

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Cloudy and unsettled, with probably no rain of consequence; variable winds, mostly westerly.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, DEC. 8.

Washington opinion that the Democrats are badly demoralized by the election seems to find confirmation in their proposals for amendments to pending measures.

According to the best information at hand, the Lower Nehalem coal field promises to supply Portland with an element of commercial success that has been lacking here—cheap fuel.

THE INCREASE OF INSANITY. The publication of the biennial statistics of the Oregon Insane Asylum for the term ended November 30 shows for the whole of this end not regarded with fond expectation by those whose idea of harmony consists of their own triumph and the enemy's annihilation.

THE HAY-PAUNCEPOTE TREATY. The attitude of our Government regarding the Nicaragua Canal is that canal legislation should be properly and legally enacted until the Clayton-Bulwer treaty has been abrogated or the Hay-Pauncefote convention ratified by the Senate.

THE FAMILIAR SCRAPPLE. To make Philadelphia scrapple, put one slice of pork and one pound of beef in a kettle and cover with water. The beef need by no means be an expensive cut; what is known to the butcher as a boiling piece is the one usually selected for scrapple.

THE POPULAR VOTE. The Philadelphia Press publishes a table, official except as to three states, which gives the following totals of the popular vote cast last month, with the contrasting figures for 1896.

of increase of population, but this is the record, both in the United States and Europe. The explanation for the increase of insanity is hinted at by Goldwin Smith, when he says of the increase of suicide:

THE EVISCERATED ARMY BILL. The Army bill as it passed the House was completely eviscerated of the reform features it contained as originally prepared by Secretary Root.

THE ASTORIAN SAYS: With Portland accepted the decision of the Isthmian Canal Commission that the shipping of 10 years hence will require a channel 20 feet deep, or will enter the Oregon acknowledged deep that nature never intended it for a seaport?

PRIMARY REFORM. The Oregonian is going on over the state relative to the merits and demerits of primary reform. The proposition being agitated is, that, instead of holding county conventions each precinct will hold a primary and name the electors of its choice for the various county, state and legislative offices.

THE ARMY CANTEN. The vote of the House prohibiting the sale of beer or wine in the Army post exchange, known as the canteen, is in direct contempt of the recommendations of the vast majority of the leading officers of the Army.

CO-OPERATION IN PORTLAND'S WORLD'S FAIR ENTERPRISE. The Manufacturers' Association and the Board of Trade comes with commendable promptness and zeal. Allied with the Chamber of Commerce, these organizations can do almost anything through the committee already at work.

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SWEET IGNORANCE IS BANKERS. Washington, Dec. 7. Two days before the collapse of that Newport bank its directors signed a private statement to the newspapers in which they strenuously denied the report that they had received from the Board of Bankers' Reserve Bank, and, furthermore, they said the books of the institution had been examined and that they were "absolutely and positively correct."

committee on foreign relations, under which the United States could "take any measures which it found necessary for securing, by its own forces, the defense of the United States," would not satisfy Great Britain, for under this vague provision the United States could interfere with the free use of the canal by neutrals, and could erect fortifications which would dominate the canal.

PARCELS POST SYSTEM. Other Countries Seem to Be Ahead of Us in This Respect. Kansas City Star. As soon as rural delivery becomes better established an attempt will probably be made to amplify the parcels post system.

FOREIGN TRUSTS AS INVESTMENTS. United States Investor. We have been asked what should be done in order that investors might see their way to put their money into the securities of the industrial trusts.

NOTE AND COMMENT. It is time to begin to practice writing it "BIG." Hanna very properly would rather be the big man of the Nation than President.

THE TACOMA NEWS SAYS: If it is true that Oom Paul has decided to make his home in the United States, it is certainly a good thing for the city of Tacoma. Whenever he feels like being in the States, he can step over to the British legation and get all the exercise he needs.

BERNHARDT'S SIXTY TRUNKS. New York Letter. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt is a happy woman. All of her trunks have at last passed through the hands of the tax collector.

THE CANYON OF THE GRAND. I'm going to paint a picture With a pencil and no hand to help me, I shall paint it all alone! Oh, I fancy it before me, And the picture is so grandly faint, As I contemplate the grandeur Of the picture I would paint.

BY WATERS OF GALILEE. Clinton Silliman in Century. The wind was low in the meadows, Softly stirring the reed grass; Out from a hill it rills meanders Down to the waters of Galilee.

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