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ST. HELENS, OREGON, JAN. 17.

In an article on the twentieth century Dr. Depew says that electricity will be applied to conduct all transportation by land and sea and to run all machinery on land. The doctor has looked into this subject as deeply as any one, and his opinion is decidedly that of a practical man.

The state tax levy has been placed at 4.8 mills. The county and school levy will be fixed by the county court when it meets next Tuesday in adjourned term. The levy for all purposes has been variously estimated at from 28 to 30 mills. In addition to this many school districts will vote a special tax of from 5 to 10 mills, which, in such districts, will be added to the general levy.

In his sermon recently Dr. Parkhurst said: "We are respiring everywhere an atmosphere of distrust. There is among all classes a sense of instability. Nobody knows what is coming." If all nations followed the example of the United States in minding its own business, and contenting that arbitration of doubtful boundaries is better than brute force, much of the prevailing unrest would disappear.

Modern banking facilities were illustrated in the recent transaction in the Bank of England, by which China paid to Japan an indemnity of \$34,500,000 in gold. The coin would have loaded thirty-five wagons with a ton each, but the handling of one piece of paper sufficed to transfer the money from China's account to the credit of Japan, the whole proceeding occupying but a few minutes.

FREDERICK COUDERT, of the Venezuela commission, says it would be strange if the United States and England should come to blows about a refusal to arbitrate a boundary question when "the two nations concerned have both placed themselves on record for years past as favoring the settlement of international differences by arbitration." The United States, at all events, has not shifted its ground.

In the salaries of public officials are too high it is not the fault of the official but of the law regulating the same. The place to remedy the evil is in the law making department of state. In fact, there seems little diversity of opinion but that public servants, so far as possible, should be paid fees for their services, and when found that the fees are higher than necessary, reduce them to a basis consistent with the work performed, but by all means let it be instead of a salary basis. The old fee system proved very satisfactory, save that the fees were too high, but if the fees had been reduced to a minimum compensation for the labor performed, the service would have been better, and greater satisfaction would prevail.

The Oregonian says while there is no promised land, and while El Dorado is a thing of the imagination only, there is yet room for many hundreds of sturdy, self-reliant farmers, who would avoid at once the cold of Dakota and the heat of Louisiana, droughts and blizzards, as well as exhausted soil and uncongential society. There is a state of some 60,000,000 acres not more than 2,000,000 acres are in crops and orchards; whose society is northern, and has always been free; whose climate is neither severe nor enervating. Such a place and such a state is Oregon, which opens its arms and reaches out its welcoming hand to the toilers of 1896 as honestly, cheerfully and hopefully as it did in the day of the pioneer.

The postage stamp has a rival. A new device has recently been adopted by the German postal authorities, which does entirely away with the traditional postage stamp. For it has substituted a machine which registers by dies the time and date of preparing each letter for the mail, and marks on the letter the number of the person or firm who is using the machine and also the rate of postage the letter should pay. Each commercial house or individual who makes use of the system has a machine and with it stamps letters as fast as they are sent. At the end of the week or month the local postal authorities will figure up each customer's account and send him a bill, having provided, in all probability, for the payment of it by getting a substantial deposit ahead.

There seems to be a formidable opposition springing into existence in some parts of the district against the renomination of Congressman Ellis, but in summing up the situation it is plainly seen that where this opposition originates is in localities where there are local aspirants for the place. There is little doubt but what every county in the district which has no candidate for congressional honors, will heartily support Mr. Ellis in the convention. The spoils of office, therefore, seem to be about the only motive prompting the candidacies springing up in many parts of the district. Mature judgment, set at rest the minds of the ever self-sacrificing array of aspirants looking for fat snaps regardless of the service required or their ability to per-

form. We do not dispute the fact that there are many able men in the district, but this class of men without doubt recognize in Mr. Ellis a faithful servant, and are apparently willing to continue him in the position he now occupies. Mr. Ellis has set on foot some good work for Columbia county, and it would be a direct loss to our people to have him replaced by a new and inexperienced man at this time.

THE NECESSITY OF WAR.

There is a good deal of loose and muddled talk about the alleged duty of Christian nations to maintain peace and prevent war under all circumstances, says the St. Louis Globe Democrat. In a general way, unquestionably, such nations are morally bound to settle their controversies amicably. Arbitration is preferable to fighting, and the present spirit of civilization is against the policy of resorting to arms except in case of absolute necessity. But the necessity does some times come. It has come to us in several instances, and we have met it in a way better than avoidance would have been at the cost that was demanded. Those who insist that war is never justifiable overlook the fact that it takes two parties to make a quarrel, so it takes two parties to effect a peaceful settlement. No nation dares to say that it is for peace under all conditions, for that would be to invite constant insult and injury. It is all very well to talk about the possibility of adjusting every difficulty without combat and bloodshed; but the sober truth is that the friendship of nations is based upon the distinct understanding that they are severally ready to defend their rights and protect their interests, by going to war whenever the necessity arises, and Christian nations are not different from heathen ones in this respect.

