

A 40-FOOT CHANNEL

Chamber of Commerce Urges Columbia Improvement.

MONEY IN THE SUNDRY CIVIL BILL

Government Should Not Delay Important Work Recommended by the Chief of Engineers.

Improvement of the mouth of the Columbia so as to provide a 40-foot channel...

"In his report on survey, Captain W. C. Langfitt gives a resume of past work at the mouth of the Columbia...

"The advantages of the mouth of the Columbia as a deep-water harbor and as a harbor of refuge are briefly described by Captain Langfitt...

"The plan of the discussion of the trustees was that the Government should begin work on the Columbia River Improvement recommended by the Chief of Engineers as early as possible...

"The permanent exhibit of Northwestern resources is assured. J. T. Butcher and R. Livingstone made the following report to the plan of the committee having the exhibit in charge...

"We would respectfully call your attention to the fact that the subscriptions for the installation and maintenance of the permanent exhibit of Northwestern resources in the Pacific Northwest...

"The Portland Chamber of Commerce heartily indorses the plan of the appointment of a commission to study and make report upon the commercial and industrial conditions of China and Japan...

"The resolution will be sent to Congress. It is the hope of the commission that it will be appointed on the commission, he will be acceptable to Portland.

"Inquiry About Iron Ores. John R. Wolcott, of Chicago, asked information regarding a large body of red iron ore in the mountains of Washington...

"I desire all the reliable data I can secure in regard to the iron ore of western Oregon and the Scotch Washington particularly as to hematite, both hard and soft...

"The members of the Oregon delegation are all ready to the requirements of Alaska and the protection of their interests. Nothing will be left undone by the Oregon delegation that can be accomplished towards ameliorating the condition of the people of Alaska and thereby indirectly benefiting the entire Northwest...

"I think I need hardly assure you that the members of the Oregon delegation take particular interest in securing the passage of legislation for the welfare of Alaska. The bills providing legislation for Alaska are now before committees of Congress and there is little that can be done until they reach the House. At the last session I gave considerable time, in connection with the committee having charge of the bill for that purpose, in securing some legislation for Alaska. It is a matter of no small importance to me to see that the bill is passed and that it is in my power to secure needed legislation for that portion of the country."

"Referring to the action of the assessor, Trustee Mills said he had received a letter from Senator Simon, who said that the chances for getting the office were impaired by Secretary Galt's opposition to the establishment of new assay offices and Representative Moody's bill locating an office at Baker City.

"The Philadelphia Commercial Museum has endorsed the efforts in behalf of American manufacturers and exporters and of the bill now pending in Congress appropriating \$200,000 to aid the Museum in its work of collecting samples of all goods sold in competition with American manufacturers. The samples will be used to create a permanent exhibit at Philadelphia. The Oregon delegation in Congress was requested to support the measure."

"The trustees are already on record in favor of reform of the Consular service, they voted, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of Oregon, that the reform bill now pending in Congress should be passed, and requested the Oregon delegation to support the bill.

"The following letter was received from Edward A. Moseley, secretary of the Interstate Commerce Commission. It was referred to the transportation committee, with instructions to investigate and report.

"Enclosed please find copy of Senate bill No. 148, introduced by Senator Culbom December 13, 1899, which embodies provisions amendatory of the act to regulate commerce. This bill is designed to give the Interstate Commerce Commission the authority intended to be conferred by Congress when the law was originally enacted.

"A few railroad officials and some newspapers have charged that the Commission, by recommending those amendments, is seeking unlimited authority to make rates. This charge is entirely without foundation. The Commission neither asks nor desires to be invested with general rate-making power. It simply asks for authority to correct rates which have been previously established by the carrier in the full exercise of their rate-making power, when such rates are found by the Commission, after due notice, investigation and full hearing, to be in violation of the act and the Commission asks that there be practically no other way by which the public can be protected against excessive or unjustly discriminatory rates.

"It has been asserted in some quarters that the powers asked for in this regard would imperil the commercial interests of the country. This is not true. On the contrary, the passage of this measure would conserve the interests of producers, manufacturers and shippers generally while protecting the rights of the consumer.

