IN THE SEVERAL COURTS

JUDGE CLELAND RENDERS A DECISION IN THE CURATIVE ACT.

Invalidity Must Be Shown Before the Act Can Be Invoked to Make It Good.

Judge Cleland yesterday decided in the suit of Joseph Polivka and others, resisting the payment of assessments for street work done on Corbett street, that it must first appear that the assessments levied on the property were invalid before the curative act can be invoked to make them good. The plaintiffs seek to have the city enjoined from selling their property because of the nonpayment of the assessments. They contended that the work described by the city as a repair to the street was really an improvement, and for which a petition of the owners of more than two-thirds of the property benefited was necessary, and that there was no such petition, but, instead, a remonstrance was filed.

The city sets up as a defense section 156 of the charter, known as the curative act, which does away with all irregularities, etc., in the matter of street-improvement assessments of which the absence of a petition would be one. The plaintiffs' attorneys, Strode & Middleton, demurred to the answer, and the court sustained the demurrer, holding that the Corbett-street case, in its present condition, as judicially appears, is not one to which the curative act is applicable. The court held that if it shall be judicially determined in this case, as seems to have been done before, that the assessment was illegal, then, perhaps, the "curative act" will apply, though it would not be safe to assume that to be a certainty. It seems to be a case wherein it is necessary for the city to show that it did something wrongfully and unlawfully before it can do anything lawfully and rightfully.

Section 156 of the charter, which aims to remedy such defects and irregularities, provides a remedy in two classes of cases, one arising before a certain date, and one after, and the court said that it was somewhat difficult of construction. In the case of Nottage vs. the City of Portland the Supreme Court held that the Legislature had power to provide when and how such assessments could be made, and the court must uphold the law, as appears in section 156. The Supreme Court held, in the Nottage case, that he could not recover from the city, but the court did not consider that case authority in this one. Other cases cited were considered at length, and found not to sustain defendant's contention that the action of the city had been legalized by implication. An entirely different answer will have to be made to the complaint, and the city, after having gotten the matter in the shape the court thinks it should be in, may have to bring another suit to collect the assessments. The end is not yet, and the city still expects to win. The Supreme Court has decided the curative act legal for all general purposes. The point in this case is merely as to the proper manner of its application.

In the suit of the United States Mortgage & Trust Company vs. P. A. Marquam et al., to foreclose the mortgage on the Marquam block and other property, Judge Cleland decided that the Title Guarantee & Trust Company did not, under its trust agreement with Marquam, covenant to pay certain sums. This would cover taxes on the building, repairs, etc. The court held, however, that if the company did have to pay moneys for such purposes, the amounts could be recovered from the property.

The answer of Marquam set up that the trustee has been negligent in not advancing these sums necessary for the proper management of the property, greatly to the damage of Marquam, and that the trust agreement, at least by implication if not otherwise, bound the trustee so to do. The court thought differently, and the allegations of negligence were stricken out. This disposes of all of the points in controversy, except the allegations that the Title Guarantee & Trust Company did not realize in past years from the theater the amount it should, and also did not rent the rooms to advantage. Some other issues, however, may be raised by the defendant, as the case is being stubbornly contested.

Judge Cleland, in the case of C. L. Axtell and Charles McKillip against G. R. Shaw, reversed his former decision in favor of the defendant, and found for the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs demanded the right to continue to use water from a spring on defendant's land, near Fairview, under an agreement between Shaw and plaintiffs' grantor, B. N. Snover. The decision depended on what the agreement between Snover and Shaw was, and on this point the evidence on the first trial exactly balanced, Snover testifying that the agreement was one to continue in perpetuity, and Shaw testifying that it was revocable at his pleasure. As the plaintiff had to establish his case by a preponderance of testimony, the decision was at first in defendant's favor, but on a rehearing the plaintiff furnished some corroborative testimony that turned the scale in his favor. Mrs. Snover, a sister-in-law of B. N. Snover, was one of the additional witnesses. She testified that she heard the bargain made between her brother-in-law and Shaw, and what it was.

Mrs. A. V. Goodwin, who is defending a divorce suit filed by her husband, S. P. Goodwin, was allowed $50 alimony. She has also filed a cross-complaint, alleging that it is her husband and not she who is to blame. Goodwin is in the employ of the First National Bank. The litigants have been married for a long time, and have grown children.

A decision in favor of B. Montgomery, in his suit against F. B. Jones et al., was rendered. In this case, B. Montgomery held a note executed by Jones for $2000 in 1895 for money loaned to run one year, and an agreement was made that no interest was to be charged so long as B. Montgomery was kept employed as an engineer on one of Jones' steamboats, the Vulcan and Eugene. B. Montgomery transferred the note to B. Montgomery who demanded interest. The note has all been paid, except about $500. The court held that interest can be collected from the date the note became due.

FENCING GOVERNMENT LAND.

