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THE OFFICE SEEKING HORDE.

General Harrison Says It Makes the Position of President One of Many Trials.
 At the beginning of every administration Washington fills up with persons who desire some office either in the states, in the departments or in the foreign service, writes ex-President Harrison in "The Ladies' Home Journal," discussing "The Presidential Office." Many of these persons have a limited purse, and as the days pass on this is exhausted, and impatience and ill temper come in. Many of these persons are desiring and well fitted to fill the offices they desire. But it is impossible to find places for all the deserving, and the position of the president is full of trial. The suspense and uncertainty that the office seeker suffers are illustrated by the case of a man from my own state who thought he had good reason to expect an appointment from President Garfield. After he had been weeks at Washington, and had brought to bear all the influence he could command, I met him one day on the street and asked him how he was getting along. His answer was, "Very well, very well, but there is nothing focal yet." It was wonderfully expressive and has remained in my memory as a type of the state of uncertainty which accompanies office seeking. "Nothing focal yet," but a hope that is hard to kill.

There are few offices at Washington the salaries of which enable the incumbent to save any money, and the average experience of those holding places in the departments, I am sure, is, if they would express it, that private business offers better returns and gives a better chance for advancement.

An Impossibility Accomplished.
 From time to time a good deal has been said by orators and writers about the impossibility of damming Niagara. Yet it has been done. Nature accomplished that feat recently, and just above the American fall, according to reports, one might have comfortably watched that usually tremendous torrent.—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

A Consolation Event.
 New York couldn't get either of the national political conventions, but she is going to have a cat show next month.—Minneapolis Journal.

What They Must Do.
 The other scientists will have to either meet the cathode raise or retire from the game.—Chicago Times-Herald.

That Cherished Delusion.
 There are other candidates for the presidency who are as completely out of the race as if they had also written letters to that effect, but they do not know it.—New York Advertiser.

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GROWING NORTHWEST

Progress and Doings in the Pacific States.

CONDENSED BUDGET OF NEWS

From All the Cities and Towns of the Pacific States and Territories—Washington.

Steps have been taken for the formation of a mining stock exchange in Spokane.

An ordinance prohibiting gambling was defeated by the Olympia council last week.

The Blankenship mill at New Whatcom has been ordered sold to satisfy claims amounting to \$9,000.

A six-pound howitzer has been sent over from Olympia by Governor McGraw to the militia at Ilwaco.

Cashier Taylor, of the Puget Sound National bank, of Everett, has practically arranged with Controller Eckels to take the bank out of the hands of Receiver Church in the course of a few months.

A recent decision of the superior court in Clallam county was to the effect that school directors could employ teachers beyond the term of office of the directors with whom the contract was made.

The Walla Walla firemen are making great preparations to attend the annual meeting and tournament of the Eastern Oregon and Washington Firemen's Association, which will be held in Pendleton June 2, 3 and 4.

Hal Dickson, of Pomeroy, Wash., is packing a large number of eggs according to directions given him by Rev. Sprout, who says they will keep two years if desired, and then no one can detect them from a fresh egg.

The May term of the United States district court convened in Walla Walla last week, Judge Bellinger, of Portland, presiding in place of Judge Hanford. There were four criminal cases on the docket and several civil suits.

J. C. Wallace, of Chelan Falls, will experiment with sorghum this season. He will plant seven or eight acres, and several of his neighbors will plant from one to four acres each. A full manufacturing plant has been ordered.

The Whitman county commissioners recently offered \$300 for the arrest and conviction of the party or parties guilty of administering poison to horses in the Creston neighborhood, which seems to have had the effect of stopping the deadly work.

About 300 trout were sold on the streets of Ellensburg last week by two Indians, for 40 cents for the lot. They averaged about three and a half inches in length and the vendors claimed to have caught them with hook and line, but an investigation would probably reveal some carefully concealed traps in the waters about town, says the Capital.

Dayton is proud of her water works. For ordinary use the supply well at the springs three miles above the city furnishes all the water needed by a city twice the size. In case of fire, the reservoir holding 700,000 gallons is made use of. The water has a fall of more than 160 feet, and the force is so great that three men are necessary to hold the nozzle of the fire hose.

Senator Squire telegraphed to N. H. Bloomfield, of Portland, that the appropriations for all river and harbor improvements in the state of Washington, as reported from the committee on commerce, had passed the senate, including the full amount, \$67,000, for the Columbia river at Vancouver. A small amendment was adopted extending the survey of the north fork of the Lewis river to the head of navigation, or Etna.

