

THESE FIGURES DON'T LIE

PORTLAND'S PROSPERITY AS INDICATED BY POSTAL BUSINESS.

Every Month Except One in 1899 Showed an Increase Over the Corresponding Month in 1898.

The receipts from the sale of stamps, stamped envelopes and postal cards, at the Portland postoffice for the year ending December 31, 1899, amounted to \$188,535 04, being an increase of \$13,588 79 over the year 1898.

Postoffice figures are not stuffed nor manipulated, and constitute a fair barometer of business prosperity.

Table with 2 columns: Year, Receipts. Rows for 1898 and 1899, and monthly breakdown for 1899.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS. They Tell the Same Story of Increased Business.

The receipts of the internal revenue office in Portland for the month of December, 1899, show an increase of \$15,818 53 over the receipts of the corresponding month of 1898.

Table with 2 columns: Category, Amount. Rows for Beer, Spirits, Cigars, Tobacco, Special taxes, Playing cards, Mixed four, Adhesive stamps.

Receipts for six months ending December 31, 1899, \$655,925 96. Receipts for six months ending December 31, 1898, \$590,030 22.

ALIEN SOLDIERS.

Another Registration Problem Confronts Clerk Holmes.

Clerk of the County Court Holmes has been confronted with another registration problem. Some ex-soldiers of foreign birth seem to be of the opinion that their discharge papers make full citizens of them.

his intention to become such, and he shall not be required to prove more than one year's residence in the United States previous to his application to become such citizen.

TO TAKE OREGON PRODUCTS Delegates to Editorial Convention Will Advertise the State.

The delegates recently elected by the Portland Press Club to attend the National Editorial Association convention in New Orleans next month are actively engaged in the work of preparation.

It is not probable that any other delegation will have missionary work of this nature in hand, but the very recent visit of the association to Portland will make Oregon souvenirs peculiarly appropriate.

Aside from the National Editorial Association there will be a vast crowd in New Orleans attending the Mardi Gras, which exercises close the evening preceding the opening of the association.

ANOTHER BIG HOUSE.

"Hottest Coon in Dixie" Retains Its Popularity.

Another packed house, in which was Governor Geer, attended the performance of "The Hottest Coon in Dixie," at Corbett's last night.

Chance for Perpetual Motion.

Should Bryan run short of wind, send him to Sherman county. One inflated with one of these zephyrs, perpetual motion will have been accomplished.

OLDS & KING

22d Annual Clearance Sale

This means our entire stock of superior merchandise at greatly reduced prices.

A FEW REMINDERS

- RICHARDSON'S LINENS. The most critical housewives appreciate their value. SEE OUR TABLE LINENS. ALL RICHARDSON'S. An elegant and complete line at CLEARANCE PRICES. LADIES' WRAPPERS. Best percale, seasonable colors, separate lined waists; values \$1.25 and \$1.50; only 79c each. CHILDREN'S SHOES. Values to \$2.50 now 49c pair. BARGAINS IN OUR CROCKERY SECTION. Cannot fail to please all. Great reductions in this magnificent stock. Olds & King Olds & King

Lipman, Wolff & Co. STORE NEWS OF OUR GREAT SALE. Fancy Silk—An assortment in value up to \$1.50 yard at 59c yard. Umbrellas of all kinds being offered now at lower prices than ever before. Great inducements to hotel, restaurant and boarding-house people, and all housekeepers, at linen counter. Table and house linens at lowest prices now. You Can Save Money on Blankets Now. EVERY ARTICLE IN EVERY DEPARTMENT REDUCED

Our Great Annual Clearance Sale

Is a Pronounced Success

BECAUSE

Our stock is the largest and best in the city.

BECAUSE

Our prices, always the lowest, have been reduced to such an extent that every article in our stock is an attractive bargain, and

BECAUSE

Every statement we make to the public is absolutely reliable.

We advise our patrons to do much of their buying during the morning hours.

MEER & FRANK CO.

PLACE FOR WOOLEN MILLS

OREGON EQUAL TO WEST OF ENGLAND DISTRICT.

W. A. Semple, Experienced Manufacturer of Woollens, Says Western Oregon Conditions Are Good.

"I consider Portland one of the best places, if not the best, in the United States for establishing a woolen mill," were the words yesterday of a thoroughly experienced manufacturer of woollens.

Going into details as to why Oregon is so well adapted to this manufacturing industry, Mr. Semple said:

"In the first place, Portland's shipping facilities for the products of such a factory are as good as found on the coast. But the great feature is the unsurpassed climate and water of this section of the state for woolen manufacturers.

"We can make right here goods equal to the famous Scotch chevots, from Valley wool, and broadcloth, kersey and fine meltons, equal to the famous West of England makes from the Eastern Oregon fleeces. This, of course, implies that we have the machinery for the work, and are operating on such scale as to secure skilled employees.

"A representative of a large wholesale clothing house doing a \$4,000,000 business, said to me the other day: Oregon is bound to be one of the leading textile states of the Union." I agree with him, if conditions favoring such manufactures are any indication.

