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GRAND DUKES.

Nearly every dispatch from Russia mentions a grand duke, and it might not be uninteresting to know something about them.

All male relatives of the czar down to second cousins are grand dukes. There are at this time nineteen of them—one brother, four uncles, four first cousins, and ten second cousins. All other male relatives are only princes. There are thirty-two of them, all told, including the grand dukes.

The imperial house of Russia, of which all grand dukes and princes are members, is the richest in the world. Every member of it receives an income of \$500,000 per year, beginning upon the day of birth. In addition, the house owns absolutely more than 50,000 square miles of land. There are upon these lands 325 castles and palaces, employing about 20,000 servants and retainers.

There is but one authority a grand duke need obey, that is the czar himself. They may not be arrested for any crime, unless the czar orders it. They cannot be sued in the courts. They are not required to testify under oath at any time, but in the event they want to give voluntary testimony, they are permitted to do so without being sworn.

And yet a grand duke can do nothing without the permission of the czar. They cannot leave Russia unless the czar says so; they must notify the czar even when they want to travel in Russia, and he can order them not to leave a certain palace. He selects their brides for them; at least, they are not permitted to marry without the czar's consent, and in the event the czar demands that a grand duke marry a certain person, that settles it. Disobedience to the czar's will on the part of a grand duke means imprisonment and confiscation of his estates.

The Russian people hate the grand dukes, perhaps, more intensely than they do the czar himself. It is the land owned by them that the peasants want divided among the people. Several of the grand dukes are greater tyrants than the czar, and it is generally believed that but for them the czar would grant reforms more radical than any he has as yet proposed. Every one of them is in line to become czar, upon the death of those immediately preceding him, so that until about three dozen people are blown up, the terrorists would have no hope of overthrowing the ruling line. There is no possibility of the revolutionists wiping out the entire dynasty, and it is certain that each and every one of the grand dukes would put up the best fight possible before surrendering to the people.

RECIPROCAL DEMURRAGE.

There will be a good deal said in the legislature, which convened at Salem Monday, about reciprocal demurrage. Those are two pretty large words, or rather strange words, and a good many people haven't taken the time to ascertain their exact meaning as applied to a plan to relieve the car shortage.

Railroads now charge shippers what they call demurrage. That is, if a shipper fails to unload a car promptly, he must pay the railroad company so much per day for every day the car contains his goods.

It is proposed that the legislature pass a bill—and it is generally conceded that such a bill will pass—to the effect that a railroad shall be fined in the sum of \$1 a day for failure to provide a car within twenty-four hours after it is ordered by the shipper.

The proposers of the bill argue that what is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander; that there should be such a thing as reciprocal demurrage, and that is what they propose.

Whether such a law would cure the ills is doubtful. Kansas has a similar law, and there is a car famine in Kansas. The railroads of this country long ago got into the habit of conducting their business as they saw fit, regardless of state legislation.

Petty Political Grafters.

From the Canby Tribune.
Hon. W. S. U'Ren is preparing a law, which, if passed by the people, will put the precinct grafter out of

business during political campaigns. The new law will make it a violation of the statutes to try to influence a man to vote for any particular candidate on election day, and anyone caught in the act of electioneering on that day will be subject to a fine, upon conviction. Prior to election day political leg pullers can do all the electioneering they please.

The Tribune is heartily in favor of this law. We have seen enough of petty grafters in politics to become thoroughly disgusted. They will employ any method to pull a few dollars out of some candidate, and the money goes into the grafter's pocket and stays there. One esteemed gentleman who lives not a thousand miles away, secured money from two opposing candidates by promising to support both men for the same office. At least he told the editor of this paper that he did. This same man boasts of his honesty and unimpeachable integrity. His moral fibre is so weak that he doesn't know what honesty is.

The day of the political blackmailer and petty grafter is about past. The Tribune would be glad to see them all tied to the same string and sent to hell together.

BILL BEFORE HOUSE FOR FREE LOCKS

Jones of Polk Working for Free Locks at Oregon City—Two Tax Levies.

To obtain free waterway in the Willamette river, at Willamette Falls, Representative Jones, of Polk and Lincoln, has introduced a bill creating a Board of Commissioners of the Willamette Locks. This board, which is to consist of the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer, is empowered to build, construct, operate and maintain locks on the east bank of the river at Oregon City. To raise the necessary funds, estimated at \$400,000, two tax levies are provided. In the discretion of the board, if the present locks on the west side of the river can be obtained for a less sum than necessary to build locks on the east bank, the board has the privilege of acquiring the locks now in operation.

Power is given the board to condemn private property for the purpose of acquiring right of way. A levy of one-half of 1 mill is provided for 1907, on all taxable property within

the state, and a similar tax in 1908. These two levies, it is estimated, will raise the \$400,000 to build or buy locks. When locks are constructed or acquired they are free to passage of all river craft. In order to expedite matters, the bill carries an emergency clause and is exempt from the operation of the referendum. The measure states that free locks are of immediate importance to the people of Oregon. Representative Jones has had his measure carefully drafted and this, with his railroad reciprocal demurrage bill, will occupy his entire attention during the session. Mr. Jones believes that the free locks will receive the support of all the Western Oregon members because they realize the necessity of such accommodation and that Eastern Oregon legislators should help Western Oregon just as that section aided the Eastern Oregon people in obtaining appropriations for the Columbia river.