Treasurer Mish, of Snohomish county, says that he will soon be able to turn over to the county all but about \$5,000 of the money which was tied up in the failure of the Puget Sound National bank. This will have a good effect on the county's credit. The commissioner had entered an order removing the treasurer from office on May 1, but this showing is so good that they have concluded that it is to the county's interest that Mr. Mish remain.

E. W. Purdy, treasurer of Whatcom, has begun suit against the persons on the guarantee bond for the county money deposited in the Bellingham Bay National bank. The amount looked up in the bank is \$7,898.18. The parties who stood good for this amount and bonded themselves for its repayment to the amount of \$25,000, are J. J. Donovan and wife, J. J. Eden and wife, M. McMillen and wife, J. W. Morgan and wife and C. P. Wheeler. Each of these is held for \$5,000.

United States Sealskin Inspector Fowler has been busy at Port Townsend, inspecting the catches of six Indian sealing schooners that have just returned from the cape. The catches are not large, but the weather has been so rough that it has been impossible for the sealers to get more than 25 miles off shore at any time, and the best hunting grounds have therefore not been visited by them. The skins are all prime ones, and the sealers are satisfied with their work, considering the unfavorable weather.

Oregon.
 Umstilla county has \$14,809 in its treasury.
 A map of Jackson county has just been completed and published.

Baker City wants the next meeting of the State Press Association.
 Subscriptions are being asked in the upper Rogue river valley for helping to

improve the road from the summit of the Cascades to Crater lake.

Citizens of Cottage Grove have begun active work on the Bohemia wagon road.

The contract has been let for the erection of a Presbyterian church at Brownsville.

Walter Denny, an Ashland boy, expects to be a fireman on the new battleship Oregon.

A tie train recently took about 8,000 ties from Henderson to the cross-ties works at Latham.

Klamath Falls is setting a good example to more ambitious towns in Oregon by forbidding bicycle riders to ride on sidewalks under penalty of fine.

Lane county warrants are now in demand. Local capitalists are paying 1 per cent premium for them. This has happened occasionally for the past three years.

The trapdoor of an Astoria streetcar was carelessly left open one day last week, and Mrs. J. P. Swenson, carrying a little child in her arms, boarded the car. She stepped into the opening, injuring herself severely.

The new flume of the Klamath Water Ditch Company is progressing rapidly. The ditch is being raised to run around the foothills, and 125,000 feet of lumber has been sawed at Carr's mill, to be used in the flume, of which 28,000 feet is already on the ground.

The sewing machine company that threatened to contest the right of the city of Ashland to impose a peddler's license fee on its agent has compromised by taking out a license for three months, under protest, to give it an opportunity to fight the ordinance later on.

R. C. Kiger, Benton county's stock inspector, is urging upon sheepraisers the necessity of clipping sheep in order to eradicate scab. There are several bands in Benton yet afflicted with the scab, and these Mr. Kiger wants clipped a few times immediately after shearing. If this matter is given proper attention now, he says the disease can be entirely wiped out.

Thomas G. Keene has petitioned the Marion county court to refund the taxes paid by him in the years 1893 and 1894, on the southeast quarter of section 22, township 10 south, range 3 east. It appears that laboring under a misapprehension, he paid taxes to the sheriff of Marion county instead of Linn county, in which the land lies. Meanwhile the land has been sold for taxes.

The Prineville Review says the city fathers are very economical, judging by the furniture in the city hall. A Review man was in attendance at a case before the recorder one day last week. The only articles in the room were two benches, one table, two pine boxes and a goods box with shelves in it, used for a secretary, and a good stove, so that a person can keep warm if the marshal succeeds in capturing enough old sidewalk boards for fuel.

Umatilla county is to follow Multnomah county in making a test of the salary law. Action has been brought which will bring a decision on a direct issue as to whether the sheriff is entitled under it to draw from the county treasury mileage and fees in excess of the \$2,500 salary allowed him by law. Suit has been commenced in the circuit court, injunction being prayed for to stop the county court from allowing, and the clerk from issuing scrip for such pay. Charles Brownfield has sued out the injunction.

Idaho.
 Star mail service has been established from Bruneau Valley to Wickahoney, thirty-one miles and back once a week, by a schedule of not to exceed ten hours running time each way. This is operative from July 1 next to June 30, 1900.

