

...Are You Willing...
 TO BUY—
Merchandise
 Where you get the best value for your money.
DART & MUCKLE
 Have, as you all know, always kept a first-class line of general merchandise, which they still propose to do. As to price they are in a position to sell you goods cheap.
 ...Staple and Fancy Groceries...
 Of the best quality, are always found at this popular store. Their prices are right.

Medicine
 To be effective must be good and accurately prepared.
 WHEN YOU WANT A FIRST-CLASS ARTICLE GO TO THE—
...ST. HELENS PHARMACY...
 DR. EDWIN ROSS, PROPRIETOR.
...A COMPLETE STOCK OF TOILET ARTICLES...
 A CHOICE LINE OF CONFECTIONERY KEPT IN STOCK—

Stationery
 A full line of tablets, choice writing paper, school books, etc.
...JOHNSON & BURGDOFFER BROS....
 Manufacturers of and Dealers in—
...All Kinds of Rough and Dressed Lumber...
 Flooring... Rustic... Ceiling
 Dimension Lumber...
 SCAPPOOSE, OREGON

ST. HELENS MEAT MARKET
 When you are in need of Hams, Bacon or Lard remember that you can always secure the best article at the lowest price at this market.
...Fresh Meat Always on Hand...
 Special Rates Given on Orders for Large Quantities of Meat.
 J. H. DART, Proprietor St. Helens, Oregon

..NEW YORK STORE..
 ENDLESS VARIETY OF
Shirt Waists...
 ...AND...
...LADIES' JACKETS
 Complete Line of Mackintoshes and Rubber Goods.
 LARGE STOCK OF
...Fresh Groceries...
 ...AND...
PROVISIONS
 All Kinds Country Produce Taken in Exchange.
H. MORGUS, PROP.
 HARRIS' OLD STAND, ST. HELENS, OREGON

...WHEN IN NEED OF MEDICINE...
 GO TO—
THE CLATSKANIE DRUG STORE
 Drugs, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles, Etc
 DR. J. E. HALL, Proprietor.
 CLATSKANIE, OREGON.

MONTE VISTA NURSERIES
APPLE TREES. We have a choice lot of one and two-year-old trees, such as Ben Davis, Northern Spy, Baldwin, Spitzenberg and Gravenstein.
 ON WHICH WE QUOTE VERY REASONABLE PRICES.
Willamette Prune. One and two-year-old trees. Clons were obtained from a prominent fruit grower, and were out from bearing trees.
 ALSO CHERRY, PLUM AND PEAR TREES.
 A. HOLIDAY, PROP., SCAPPOOSE, OREGON

PAINTS!!!
 All kinds of Paints, Oils, Brushes, and Painters' Supplies.
CLEVELAND COTTAGE COLORS
 PORTLAND PRICES. ST. HELENS PHARMACY

OREGON MIST.