Suit Brought to Compel Jesse D. Carr From Using Acres Not His Own.

United States Attorney Hall yesterday commenced a suit in equity in the United States Court to compel the Jesse D. Carr Land Company to remove a fence by which it is claimed they are inclosing about 8,000 acres of Government land situated in Klamath County, State of Oregon, and Siskiyou and Modoc Counties in the State of California.

This action was instituted on the part of United States Attorney Hall upon complaints made to him from citizens of Southern Oregon, claiming that J. D. Carr has for a great many years been inclosing Government lands and preventing the country from being settled, maintaining said fence by the use of rifles and shotguns. Attorney Hall is now determined to force this matter to a speedy termination, and if it is found that any Government land is inclosed, the fence will have to come down.

Did Not Pay State Costs.

The case of Charles Duggan vs. the Southern Pacific Company, to recover damages in the sum of $15,000 for the loss of a foot, came up for hearing in the United States Court yesterday before Judge Bellinger on a motion to require complainant to pay costs in the State Court before being allowed to proceed with the case in the United States Court. Duggan attempted to board a Southern Pacific train while in motion. He had alighted at a station and was "stretching his legs" on the platform, when the train started. He ran for the steps and endeavored to get aboard a car, but failed, and, after being dragged a short distance, was obliged to let go, and fell to the ground, and one of his feet was caught under the wheels and cut off, or so injured that it had to be taken off. He brought suit in the State Court to recover damages in the sum of $15,000, but was nonsuited, Judge Frazer holding that he was guilty of contributory negligence, in attempting to board the train when it was moving, and therefore was not entitled to recover. Duggan has since commenced suit in the United States Court, and it appears has not paid costs in the State Court, for which reason counsel for defense made the motion above stated, which was argued and taken under advisement by Judge Bellinger yesterday.

"Jack" Holman's Estate.

Mrs. Louzetta E. Holman yesterday filed a petition in the County Court asking for an allowance of $900 for her support and that of two minor children from the estate of John Warren Holman, her husband, deceased. She also files her election not to take the lands and other provisions made for her in the will, but instead to be endowed by the lands of her late husband and to accept and claim such other provisions as by right belongs to her under the laws of the State of Oregon. The widow, by the terms of the will, and the minor children, Roy and Ruth Holman, are bequeathed land in section 26, township 1 north, range 1 west, and land in Sauvie's Island, share and share alike. The home on Everett street is devised to Anna Sophia Holman and John Wheeler Holman, children of deceased. Lots 5 and 8, block 56, Couch addition, was heretofore deeded to Charles Holman, a nephew of the deceased, for the benefit of Warren J. Holman, a son, and the deed is ratified, and the property may be conveyed at once. The will also ratifies a bill of sale. The truck, dray and forwarding business of Holman & Co., heretofore executed to Warren J. Holman and Charles Holman, in equal shares. To George Holman, a nephew, son of Robert Holman, is bequeathed watches and jewelry, and $250 to be paid by Warren J. Holman and Charles Holman. Mrs. Holman further receives the household furniture and the rest and residue of the estate.

In her petition, in which she states that she intends to take her dower in the property instead of the bequests, Mrs. Holman avers that she and the minor children were left wholly unprovided for, and have no money or means of sustenance whatever. That the appraised value of the estate is $7423, and in addition to this there is the one-half interest in the business of Holman & Co., valued at $6500, and the undivided one-half of lots 5 and 8, block 56, Couch addition, valued at $5000; the title sought to be confirmed by the will in favor of Warren J. Holman. The petitioner states further that by the will and by conveyances made in his lifetime, her late husband attempted to convey and devise practically all of the estate to the children who have attained their majority, and relatives other than the widow and the minor children.

Judge Cake has authorized the sale by Warren J. and Charles Holman of their interest in the firm of Holman & Co. to Sol Hirsch for $6500. Sampson W. Herman is the surviving partner, and owner of the other one-half interest.

Mrs. Holman wants the $900 for support paid from the proceds of this sale. The petitioner was a second wife, and the grown children are by the first wife.

Against a Deputy Sheriff

Yesterday, in Judge Sears' court, a jury was engaged in the trial of the suit of E. H. Ahlgren against H. H. Emmons, an attorney, and George Mitchell, Deputy Sheriff, for $1300 damages for the alleged unlawful taking from him of two cows. The plaintiff alleges that he was conducting a small milk business at his home near Rosedale, and that the two cows were all he had, and from which he supported his wife and two daughters. He bases his claim for damages on the alleged fact that the loss of his cows broke up his dairy and left him without means to maintain his family. The evidence submitted disclosed that a judgment was taken against Ahlgren in the justice court, in 1893, for $345, in favor of Smith & Zimmer, a Minnesota firm. It was never paid, and Emmons caused execution to be issued on it on October 27, 1899. The execution was placed in the hands of Mitchell, who, under his Deputy Sheriff's commission acts as constable in Justice Kraemer's court. One Wright, a hired man at Emmons' house, then arranged with Ahlgren to bring two cows down to the stable of James Lyons, where he, Wright, would purchase them. The price agreed upon was $80.