A war between the United States and Great Britain would be a lamentable occurrence, of course, and nobody wants it to ensue if it can be honorably and properly avoided; but it is easy to imagine a situation that would make it a necessity and warrant the acceptance of it, with all of the horrors, as the choice of the lesser of two evils. The relations of these two countries are closer than those of any other two important countries in the world, it is true, but their interests are not entirely mutual. They are rivals to a certain extent, and that which is an advantage to one is not always an advantage to the other. Their institutions, sentiments and purposes differ in many ways, and sharp conflict from time to time is inevitable. It is folly to regard their kinship as an assurance of peace. They are separate peoples in their national characteristics, their forms of government, and their policies of trade and progress. It is to be hoped that they will never again confront each other in battle; but the possibility of such a misfortune exists, nevertheless, and cannot be removed by sentimental means. The cloud that is now visible may not portend the worst; but it presents a grave chance of that sort, and a lack of wisdom on the part of Great Britain may make war a necessity, in spite of all that can be said about the duty of Christian nations to arbitrate their disputes.

WITH THE SAME RESULT.

It is not plain just what good would be accomplished by a special session of the legislature at this time. It is true there are many evils which might be corrected by the legislature, but it is none the less true that these same evils existed when the legislature was in session one year ago, but little was accomplished in the direction of righting them. Every measure proposed by one party was opposed by the other. Propositions advanced by one faction was also strongly opposed by the other faction. To reconvene the same legislature would be to invite the same opposing factions to undertake a work which they failed or refused to agree upon in the session last year, and the result would no doubt prove the same, ultimately, while the expense of the extra session would be considerable.

The next legislature, however, will be expected to accomplish certain work, and the people have a right to demand of it the remodeling of many laws now on our statute books, and amendments to many others. But to accomplish this there must be unanimity of sentiment, as nearly as possible, with one common object in view, without which little can be accomplished. Legislators are not selected to serve the individual or personal desires of a few, but on the contrary, the varied interests of the different sections demand unselfish attention. A legislature elected with such an outline in view could accomplish much good, but to reconvene the present legislature would be to witness the old quarrels over again, without any beneficial result.

SALEM has a representative at court in Senator McBride—a representative who will overlook no opportunity to advance the interests of the city of his adoption.—Salem Statesman. It was our idea that Mr. McBride was the representative of the entire state of Oregon. The "Hog City" is used to getting all the public state patronage excepting a few husks, and now it is claiming United States senators and "such like." What next?—Eugene Guard. About the next thing it will tackle the biggest hog in the world, England, and then the bristles will fly. This will be the proper way to settle the Venezuelan question.—Albany Democrat. Don't worry, boys; Salem is still a part of the state of Oregon, and Senator McBride has nothing else to do save look after the interests of every nook and corner of this grand domain.

Their Choice for Congress.

Col. D. I. A-bury, editor and publisher of the Grant County News, was a caller at the Democrat editorial rooms the other day, and during the course of conversation the subject of politics came up. He was asked regarding the choice of Grant county republicans for congress, and unhesitatingly stated that E. S. Anderson, of this city seemed to have the preference and undoubtedly the delegates to the state convention would favor Mr. Anderson's candidacy.—Baker City Democrat.

THE WRECK OF THE COWAN

A British Vessel Strikes on Vancouver Island.

A Number of the Crew Perished, and Those Who Survive Suffered Intensely.

SEATTLE, Jan. 12.—Ten days of suffering from cold and privation on a rocky bluff, during which time seven of the crew, including the captain and the mate, met their death, and the other mate and a seaman, terrible accidents, tells the tale of the wrecking of the big four-masted English ship Jeannette Cowan, on Vancouver Island, otherwise known as the "Boneward of the Pacific Ocean." This frightful news was brought to the city this afternoon by the tug Tye, which only a few hours before had landed fourteen members of the ill-fated crew at Port Townsend.