JANUARY 26, 1900.
 Mrs. Jas. Muckle was in Portland Monday.
 Mrs. W. H. Dolman left on Monday for California.
 I. G. Wikstrom, of Kalama, was in Portland Monday.
 T. A. Cloninger was down from Scappoose Wednesday.
 Mr. W. B. Dillard will leave today for a short visit to Lewiston, Idaho.
 Attorney Hall was attending to business matters in Portland Monday.
 Mr. E. E. Quick and Superintendent Copeland were in Portland Wednesday.
 Mrs. W. D. Connell, of Deer Island, visited in this city a day or two this week.
 The dance to be given at this place on February 22nd, will be an enjoyable affair.
 Mr. W. H. Dolman accompanied Mrs. Dolman to Portland Monday on her way to California.
 Several of our citizens have made application for appointment as census enumerators.
 A few steelhead salmon are being taken, for which fishermen are receiving 7 cents per pound.
 E. C. and Ross Stanwood were looking after their logging interests in Portland Monday.
 Rev. Mr. Philbrook will preach at Peris next Sunday at 11 o'clock, and at Yankton at 3 P. M.
 Miss Bertha Gillihan and Miss Eva Malmsten returned on Monday from Portland to their homes at Vernonia.
 Isabel Braden, mother of W. H. Braden, formerly of Vernonia, died in Portland on Tuesday of this week, aged 58 years.
 County court will be held today (Friday), to attend to the matters which would have been brought before the session yesterday.
 The precinct and road district boundaries, as established by the county court at the regular January term, will appear in our next issue.
 A meeting of the trustees of the Methodist church of this city was held Tuesday evening. Work on the proposed edifice is to be started soon.
 John Boals, of Mayer, was doing business in Portland Monday. Mr. Boals says he is doing a prosperous business in his coal burning and dealing.
 The steamer McMinville was on the run in the Canby's place a few days this week. It is said the McMinville will go on the slough run in the near future.
 The report is current that parties from Portland are looking over the field in the vicinity of Warren with a view to putting in a large logging and wood tramway.
 A change in the mercantile business so long conducted by Mr. W. H. Dolman, will take place about the first of the month. It is said that the new firm will be J. H. Collins and M. C. Gray.
 The piling are being driven for an extension to the Oregon Wood Company's wharf at this place. The business of the company is increasing to such an extent as to require more dock room.
 The Washington law permits fishermen to fish until March 1st. However, Fish Commissioner Reed will allow the fishermen to fish until March 1st until the legislature meets and untangles the mess.
 The session of the county court, which was to have been held yesterday to decide upon the tax levy for this year, was adjourned in order for the county officials to attend the funeral of the late George Hayes.
 There is a telephone line extending from St. Helens to Howard's mill, at Yankton, which is proving a great convenience to not only Mr. Howard, but to many people in the vicinity of both ends of the line.
 Dr. Ross is constantly adding to his stock of drugs, chemicals, patent medicines, etc. The people of this vicinity are fortunate in being able at all times to have their wants in the drug line supplied by a home dealer.
 Judge McBride was in this city last Saturday. While here he granted a divorce to Charles E. Olson from Annie Olson, by default. In the evening he attended the local Masonic lodge, of which he is Worshipful Master.
 It must be borne in mind that communications intended for publication must reach this office not later than Wednesday morning. We cannot handle the matter when it arrives later in the week than Wednesday forenoon.
 The bill are out announcing a grand ball for Honolulu, on February 14th—St. Valentine's day. Johnny Lamberson, Aaron Kelly and Clay Clark are managing the affair, and a pleasant time is assured all who attend. Tickets, including supper, will cost but \$1.00.
 The fact that Mr. Willard Johnson, of Castle Rock, will have charge of the floor at the dance here on February 22nd, and the knowledge that splendid music will be furnished by a Portland orchestra, are two features which certainly will add greatly to the enjoyment of the occasion.
 Another cold storage company has made arrangements to locate in Astoria. This will make five cold storage companies engaged in the salmon business in that city. In consequence of which, the price for salmon this year will not be less than 6 cents and will probably go to 7 cents. A cold storage house is of more benefit to fishermen than three canneries.
 The people of this school district, No. 2, will meet next Wednesday evening at the school house to vote a tax for school purposes. The valuation of property in this district is over \$75,000, and a 5-mill tax will raise almost \$400. That amount of special tax is customary to levy here, and no doubt the same action will result at the meeting next Wednesday evening.
 The reported bonding of the Payne paint plant and mine at Scappoose is confirmed. Mr. Payne bonded the mine to Portland parties for \$50,000, and while that is a large sum, yet it is said to be worth much more money than that. There seems to be all kinds of wealth hidden away in the hills of Columbia county, waiting man's ingenuity and capital to develop it.
 Secretary of State Dunbar has issued a pamphlet containing the election laws of the state of Oregon and of the United States, in so far as they relate to the conduct of elections and the duties of officers in connection therewith. This publication contains all the election laws in force at the present time in Oregon. Each county will be supplied with a sufficient number of copies so that each election precinct may have a copy. The work of distribution has commenced and this office acknowledges the receipt of a copy.

West's Jersey Herd.

