FOR DEEP CHANNEL

Strong Effort to Get Money for the Columbia River.

CHANCE IN SUNDRY CIVIL BILL

Congressional Delegation Will Do All That Is Possible—Work of Chamber of Commerce.

Just now the Chamber of Commerce is doing a prodigious amount of work in behalf of further improvement at the mouth of the Columbia River. It is endeavoring by every means in its power to induce Congress to act on the plan of Captain W. C. Langfitt, and approved by General John M. Wilson, Chief of Engineers, for the extension of the mid-tide jetty three miles, so as to "produce and maintain a channel of required width and approximately 40 feet in depth." The estimated cost of this improvement is $2,531,140 51. As it looks now, there will be no river and harbor act, and the necessary appropriation cannot, of course, be obtained from that source. The present effort of the Chamber of Commerce is directed towards having the money for the improvement carried on the sundry civil bill. Senator McBride and Representative Tongue incline to the opinion that it will be impossible to have the item included in the sundry civil bill, as only old projects are provided for in that measure. Their view appears to be that the improvement recommmended by Captain Langfitt is new work. They overlook the fact that it is not a new jetty that Captain Langfitt recommends and General Wilson approves, but the extension of the old one, which has been found to be inadequate to produce a channel 40 feet deep, and not a new project, but the old one. If the river and harbor committee will accept this view of the situation, which the Chamber of Commerce believes to be the correct view, it is likely that the sundry civil bill will make such provision for the Columbia River as it desrves by reason of its importance as a commercial highway.

The Chamber of Commerce is industriously at work at this end of the line. It is seeking the co-operation of commercial organizations throughout the Northwest and will get it. Senators Simon and McBride and Representatives Moody and Tongue have been urged to do all they can for the 40-foot channel, and letters from them show that they are watchful of the state's interests. At the meeting of the trustees of the Chamber of Commerce, President Taylor in the chair, yesterday morning, letters bearing on the subject were read from every member of the delegation.

Senator Simon said: "I fully agree with you as to the great importance of having the channel of the Columbia River deepened to 40 feet, and I shall do all I can to have an appropriation attached to the sundry civil bill in order that this improvement may be made."

Representative Moody said: "The delegation is a unit in looking to securing an early appropriation for the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia River. I shall be glad to co-operate with the other members of the delegation in any action they may take in this direction."

Representative Tongue wrote: "I think I voice the sentiment of my colleagues, as well as my own, when I say that everything that every one of us can do, jointly or singly, to secure the permanent improvement of the Columbia River in the manner indicated by your resolution at the earliest practical moment, will be done, but unless some emergency exists, entitling the mouth of the Columbia to different treatment than that accorded to other rivers and harbors throughout the United States, it will be impossible to procure an appropriation under the sundry civil bill. This is only done in great emergencies, on where the improvement is already under contract. I assure you, however, of my readiness to do everything I can for the success of this project."

Senator McBride wrote: "My interest in that great work (Columbia River bar) has not abated, and in view of certain conditions at the mouth of the river, I consider it now even more important than it was then, to have the work go forward at the earliest practicable date. I regret to say, however, that President Taylor is in error regarding the introduction of new projects of this kind in the sundry civil bill, and if any such appropriation has ever been made for a project not prevously adopted by Congress in the river and harbor bill, it has been an exception to the general rule. The adoption of the project and authorization of the expenditure for the Willamette and Yamhill River improvements were first obtained in the river and harbor bill of 1896, and subsequently, in accordance with the rule and practice of Congress, the unappropriated balance of the estimated cost was included in the sundry civil bill. The rule in these cases is that the projects must be first adopted and contracts therefor authorized in the river and harbor bill, after which appropriations to fulfill such contracts are made from time to time in the sundry civil bill. Under this rule, the sundry civil bill carries annually from $15,000,000 to $19,000,000, to carry out contracts previously authorized in the river and harbor bill. It is my opinion, therefore, that it will be exceedingly difficult and it is probably impossible to obtain this appropriation in the sundry civil bill, but if there shall be any opportunity to obtain such appropriation in that, or any other bill during the present session of Congress, I shall endeavor to obtain the support of the Senate committee on commerce in that behalf.

"I shall confer with Senator Simon and Representatives Tongue and Moody in regard to this matter, and join with them in any effort which we may find to be practicable to expedite the adoption of this project and improvement."

The Salem Chamber of Commerce has taken up the matter of Columbia River improvement direct with the Oregon delegation. It has sent a letter to each member of the delegation. In transmitting a copy of the letter to the Portland Chamber of Commerce, the Salem Chamber of Commerce said: "If you know of any way in which we can assist you further in this matter, let us know, as we feel that we are as deeply interested as yourselves." The letter sent to the delegation follows:

"The Salem Chamber of Commerce desires to second in the most earnest manner the request of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, asking the Oregon delegation in Congress to secure if possible through the sundry civil bill a sufficient appropriation to complete the improvement at the mouth of the Columbia River, in accordance with the report and recommendations of Captain Langfitt, which have been fully indorsed by the chief of engineers.

"This is a matter in which every citizen of Oregon is vitally interested, and we are sure that success on the part of the delegation in securing an appropriation to be available immediately will be highly appreciated."

