FOUR BOGUS CHECKS

Passed on Unsuspecting Vancouver People.

THEIR TOTAL SUM WAS $76

Work Was Cleverly Done, and It Is Possible That Several More Checks Were Uttered.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 15.—A smooth job of forgery and check-passing came to light here this morning, in which two unknown men figured as principals, and at least four of Vancouver's business men were victimized. The offenders are known to have crossed the Columbia on the ferry on the 11:20 trip last night. City Marshall Nerton went to Portland today for the purpose of getting assistance from the Portland police force in running down the forgers.

The checks cashed bore the stamp of the Lucia Mill Company and what purported to be the signature of J. W. Aldrich, manager of the concern. In addition to this, the checks were stamped across the end with the name of the company by a stamp owned by the operators, and the amount in figures was put upon each check by means of a perforating machine also in the hands of the forgers. Just how many of the bogus checks are in circulation is not known, but Mr. Aldrich says 10 blank checks have been extracted from the back part of the company's checkbook.

Four of the checks have so far been discovered. One for $21 was presented to E. F. Bodyfelt, of the New York Racket store, by one of the men, who represented himself as a logger in the employ of the mill company. He purchased a pair of logger's shoes for $1 50, and received from Bodyfelt $20 50 in change. This check was indorsed "G. Burbank." L. D. Seal, a boot and shoe dealer, was victimized in a similar manner for a like amount, and M. Boyham and H. S. Allen, saloon-keepers, each cashed a $14 check, these being indorsed with the name "J. A. Raymond."

The first intimation that something was wrong came from the First National bank, on which the checks were drawn. The cashier at once noticed a dissimilarity between the signature on the check presented by Mr. Seal and the genuine signature of Mr. Aldrich, and at once telephoned the mill company, inquiring if he had issued such a check. Receiving a negative answer, he refused payment, and, Mr. Aldrich's suspicions being aroused, an investigation was made.

The checks must have been removed from the company's office about 6 P. M., as the office was closed at 5 and the work of uttering the forged paper was done between 7 o'clock and the time the ferry left at 11:20.

The two men have been seen about town for several days, by numerous persons, who now remember to have heard them making diligent inquiry concerning the names of prominent loggers and timber men in the county. Probably the last person interviewed by them on this point was A. Petroe, proprietor of the United States hotel, where the men ate supper yesterday. They inquired of him the names of loggers and millmen generally about 6:30 P. M. One of the employes at the Lucia mill says he saw two men answering the description of these about the mill early yesterday afternoon. Following is the best description obtainable of the men wanted:

One is about six feet tall, weight about 200 pounds, of light complexion, walks with head on one side, smooth face, about 30 years of age. Companion is about five feet seven inches in height, dark mustache, rather dark complexion, weight about 150 pounds. The tall man wore a long black mackintosh and the other a dark-colored overcoat and a light-colored cap.

Circuit Court at Salem.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 5.—In the circuit court today Thomas Monahan, an ex-volunteer, pleaded guilty to the charge of burglary. Pleas of not guilty were entered by William and Orvie Smith, charged with assault with dangerous weapons upon their father. George Gray, charged with indecent exposure and carrying concealed weapons, pleaded not guilty to both charges. The case of Amos Strong vs. W. G. Westacott was tried and the jury brought in a sealed verdict late this evening.

Investigating the Clayson Murder.

SEATTLE, Feb. 15.—Passengers on the steamer City of Topeka arriving tonight say Captain Scarth, one of the best known of Yukon military officers, is now at Minto investigating the disappearance of Relfe, Clayson and Olson, supposed to have been murdered on the trail. Captain Scarth says he will leave no stone unturned to solve the mystery.

SPOKANE CITY AND COUNTY LOSE.

Decision Affecting Title and Taxes of Water Power Company.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 15.—The supreme court has affirmed the judgment of the superior court of Spokane county in the case of the City of Spokane and others, appellants, vs. the Amsterdamsch Trustees' Kantoor, a corporation, and others, respondents. The suit was in equity by stockholders of the Spokane Falls Water Power Company to set aside a conveyance of all the property of that company to the Northwest Milling & Power Company.

The court has also affirmed in several similar cases under the general title of the Edison Electric Illuminating Company, appellant, vs. Spokane County and George Mudgett, treasurer, respondent. The cases presenting the same general questions, were consolidated by stipulation. The purpose of the several actions is to restrain the Spokane county authorities from collecting taxes levied against the personal property and franchises of the plaintiffs, based upon the assessment for 1897, on the ground that these assessments were excessive and not in proportion to the values of other properties, and that the county treasurer maliciously overassessed the property of the appellants.

HEPPNER SHEEP SALES.

Shipped 3,245,750 Pounds of Wool in the Past Year.

HEPPNER, Or., Feb. 15.—The ground is white with snow here, and it is warmly welcomed by all. It covers the grass and wheat with a spotless blanket, and keeps both growing grandly, and beyond injury from freezing. Sheepmen are glad of an opportunity to feed some of the immense stacks of hay they have on hand. Most of them are feeding alfalfa hay now, and say that if the bunchgrass remains covered with snow the sheep will have much better feed when they need it most, during lambing, which generally begins here about March 20. In D. A. Herren's band 150 sooner lambs have already dropped in to see how the new world was wagging.

