

THE STAYTON MAIL

By E. D. ALEXANDER.

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Wages and the Cost of Living.

According to figures compiled by the bureau of labor at Washington, wages and the cost of living have almost kept pace with each other during recent years and there is an exaggerated idea as regards the advance that either has made. Commissioner Wright figures that instead of the cost of living having advanced from a quarter to a third it really only shows an increase of from 15 to 17 per cent. The increased wages received by laborers, it is figured, have been equal to the increased cost of living, and the general statement is made "that the condition of the laboring man is better today than ever before in the history of the country."

This is perhaps true in regard to most trades, but there are notable exceptions—for instance, the people who draw fixed salaries year after year. As a rule clerks, bookkeepers, school-teachers and a host of others are paid today on the same basis that they were five years ago. Such persons with no increase in their income have had to meet the increased cost of living and also in many cases the increased cost of labor in certain trades. Take, for instance, a clerk or bookkeeper who owns his own house and receives the same salary today that he did five years ago. Not only does he have to pay higher prices for his living expenses, but any repairs on his house or property cost him more than they did five years ago, both on account of the charge for material and from the increased labor cost as well.

It is upon this class of employees that the increased cost of living that has unquestionably come in recent years has fallen most heavily, and it is a very large class and a serious burden.

The Latest Alaskan Discovery.

The discovery of a ledge of tin ore in Alaska which, it is claimed, may prove to be the largest in the world adds another industrial metal to the mineral wealth of the United States and furnishes another evidence of the richness of that far northern territory which we bought of Russia for the modest sum of \$7,500,000.

The presence of tin along Lost river in the Seward peninsula has been known for some years, but it was in the form of stream tin and not in commercial quantities. Hopes were held by geologists, however, that further prospecting would trace it to its source, and this has, according to reports, been done and tin ore found in abundant and paying quantities. How great the deposit may be must be ascertained by future developments.

The world's present production of tin is about 100,000 tons, half of which comes from the Straits Settlements, about one-quarter from the Malay peninsula and the rest from England, the Saxon and Bohemian Erzgebirge, Galicia, Spain, Brittany, Australia, Finland, Mexico and Bolivia. Traces of tin have been found in Pennsylvania, California, South Dakota, Idaho and West Virginia, but the United States produces none for commercial purposes. If Alaska is to supply this deficiency by the discovery at Nome the nearness of the mines to the coast, within five miles of the Bering sea, 121 miles northwest of St. Michael's and 2,700 from Seattle by sea, guarantees cheap water transportation for the product.

If the Lost river report proves well founded an unprecedented expansion of the tin plate industry may be expected.

Detailed reports have been received of the effect of the arrival of the United States squadron at Beirut. According to the story, Admiral Cotton said to an emissary, "You may tell it as freely as you like, if there is any more bloodshed I'll land my marines, vall or no vall." It is a significant fact that there was no more rioting at Beirut.

The assurance given by United States Treasurer Roberts that the share of money for each man, woman and child throughout the country increased 80 cents during the last fiscal year is of course gratifying even if a good many people did not receive their additional share.

Apparently a meeting of the women's auxiliary, Spanish War Veterans, is more productive of casualties than many of the engagements in which the veterans themselves participated.

Special on Ladies Jackets!

\$18.00 Ladies Light Tan Jacket, with out collar, with set in tan velvet neck piece, plain back, latest style sleeves, with cuffs, fancy cord fastener for front, satin lined, this beautiful jacket for..... **\$13.57**

\$16.00 Ladies Black Zeboline Jacket with two double half capes, with each nicely trimmed with black rickrack braid, with 12 intabs nicely trimmed to match cape, with 2 black spangles to each tab, late style sleeve with braided cuffs. This jacket has a nice satin lining. We offer this garment at the remarkably low price of..... **\$11.83**

\$12.50 Ladies Black Cloth Jacket with sewed down collar, with strap extending across both shoulders and down front and back almost full length garment, three nice spangles down the front, late style sleeves with cuffs. All around the collar, edges of jacket, cuffs and straps 2 to 4 rows of stitching. Edges of straps and sewed down collar satin bound. Two pockets; black satin lining. This piece of goods is always right. Our price now..... **\$9.63**

To see the remarkable low price we have placed on our Misses and Children's Jackets you are sure to buy one for the little girl at home.

