DECIDE ON COURSE

How the Oregon Delegation Would Improve Columbia.

CONTINUING CONTRACT DESIRED

By This Method Final Completion of the Project Is Insured, and Work May Be Conducted Without Unnecessary Delay.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The three members of the Oregon delegation, at an informal meeting today, decided to concentrate their ecorts to have the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia made a continuing contract rather than trust to the future to secure successive appropriations to be expended as needed. By this method, which seems to be the best under the circumstances, the final completion of the project is insured, and work may be conducted without unnecessary delay.

The river and harbor committee has not yet finally decided on what provision will be made for this project, but $600,000, recommended by the engineers, is the outside limit.

NEW FEATURE IN POLITICS.

Legislators to Learn Wants of Constituents in Mass Meeting.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 11.—A new feature in politics here is the call issued by Senator Clem for a mass meeting at this city Friday evening, for the purpose of permitting the constituents of legislators to express their wants in connection with the coming session of the State Legislature. Already the people are making their wants known. The Patrons of Husbandry demand that there shall be no sugar-bounty bill, and that the present game law shall remain. Prominent citizens of Sodaville have issued a question to the members of the Legislature from this county, demanding their position on the subject of curtailing the powers of corporations in the state, and others are hatching.

Independence Firemen's Election.

INDEPENDENCE, Or., Dec. 11.—The Independence Fire Department met Monday evening and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Sherman E. Baker; vice-president, S. E. Lemmon; secretary, J. W. Richardson, Jr.; treasurer, W. H. Craven; chief engineer, E. S. Hilliard; first assistant, Charles Bilyeu; second assistant, G. L. Hawkins; foreman hose No. 1, S. E. Lemmon; foreman hook and ladder, W. H. Craven.

TO OPERATE CANNERY IN ALASKA.

Purpose of Company Formed in Astoria—Stock in Great Demand.

ASTORIA, Dec. 11.—The American Packing & Canning Company has been formed in this city with an authorized capital of $75,000, and a large portion of this has already been subscribed for. The object of the company is to operate a salmon cannery at some point in Alaska, but exactly where it is kept secret for the the present.

Stranded Lightship Moved 40 Feet.

During the recent high tides, Wolf & Zwicker made an attempt to get the lightship off the sands at McKenzie head and succeded in moving her about 40 feet down the beach. No further attempt will be made until the high tides that occur during the latter portion of the present month.

Call for Astoria Warrants.

City Treasurer Carney has issued a call for all warrants drawn on the road and crossing fund and endorsed prior to October 5, 1899; also for five warrants endorsed on that date.

FUNERAL OF OREGON VOLUNTEER.

Charles Kent, Who Died at Hawaii on Way to Manila.

JUNCTION CITY, Or., Dec. 11.—The funeral of Charles F. Kent, a member of Company C, Second Oregon Volunteers, who died at Honolulu, H. I., on the way to Manila, took place this afternoon. Services were held in the Christian Church, after which separate Company C, of Eugene, took charge of the remains. Chaplain Elkins, of Company C, conducted the services at the cemetery. A salute was fired over the grave. The burial took place in Odd Fellows' cemetery, six miles west of here.

Charles F. Kent enlisted from Eugene in the Second Oregon Volunteers Infantry in June, 1898, and was assigned to Company C. He was immediately ordered to San Francisco. In October of that year he sailed for Manila. At Honolulu Mr. Kent was taken ill, and had to be left behind. Several months afterwards he died. His home was at Franklin, Or.

NEARLY 400 SIGNED PLEDGE.

Result of Temperance Meetings Held at Corvallis.

CORVALLIS, Or., Dec. 11.—The temperance meetings held in this city for several days past by Colonel Holt, of Chicago, concluded last night. Citizens desired a continuation, but on account of an engagement made at Salem before the phenomenal interest at Corvallis unexpectedly developed, the speaker was obliged to leave for the Capital City this morning, where a series of meetings is to begin tonight.

During the progress of the Corvallis meetings 362 persons signed the pledge, and local temperance organizations are much increased in membership. At last night's meeting resolutions strongly indorsing the work of Colonel Holt were adopted by a rising vote.

TO OBSERVE JOHN MARSHALL DAY.

Superintendent Ackerman So Recommends to Oregon Schools.

SALEM, Dec. 11.—Superintendent of Public Instruction J. H. Ackerman today mailed to each County Superintendent in the state a circular letter calling attention to the Oregon Bar Association's report on the observance of John Marshall day, and earnestly recommending that the Superintendents and teachers make the observance of the day general in all the schools of the state.

The State Department has also sent to each County Superintendent a sufficient number of copies of the Bar Association resolutions for distribution to every teacher in the state.

SALEM'S SIDE OF IT.

Contends That Telephone Company Has No Case—Demurrer Filed.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 11.—The City of Salem today filed a demurrer to the complaint in the suit brought against it by the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph Company to enjoin the collection of the 5-cent telephone tax. The demurrer is on the ground that the complaint does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of suit, and the decision upon this demurrer will probably determine the result of the proceedings.