This programme, according to the evidence of Abe Caswell, was subsequently changed somewhat. He testified that he met Emmons on the street, and at his request went with him to his office, and Emmons gave him the $80 to purchase the cows. Caswell said he then went to the stable of Lyons. He started in company with Constable Mitchell, but they parted before reaching the place, taking opposite sides of the street. He bargained for the cows and went with Ahlgren to a feed store next to the stable, where a bill of sale was executed. Caswell stated that he then counted out the money to Ahlgren, and Mr. Mitchell, who was standing close by, remarked, "That is pretty good-looking money; I guess I will take it." Ahlgren answered: "I guess not." Mitchell showed his papers and reached over and took the coin.

Andrew Holm, who conducts the feed store, told the affair somewhat differently, but said Mitchell was within reaching distance of the money when it was counted out, and reached over and took it.

Jonathan G. Royle, a neighbor of Ahlgren, testified that two cows was all Ahlgren had in his dairy.

The point in the transaction is that the cows were exempt from execution, but the money was not. When court adjourned a motion for a nonsuit was pending, and will be decided this morning.

Verdict of $7500.

The jury returned a verdict for Edward T. Watts for $7500 in his damage suit against Henry Schevering, in Judge Frazer's department yesterday morning. The defendant, who so suddenly disappeared Tuesday while the trial was in progress, was present when the verdict was read, and seemed much surprised when he ascertained the trial was all through with. He explained to the court attaches that when the court took a recess Tuesday afternoon he thought the court had adjourned for the day, so he went home, and returned yesterday with the pistol with which Watts was shot, and the sack in which it was contained, prepared to tell how the accident happened. He was, however, deprived of the opportunity, and will perhaps keep better informed the next time he is defendant in a damage suit. Schevering, however, seemed to care very little about the case, and did not apparently appreciate its seriousness, as he came to court on the day of the trial two hours after it had begun, and made no effort to get any witnesses in his behalf. Schevering is a farmer and fisherman. It is not believed the judgment against him is collectible.

Dentistry Is Dentistry.

The making and fitting of a set of false teeth was held by Judge George yesterday to be an act of dentistry. This opinion was delivered in overruling the demurrer to the indictment in the case of A. C. Froome, charged with practicing dentistry without a license. Froome was arraigned and pleaded not guilty. The date of his trial has not yet been fixed. The indictment charges Froome with having made and adjusted a set of artificial teeth for one Mrs. Joseph, and the attorney for the defendant contended that the statute does not cover the making and placing of dentures, and submitted the demurrer without argument. Judge George determined that it is an act of mechanical dentistry, and said: "It is a matter of common knowledge that only persons claiming to practice dentistry prepare sets of false teeth for patients. Whatever may be said about what really constitutes treatment of diseases or lesions of the human teeth or jaws or correction of malposition thereof, there should be no misunderstanding among dentists as to what the law contemplates. There can be no doubt that the adjusting of artificial teeth to the human jaw is an act of dentistry, and therefore is prohibited in section 8. That the law contemplates regulation of this sort of dental practice is also evidenced by section 4 of the act, which provides for stringent examination of the skill of the applicant, not only in operative and surgical dentistry, but also in operative and mechanical dentistry."

Court Notes.

Frank R. Graff was yesterday appointed guardian of the estate of William Winsor Allan, a minor, valued at about $500.

J. Andregg and J. Londle, indicted for maintaining a nuisance in throwing the carcass of a dead calf in a field, were arraigned in the Criminal Court yesterday and allowed until Tuesday to plead.

The jury in the mechanics' lien suit of Charles K. Henry vs. W. E. McLeod, Charles B. Hand et al., was locked up yesterday morning. When court adjourned at 5 o'clock the jury had not agreed, and was instructed to bring in a sealed verdict.

An indictment against one George Ames, charging him with cutting 40,000 feet of timber on Government land, which was filed in the United States Court some three years ago, was yesterday dismissed by Judge Bellinger, on motion of United States Attorney Hall.

James McDonough, as compensation for information furnished by him leading to the seizure and condemnation of 200 5-tael cans of opium which was sold by the Government for $810, was yesterday awarded by Judge Bellinger 25 per cent of the net proceeds of the sale.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

"A Contented Woman."

Of all the many plays that Charles Hoyt has turned out in the past, from all accounts, none have ever appealed more strongly to the masses than his "A Contented Woman," which is reported as having broken all records. That "A Contented Woman" has wonderful drawing qualities is evidenced by the fact that at every performance the "standing room only" sign has been brought into use. The "Woman" seems to be just what the theater-going public want. It is an entertainment replete with sparkling music, witty dialogue, novel dances, up-to-date specialties and a bevy of the prettiest girls ever seen on a local stage. The cast is headed by Miss Belle Archer.