The miners employed in the De Lar mine are out on a strike, and ask that their wages be restored to the amount paid them before the cut two years ago. No distance is anticipated, and the Miner's union says that none will be tolerated by them.

The Idaho Mining Journal says that the mining outlook in the various camps tributary to Boise is very encouraging, although on account of the rains and cold weather, work is several weeks behind. Those mines that are being developed are reporting their ore veins wider, richer and better defined as work progresses. To hear of a rich strike in this mine or that mine is an every day occurrence.

The old Nicola mining camp which has lain comparatively idle for the past seven years, will make quite a respectable output of ore. The original Viola mine, owing to its being in litigation, will probably remain idle, but there are other mines in that vicinity which have produced sufficient ore during the past winter to justify the letting of contracts to freight the output to Dubois, where it will be shipped to Denver.

Montana.
 The recent rich strike in the Helena mining district in the Overland mine has to a great extent aroused some of the old-time spirit of enterprise. Helena will yet be a mining camp in all its glory.

The Roseland Miner says that it is now definitely decided that the C. P. R. will build directly into Roseland this year. It will build from opposite Robson to Trail and will utilize the narrow gauge for whatever Roseland business it may get. It is proposed to lay a third rail on the ties of the narrow gauge and haul standard gauge cars over the road with the narrow gauge engines of the Columbia & Western.

Australia has furnished more crimes and disasters this year than in any previous year for over a quarter of a century.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

The volume of business has not been large, but shows an improvement over last week. Sheepshearing is in full blast all over the Northwest, and, while the price is very low, the clip gives promise of being a large one, so that a considerable amount of money will be placed in circulation and materially help matters. An average of \$500 a day is being paid out for potatoes in Portland, and this is proving very acceptable at this time.

Wheat Market.
 The local wheat market is unchanged, with practically nothing doing. Prices are: Walla Walla, 56 to 57; Valley, 58 to 59c per ubabel.

Produce Market.
 FLOUR—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, are quoted at \$3.00 per barrel; Goldrod, \$2.95; Snowflake, \$3.20; Benton county, \$3.00; graham, \$2.65; superfine, \$2.25.
 OATS—Good white are quoted weak, at 27c; milling, 28@30c; gray, 23@24c. Colored oats are quoted as follows: Bage, \$4.25@5.25; barrels, \$4.50@7.00; cases, \$3.75.
 HAY—Timothy, \$9.00 per ton; cheat, \$6.00; clover, \$6@7; oat, \$5@6.50; wheat, \$5.50@6.50.
 BARLEY—Feed barley, \$13.50 per ton; brewing, \$15@16.
 MILLS—Bran, \$13.00; shorts, \$15; middlings, \$18@20.00; rye, 92½c per cental.

BUTTER—Fancy creamery is quoted at 30c; fancy dairy, 25c; fair to good, 17½c; common, 12½c per roll.
 POTATOES—New Oregon, 25@30c per sack; sweets, common, 5½c; Merced, 3½c per pound.
 ONIONS—Fancy, \$2.25 per sack.
 POULTRY—Chickens, hens, \$3.50 per dozen; mixed, \$3.00@3.50 per dozen; ducks, \$5.00@6; geese, \$5.00; turkeys, live, 15c per pound; dressed 15@17c.
 EGGS—Oregon, 10c per dozen.

CHEESE—Oregon full cream, 11c per pound; half cream, 9½c; skim, 4@6c; Young America, 12½c.
 TROPICAL FRUIT—California lemons, \$3.00@3.25; choice, \$2.00@2.50; Sicily, \$4.50; bananas, \$1.75@3.00 per bunch; California navel, \$3.25@3.50 per box; pineapples, \$5@6.00 per dozen.
 ORGON VEGETABLES—Cabbage, 1c per lb; garlic, new, 10c per pound; artichokes, 35c per dozen; sprouts, 5c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.75 per crate, 90c@1 per dozen; hothouse lettuce, 40c per dozen.
 FRUIT—Pears, Winter Nellis, \$1.50 per box; cranberries, \$9 per barrel; fancy apples, \$1@1.50; common, 50@75c per box.

