

The Oregonian

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DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

PORTLAND, Feb. 13. 8 P. M. - Maximum temperature, 45; minimum temperature, 31; 1/2 ft. of river at 11 A. M. 2.8; change in the past 24 hours, 0.9; precipitation, 1.00; precipitation from September 1, 1894 (not seasonal) to date, 19.78; evaporation, 30.81; deficiency, 11.83; number hours of outside temperature, 4.90; possible number, 16.24.

WEATHER STORIES. From all appearance the storm which has been on the coast has entirely disappeared to the westward, being forced to change its position through the influence of an area of high pressure, which prevails over British Columbia and Montana.

WEATHER FORECASTS. Forecasts made at Portland for the 24 hours ending at midnight February 14. For Oregon, Washington and Idaho - Fair weather and nearly stationary temperature, with fresh westerly winds.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

Last June the people of the city of Portland and the county of Multnomah voted for reduction of the taxes that burden the city and county. They were aware that this reduction could be brought about only by the cutting of fees, reduction or abolition of salaries and general economy in methods of administration.

But now it is said there was a reservation in favor of the persons then candidates for office; that it was understood they were still to receive the former salaries and fees, and that the economical measures were to be postponed till their terms had expired and they had had their "pull."

The Committee of One Hundred took it up. It insisted on pledges from the candidates of all parties that these reforms should be introduced without delay; that the reductions should be put in force as soon as the necessary legislation could be enacted.

This is what it would have cost the government to borrow money at interest for war expenses, instead of issuing legal-tender notes to pay them, and keeping them in circulation as the currency of the country afterward, instead of redeeming them out of the first surplus revenue and canceling them.

Many salaries and fees are excessive. They belong to the past era of inflated values and general speculation. Compensation of officials must be brought down to a fair proportion with other things.

This enormous sum represents what the people of the United States have paid in taxation for the use of about \$350,000,000 of greenbacks for thirty years, and of \$150,000,000 of treasury notes for one to five years.

It is not improbable that New York and London money-changers have taken advantage of the straits in which the treasury was placed by the neglect of congress to authorize a bond issue for much less than they are worth.

Clergymen make a great mistake to look their thumb-nails at Paine when the Paine anniversary comes round, and little groups here and there glorify him. It gives him an im-

portance he does not deserve, and tends to perpetuate an idolatry that would gradually exhaust itself were it left alone. Paine is an inconsiderable figure in the world of thought and literature, and would quickly become unknown to all but the university reader if the over-zealous orthodox clergy would let him alone.

EXTRAVAGANT, INDECENT AND INHUMAN.

Jeffrey's bill to regulate the carrying of prisoners, incorrigibles and insane persons to the institutions provided for them by the state is more than a measure of economy, as applied to the latter class, it is a measure of decency and humanity. It embodies briefly the idea more elaborately set forth by the retiring secretary of state, relative to the conveyance of insane persons to the asylum by officers detailed for that purpose from the trained force of asylum employes.

It makes it the duty of the clerk of any court wherein a person has been adjudged insane to be committed to the asylum to notify the superintendent of the asylum of this fact, the latter to respond immediately by sending an experienced deputy or deputies to convey such person thither. It is provided further that the persons performing this detail work shall receive no compensation for such service beyond the salaries each one is paid as an employee of the state.

The total cost of conveying insane persons to the asylum during the past two years, under the present system of sending them under the escort of sheriffs and their deputies, was \$30,631 56, a sum which is shown by the secretary of state to be largely in excess of a just and economical compensation for this service. A careful and competent estimate shows that six attendants employed at \$50 a month each could have performed this service at a saving of several thousand dollars to the state, and given one-third of their time to other duties in connection with the institution, while suitable arrangements for traveling expenses in such cases could be made by the superintendent of the asylum on behalf of the state, which would effect a still further saving.

COST OF THE GREENBACK.

The common argument for forced issue of government credit currency, such as has been kept in circulation in the United States since 1862, is that, since it is a loan to the government without interest, it saves a large annual expense. The government could have borrowed money for the expenses of the war instead of issuing legal-tender notes, or, if not so, it could have borrowed money as soon as the war was over to pay them off. But it would have had to pay interest on this borrowed money, probably 6 per cent up to 1874, and 5 per cent afterward. At an average of 4 per cent, and assuming the loan to have been \$500,000,000 to cover all the issues and contingent expenses, the interest charge would have been \$20,000,000 per year, or \$600,000,000 for the thirty years, and the bonds would be still to pay, making the total cost of the loan up to this time \$1,100,000,000.