"A Contented Woman" will be presented at the Marquam Grand tomorrow and Saturday evenings identically the same as produced at Hoyt's Theater, New York. There will be a special ladies' and children' matinee Saturday.

"Toll Gate Inn."

That in the coming production of "Toll Gate Inn," at the Marquam Grand on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, March 20 and 21, Portland is to be given one of the rare treats of the season, can be gathered by glancing at the following lines taken from the St. Paul Dispatch of February 16: "'The Toll Gate Inn,' which was presented at the Metropolitan last night for the first time in St. Paul, both pleased and surprised the audience, as nothing half so good was expected. The piece is staged in a perfectly accurate, colonial setting. 'Toll Gate Inn' is a delightful, wholesome play." This is only a small part of a very extended criticism, but is sufficient to show that in "Toll Gate Inn" we are to have a production out of the ordinary.

"Darkest Russia."

"Darkest Russia" will be at Cordray's, commencing next Sunday evening. For those who delight in dramatic work of a better kind this is an attraction that should prove tempting. It is a play of dramatic story, full of that which appeals to humanity, and, above all, it has a liberal seasoning of clean-cut and incisive comedy. The story brings most vividly before an audience the existing conditions of life under an absolute monarchy, and reveals to us in free America the terrible power that can be vested in one man, a thing of which we know so little, except from such knowledge as we get from books of history or the writings of travelers. But "Darkest Russia" is by no means an array of historical facts served up in the shape of acts. It has these facts happily blended with love, devotion and heroism, and it also has a rich abundance of inherent merriment, incited by lines that are bright and witty. The acting company, under the personal direction of Edwin C. Jepson, is highly commended for its artistic ability.

PERSONAL MENTION.

M. N. Adams, an Astoria hotel man, is at the St. Charles.

W. B. Jenkins and wife, of Seattle, are guests of the Portland.

M. B. Hendrick, of McMinnville, is registered at the Perkins.

G. R. Major, of Ottawa, Canada, is registered at the Portland.

Dr. Belle A. Rinehart, of The Dalles, is a guest of the Imperial.

A. G. Avery and wife, of Tacoma, are registered at the Portland.

H. Glenn, a contractor of The Dalles, is registered at the Imperial.

F. J. Carney, City Treasurer of Astoria, is registered at the Imperial.

L. A. Conn, contractor of Fort Stevens, is registered at the Imperial.

A. F. Broo, a business man of Lewiston, Idaho, is registered at the St. Charles.

P. S. Davidson, lumber manufacturer of Hood River, is registered at the Imperial.

N. F. Strain and wife, with Miss Dunham, of Kelso, Wash., are guests of the Perkins.

W. H. Hunter, an old hotel man of Portland, is very ill at the Good Samaritan Hospital.

D. A. Magnus, wheatbuyer and warehouseman of Wheatland, Or., is at the St. Charles.

Byron E. Karl and wife, of New York City, are guests of the Portland. They are touring the Northwest.

D. Solis Cohen will lecture before the Mineowners' Club next Saturday evening on "Methods of Making Oregon a Successful Mining State."

Ralph C. Clyde, of the Commoner, has returned to the city, after an absence of over a month on a ranch, for the benefit of his health, which is improved.

Charles W. Gardner, a mining machinery manufacturer of Boston, was a caller at the Mineowners' Club yesterday. He has recently moved to Portland with his family, for permanent residence.

Mrs. O. O. Howard, of Washington, wife of General Howard, is visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James T. Gray, 407 Jackson street. Mrs. Howard is accompanied by her son, Harry Howard.

NEW YORK, March 14.—J. D. Peters, of Portland, is registered at the Continental Hotel.

Made Sure of It.

Philadelphia Record.

Pat—Do ye snore, Mike?

Mike—Faith, Oi do not.

Pat—An' how d' ye know ye don't?

Mike—Faith, Oi kept awake all night wanst t' make sure.

Shake Into Your Shoes

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder. It cures painful, smarting, nervous feet and ingrowing nails, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. Try it today. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores. By mail for 25c. in stamps. Trial package FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

DAIRYING BEATS WHEAT

NO REASON FOR FARMERS TO SELL COWS TO BUTCHERS.

The Ration That Will Make 5 Cents' Worth of Beef Will Make 25 Cents' Worth of Butter.

One of the most successful dairymen in Oregon is Samuel Douglas, of Springfield, Lane County. His method of conducting a dairy is the modern one—get the best results from the very least cows. In a letter to C. H. Markham, general freight and passenger agent of the Southern Pacific Company, he gives information that is valuable to persons who think of engaging in the industry. He says:

"What are farmers going to do just now when they are confronted with the high price of beef and almost tempted to sell their milch cows for beef, forgetting that good butter is as scarce and correspondingly high as beef is, and that the ration fed to a steer to make a pound of beef would, if fed to a good cow, make a pound of 25-cent butter, a difference of 20 cents?