DRY FRUITS—Apples, evaporated, bleached, 4@4½c; sun-dried, 3½@4c; pears, sun and evaporated, 5@6c; plums, pitless, 3@4c; prunes, 3@5 per pound.
 WOOD—Valley, 9c, per pound; Eastern Oregon, 5@7c.
 HOPS—Choice, Oregon 2@3c per pound; medium, neglected.
 NUTS—Almonds, soft shell, 9@11c per pound; paper shell, 10@12½c; new crop California walnuts, soft shell, 11@12½c; standard walnuts, 12@13c; Italian chestnuts, 12½@14c; pecans, 13@15c; Brazil, 12½@13c; filberts, 12½@14c; peanuts, raw, fancy, 6@7c; roasted, 10c; hickory nuts, 8@10c; coconuts, 9c per dozen.

PROVISIONS—Eastern hams, medium, 11½@12c per pound; hams, picnic, 7½c; breakfast bacon 10½@10¾c; short clear sides, 8½@9c; dry salt, 12½c; lard, compound, in tins, 7½c; lard, pure, in tins, 9½@10c; pigs' feet, 80c, \$3.50; pigs' feet, 40c, \$3.25; kits, \$1.25. Oregon smoked hams, 10½c per pound; pickled hams, 8½c; boneless hams, 7½c; bacon, 10½c; dry salt sides, 6½c; lard, 6-pound pails, 7½c; 10s, 7½c; 50s, 7½c; tierces, 7c. Country meats sell at prices according to grade.
 HIDES—Dry hides, butcher, sound, per pound, 11@12c; dry kip and calf skin, 10@11c; culls, 3c less; salted, 60 lb and over, 5c; 50 to 60 lbs, 4@4½c; 40 and 50, 4c; kip and veal skins, 10 to 30 lbs, 4c; calf skin, sound, 3 to 10 lbs, 6c; green, unsalted, 1c less; culls, 1-2c less; sheepskins, shearing, 10@15c; short wool, 20@30c; medium, 30@40c; long wool, 50@70c.

MERCHANDISE MARKET.
 SALMON—Columbia, river No. 1, talls, \$1.25@1.60; No. 2, talls, \$2.25@2.60; fancy, No. 1, flats, \$1.75@1.85; Alaska, No. 1, talls, \$1.20@1.30; No. 2, talls, \$1.00@2.25.
 BEANS—Small white, No. 1, 2c per pound; butter, 3c; bayou, 1½c; Lima, 4c.
 CORDAGE—Manilla rope, 1¼-inch, is quoted at 8½c, and Sisal, 6½c per pound.
 SUGAR—Golden C, 5½c; extra C, 5½c; dry granulated, 6½c; cube crushed and powdered, 6½c per pound; ¾c per pound discount on all grades for prompt cash; half barrels, ½c more than barrels; maple sugar, 15@16c per pound.
 COFFEES—Costa Rica, 20@23½c; Rio, 20@22c; Salvador, 1g@22c; Mocha, 27@31c; Padang Java, 30c; Palamang Java, 26@28c; Labat Java, 23@25c; Arabica's Mokaoka and Lion, \$20.30 per 100-pound case; Columbia, \$20.30 per 100-pound case.
 RICE—Island, \$3.50@4 per sack; Japan, \$3.75@4.
 COAL—Steady; domestic, \$5.00@7.50 per ton; foreign, \$8.50@11.00.

MEAT MARKET.
 BEEF—Gross, top steers, \$3.25; cows, \$2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@5½c per pound.
 MUTTON—Gross, best sheep, wethers, \$3.40; ewes, \$1.50@2.75; dressed mutton, 5c per pound.
 VEAL—Gross, small, 4½c; large, 3@3½c per pound.
 HOGS—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.00@3.25; light and feeders, \$2.50@2.75; dressed, 3½@4c per pound.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.
 FLOUR—Net cash prices: Family extra, \$3.75@3.85 per barrel; bakers' extra, \$3.50@3.65; superfine, \$2.85@3.00. BARLEY—Feed, fair to good, 71½c choice, 73½c; brewing, 86½c.
 WHEAT—Shipping, No. 1, \$1.07½; choice, \$1.10; mill-ing, \$1.17½@1.22½. OATS—Milling, 75@82½c; surprise 90@95; fancy feed, 81½@87½; poor to choice, 75@80c; poor to fair, 67½@72½c; straw, 72½@80c.
 POTATOES—Sweets, \$2.50@2.75; Burbanks, Oregon, 30@35.
 HORSES—Quotable at 2@4c per pound.
 ONIONS—\$1.75 per sack.

WOES OF A RESTAURANT KEEPER.