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The joint resolution in relation to the income tax, which has been passed by the house, concurred in by the senate, with amendments, and which now goes back to the house for concurrence in the senate amendments, will afford considerable relief from peremptory and inquisitorial proceedings of the treasury department. This joint resolution does not undertake to amend the law, but it alters materially regulations established by the department without authority of law.

It was easy for everybody to promise economic reform last spring. It is now a question of the necessities of the moment, and the necessities, expecting, of course, that they would be repaid when the insurance money came to hand. The man died in the fond hope that all bills against the family would be paid by the insurance, and that there would be a few hundred dollars left to supply the immediate wants of the wife and little ones.

It is high time the honest-money men of Oregon had taken steps to right ourselves before the world on this question. Free silver appears to act as a lung-pander, and a man should not only be nothing left to feed and clothe the little ones, but hardly 10 per cent to pay just claims of the men who furnished food and clothing, and the landlord who kept roof over the family.

The leaders of both the republican and democratic parties, who believe in a sound currency, ought to take a firm stand for the honest-money man. They must not write our platform. If the campaign is to be fought out between honest money and rap-babylon, let us draw the lines distinctly and make no compromise. One can drink either hot or cold water, but lukewarm it is nauseating. If the silver inflationists and monetarists desire to betake themselves into the popular camp, they will be in congenial company. One can drink either hot or cold water, but lukewarm it is nauseating. If the silver inflationists and monetarists desire to betake themselves into the popular camp, they will be in congenial company.

letter that Mr. Lester was nominated and elected to the legislature. He now acts with those who refuse to vote for Mr. Dolph because Mr. Dolph stands for the "honest-money" principles which Mr. Lester then so vigorously defended. Mr. Lester is known to himself and his constituents, to quit this company and vote for Mr. Dolph. This is what both he and Mr. Curtis pledged themselves to do. Mr. Fox, candidate for the senate on the same ticket with the other, refused to come out for "honest money" and for Mr. Dolph, and was not elected. In all kindness, the Oregonian suggests to Mr. Lester and Mr. Curtis that it is time for them to consider and to reconsider, and to put themselves back into the ranks of the people who elected them intended they should stand.

"COIN" IN LAW MEANS GOLD.

And that is the reason why Gold Can Be Got for "Coin" Bonds. Chicago Herald. A New York financial newspaper publishes a letter from a prominent business man containing statements in substance as follows: "The resumption act requires the secretary of the treasury to redeem 'in gold' all greenbacks presented for redemption. It is true that the treasury act requires the secretary to sell bonds to get the gold. The only discretion allowed him is to decide whether it shall be 4 per cent or 5 per cent bonds he will sell. But he cannot refuse to sell if he is refused to do his duty. The one restriction is that the bonds must be sold at not less than par."

The opposition to re-election of Senator Dolph is said to be chiefly a protest against the financial policy he represents or supports. But this policy is the policy of the country. It is the policy that has been steadily pursued by each of the parties alternately in power. It is the policy of the present congress, and will be the policy of the next one. It is the policy under which gold is recognized and maintained as the money standard, with such use of silver as may be practicable without loss of parity. This is the policy of the country. It is the policy to which Mr. Dolph is committed, and it will be sustained, whether he shall be re-elected or not. The opposition to him on this basis, therefore, is without sufficient cause.

The ways and means committee has advanced to the point of recommending that the secretary of the treasury be required to redeem greenbacks in gold coin, so long as parity is maintained, but no doubt the bonds would sell better if repaid in gold were distinctly pledged. The present congress probably will not pass any financial measure, but every resolution like this shows an advance toward the necessary admission and declaration that the gold standard is to be maintained. It will be maintained, in any event, but there is reason for such action as will cause men and parties to cease from juggling with equivocal expressions.

Dr. Gaff finds it difficult to procure bail, his male acquaintances refusing to trust him. He need not repine, since he has the sympathy of his woman callers. Probably his detention will be brief. The doctor is a man of serious cognizance of these offenses. He will be discharged in a few days, and may pursue his career of lechery so long as his physical vigor may last, if he only is careful not to run foul of any girl whose male relatives are men. In that case he will not need bail, and the sympathy of sentimental female callers at the morgue will avail him nothing.

