

**THE HOOD RIVER NEWS**

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**The Weather**

Weather report for week ending December 19, 1909, furnished by H. L. Hasbrouck, local observer:

Date	Temperature High-Low-est	Clear days	Rainfall
Dec. 14	38 25		.00
15	32 25		.00
16	32 25		.00
17	39 25		.00
18	30 28		.00
19	35 26		.00
Averages			Total
33 25.6			.00

**PATRIOTISM AND THE FLAG**

In another column is printed an article headed "Neglect of the Flag," calling attention to the lack of respect and to the general ignorance prevailing among Americans in regard to the nation's emblem.

It must be said that the criticism in part or in whole is justly made. There is probably no more patriotic people on the face of the globe than those who elect to live under the protection of the Stars and Stripes. But in the outward respect and veneration which they accord it, however, they are undoubtedly lacking, not intentionally, but thoughtlessly.

The people of no nation will respond more patriotically to a call to arms than the American people nor will any struggle more heroically and die faster to retain their colors in battle. But in everyday life in which military pomp and demonstration is infrequent, while the flag is more commonly to be seen than in other countries, it fails to inspire that fervid acknowledgement by the busy American that is so prevalent in countries where its appearance is accompanied by formality, military trappings and martial music.

The suggestion of the Grand Army that a short exercise or ceremony take place each day in the schools in connection with the raising and lowering of the national flag and that some study be devoted to the history of it, is worthy of consideration.

**THE GRANGE AND THE ASSEMBLY**

Taking exception to the editor's views in regard to the right of political parties in the state to hold assemblies Pine Grove grange, according to an article published in another column, voted unanimously at a recent meeting to have a committee reply. To those who will peruse the communication there will be no question as to the committee having performed its duty in plain English.

The grange assumes that the News is opposed to the direct primary. In its assumption it is correct insofar as past operations of the direct primary are concerned.

In theory the direct primary is good. In its application and results it is a failure.

In justification of this statement can be pointed out the anomalous position Oregon now occupies in the United States senate where it is represented by a Democratic, and what is known in eastern politics as a Mugwump senator, either of whom has a little influence singly and none jointly. One of them put in office by the opposite party and the other through his wealth and the ignorance of the voter as to the workings of the primary law. A combination representing Oregon in the higher branch of the nation's legislature that is unable to obtain for it its proportion of legislation needed to aid the state's progress. Furthermore, just as much corruption, just as much wire pulling, just as much misrepresentation was employed in obtaining this disastrous result as there ever was under the convention system, with the exception that it was carried on in a milder form and kept from public view. Why then not a

meeting, assembly or convention in which the various districts of the state will be represented, to agree on the recommending of candidates to the nominating primary whose qualifications should secure to the state the greatest possible benefit?

In many respects it must also be acknowledged that the state legislature was a mixture of elements that are admitted by the warmest supporters of the direct primary to have accomplished anything but satisfactory results, and that it failed signally to provide legislation on many important matters. Government, therefore, under the most favorable form of the direct primary is no better than formerly, and in some respects more inadequate.

In passing it can be said that if the element which is opposing the assemblies had taken the same interest in the old system of nominating candidates that they now apparently take, many of the abuses they decry would have been eliminated. But this they would not do. They were too indifferent to take an active part in the preliminary caucuses and primaries. When, as naturally followed, they were controlled by the bosses an outcry followed.

Returning to the charges made against the editor of the News in the communication from the Grange, they are without founda-

**ALL OREGON NEWS**

The State railroad commission in its third annual report just issued shows 35 miles of the Deschutes railroad has been graded and that it is expected to have 90 miles of the new line in operation by next July. James J. Hill, who has been in Portland during the past week, gives assurance that the Oregon Trunk will be in operation by next fall so that the coming year will see two railway lines into the interior of the state.

An advertising campaign that will reach no less than 27,428,750 readers of newspapers throughout the country has been planned by the Portland Commercial Club and will be opened up in January and run for three months. The advertising will call attention to vacant lands in this state and the chances here for the newcomer. There is no question that this advertising will result in bringing many people to Oregon and the whole state, not any section, will be benefited. The keynote of the advertising will be "Oregon is the place for you; 1910 the time; railroad development the reason."

