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Progress in Postal Reform.

The features of the Postmaster General's report that are of special public interest are the portions pertaining to the progress made in curtailing the abuses of the second class mail privileges and the successful operation and extension of the rural free delivery system.

That the effect of cutting off some of the abuses of second-class privileges is already apparent is shown by a reduction of nearly a million dollars in the annual postal deficit as compared with that of last year, and this in face of greatly increased expenditures.

The Postmaster General shows, however that the diminished deficit is largely due to a heavy increase in postal receipts owing to the general prosperity of the country and to the extension of postal facilities also that there has been a perceptible gain to the revenue through exclusion of third-class mail matter; from the privileges of second-class rates. The order of July 17, 1901, was designed to properly interpret the law so as to confine the privileged rate to genuine newspapers and periodical publications.

These efforts have been temporarily checked by the appeal of interested parties to the courts, which will test the power of the Postmaster General to classify mail matter along these lines without additional legislation from Congress.

The Postmaster General also calls attention to the fact that rural free delivery has passed beyond the experimental stages.

There are now 11,650 routes in operation, covering about one-third of the available territory. This available territory is now estimated at about one million square miles. The free rural delivery has not only increased postal receipts but has enhanced the value of farm lands at least 5 per cent, bringing the farmers in close touch with the markets and conferring many other advantages upon those communities where it is in use.

The World's Greatest Store of Gold.

Mining operations are again active in the Transvaal, the output of gold for the first nine months of this year having reached a total of 1,139,373 ounces. While the figure is much below those for the years 1897, 1898 and 1899, it makes a fair showing against the 1,674,355 ounces for 1896, and there is a very marked recovery from the years 1900 and 1901.

In 1900 operations closed after the first three months with an aggregate output of 238,991 ounces. They were not resumed again until May, 1901, and the total for that year was 238,391 ounces. For ten months of this year it comes to 1,321,012.

The change is not of local interest only, but has a world-wide importance. The product of the Transvaal in 1898 was the largest of all the gold-producing countries, its value being \$78,070,671, as against \$85,082,430 for the American product and \$62,294,481 for the Australasian. And for the first nine months of 1899 the figures were unprecedented. If the rate had been maintained through October, November and December all records would have been beaten, there or elsewhere. The effect of the check may be seen in the recent report of the director of the mint in this country, where in a total world's product of \$263,374,700, \$78,665,700 is assigned to the United States, \$76,880,200 to Australasia, and but \$9,089,500 to Africa. By this time the Transvaal might have added one hundred millions to the total if there had been no Boer war.

Its available supply is undoubtedly the greatest in the world, and according to the calculations of expert engineers the product is likely to be enormous for a long time to come. The lowest estimates on the value of the treasure in nature's great storehouse of the Rand are \$3,500,000,000. The highest reaches the astonishing sum of \$14,355,000,000, while six billions is considered a conservative estimate. Persons who have made a thorough study of the district confidently predict a half century of heavy production.

THE LUCKY KATE AND ANN, a boat by this name for years sailed up and down the Pacific Coast but her bones have been bleaching in the sands for the last year on the California Coast. This has not prevented her from making money as she has just been awarded \$10,000 by the court of arbitration in Holland for illegal regime in the sealing trade. Twice before her lucky captain, Lutjim has collected her full value in insurance caused by wrecks but she was floated and bought for a song and put to sea. She harbored a gold mine for her owner.

The commercial fight on this coast for the Asiatic trade is just beginning to assume shape. San Francisco has held the bulk of it but the Sound is making strenuous efforts for a part of it and may land the government business. Portland will have to wake up if she gets any considerable part of this trade.

The opposition to reciprocity by members of the senate is dying out and there is strong probability that a treaty on those lines not only will be negotiated but will be ratified by the senate. This is a distinct victory for the president.

The new eight-cent stamp to appear this month will be ornamented by the serene, dignified and comely face of Martha Washington. It will be the first stamp with a woman's face on it ever issued in this country.

On the first page of this paper appears a sketch of Eva Emery Dye and her new book, "The Conquest". The book is complete in every detail, and should be read in every home in Oregon.

THE CONQUEST.

Continued from page one.
 soon as possible into your Union," said Napoleon; "give to its inhabitants the same rights, privileges and immunities as to other citizens of the United States, and let them know that we separate ourselves from them with regret; let them retain for us sentiments of affection, and may their common origin, descent, language and customs perpetuate the friendship."

