

TODAY WE CHRONICLE

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OLDS & KING

OPPOSES ANY LEASE

Chamber of Commerce Passes Resolutions.

PUBLIC LANDS MUST BE KEPT OPEN

Still Fighting for General Government Hospital at Vancouver—Other Important Matters.

The matter of leasing public lands of the United States to individuals or corporations as proposed in the bill of Senator Foster, now before congress, was considered at a meeting of the Portland Chamber of Commerce yesterday, and disposed of by the unanimous adoption of a resolution earnestly protesting against the scheme. The matter was brought before the chamber at a meeting last week by a communication from the chamber of commerce of Princeton, enclosing a series of resolutions adopted by a meeting of citizens of Crook county January 12, opposing the scheme for leasing public lands, and asking that Oregon's congressional delegation be instructed to work at any and all times against the bill, which resolutions the Portland Chamber of Commerce was asked to consider.

The communication set forth that if the bill providing for leasing public lands became a law, the lands would be withdrawn from settlement, existing laws would be practically annulled, and the progress and development of the country retarded.

Mr. Hahn said he was in sympathy with the resolutions, but thought they ought to be changed a little. He therefore offered as a substitute the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, There are pending before congress several measures for leasing to individuals and private corporations of the public lands lying west of the 100th meridian, and as such measures have a tendency to concentrate the control of all large tracts of the present public domain into the hands of a few individuals and corporations, and as these measures conflict with and are opposed to the system of leasing lands for the benefit of the public, and since these measures directly menace the welfare of the inhabitants of the territory lying west of the 100th meridian, and are fraught with disaster to the population thereof, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we earnestly protest against the enactment into law of any of the pending measures, as directed to the interests and development of the West, and to the policy of home building fostered by our government; and, be it

Resolved, That our delegation in congress be requested to use their earnest endeavors in opposition to the proposed measures for leasing of public lands in any form whatsoever.

On motion the resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote, and it was ordered that copies of the same be forwarded to the chambers of commerce of Seattle, Tacoma, Salem, Astoria, Lewiston and Boise, and their co-operation requested.

Hospital at Vancouver.

Repplies to the communication from the chamber, under date of January 25, asking that the Oregon delegation in congress support the bill of Representative Jones, of Washington, providing for a permanent general hospital at Vancouver, Wash., were received from Representative Tongue and Senator McBride.

Mr. Tongue also replied to a note from the chamber requesting support of a bill establishing a new department of commerce. He said:

Each of your letters of a recent date have just been received. I know nothing of any bill pending to create a department of commerce. In reference to the establishment of a hospital at Vancouver, I understand upon inquiry that neither Senator Foster nor Representative Cowman has introduced any bill for any other place. They are talking of doing so, but we shall endeavor to dissuade them. I shall co-operate with Mr. Jones in every way possible to secure such hospital at Vancouver.

The meeting was inclined to consider Mr. Tongue's lack of information in regard to a new department of commerce as only technical, as it is well understood that such a measure has been introduced into the senate.

Senator McBride, in reference to the permanent general military hospital at Vancouver, said:

I have already recommended the establishment of a model military camp and hospital at Fort Stevens, Or.; also the establishment of a general hospital at Vancouver barracks, and I believe it would be good military policy for the government to establish hospitals at both places, as that ample provision might be made in time of peace for the suitable accommodation of large bodies of troops when occasion requires, without incurring the expense of one place or camp, and thereby increasing risks to the health of the soldiers.

A brief discussion of the matter followed, and the sense of the meeting seemed to be that the model camp and hospital at Fort Stevens were intended for the use of the garrison to be stationed there. There is likely to be a considerable number of artillerymen stationed there in the near future, and such accommodations would be required, and would not in any way conflict with the permanent general hospital at Vancouver. The secretary was directed to inform Senator McBride that what the chamber was particularly desirous of having him favor was the permanent general hospital at Vancouver.

Not in Favor of Irrigation Scheme.

