

# NORTHWEST BREVITIES

## Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

### ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving Sister States—Oregon.

The Tigardville flouring mill, in Washington county, is running full time, and is not able to fill all orders.

Professor R. D. Williams, who was stabbed by Ed Meador, one of his pupils, at Prairie City, in Grant county, has since died.

One firm in Coquille City shipped, during December last, 900 dozen of eggs. The poultry shipments, too, were quite large.

The schooner Free Trade was struck by a heavy sea while crossing the Tillamook bar lately. The man at the wheel was injured and the steering-gear demolished.

Work on the Bandon woolen mills warehouse has been stopped for the present owing to claims on the wharf between the river channel and the place selected for the building.

The logging camp of Nixon Bros., near Peoria, in Linn county, burned last week and all of the property in it. The Nixon Bros. were getting out logs for the O. R. & N. wharf in Corvallis.

The mail-carrier, while crossing Warm Springs reservation with a buckboard and four horses, mired down and had to get out with the mail for Prineville on a pack animal on a recent trip.

H. Clay, of Arlington, who has 7,000 sheep that are being fed in Minnesota for the Chicago market, says that there are 80,000 head of sheep near his place that are being fattened for market.

Cat worms are doing considerable damage to fall grain in the vicinity of Oak Grove, in Wasco county. The cold spell in November did some damage to grain in that part of the county, but the injury was not great.

The Umatilla county assessor has just completed the military roll, which has been turned over to the county clerk. The roll contains about 1,800 names, and is compiled alphabetically, so that it is a simple matter to ascertain whose names are upon it whose are not.

The people of Arlington had an extra dish of entertainment served Christmas night in the way of an Indian dance, given by about thirty of the Columbia Indians. The Indians hired the hall and charged an admission. Nearly every one went to see them and hear the music they furnished on such occasions. Like many other ballroom celebrities, they were painted in the latest colors.

The Indians had a big time at Thorn Hollow, in Umatilla county, on Christmas day. There took part in the festivities 100 Umatilla Indians, five Potlatch and four Nez Percés. One of the Nez Percés Indians was found with a bottle of whisky in his possession. This was promptly taken from him by the Indian police, who poured out the contents. Two other Indians got somewhat hilarious and were put in irons.

#### Washington.

The population of Chehalis county is 10,473, an increase of 1,400 in two years.

The Electric Light & Power Company is planting maple trees and otherwise improving the Tumwater park, near Olympia.

Judge Hume, in Seattle, has fixed March 28, 1897, as the date upon which William Carey, convicted of murder, will be hanged.

It is thought that a new use has been found for the black beach sand of Gray's harbor, that it will prove valuable for the iron that is in it.

In Kittitas county all approved bills up to January 1, 1896, have been paid. The last payment before this cleaned up all warrants issued prior to April, 1895.

It is said that a measure will be presented to the coming state legislature to re-enact the beet-sugar bounty law passed in 1893, which has now become inoperative by limitation.

The Spokane Reform League will continue in its work of trying to close the saloons in that city Sunday, and has engaged an attorney to assist in prosecuting the cases that are expected to arise.

Mr. Dunham, one of the oldest settlers of Gig Harbor, in Pierce county, died last week at the age of 93 years. He was the first man to settle at Gig Harbor, and lived there during the latter years of his life.

During 1896, the Rev. John F. Damon, of Seattle, married 153 couples. The oldest groom was 66 years of age, and the oldest bride 54. The youngest groom of the year was 20 years old, and the youngest bride 15.

There is a movement afoot in the southern part of Stevens county to divide the county on a line running east and west, about half way between Colville and Chewelah. There are about 12,000 inhabitants in the county.

There is a large quantity of old bills at the capitol in Olympia that will have to be destroyed. Two years ago the schools found these of value to use as scratch paper. The school pupils gathered them, but many were scattered about the streets. They may be had this year, if the matter is looked after by the teachers and assurance given that they will not be used to litter the streets.

Kalama hopes to have two wood-working factories in operation by March 1 next.

## WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Co.'s Review of Trade.

Wheat on Friday of last week had lost 5c from the highest point, though a portion of the loss was recovered before the close on Saturday, and the total loss for the week was 4c. Taking the news of the week as a whole there was nothing to suggest a reason for the decline unless it be the further bank troubles reported from the Northwest. That, however, is not a good reason to assign, as banks at Chicago are anxious to lend money on wheat securities and have plenty of it for all applicants having a 10 per cent margin. The true reason was the taking of profits, which to some big traders were sufficiently enticing at the opening advance on Monday—85 3/4 c for May delivery. The decline throughout the week was steady, until on Friday, when the tide was turned by the bringing into line of large buying orders for export. Corn and oats suffered losses of 7-8c and 5-8c respectively in sympathy with wheat.

The trade has generally become convinced that the Argentine surplus will be lighter than heretofore figured on, and those who estimated it at 20,000,000 bushels ten days ago, have reduced their figures to 12,000,000 bushels. This is the result of bad weather, there being too much rain at harvest, the same as the winter wheat crop here suffered last year, taking off probably 20,000,000 bushels from the yield. This makes the second year that the Argentine crop has been damaged by unseasonable weather at harvest time, but this year it has been somewhat damaged by locusts. The latest estimates make a reduction of 8,000,000 bushels from what the bulls figured on.

To make the situation more bullish is the prospect of a scarce crop, snow and cold weather following two days of rain over the winter wheat country, which is not a good thing for the crop. This may start buying by the country, and when they get in there is no telling where the price will go. The much talked of \$1 would be realized within a short time.

#### Market Quotations.

Portland, Or., Jan. 12, 1897.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$4.50; Benton county and White Lily, \$4.50; Graham, \$3.75; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 84@85c; Valley, 86@87c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, 40@42c per bushel; choice gray, 38@40c.

Hay—Timothy, \$13.00 per ton; clover, \$8.00@9.00; oat, \$5.00@10; wheat, \$8.00@10 per ton.

Barley—Feed barley, \$18.00 per ton; brewing, \$20.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00; shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$23.

Butter—Creamery, 35@40c; Tillamook, 40c; dairy, 22 1/2@30c.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 60@70c; Early Rose, 80@90c per sack; California river Burbanks, 55c per cental; sweets, \$2.00@2.50 per cental for Merced; Jersey Red, \$2.50.

Onions—85c per sack.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$6.00; turkeys, live, 10c; ducks, \$4@4.50 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 17 1/2 per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon, 11c; Young America, 12c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c.

Hops—9@10c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.35@2.75; cows, \$2.00@2.25; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2 c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$2.50@2.75; dressed mutton, 4 1/2 @ 5c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.25@3.50; light and feeders, \$2.50@3.00; dressed, \$3.50@4.25 per cwt.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 12, 1897.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$5.25; Novelty A, \$4.75; California brands, \$5.60; Dakota, \$5.50; patent, \$6.25.

Wheat—Chicken feed, \$27 per ton.

Oats—Choice, \$24@25 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, \$22 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$22 per ton; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$23.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$16.00 per ton; shorts, \$19.

Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, \$24; oilcake meal, \$28.

Hay—Puget sound, per ton, \$9.00@10.00; Eastern Washington, \$13.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 24c; select, 23c; tubs, 22c; ranch, 18c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 10@12c.

## GOLD LETTERING.

How the Burnished Gold Letters on the Window Pane Are Produced.

The sign letterer who is putting a good sign on a window paints the letters upon the outside first, but these letters are only for a guide—the gold is put upon the inside of the glass. The gold leaf is so thin and light that the faintest breath would be enough to blow it away—it is carried in the fan-like little books.