The Oregon City locks are receiving extra attention this year. Besides the action Representative Jones desires the State legislature to make, Congressman Hawley proposes taking up the matter at Washington. That this will be a lobby against the bill is generally anticipated.

LINEMAN W. G. SMITH HAS NARROW ESCAPE.

Walter Smith, an experienced lineman of the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph company, narrowly escaped death Monday afternoon while at work on one of the company's poles.

Smith had been working on one of the poles in front of the store of the Pope Hardware company of Oregon City when his hand came in contact with one of the steps placed along the pole, on which had grounded a live trolley wire. Smith, however, kept his presence of mind and made a grab for the large cable over head, without losing a moment's time, from which he fell to the pavement below, a distance of 25 feet. The only thing that saved him in that hazardous fall is the fact that he managed some way to slide along the pole and land on his feet.

Smith's injuries are not exactly serious although they are very painful. His hands and arms were burned and his nerves somewhat shaken as the result of the fall from the dizzy height to the hard brick pavement.

Smith was climbing poles again Tuesday morning.

MT. PLEASANT.

Mr. and Mrs. King of Ilwaco are visiting at Locust Farm.

Mrs. E. Kellogg made a business trip to Portland, Wednesday.

Miss Olive Conway and Herman Frommeyer was calling at the Buckner residence last Wednesday evening.

Walter S. Gorbett of Molalla was a Mt. Pleasant and Elyville visitor, Saturday and Sunday.

Say, don't you know it's cold? Miss Ethel M. Holmes spent her vacation at St. John's visiting relatives and friends.

Quite a number of young people gathered at the home of Mr. Olds' New Year's eve. The evening was spent in dancing and playing games which continued until after midnight when all said good morning and departed for home.

Lester Marrs has returned to Corvallis after spending his vacation with his parents.

Mrs. Kellogg has just received the news that her father who has been ill for some time is very much worse. She starts for his home at Walla Walla, Wash., Tuesday.

Miss Barley of Portland was visiting the Mt. Pleasant school, Friday.

Miss Ethel Holmes and Miss A. Millard were also school visitors last week.

STAFORD.

Unprecedented cold weather; at least we forget when it was ever so cold before. 6 1/2° above Monday night and all one can do is to watch how fast the wood is eaten up, and pity those poor people where fuel is scarce, and wish each family had one of our big trees.

A couple of dogs killed ten sheep for the Borland Boys and Mr. Weddle last week. Chased one into the barn yard and had to be beaten off with a club. They have not found the dogs yet, but they will get short shift when they do find them.

Adolph Delker and Ida Kekel were married January 6. Her father had told her if she married a farmer he would buy her a silk dress. She got the dress all right and was married in it.

Mrs. Maud Decker of Willamette is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Barnes.

John Schatz married a niece of his aunt Barbara last Wednesday and has rented a flat in Portland. By the way, what relation is he to himself now? We wish the young couple every blessing.

It is said the iron company has withdrawn their land from market, waiting to see how near the electric road will come.

Mr. Waehle says he guesses he might as well hold onto his nineteen acre farm, as it brought him in over a hundred dollars, besides plenty of fruit and vegetables for his family, not saying anything about the healthy exercise to himself.

GREENWOOD.

The five year old son of J. B. Cummings died of canker sore throat. Cummings died of cancer of the throat at his home near Clarks. The interment took place at Clarks Thursday afternoon. The three year old girl is reported to be getting better.

Mrs. Lottie Penmann is sick with typhoid malaria, but is reported better.

John Stoker came from Columbia and spent a day with his brother this week.

Mrs. D. E. Jones is home again. She has been three weeks attending her mother, who is sick at Oswego.

Miss Josie Howland has come to stay for a while with Mrs. C. V. Stoker.

Mrs. D. Davies spent a few days last week with friends in Portland.

Miss Ruth Braker entertained a few of her young friends last week in a delightful manner.

Mrs. Erickson spent a day with Mrs. W. H. Jones this week.

MARKS PRAIRIE.

Very cold weather for Oregon and most of our people are complaining of the terrible cold. Why my friends, this would not even be called a Kansas sephyr.

Fall sown grain is badly damaged if not all killed by the freeze as the ground was very wet.

Our veterinary surgeon, R. J. Garrett, is kept very busy attending sick horses of our vicinity.

Our school commenced today with W. J. Dunton at the helm. We wish him success as nearly all our schools here have been almost a failure.

Our people are well pleased by the appointment of R. W. Zimmerman as road boss.

The appointment of herman Harms as supervisor in district 25 is all right although several are kicking.

There will be a great many potatoes lost in our vicinity on account of the cold weather.