"I cannot see any objection to mills here on the labor question. We have the whole United States to pick from, and if mills are erected here of sufficient capacity to employ skilled laborers, they can easily be secured.

GREAT ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE

EVERY ARTICLE REDUCED

FURS CLOAKS AND SUITS

THE SILVERFIELD FUR MANUFACTURING CO.

LEADING FURRIERS OF THE WEST.

283-285 Morrison St., Portland, Oregon

Telephone, Oregon, Oak 95L.

Send for Catalogue.

A WORD TO THE WISE



Isn't always sufficient, so we'll keep reminding you of this great money-saving opportunity that hundreds of people have taken advantage of this week.

15% to 35%

reduction on anything in the house is quite an attraction when given on such a stock as you'll find here—all bright and new, and strictly up to date.

- \$9 values in Men's Wool Suits at \$6.00. \$10 and \$12 values in Men's Wool Suits at \$8.50. \$12 and \$14 values in Men's Wool Suits at \$10.20. \$15 values in Men's Wool Suits at \$12.75. \$20 values in Men's Wool Suits at \$17.00.

Neckwear

Those who saw the beautiful line of high-class Neckwear we showed for the holidays will appreciate these values:

- All the finest \$1.50 Scarfs go in this sale at \$1.00. \$1.00 Neckwear at 75c. 50c Neckwear at 35c.

Boys' Department

- All-Wool Cheviot Knee Pants, in plain blue or black and gray mixtures, sizes 3 to 16, 50c and 60c values 39c. All-Wool Brown and Gray Check Knee Pants, sizes 3 to 16, 75c values 62c. Brown, Blue or Black Cheviot and Worsted Knee Pants, sizes 3 to 16, \$1.00 values 85c.

- \$3.00 Reefer Suits..... \$2.15. \$3.50 Reefer Suits..... \$2.65. \$5.00 Reefer Suits..... \$3.85. Boys' Wool Caps—assorted colors, bands to pull over ears, good 50c values at..... 25c.



MOYER CLOTHING COMPANY

THE POPULAR-PRICE CLOTHIERS

BEN SELLING, Manager

THIRD AND OAK STREETS

color as well as goods from any place on earth. I have worn goods from the very select district of England that faded under the bright sun of this country, goods that were supposed to be dyed with indigo.

optimistic about Oregon as a manufacturing center of woollens. Shipping facilities, climate, water and wool produced at the door of the factory, in his estimation, are sure to bring to the state large industries in this line.

INITIAL UNIT IS "FIRST."

Nineteen Hundred Years Required to Complete Nineteenth Century.

BAY CENTER, Wash., Jan. 2.—(To the Editor.)—When at this date a person raises any feature of the "end-of-the-century" question, he is justly to be regarded with suspicion; when he does so a second time, a humble apology is in order. Please, therefore, accept mine.

I beg to ask if The Oregonian, in comment appended to a recent communication of mine, did not still fail exactly to meet the point in question. The year that we usually write as the year 1 B. C. may be written by the astronomer as the year 0 B. C. Yet it is not true that the usual way is the natural way? Likewise, is it not entirely arbitrary for the astronomer to write it as he does? He is entirely justifiable, of course; for his way of writing the year 74 is natural, as is his designation his pursuit of science. Instead of using the figure "0," he might invent a new one, were it conceivable that it would assist him. To employ an analogy which is not perfect, the astronomer gets the reckoning of his day at noon, for it best suits his purpose so. Yet it is more natural to begin the counting of the day at midnight, as we do for civil purposes; as long, at least, as we admit to the word "day" any of the early significance which attaches chiefly to the daylight portion of the 24 hours.

The initial unit of any series is naturally called "first," or rather it is, such as accepted definition of terms. By established usage, and therefore by definition, the Arabic numeral 1 or the Roman numeral I are applied to the one of any series that we call "first." In accordance with this established meaning, the first year of our era must inevitably be listed as the year 1, except as a special class of persons might employ other designation. If it happened better to suit their work, it would seem that for them to do so would be entirely "arbitrary," yet perfectly legitimate under the circumstances.

This communication is perhaps not worthy of publication, for the matter argued is comparatively trivial. The preceding letter would not have been sent, had not the language used by The Oregonian seemed to me to leave the affair in such a shape that our friends, who wanted to close the 19th century day before yesterday, might think that it was their own perversion of thought that was making the trouble, but more merely "arbitrary" law of the Medes and Persians.

Self-Help in Town-Building. The Dalles Times-Mountaineer.

The year 1900 must not pass by without seeing one or more manufacturing industries started in The Dalles. Push, enterprise and concerted action will get the factories; but idleness will not. We also need a wagon bridge across the Columbia, that will draw to us the trade of the rich country in Klickitat county. We have the best town in Eastern Oregon, but we cannot afford to let it cease growing. Everybody wants to get in and rustic to The Dalles.