The present snowfall only amounts to a few inches, but the mercury dropped to 10 above last night. This morning it remains cold and threatens more snow. There is an abundance of alfalfa hay in the Heppner hills, and it sells at $5 a ton at the stack. It is excellent sheep feed, and a sheep will thrive on two pounds a day.

Eastern sheep-buyers are dropping in and arranging for the big exodus that occurs here after shearing. George Gray today bought from Bartholomew & Co. 2000 head of yearlings, to be delivered after shearing, paying $2 15 for wethers and $2 35 for mixed. Other sheep transactions on a large scale are pending.

Wool Was Never Better.

Morrow county's wool clip for this season will be one of the best for both quality and quantity that was ever produced in any country, and everything indicates that the prices will be the best since the days of free trade.

R. F. Hynd has just returned from a tour of his sheep ranches, and says that he never saw sheep in better condition. The wool has made a remarkably good growth, and is keeping it up. It has had no setback or stoppage all winter, so that its growth has been uniform and regular.

What Mr. Hynd says about the condition of his sheep is in line with reports from woolgrowers all over Morrow county and Eastern Oregon. This is truly a banner year in the sheep business.

John T. Kirk was in Tuesday from his ranch on Rhea creek, at the mouth of Sanford, and brought some samples of wool from his sheep. It is three inches long, very clean, and without a joint. Shearing at the Kirk ranch does not occur until the middle of May, and the wool is already longer than it generally is at shearing. The Kirk band numbers 1200 ewes, and they give every indication of yielding 11 to 12 pounds to the fleece this season.

Heppner's Big Business.

There is a vast territory tributary to Heppner, and wool shipments from here during the past year amount to 2,845,756 pounds. Cattle shipped from here the past year foot up 220 carloads; sheep by rail 175 carloads, and 150,000 head went out by hand or were driven East.

Good Wagon Roads.

All the wool brought in and all the merchandise forwarded to the interior from here is hauled on big wagons. This requires good roads, and Heppner business men are determined that all roads leading to Heppner shall be good. They have raised $500 in the past two days as a starter to repair roads. Henry Heppner headed the list with $150.

New houses have been going up in Heppner all winter, and new additions are being platted.

The Heppner football team will take a large delegation with it when it goes over to beat Pendleton on the 22d.

Public opinion here is very much opposed to the proposed leasing of government lands.

A new town is springing up at Hogan Bottom, on the John Day, which aspires to become the county seat of Wheeler county.

On account of the low prices at which its lands are offered, Morrow county expects to double its population this year. Good land can be bought here at $1 25 to $5 an acre.

STATE WOULD RATHER SELL.

Application for Lease of Land at the Cascade Locks.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 15.—I. N. Day, of Portland, was in Salem today on business with the portage railway commission. The state owns a strip of land 850 feet long and 250 feet wide just above the Cascade locks, and adjoining the Columbia river. The land was acquired at the time the portage railway was built, and has been idle since the operation of the railway was discontinued. Mr. Day has proposed to the officials having charge of the land that they lease it for a term of years. It is Mr. Day's purpose to erect a dock on the land and use it as a shipping place. The commission, in which is vested the power to dispose of the land, is composed of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer. These officials have taken no action in the matter, but have stated unofficially that the, would prefer that the property be sold rather than leased.

Klondikers for Africa.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—A special to the Record from Victoria, B. C., says:

The editor of the Yukon Sun is raising a corps of mounted ex-soldiers who will be offered to the British authorities for service in South Africa.

The United States government, through its consul here, has announced that it will present gold medals for life-saving to F. J. Cobsan, storekeeper; F. S. Paine, policeman; Nigel L. Campbell, Thomas Carr and S. Torgonon, all of Clayoquat, on the west coast of Vancouver island, for gallantry and heroism displayed by them in November last, in rescuing five seamen from the burning American schooner Hera.

Northern Pacific Gets What It Wanted.

TACOMA, Feb. 15.—The city council tonight granted the Northern Pacific's request for a vacation of a part of Dock street and all of Ninth street, to give the railroad company room to erect its new wheat warehouses and ocean wharves here. President Mellen, on his return from Portland tomorrow, is expected to authorize the contract for constructing and other harbor improvement work of the road.

Oregon Notes.

Albany spread 426 loads of gravel on her streets in January.

Dick Zahn, of Alsea, has killed a cougar that measured 10 feet from nose to tip of tail.

Joaquin Miller is en route to Oregon on a lecturing tour. He will reach Jackson county next week.

The Baker City Republican reports that the May Queen mine will increase its stamps from 10 to 30.

Prineville's postoffice receipts are increasing so rapidly that the postmaster expects it soon to be a presidential office.

Albany pays $8 per month to one of her citizens for the right to use his team for her fire engine whenever it may be necessary.

Cadets of the Oregon agricultural college ushered in Lincoln's birthday by firing a salute from their new piece of artillery.

G. M. Clary, a well-known young man of Roseburg, is under arrest on a charge of forging two notes, one for $20, the other for $38.

An offer of 50 cents a bushel, and sacks furnished, has been made for the crop of potatoes belonging to R. Custer of this place, says the Stayton Mail.

A Montana produce merchant has bought a carload of onions at La Grande, at 85 cents per 100 pounds, and a carload of potatoes at Alicel, at 42½ cents per 100 pounds.

Hon. R. M. Veatch, who was beaten for representative in congress by Hon. Thomas H. Tongue, is now mentioned as the probable democratic nominee for county judge of Lane county.