Wear all day a pair of our ladies warm wool hose and when night finds you in bed, your feet are warm, you are asleep in a few minutes, morning finds you rested and you feel ten years younger.

G. D. TROTTER, Stayton, Oregon.

ELEPHANTS IN BURMA.

The Great Beasts Sometimes Work Without Immediate Oversight.

In Burma the animal generally used in lumbering operations is the elephant. While "my lord the elephant" solves in a unique way the transportation problem—always a vexatious one in lumbering operations—he does more than that. The stolid and slow moving ox can haul a load from one place to another, but the load has to be made ready for him in the first place, and after it has arrived at its destination it has to be unloaded. The elephant takes care of all these operations. Not only he is a draft animal, but in some instances, at a word from his driver, he picks up a timber, carries it to the designated point, and then not only deposits it where it belongs, but does so with precision and comparative ease, accomplishing a result almost impossible by hand labor, and with less expenditure of time than would be required by a steam crane.

In most cases an elephant driver, or mahout, is required for each elephant, but human labor is so cheap as not to be a factor in the expense. The elephant furnishes the labor which is paid for, and the driver is looked upon as a necessary, though not altogether desirable, concomitant, as the native helper is not so much to be relied upon as his big charge. Opium and the strong brews of native roots work on human frailty, but the elephant has no desire for these. In many big lumbering operations the elephants are seemingly "told" what they are to do in the morning, and in some degree left to carry on the work during the day according to their own devices. Very remarkable are the stories told of their sagacity. One of these stories, vouched for as true, concerns lumbering, and tells of an elephant that was about to pick up a log just as the great gong which signaled the close of the day's work was sounded. To the surprise of the mahout, the log, only a little larger than others which had been carried, proved too heavy for the elephant to lift from the ground. Another elephant was requisitioned, but the two together failed to make any headway with the heavy timber, and the attempt was given up. In the morning the first elephant went immediately to the timber, lifted it with apparent ease, and carried it to the required resting place.—Forestry and Irrigation.

FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

Most kinds of fruit trees thrive best in rolling lands.

If mildew appear on the rosebushes, dust with sulphur.

The garden must be mellow, rich and kept clean. This is the inside secret of successful gardening.

An application of hard wood ashes will supply the soil with the potash so necessary in growing small fruits.

Bone meal is an excellent garden

fertilizer, but it does not give immediate results unless dissolved with acid.

The longer an orchard is kept in cultivation and a crop taken off the greater becomes the necessity of liberal manuring.

The greater portion of the roots of the grapevine grows near the surface. For this reason the cultivation should be shallow.

In the garden especially one of the drawbacks to the germination of seeds is that they are often covered with too much earth when planted. Usually the smaller the seed the less covering is required.

A Self Denying Offering.

Some young girls were giving a vaudeville performance for a local charity. A young man who thought himself facetious tossed upon the stage after one of the "turns" a bouquet whose chief ingredient was a head of cabbage. The girl who received this offering of appreciation read the card that accompanied it, and advanced to the footlights.

"It gives me great pleasure," she said, "to know that Mr. Edward Morgan has enjoyed my performance. I hoped that the audience might like it, but I never expected for a moment that Mr. Morgan would so far lose his head as to throw it upon the stage!"—New York Tribune.

A Henpecked Astrologer.

Lilly, the astrologer and alchemist, could not see for himself sufficiently far into that future which he professed to be able to scan so clearly for others to guard him against making a fool of himself by marrying. He caught a vixen, "of the temper of Mars," to use his own words, and the fact that she brought him £500 as dowry did not count for much in the way of compensation seeing that "she and her relations cost him £1,000."

The Grandeur of Him!