Accompanying the letter was a note from Secretary Henry B. Thielsen, of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, which read: "It may not be amiss for me to say that several years' residence in Astoria has made me personally familiar with the situation at the mouth of the Columbia River, and my long experience as a civil engineer perhaps qualifies me to know and say that what Captain Langfitt urges in reference to the necessity for immediate action is more than warranted by the situation, and that purely as a business proposition, the Government will save largely by doing this work at once."

Vancouver Hospital.

Major Ebert, of Vancouver Barracks, having been asked by the War Department whether several hundred returning soldiers could be provided for at the barracks, wrote to President Taylor, of the Chamber of Commerce, for data as to the climatic conditions at Portland. The inquiry was principally as to malarious fogs, such as would be likely to enervate soldiers who had been disabled in war. Part of President Taylor's reply follows:

"There is so little fog here that the Weather Bureau does not keep an official record of it, but happened to have one, not official, for last year, which is as follows: Number of foggy days at Portland on which dense fog prevailed for an hour or more, usually in the morning, and with still weather and no wind: January, 4; February, 0; March, 2; April, 2; May, 0; June, 0; July, 0; August, 1; September, 3; October, 4; November, 1; December, 2; total, 19. I presume the conditions would be very similar at Vancouver as at Portland in respect to weather and especially fog. Usually in the Spring and Fall there may be fogs on the river in the mornings, but they are not cold. They rise very rapidly, causing no discomfort, and they do not shut down in the evenings or until the very early mornings and are almost invariably the precursor of lovely days. There is hardly any wind with them."

As the War Department shows a disposition to recognize Vancouver, Secretary Fleischner was instructed to correspond with Oregon's Senators and Representatives, with a view to reopening the question of establishing a permanent general hospital at Vancouver.

Portland Harbor Lines.

Captain W. C. Langfitt, United States Engineers, wrote that a public hearing to consider the question of revising the harbor lines of the Port of Portland will be held in the near future, probably April 2 at 2 P. M. The assembly-hall of the Chamber of Commerce has been secured for the meeting. Captain Langfitt has been supplied with a list of riparian owners.

John Barrett's Chances Good.

Letters from the Congressional delegation brought word that John Barrett's chances of getting on the new commission to study industrial conditions in China and Japan are encouraging. Senator McBride noted the trustees' former recommendation of Mr. Barrett and promised to give "suggestions in that behalf earnest consideration."

Senator Simon wrote: "I think as you do that John Barrett would be a fitting member of this commission, and I would be glad to see him appointed, and will do what I can to bring it about."

Representative Moody wrote: "From the best information I can gather, John Barrett will be a member of the commission to investigate the industrial conditions of China and Japan, when authorized."

As to the general proposition of having the Pacific Coast represented on all National commissions, principally those of an industrial or commercial character, Representative Tongue wrote: "This is a matter that has not escaped the members of the delegation heretofore, and we have done everything in our power to remedy it, but so far without success. We will continue in the future, as we have in the past, to hope for better success."

Representative Moody wrote: "You may depend that not only myself but every member of the delegation will use his best efforts to secure a proper and fitting recognition of Oregon on any commissions that may be created."

Subport at Nome City.

The following letter was received from the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce:

"As you are aware, strong efforts have been made and are now being made in British Columbia interests to induce the Treasury Department to make Nome City a subport of entry, the claim being made that the shipping under the American flag is not sufficient for the trade or to carry the necessary supplies there. We have been advised by our delegation in Washington that there is no probability of its being made one at present, but that it is advisable for the commercial organizations of the Coast to send on protests, owing to the continued pressure brought on the Treasury Department by the Canadian merchants to have it done."

The following resolution was adopted in relation to this matter:

"Our merchants and shipowners urgently request you not to make Nome City a subport of entry. They are abundantly able to furnish transportation and supplies for all possible needs."

Hydrographic Office.

A newspaper report having been received from San Francisco that Congress contemplates reducing the appropriation for the Hydrographic Department to an extent that would cripple this service, President Taylor was asked to investigate. He called at the local Hydrographic Office yesterday and learned that nothing was known of the matter. Afterwards he wrote a letter to Senators Simon and McBride, urging them to inquire whether the Portland office would be affected and to co-operate with Senator Perkins, of California, in behalf of the Hydrographic service. President Taylor assured the Senators that scarcely a vessel comes to Portland that does not call on the Hydrographic Office for information.

Tests of Oregon Ores.

The trustees were informed that a letter received from E. T. Bradford, the smelter promoter, who is in the East testing low-grade Oregon ores, brought news that, so far as the tests have been made, they have proved satisfactory. This report refers to the first lot of ore samples. Nothing had been done with the second lot when Mr. Bradford wrote.

In this connection, the following letter, received by L. B. Cox, president of the Board of Trade, and laid before the trustees, is interesting. The writer is J. H. Weddle, manager of the Arkansas Valley plant of the American Smelting & Refining Company of Leadville:

"Many pyritic smelters of different kinds have been started in Colorado during the past 15 years, but I do not know of any which have proved successful. All have been closed down after a short life, with the exception of the Bimetallic plant here, which has been particularly favored by having ores of high grade only and suitable for its operation. Not one of the plants which have been started to treat the lower grade of sulphides has proved a success, as far as I know. At any rate, all have closed down after running a comparatively short time.