A. C. Auldon, formerly of Lakeview, but who has latterly been in the Alaska customs service, is reported now to be at a sanitarium in California, undergoing treatment for rheumatism.

The common council at Corvallis asks Oregon's delegation in congress to favor an $8000 appropriation to continue revetment work along the Willamette a short distance above the town.

"The rise in prices has stimulated the horse market, and each day one can see the owners of well-matched teams breaking them to harness," writes a correspondent of a Pendleton paper from Echo.

W. R. Brown, who beat and stabbed his wife at The Dalles, goes free because the grand jury wanted him punished for assault and battery, whereas District Attorney Jayne insisted that he should be indicted for a felony. The wife, notwithstanding the dangerous wounds she received from his knife, asked the grand jury to let him off.

The Prineville Review prints this pointed notice to whom it may concern: "During the coming campaign, if any one wants anything of a political nature to appear in the columns of this paper he will have to pay for the same. We are tired of publishing a paper for glory. We want the 'dough' now, and it's 'no go' until it jingles in our pockets."

SNOW AND COLD WIND

OF BENEFIT TO GRAIN, BUT FRUIT IS THREATENED.

Farmers Generally Are Pleased to See the Snow—Lowest Temperature of the Season.

GERVAIS, Or., Feb. 15.—A snow storm began at about midnight last night, and snow continued to fall until 4 o'clock this afternoon without intermission. It is now several inches deep, and the weather is getting colder. Enough snow has fallen to cover up safely the growing grain, so that no damage will ensue if severe cold weather comes. Farmers say it will be of much benefit to the coming as well as the growing crop, and hail its advent with joy. A strong wind prevailed with the snow, so that it has drifted considerably in some localities.

Snow Beneficial to Fruit and Grain.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Feb. 15.—Snow continued falling here today, covering the ground to the depth of an inch. The weather has changed to cold, and has the appearance of winter. If the snow remains it will be beneficial to all seeded grain and also to fruit. Stock, though, will suffer somewhat, should the cold weather last and the snow not disappear

Hills Covered With Snow.

SALEM, Feb. 15.—At midnight last night snow began falling in this city, and today the ground is covered with an inch or two of white, fleecy snow, the first of the season. The weather was cold yesterday, and the hills around Salem were covered with snow. Unless there should be a hard freeze this cold weather will probably be a benefit to crops, especially to fruit trees.

Cold Weather in Astoria.

ASTORIA, Feb. 15.—This has been the coldest day of the winter. At 5 o'clock this morning the thermometer registered 25 above zero, and mercury has remained close to that mark all day. The wind has been blowing from the northeast, and it continues from that direction tonight, with promise of a falling thermometer before morning.

Fruit Crop in Danger.

INDEPENDENCE, Or., Feb. 15.—Snow covers the ground and is still falling. Some fears are expressed for the fruit crop, as just across the river from this city in Marion county pears and raspberries have been in bloom for some time past, and all along during the winter at different times ripe raspberries have been displayed in the city.

Fears for the Fruit.

DALLAS, Feb. 15.—Last night was the coldest of the winter. The thermometer registered 19 degrees at 6 o'clock this morning, and today the wind blew briskly from the north, and the air was full of fine, flying snow. Fears are felt for the fruit crop.

Two Inches of Snow at Amity.

AMITY, Or., Feb. 15.—About two inches of snow has fallen here since midnight.

TO PUSH ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

Reorganization of Oregon City Board of Trade for the Purpose.

OREGON CITY, Feb. 15.—A meeting of the members of the old board of trade was held at the county courtroom last night for the purpose of getting the old organization into working order again, and to discuss some important proposed road improvements. President H. E. Cross was chairman of the meeting, but the old secretary was absent. The matter of reorganizing the old board was discussed. It was decided to appoint a committee to solicit additional members and to devise some plan to raise funds for advertising purposes. A plan was presented to improve the county road from Oregon City to Eagle Creek, that would involve the expenditure of about $12,000 to carry into effect. It was suggested that Oregon City complete the improvement to the hatchery, and the two precincts covering the territory in the Logan and Eagle creek sections complete the road for the remainder of the distance. Each of the three precincts would be expected to raise $2000 each, while the county would be asked to contribute a like amount for each district. Some opposition to improving the river road to the hatchery was expressed, as it was claimed that the hill road is much shorter. Finally to settle the matter the board of trade road committee was delegated to inspect the routes, and report at the next meeting.

County Treasurer Shade has issued a call for all county warrants indorsed prior to October 1, 1896; also all road warrants indorsed prior to November 14, 1899.

SALMON UP ANOTHER CENT.

Cold-Storage Men Are Eager Buyers—Quality Not Improving.

ASTORIA, Feb. 15.—The war among the local cold-storage men is still in progress, and as a result the price of chinook salmon advanced a cent a pound today. The price advanced on last Monday from 8 to 9 cents, and this morning the buyers for Trescott & Co. were instructed to pay 10 cents per pound. The price of steelheads still remains at 7¼ cents. It is now close to the spawning time for this variety of fish, and as a result they are depreciating in value.

Inquiry for a Sailor Boy.

A letter has been received by the chief of police from W. Lloyd, of Hull, England, asking information about his son, Arthur John Lloyd, who came to this port some five years ago as an apprentice boy on the British ship East Croft, and ran away from the vessel while she was here. He has not written home for four years, and his father desires to inform him of the death of his mother and the anxiety felt for him by his eight brothers and sisters. A boy answering the description of the missing youth was in Astoria a short time ago and is now supposed to be employed near Fort Stevens.