A lengthy communication from the National Irrigation Association, couched in flowery and pretentious language, was read by the secretary. It set forth the immense benefit to be conferred upon the country by the inauguration of a grand, broad-gauge irrigation system, and the construction of vast storage reservoirs. This would not only make the waste lands and deserts blossom like the rose, but would lead to an immigration which would

soon densely populate vast areas now entirely unsettled.

The manner in which this greatly-to-be-desired object is sought to be accomplished is by diverting one-seventh of the money appropriated by the river and harbor bill, for the improvement of the rivers and harbors of the United States, to form a fund to be expended on storage reservoirs and irrigation ditches. The chamber was asked to endorse the scheme, and recommend it to the favor of Oregon's congressional delegation.

The proposition did not appear to impress the meeting favorably. It was remarked that there were no harbors to be improved in the arid land regions, and hence the irrigation association's advice was hardly suitable for this section, and the Portland Chamber of Commerce and state of Oregon were more interested in the improvement of waterways than in the reclamation of arid lands, and therefore could not recommend that any part of the appropriation in the river and harbor bill be diverted for irrigation purposes. The communication was laid on the table.

National Pure-Food Law.

A communication from the national pure-food and drug congress was read, calling attention to the fact that the chamber is entitled to two delegates to the meeting of the congress in Washington, March 7.

Mr. Hahn said this was a movement in the right direction. A national pure-food law would be a good thing, and would do away with conflicting local laws.

President Taylor and others commended the pure-food movement, but it was decided that it would not be practicable to send delegates to the meeting.

Telegram Sent Too Late.

In reply to a telegram sent by the chamber to the Oregon congressional delegation in reference to outfitting troops for Alaska, a letter from Senator Simon and a dispatch from Senator McBride were received. Senator Simon wrote as follows:

I have your valued favor of the 25th last, in relation to the outfitting of troops for Alaska, commanded by Colonel Randall. Senator McBride and I took this matter up at once with the board of military affairs, and we were able to reach the department. In fact, the matter had been determined before we received your telegram.

Sentinel Assay Office.

A communication from Colonel George F. Taylor, stating that the amount of money allowed him for clerk hire and other expenses in connection with the taking of the census was entirely inadequate. He requested the chamber to take some action to secure an increase in the allowance. As the chamber has no information as to how the amount allowed for such purposes was regulated, and Colonel Taylor's letter did not furnish all the information desirable, it was referred back to him.

Fruitgrowers' Meeting.

The subject of properly recognizing and bestowing proper attention on the Fruitgrowers' Association, which is to meet in this city March 7 and 8, was brought up. Proper action will be taken on the matter in due time.

Other Matters.

Communications from the Lithuanian canal commissioners and the trades league, of Philadelphia, asking for voluminous information on the subject of the Niagara canal, were read. It was the opinion of the meeting that this matter was so well understood in congress that no fresh light could be thrown on it, and a motion was made to lay them on the table.

Mr. Means did not deem this course advisable, so the communications were referred to him for investigation.

The Postal Telegraph Company asked the board to assist in procuring the right to lay a cable between the United States and Cuba. They complain that a mail corporation desires to maintain a monopoly of the Cuban business under an exclusive franchise granted by Spain in 1896. The matter was referred to the transportation committee.

An application for membership in the chamber was received from Wills, Fargo & Co's bank, which was approved and the applicant was unanimously elected a member.

The meeting was presided over by President Victor, Vice-President Hahn, Secretary Fleischer and Trustees Baehleider, Livingston, Williams and Means were present.

"THE WINTER'S TALE."

Georgian Production of a Great Comedy Promised Tonight.