The proposition to let the taxpayers of the city of Portland decide whether the bridges and ferries across the river that divides the city shall be absolutely free to the public, or be maintained and operated by a small toll upon vehicles and animals crossing them, is a just one. The people, upon whom alone the expense of the construction and maintenance of these highways falls, are competent judges in the premises, and may well be allowed to decide the matter.

The end of contradictory rumors about Wei-Hai-Wei is that it has not been taken and the fleet still is intact, but that propositions have been made to the British government to purchase the lives of the troops on parole. The condition is the fruit of the unhappy experience of the troops at Port Arthur. Of course, it will be granted. The Japanese don't want to kill soldiers unless they have to. They want the town and the ships in as good condition as possible.

It was easy for everybody to promise economic reform last spring. It is now a question of the necessities of the moment, and the necessities, expecting, of course, that they would be repaid when the insurance money came to hand. The man died in the fond hope that all bills against the family would be paid by the insurance, and that there would be a few hundred dollars left to supply the immediate wants of the wife and little ones.

LESS THAN A YEAR AGO. What Representative Lester, of Clatsop, Thought of Debased Money. WARRENTON, Or., March 26. (To the Editor.)-Will Mr. DeLashmutt kindly inform the readers of The Oregonian in how many silver mines he is interested? The party which stands up for the League smacks largely of self-interest. The whole tenor of Mr. DeLashmutt's communication of the 26th inst. is to the effect that the honest-money man is not allowed to dictate the platforms of all the political parties of the state they intend to throw their strength for the one which they can dictate. In other words, the party which stands up for the League is to be placed first, leads one to doubt the sincerity of the political convictions of Portland's ex-mayor.

It is high time the honest-money men of Oregon had taken steps to right ourselves before the world on this question. Free silver appears to act as a lung-pander, and a man should not only be nothing left to feed and clothe the little ones, but hardly 10 per cent to pay just claims of the men who furnished food and clothing, and the landlord who kept roof over the family.

The above letter was published in The Oregonian of April 4, 1894. It was on the statement of principles contained in this

pothesis," he says. "What he wants is not a great glass of the kind proposed, but to do what has not been done-find means of quieting the atmosphere. In other words, his proposition is an absurdity."

George G. Cannon, the leading spirit in the movement to elect him, has been the first senator elected from Utah since the territory achieves statehood. His son, Frank Cannon, now delegate-elect, has a good chance of becoming his father's senatorial colleague.

The late Furman Sheppard was an insatiable collector of books having a rare or antique interest, and he has thus amassed one of the finest private libraries in Philadelphia, near the Ritz Hotel. It was one of his greatest delights to spend his evenings among his literary treasures. After his death his law collection was sold, and the books remaining Library, which is classified in groups, devoted respectively to medicine and physics, theology and philosophy, general law, political economy and politics, his geography and topography, general literature, architecture and painting, and miscellaneous, is still intact as he left it.

Mr. Corbett's Dinner. Eugene Register. Those who had an idea the members of the legislature were invited to Portland in order to give an opportunity to the people on the matter of the election have been disappointed. We think Mr. Corbett made it sufficiently plain why he invited the members to dine with him. The dinner is not an unworthy one. He had a right to entertain them, and he had a right to talk with them in regard to the reduction of expenses in Multnomah county by the passage of salary law. It is clearly evident the salary law is needed in that county, as there are greater opportunities for fee-grabbers in that county than in any other. The salary law in other counties where it has been tried, and has demonstrated itself to be a great factor in reduction of taxation. Every public officer should be placed upon a salary. Plenty of competent men will work for a salary, and the people will know what the offices are costing, which is not the case where the fee system prevails. Under the salary system there is an incentive to the lessening of business in the office, and otherwise the reverse is true. It is a commendable effort on the part of citizens of Multnomah, and the legislature would make no mistake by passing a salary law.

SEMI-ANNUAL PAYMENT OF TAXES. PORTLAND, Feb. 12. (To the Editor.)-In the fore part of the present session of the legislature a bill was introduced providing for the payment of taxes in semi-annual amounts. It would be to the interest of many to learn what has become of this bill. In California taxes are paid semi-annually, and it is found to work there. It is a serious doubt about why it would be to the advantage of the community at large that such a system should be in vogue here. It would oblige a man to make up his mind to pay a large amount of money in the treasury, as has been the case in the past, and danger of any of it going astray, as experienced here last year. Soon the time will come when the government will have to pay the taxes, and many will have a hard time to meet them. It would be somewhat of a relief, could half of the taxes be paid now and the balance six months later. This is an important matter, and would respectfully call to the attention of the committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce on the dallas portage proposition, to be held on Thursday.