"I hope the Loder process may be an exception to the others. If it can treat the ores of low grade, too low to be handled by other smelters, which is, as I understand, its mission, it will be a benefit to our camp and to any other which has a large quantity of low-grade sulphide and silicious ores."

It is the Loder process which Mr. Bradford aims to establish in Portland.

Britain's New Armament.

London Mail, March 2.

The first large order for guns in pursuance of the proposals for strengthening the Army and Navy artillery forces was received at Woolwich Arsenal yesterday.

The order is for 224 guns of various calibers, 84 being for the new field batteries, and 140 for the Navy. They will consist chiefly of 3-pounder and 6-pounder Hotchkiss, 12-pounder (8 cwt.), 12-pounder (12 cwt.), 4.7-inch, 6-inch, 9.2-inch, and 12-inch guns, with all the most modern improvements.

Although the number of men employed in the ordnance factories at Woolwich has been increased to 25,000, the order will necessitate more fitters in the gun factory and more woodworkers in the carriage department, all the existing workshops being full.

Mail to Cape Nome.

ROCKWOOD, Or., March 19.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please inform me through The Oregonian whether any mail is carried between here and Cape Nome.

O. S.

Mail for all points in Alaska is at present forwarded from Seattle. As soon as steamer service is inaugurated between Portland and Cape Nome, it is possible that some contract for carrying United States mails to that point may be arranged.

Dr. Sanford's Liver Invigorator.

The best Liver Medicine. A Vegetable Cure for Liver Ills, Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation.

IN THE SEVERAL COURTS

F. L. RICHMOND'S SUIT AGAINST SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

Plaintiff Tells How He Was Injured—Marquam Building Tax Case—Probate Matters.

F. L. Richmond, who has sued the Southern Pacific Company for $10,000 damages, told his story of the accident, and pictured his sufferings as the result of injuries sustained, before a jury in Judge Frazer's court yesterday. The trial will be resumed today.

On March 27, 1899, Richmond, who is a commercial traveler, boarded a local freight train at Oakland, Or., to go to Eugene. He testified that the train was making slow time, so he determined to get off at Cottage Grove, and he arose from his seat and asked the conductor for part of his mileage back. The train at this moment gave a sudden jolt, and Richmond was thrown down, he says, very violently, and sustained a concussion of the spine, and injuries to his arm, back, leg and hip. He was confined to his bed, he asserted, for six weeks, and has not yet recovered.

Richmond said:

"Immediately after I got out of my seat, and while the conductor was getting the mileage out of his pocket, this accident happened. It all came so quickly I had hardly time to know how it happened. All of a sudden the train came to a standstill, abruptly, exceedingly so, throwing me off my feet. I struck against the sharp corner of a cupola. I was in a dazed condition when picked up off the floor by the conductor, Mr. Risley. The first I knew was being picked up. Mr. Lucas, Mr. Foster, or the brakeman, were around me, two or three of them to pick me up. They conveyed me into the car and attempted to put me into a seat."

The plaintiff next related how the baggage by the force of the shock had been carried to the end of the car, and a stove slid a distance of six or eight feet from the stove.

Mr. Richmond continuing, stated that he was taken to Eugene, and there was met by representatives of the company, who had him conveyed to a hotel and brought a doctor, who made an examination and furnished medicines and opiates, and remained for several hours.

"He seemed to take a great deal of interest in me," the witness said. "I remained until the next morning at 10 o'clock. He wanted me to stay, and I thought it was very kind of him, but I wanted to come to Portland, where I could get better treatment, and where I have friends."

On arriving at hte East Portland depot, the witness stated that W. W. Bretherton, the claim agent of the railroad company, came into the car, and he was introduced to him.

W. D. Fenton, counsel for the defendant, objected to this evidence, saying:

"I object, unless the whole matter is gone into. I admit we offered to pay him something to obtain a release."

Judge Frazer remarked that only the name of Mr. Bretherton had been mentioned so far.

Mr. Fenton said: "My objection is to the intention to show liability on the part of my client."

A motion to strike out the evidence was denied.

Mr. Richmond resuming, said he declined to go to a hospital, preferring to go to the Hotel Portland, where he stopped, and Mr. Bretherton summoned a hack, and after they reached the hotel, sent Dr. Wilson to him. The doctor, witness stated, made a slight physical examination of the limb, hip, back and knee, and told him to lift his leg, and insisted that he could do it. The witness insisted that he could not, and did not. The plaintiff said it was six weeks before he was on the street on crutches, although he might have tried them in his room prior to that time. His leg, he contended, was still weak, and he always had to favor it.

The answer of the defendant denies all negligence, and sets up that Richmond was standing up in the car, although plenty of seats were provided. The sudden jar of the train, it is stated, was caused by taking up slack, a necessary thing to do sometimes in the operation of trains. It is further alleged that the plaintiff on the freight train received a special rate of 3 instead of 4 cents per mile, and as part of the contract for the reduced rate assumed all risks and absolved the company from all liability, and well knew such to be the contract when he became a passenger.

Richmond was asked concerning the requirement of a special permit to ride on freight trains by his attorney, George Chamberlain, and answered that he knew of no such rule, except on the Northern Pacific. He did not think he was ever refused a ride on a freight.