The officers of the tug tell a most horrifying story of the wreck and of the crew and its surroundings as found by them. The vessel struck several days after the ship struck the reef, and the cook and an able seaman and the man who ran the donkey engine died the following day, the latter becoming violently insane. The other three men who lost their lives were the second mate and two apprentice boys. Nine members of the crew were left on the shore in a cabin, about a mile north of the place where the ship went on the reef. The Tye first sighted the wrecked ship Saturday afternoon on releasing a tow. She was plainly outlined on the shore of Vancouver island, and could not be mistaken. Captain Gove made for the ship with all possible haste, and was soon in close proximity.

No sign of the crew could be seen on the wreck, nor on shore. The sea was running pretty high at the time the tug hove to, but two boats were lowered in charge of Mate Hall and Chief Engineer Hawkins, and a start was made for the ship, which was standing up majestically, her three lower topsails set and head-on straight to the westward. The stern was high in the air and the rudder broken square in two. Hall and Hawkins steered their boats for the bow of the ship, under which was a clear passage to the port side.

Once on that side a portion of the crew could be seen on top of a high bluff, on which a tent had been pitched. A rope ladder had been taken off the ship and fastened to the top of the bluff, making a stairway by which the men could climb from the shore to their abode.

A landing was effected with little difficulty, the big iron ship breaking the force of the waves, and the rescuers scaled the bluff. A slight mist fell, and the men were forgotten for years to come. Seated about a fire on pieces of wood and in the ground, were thirteen men, all wearing an expression of utter hopelessness and misery. At the sight of the Tye's men the scene was transformed into one of hope. The castaways jumped to their feet and embraced their rescuers.

First Mate Charles Legall, who was lashed to a boatwain's chair, suffering from a fractured leg, received from falling down a scuttle-hole several days before the ship went ashore, told Mate Hall, of the Tye the story of the disaster. He said his ship came from Cape Town, South Africa, for Royal Roads, British Columbia, and was 105 days out when she reached Cape Flattery, December 29. There was a terrible storm off the cape, and the vessel stood off two days before trying to come in. Then she was driven quickly to the northward by a strong southwest wind, and sought shelter in the treacherous waters of Barclay sound to avoid being driven ashore on some more exposed point. The sound offered little shelter, and she was driven on the rocks at high tide. This was 2 o'clock in the morning on December 31, and a snow storm was coming on. The ship seemed to be breaking in two, and it was decided to leave her at once, and with the aid of a line made fast ashore, the entire crew was taken off.

The survivors of the wrecked vessel are Mate Legall; Hunt, colored; Moran, Irish; Smyth, German; Olson, Swedish; Kerr, Scotch; Cox, native of Cape Town; Chamberlain, of London; Cumberliss, of Greece; Cousin, of England; Hetab, Russian; Bosano, of Manila; Carpenter, of England; Wilson, of Scotland.

Captain Thompson died three days before the arrival of the Tye, from exposure, and the three others on the next day from the same cause. The second mate and two apprentice boys met their death while trying to make land in a small boat the night the ship struck.

THE STATE'S WEALTH.

Complete Tax Roll by the State Equalization Board.

The receipt of Umastilla county's assessment by the state board of equalization permitted the board to complete its labors in a short time and adjourn. The total of the several kinds of property, and the total of all are as follows:

Town and city lots	\$ 38,856,398
Improvements on lots	15,338,741
1,800,369 acres of railroad land	1,867,518
551,612 acres wagonroad land	702,447
6,337,543 acres unimproved land	18,913,145
1,068,971 acres cultivated land	24,046,622
Improvements on deeded land	6,078,167
Railroads	5,126,182
Telegraph and telephones	148,630
153,613 horses and mules	2,896,237
370,690 cattle	3,630,734
1,707,690 sheep and goats	1,734,085
120,922 swine	374,566
Money	1,851,809
Notes and accounts	9,067,432
Shares of stock	1,618,072
Improvements on undeeded land	891,483
Household furniture	3,743,583
Machinery and equipments	1,622,695
Merchandise and implements	8,905,752
Rolling stock	628,176
Grand total	\$108,810,730

This amount is \$720,678 less than the total amount of the equalized valuation of the state last year, when it was \$109,440,408. The above grand total is the result of footing the items above and deducting from the result the sum of \$30,480, the net amount of reductions made by the county boards of equalization.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best Salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever, sore, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Dr. Edwin Ross.

CIRCUIT COURT.

Bogges vs A. Johnson et al, submitted to the court to be decided after hearing the testimony of W. N. Meserve Portland on January 21.

American Fire Insurance Company's demurrer overruled and defendant given 30 days to answer.

Kelley vs Lamberson, defendant allowed to amend answer and to attach amendment to original answer.

J. W. Cline vs Maria Cline, defendant granted a divorce and the custody of the children until further orders of the court.