Harry West, of Scappoose, has a herd of Jersey cattle which would make any dairyman proud. Mr. West milked an average of eight cows all during the week of 1899, with the following result, as shown by the books of the Mayfield creamery, where Mr. West disposed of the product: Average pounds of milk for each cow, 6,775; average test of milk, 5.4 pounds of butter fat per cow, or 3.67 pounds per cow for the year, which by the rule of adding one-third, would be 428 pounds of butter. Each one of Mr. West's cows earned him \$79.68 throughout the year. A great deal of money and care has been expended by Mr. West on his Jersey herd, but certainly he is well repaid, not only by the cash, but by possessing one of the best dairy herds in the county, besides the assurance of a greater annual earning each succeeding year. As an evidence of the superior qualities of Mr. West's cattle, he sold a three-month's old calf to Mr. A. C. H. of Rainier, for which he received \$45 cash.
County Surveyor Hayes Dead.
 County Surveyor George Hayes died at St. Vincent's hospital in Portland on Tuesday of this week. He had been in that institution for several weeks, going there after spending a number of weeks at Willamette River springs. Mr. Hayes' remains were taken to Mayer on Wednesday and laid to rest at the cemetery there on that day. Mr. Hayes was elected a surveyor by the republicans a year ago last fall, and was a resident of the lower end of the county for many years and was universally respected. The county judge, Commissioner Peterson, Assessor White and Sheriff Rice accompanied the remains of the deceased from this place to Mayer.
Activity in Timber Market.
 There is a noticeable activity in the timber lands market, as evidenced by the late filings in the county recorder's office. Most of the transfers, however, have been made to large companies or syndicates. The day of "snaps" in Oregon and Washington timber lands is rapidly passing, and from now on available properties will necessarily have to be handled by men of some capital. It has been practically certain for years that the merchantable timber of the Northwest must be placed upon a much higher plane of value, and the upward movement now in progress will inaugurate an era in which logging and milling methods must be altered from the prodigal destruction of what has heretofore been considered waste—Astorian.

WARREN ITEMS.

Mr. A. Slavens was a Houlton visitor last Monday.
 John Dolan went to St. Helens Wednesday on business.
 Henry Larsen, Sr., was a Portland visitor last Tuesday.
 Mrs. Laura McKay, of Scappoose, visited with her parents last Friday.
 Mrs. J. S. Bacon did business in Portland Thursday and Saturday of last week.
 M. Saxon moved his scow down near the sailing ground last Wednesday. He is getting ready for fishing.
 Emmet Stevens, of the Lake farm, was over last Sunday visiting his sister, Mrs. Jos. Copeland, of this place.
 Olive Grewell, Ella Bacon and Floyd Pusey were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. McKay, of Scappoose, last Sunday.
 Those who attended the party given at the home of Henry Duncan last Friday night, report having had a pleasant time.
 There will be services held at the residence of Henry Larsen, Monday, January 29th, at 7 P. M., by Rev. C. C. Poling.

SCAPPOOSE ITEMS.

Tom Piper was doing Portland last week.
 Miss Ella Tompkins, who has been very ill for the last three weeks, is improving rapidly.
 Mrs. Gus Ostby, who for the last two weeks has been confined to her home suffering from a severe cold, is able to be around again.
 Fern Grewell, who for the last year has been employed at the Honeyman ranch, has resigned his position and is now engaged in cutting wood.
 The Northern Pacific bridge crew are engaged in overlooking the trestles between here and Warren, and a few much-needed repairs have been made.
 We are informed that the engagement of Miss Mollie Cloninger of Scappoose to Mr. St. Clair of Portland is announced, the wedding to take place some time next month.
 From all reports, there is to be a wedding at Scappoose in the near future. Bert West, Geo. Gunderson and Geo. Vollesen are helping things along by putting in extra time in getting the house ready.
 The young people from this place who attended the dance on last Saturday evening at the home of Mr. Duncan and on Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. Grewell, near Warren, report a very pleasant time.
 In the course of a conversation with our young Warren friend Frankie Hoyt, we were informed that in the near future Warren is to enjoy a first-class entertainment, to be given in the large hall at the school house. The program will consist of Negro sketches, songs and recitations, to be followed by a supper. The admission fee has not been decided upon, but it will be in the reach of all. Frankie is a hustler, and we wish him success in his venture.
 Our friend, John Sparks, was aroused from a sound slumber one evening last week by hearing some one on the outside yelling for him to get up and take a smile. It took John one second to jump out of bed and another to reach the door, where his three friends, who had just arrived from Portland on the midnight train, presented John with a bottle about a yard long. When John got sight of that bottle, a huge grin overspread his good-natured face, and with here's luck, fellows, took a big swallow. His three friends by this time dodged around the corner of the station, and had no sooner done so when the bottle came flying after them, which, by the way, contained nothing but water. We would hate to repeat what John said as he slammed the door and stumbled into bed again.