"On November 22, 1899, this bill was submitted to a convention, composed of representatives of leading commercial and industrial organizations of the country, at Chicago. There were present several hundred delegates from the National Association of the United States; National Association of Manufacturers of the United States; National Business League; National Board of Trade; National Transportation Association; National Livestock Association; United States Brewers' Association; Vapor Stove Manufacturers' National Association; National Hay Association; National Association of Freight Commissioners.

"After carefully considering the measure, section by section, it was approved by the conference. Since that time more than 30 other national business organizations have expressed their approval of the bill. The shippers of the country, therefore, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, ask your amendment as will empower the Commission to proceed on the lines and to the ends contemplated by the original act. The language and phraseology of that act, introduced by the Senate, is hereby adopted by the United States in various decisions, has been found insufficient to authorize the procedure and action necessary to give effect to its purpose. The language of the proposed amendments is believed to be so clear as to admit of no misinterpretation.

"Your attention is particularly called to the fact that the authority to correct rates, which have been found to be unlawful, is neither arbitrary nor final under the provisions of this bill. In every case the carriers must have due notice and opportunity to be heard before any change in their rates can be ordered, and all orders of this character are made subject to review by a Circuit Court of the United States and by the Supreme Court of the United States.

IN THE SEVERAL COURTS

MORE TESTIMONY AS TO VALUE OF BANK'S ASSETS.

Officers of Commercial National Place a Higher Value Than Wells, Fargo & Co. Gave.

Further evidence as to the value of the assets of the Commercial National Bank at the time of the liquidation in October, 1897, was submitted yesterday in behalf of the plaintiffs, and the defendant on cross-examination endeavored to break the force of the testimony. The witnesses examined during the day were Edward Cookingham, R. M. Dooley, R. G. Platt, George L. Hibbard, James Steel, Fred L. Morris and R. L. Durham. The latter was still on the witness-stand when the adjournment hour arrived, and he will conclude his evidence this morning. Testimony of the value of the assets is confined to October, 1897, or thereabouts, as it was soon after that date that Wells, Fargo & Co. purchased the assets for \$250,000, and Wells, Fargo & Co. assert that the Commercial National Bank had to be liquidated because the assets had so largely depreciated, therefore, their value at that time is an important factor in the case in question.

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"It was already stated, the sole purpose of these amendments is to furnish the means of enforcing the present provisions of the law against unreasonable rates and unjust discrimination, and to that end to confer upon the Commission the degree of authority respecting rates which for 10 years it was supposed to have, but which the Supreme Court has decided it does not possess.

"The Senate and House bills creating a commission to study commercial and economic conditions in China and Japan were discussed. The following resolution was adopted: 'That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the act to regulate commerce be and they are authorized to hold public hearings on the subject of the proposed amendments to the act to regulate commerce, and to report thereon to the committee on or before the 1st day of March next.'

"The principal item of receipts is from H. C. Breeden, sale of interest in Forbes & Breeden, \$18,341. Other receipts are rents, etc. The disbursements include the payment of several large mortgage loans on real property, interest, taxes, \$100 attorney's fees, and \$131 fees of administrator and administratrix. All claims have been paid. Besides the cash, there is considerable valuable real estate.

"Dan J. Moore, administrator of the estate of H. B. Borthwick, deceased, reports the filing of \$75 additional labor claims, and that there is sufficient funds on hand to pay the same. They were allowed by the court.

"The final report of Mary Jones, executrix of the will of Henry P. Jones, deceased, was filed. The receipts were \$184 received from the Nathan B. Jones estate, and there is a balance of \$98 on hand.

"The executrix of the estate of Sarah Ann Luther, deceased, was discharged. The payment of \$75 attorney's fees, and the executrix' fees, exhausts the funds. All claims have been paid.

"Martha Taylor Laiser filed a receipt for \$80 in full settlement with her former guardian, Benjamin L. Cohen, in accordance with the decree of the State Circuit Court on appeal. Mr. Cohen tendered his resignation as guardian of Charles and Ann Taylor, minors.

"Edward Holman, special administrator of the estate of Fred Smith, deceased, was authorized to sell the personal property, comprising horses, etc. The appraised value of the estate is \$211.