"A good cow, properly fed and intelligently handled, will produce 300 pounds of butter in a year, but in order for the Oregon farmer to bring his cows up to the 300-pound standard, there must be a change from the haphazard methods pursued in the past. A good breed of cows is not the only requisite. Feed must correspond, and heifer calves should be raised for the express purpose of making dairy cows. The true dairy cow must be raised from birth, developed for the pail while young and must be fed such food as will give bone and muscle. Thousands of cows are ruined when calves by economical feeding. They should not be starved, but well-considered rations of the best milk-producing material such as the calf should be raised on to be the valuable cow of the future, should be fed. The cow that is picked up or bought of a gathered drove or herd is, as a rule, of little value as a dairy cow. I speak from experience, as I have been in the dairy business for nine years, have a herd of 60 cows and not a 'picked up' cow (as I call them) in the herd. The farmer of the future who desires the best of herds must raise his own cows, hold closely to one line of breeding, whether it be Jersey, Shorthorn, Guernseys or Holstein Friesian. There are good milkers in all of these herds.

"Mate to high degrees of excellence. The fine heifer calves must be treated to close attention in selection of rations which promote growth, health and vigor, fine bone and muscle. The foods that possess fattening qualities must be dispensed with. The cow of the future which gives a fine lot of rich milk will be the one that has been treated or handled better than in the past.

"Are farmers going to continue farming 40-cent wheat, or drift in the line of dairying? They are not only farming at a loss, but their land is becoming poorer all the time, and at the rate things are going it is doubtful in my mind if, 20 years hence, they can raise one-half as much wheat per acre as they do at present. Continued farming year after year will bring down the production of land until it must have rest. The dairy business, it seems to me, would have a tendency to bring up the production of the soil, as a routine of crops is necessary, together with grass, that should be sown which is best adapted to the soil.

"The outlook for dairy products has not been so good for several years as at present. With wheat at the fabulous price of 38 cents per bushel, it seems strange that the farmers do not take hold of dairying more than they do. Corn grows very well in the Willamette Valley. It is true it does not ripen the best, but it advances so far to maturity that it can be practically siloed, which makes the best of succulent food for cows. The corn crop has a tendency to rest the land, or, in other words, acts as summer fallow. A good, fair crop of wheat or oats can be grown on the ground after a crop of corn, and, in this way, being able to have a rotation of crops, we may be able to keep our lands productive, together with the large amount of valuable manure which accumulates every year. We manured 20 acres last year, and about that amount is manured every year.

"When I first engaged in the dairy business all the cows purchased by me were highly recommended, but it was afterwards found that every cow proved a failure and did not pay for feed and keeping. The only way to handle dairy cows at a profit is to keep an account with each cow, charging her up with cost of feed and keeping by the year, and if she does not pay for it, together with a profit, sell her to the butcher, and the sooner the better. Weigh her milk during the entire milking season, apply the Babcock test, and you will get at the worth of your cow in a business-like way. The fact is, not one man out of 50 knows whether he has a good cow or not, and if you go to buy her he will tell you that she gives a bucket of milk, a barrel of strippings and is the best cow he ever saw, but, as I stated before, the only proper way to get a herd of cows is to raise them.

"I have been raising and culling our cows for nine years. Each cow's milk is weighed during the year, and several careful tests are made of each individual cow. My herd will average 300 pounds or more per cow per year. My standard is 200 pounds at 2 years old, and when matured, not less than 300 pounds. I have been using full-blooded Jersey bulls, of choice breeding strain, and now have a fine lot of young cows, heifers and calves, which are being fed and raised for the special butter cow. As competition is so great, it pays to keep nothing but the best, consequently a young bull of excellent breeding is purchased every few years.

"Being fully confident that it will pay a better income than raising wheat exclusively, I expect to increase my herd within two years to 80 head, and I would say to the farmers of the Willamette Valley that if the grain raised on their farms is properly fed to good cows and the manure therefrom applied to the land, it would be more profitable than exclusive grain-raising."

ADVANTAGES OF SOILING.

Marion County Dairyman Raises 500 Rations to the Acre.