The Louis James, Kathryn Kidder and Charles B. Hanford combination, which embraces 27 people, will arrive in the city this morning, direct from San Francisco, where they have just completed a three-weeks' engagement at the Columbia theater. The big combination will open at the Marquand Grand tonight in their revival production of "The Winter's Tale." Of course, in the presentation of "The Winter's Tale" the most important factor is the actors. At the same time, in these days, the public will not accept Shakespeare without those sumptuous surroundings of scenery and costumes to which such productions actor-managers as Sir Henry Irving and Lawrence Barrett have accustomed them. It seems to be a part of the history of the play that its greatest success has been attained wherever these accessories were provided in sufficiently magnificent shape. In this case, Messrs. Wagnalls and Kemper have allowed nothing to be wanting that money or theatrical ingenuity could buy or devise. All these scenes have been painted by noted artists of the day, and, as in the case of the costumes, the greatest care has been taken to achieve archaeological accuracy.

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We have them ready for you in all the prettiest, newest and daintiest designs. Useful as well as ornamental. In our line you will find handkerchief cases as well as other desirable novelties. None of the antique old-time lace effects, but everything new in celluloid and satin, ranging in price from 5c to \$3.50 each. See display in Washington-street window.

It's pretty—it's new—it's dainty. You'll find it at the Wash Goods counter. You will be pleased with it, as it makes an ideal spring costume. Only 35 cents a yard. Selling rapidly.

SOMETHING NEW at the SILK AND DRESS GOODS COUNTERS Every Day Have you seen the Anderson Liberty Twill Foulards.

NEW PERSIAN AND PLAID NECKWEAR At Men's Furnishing Counter

Remnants and Odds and Ends All kinds of goods at a sacrifice.

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New Ribbons

FOR AN ASSAY OFFICE

CLEARING-HOUSE TAKES DEFINITE ACTION.

Manager Instructed to Write to Secretary Gage Urging Location of an Office in Portland.

At the annual meeting of the Portland clearing-house yesterday, the manager, J. L. Hartman, was instructed to write to the secretary of the treasury, urging that an assay office be established in Portland, and the representatives of all banks promised that their institutions would send similar letters. The action was taken at the suggestion of J. F. Baehleider, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce committee on mining.

There was much attendance at the meeting. The only business of importance was the reading of a letter written by Mr. Baehleider to Mr. Hartman, which was the basis of the action taken by the clearing-house.

Portland, Or., Jan. 12.—Mr. J. L. Hartman, manager Portland clearing-house, yesterday wrote to the secretary of the treasury, urging that an assay office be established in Portland, and the representatives of all banks promised that their institutions would send similar letters.

The estimate of the production of gold and silver in Oregon for the last three years, by the director of the mint, is as follows:

	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
1897.....	\$1,203,100	\$2,212	\$1,205,312
1898.....	1,177,600	158,081	1,335,681
1899.....	1,050,000	1,644,000	2,694,000

The production of Oregon, as reported by the Oregonian for 1899, is as follows: Eastern Oregon gold belt.....\$2,225,000 Josephine county.....500,000 Jackson county.....250,000 Douglas county.....100,000 Bohemia district.....100,000 Kootenai and Curry counties.....100,000 Siskiyou, nominal.....

Total.....\$3,265,000

While there has always been a great discrepancy in regard to the production of gold in the state of Oregon as computed by the director of the mint and parties who are interested in mining in the state of Oregon, nevertheless, as the above estimates of the director show Oregon has in the past three years produced from two to three times the amount of gold that has been produced in Washington.

Yet during the last session of congress both Oregon and Washington applied to congress to have an assay office located in Portland and Seattle respectively. Although it was then shown that the estimates of the director of the mint proved that Oregon was a larger producer of gold than Washington, an assay office was located in Seattle by act of congress May 21, 1898. This action was brought about largely by the influence of the secretary of the treasury and the director of the mint.

While the assay office at Seattle has done a large business since it was opened there has been almost entirely to the gold which has been brought from Alaska and the Klondike.

Very little gold from Idaho, Oregon or Washington has been handled, as is shown by the following extract from the report of the director of the mint for 1898, which is as follows:

United States assay office, at Seattle, Wash.—An important institution has been added to the mint service of the United States during the past year by the act of May 21, 1898.