INCENSED HUMOR. St. Louis Republic. The American silver dollar contains a trifle less silver than the Mexican dollar, but it is at a premium of about two for one over the Mexican coin, even in Mexico. That is to say, if you go into a shop in a Mexican city, and buy a dollar's worth of something and hand the salesman an American dollar, he will give you back a Mexican dollar in change. That is because the price of the dollar is higher under present conditions, is not given worth only about 50 cents, and it is kept up to a parity with gold by the manipulation, and by the laws making it a legal tender for all dues, public and private. As our coinage laws stand, we have no such thing as bimetalism, and the government is not to be taken in on the question of the government, redeemable in gold. In Mexico silver is the standard money, and it passes in the markets of the world at its bullion value, just as our gold money does.

Apples and Potatoes Wanted. Eugene Register. E. C. Smith is in receipt of a letter from a firm in St. Louis offering to buy ship tons of apples. They also inquire regarding the possibility of his shipping them several carloads of potatoes, offering 25 cents per bushel for them. The letter states that there is a brisk demand in that country for Pacific coast fruit and produce. Apples, prunes, potatoes, and even onions are sought for by the dealers in Oregon, Washington and California. With all the opportunities offered here, it is to be regretted that such calls cannot be supplied. Quantities of such staples are enormous quantities to afford shipments by the carload would undoubtedly be found profitable.

Milton Fruitgrowers Object. The Eastern Oregon Fruitgrowers' Union held a meeting Thursday night of last week and passed resolutions strongly condemning the proposed bill for the cultural laws of Oregon. The proposed bill provides for a single commissioner at a "fixed" salary of \$100, with an additional \$50 for traveling expenses, should that be required, and the amount of interest should be taken in Eastern Oregon orchards by the one-man commission-er that has been displaced by the present board, they also recommended the official visit from his royal eminence early in the fall of 1900.

Free Silver a Wage-Reducer. De Montaigne. The day this morning went to a silver basis the laboring men would find their rents and the prices of nearly everything consumed advanced nearly in proportion to the depreciation of the money. The country, while their wages fixed in terms of money would advance slowly, and never reach an amount proportionate to the increase in their expenditures. Such has been the experience of the past with cheap money; such will be the experience of the future if the experiment is ever tried again.

All Are Payable in Coin. GASTON, Or., Feb. 12. (To the Editor.)-Do the United States bonds now being issued read payable in "gold" or "coin"? Were there ever any government bonds issued since the war that read, "payable in United States gold coin"? ALMORAN HILL. Certainly.

CORVALLIS, Or., Feb. 12. (To the Editor.)-The American silver dollar is a legal tender for all debts, both public and private? P. M. ZIVOLT.

NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST. Oregon. La Grande's school census shows 503 children. The Western Phyllistine has ceased to make its appearance. A motor-car at Salem knocked out a meat-wagon in one week's time.

Frank G. Hull will soon begin publishing at Milton an agricultural paper called the Inland Homestead. The city council of La Grande has for some time been unable to secure a quorum for a meeting, owing to illness of members. The capacity of the wool-acquiring mill at Pendleton is to be doubled. It is expected to handle 6,000,000 pounds of wool the coming season.

The young men of Eugene are talking of organizing an athletic association. The North Pacific coast association would welcome a club at that place. A trout, 32 inches long, 8 1/2 inches wide and weighing 28 1/2 pounds, was caught in Upper Klamath, Friday last. It was the biggest trout ever seen there, and it took two men to land him.

The middle city election Friday resulted as follows: Pauline, R. H. Riddle, S. E. Catching, George Cutler, I. Lasswell and W. C. Conner; recorder, George R. Riddle; treasurer, Thomas Dyer; marshal, L. Michael; street commissioner, William Sanderson.

Salmon fishing on the Nahalem has played out completely. Kinney's cannery at that place has closed down for the season on account of the scarcity of fish. The Chinamen, however, have been working in the cannery will be brought to Astoria on the Harrison the latter part of the week.

The project of the county court of Umatilla county to lease the Cascade house through the southern portion of the county to the John Day river, is strongly objected to. This road was built by a stock appropriation of \$15,000, supplemented by private subscriptions. The people of John Day object to paying toll upon it. About 100 merry skaters from Enterprise, Alder and Joseph, were on the lake on Saturday and Sunday, and half as many Tuesday and Wednesday. The skating was all that could be desired, there being a sheet of ice three miles long by one mile wide, and from four to six inches or more smooth as glass. The ice is excellent yet and will remain so for some time unless there is a change in the weather.