Mr. Fenton remarked: "We claim the contract is a special permit." Counsel admitted that at the time of the accident, No. 30, on which plaintiff was riding, was authorized to carry passengers between Junction City and Roseburg. At the adjournment hour, the cross-examination of plaintiff had not been concluded. The extent of the injuries of Richmond will doubtless figure considerably in the case.

MARQUAM TAX SUIT.

Old Controversy in Judge Cleland's Court.

There was a hearing before Judge Cleland yesterday in the case of the Title Guarantee & Trust Company against Multnomah County, involving five years' taxes, dating back to 1893, and amounting to about $30,000. The taxes are due on the Marquam block, bounded by Sixth, Seventh, Morrison and Alder streets, and 80 acres in the Quinn donation land claim, held by the plaintiff as trustee for P. A. Marquam. The payment of the taxes is resisted because of alleged irregularities in assessments, and in the reply of the trust company it is contended that the 1893 tax was paid. It is contended that the assessment should be by lots, and not the block as a whole, and that for several years this was not done. Counsel for the plaintiff argued among other things that if it was desired to redeem one lot it could not be done where all the block has been assessed together, instead of each lot separately. Objection was also made to the assessment of the improvements, and an error is said to have been made one year. The county has bid in the property for the txes due, and the plaintiff seeks to have the lien removed. The reply makes a tender of the amount of taxes which the court shall decree due, if any.

M. L. Pipes and A. L. Bernstein, as attorneys for the county, argued that the tender in the reply of the trust company was no tender at all, and also urged that the objections of the plaintiff to the assessments were trivial and of no force and effect. Mr. Pipes said the law only recognized a tender in cash. The amount of taxes conceded to be due by the plaintiff must be paid into court.

"He who asks equity must first do equity," counsel argued; adding that the plaintiff ought to have applied to the Board of Equalization for the correction of any alleged irregularities in the assessment, and the ground generally was gone over to show that the plaintiff is entitled to pay what is justly due.

MAY BE COMPROMISED.

Prospect of Settling Sixth Street Delinquent Assessment.

Owing to the fact that the city won its case in the Supreme Court against W. O. Allen and others for the collection of unpaid assessments for the improvement of Sixth street, a number of property-owners interested have expressed a desire to compromise with the city before the costs are run up any higher. The costs charged to Allen and those associated with him in the attempt to evade the payment of their assessments for this improvement amount to about $300. Some of the delinquents profess an intention to contest the matter further, but will probably accept a compromise.

The City Attorney has been asked by several of the property-owners if they can be released from the payment of costs, providing they pay up, and after considering the matter he has come to the conclusion that this can be done, and has recommended such action to the Council. In pursuance of this recommendation the committee on judiciary has prepared a resolution directing the City Attorney to enter into a stipulation with the property-owners desirous of paying up, waiving the city's judgment for costs, upon condition that they waive any rights that they may have to appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, and also authorizing the City Attorney to cancel the judgment for costs after such stipulation shall have been entered into.

The Common Council will probably pass this resolution at its meeting today, and this may lead to the contractors who improved Sixth street receiving their pay after waiting for it about eight years.

Probate Matters.

F. K. Arnold, guardian of Mary Ahern, was authorized to dispose of a deficiency judgment against Mary Fitzpatrick and the estate of John Fitzpatrick, deceased, amounting to $3179, for $2000. On January 9, 1900, judgment against these parties was obtained by the guardian on mortgage foreclosure proceedings for $4000, and interest from February, 1894; $200 attorney's fees, and $20 costs. The property was sold at Sheriff's sale for $2988, leaving $3179 still due. The guardian in his petition states that the Fitzpatrick estate is insolvent, and $2000 is a good settlement.

Robert T. Platt was appointed administrator of the state of Charles Francis Lebuth, alias Charles J. Hall, who died at San Francisco, Cal., February 17, 1890, intestate, leaving $4000. The appointment was made on the petition of the Commercial National Bank. The bond of the administrator was fixed at $8000.

L. Hamerlynck petitioned for appointment as administrator of the estate of S. Knudde, deceased, valued at $1000.

George A. Hardy, administrator of the estate of Christine Hardy, deceased, filed his final report. The estate comprises lots 5 and 6, block 13, Elizabeth Irving's Addition. George A. and John Hardy are the heirs.

Sealed Verdict.

The suit of F. Krantz against William Isensee, to recover $100 damages for conversion of blocks and tackle, sold to Wilson, Gropper & Co., was tried in Judge Sears' Court yesterday. The jury agreed upon a verdict last night, which will be returned in court this morning. Isensee sold the blocks and tackle to Wilson, Gropper & Co., operating a sawmill and logging camp at Stevenson, Wash., being ordered by P. J. Bannon, who was the "Co." of the firm. The bill was presented, but was not paid. Finally, at the suggestion of Mr. Wilson, Isensee went to Stevenson to get his property back. Krantz, it seems, had succeeded to the business of Wilson, Gropper & Co. After considerable controversy the defendant came away with his blocks, and Krantz, who contends he could not handle logs for about 10 days, because of the want of the blocks, alleges that he suffered $100 loss. The case was tried in the Justice Court, where plaintiff won, and Isensee appealed.

Court Notes.

E. T. Marcom, attorney-at-law, Woodburn, was admitted to practice in the United States Court yesterday.

In the suit of Ladd & Tilton against Joseph Cook to recover $335 on notes, a default judgment in favor of the plaintiff was rendered by Judge Frazer yesterday.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mrs. J. A. Fulton, of Astoria, is at the Portland.