"Mr. F. A. Wing was appointed assayer in charge by the president, and took the oath of office on the 25th of June, 1898. Immediately, steps were taken to procure a building, provide the necessary equipment and supplies and open the office in time to receive the first shipment of gold bullion expected from the Klondike. The first deposit was made on the 15th day of July, and the deposits from that date to the present writing, November 1, 1898, are:

	Standard ounces.	Value.
Gold.....	10,748.41	\$329,359.97
Idaho.....	34,670	1,090,160.00
Oregon.....	1,644	51,360.00
Washington.....	1,009,145	31,283.00

	Standard ounces.	Value.
Total domestic.....	11,806,777	\$372,823.42
Klondike.....	220,294,167	\$6,920,298.21
Redeposits.....	173,072	5,392.50
Total.....	232,664,507	\$7,258,513.90

Silver—Standard ounces, value. Alaska.....2,576,400 \$78,400.00 Idaho.....15,340 480.00 Oregon.....10,230 319.00 Washington.....513,840 1,591.52

office will come to it during the season of the year when the Yukon river is open. It is expected that a considerable amount will be deposited there in the other months of the year.

"Of the \$20,000 appropriated for this institution, \$735.86 were expended for its equipment. The expenditures for the next fiscal year are estimated at \$21,000, leaving an amount insufficient for support during the balance of the year. This office promises to be a very active and important one in its ready way to the Pacific exceeding the expectations of the bureau.

It is probable that this office will be one of the most important offices in the mint service.

"It is now located in a rented building without such provision for the safe keeping of treasure as should be provided where so much value is at times in charge. It is, therefore, recommended that congress be requested to provide for the erection of a suitable building, to be supplied with bullet-proof walls, vaults for the use of the assay office at Seattle."

Should Have Been Located Here.

Had the assay office been located at Portland instead of Seattle, all of the wealth of the gold belt of that state would have come to Portland, and in addition to that, a large part of the gold produced in the Pacific Northwest, viz., Oregon, Washington and Idaho, would have been brought to the assay office on account of the more direct connection with the gold fields.

While the production of gold in Oregon has exceeded that in the state of Washington from two to three times, and very nearly equalled that of Idaho, the future production will be very materially increased this year.

The great activity in mining now, both in Eastern and Southern Oregon will probably double and treble the production in the next year or two. The following table shows the great increase in the output of the gold belt in Grant county and the western part of Baker county since 1898 will give some idea of the increase in production of gold that will naturally follow:

	1898.....	1899.....
Stamps in operation, 1898.....	100	45
Stamps added in 1899.....	45	85
Stamps added in 1899.....	85	130
Stamps that will be in operation early in 1900.....	130	260

From the above, it will be seen that the output of gold from the state of Oregon has been more than doubled, and will soon have been increased more than three times.

The estimate of the director of the gold produced in Oregon for 1899 is a far cry from \$1,500,000, as against the estimate in the Oregonian, which is \$3,265,000. Probably the latter estimate is a little higher than the actual production, but the estimate of the director of the mint is believed to be too low. In any event, it is evident from the large amount of machinery that is going to be to the mining sections, that the production for the year 1900 will be very much greater than ever before.

Bills Now Before Congress.

There are now two bills before congress for the location of United States assay offices in Oregon, one introduced by Thomas H. Tongue for the location of an assay office at Portland and another at Baker City, and a second bill by Malcolm A. Moody for the location of an office at Baker City.

The director of the mint is reported to be opposed to the location of additional assay offices, but says if it is shown that a United States assay office is required in Oregon that Baker City or some place in the Baker gold region is the place for its location. For the following reasons, it is believed that the assay office should be located in Portland, rather than Baker City.

First—The Baker City office would be local and serve only the mines in that section. The Southern and Western Oregon mines, which are large and increasing producers, would not be accommodated by an office in that location.

Second—The large amounts of gold that would come by the Portland route from Alaskan points, including Cape Nome, would not be accommodated by such a location.

Third—There is already a United States assay office at Boise City, Idaho, only 16 miles from Baker City, Idaho, and 16 miles from the Klondike.