SALEM, Or., March 12.—(To the Editor.)—Webster defines soiling as the act or practice of feeding cattle or horses with fresh grass or green food, cut daily for them, instead of pasturing them. This as a mode of feeding is very little used in Oregon, but in our Eastern states it is practiced very extensively. A silo is a contrivance for the purpose of preventing waste by evaporation or drying out. Ensilage is simply canned corn or other fodder. It is taken at its highest stage of nutritive value and preserved in its succulent or juicy form. That food in this form is more valuable than dry fodder or even ordinary pasturage will be evident to every one who has had stock to feed. Every observing farmer knows that a good cow on good grass, say about three inches high, will do her best by producing one pound of butter, and even more, per day. It has been found that a cow weighing 1000 pounds will consume about 80 pounds of this grass per day. On this she will keep up her flow of milk and her yield of butter. If you take this 80 pounds of grass and cure it you will have about 20 pounds of hay, or dry matter. Feed this hay to the cow and give her all the water she will drink, and she will shrink in her yield of milk and butter. An experiment of this kind will convince any person of the real practical value of succulence. Another convincing fact is that milk is composed of 87 per cent of water and 13 per cent of solids. In this connection I might state that, according to the October number of the Review of Reviews, a Danish inventor has discovered a process by which he separates the water from the solids, leaving the latter in the form of a powder, which may be made into butter, cheese or milk, as may be desired. This is interesting if true.

These considerations demonstrate that it is necessary that dairy cattle should be fed, during as much of the year as possible, on succulent food. My own experience leads to the same conclusion, and it might not be amiss to relate some of my observations.

Situated, as I am, on Howell Prairie, the so-called garden spot of Oregon, where land ranges in value from $50 to $60 per acre, and having the ambition of a great many others to carry as many head of cattle as possible on a small tract of land, I set about searching for such methods as would accomplish the desired result. In 1890 I built my first silo. Having had no experience and no facilities for working properly, I put the corn in whole, cutting it before feeding. The result gave such satisfaction that the next season I made arrangements for cutting the corn into the silo. The silo was so satisfactory in its results that I was able to save my best heifers, and thus increase the size of my herd. I have since built more silos, and now have four, two square and two round, with a capacity of 250 tons. I am now feeding 68 head of heifers and cows, and have only 90 acres of land under cultivation and 90 acres of brush pasture. The utter impossibility of pasturing so many cattle on so small a tract of land called for further searching, with the result that I took to soiling.

The cost of putting up ensilage ranges from 80 cents to $1 per ton, and even more under unfavorable circumstances. The cost of soiling varies. One man, with a team, will cut, rake and haul in and feed the vegetation sufficient to support 60 head of cattle. The vegetation used also varies, but experience has taught that on Howell Prairie soil the best feed for the year round is obtained by sowing vetches with a small sprinkling of rye to hold it up. This should be followed with peas in the spring, and with corn in the fall and winter. The vetches and rye should be sowed in the fall, the earlier the better. This, I believe, gives us the best continuous food for both beef and dairy cattle. Last year's results of four acres of vetch and rye gave me 2000 rations, all the cows would clean up, the rye being rejected. This was a yield of 500 rations per acre. The same ground could have been plowed and put into corn the same season, thus producing two crops of feed. One of my neighbors did this, and produced the same amount of food in the silo.

It is my opinion that, owing to our dry summers, the silo is the coming method of summer feeding, although the results will not, in my judgment, be the same, for the reason that cured ensilage does not have the food value of soiling. Experience and observation have convinced me that with our even temperature the year round, our rich soil, quick growth of vegetation and unlimited market for our dairy products, there is no strip of country on the globe that can excel the Willamette Valley for dairying. Talk about your cotton belt, your corn belt and your wheat belt—the Willamette Valley is a typical dairy belt.

Briefly summed up, the advantages gained by soiling are: A doubling of the capacity of the land for stock support; a continuous flow of milk the year round; an increase in the quantity of the product.

GEORGE W. WEEKS.

A RAILROAD LINK.

Important Connection With the Canadian Pacific.

March 1 there was turned over to the Canadian Pacific an important link in its system. This is an extension of the Columbia & Western, from Robson, B. C., in the Kootenai district, now completed as far as Midway, B. C., a distance of 50 miles. There are still about 200 miles to build before the branch will reach Hope, B. C. This will probably require another year.

Formerly the company was compelled to use a switchback to get trains up from Robson over the mountains. The grade was so heavy that not more than four loaded cars could make the ascent at a time. A tunnel has obviated this difficulty and a standard train now makes the ascent up an easy grade.

The present portion of the completed branch of the Columbia & Western was so far completed as to permit the passage of construction trains last October, and was begun about a year ago.

Grand Forks, B. C., on the line, is only five miles north of the international boundary line, and 35 miles from the Republic mining camp. Freight from any part of the United States destined to points in the Republic mining district can be shipped through in bond. The American Government has a customs officer stationed at Grand Forks, where shipments are transferred from cars to wagons. He accompanies the wagons from Nelson, Wash., the port of entry into the Republic mining camp. The wagon haul is some 50 miles shorter than by other routes to Marcus or Bossburg.

RAILWAY ENGINEERS.

Association Opens Its Convention at Chicago.

CHICAGO, March 14.—More than 140,000 miles of railroad were represented at the first annual convention of the recently organized American Railway Engineering & Maintenance of Way Association, that opened in Steinway Hall today. The above mileage constitutes more than five-sevenths of the total in the United States, and includes all the more important systems in the country. The object of the new association, which was organized in Buffalo, N. Y., a year ago, is "the advancement of knowledge pertaining to the scientific and economical location, construction, operation and maintenance of railroads."