PROVISION UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Debtors Cannot Take Advantage of Mortgages Antedating Law.

CHEHALIS, Feb. 15.—Yesterday, in the case of the Canadian American Mortgage Company vs. B. W. Blake, Judge Elliott decided that the law of 1899 giving the debtor possession of real estate during the period of redemption was unconstitutional as applied to mortgages given before the law was enacted. The case will be appealed to the supreme court.

The state convention of W. of W. camps will be held in Chehalis in June, and the Chehalis camp is making preparations for the event. At the meeting Wednesday night the following committee was appointed to take charge of the general arrangements: C. O. Gingrich, C. D. Powell, William Nelson, C. E. Lillpop and J. H. Walter. The Woodmen circle will meet at the same time, and a total of over 300 visitors is expected in our city.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN B.

Salem Women Plan and Carry Out an Elaborate Banquet.

SALEM, Feb. 15.—A banquet was given at the Willamete hotel this evening in honor of Susan B. Anthony. The banquet was planned and prepared by a number of Salem ladies purely as a manifestation of the high esteem in which Miss Anthony is held as an advocate of progress in all lines of reform. It was particularly announced that the banquet would not be a suffrage movement, and the subject of woman's suffrage would not be given unusual prominence.

The attendance at the banquet was limited to women, and about 75 were present. The dining-room was very tastefully and elaborately decorated, and pretty souvenir programmes were supplied to each guest. Mrs. Florence Cartwright acted as toastmistress, and by way of introduction gave a brief review of the work of Miss Anthony in all phases of reform. At the close of her address the first toast was proposed, "The Woman We Honor, Susan B. Anthony." This was given a rising response by the ladies. The other toasts responded to were as follows:

"The Teacher," by Alice H. Dodd, Salem; "A Political Study of Susan B. Anthony," Emily L. Wakeman, Silverton; "Society," Ida Condon Bean, Salem; "Our Country Guests," Harriet Clark Looney, Jefferson; "Suffrage," Dr. Annice Jeffreys, Salem; "The Press," Laura Jones, Drain; "Shall We Have a Woman's Club?" Cook M. Jones, Salem; "The Doctor," Dr. Jessie A. Davis, Silverton; "The Business Woman," Anna A. Nichol, Salem; "Literature," Irene Smith Calbreath, McMinnville; "Old Willamette," Mrs. W. C. Hawley, Salem; "The Lady Maccabees," Anna Junk, Salem; song of parting, "Home, Sweet Home."

BIG MORTGAGE FILED.

Covers Sunset Telephone Plant to Secure $2,500,000 of Bonds.

SEATTLE, Feb. 15.—A $2,500,000 mortgage was filed today in the auditor's office. It is given by the Sunset Telephone & Telegraph Company to the Old Colony Trust Company, of Boston. The mortgage covers all the Washington and California holdings of the company, and is given to secure $2,250,000 worth of 5 per cent gold bonds. The bonds are $1000 each, and payable October 1, 1929. Any time after October, 1908, they may be taken up. On October 1 of each year from 1909 to 1928 the telephone company agrees to pay $15,000 on the bonds.

Stamping Out Smallpox.

EUGENE, Feb. 15.—The county court is taking active steps to prevent further spread of the smallpox epidemic, now prevalent in the Upper Siuslaw country. A strict quarantine is to be established [illegible] disease may be stamped out without further spread. Deputy sheriffs will be appointed who reside in the district to be quarantined, and their duty will be to prevent any person from leaving or entering the district. Drs. Paine and Cheshire have been sent to the neighborhood to instruct in the manner of disinfecting houses, clothing, etc., after patients shall have recovered. The proper renovation of all infected houses will be insisted upon, and it is hoped that in a comparatively short time the disease will be eradicated from the community.

Oregon Supreme Court.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 15.—In the supreme court today the following docket entries were made:

State of Oregon ex rel. Thomas J. Hammer, respondent, vs. F. O. Downing, appellant; ordered that appellant's time to serve and file the abstract be further extended five days.

The Farmers' Loan & Trust Company, plaintiff, vs. Oregon Pacific Railroad Company, defendant, Oregon Central & Eastern Railroad Company et al., respondents, and W. H. Watson, appellants; argued and submitted.

S. A. Hughes, et al., appellants, vs. Linn County et al., respondents; argued and submitted.

First Run of Saw Logs.

DALLAS, Or., Feb. 15.—The Thurston Lumber Company has commenced to make its spring run of logs. The running will continue from day to day until the running season is over. They have now ready in the creek and on the banks 4,000,000 feet, which will be sent down to the mills in detail from day to day. This season's run of logs to their mills comes from the summit of the Coast range of mountains, and are of the very finest quality, greatly superior to any ever brought down heretofore.

Dispatch-Boat for the Yukon.

SEATTLE, Feb. 15.—A dispatch-boat for military service on the American Yukon is to be placed at the disposal of General Randall, commandant of the department of Alaska. The river steamer Duchesnay, now owned by the government, has been designated for this purpose. Captain C. P. Elliott, a retired cavalry officer, now in the service of Captain Robinson's division of the quartermaster's department, has been assigned to the position of commander of the vessel.

Kalama Hatchery Closes for Season.