A. F. Miller vs John and B. A. Quigley, dismissed without cost.

H. Vierick vs Emily Vierick, plaintiff granted decree of divorce.

F. M. Thorp vs McEntire, dismissed and plaintiff allowed to withdraw papers.

Goddell vs Van and Harvey, submitted to the court and taken under advisement by the court.

Burns vs Cole, plaintiff given five days to file brief, defendant given five days after service of plaintiff's brief to file brief, plaintiff given five days addition to reply.

Court adjourned until Friday, January 24, 1896.

Real Estate Transfers.

Michael Bradley to Minnie K. Bradley, $\frac{1}{2}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ sec 3, tp 6 n, r 2 west; \$10.

Celia E. Corliss and husband to John A. Wikstrom, $\frac{1}{4}$ of ne $\frac{1}{4}$, sec 1, tp 4 n, r 2 west, quietclaim; \$4850.

Harriet Crie to Sallie Thorp, lots 2 and 3, block "E", Green's Point; \$100.

Commercial National Bank to Brenham VanDusen, lot 4, sec 12, tp 6 n, r 2 west; \$400.

L. D. Dusan and wife to Mrs. Eunice B. Little, $\frac{1}{2}$ of se $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ of nw $\frac{1}{4}$ of se $\frac{1}{4}$, sec 3, tp 6 n, r 3 west; \$500.

C. A. Girt and wife to G. W. Girt, $\frac{1}{2}$ of ne $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ of nw $\frac{1}{4}$ of ne $\frac{1}{4}$, sec 3, tp 6 n, r 3 west; \$300.

John Hamill to Astoria Railroad Company, right of way in SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of se $\frac{1}{4}$, sec 6, tp 7 n, r 4 west; \$.

John Hendrickson and wife to Joseph Mustala, 3 acres of L. Bahner donation claim; \$45.

George Lawrence to Grant Thompson, $\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ sec 3, tp 3 n, r 4 west; \$195.

A. Neer and wife to Olive D. Hunter, lot 9, blk 2, Near City; \$15.

A. Neer and wife to Olive D. Hunter, lots 10 and 11, blk 22, Near City; \$100.

POINTED AND PERTINENT.

The trouble with Lord Salisbury is that he troubles himself to be another Beaconsfield.

It is a misnomer in every sense of the word to call that new bond issue a "popular" loan.

In view of that bond issue it seems proper to ask why Mr. Cleveland eschewed congress out of their holiday recess?

Queen Victoria is likely to be even more worried over the possibility of a war with Germany than she was about a scrap with the United States.

Utah is now a state, with representation in congress and all the other rights of statehood, but she will not get her star upon old glory until the 4th of July.

Senator Elkins has the satisfaction of knowing that his anti-private bond sale resolution frightened Mr. Cleveland into changing his program for that bond issue.

When Mr. Cleveland waves the star spangled banner he gets the plaudits of the people every time, but when he waves a \$100,000,000 bond issue he gets something very different.

After all, Mr. Bayard could not be blamed if he concludes to reside permanently in England after he retires from office, since he has lost the few friends he had in the United States.

The amendments to the pension laws which the house committee on pensions has incorporated in the regular pensions appropriation bill, are in the line of common sense and of justice.

Did Secretary Olney really tell the head of that banker's syndicate that advertising for bids for these bonds was merely a little bluff (as has been charged) and that they could put in a bid with confidence of its being accepted?

When you hear somebody say that this or that man would decline the republican nomination for the presidency, just ask for a list of those who have declined that honor. You won't get it for the very reason that it doesn't exist.

Ex-Senator Ransom seems determined to break the record for absenteeism. It would be interesting to know just how much time he has spent in the City of Mexico since he has been drawing the salary of United States minister to Mexico.

The people should subscribe for that anti-bond issue, if for no other reason than to rebuke Mr. Cleveland for his expressed lack of confidence in them. He is credited with having said that these bonds would have to be sold to the bankers because the people will not buy them. He should be convinced to the contrary.

Here's a little object lesson showing the difference between republican and democratic administration of national finances: The negotiation of the bonds, representing the great war debt of \$2,500,000,000, cost about \$5,000,000, while the Cleveland administration allowed a syndicate to make more than \$10,000,000 on an issue of \$2,000,000 in bonds.

MARRIED.

KELLIE-LINDSAY.—At the home of John M. Lindsay, at Deer Island, on January 12, 1896, by Justice Brown, Mr. W. J. Kellie and Nettie E. Lindsay.

THE MIST AND OREGONIAN

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