Dr. M. K. Hall, of Rainier, is at the Imperial.

Mrs. C. P. Holly has left Portland for Sumpter.

Jeff C. Davis, of Boise, is registered at the Portland.

C. M. Elkins, of Prineville, is a guest of the Imperial.

D. B. Kelley, a Prineville stockman, is at the Perkins.

A. N. Gilbert, of Salem, is staying at the Imperial hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eakin, of Union, are at the Imperial.

Ed Ackerman, of Baker City, is a guest of the Imperial hotel.

Payne Blodgett, of Prineville, is a guest of the Perkins hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Dunbar, of Salem, are guests of the Portland.

Judge C. H. Page and Benjamin Young, of Astoria, are at the Imperial.

A. C. Dare, a prominent cattleman of Canyon City, is at the Imperial.

O. D. Taylor, of The Dalles, is in the city, registered at the Imperial hotel.

Rev. L. Prybybski, of Eugene, is in Portland, and is staying at the Imperial.

Mrs. A. H. Anderson and Miss Riley, of Seattle, are guests of the Hotel Portland.

O. P. Burrows, civil engineer, and wife, of Hoquiam, Wash., are at the Portland.

Dr. M. C. Strickland, of Oregon City, Coroner of Clackamas County, was in Portland yesterday.

H. E. Gilvin, A. J. Riley, E. H. Billing and E. P. Long, of Roseburg, are staying at the Perkins.

S. Silverfield, the furrier, has just returned from a six weeks' business trip to New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

Judge Barlett Tripp, Chief Justice of Dakota, one of the Commissioners who settled the Samoan difficulty between English, Germans and Americans, and who was Minister to Austria-Hungary under President Cleveland, is in the city, the guest of Zera Snow.

NEW YORK, March 20.—J. C. Friendly, of Portland, visited the Eastern office of The Oregonian today. He has just arrived in town, and is staying at the Waldorf-Astoria. He expects to return to Portland by April 5.

NEW YORK, March 20.—T. J. Gorman, of Portland, is at the Marlborough; C. F. Hupling, of Spokane, at the Herald Square, and W. Blackman and wife, of Seattle, at the Astor.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20.—The following arrivals from Portland are registered at hotels in this city: C. C. Loucks and wife, W. D. Wood, L. R. Pieper and wife, R. P. McKay, L. Friedman, at the Golden West; C. F. Louis, at the Palace.

Representative Moody Commended.

Antelope Herald.

Congressman M. A. Moody is a candidate for renomination as Representative from this the Second Congressional District. He is entitled to a second term, and should be renominated without serious opposition. Although Mr. Moody has been in active service in Washington the brief space of three months, he has demonstrated beyond question his ability to represent his district to the best interests of his constituency. He will, with a second term, be in a better position than ever to advance the interests of the Second District, and, considering the probability of important measures coming before the next session of Congress, vital to Eastern Oregon's interests, it would be the height of folly bordering upon sheer madness to fail to return him. A new man would be wholly unprepared to meet the exigencies, and the interests of Eastern Oregon would be jeopardized to that extent. We apprehend but feeble if any opposition in this county to Mr. Moody's candidacy, and there should be none in the district.

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

FINE OUTLOOK FOR FRUIT

ALL VARIETIES NEAR MILWAUKIE ARE WELL ADVANCED.

Strawberries May Be Short, But Will Be of Improved Quality—Trees Replaced by Vines.

MILWAUKIE, Or., March 20.—The fruit prospect is very good at present. The quince trees are leaved out, so that they look quite green. The leaf appears first on them and the blossom a few weeks later.

Peaches are in full bloom. For the past five years they have not been profitable to the grower in this vicinity, being shy bearers, except in some very favorable and sheltered spot.

Some seedling plums are white with bloom; the standard varieties are almost ready to open, and, judging from the amount of fruit buds on the trees, a large crop is expected. The Italian and Petite prunes are very promising, and should the weather continue pleasant, they will be in all their floral glory in a week.

The same can be said of the pears and cherries. Apples are not so far advanced, only some very early varieties being leaved out; but the buds are advancing rapidly. The fall and winter apples are promising to be above the average yield at present.

It is early yet, and when the cold rains come at the end of March and early in April, they may cause much damage by washing the pollen or impregnating dust to the ground, causing many of the blossoms to go unfertilized, and no fruit will be the result.

The freeze in February was a good thing for all the fruitmen and farmers generally, as all vegetation started out anew with more vigor than if the freeze had not occurred. Nearly all the thrifty horticulturists have pruned their trees, and are now spraying their orchards, or have already done so, thus complying with the law and doing the trees much good.

F. H. Page & Son have dug up about 400 or 500 of "cultus" apple and pear trees this winter. They were unprofitable kinds and only the best fruit finds sale in the market now. They will set out Concord grapes in their stead.

Poor Prospect for Strawberries.

Strawberries are not looking very well now. Many of the large growers of Mount Tabor, Milwaukie and Mount Scott look for a half-crop, but with a twinkle in their eyes say that the price will be good and as much or more money made with less work and worry than if the yield is large.