The letterer brushes the inner side of the glass, back of the lettering painted upon the outside, with a brush dipped in water containing a trace of mucilage. Then with a wide and very thin camel's hair brush, which he first brushes lightly back and forth once or twice upon the back of his head, or perhaps upon his coat, to dry it if it needs drying, and slightly to electrify it, he lifts from the book a section of gold leaf sufficient to cover a section of the letter and places it on the glass. He repeats these operations until the glass back of the letter painted on the front is covered with the leaf. It may require three or four sections, such as can be picked up with the brush to cover the letter, or perhaps more, depending on its size and shape. When he has completed the application of the leaf to one letter he dampens the back of the next and proceeds with that in the same manner, and so on until the letters are all backed with the gold leaf.

Thus applied the gold leaf overlaps the letters more or less on all sides. It is bright in color, like all gold, but it is not shining; it is burnished by rubbing it gently on the back—of course, it cannot be rubbed on the face, for that is against the glass—with a soft cloth. It burnishes, however, on the face as well as on the back. Then the letters are backed. The exact shape of the letter is painted over the back of the gold leaf to fix it and protect it; and when the back is dry the gold leaf projecting beyond the outline of the letter is brushed off; it is not sought to save this projecting leaf, there is not enough of it to pay for the labor that would be involved in gathering it together. Then the outside lettering, which is done with paint that is but little more than oil, is rubbed off, and the lustrous gold lettering is revealed.—New York Sun.

#### Art and Dollars.

Apreros of heavy incomes, here is David Belasco, who is now in new prominence as the plaintiff of a cause celebre. To look at Belasco you would not think he was wealthy. Yet his earnings from one source or another amount to about \$50,000 a year. He derives handsome royalties from half a dozen plays, for age has little appreciable effect on a Belasco piece, and the Frawley Stock Company is performing this author's work at present in San Francisco, while "La Belle Russe" is now being done in Germany. We have been informed that Belasco charges \$75 an hour to the pupils he trains for the stage. That seems an extraordinary sum, yet the Belasco graduates generally get good value for their money by subsequent success on the stage. His latest achievement was Mrs. Carter, whose performance at the Herald Square last season placed her easily at the front of native emotional actresses. Belasco began to train Mrs. Carter at a time when no manager in the country would have given her \$50 a week, and now she is valued at probably \$500 a week. The only Belasco pupils who have not arrived at success on the stage were Mrs. James G. Blaine, Jr., and Elsie De Wolfe, the first of whom exchanged the drama for matrimony, while the second still holds a secondary position in the Empire Theater Company. Other and more eminent disciples of David Belasco are Rose Coghlan, Maurice Barrymore, Cora Porter and M. B. Curtis, and the Southern company may almost be considered his creation, for he trained both Southern and his leading woman, Grace Kimball.—New York Press.

#### Fate of a Terrier Fireman.

After fifteen years of faithful service, Jim was crushed to death beneath the wheels of a fire engine yesterday afternoon. Jim was only a dog, but the fireman of engine company 19 declare he was the smartest one on the South Side. Fifteen years ago Captain Crapo picked up a fox terrier on the street. At that time Jim was only a tramp, but he took a fancy to the fireman about the engine house. When Captain Crapo was changed to engine 19 Jim went with him. He had learned many things and knew as well as any fireman when the company was about to answer an alarm. He would run ahead of the engine to the scene of the fire, and, returning, always rode on the back of one of the horses. Engine 19 was called out on a still alarm at 3:25 o'clock yesterday afternoon to Prairie avenue and Thirty-seventh street. When the fire was out Jim was somewhat tardy in taking his accustomed place on the horse's back. He ran to catch up with the apparatus, but was caught under the wheels of the heavy engine and crushed to death. The faithful terrier was buried in a coffin in the rear of the engine house.—Chicago Chronicle.

#### Hundreds of Years Old.

The introduction of sugar into England is often dated as late as the fifteenth century; but it was really in use there in the thirteenth. "Zuere" is mentioned under date of 1243. Later we read of rose and violet sugar in tablets and in gilded wafers. When Princess Mary went on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, in 1317, she consoling herself for any trials she may have endured on the road with several pounds of sugar tablets and rose sugar of honey. Other ancient sweetmeats were preserved ginger and citron candy.

Bicycles have set horses trembling between the joys of idleness and a fear of the sausage factory.