KALAMA, Wash., Feb. 15.—After a very successful season, the Kalama fish hatchery turned out its last installment of young salmon last evening, and closed down for the season. Although the capacity of the hatchery was increased 40 per cent at the beginning of the season, it was filled with eggs in the fall, practically all of which were successfully hatched. The hatchery has now been in operation five years, and has turned out 4,000,000 to 8,000,000 salmon fry each year.

Pendleton Free of Smallpox.

PENDLETON, Feb. 15.—There is no smallpox in Pendleton. The pesthouse is without a patient, and is locked up. Three patients have been confined there for the past three weeks, but were pronounced cured and given their liberty this morning.

Washington Notes.

The city clerk reports North Yakima's indebtedness at $97,000.

The school savings bank has been put in operation at Fairhaven.

H. W. Mumford, of Middleport, O., was found dead in bed in a Seattle lodging-house Monday. He had been dead several days.

According to the new city directory, Spokane has gained 10 per cent in population in the past year, and now has 46,000 inhabitants.

Six hundred thousand pounds of tinplate is en route from England, via Cape Horn, for the Fidalgo Island Canning Company, of Anacortes.

In Seattle 10,940 voters have been registered for the approaching municipal election, an increase of 100 over any previous registration in the city.

The 5-year-old daughter of Henry Walters was playing with a small fire at Lowell, near Everett, Tuesday, when her clothing caught fire and she was burned to death.

Figures just compiled by Postmaster Cromwell show that the receipts at the Tacoma postoffice are 20 per cent greater for the month of January, 1900, than those of January, 1899.

State Chemist Fulmer, of the Pullman agricultural college, is touring the state for the purpose of inspecting the various fertilizers sold on the markets. The state law requires a close inspection, as many worthless compounds have been sold to the farmers in the state.

A suit has been filed against a Seattle street railway company for damages which a passenger suffered by an assault of another passenger. The action against the company is based on the allegation that the conductor had the power to prevent the assault, and did not do it.

An inventory is being taken of the government property at the Puyallup Indian reservation, preparatory to the change of superintendents. J. C. Hart has been transferred to the Oneida school, in Eastern Wisconsin. Frank Terry, who was formerly in charge of the Puyallup school, will succeed Superintendent Hart.

Seven big fir trees fell across the little clearing of John Hopkins, on the middle fork of the Nooksack, in Whatcom county, in the wind storm of last week. One crushed his barn (his team having been lent to a neighbor), another smashed the henhouse, killing a score of chickens, and another cut in two the cabin in which Hopkins and his wife and three little children were housed, doing them no harm.

MINERS' STRIKE ENDED

MEN GOING TO WORK AT THE OWNERS' SCHEDULES.

Nothing Said About Recognizing the Union—$3 25 Accepted for Eight Hours' Work.

SANDON, B. C., Feb. 15.—The miners are going to work here. It is confidently believed they have declared the strike off. The unions are not acknowledged by the owners. The miners are accepting the owners' schedules. It is said the wages will be $3 25, instead of $3 50 for eight hours.

At Silverton and Nelson the miners are preparing to go to work.

The miners' unions of Sandon, Silverton and New Denver yesterday decided to accept the owners' compromise offer made some weeks ago. Their decision means that the strike is off, though no written agreement has been made between the contending parties, and though the mineowners have not officially recognized the unions.

There is nothing now between the two, as the mineowners are willing to pay what the unions now demand. Private advices from the Slocan show that the men are already going up to the mines to work, though it is unlikely that for a day or two at any rate there will be enough men to fill all the vacant places. The labor troubles in the Slocan may now be considered over.

TOWNSITE SYNDICATE FORMED.

Acquires Valuable Property in Granite Country—Town Planned.

PENDLETON, Or., Feb. 15.—A syndicate was formed here today for the purchase from Dr. E. J. Summerville of a tract of land at the forks of Granite and Clear creeks, Grant county, 17 miles west from Sumpter, three miles west from the town of Granite, one mile north from Red Boy and May Queen mines, one mile south from Cougar mine, and two and one-half miles south from Magnolia mine. The syndicate will establish a new town, calling it Lawton, after the late General Lawton.

The syndicate is composed of men representing Pendleton, La Grande, Sumpter, Portland and Spokane capitalists and mining men. Articles of incorporation are being drafted and the organization will be complete within a day or two. The syndicate has bought fine water right and ditch two miles long, which leads the purest mountain spring water down to one of the hills which lie about the townsite property, affording an abundant water supply and pressure for domestic and industrial uses, as well as for fire protection.

Quotations of Mining Stocks.

SPOKANE, Feb. 15.—The closing bids for mining stocks today were:

Blacktail	$0 06¾	Morrison	$0 05¾
Butte & Boston	3	Noble Five	3¾
Crystal	3½	Princess Maud	6
Cheapa-Bluejay	¼	Palmer Mt. Tun.	14½
Deer Trail Con.	8½	Quilp	19
Evening Star	7	Rambler Cariboo	43
Gold Ledge	6	Republic	97
Golden Harvest	1½	Reservation	7¾
Insurgent	2½	Rossland Giant	6
Jim Blaine	16	Sullivan	8
Lone Pine Surp.	14¾	Tom Thumb	16¾
Mountain Lion	90	Waterloo	6
Morning Glory	2¼		

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—The official closing quotations for mining stocks today were:

Alta	$0 01	Mexican	$0 28
Alpha Con	2	Occidental Con	12
Andes	5	Ophir	54
Belcher	21	Overman	9
Best & Belcher	22	Potosi	29
Bullion	3	Savage	11
Caledonia	56	Scorpion	2
Challenge Con	17	Seg. Belcher	1
Chollar	21	Sierra Nevada	40
Con. Cal. & Va.	1 30	Silver Hill	4
Crown Point	9	Standard	2 75
Gould & Curry	14	Union Con	24
Hale & Norcross	30	Utah Con	7
Justice	6	Yellow Jacket	17
Kentuck Con	1	St. Louis	9
Lady Wash. Con	2		

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Mining stocks today closed as follows:

Chollar	$0 15	Ontario	$8 00
Crown Point	8	Ophir	50
Con. Cal. & Va.	1 40	Plymouth	13
Deadwood	50	Quicksilver	1 75
Gould & Curry	30	do pref	7 50
Hale & Norcross	25	Sierra Nevada	46
Homestake	50 00	Standard	2 00
Iron Silver	56	Union Con	22
Mexican	22	Yellow Jacket	15

BOSTON, Feb. 15.—Closing quotations:

Boston & Mont.	$2 80	Parrott	$0 44½
Butte & Boston	66		

Southern Oregon Mining Notes.

Ashland Tidings.

The Granite Hill mine has been putting its five-stamp mill into running order during the past week.

It is expected that work on the wagon road leading to the Big Yank mine will be completed during the present week.

Messrs. Kerr and Lindar are reported to have made a very rich copper strike on ground three miles south of the town of Kerby, in Josephine county.

J. G. Giddings has purchased the four placer claims of William Knoll, on Galice creek, for the sum of $1900. Mr. Giddings is at the present time working the property, and expects to make a clean-up in the early spring.

The Blue Gravel mine, near Yreka, Cal., is said to be proving a regular bonanza to its owner and superintendent, F. R. Fox. The gravel is said to average $1 45 to every tub that is hoisted, and the prospects for the gravel holding out are said to be very encouraging.

It is estimated that the gold production of Siskiyou county, Cal., will amount to $5,600,000 for the year of 1899.

The mining camps of Jackson and Josephine counties are at the present time being thoroughly investigated by a number of men from British Columbia, Montana and Colorado, who have been attracted by the excellent reports that have been spread regarding mining resources and possibilities.

The Savage Bros. have taken additional contracts to extend the main tunnel on the Big Yank ledge, and two shifts—one night and one day—will be put on. About 300 feet of the tunnel are already completed, and it is the intention to extend it between 1000 and 1500 feet. Ventilation will be effected by means of a six-inch pipe, which will be placed in position at once.

Messrs. Silsby and Breeden, who own the most promising quartz ledge near Jacksonville, are now thoroughly developing their property. They have sunk to a depth of 90 feet and have uncovered a large body of very high-grade ore. They feel more than confident that they have struck a body of quartz of unusual excellence, and are encouraged to put additional work on the promising property.

Messrs. Allen, Goss, Clifton and Kelly have named their new property on the Big Yank ledge the Holy Terror mine. One giant was started on the Old Channel mine, on Six-mile creek, last week, and another is expected to be at work in a couple of days.

Word reaches Ashland of a very large yield of gold from very rich virgin placer ground on the Klamath river, situated about 10 miles north of Yreka, which compares very favorably with some of the best claims at Cape Nome and on the Klondike. The ground was discovered last spring and worked at a big profit all through the summer months and was purchased by Dr. F. Bass, of Siskiyou county. Some of the nuggets are very large, averaging over $100, besides much coarse gold, all of which is of a very high grade, averaging $18 25 per ounce.

Josephine County Mines.

GRANT'S PASS, Or., Feb. 15.—B. E. Meredith, superintendent of the Wilson placer mine, on the Illinois river, states that they are piping day and night, with a good head of water.

The Big Yank Mining & Milling Company is making good progress under the management of John F. Wickham. A force of 15 men is employed at the mine, while another crew is constructing a road between the mine and the Rocky Gulch mine.

C. J. Allen, who is interested in several claims in the Big Yank district, has let a contract to Savage & Sons for an 800-foot tunnel.

At the Eureka mine work goes steadily on. They are getting out ore and storing the same until they can pack in a new mill of 10 stamps.

At the A. & B. placer mine, on Galice creek, the break of 300 feet in the flume, caused by a landslide in December, has been repaired, and two large giants are now at work, rapidly tearing up ground in one of the largest and best-paying mines in Southern Oregon.

NORTHWEST DEAD.

Mrs. Mix, One of Thurston County's Earliest Pioneers.

OLYMPIA, Feb. 15.—Mrs. Mary Mix, one of Thurston county's oldest pioneers, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. G. Lybarger, on the west side, yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Mix was the daughter of Morris Littlejohn, who came to Washington in 1852, and settled on a donation claim south of Olympia. For the past 25 years Mrs. Mix, with her family, has lived at Eld's Inlet, about four miles from Olympia. She was 60 years of age, and left her husband and three grown children—Mrs. Lybarger, George and Frank Mix. Four brothers and five sisters are living, settled in various parts of this state, and Oregon. Mrs. Mix was a life-long member of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Boales, of Dallas.