One reason for the short crop predicted is that most of the patches are old, and do not yield heavily, and then only small and inferior fruit. The vines were continually blooming all winter and now many have not enough vitality left to grow a thrifty looking fruit. The Magoon and Wilson have suffered worse than the Clark seedling and Sharpless in this respect.

Probably the worst enemy the strawberry-grower has to contend with is the white grub or grub worm, as it is often called. It has not until recently attacked plants around Portland, but it is well known in the East and Southeast. This pest bores into the woody part of the plant and weakens it, and often kills it entirely. There is no remedy after the worm is once in the plant. The proper way is to till the soil several years before planting berries, change the beds, and not planting in the same land after the bed is to be renewed.

WATER COMMITTEE MEETS.

Several Routine Matters Receive Its Attention.

A regular meeting of the Water Committee was held yesterday, Chairman Corbett presiding, and Messrs. Ladd, Raffety Josephi, Lewis, Kohn, Bates, Therkelsen, Carson and Knapp present. The committee on operation of the works presented its report for February, showing receipts and disbursements as follows:

Cash receipts for water	$21,719 25
Expense of operation and repairs	2,412 71
Balance paid to Treasurer	$19,306 54

A communication was presented from A. Gotham, asking the committee to sell him a piece of land on Bull Run. The Secretary was directed to notify him that the committee declined to sell the land. A communication was received from the Board of Fire Commissioners, inquiring if the committee intended to lay a main on East Water street, where a number of industries need better fire protection. It was further stated that the Fire Chief would recommend a 10-inch main for that street, and that the Fire Commissioners were prepared to put in the requisite hydrants as soon as the main was laid.

In order to put in a 10-inch main on East Water street, it would be necessary to lay one on East Clay street, and for a short distance on East Stark street, in all a distance of 25 blocks. This would cost $445 per block, or over $11,000 in all, and the main would have to be hung to the elevated roadway, where it would be likely to be destroyed by fire.

The Secretary was therefore instructed to inform the Fire Commissioners that the committee could not at present see its way clear to lay a 10-inch main on East Water street.

A communication was received from a committee of citizens of Woodstock, Ivanhoe, Tremont and vicinity. Some time ago they petitioned for a main from the reservoir on Mount Tabor to connection with the pipes in Woodstock, and they desired to know the fate of their petition.

The original estimate of the cost of this main was $10,000, but, owing to the increase in the price of material it would now cost $11,000. Woodstock being outside the city, the committee was of opinion that they had no authority to supply water there. The Superintendent was therefore directed to inform the petitioners that, owing to the cost and other considerations, the committee could not see its way clear to grant their petition.

Mr. Josephi called attention to the fact that East Alder street was about to be improved from East Twelfth to East Twentieth, and suggested the advisability of taking steps to have a main laid there before the improvement was made. On motion, the matter was referred to the construction committee, and the Engineer was directed to prepare an estimate of the cost.

A plat of the Sandy River in the vicinity of the pipe-line bridge and county bridge was laid before the committee, showing how the west bank has been worn away by the stream undermining the supports of the county bridge, and bidding fair to endanger the supports of the pipe-line bridge in a year or two. The plat was made for the information of the committee, and the matter of protecting the bank will be brought up later.

Putting in Gardens.

The fertile fields southeast of the city, leased mainly by Italian gardeners, are being put in shape for gardens. All these grounds east of the Southern Pacific carshops are kept in a high state of cultivation by those having them leased, and rich returns are secured. One enterprising man at the corner of East Twenty-sixth street and the Oatman road has a steam machine irrigating his land, and is getting double crops all round. A stream of water comes from the spring across the road, and by means of a little steam engine the owner is able to lift water high enough to send little streams all over his land as often as may be necessary, when the weather becomes hot and the soil thirsty. All through this district there are vast accumulations of fertilizers, which are being scattered about still further to enrich and increase the productiveness of the soil.