## THE PLIMSOLL MARK.

A Device that Has Saved Hundreds of Lives and Much Property.

If you ever walk around the waterfront of a large commercial city and look closely at the big ocean steamships and sailing ships moored along the wharves, you will notice that many of them have a white circle and a lot of white lines marked on their sides close to the water, almost as if some had boy had been chalking a picture there of a griddle-cake and a gridiron; but when you find that hundreds of ships are marked just the same way, those painted light colors having the marks in black, you know that those marks really mean something of importance in connection with the ships on which you see them. If you should notice more closely you would soon discover that all the ships belonging to Great Britain, even the magnificent passenger steamers like the "Lucania" and "Teutonic," were marked with those queer signs, and that ships of no other nation had them. If you were to ask some sailor what the mark meant he would tell you briefly that it is the "Plimsoll Mark," and you would be no wiser than before; in fact, he probably would not know much more than that bare fact himself.

That ugly mark, however, is the safeguard to hundreds of vessels on the stormy ocean, and to thousands of lives, and to millions of dollars' worth of freight. It has only been in use about twenty years, only properly used for the last ten years, and is still adopted by only one great seafaring nation in all the world.

Twenty-five years ago it was no uncommon thing for ships to go out to sea laden with valuable cargo and hopeful human beings, never to be seen or heard of again. People on shore, even the owners of the cargoes and relatives of the passengers, would take it as something they must be prepared to expect on account of the dangers of the ocean. Finally, one man determined to make a study of the subject, and see if such terrible tragedies were really unavoidable. He was an inflexible Englishman, named Plimsoll, and a member of Parliament. He spent day after day along the docks watching ships loading and unloading, coming in and going out; he talked with ship-owners, captains, and sailors. He saw ships sent to sea with leaky bottoms, rotten spars, and worn-out rigging, with rusty boilers and rattle-trap engines. He saw them loaded until even in the still waters of the harbor their upper decks were down to the water's edge, and this overloading seemed to be the worst and most frequent fault.

Then he went back to Parliament, and introduced a bill to put a mark on the sides of ships to show how deeply they could with safety be loaded. The mark suggested was a circle with a horizontal line through its center. When this horizontal line was down to the water's edge, no more freight was to be put into the vessel; she was to be considered loaded. Immediately Plimsoll brought down upon himself the wrath of the ship-owners, while everybody else laughed at his cranky idea; but he was not going to be downed. He published a book telling all he had learned about the criminal overloading of vessels, and their wretched condition when sent to sea.

At last he got a vague sort of an act passed, giving the Board of Trade power to survey ships going to sea, and to stop those which seemed to be unseaworthy. This was in 1873, and during the first nine months of the act 286 vessels were surveyed, and 253 of them found unseaworthy. At least one in every ten was found to be so dangerously overloaded as to be in almost a sinking condition before leaving the dock. Of course, this opened the eyes of the Board of Trade and of Parliament, and Plimsoll's mark became an established feature on British sea-going ships; but its establishment was fought against by ship-owners, inch by inch. It was nicknamed the "pancake," and ridiculed and treated with contempt in every way. Some ship-owners put the mark on their smokestacks in defiance and derision. Plimsoll held to his idea, however, even getting himself suspended from the House of Commons one day for being too blunt and violent in his plain talk upon the subject. The result was "The Merchant Shipping Act of 1876," making the Plimsoll mark compulsory on all British sea-going vessels, and requiring its position to be fixed, not by the ship-owners, but by the Board of Trade.—Lieut. John M. Ellicott, U. S. N., in St. Nicholas.

#### Mortar.

The use of brick-dust mortar as a substitute for hydraulic cement is now recommended on the best engineering authority, experiments made with mixtures of brick dust and quicklime showing that blocks of one-half inch in thickness, after immersion in water for four months, bore without crushing, crumbling or splitting, a pressure of 1,500 pounds per square inch. The use of brick-dust mixed with lime and sand is said to be generally and successfully practiced in the Spanish dominions, and is stated to be in all respects superior to the best cement in the construction of culverts, drains, tanks, or cisterns.