"In the matter of the estate of Richard Gerdes, deceased, premium of \$0 on a tax sale of lots in Watson's Addition was ordered paid.

"Edna E. Smith was appointed administratrix of the estate of her mother, Henrietta L. Smith, deceased, valued at \$15,000. The heirs are Gilbert F. Smith, Henrietta C. Clark and Edna E. Smith. The property comprised 1/3 and the east half of lots 5 and 6, block 28, Portland, which is incumbered by a mortgage for \$100.

"Darwin H. Cheney petitioned to be appointed guardian of Walter J. Cheney, a minor, who has property valued at \$25.

"Judge George yesterday denied the motion for a new trial in the case of Edward Flannigan, convicted of larceny of \$0 from William Stewart. The passing of sentence was deferred until Friday. On appeal counsel for Flannigan asked until that time to file a motion for arrest of judgment.

"James F. Muse, indicted for embezzlement of \$00 from The Title Guarantee & Trust Company, was arraigned and pleaded not guilty. A king witness appeared as his counsel.

"The transcript of appeal in the case of Della Clark, who was convicted in the Municipal Court, of larceny by bailie, of \$75 from Pat McGrath and sentenced to three months in the County jail, was dismissed.

"W. Smith, indicted for buying and receiving stolen property, consisting of a brass crank-pin cap and a brass cylinder-head cap, belonging to the Southern Pacific Company, was arraigned and allowed one week to plead.

"W. A. Lombard is bankrupt. NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—William A. Lombard, of this city, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. His liabilities are \$23,666, no assets. The liabilities are principally for borrowed money on notes and as a stockholder of the Union National Bank, of Denver; Bloomfield State Bank, of Bloomfield, Neb.; and the Baker City, Or., National Bank.

"Must Repair County Road. In the case of Charles M. Rice, Complainant vs. The Northwest Railway Company, his value of property were generally much better than those of Cashier Dooley. Mr. Durham also testified that the report of Mr. Lippman sent here from San Francisco to examine the assets in 1896, estimated the total loss at \$200,000 out of the whole assets (\$1,000,000).

"Judge O'Day—There was a statement made here this morning that John B. David came to the bank to pay money he owed to the bank, and instead of taking it you borrowed the money from him, is that true? Witness—There is not a word of truth in it.

"The witness was then questioned fully about the assets, and was asked about the value of the good will of the Commercial National Bank, which he said was about \$25 per share. He also stated that Homer S. King sold him after the sale of the stock for nonpayment of the assessment, that the stock would liquidate for 75 cents on the dollar. Mr. Durham was cross-examined closely.

"James Steel was called to testify concerning the value of the East Side Railway against which the bank held quite a large claim, and he represented the prospects of the company good in October, 1897, and still so.

"Fred L. Morris, a bondholder was called on the same point, but he said he did not know the value of the East Side Railway Company. Judge O'Day asked the witness if he did not buy the first-mortgage bonds of the East Side Railway Company with money furnished by Wells, Fargo & Co.

PROPOSED MONUMENT FOR THE DEAD OF THE SECOND OREGON VOLUNTEERS.

The above is a sketch of one form of monument which it is proposed to erect in the plot in which the unclaimed bodies of members of the Second Regiment, Oregon Volunteers, are to be buried. It will be a life-size figure of a volunteer, cast from old Spanish cannon, standing on a rough rock pedestal in a position of defense. It is not yet definitely decided where the plot will be selected, but probably in Riverview or an adjoining cemetery.

Mr. Pillsbury objected, saying the evidence was immaterial, and of interest in Forbes & Breeden, \$18,341. Other receipts are rents, etc. The disbursements include the payment of several large mortgage loans on real property, interest, taxes, \$100 attorney's fees, and \$131 fees of administrator and administratrix. All claims have been paid. Besides the cash, there is considerable valuable real estate.

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MANILA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THIRTY-NINE OF THEM ARE NOW IN WORKING ORDER.

George P. Anderson, an Oregon Man, Educated at Forest Grove and in Walla Walla, in Charge.