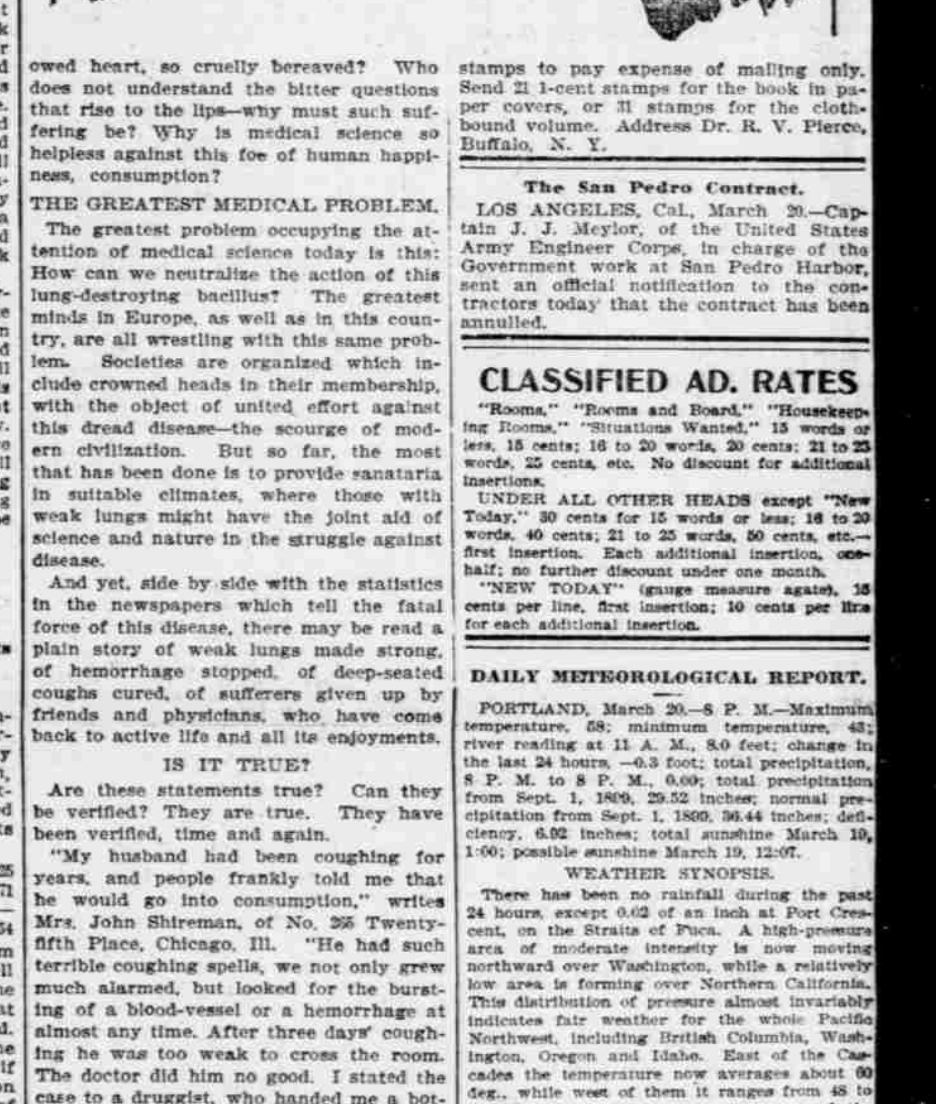
A MARRIAGE MESSAGE

A SAD TALE OF TWO DEVOTED HEARTS.

"Come at once." That was the message which sped along the wire from Georgia to Portland, Me. There was no need to say more. The bright-faced girl who read the brief summons lost all her brightness in a moment. She knew the import of the message. It meant the loss of all hope for the man who had gone South to fight for his life, the man she loved above all others.

In the newspapers a few days later were two brief paragraphs. One announced a wedding, the other announced the decease of the bridegroom, a few hours after the ceremony.

Who does not sympathize with the widowed heart, so cruelly bereaved? Who does not understand the bitter questions that rise to the lips—why must such suffering be? Why is medical science so helpless against this foe of human happiness, consumption?



THE GREATEST MEDICAL PROBLEM.

The greatest problem occupying the attention of medical science today is this: How can we neutralize the action of this lung-destroying bacillus? The greatest minds in Europe, as well as in this country, are all wrestling with this same problem. Societies are organized which include crowned heads in their membership, with the object of united effort against this dread disease—the scourge of modern civilization. But so far, the most that has been done is to provide sanataria in suitable climates, where those with weak lungs might have the joint aid of science and nature in the struggle against disease.

And yet, side by side with the statistics in the newspapers which tell the fatal force of this disease, there may be read a plain story of weak lungs made strong, of hemorrhage stopped, of deep-seated coughs cured, of sufferers given up by friends and physicians, who have come back to active life and all its enjoyments.

IS IT TRUE?

Are these statements true? Can they be verified? They are true. They have been verified, time and again.

"My husband had been coughing for years, and people frankly told me that he would go into consumption," writes Mrs. John Shireman, of No. 265 Twenty-fifth Place, Chicago, Ill. "He had such terrible coughing spells, we not only grew much alarmed, but looked for the bursting of a blood-vessel or a hemorrhage at almost any time. After three days' coughing he was too weak to cross the room. The doctor did him no good. I stated the case to a druggist, who handed me a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. My husband's recovery was remarkable. In three days after he began using Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery he was up and around, and in two more days he went to work. Two bottles cured him."

People who sit down and think out the theory on which rests the claims for Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery find it easy to believe in the cures, because they find it easy to understand the process by which the cure is effected.

IT'S NATURE'S WAY

Of cure, the one and only way of cure known. The theory is this: Life is supported by food. Strength is sustained by food. When a person goes without food he loses strength and finally loses life. The marked symptoms of consumption are emaciation and weakness. Now this emaciation and weakness can only indicate one thing—starvation. The food eaten is not assimilated. The stomach and its allied organs of digestion and nutrition are failing to do the work required of them, failing to convert the food into nutrition. If you can put the stomach right, if you can cure the diseased condition of the nutritive and digestive system, you can stop the emaciation and build up the body into strength in the only way in which any body can be built up, which is by food converted into nourishment. Every physician knows this. All treatment of wasting diseases makes the effort to nourish the body. But the failure in the treatment is this: Recognizing the need of nourishing the body, nothing is done to set in order the diseased stomach, but an attempt is made to slip past the stomach a form of nourishment such as cod liver oil or its emulsions. And the attempt usually fails of results. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It enables the perfect digestion and assimilation of the food eaten. And by this food, and by it alone, can nature build up the emaciated body into strength.