The citizens of Detroit and vicinity held a mass meeting at the Cascade house on Saturday, February 9, for the purpose of determining whether or not there was any plan they might devise to do away with the letter of credit business by which the people of the line of the Oregon Pacific railroad have had to contend with so long. The result was a letter to Hammond & Bonner asking that wood, ties and other material be paid for in cash in future.

Messrs. Flamm, Crafts and F. H. Clark have struck a rich quartz lode above the dry diggings near Grant's Pass. These diggings are among the oldest mines in Southern Oregon, and have for many years yielded handsomely. They are still mined every winter with fair results, but the main ledge has been unsuccessfully searched for for many years. The gold found always had more or less quartz mixed with it. The present find is about 60 feet above the old diggings.

A young man, by the name of Arthur Hilliard, who lives in the Cascade house on Saturday, February 9, for the purpose of determining whether or not there was any plan they might devise to do away with the letter of credit business by which the people of the line of the Oregon Pacific railroad have had to contend with so long. The result was a letter to Hammond & Bonner asking that wood, ties and other material be paid for in cash in future.

Amos Reed died at Yager February 9, aged 85 years. A carload of salmon is being shipped East from Gray's harbor daily. Plans have been prepared for a new Episcopal church at Astoria. The "Pioneer Window" will build a large saw mill, shingle mill and sash and door factory at Ballard.

The sportsmen of Tacoma and Seattle will have a live-bird market near the former place Sunday. A barrel stave factory will be established at Snohomish, to use the cedar timber, so plentiful there. The Pierce county commissioners are considering the question of setting the prisoners in the county jail at work. D. W. Weston, a vice-president of Hilliard for stocking his butcher shop in the night time, while the owners of the cattle were asleep. The estate of Mrs. Marie Bernhardt Jassou, the Tacoma woman who was killed in a fall at a tree near Asland, has been inventoried at \$9,912.30. In a quarrel between two disreputable women at Sprague, one of them threw a lighted lamp at another, and the arrival and vigorous efforts of the city marshal alone saved a conflagration. The first meeting of the lady commissioners, recently appointed by Governor McGraw for the Atlanta cotton states exposition, will be held at the Tacoma hotel. The organization was perfected as follows: President, Mrs. Samuel C. Slaughter, of Tacoma; first vice-president, Mrs. Maurice McKicken, of Seattle; second vice-president, Mrs. Frank Allen, of Tacoma; third vice-president, Mrs. Eugene V. Hyde, of Spokane; corresponding secretary, Mrs. A. B. Stewart, of Seattle; recording secretary, Mrs. Herbert Beecher, of Port Townsend.

PARAGRAPHERS' PLEASANTIES. A man may run into debt, but he seldom comes out at anything faster than a walk. -Texas Siftings. Eggs-There are very few poor men in the States nowadays. Diggy-Yes, but there are plenty of mighty poor senators. -Life. Tourist-On the dome of the capitol-350, how do they rear up here, guide-That isn't the wind, sir. That's congress in session. -Detroit Free Press. "Did you tell Mr. Snodberry that I was not in?" Bridget-I did, ma'am; but he looked so queer that I thought he had believed it if you'd 'a' told him wid your own lips. -Inter Ocean.

He returned the pound of sugar. And sadly shook his head. "Do not say that," he said, "it was all right to the grocer said. -Detroit Tribune. Farmer-If you want work, I'll give you a job. Wigwag Wigwag-Well, I'd like to take a wigwag for a year or two. Guide-You may as well get a job as you can, as if he had a family to support, an' as I'm a bachelor I'll resign in his favor. -Tidbits. "I'm awfully disappointed in those New York soldiers. Name-Why? Eva-Here we've been talking to some of the members of troop A for an hour and not one of them has sworn once. I don't believe they are real troops at all. -Brooklyn Eagle. "Dear me," said Mr. Meekin, "it seems so absurd for men to be constantly talking about their wives having the last word. I never object to my wife having the last word. I always feel thankful when she gets to it. -Washington Star. "Really, Mr. Stalart," she protested, "you have been so kind to give me your time this evening." "Why-er-upon my word! So I have. The hours pass like minutes when I am with you." You were telling me that since your promotion your time is so valuable. "Yes." "Well, papa doesn't allow me to accept expensive presents from young men." -Washington Star.

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