The school system, the leaven by which it is proposed to accomplish the very thing for which the insurgents of the Philippines are asking—self-government—is in working order in Manila, says the correspondent of the New York Times. In establishing the schools, as in establishing the government, the American army officers had only the wrecks of an organization once maintained by the Spaniards to work from. It has been a long and arduous task to get the schools with the government. With a war going on and little time to institute more than a few of the most necessary reforms, the old system was bolstered up. But every day it is being improved.

Father McKinnon, chaplain of the First California Volunteer Regiment, bustled himself a short time after Manila was occupied by the American forces in hunting up the school teachers formerly employed in Manila and the schoolhouses themselves. Then he went on a search after the truant pupils and their schoolbooks, and in a short time, aided in every way possible by military authorities, he had Manila's public school system in operation. In some districts the schools were full from the start, and in others the attendance dwindled down, so that when the revolution of the Tagalogs began it was necessary to post a circular, signed by the Provost-Marshal to the effect that unless parents sent their children to school at once it would be necessary to close the schools. So far as is known, it was not necessary to discontinue the schools, and the first year closed in March, 1899, after having run from the previous September. On June 1, 1899, Chaplain McKinnon was relieved by the present school superintendent, George P. Anderson, a graduate of Whitman College, at Walla Walla, Wash., and also of Yale University. Mr. Anderson was at Portland, Or., when the war began, and was enlisted in Company H, Second Oregon Volunteers. When his regiment left Manila for home in June he remained to take charge of the school system. The second school year opened the 1st of September. The school system in Manila. Each of the 13 districts of the city has at least two schools, one for boys and one for girls, and some districts have as many as four. In the teaching force there are 85 American and 2000 natives, mostly men; 80 Spaniards and 23 Americans. The last include about equal numbers of men and women, and they receive an average salary of 1400 Mexican pesos a year, or about \$700 in gold. The school attendance was 3700 last July, and today is approximately 5000. The school population of Manila is about 25,000. Besides the public schools there are large numbers of private schools, run by convents and colleges maintained by the Catholic clergy. All children between the ages of 6 and 15 are expected to attend school, and the Provost-Marshal makes a diligent attempt to enforce this rule. The children appear at school usually barefooted. The average boys wear trousers of white drill and shirts of banana fiber. The little girls usually wear above the knee dresses of material washed and ironed and extreme pride is evidently taken in their appearance.

As to curriculum, the schools of Manila may be divided into three grades, the common schools, embracing the primary and intermediate studies; the higher schools and the Normal. Recently there has been established a nautical school. The higher schools are maintained by the Jesuit Fathers at the Manila Observatory and the Ateneo in the city of Manila. The Manila Observatory is the high normal school, which is attended by some 300 pupils, whose ambition is usually to become teachers. This school is left entirely to the management of the Jesuits at present, the government rendering certain compensation until it becomes possible to take it out of clerical hands. A similar arrangement is being made at Ateneo, in the delightful colony in the Walled City. Here, in connection with its extensive convent and general school, the brotherhood maintains for the Government the High School, where two or three languages, including the English, are taught; the higher scientific studies and the regular curriculum of the old Spanish system. The High School has an attendance of about 60.

The old Spanish nautical school has just been reopened. Its purpose is to train mates and captains for the merchant vessels which ply in and out among the many islets of the Philippine Archipelago and even sail to foreign ports. The school was opened on December 15, under the management of a naval officer detailed for the work. Lieutenant-Commander V. L. Collins, U. S. Navy, was in charge of the school, which is in charge of the New York City school ship St. Mary's. The teacher of lessons in English is Edmund L. Filmer, a son of a Massachusetts Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Many of the English teachers in the common schools are discharged Volunteers, who enlisted out of patriotism when the war broke out and served until their regiments were disbanded. Most of them have acquired a working knowledge of Spanish and many are learning Tagalog.

The study of English seems to be by far the most popular of the new studies in the schools, and already the effect of the teaching is seen about Manila. The youngsters show a most surprising aptitude in acquiring words and phrases, and they delight in showing off their accomplishments.

"Get mon!" for "good morning," now greets the American on every hand. Next in popularity to the English, comes the spelling. Spelling is a new study to the natives, and the effect of the teaching of spelling, for to be able to pronounce a syllable in Spanish is practically to be able to spell it. The hottest kind of rivalry has arisen in the spelling of English words, and the contests have not been confined to single acts, or to the school, but of one district often challenge those of another.