Fourth—The large producing mines in the eastern gold belt of Oregon lie mostly west of Baker City, and in the early future new roads will be built bringing them into more direct communication with Portland.

Fifth—It is believed that in so important a matter as the location of a United States assay office, the future should be considered, and while we do not wish to place ourselves in opposition to Baker City, the fact remains that there is going to be more direct communication between Portland and the mining sections of the state, and the location of the office at Portland will serve the greatest number, and will in no way interfere with the office at Seattle.

Sixth—The production of gold in the Pacific Northwest will in the immediate future tax all the offices now established at Helena, Boise, Seattle, and a new office at Portland, if established, to its utmost.

A Great Remnant Sale

All the remnants, odds and ends, broken lines short stocks, etc.

that have accumulated during an extremely busy season

now placed on sale at prices that make of each and every article

a money-saving opportunity and that must result in their prompt disposal.

Bargains innumerable in every department.

Choice pick-ups on every remnant counter.

MEIER & FRANK CO.

ores that abound on the coast of Alaska can be brought here by vessel and mixed with the rich ores of Eastern and Southern Oregon to produce a self-fluxing mixture. Abundant and cheap coal will soon be available for smelting and other purposes in this city.

"These facts are becoming known and will soon bring about a combination that will be of the greatest importance to the mining interests of the Pacific Northwest, the state of Oregon and the city of Portland."

The director of the mint, in his report for 1898 advises the discontinuance of the Carson mint and the St. Louis assay office, for the reason that the business at these two offices does not justify the expense, and he adds that "the saving which might be made by abolishing the St. Louis assay office and the mint at Carson would meet the new outlay incurred by establishing an assay office at Seattle."

As the assay office at Seattle is already established, and as shown by the report of the director of the mint, was justified by the large volume of business which the office has handled, it is believed that the above facts would also justify the location of a new assay office at Portland.

Influence Necessary.

Portland, everything considered, is the logical location for an assay office on account of its geographical position, its direct rail transportation to the gold fields of Eastern and Western Oregon, as well as Eastern Washington and Idaho, and water transportation with Alaska, Oregon and Washington.

It is not necessary to dwell on the volume of business that a United States assay office would bring to Portland, and its great importance to the banks, transportation companies and other large interests in this city.

Since writing the above, the following information has been received from Washington, under date of January 15:

"Representative Tongue says that, notwithstanding the unfavorable recommendations of Director Roberts, the coinage committee will report favorably bills for assay offices at Portland and Baker City. He has received such assurances from members of the committee, and believes that the bills have a fair opportunity to pass the house."

Very respectfully,
J. F. BAEHLEIDER,
Chairman Committee Mining and Mineral Resources, Smelter and Assay Office, Chamber of Commerce.

BOGUS BISHOP AT LARGE.

Portland Priests Warned Against a Former Acquaintance.

Archbishop Christie has sent to all the priests in this diocese a copy of a circular, issued by Eastern Catholics, announcing that the bogus "bishop of Honolulu" has just been released from prison, and that all people to beware of him. There was probably no need of this caution, as no one doubts that he will give Oregon a wide berth in the future, considering the rough treatment accorded him on his last visit here.

The man, who is a Pole, visited Portland five or six years ago, representing himself to be the bishop of Honolulu. He wore the purple collar, and appeared to know the Catholic forms and ceremonies very well indeed. He also proved to be familiar with the islands, from which he said he came. He very interestingly described his missionary work there, particularly more so to a local priest, and in general, he played his part well.

On arriving in the city he betook himself to Father O'ry, of St. Lawrence's church, Third and Sherman streets. The father entertained him well, and had him stay for some time. He was very honest, and he was very kind. After his guest had been with him three or four days, several actions of his made Father O'ry suspicious. He went to his album containing the photographs of all the bishops, and he found that the man was not there. He was, on turning to the page where the portrait of the prelate of Hawaii should be, he simply found a ragged edge of paper, with the photograph torn out.