FROM ANOTHER SOURCE.

County Clerk Watts was up visiting relatives Sunday.
 Mr. Bert West is having his village property fixed up.
 Mr. Gray, the St. Helens telegraph operator, was in our town Monday.
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 Dr. Cliff was called to this place last Sunday to see Mrs. Hannah White, who is quite sick.
 Miss Grace Duncan, who has been living in Portland for several months, has been visiting home folks for the past week.
 Watts & Price have given the interior of their store building a coat of paint, which, as a matter of fact, improves the appearance of things very much.
 Farmers around here are taking advantage of the prevailing high price for potatoes. A. Holaday & Sons shipped a carload last week, and John Schmitz is shipping a carload this week.

Not Pleased With the Law.

If the county court is compelled to comply with the new road supervisor law it will hoodoo road work in Tillamook county. Now that a systematic and practical method is being carried out, which would have resulted in giving the county some really good roads, it must be disappointing to the county judge and the commissioners to be forced to adopt an antediluvian system of road work. We sincerely trust they will find some way whereby they can throw the new law into the waste paper basket.—Tillamook Headlight.

Simmons Has Left Us.

E. C. Simmons, who has had a varied experience in this county for a number of years, has at last left us. From his farm back of Rainier, to the county jail, thence to the asylum, thence back to St. Helens, and finally he took his departure from here last Monday for Indiana, being sold by the district attorney that if he would remain away the charge of larceny against him here would be dismissed. Simmons sold his land for \$100 over the amount of the mortgage, and with that amount of cash he left the state.

Do You Know

Consumption is preventable? Science has proven that, and also that neglect is suicidal. The worst cough or cough that will not cure with any other remedy, is cured by our Consumption Cure. Sold on positive guarantee for over fifty years. Sold by Dr. Edwin Ross.

VERNONIA ITEMS.

Frank Tracy started for the outside world Tuesday.
 Rube Nesseman is home from Rainier on a short visit.
 Wm. Palmer was carrying the mail a couple of days last week.
 J. L. Young is home from Houlton, where he has been cutting wood.
 Charles McCauley came over the mountain from Houlton last Thursday.
 Mrs. Tracy went to Clatskanie last week after her sister, Mrs. G. H. Bynon. They returned Saturday.
 A. Smith and wife returned to the valley last week. They have been living at Houlton this winter.
 Otto Malmsten went to St. Helens Monday, after his sister, Eva, who has recovered sufficiently to return home.
 Quite a number of persons were on the sick list last week, although none were serious—bad colds, sore throat, etc.
 S. B. Rose thinks the new registration law is a fraud. He says he has voted ever since he was 13 years of age up to the present time, and to be deprived now of that privilege is pretty tough.
 Married, at the home of the bride's parents, on Beaver creek, Thursday, January 18th, Mr. Edgar Young, of Hillsboro, and Miss Ethel Young, Rev. Stroup officiating. An elegant dinner was served after the ceremony. The young couple left Friday for their future home at Hillsboro.

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A TEAPOT TEMPEST.

