift.

Our public schools are taking up donations for a society that rescues homeless abandoned and ill-treated children from a future of ignorance and crime. The members of this society and its board of trustees furnish a guarantee that its funds will be economically and judiciously expended. What better mode of expressing our thankfulness can be found than that of helping in this noble work?

We are assured that any contributions handed to Judge Blakeley or Miss Anna Lang, the local agents of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society of Oregon, will be thankfully received and duly forwarded to the treasurer of this society.

But whether it be to this society or to some other cause, let our hearts find expression in actions rather than in words

Council Proceedings.

A special meeting of the common council met Wednesday night to consider what was best to be done with the Court street sewer.

A committee of residents of the bluff, who have to use the old brewery grade going to and coming from their homes to the business part of the city, appeared before the council and asked for assistance to build a sidewalk from the brewery to the top of the grade. On motion the council contributed $50 on condition that the parties interested shall bear any additional expense that may be incurred.

A motion of Dr. Shackelford to put a 12-inch terra cotta sewer across First street and under the railway track at the foot of Court street, was lost by a vote of 4 to 3. A motion to fence in all broken sewers and let them go till the people shall awake to the necessity of a sewer system, was lost by a vote of 4 to 3.

A motion finally prevailed instructing the marshal to repair the Court street sewer and fill up the trenches. No other business coming before the council the meeting adjourned.

Southern California.

Notable among the pleasures afforded by the Shasta Route is the winter trip to Southern California and Arizona. Renewed acquaintance with this section will ever develop fresh points of interest added sources of enjoyment, under its sunny skies, in the variety of its industries, in its proiific vegetation and among its numberless resorts of mountain, shore, valley and plain.

The two daily Shasta trains from Portland to California have been recently equipped with the most approved pattern of standard and tourist sleeping cars, but the low rates of fare will still continue in effect.

Illustrated guides to the winter resorts of California and Arizona may be had on application to

C. H. MARKHAM, G. P. A.,
Portland, Oregon.

GOING EAST.

If you intend to take a trip East, ask your ticket agent to route you via The Great Wabash, a modern and up-to-date railroad in every particular.

Through trains from Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha or St. Louis to New York and New England points. All trains run via Niagara Falls and every through train has free reclining chair cars, sleeping and dining cars.

Stop over allowed on all tickets at Niagara Falls. ROSS C. CLINE,
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Los Angeles, Calif.
C. S. CRANE, G. P. A., St. Louis, Mo.

We offer for a limited period the twice-a-week CHRONICLE, price $1.50, and the Weekly Oregonian, price $1.50, both papers for $2 a year. Subscriptions under this offer must be paid in advance. tf

Strayed.

Strayed from my place on the bluff, a 2-year-old Jersey heifer; dehorned; ear mark on both ears; branded bar Z on both hips. Liberal reward paid for her return.

o10-4tw BERT BAGLEY.

Estray Notice.

Came to my place about a month ago a red mooley cow, with white hind feet, branded on left hip with three lines meeting at a point, under-crop off right ear. Owner can have her by paying charges. PETER GODFREY,
The Dalles.
Oct 3, 1900. o6-w4w

For Sale.

Wagon, team and harness. Price $100. Apply to O. NICHOLSON,
Dr. Shackelford's bldg., west end Second street.

For Sale.

A few choice Hereford bull calves eligible for registration. Inquire of
n1-4tdw J. L. KELLY, The Dalles.

Money to Loan.

Five hundred dollars to loan on real estate. No commission. Apply at this office. n21-4tw

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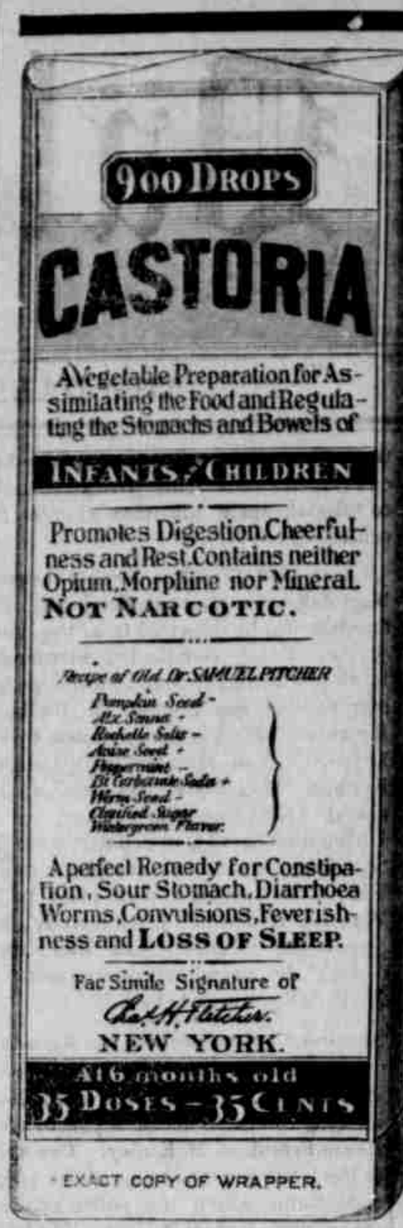

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For the next thirty days we are going to offer the greatest bargains in Grinding Machinery ever offered in the State of Oregon. We want every farmer to have a Star Feed Mill, because it will help to pay your taxes; it will save you time; it will make your old horse fatter; it will please your wife to get cracked grain for her chickens; and this is a sure way of getting it at a sacrifice, for we are positively going to close out the mills now on hand at ACTUAL COST. A change in the business compels us to do this, and now is the time for you to reap the benefit. For further particulars inquire or write to

HUDSON & BROWNHILL, The Dalles, Oregon.