The organization has 235 members, and the following are its first officers:

President, J. F. Wallace, Illinois Central Railroad; first vice-president, P. A. Peterson, Canadian Pacific Railway, Montreal; second vice-president, W. G. Curtis, Southern Pacific Company, San Francisco; secretary, L. C. Fritch, Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railway, Washington, Ind.; treasurer, W. S. Dawley, Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, Chicago.

Among the subjects on the programme for discussion are the following: Graduation of roadbeds, ballasting ties, rails, tracks, buildings, bridges and trestles, masonry, signs, fences, crossings and cattle-guards, signaling and interlocking plants, records, accounts and reports, uniform rules and organization, water service and yards and terminals. The convention will close Friday night.

RAILROAD LABOR IN DEMAND.

Wyoming Looking to Portland for Men on the Grade.

Wyoming is looking to Oregon for laboring men, as well as for sheep. Yesterday a city employment agency received an order for 100 railroad laborers for Green River, Wyo., where the Union Pacific is putting in a cut-off and running a tunnel to shorten its main line. The wages offered are $2 to $2 50 a day, the men boarding themselves. They will not be "passed" over the road, however, but will be furnished with reduced rates of transportation. Three points in Oregon are still calling for railroad men—Moro, Sherman County, for the Columbia Southern; Springfield, Lane County, for the Mohawk Valley, and Hood River, on the O. R. & N. In fact, there will be a great deal of work all along the Columbia River, as the O. R. & N. is improving its grade between Hood River and Umatilla.

Farm hands are still in big demand for Spring work, and wages have advanced to the highest point ever before reached in the Northwest for such help. There are a considerable number of idle men in Portland, but they prefer other work to farming or dairying, as the hours are shorter and the wages somewhat better.

A FLAT REFUSAL.

Canadian Pacific Declined to Accept Any Proposal at Chicago Meeting.

CHICAGO, March 14.—The meeting between the passenger agents of the Western railways and representatives of the Canadian Pacific, called for the purpose of settling differences over transcontinental rates, came to an end without result. The Canadian Pacific refused all the propositions for settlement submitted by the Western roads, including one to arbitrate the differences. This refusal places in imminent peril the presidents' agreement to maintain rates and to abolish commission payments.

Railroad Notes.

J. H. Lothrop, general agent of the Union Pacific, is in Omaha.

A. D. Charlton, of the Northern Pacific, is making a trip over the Pacific division of that line.

Charles H. Gleim, traveling freight and passenger agent of the Colorado Midland, is in San Francisco.

J. B. Kirkland, district passenger agent of the Southern Pacific, is taking a brief vacation in Southern California.

General Agent Eddy, of the C. M. & St. P., who has experienced la grippe, is at his desk again, after a week's illness.

Colonel H. B. Scott, of Burlington, Ia., special agent for President Perkins, of the C. B. & Q., arrived in Portland yesterday morning.

After a serious illness of three months' duration, W. J. Kelly, traveling freight agent of the Union Pacific, has recovered. He left Monday on a business trip for his department.

President Mohler, of the O. R. & N. Co., returned last night from the East, after a month's absence. He visited his family at Norfolk, Va., and spent considerable time in New York City.

General Passenger Agent Hurlburt, of the O. R. & N. Co., is in Chicago. He attended the meeting of railroad men at which it was decided permanently to abolish commissions on passenger business.

Today the local offices of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific will remove from the quarters occupied for two years past at 246 Washington street, to handsome quarters at 250 Alder street. These offices are in the new building recently erected by the Lewis estate.

The Burlington will utilize the large photographs it had recently taken of Portland, in a way that will bring this city prominently before the traveling public. This photo will be reduced in size, and inserted as a cut in all the company's folders, and other advertising matter in the East.

The Rock Island's train, which recently left Chicago for Pueblo, with 28 cars of bacon, sold to the Government for the use of the United States troops at Manila, made the run in the remarkable time of 37 hours. The distance was 1116 miles. At Pueblo the cars were transferred to the D. & R. G. and the R. G. W. From Ogden the train was taken by the Southern Pacific to San Francisco.

C. O. Terry, the traveling passenger agent of the Oregon Short Line, tendered his resignation, effective today. It is reported that he will accept the position of contracting freight agent of the Pacific Coast Company at Seattle. Mr. Terry has been connected with the Oregon Short Line ever since that company first opened offices in this city, in 1897. He was the pioneer traveling passenger agent of the company from this territory, and has made an excellent record.

At Highland Hall.

The Northeast Republican Club will hold a meeting at Highland Hall, Friday evening, March 16, at 8 o'clock. The club proposes to take some effective steps that will aid in securing a full registration of the voters in that part of the Eleventh Ward. S. C. Spencer will be present and address the meeting.