DALLAS, Or., Feb. 15.—"Grandma" Boales, widow of David Boales, who died only one week ago, died yesterday, having never recovered from the shock occasioned by the death of her aged husband. Mrs. Boales came to Oregon in May, 1894, with her husband, and has lived in Dallas ever since. She left two sons, Harry and George, of Nebraska; and two daughters, Mrs. George Whitehorn and Mrs. Flank, both of Dallas. Mrs. Boales was an earnest and consistent member of the Presbyterian church.

Mrs. R. Logan.

Mrs. Robert Logan died at her home near Crow, February 9, after a very brief illness, at the age of 64. She leaves an aged husband and six children, as follows: Mrs. Hattie Wyatt and Willis Logan, of Eastern Oregon; Riley Logan, of Benton county; Mrs. Joe Gates, Mrs. Frank Cranshaw and Lee Logan, of Lane county.

William Shaw.

William Shaw, an old and respected resident of Baker City, died at his home, on the 12th inst., of pneumonia. Deceased left a widow and several grown sons and daughters. The funeral was held next day from the First Baptist church, of which the deceased was a devout member.

FOR DEWEY OR ROOSEVELT.

Much Talk in East of Men Like Them for President.

SALEM, Feb. 15.—E. Hoffer, editor of the Journal, has just returned from a six weeks' visit in Chicago and other Eastern cities. He says:

"The general business situation is a hopeful one. There is general satisfaction among business men and manufacturers, who in many instances expressed a desire that there be no ripping up of the money question or the tariff question in the coming presidential campaign. They say the business interests of the country are not helped by the war in South Africa, nor in the Philippines, and a disturbance in the financial policy would stagnate business.

"Republicans express some dissatisfaction with McKinley and Mark Hanna, and there is heard a good deal of conservative talk in favor of a ticket with some man like Dewey or Roosevelt at the head. Many express the belief that Dewey could be elected on either ticket.

"In Chicago the city of Portland is favorably known. While in the art institute on the lake front I was informed that the art collections presented to the people of Portland by Messrs. Corbett and Ladd were, next to the collection in Chicago, the finest in the New World.

"Some of the largest manufacturers and merchants of Chicago whom I met at the clubs expressed the opinion that as soon as peace should be fully established in Asia and Africa the Pacific coast ports would become the points of distribution for all Oriental commerce, and inside of five years the docks of Portland may present a scene something like those of Liverpool and Hamburg. There is a general opinion that the present congress will not act on the Nicaragua canal bill."

SMALLPOX AND THE SCHOOLS.

Teachers Can Draw Pay for Interruption.

OLYMPIA, Feb. 15.—In response to inquiries arising out of the relations of the public schools to the recent cases of contagious or epidemic diseases in the state, the superintendent of public instruction has issued the opinion that in cases of suspension of schools, the teacher is still in the pay of the district unless otherwise expressed in the contract.

As to an inquiry concerning a rule by a board of directors requiring successful vaccination as one of the conditions of membership in the public schools, it is the opinion of the superintendent that there is some doubt about the validity of a statute requiring vaccination, and in the absence of specific statutes conferring authority on a school board, there appears to exist no power to keep a child out of public schools because he has not been vaccinated in accordance with a rule prescribed by a board of directors.

Grain News From Umatilla.

Athena Press.

There has been some improvement in the grain situation the past week, and a few sales are reported:

W. J. Wilkinson purchased 10 carloads of corn at 40 cents per bushel, delivered at Athena.

A. B. Woods sold to the wheatbuyers Saturday over 3000 bushels of wheat.

D. N. McDonald sold 3000 bushels of wheat Saturday at a price of 38 to 40 cents per bushel.

Ad Pinkerton, a prosperous farmer living near town, disposed of 5000 bushels of wheat Saturday, at 40 cents per bushel.

Agent Wilkinson, of the Pacific Coast Elevator Company, purchased 11,000 bushels of wheat stored at Adams, of the Gross boys, at 41 and 43 cents f. o. b.

Brick Buildings for Grant's Pass.

GRANT'S PASS, Feb. 15.—West of the New Palace hotel, which is rapidly nearing completion, F. Fetsch will erect a brick building 25x100 feet, which he will occupy with a stock of clothing. Next to his building Williams Bros. will build a brick structure 55x100 feet, to be divided into three stores. Kienlen will put up a two-story brick on the corner opposite the Palace. When these shall be completed not a building site will be vacant of all that were visited by the destructive fire of last September.

Rolled Down a Steep Hill.

LAKEVIEW, Feb. 11.—Lorenzo Frakes was on his way to a dance with his wife and baby in a two-horse wagon in Warner Valley Thursday night, and while descending a hill, the wagon turned over and rolled 80 feet down a steep incline, killing one of the horses, but the family did not receive a scratch.

Oregonians to Debate in Washington

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Alvan W. Patterson, of Oregon, has been selected as one of the participants in a debate before the Columbian university, the question being: "Resolved, That a national law prohibiting trusts should be enacted." Patterson takes the negative side of the question.

AN INSANE MAN'S DEATH

CIRCUMSTANCES POINT TO SOME UNNATURAL CAUSES.

Was Prominent Snohomish County Politician Before He Lost His Mind—An Investigation.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 15.—Henry Plate, formerly postmaster at Marysville, and for years one of the most prominent politicians of Snohomish county, died Sunday at the Fort Steilacoom asylum. Peculiar circumstances connected with his death came to light today, and this, in connection with his wife's firm conviction that something is being concealed from her and a determination to investigate, furnish the groundwork for a possible scandal at the institution. Following so closely upon the Christiansen scandal and the Coates hanging, gives an unusual interest in the circumstances of Plate's death.