#### Wise Charity.

"I hope you did not give that tramp any money to buy whisky." "No, indeed! Yesterday I gave him a nickel to buy postal cards to send to his sick sister and to-day he came back for a nickel to buy some ink."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

#### The Letter, Probably.

Hunker—He died from a complication of diseases, I understand? Spats—Yes; either that or from a complication of doctors.—Judge.

It takes some worms a terribly long time to turt.



#### Utilizing Barn Room.

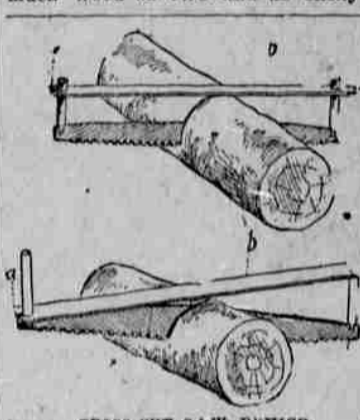
Barns are expensive. It therefore behooves farmers to make the best use of all the room that they afford. If the barn has a basement, that will naturally be used as stable room for farm stock in winter. But if the stock be confined in stalls, as it always should be, it will not prevent separate, compartments for storing vegetables and roots, and still others for storing farm implements, which may with care be made to occupy a very small surface space by hanging up the lighter ones and laying still others over those that are too heavy to rest on anything except the floor of concrete or soil. This room should be closely secured to prevent fowls from getting in and soiling the machinery, besides seriously damaging it with their excrement. Many a farmer who leaves half his farm implements exposed to rains and snows can find a place in the barn basement for them if he will give some thought to making the most of the room that the barn basement affords.—American Cultivator.

#### Re-Cultivation.

Bees won't touch alfalfa till sweet clover has done blossoming. I find quite a change in the minds of some of my neighbors. They are beginning to think that sweet clover is a pretty good thing, after all. I have sold some seed to one, and two others are talking of sowing some. It will grow on our poorest land, and make a good crop, and choke out all the weeds we have in this country, including sand burrs and cockle burrs. If it were of no other use, it would pay well as a fertilizer. But it is a splendid hay crop, and, in my opinion, there is nothing better for honey. I have about ten acres seeded down for next year. I put several acres in the corn at the last cultivating, and have a nice stand. You see, by putting it in the corn, we have the crop the next season. If sown in the fall, it will come up early the next spring, and make a good growth that season, but not seed. I always sow the seed with the hull on.—Bee Gleanings.

#### Device for a Two-Man Saw.

A cross-cut saw or two-man saw can be adjusted so that one man can saw as much wood as two and as easily as



CROSS-CUT SAW DEVICE.

with a man at each end. The arrangement is a piece of board, b, 1x3 inches, with a hole in each end to fit tightly over the handles, and a slot, a, in one end to straddle the blade. When logs are not too thick this can be readily manipulated.—Farm and Home.

#### The Value of Bran.

It is not alone for its nutrition that wheat bran is valuable, though it contains considerable of the nitrogenous element of the wheat. This, however, is not so large a proportion as it used to be under the old system of bolting the wheat, reserving only the starch for flour. The best flour is now much darker than formerly. It contains the germ and considerable of the gluten, though some of this still goes with the bran. But wheat bran is an excellent alternative for all stock fed largely on meadow hay. For milk cows it should be made into a mash with warm water. It will increase the milk secretion and will make the cow poor if she does not have grain with it to supply the butter fats in which bran is deficient.—Ex.

#### One Year's Poultry Returns.

These fowls are kept solely for my own pleasure at my country home in Tarrytown, but I think my statement is a good showing for an amateur, and may interest your "Farmer's Daughter" and others who read your valuable paper. The fowls number 123, including cocks, cockerels, hens and pullets. The daily egg product varied from 23 to 58, and reached, in the twenty-nine days, a total of 1,169. During this time two hens hatched 19 chicks, and six hens were sitting. Therefore, leaving out the sitting hens, cocks and cockerels, I had from 106 laying hens 1,169 eggs in twenty-nine days.—Country Gentleman.