THE PURCHASE MADE.

This was the purchase made in one day, regarding which Mrs. Dye says: "And on that day the Mississippi was opened, to be closed by a foreign power no more forever. But no sooner had Napoleon parted with Louisiana than he began to repent. 'Hasten,' the ministers warned Jefferson, 'the slightest delay may lose us the country.' The word reached America, 'Jefferson—bought New Orleans? Bought the Mississippi? Bought the entire boundless West? Men gasped, then cheered. Tumultuous excitement swept the land. On July 3, 1803, an infant republic hugged the Atlantic, on July 4 a world power grasped the Pacific! 'A bargain cried the Republicans. 'Unconstitutional!' answered the Federalists. 'The East will become depopulated!' 'Fifteen millions!' 'Fifteen millions for that wilderness!' 'Wagon loads of silver five miles long!' 'We have not so much coin in the whole country!'"

To the reader of today the incidents narrated in this book will prove of intense interest. One hundred years ago people held up their hands in horror at the thought of paying \$15,000,000 for that "vast wilderness" included in the territory of Louisiana, when today we pay \$20,000,000 in gold for the Philippines, thousands of miles across seas, and the wheels of the Treasury Department never slip a cog, the government machine does not even tremble, the people do not wince.

The entire second part of the book is taken up in a description of the exploration of Lewis and Clark through the now Missouri, Iowa, the Dakotas, Nebraska, Oregon and Washington, down the Columbia River to the Pacific ocean, their return to civilization and the reception accorded them at Washington.

THE RED HEAD CHIEF.

Book III, "The Red Head Chief," takes up "The Conquest" after the re-

turn of Lewis and Clark from their north-western expedition. President Jefferson appointed Meriwether Lewis Governor of Missouri, and he took up his residence in St. Louis. Clark was his confidential advisor—a sort of lieutenant-governor, as it were—and to the Indians was always known as "The Red Head Chief," on account of the red hair that ran in the Clark family.

Four or five pages are given to a description of the murder of Meriwether Lewis on his return to the East in search of health, and the chapter headed "A Lonely Grave in Tennessee" closes with these words: "In the lonely heart of Louisiana County, Tennessee, stands today a crumbling gray stone monument with a broken shaft of limestone erected by the state on the spot where, in the 35th year of his age, Meriwether Lewis met his death. In solitude and desolation, moss overgrows his tomb, but his name lives on, brightening with the years."

In this third section are related all the leading events of the Western country during the war of 1812, the keeping of the Indians at peace with each other by Gen. Clark, "The Red Head Chief," the great council at Prairie du Chien, Wis., at which peace was declared between all the tribes, and finally the death of Clark on Sept. 1, 1838, followed in a month by Black Hawk, the celebrated chief. In sight of the Ohio ties, Rogers Clark sleeps, and below the grave of William Clark sweeps the Mississippi.

INDIANS, LOVE AND ROMANCE.

The book naturally deals much with the Indians, but it is almost entirely with the noted chiefs of the different tribes—there is an absence of the blood and thunder and scalp-taking incidents. In the matter of love and romance there is just a tinge—a little heaven mixed in. Gen. Clark, on his travels, meets the Donna de Leyba, sister of Don Francisco de Leyba, governor of Upper Louisiana, who was stationed at St. Louis, and of course loses his heart to the Spanish beauty. Clark was stationed across the river, and one night the Chippewas attacked St. Louis. Clark comes to the rescue and finds the governor has shown the white feather. Meeting the Donna she extended her hand. Clark took one step toward her and then pride triumphed. "Never will I become the father of a race of cowards," he said, and turned from the fair Donna and left St. Louis forever. Spanish-like she does not pursue him

to the death, but after the death of her brother, in a month, she took his two children to New Orleans and ended her days in a convent."

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS—Court Robin Hood No. 9, F. of A. held a very pleasant meeting and election Friday, December 5, 1902, and three candidates were initiated. Coffee and sandwiches were served. The following officers were selected for the ensuing term: Past chief ranger, G. S. Freeman; C. R., M. P. Chapman; S. C. R., M. Sogarmun; Fin. Sec'y, F. W. Humphreys; Rec. Sec'y, W. E. Marshall; Treas., J. A. Moore; S. W., C. Roth; J. W., G. W. Martin; S. E., Fred Terry; J. B. Shupe, Trustees, G. S. Freeman; Lecturer, W. K. Haviland. The court is in better condition now than it has ever been before. Court Robin Hood meets every Friday evening at 7:30 in the Red Men's Hall. At the last meeting it was decided to give the degrees to the new members the first meeting night in January. A large crowd of Foresters will be up from Portland and a big time is expected.