Why don't you try Carter's Little Liver Pills? They are a positive cure for sick headache and all the ills produced by disordered liver.

DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

PORTLAND, March 14.—8 P. M.—Maximum temperature, 72; minimum temperature, 55; river reading at 11 A. M., 8.5 feet; change in the last 24 hours, —0.5 foot; total precipitation, 8 P. M. to 8 P. M., 0.00; total precipitation from Sept. 1, 1899, 29.44 inches; normal precipitation from Sept. 1, 1899, 35.38 inches; deficiency, 5.94 inches; total sunshine March 13, 11:48; possible sunshine March 13, 11:48.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Clear, warm weather has prevailed throughout the Pacific Coast States for the past 24 hours. No rain has fallen since Sunday morning at any station. The past day has been a summer's day, the temperatures at California and Oregon points being as follows: Sacramento, 74 deg.; Red Bluff, 82; Roseburg, 76; Portland, 72; Astoria, 74 deg. The winds have continued northeast over Oregon and Washington owing to the influence of a low area that is over California. This position of the low area over California is one peculiar to the summer season. It is thought that the fair weather will continue at least another day.

WEATHER FORECASTS.

Forecasts made at Portland for the 28 hours ending at midnight Thursday, March 15:

Western Oregon and Western Washington—Fair; winds east to southeast.

Eastern Oregon—Fair; southerly winds.

Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho—Fair; winds southwest to southeast; warmer at Walla Walla.

Southern Idaho—Fair; east to southeast winds.

Portland and vicinity—Fair; winds east to southeast.

G. N. SALISBURY, Section Director.

NEW TODAY.

A SNAP

Lot 50x100 north side Johnson st., 100 feet west of 23d. Price $2000. Inquire of "The Red Front," 269 Morrison st.

Mortgage Loans

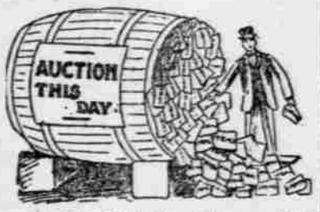
On improved city property, at lowest rates. Title Guarantee & Trust Co., 7 Chamber of Commerce.

BONDS MORTGAGES

Highest market price paid for municipal and school bonds. Lowest rates on mortgage loans. Will take charge of estates as agent or trustee on reasonable terms.
W. H. FEAR, 416 Chamber of Commerce.

J. D. Wilcox & Co.

GENERAL BROKERS, HAVE REMOVED TO 202½ STARK ST. We buy and sell mines, timber lands, forest reserve scrip, real estate, stocks, bonds and mortgages.



THURSDAY, at 10 A. M., at the new auction room, 262 First st., cor. Madison, that nice lot of new and second-hand furniture; W. & W. sewing machine; 60 feet rubber hose; Highland picture, "Hunter's Return"; brass candlesticks; that much-admired musical clock; also that beautiful collection of silver, crystalware and rare things in the window; singing canaries, etc.

On Saturday, at the Same Place, Commencing at 10 O'clock,

I will sell dry goods; boots and shoes; gents' hats, and the balance of the waists and skirts.
JOHN CAMPBELL, CURRIE, Auctioneer.
Oregon phone North 211.

CLASSIFIED AD. RATES

"Rooms," "Rooms and Board," "Housekeeping Rooms," "Situations Wanted," 15 words or less, 15 cents; 16 to 20 words, 20 cents; 21 to 25 words, 25 cents, etc. No discount for additional insertions.

UNDER ALL OTHER HEADS except "New Today," 30 cents for 15 words or less; 16 to 20 words, 40 cents; 21 to 25 words, 50 cents, etc.—first insertion. Each additional insertion, one-half; no further discount under one month.

"NEW TODAY" (gauge measure agate), 10 cents per line, first insertion; 10 cents per line for each additional insertion.

AMUSEMENTS.

MARQUAM GRAND—CAL. HEILIG, Mgr.
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 13, 14 and 15th, first time in this city of the real JEFFRIES-SHARKEY CONTEST PICTURES. Under the direction of Wm. A. Brady and Thos. O'Rourke. A vivid and thrilling reincarnation of the greatest encounter known in the world's history, showing every movement, from start to finish, of the now celebrated battle of modern giants.
PRICES—Lower floor (except last 3 rows), $1; last 3 rows, 75c; balcony, first 6 rows, 75c; balcony, last 6 rows, 50c; gallery, 25c; boxes and loges, $7.00. Seats now on sale.

CORDRAY'S THEATER—
Last Week of the Successful
FRAWLEY COMPANY.
Tuesday and Wednesday nights, "The Dancing Girl"; Thursday and Friday nights, "The Charity Ball"; Saturday matinee and night, St. Patrick's day, first time in Portland of "The Jilt," by Dion Boucicault.
Prices—Lower floor, 75c; loge seats, $1; boxes (four seats), $6; balcony