#### Desirable Horses.

There will ever be a demand for the ten-hundred-pound family horse, electric roads and bicycles notwithstanding. This is the only all-round horse equally good in the carriage and on the

farm, and the cost of such in the matter of keeping till three years old is but little, if any more than the cost of one steer, and will bring in the market three or four times as much.—New England Farmer.

#### Milking Machines.

In the New York Tribune "Practical Farmer" says that the tubes of milking machines cannot be kept clean. The machine I was familiar with could be fitted up to milk the 200-cow dairy in five minutes, instead of over six hours, and there is no difficulty in keeping everything about it sweet. It is also a complete manipulator. The calf's butting is thoroughly limited. It is so simple that a boy or girl of 15 could work it. It is manufactured in Scotland, and is a decided success. Every large dairy should have one, as it saves the cost of itself in a short time. The milk keeps longer, as it does not get contaminated with bacteria, being in an air-tight bucket. It can be carried and cooled over the refrigerator ready for shipment inside of an hour for the whole performance.

#### A Safety Ladder.

Ladders in use about the farm year after year are likely to become worn and loosened from wear, and to make

this fact known inconveniently when some one is ascending or descending them. A "round" breaks, or slips out of its socket, or the whole ladder "spreads." Moreover, farm ladders are usually so heavy as to be very inconvenient to use. An improved ladder is shown in the sketch. It has three uprights, each small in width and thickness, because the three pieces give great strength and stiffness. The "rounds," being supported in the middle, can be made somewhat lighter than is usually done. To keep the ladder from spreading at the ends and in the middle, a light iron rod is put through the ladder and fastened with a nut, as shown in the diagram. A ladder should have an iron bar fastened to each upright, at the base, to keep it from slipping, as this is one of the most common dangers to be feared in the use of ladders.—American Agriculturist.

SAFETY LADDER.

Some hens are greedy, and seize the food to prevent other hens from securing their share. It is such hens that become overfat and finally cease to lay. When feed is given in a way to allow the hens to eat it without being compelled to scratch or work for it, the result will always be an unequal distribution of the food among the members of the flock. The proper mode is to scatter the grain over a large surface, as then each hen will be compelled to work, and all will fare alike.—Germentown (Pa.) Telegraph.

#### Feeding Grain to Hens.

Shade trees are essential, fowls don't let them shade the house. Farmers to enjoy life must have their surroundings pleasant, commodious, convenient and healthy. These conditions can only be obtained by attention to details, by having a place for everything and everything in its place. Once get started along these lines and improved methods follow, and if we persevere we shall have our reward.—New York Farmer.

#### Shade for the Dwelling.

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#### Odd and Ends.

A tablespoonful of turpentine boiled with your white clothes will greatly aid the whitening process.

To prevent hair falling out, wet it thoroughly once or twice a week with a weak solution of salt water.

Polished oak furniture may be beautifully cleaned with a soft woolen rag dipped in turpentine. It must then be rubbed off with a dry cloth.

A good broom holder may be made by putting two large screws—nails will answer—into the wall about two inches apart. Drop the broom between them, handle downward.

Any woman doing her own work may so systematize it that it will be the easiest possible for her. She need not follow any other person's methods, unless they are the very best for her own conditions.

Always make coffee out of fresh water, and use it as soon as it is made. The coffee pot should be kept scrupulously clean. If you use the French pot every part of it should be thoroughly washed and dried after using.

The sticky fly paper which is commonly sold during the summer season makes an excellent mouse trap. A sheet of it laid in front of a hole from which mice emerge is sufficient to hold them fast until they are captured and destroyed. The same paper may be used over and over again.

It is said that when ink is spilled upon a carpet or anything made of wool the spot should immediately be covered with common salt. When this has absorbed all the ink it will carefully take it off with an old knife or spoon and apply more salt. Keep doing this until the ink is all taken up.