Everyone in Portland seems to be planting roses and to a greater or less extent the same is probably true of other cities of the state where the rose attains perfection. Never before has there been such a prevalent idea of beautifying cities as now and the support lent the movement by the people in all walks of life shows that this feeling is widespread. Nursery men estimate Portland people will have planted 100,000 roses by the end of the 1909-1910 season. This includes the Fall and Spring planting. This stunt is believed to be unpar-

**NORTHWEST NOTES**

From our Seattle correspondent. Seattle, Wn., December 21.—The Seattle conference of James J. Hill and Howard Elliott, the respective heads of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railways, concerned itself with transportation matters of importance to the entire northwest. The Northern Pacific is interested in getting a franchise for a belt line around Lake Union, which is in the heart of Seattle. As it is one of the important links in the Lake Washington canal now under construction, it is understood that this little body of water will be made an important factor in future transportation considerations, transcontinental as well as trans-Pacific. The Harriman lines which are to reach Puget Sound over N. P. tracks, are arranging their schedules for the new service. In addition to this, the Milwaukee Railway will handle Australian freight through Seattle and Tacoma, which heretofore has always gone by the way of Canada. These activities indicate the growing importance of transportation in the northwest and rapid developments are promised for the next year.

While a jury in Olympia found Orvis Hamilton guilty of embezzling from the state during his term as adjutant general, another jury in King county freed John Riplinger, former city comptroller of Seattle, from a similar charge of wrong doing. Both men will have to face trial again, as there are other counts to be explained in each case. At the same time a grand jury in Seattle is investigating all sorts of charges and the air seems to be thick with criminal reports. Spokane, too, has her share of nasty rumors. And top of it all, comes the

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tion. He is not under the dominance of the bosses or the liquor element or corporations. He believes that it is the right and title of those who are disposed to do so to hold assemblies or any other kind of meetings for the purpose outlined. He is not opposed to the primary law if it meets the best requirements of the people, which has not as yet been demonstrated.

According to the Grange we are to carry on an elective government without parties or division. The conducting of the state's and nation's affairs is to be left to a scramble of ballots in which the man with the most money, who can get his name into the hands of the voter oftenest, who can use most sophistry, who can present the most plausible arguments will be elected, no matter what his qualifications may be, his previous experience or his general fitness for the office.

The fact that the highly respectable grange lines up with Senator Bourne on a political issue is as incongruous as the legendary friendship of the lion and the lamb. Truly politics makes strange bedfellows. With that worthy matron, the Grange, on one side, the sophisticated Jonathan in the middle and virtuous Miss Labor on the other, we would advise the organized occupants of the direct primary bed to sleep with one eye open.

led in the history of American cities. Estimating that each rosebush will bear ten blooms during the coming season, it means that Portland will have added 10,000,000 roses to its wealth of bloom during the coming summer. People of the city are determined to make Portland the "Rose City" in fact as well as in name and to show Festival visitors next June that this city has no equal in rose culture.

Oregon banks showed a remarkable healthy condition, according to the report of State Bank Examiner Steel. Assets and liabilities of the private and national banks of the state at the close of business on November 16 are compared with the same statistics on November 27, 1908, much to the disadvantage of the earlier date. An increase of 21 per cent in loans and discounts and individual deposits is shown for the current year. Individual deposits in banks have increased \$16,103,678 over last year, certainly a strong evidence of the prosperity of the state. A gain of more than \$21,000,000 in resources of the banks in a single year is a striking proof of the advance Oregon has made during the past twelve months. This is partly due to the marketing of a large lumber cut but the high prices at which the agricultural staples were marketed had an even stronger effect on the figures. There has also been a great amount of money brought into Oregon during the past year by new settlers. This has gone into farm lands, timber and city property. Railroad activity now going forward in the state will undoubtedly have a strong effect in bringing the coming year's showing up to an even higher level than that disclosed in the latest report.

Information from Washington, D. C., that government investigators have found Puget Sound the second largest port of entry for the white slave traffic in the United States. It would seem that some herculean fumigation process is necessary to clear the atmosphere.

Practical education in forestry is to be given at the University of Washington, beginning January 4. The course is designed to meet the needs of the ranger, cruiser, logging foreman, timber foreman and others desiring some knowledge of scientific forestry, without taking time to complete a full university course. Another innovation is the experimental department in mine rescue work. The operators of the state, cooperating with the federal government have inaugurated this feature.

An early personal primary election to determine King county's choice for United States senator is being seriously discussed. The most optimistic friends of the three candidates here concede the danger of the present situation and endorse the idea of a friendly truce which shall eliminate all but one candidate in Seattle. Judge Thomas Burke is strongly in favor of such preliminary contest; Judge E. Humphries, though claiming to be the people's candidate, is against it; Ex-Senator John L. Wilson is abroad and his local managers hesitate to speak for him in such a matter. Senator Wilson, however, has always been the champion of the primary principle, and his friends privately express the belief that he would gladly enter such a contest. Judge Burke is frank and earnest in his advocacy of a peaceful settlement of King county difficulties; he says he will willingly submit to such a primary and feeling of success will heartily support the victor.

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