Peculiar Accident.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 11.—Night Policeman Ed L. Shaw met with a peculiar accident about 2 o'clock this morning, sustaining a serious fracture of the right ankle. He was standing in front of the engine-house, under the Council chamber, where there is an incline on the floor to the sidewalk. He was moving his feet pretty lively in order to keep warm, when he accidentally slipped and fell in such a way that the ankle and foot were twisted backward.

Bone of Prehistoric Animal Found.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 11.—An employe of the Willamette Paper Mills found a femur bone, evidently belonging to some prehistoric animal, that is now on exhibition in the office of the company. The bone was discovered in a timbered gulch about 15 miles from here, on the west side of the Willamette River, partially embedded in the dirt. The bone is 2 feet 10 inches in length, and about 22 inches in circumference where the femur is the thickest. The relic is in a good state of preservation, although parts are worn off by abrasion and probable exposure to the air. Search is being made for the remainder of the bones of the supposed extinct animal.

Timber-Land Contests.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 11.—The Northern Pacific Railroad Company is contesting the right to 12 timber claims situated in Tillamook County, on which final proof was made nearly a year ago. Seattle attorneys are representing the interests of the Northern Pacific at the hearing, and examination of witnesses is now in progress at the local Land Office. The plaintiffs allege fraud on the part of the locators, claiming that the tracts of land in question were sold to Claude Thayer, of Tillamook. The locators paid the entry fees on making final proof, and received receipts for the same, but no patents have been issued.

Regarding Transfer of Bank Stock.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—Judge Beatty, of Idaho, has rendered an interesting decision relative to the sale of bank stock. H. H. Bateman, the defendant, was vice-president of the Bennett National Bank, at New Whatcom, Wash. He had sold his stock to the bank for $2000, its face value, but the record was not changed. Subsequently, the stock was sold by the bank for $500. Recently, P. W. Strader, the receiver, sued Bateman, and the court awarded judgment in favor of the plaintiff for the face value, less the sum of $500, with interest.

Albany Wants Free Rural Mail.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 11.—Petitions have been circulated for three different free rural deliveries out of Albany, nearly covering the entire field in all directions around the city, and there are hopes of the same being established, but it is not known whether they will reach the department in time for the agent now establishing routes in the state to act upon them before his departure. The route out of Shedd has given such general satisfaction that there is a general desire to have the system extended here.

Two Miners Frozen to Death.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 11.—News is brought by the steamer Danube of Winter tragedies of the northern trails. The last victim of the stampedes in search of gold at the Rainbow's Top are Harry Ganb and another Dawson miner, who left the Klondike capital but a short time ago to join the rush to the recently found diggings in the Tanana country. The two miners were frozen to death on the trail between Circle City and Tanana. The news comes in a dispatch from Dawson under date of November 20.

Superior Court at Vancouver.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 11.—The Superior Court convened this morning, with a petit jury in attendance. The case of Matt Brown vs. Cone Bros. was on trial today. Brown claims a balance of account against the defendants for the rent of certain ground used by them as a lumber yard. The defendants allege an agreement under which no rent was to be paid for the ground.

Indictments Were Defective.

HILLSBORO, Or., Dec. 11.—Judge McBride this morning heard argument in the cases of the State vs. Hannah Olson and Sophia Nordlund, charged with illegal voting at a school meeting in Reedville last year. The cases were dismissed because of defective indictments. The case of the State vs. John Borwick, charged with the same offense, is now on trial by jury.

Oregon Notes.

Elmira has a football team.

John Day has three smallpox cases.

The Prineville city election comes off December 17.

A telephone line from Huntington to Burns is projected.

The Sheriff of Grant County collected $5415 40 in November.

The Clerk's Union, of Pendleton, has organized with nearly 100 members.

The Enterprise Council has passed acts against bawdy houses and vagrancy.

Malheur County has accepted the new bridge across Succor Creek below Barney Maloy's place.

The jury in the case of Watkins vs. Yancy, at Prineville, last week, disagreed, and the matter was settled out of court. It was a suit for recovery of a horse.

Captain R. P. Wainwright, of the United tSates Army, purchased 53 horses for the Government at Huntington last week. The price paid averaged about $50 a head.

The Lakeview Rustler says that John Green, of the West Side, who has been drilling for artesian water, has succeeded in getting the water to rise within five feet of the top of the ground, at a depth of 101 feet.

Richard Lester, a young man who has been working in a Coos County logging camp, is in jail at Roseburg, charged with grand larceny. He was arrested at Olalla, Saturday, as he was on his way from Myrtle Point.

D. H. Hartzog and John Weller have purchased the artesian well drill and power of Mr. Creed, of Pine Creek, and will drill for water, says the Lakeview Rustler. The first attempt will be made on one of Mr. Hartzog's farms near Crane Creek.