Mr. Caples intimates that Peter is being hobbled to pay Paul.
 Elsewhere in this issue this week will be found an article from the pen of Mr. C. G. Caples, of Columbia City, which contains some facts and a very great amount of fancy. In the first place, to put the author of the article before the readers of this paper in the light which must first be known before the purport of his letter can be understood, it is necessary to state that Mr. Caples is called upon during the last session of the county court, to pay his taxes for a certain year, which he claimed to have once paid, but no evidence of the fact could be produced, further than Mr. Caples' own statement. We do not wish to infer that Mr. Caples would intentionally misrepresent the truth, but he had no tax receipt, neither could there be found the scratch of a pen, or either the tax roll, stub books or public record of the tax collector to indicate that he was correct in his statement. Neither is that gentleman alone in this matter, proof of which, in endless quantities being open to inspection at the county offices.
 We are very glad the communication has reached us. It will not only serve as a warning to taxpayers to come in and pay the amounts against them for taxes, but it opens the way for a statement of affairs which we have for a long time been seeking.
 Mr. Caples states, and we have no reason to doubt his statement, that there are more than 500 persons in this county who have had their lands sold for back taxes. That there are many others who have escaped having their lands sold by the county in order to collect a just obligation, will not be questioned by those who are in a position to know. To demonstrate to Mr. Caples and the public that this is a small number compared to the amount of unpaid tax, we will first state that there has not been returned delinquent a tax roll for many years in which there was less than \$3000 of unpaid tax. The average amount of tax charged on each person on the tax roll, we will say is \$20. That would mean 150 persons for one year's sale, and as these sales have occurred annually for five successive years, we fall to see that the number of persons is very large in proportion.
 We presume that Mr. Caples means to infer that the sheriff's few years ago were in the habit of helping themselves to the contents of the crib. This statement we will not contradict; but let us do some figuring. When the tax roll is given to the sheriff for collection, that officer is charged with the entire amount of taxes to be collected, and all that he cannot collect he is given credit for when the roll is returned. Mr. Meeker was sheriff for four years, and the amount of his delinquent taxes was \$1000. Each delinquent tax roll returned to the county clerk by Mr. Meeker showed at least \$6000 unpaid tax, or \$24,000 for four years. During that four years, then, according to Mr. Caples' theory, there was over \$19,000 unaccounted for by Mr. Meeker, if as Mr. Caples says there should be no liens held on lands by the county for unpaid tax.
 We will rehearse Mr. Massie. He was sheriff for less than two years; his shortage was less than \$4000; yet the amount of delinquent taxes for those two years amounted to about \$10,000. Would there not naturally be about \$6000 of unpaid taxes? Examine each tax roll since those years and if there is one which did not contain \$3000 or more, the amount is very close to that sum. We will all acknowledge that the matter of tax collecting has been very carefully looked after for the last five or six years, and yet there has been a great amount of land sold for taxes, all of which goes to prove that even the full penalty of the law will not force some people to pay their taxes, and as a consequence the county holds liens on many pieces of land for the amount of unpaid tax against them, and the only impending danger we are able to discern lies in the fact that people will still refuse to pay the tax and permit the property to be disposed of by the county.
 A fact which might be reviewed in connection with this matter, and which will assist in satisfying Mr. Caples' mind as to why there are so many persons in the county whose lands have been sold for taxes, is that prior to 1894 there was never any penalty for failure to pay taxes. All unpaid tax was merely returned as delinquent, and Mr. Caples can readily understand that people will come no nearer paying their taxes than would they any other debt if there was no way of forcing its payment. And herein lies the whole secret of there being so many persons whose lands have been sold. Imagine, will you, what crime there would be in this world if there were no restraint placed upon humanity.
 Within the last few years the county officers have taken up the matter of forcing the payment of taxes in order to free the county from debt, and hush the mouths of those persons who howled the loudest about the debt; and because this is done there are scores of denunciations hurled at the officers. We do well know that "taxation, since the creation of man, has caused the world to mourn"—but most of us to mourn because we could not entirely escape it. The fact of the presence of so many people who aimed to escape tax paying has cost this county many thousands of dollars in interest, besides depriving those who were ever ready and willing to pay, the privilege of good roads and the enjoyment of the presence of better public buildings. Certainly there are many persons in the county whose lands have been sold for taxes, and we sincerely hope that the teapot tempest will be fanned into a hurricane by Mr. Caples, and in its course many people who are in arrears for taxes will be brought to the tax collector's desk. That is the only method we can conceive of in order to "put this matter in its proper light."

ANSWER TO "XMAS."

DEER ISLAND, JAN. 13, 1900.
 To THE EDITOR.—Xmas may be a little off about passing the hat around but once, as he himself passed it around the first time, and then it was passed again for the hall rent. But the unfortunate caller—got soup. As for me being a "kicker"; I was not the only one who "kicked." And as for throwing the dollar—I wasn't like the fellow who did not have it. I will freely admit that the supper was grand, which was due to the efforts of all the ladies of this vicinity, and for your correspondent ever has the good fortune to get a cook, it is devoutly to be hoped she will be as good a one as the ladies of Deer Island. I will never complain, no, never, even if the bills do come high. But many of the little we hearts would have gone away sad had it not been for the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Connell.
 OLD WAPPOOT SCRAPPER.