An impeccably dressed gentleman the other day, when walking along Piccadilly, felt a movement in his pocket, and clapping his hand thereto seized the wrist of the thief. He drew forth the erring member, and, looking at it with supreme disgust, he released saying with a grimace of disgust, "For heaven's sake, my good man, go and wash your hands before you put them in a gentleman's pocket again."—London Tatler.

The Pain of Silence.

"We women," she was saying again, "suffer in silence."
"I can readily believe that you do suffer in silence," the man replied.
"You take so much pleasure in talk."—Philadelphia Press.

Logic and Love.

Dejected Suitor—If you intended to say "no" why did you let me propose?
Sweet Girl—Why, how could I say "no" if you didn't?

American Lady Corset

We have just received another shipment of American Lady Corsets in Black, White and Drab. Longfellow made medium straight front, long skirt, medium bust, most perfect fitting dip hip corset, made of heavy contil and trimmed with handsome lace. The pair at the remarkable low price of \$1.00. Better goods, \$1.25 and \$1.50 the pair.

We have some very good corsets in black and drab at 50c the pair.

Ladies Heavy Flannelette Nightgowns in assorted patterns in blue and white, and pink and white stripes, per garment, 50c. Heavier and better gowns, nicer made and trimmed, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50.



Sale on Ladies Shoes

\$1.50 Ladies Dongola Lace, Stock Tip Shoe, great value at 1.50, reduced to..... \$1.17

Regular houses ask \$2.00 for this shoe, and to give a reduction would ask \$1.60 and then mend it free of charge.

\$2.00 Ladies Kid Lace patent tip Shoes, a rare bargain at..... \$1.49

\$3.50 ladies hand made and hand turned Shoes, patent tips, medium heavy, flexible soles, a very comfortable shoe..... \$2.57

It Takes Courage

To guarantee prices like these herein printed. We suggest that you refer to the following quotations before you pay the advances which are talked on every hand.

45c Flannel, all wool..... 32c
40c Shaker Flannel..... 29c
12 1/2c Flannelette..... 09c
10c Outing Flannel..... 08c
12 1/2c Teazle Down..... 09c
3 1/2c Serge..... 22c
65c Table Linen, white..... 45c
40c " " red..... 29c
80c Columbia Suiting..... 58c
\$1 Golf Shirts..... 80c
50c Golf Shirts..... 40c
75c Laundered Shirts..... 50c
\$1 " "..... 80c

Ladies Fleece Lined Vests..... 20c
Men's " " Pants..... 20c
Men's " " Shirts..... 35c
Men's " " Drawers..... 38c
Men's " " "..... 42c
Men's " " Shirts..... 42c
Mt. Hood Overall..... 65c
Boys Overall..... 20 to 35c
Jumpers..... 40c
Wrappers..... 75c to \$1.25
Boys Ties..... 08c
Men's Band Teck Scarf..... 15 and 20c
Men's Fancy Band Bow..... 20c

THE BEE HIVE STORE, STAYTON, OREGON.

Oak Grove.

Christina King is visiting at F. M. Fresh's.

Adolph Heater has rented the Geo. Downing place; it looks bad for a batch.

Mrs. Cooley has moved in her new house, recently repaired by Frank Tate.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Morley are, the happy parents of a baby boy.

Several of our boys attended the shooting match Wednesday and had good luck.

Those that attended the party at I. B. Carter's Saturday had a good time. It was the 21st anniversary of Frank's birth. The doors were thrown open for those present and music and games were enjoyed until the usual hour, when an elegant lunch was served to which all did justice, after which all departed, wishing Frank many returns of the day.

Read the Market News

The Oregon Daily Journal.

Nothing is omitted which concerns the interest of buyers and sellers in the live stock, grain, provisions, produce, and financial markets—the quotations are comprehensive and in every way reliable.

The Journal in addition carries every day a full and truthful report of the world's news and presents many

special features of deep interest to the average reader. The Journal's woman's page, the illustrated sporting news page, Journal stories and comic pages and other good things make it a very popular family newspaper, clean and bright from A to Z and year's end to year's end.

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For Piles, Burns, Sores.