George Oglesby was called to Estacada last week to assist in the division of the estate of Geo. Marshall, deceased. His two sons Frank and Charles, are two of the heirs.

The rag social and dance at Mr. Cooper's of Paradise City was all right and all had a good time.

Polk Gribble was out with his dogs running coyotes one day last week.

Henry Kraus purchased a lot of wire fencing which he will put up in the near future.

Our hop raisers are cleaning up their hop yards and will soon be ready for spring work.

We learn that Eph Jones of Liberal, will soon move to this vicinity. No place like Paradise City, Eph.

At our special school election Jack Kerr, Geo. Reuck and Mr. Jansen, were elected directors.

MULINO ITEMS.

Mulino young people are enjoying the cold weather greatly. They have skating almost every evening near the Howard residence.

Mrs. Udell made a business trip to town last week.

Everybody is complaining of bad colds.

Ben Adkins sold one of his horses last week.

Mr. Wiles spent Sunday with his folks.

W. A. Woodside killed a beef for Mr. Chase one day last week.

Mr. Dunton was seen on our streets last week. Wonder what the attraction is down here this cold weather?

C. Mallatt made a business trip to town last week.

Mrs. Wallace called on her daughter one day last week.

FROG POND.

Toedtemeier Bros. and Koellmeier Bros. were in Oregon City one day last week.

Mrs. Fred Koellmeier is still very sick.

The boys here were out hunting foxes one day last week and killed two.

Our rural mail carrier keeps himself pretty well wrapped up this warm weather.

The people here seem to be astonished about the weather, for there were about five changes in about one hour.

H. A. Toedtemeier's eyesight is improving very rapidly.

EAGLE CREEK NOTES.

Cold weather with a light snow and

the mercury at 10 above zero is the order of the day here!

Elmer Douglas had the misfortune to cut off the ends of three of his fingers last week, but he has hopes of their growing on again.

Elder J. F. Brown's hand is nearly well again. He has been laid up with it about six weeks.

William Wood and family left here last week for Alabama, their former home.

Mr. King of Hood River Valley was visiting friends here a short time ago.

Several of the Eagle Creek grangers attended the Pomona grange at Garfield last Wednesday.

Farming is at a standstill now on account of the cold weather.

SCHOOL REPORT

Of West Oregon City Schools for the Month Ending January 11, 1907.

First Primary—Enrollment, 31; days absent, 47; times tardy, 3; pupils neither absent nor tardy, 9. Grace Robinson, teacher.

Second Primary—Enrollment, 21; days absent, 35; times tardy, 1; pupils neither absent nor tardy, 7. Albin Thibert, teacher.

Intermediate—Enrollment 17, days absent, 28 1-2; times tardy, 1; neither absent nor tardy, 5. Jessie Blanch, teacher.

Bolton—Enrollment, 32; days absent, 46; times tardy, 1; neither absent nor tardy, 11. Clara Koerner, teacher.

Advanced—Enrollment, 20; days absent, 23; times tardy, 2; neither absent nor tardy, 5. T. P. Kendall, Principal.

EVERYBODY CRIES FOR MORE WATER

HILL DISTRICTS ARE IN SORE NEED OF WATER—WASTED DOWN TOWN.

SEWER SYSTEM CAUSES TROUBLE

Schools Are Closed For Lack of Water—Sewer System Out of Repair—Lessons Assigned.

The Water Commission is up against the real thing due to the great amount of water that is being wasted during the cold weather to keep the pipes from freezing. As the result the people in the hill district have been suffering for want of water.

The water that is being pumped into the reservoir on the hill is taken out so fast that the reservoir has been empty for several days.

When W. H. Howell of the water commission was seen Thursday morning on this subject, he said that there would be no water for the residents of the hill district until the freezing spell was over.

In order to escape from the clutches of the plumbers the residents have been wasting the water.

Provision has been made in case of fire when the water can be turned on in a moment's notice.

The water proposition has not only caused worry among the residents of the city, but has forced the closing of the schools of the city on several occasions during the last few days.

The real trouble at the Barclay school which makes it necessary for the Superintendent to close the school is the lack of water for the sewerage system.

Several men have been at work fixing the sewers Thursday morning and it is expected that the trouble will be fixed so that classes can be resumed for good.

All classes met Thursday morning at the Barclay school, but had to be dismissed in the forenoon. As the examinations are so near at hand this delay in the reviewing work seriously handicaps the pupils. The examinations begin in a little over a week and the intervening time is getting very short.

When Superintendent McKee was seen Thursday morning, upon the problem confronting the schools during the cold weather, he said that everything was being done to keep the work of the schools moving along. The pupils come to their different grades every morning and lessons in reviewing are assigned them and although not able to recite they can study their work. There will not be much time for them left before examinations as only one week intervenes before that time.

The high school pupils are greatly handicapped by this temporary closing up as the two first years of work done here must be made in terms of nine months instead of ten as in the Portland schools—thus crowding the work to a great extent.



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