"Last spring I wrote to you in regard to my health, which at that time was very poor," writes Mrs. Mettie M. Barnes, of Garfield, Pawnee County, Kan. "My trouble was bronchial affection. Symptoms—spitting of blood almost every morning for five years, shortness of breath, raw and sore throat, loss of strength, at times almost loss of voice, irregular periods—in fact, I thought I was surely going into consumption. We lived in Ohio when I consulted you. You advised me to give Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery a trial, which I did, and with happy results. I got two bottles just before we started for Kansas. I did not feel as if I would ever get there, but we arrived, and I used the two bottles of 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and health returned as I used the medicine. I have only raised blood three times since I began using it. My periods are regular, strength returned, and I am almost a new person. I have all faith in Dr. Pierce's medicine. I know of a lady that was cured of consumption by this same 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and she always sings its praise."

"After using about five bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery my boy seems to be all right," writes Mr. J. W. Price of Ozark, Monroe County, Ohio. "He was very bad when I commenced to give him the 'Golden Medical Discovery.' The doctors claimed he had consumption, and we doctored with them until he was past walking. It has been 10 months since he stopped taking your medicine, and he is still in good health. We are very thankful to you for saving our son."

Sick persons are invited to consult Dr. Pierce, by letter, free. All correspondence strictly private and confidential. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

If an unscrupulous dealer should attempt to sell you a substitute for "Golden Medical Discovery," claiming it to be "just as good," remember that there is no motive for substitution except the larger profit made by the dealer on less meritorious medicines. Accept nothing in place of "Discovery," for there is nothing else so sure to help and heal weak lungs.

A SOUND INVESTMENT.

To invest 21 cents in the form of 1-cent stamps to the best advantage, send the stamps to pay mailing expense only on Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. This great work on hygiene and disease contains 1008 large pages and over 700 illustrations. It is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send 21 1-cent stamps for the book in paper covers, or 31 stamps for the cloth-bound volume. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

The San Pedro Contract.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 20.—Captain J. J. Meylor, of the United States Army Engineer Corps, in charge of the Government work at San Pedro Harbor, sent an official notification to the contractors today that the contract has been annulled.

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), 15 cents per line, first insertion; 10 cents per line for each additional insertion.

DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

PORTLAND, March 20.—8 P. M.—Maximum temperature, 58; minimum temperature, 43; river reading at 11 A. M., 8.0 feet; change in the last 24 hours, —0.3 foot; total precipitation, 8 P. M. to 8 P. M., 0.00; total precipitation from Sept. 1, 1899, 29.52 inches; normal precipitation from Sept. 1, 1899, 36.44 inches; deficiency, 6.92 inches; total sunshine March 19, 1:00; possible sunshine March 19, 12:07.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

There has been no rainfall during the past 24 hours, except 0.02 of an inch at Port Crescent, on the Straits of Fuca. A high-pressure area of moderate intensity is now moving northward over Washington, while a relatively low area is forming over Northern California. This distribution of pressure almost invariably indicates fair weather for the whole Pacific Northwest, including British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Idaho. East of the Cascades the temperature now averages about 60 deg., while west of them it ranges from 48 to 62 deg. Increasing temperature west of the Cascades and decreasing temperature east of them may be expected during the next 24 hours.

WEATHER FORECASTS.

Forecasts made at Portland for the 28 hours ending at midnight Wednesday, March 21:

Western Oregon and Western Washington—Wednesday and Thursday, fair and warmer, with northerly winds.

Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho—Wednesday and Thursday, fair, with northwest winds.

Portland and vicinity—Wednesday and Thursday, fair, growing warmer, with northwest to north winds.

G. N. SALISBURY, Forecast Official.

NEW TODAY.

Mortgage Loans

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

PARRISH & WATKINS
REAL ESTATE, LOAN AND INSURANCE AGENTS
Have Moved to
250 ALDER STREET

HOMES ON THE INSTALLMENT PLAN

The undersigned is prepared to build residences in Irvington, the most popular suburb of Portland, and sell them at actual cost, with 6 per cent interest, on the installment plan, whereby the purchaser has to pay but a slight advance above the usual amount of rental charged for similar residences.

C. H. PRESCOTT,
212-213 Chamber of Commerce.

MUST BE SOLD
Large Lot and 9-Room House

Hard finish, full basement, in fine order; three blocks from northern terminus of "M" car line. Price $1650.

Title Guarantee & Trust Co.
7 Chamber of Commerce

Auction Sales
Geo. Baker & Co.
TOMORROW, THURSDAY,

AT CENTRAL AUCTION ROOMS,

Corner Alder and Park, we shall sell the costly furniture, etc., of residence, comprising: UPRIGHT PIANO, in rosewood case; pretty divans, in silk coverings; highly polished rockers; quartered-oak center tables; walnut secretary-bookcase, with cylinder desk; walnut library table; Moquette and Brussels carpets; oak sideboard, with circular front; oak extension table; golden oak dining chairs; massive walnut hall tree; antique design hall mirror; costly walnut FOLDING BED, with mirror; brass bedsteads, white maple dresser; oak and walnut bedroom sets; springs, hair and other mattresses; pillows; "Born" 6-hole STEEL RANGE, with warming closet and water-back; household treasure, and other effects. Sale at 10 A. M.

TWO COSTLY FOLDING BEDS AT THIS SALE. GEO. BAKER & CO., Auctioneers.