ERECTING A NEW DEPOT—The Oregon Water Power & Railway Company are making decided improvements in the building line. They are always extending their lines and building new buildings and just now they have several men employed south of the farmers' feed store, clearing away old rubbish and eye stoves, preparatory to erecting an immense freight depot. This depot will be about 90 feet wide by 170 feet long, extending back as far as the railroad. It is the intention of the company to run a track up through the middle of the building so that freight cars can be easily handled and disposed of. It is not yet definitely decided but plans are on foot to turn the upstairs apartment of the building into an opera house, which, if done, will give Oregon City an elegant and spacious hall in easy access to the general public.

Smith's Dandruff Pomade stops itching scalp upon one application, three to six removes all dandruff and will stop falling hair. Price 50 cents at druggists.

Individuals Money to Loan. At 6 and 7 per cent. Call on or write Jno. W. LOBER, Oregon City Oregon, Stevens' building.

Strayed From Borings.

A cow and calf, cow three years old in spring, mostly white, with red on neck and head and some spots on body, ear marked, two spots in right ear. Cow has long, straight horns, with spots; calf, red spotted; steer, with ear marks the same as cow. Anyone giving the owner any information will receive \$5.00. Cow had small bell tied on with a rope when last seen.
C. F. KEYSERSON, Barton, Oregon.

The Pride of Heroes.

Many soldiers in the last war wrote to say that for Scratches, Bruises, Cuts, Wounds, Corns, Sore Feet and Stiff Joints, Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the best thing in the world. Same for Burns, Scalds, Bolls, Ulcers, Skin Eruptions and Piles. It cures or no pay. Only 25c at Geo. A. Harding's drug store.

For Sale.

Three registered short horned heifers, sired by Oak Hill Lad, 130690, bred to Minnow 17119, also 8 spring calves, 2 bulls and 6 heifers, sired by Lord Guy, also three colts 2 1/2 bred Per-ton, 1 fine 6-year-old mare broken to work. All this stock will be guaranteed as represented.

OAK GROVE STOCK FARM, Curranville, Oregon.

Saved at Grave's Brink.

"I know I would long ago have been in my grave," writes S. H. Newcome of Decatur, Ala. "if it had not been for Electric Bitters. For three years I suffered untold agony from the worst forms of Indigestion, Waterbrash, Stomach and Bowel Dyspepsia. But this excellent medicine did me a world of good. Since using it I can eat heartily and have gained 35 pounds." For Indigestion, Loss of Appetite, Stomach, Liver and Kidney troubles Electric Bitters are a positive, guaranteed cure. Only 50c at Geo. A. Harding's drug store.

What's In a Name.

Everything is in the name when it comes to Witch Hazel Salve. E. C. DeWitt & Co., of Chicago, discovered, some years ago, how to make a salve from Witch Hazel that is a specific for Piles. For blind, bleeding, itching and protruding Piles, eczema, cuts, burns, bruises and all skin diseases DeWitt's Salve has no equal. This has given rise to numerous worthless counterfeits. Ask for DeWitt's—the genuine. Geo. A. Harding.

Use Bromo Lax for coughs, colds and la grippe. Price 25 cents a box at Charman & Co. Each box entitles you to one guess on the guaranteed gold watch.

Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administrator of the estate of Mary L. Ballard, deceased, has filed his final report in said matter before the County Court of Clackamas County, Oregon, and the said court has fixed Monday, the 15th day of December, 1902, at 10 o'clock A. M., as the day and time for hearing objections to said report and for the final settlement of said estate.
C. K. BALLARD, Nov. 6, 1902. Administrator of said estate.

Notice of Administratrix.

In the matter of the Estate of John Moser, deceased, This is to certify that on the 31st day of October, 1902, the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Clackamas, appointed Barbara Moser as administratrix of the estate of John Moser, deceased, and that Barbara Moser has duly qualified as such administratrix. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same, duly verified, to said administratrix, at her home, at Stafford, Clackamas County, Oregon, within six months from this date.
BARBARA MOSER, Administratrix. Dated at Oregon City, Oregon, October 31, 1902.