The next day the bogus bishop went to Astoria, before the pastor of the Portland church could question him, but the next thing heard here was that the priest there had had him arrested. He didn't contest his case very hotly, and was given 15 months in the penitentiary. After his term expired here, he went to new fields in the East, where he played the same game. But he was promptly caught again, and for some time he was in the penitentiary. His sentence has just expired, and the sending out of these circulars is simply to prevent him from repeating his old tricks.

East Taylor Street.

There is talk of making an effort to get East Taylor street improved from East Thirty-fourth to Grand avenue, or to East Twelfth street. Attention is drawn to the need of another improved street from Sunnyside by the fact that the Belmont improvement is wearing rapidly under the grinding and wearing of the continuous travel passing over it. Travel concentrates from the Base line and the Section road on to Belmont, and although it was improved with timbers 6x6 inches less than four years ago, the wear is considerable, and will be more rapid from now on. The city engineer states that the grade of East Taylor street from Sunnyside to the river is perfect, and the finest street on the East Side could be made out of it. Away back before consolidation effort was made to get the street improved, but all that could be accomplished was to get it com-

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We are now showing Advance spring styles in

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Orders for all the goods now arriving were placed before the advance in prices and our customers are given the benefit of our fortunate buying.

That have accumulated during the past season now placed on sale

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LEADING FURRIERS OF THE WEST. 283-285 Morrison Street, Portland, Oregon HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR RAW FURS

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IRONFOUNDERS, MACHINISTS, BOILERMAKERS AND STEAMBOAT BUILDERS

Designers and builders of Marine Engines and Boilers, Mining and Dredging Machinery and General Mill and Iron Work, Fire Hydrants, Pulleys, Shafting, etc. Correspondence solicited.

MURDERED MATE BURIED.

Funeral of William Kirk, of the Ship Bement.

The funeral of William Kirk, the first mate of the ship Clarence S. Bement, who was murdered January 24, took place yesterday afternoon from Holman's undertaking parlors. Rev. J. E. Snyder was officiating minister. The funeral was quiet, but well arranged. At the request of the captain of the Bement, the body was interred in a very handsome casket, which was covered with many flowers. Among the floral pieces was a pretty design of the American flag in red, white and blue. Among those who attended the funeral were the captain of the Bement, J. P. Fernick, District Attorney Sewell, Chief of Police McLachlan, the sailors and officers of the Bement, and quite a number of the sailors who are in port. The interment was at Lone Fir cemetery.

Captain Fernick, in speaking of the late William Kirk, said that he was very popular with his comrades, who implicitly trusted him in all things. He often acted as banker for the sailors and petty officers, carrying their money for months at a time. "He was a gentleman, and an honest man," said Captain Fernick. "I believe he was foully murdered for a little money. We suspect so one heretofore connected with the ship with having anything to do with the murder." Captain Fernick was in California at the time the murder occurred, and since his return to Portland has been making every possible effort to apprehend the murderer, as well as to locate the relatives of the murdered mate. Through relatives in New York, Captain Fernick has ascertained that a daughter of Mr. Kirk lives in New York, who is not financially able to defray the expense of sending the remains across the continent. It was for this reason that Captain Fernick, upon consultation with District Attorney Sewell and Chief of Police McLachlan, decided to have the remains interred yesterday.

It is understood that Captain Fernick defrayed the expense of the funeral.

Chimney Fires.

A chimney fire occurred in the dwelling of M. Jamison, at 447 Hassalo street, last evening, illuminating the surrounding blocks for many blocks. The chemical from Holladay's addition went to the building, but its services were not required. Some-

one got the impression that sulphur was a good thing in case of a chimney fire, and he dumped five pounds of the article in the fireplace. The result was that a flame of fire 50 feet high poured from the chimney. At the home of Mrs. Charles W. Williams avenue, the chimney burned out yesterday evening without damage to the property. At East Twelfth and Beacon streets yesterday morning a fire in the roof did a little damage, but was extinguished without the aid of the department.

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"Two Jewish-time and good advice," two boot companions, Hood's Baraparilla and pure blood.

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