His Napkins and Even His Casters Carried Off by Customers.
 It was during the second half of the rush for dinner in a restaurant near Washington market, where several thousand persons are fed daily, when a great clamor arose for napkins, and waiters rushed about gathering up what few could be found on the tables and distributing these, and others were dispatched to the laundry for more. Henry, the head waiter, went around meantime trying to pacify the people, who were angry and declaring that it was a shame that the house couldn't give a man a napkin to wipe his mouth with. Some customers fell back upon the time honored custom of the neighborhood and used the corners of the tablecloths in lieu of the missing napkins.

"It's a curious and an annoying matter how we run out of napkins every little while," said Henry. "You might suppose that because they are laundered so frequently they disappear in the regular way by wearing out, but that is not true. You will seldom see napkins in a restaurant which show the effect of wear. They go because they are stolen. This is true not only of such popular restaurants as this, but also of every restaurant in this city. Who takes them I do not know. All we know is that they disappear regularly, and our supposition is that some are carried off by people who deliberately intend to steal them and others by persons who put them into their pockets by mistake. I know one such person as this. It was a woman of undoubted honesty, but it was a joke among the members of her own family that she never dined at a hotel or restaurant without carrying off a napkin which she had unconsciously stuffed into her pocket. We got 13 dozen big dinner napkins a few weeks ago. Within three weeks they had all disappeared but five dozen, and now these aren't one in the house.

"Tableware goes in the same way sometimes. A little while ago we got eight dozen of these salt and pepper casters." Here Henry pointed to some neat little cut glass casters with silver plated tops. "We put them on the tables during the time the wagon boys were coming in here for breakfast last fall, just before they would start out to sell their day's buyings on the streets. 'Hallo gee!' they would say. 'That's a pretty nice thing. I guess I'll swipe it just for luck—see?' And when they left every day we would miss a few casters. Five dozen of them were lost within a few weeks."—New York Sun.

HIDING HER DIAMONDS.

Take a Lesson From the Woman Who Put Hers in Her Old Shoes.
 A group of Washington women had been telling each other where they hid their treasures from possible thieves. One used her pillowcase, a second had a pocket on her stocking, another the lining of her picture hat, when a third said she always tucked things in her old shoes.

"Then you want to take warning from the experience of a friend of mine," said Mrs. Tarney of Missouri. "She had beautiful diamond rings, ornaments, earrings and other articles, and when an epidemic of burglaries came along she took to hiding her diamonds in her oldest shoes. One night she was awakened by burglars down stairs. She thought if they heard some one moving about they would take fright and run away without attempting to come up where she was. So she went to the head of the stairs, but the burglars kept on and didn't mind her in the least. She hurried back into her room, caught up the first articles that came handy and sent them over the balusters. After they had left her hand she was struck with horror to discover her old shoes bumping down the stairs, attended by a shower of her diamonds. Luckily the shoes did the work. The burglars didn't stop to investigate, and the woman had strength enough to gather up her jewels, all of which she found except one earring. The next day the maids had to sweep the entire floor to discover that. But she doesn't use her old shoes as diamond safes since."—Philadelphia Press.

A Result of Fortune Telling.

The girls employed in one of the big department stores of New York amuse themselves during lunch hour by telling each other's fortunes in teacups. "Yettie," said one of them the other day, peering intently into a teacup. "It is going to die an old maid. She will be taken away from home over the water somewhere. She will go out of her mind. She—I can't read any more." Then the gong sounded and the chattering work-ers scattered. Today Yettie is at home a raving maniac. She cries out that she don't want to be sent over the water. No one can quiet her fears nor exorcise the evil spirit born of the folly of fortune telling. But a new rule has been posted in the lunch room of the big store.

Pleasures of Playing "It."

Mr. Ferry—Why on earth do you spend so much time running around pricing things you have no notion of buying?
 Mrs. Ferry—For the same reason, I suppose, that you sit around reading the sporting column of the paper and figuring up how much you might have won if you were a betting man. It is a sort of mental diversion.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Occupation Explained at Last.

"What makes you women kiss when you meet?"
 "It is a sort of apology in advance for what we mean to say about each other after we part."—Indianapolis Journal.

To the thinker, the most trifling external object often suggests ideas which extend, link after link, from earth to heaven.—Bulwer.

The annual issue of books is estimated at 85,000,000 volumes, consuming 65,000 tons of sized paper.