Two Tacoma physicians who examined Plate's body after his death, and at the request of his wife, found a fracture of the left arm about two and a half inches below the shoulder. His body showed numerous bed sores, and the lower part of his left arm was bruised. This, in connection with the death certificate, which showed exhaustion as the cause of death, aroused some speculation. Dr. E. M. Brown and Dr. I. Armstrong were the two physicians who made the examination. Dr. Brown said:

"It is possible, but not at all probable, that the fracture was occasioned by a fall. It had the appearance of being caused by a blow, and extended up into the shoulder joint. It was a break that would, in some degree, set itself, and was probably an old break, for the bone had begun to knit. The bed sores were comparatively recent."

Dr. Goddard, superintendent of the asylum, asserted positively that the man had the best of care at the asylum, but Dr. Crump, the assistant physician, was decidedly averse to discussing the case. In fact his answers to all questions were evasive.

"Yes, he did have a fracture of his left arm," acknowledged Dr. Crump. "I suppose he fell and did it. He might have fallen over a chair or something," he added, in explanation of a cause for the fall. Then regarding the date he said: "It must have been two or three weeks ago."

The bed sores, Dr. Crump said, were all older than the fracture of Plate's left arm, but Dr. Brown does not believe this.

"Plate was strapped to the bed at night," explained Superintendent Goddard, "but during the daytime was allowed in a rocking chair, with the other patients. One of the other patients may have struck him in the attendant's absence and caused the fracture, or it may have been caused by a fall. I think the arm was broken during the daytime, and I believe we discovered it at once, but you cannot tell, for the patients do not let us know about such things. At all events, the broken arm was discovered at the regular bathing day."

Mrs. Plate and her friends do not believe the unfortunate Marysville man was properly treated. The condition of his body and the broken arm made Mrs. Plate indignant, and she told friends here that she would take some steps toward an investigation after returning to her home.

Dr. Goddard says he was a difficult patient, but a friend of Mrs. Plate said tonight that on one of her recent visits to her husband he recognized her and spoke hopefully of the time when he would be able to return to his home.

TROOPS FOR ALASKA.

Assignments for the New Military Department.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Arrangements are making at the war department for the establishment of additional garrisons and troops in the new military department of Alaska, General G. M. Randall commanding. Orders were issued today making the following assignment of troops to the new department:

Company A, Seventh infantry, now in the department of Dakota, is transferred to the department of Alaska, with station at Fort St. Michael.

Companies B, I and K, Seventh infantry, now in the department of the East, have also been transferred to the department of Alaska, with station at Fort St. Michael.

Company G, Seventh infantry, now in the department of the Lakes, has been transferred to the department of Alaska, with station at Fort Valdes. The last-named company will be sent to Seattle fully equipped for Arctic service, and with a full complement of officers and enlisted men ready to embark for Fort Valdes not later than May 1 next.

The companies designated for station at Fort St. Michael also will be sent to Seattle fully equipped for Arctic service, and with full complement of officers and enlisted men ready to embark for the North not later than June 1 next.

Majors F. M. H. Kendrick and John Van Orsdale, Seventh infantry, have been ordered to accompany these troops.

SALOONS OF MANILA.

Regulations Governing Licenses to Sell Liquor—Department Notes.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Feb. 15.—In the last mail received here from Manila is the order and regulations governing the issue of licenses for the sale of liquors in the city of Manila, although the order states that neither the wholesale liquor-houses nor the present rules governing the sale of "native vino," "anisado," and other native drinks shall be affected.

The city is divided into two districts, known as first and second license districts. For saloon or shops in the first district, where beer, whisky, cordials and other intoxicating liquors are kept for sale, $600 Mexican is the price of a license for six months, and $250 if located in the second district.

In saloons or shops where beer and light wine only are sold, the license fee is $100 Mexican for six months, if in the first district, and $50 if in the second district.

All saloons and shops where liquors are sold must be closed on Sundays, and on week days between 8:30 P. M. and 6 A. M.

No licenses are to be granted to sell liquor in the public markets or kioskos, booths or stands in the public streets or plazas, or to street venders or peddlers.

Captain William R. Abercrombie, Second infantry, who has been on exploring duty in Alaska, the past summer, has been detailed as engineer officer on the staff of General George M. Randell.

Major James N. Allison, chief commissary officer, has been ordered to make the necessary trips to Seattle and confer with General Randell about the necessary preparations for the commissary department in Alaska.

Among the recent promotions in the army confirmed by the senate were those of Captain Henry G. Leonard, promoted to the Fourth, and Captain John Wholly, from the Twenty-fourth to the Third infantry.

Will Foreclose City Front Mortgage.

SOUTH BEND, Wash., Feb. 15.—J. T. Myers, as trustee for a number of South Bend's citizens, has begun suit to foreclose a $20,000 mortgage, given in 1892, on most of the water frontage in the business portion of the city. On account of the mortgage, no permanent improvements on the water front have been possible, hence the move is regarded as a beneficial one for the city.

Takes Smallpox to Nevada.

ELKO, Nev., Feb. 15.—A. M. Llewellyn, of Sumpter, Or., was taken off the west-bound train here last night showing pronounced symptoms of smallpox. He was lodged in a tent in the outskirts of the town, to await the erection of a pesthouse, which was finished today. Every precaution has been taken to prevent the spread of the disease.