Nine schools of the 19 now existing were established at the opening of the last school year. The Government found it necessary to replace five buildings destroyed in the insurgent fires of last February. Furniture was lacking, and the Government expended \$2000 in necessary purchases. One of the first moves made by the American Government in the Philippines when it gets firmly established was the erection of 15 or 19 large school buildings for the accommodation of the Manila population. The buildings used at present are crowded to an extent that the authorities would be embarrassed about the order to compel all children of the school age to attend school, and to be rigidly enforced. New books will be purchased, and a system established whereby they can be furnished to all pupils free or in return for partial compensation from those who can pay.

Not a Savage. The Manila native is not at all a savage," says Superintendent Anderson in a recent article on the schools. "He appreciates civilization and highly prizes good education. He now wants his boy and his girl to know English and obtain a good, common-school training. The people do have racial faults that interfere with the progress of a single individual, but the most noticeable is the cohesiveness of the tribes, and other laborers of little refinement and education. But it is a very encouraging fact that the native schoolmaster seems to have lost this. He is a bright, faithful and patient, and a good, steady worker. All these people need to be led aright. Give them schools and plenty of them. Wake them up to the high sense of duty and of proper living. They are good material. They already have confidence in the American as the representative of true liberty of conscience and of real freedom."

The subject of religion, which formerly occupied an important place in the Spanish curriculum, is being delicately handled by the Superintendent. The old catechism and religious exercises have been dropped in the High School and Normal School, which are yet in the hands of the clergy, practically no interference can be conscientiously made at present with the system, which, of course, has the religious teachings. As time goes on, these schools will be taken out of the hands of the Jesuits and operated the same as the regular City schools.

A school study almost unknown to American schools, which was left to maintain its place in the Manila schools, is called "Urbanidad." It treats of politeness in every slight act. "The Spaniards have little to do with any religious teaching, but teaches the child the various courtesies to be rendered his superiors, such as lifting the hat and using "sir" in addressing people.

SIXTH WARD REPUBLICANS

Old-Fashioned Housewarming Friday Night in Verwiltiger's Hall.

The Sixth Ward Republican Club have their quarterly meeting, the Terwiltiger Ball, on First, near Sheridan, newly illuminated and thoroughly cleaned, and next Friday evening, March 3, they expect to give an old-fashioned housewarming. The program, consisting of some of the best talent in the city. The Oregon Quartet, composed of E. Drake, W. F. H. Holt, M. L. Brown and V. C. Henshaw, have been engaged for the occasion. This is considered to be one of the best quartets in the State of Oregon. Their repertoire includes some of the newest compositions of the day, which are the best in the coming campaign. Judge Frank D. Henshaw has consented to sing his latest song, entitled "Asleep in the Deep." This song is more popular, if possible, than the Judge's famous song "Put Me Off at Bend Falls." N. H. Alexander will sing a song entitled, "Raus Mit Ihm," by Mr. Dooley. Messrs. Ed Drake and W. F. Elliott will sing a duet, "Answer," by Henry. County Treasurer Ralph W. Henshaw will play on the piano, which will insure the best of music. Hon. J. M. Long and Colonel G. C. Spencer will deliver short addresses on the issues of the day. Hon. Seneca C. Beecher will read a paper on "The Inimitable stories. He is a humorist, the Bill Nye claim. Captain Charles J. McDonnell will relate some of his experiences in the Philippines. The program will be continued to fill out the evening. The Sixth Ward is noted for eloquent speakers, who will be on hand, necessary. The Sixth ward has but one Republican club, which is the best in the coming campaign. Judge Frank D. Henshaw has consented to sing his latest song, entitled "Asleep in the Deep." This song is more popular, if possible, than the Judge's famous song "Put Me Off at Bend Falls." N. H. Alexander will sing a song entitled, "Raus Mit Ihm," by Mr. Dooley. Messrs. Ed Drake and W. F. Elliott will sing a duet, "Answer," by Henry. County Treasurer Ralph W. 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