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon within and for the County of Clackamas, Maynie Eggleston, plaintiff, vs. William H. Eggleston, defendant. To William H. Eggleston, the above-named defendant, the following is published by order of the county court of the county of Clackamas, in the State of Oregon: You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit in said Court, on or before Friday, the 10th of January, 1903, the same being six weeks from the first publication of this summons, and if you fail to appear and answer said complaint, plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint, to-wit: That the bonds of matrimony existing between yourself and the plaintiff be dissolved.

This summons is published by order of Theo. F. Ryan, judge of the county court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Clackamas, in the Oregon City Enterprise, a weekly newspaper of general circulation in Clackamas county, first publication being on Friday, 5th December, 1902.
JOHN DITCHBURN, Attorney for Plaintiff.

Women as Well as Men Are Made Miserable by Kidney Trouble.

Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition; beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased. Kidney trouble has become so prevalent that it is not uncommon for a child to be born afflicted with weak kidneys. If the child urinates too often, if the urine scalds the flesh or if when the child reaches an age when it should be able to control the passage, it is yet afflicted with bed-wetting, depend upon it, the cause of the difficulty is kidney trouble, and the first step should be towards the treatment of these important organs. This unpleasant trouble is due to a diseased condition of the kidneys and bladder and not to a habit as most people suppose.

Women as well as men are made miserable with kidney and bladder trouble, and both need the same great remedy. The mild and the immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It is sold by druggists, in fifty-cent and one dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it, including many of the thousands of testimonial letters received from sufferers cured. In writing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure and mention this paper.

HOLIDAY GOODS

Are now being unpacked and shown in our windows and show cases. By early and careful buying we have succeeded in obtaining some special bargains for you in the way of Christmas dainties. Being our first year in business we have no old shop worn junk to work off on you, but every article is new, nobby and the very latest. A fine line of perfumes, fancy stationery, toilet soaps, leather goods, framed and unframed pictures, shaving sets, baby sets, manicuring sets, albums, photograph frames, collar and cuff boxes, necktie boxes, handkerchief boxes, glove boxes, in fact all kinds of goods at all kinds of prices—except high.

Where is there a better place to buy gifts than at a Drug Store.

When are goods so varied, so dainty, so impressive and so acceptable? We would be willing to guarantee that every gift bought from this store will reach the recipient's heart. You can't go amiss if you choose here. Come in and let us help you with your selections. Our time is yours.

HOWELL & JONES

Reliable Druggists

LINN E. JONES CHAMBERS HOWELL

MURROW'S BARRED ROCKS

Are at the top. Have won at two of the largest shows in the Northwest, 1901—1902, also at the state fairs. Look up their record. Some fine breeding cockrels from our prize winning strain \$2.00 and up. Also a few white rock cockrels \$2.00. Eggs \$2.00 per setting.

J. MURROW & SON, Oregon City, Ore.

Built to Fit the Feet,

Yet combining style with blissful comfort. Come in and look at our summer footwear. Late styles and bottom prices.

KRAUSSE BROS.

Brunswick House & Restaurant

Newly Furnished Rooms. Meals at All Hours. Prices Reasonable. Opposite Suspension Bridge.

Only First Class Restaurant In Town. CHARLES CATTI, Proprietor

The Red Front

COURT HOUSE BLOCK OREGON CITY, OREGON.

Useful Christmas Presents

We invite you to call and see what we have to offer you for the Holidays. Our goods are well bought and we are able to sell at very low prices. Our stock comprises anything that your heart desires in useful Holiday Goods. Such as—Ready-made Dresses, Umbrellas, Silk Handkerchiefs, Fancy Linen Handkerchiefs, Dress Skirts and Waists, Kid Gloves, Fancy Work Baskets, Crockery, Glassware, Bibles, Books, Jewelry, Dolls, Celluloid Goods, Fascinators, Laundry Bags, Sofa Pillow Tops, Hats, Fancy Sweaters, Shopping Bags, Purse of every description, Neckties, Toys of all kinds and lots of other articles too numerous to mention.

Give us a call before going to other places as we feel confident we can save you money.

The Red Front

G. T. HOWARD, PROP.