DEER ISLAND, JAN. 13, 1900.

I want to let the people who suffer from rheumatism and sciatica know that Chamberlain's Pain Balm relieved me after a number of other medicines and a doctor had failed. It is the best I have ever known of.—J. A. DODD, H. Alpharatta, Ga. Thousands have been cured of their rheumatism by this remedy. One application relieved the pain. For sale by Dr. Edwin Ross.

FOR PORTLAND DAILY.
 STEAMER
"America"
 Willamett Slough Route
 Leave St. Helens... 6:30 A.M.
 Arrive at Portland... 10:30 A.M.
 Leave Portland... 2:30 P.M.
 Arrive at St. Helens... 6:00 P.M.
 FARE 25 CENTS.
 Will Carry Nothing but Passengers and Fast Freight.
 JAMES GOOD, Master.

ED HILLSBERRY,
Expert Barber
 SHARP RAZORS AND CLEAN TOWELS.
 None but pure chemicals used in washing and cleansing the face.
Get a Hot Towel on Your Face
 Usual prices for work.
 DECKER'S OLD STAND, ST. HELENS

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
 AT THE
BANQUET
 None but the best in both Imported and Domestic wines, liquors and cigars.
CYRUS - NOBLE - WHISKEY
 The celebrated Weinhard Beer always on draught.
 CLONINGER & WHITNEY, Props.

ORIENTAL HOTEL
 Mrs. M. J. Scott Proprietress
 ST. HELENS, OREGON.
 A Strictly First-Class House. A Home for Commercial Travelers and the Public. Board and Lodging at Most Reasonable Rates.
A WELL KEPT STABLE
 For Care of Patron's Horses.

BRINN'S SALOON.
 Wm. Brinn, Prop.
 If you want something good in the line of whisky try
SHAW'S MALT
 Only the best—
 Liquors and Cigars Kept in Stock
 Pool and Card Tables for the use of Patrons. Courteous treatment.
 (Between the two Hotels.)
 ST. HELENS, OREGON.
 OPEN FROM 6 A. M. TO 12 O'CLOCK MIDNIGHT.

ST. CHARLES HOTEL
 Front & Morrison Sts., Portland
 Under New Management
 150 Rooms at 25 Cents to 50 Cents. Suites 75 Cents to \$1.00.
 Elevator, Electric Lights and Bells, and all Modern Conveniences.
 Free Bus Meets all Boats and Trains.
 Restaurant Connected with Hotel
 Oregon Telephone 299.
 Columbia Telephone 27.

ASTORIA & COLUMBIA RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY.

READ DOWN		DISTANCES		READ UP	
DAILY.	STATIONS.	DAILY.	STATIONS.	DAILY.	STATIONS.
P. M.	A. M.	0	Lv. Portland, Ar.	A. M.	P. M.
7:00	8:00	0	11:15	11:15	9:40
8:05	9:05	10	11:25	11:25	8:45
8:20	9:18	45.8	11:35	11:35	8:20
8:35	9:35	85.5	11:45	11:45	8:00
8:44	9:43	135.0	11:55	11:55	7:54
8:50	9:50	199.8	12:05	12:05	7:48
8:58	10:00	262.5	12:15	12:15	7:42
9:08	10:10	325.0	12:25	12:25	7:36
9:19	10:21	372.2	12:35	12:35	7:30
9:27	10:29	417.7	12:45	12:45	7:24
10:00	11:02	466.6	12:55	12:55	7:18
10:08	11:10	500.0	1:05	1:05	7:12
10:20	11:22	550.0	1:15	1:15	7:06
10:30	11:30	590.0	1:25	1:25	7:00

All trains make close connections at Goble with Northern Pacific trains to and from the East and Sound points. At Portland with all trains leaving Union depot, at Astoria with J. K. & N. Co.'s boat and rail line to and from Waco and North Beach points.
 Passengers for Astoria or way points must flag trains at Houlton. Trains will stop 25 to 30 minutes at Houlton when coming from points west of Goble. E. C. Simmons, Proprietor.
 Oregon, Wash. and Astoria, Or.