The Homestake mine, located on the North Fork of John Day River, seven miles from Lawton, has been bonded to Eastern capitalists by the owners, Messrs. Tom Johnson and Joseph Robison, for the sum of $25,000 on a year's time. Further conditions of the bond are that the persons holding it are to take immediate possession and prosecute work of development with a large force of men divided into three eight-hour shifts, says the Lawton Standard.

McLoughlin's Cabin, No. 4, Native Sons of Oregon, elected the following officers Monday: Past president, R. C. Ganong; president, Levy Stipp; first vice-president, E. G. Caufield; second vice-president, C. W. Pope; third vice-president, Tom P. Randall; treasurer, Charles Albright; recording secretary, G. Lee Harding; financial secretary, Carl G. Church; marshal, Ed L. Shaw; historian, K. H. Gabbert; trustees, Charles H. Caufield, W. H. Howell, R. L. Holman.

The Wallowa Marshal ran in a man for peddling without a license, who defied the city authorities and would not even listen to the reading of the complaint by the Recorder. He was incarcerated in the City Prison for contempt of court where he languished for two or three days or until some people around town put up $6 for a jury trial. The trial came off last week. The jury thought upon the evidence offered that the man was entitled to a discharge and so rendered its verdict. The man is a foreigner, presumably an Italian. He threatened to sue the city for damages.

Dr. Sanford's Liver Invigorator.
The best Liver Medicine. A Vegetable Cure for Liver Ills, Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation.

Neglect of the hair brings baldness. Use Parker's Hair Balsam and save your hair.

Greve's Ointment makes a healthy skin. 50c.

OFFICERS WERE VERY LAX

PRISONER QUIETLY AROSE AND LEFT COURTROOM AT SPOKANE.

Absence Not Noticed Until Judge Went to Pass Sentence—Was Soon Recaptured.

SPOKANE, Dec. 11.—While Judge Marshall was holding a preliminary hearing of Edward Hanson, charged with counterfeiting, this afternoon, the prisoner quietly arose and sneaked out of the room. Owing to the small courtroom being crowded, the escape was not noticed until the Judge turned to announce that the prisoner would be held to a higher court. Officers started in pursuit of Hanson, who was trekking for the river, A few shots from revolvers, and he gave himself up.

The escape was the boldest ever known in the city. Hanson is one of a trio recently arrested with bogus money in their possession. Search of their cabin resulted in finding of molds and other tools.

ROBBED BY THUGS.

Experience of Portland Man at The Dalles.

THE DALLES, Or., Dec. 11.—While returning from the Umatilla House to his room in the Chapman building, about midnight last night, Fred Stewart, a young traveling man representing the Merchants' Supply Company, of Portland, was held up by two thugs and robbed of $45.

The hold-up took place immediately in front of the Commercial Club, on the corner of First and Washington streets, one man holding a pistol to Mr. Stewart's head while the other searched his pockets.

Both men were unmasked, and Mr. Stewart was able to give some details of their dress and general description, from which the police have strong hopes of locating them.

SEATTLE MYSTERY SOLVED.

Body of Man Who Mysteriously Disappeared Found in Bay.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 11.—The mystery surrounding the strange disappearance of John Harder, who was last seen Tuesday night, November 19, was solved today by the finding of his body in the bay, near the Ocean Dock. Every appearance points to Harder having been murdered. On his head were several wounds, which were probably made by a blunt instrument from behind. The trousers pockets were turned inside out, showing that he had been robbed. What lends further color to the murder theory is the fact that Harder was seen early in the morning, after leaving his work, at a beer hall on Second avenue, in company with a strange man who said he came from Montana.

THREE MEN MUST ANSWER.

Injuries Received by Sailor in Saloon Fight Prove Fatal.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 11.—Louis Larsen, the sailor who was terribly cut in a saloon row December 4, died today. Three tramps connected with the trouble, and who were held awaiting the result of Larsen's injuries, were taken before the man when dying, and he positively identified one of them as his assailant.

An inquest will be held tomorrow, and it is likely all three of the men will be held for trial. Larsen was aged 28, unmarried, and his a mother in Norway. He will be buried Sunday by the Sailors' Union.

Murderer Discharged From Asylum.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 12.—Isadore Schopps, who has been in the Medical Lake asylum at Spokane for the past two years, was today adjudged free by Assistant Attorney-General Vance, of this state. Schopps murdered a man named Gustave Hager, in this city, December 25, 1898, but the jury found him not guilty by reason of insanity. He has now regained his reason. The crime was most brutal and cold-blooded. Schopps and the man he killed were roommates together. They had a drunken quarrel, and the next day Schopps procured a revolver and blew the top of his companion's head off. The Superior Court Judge who committed him ordered him to be kept pending further orders from the court, but the opinion of the Attorney-General seems to put this at naught. It is likely that some appeal against the decision will be made.

Passed Raised Bills.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 11.—Two Japanese, Hanay Sato and Mantoka Hamaguchi, were arrested this morning, charged with uttering raised bills. A number of raised bills have been in circulation here, in each case the utterer, a Japanese, claiming that he was the innocent recipient of the raised notes from a fellow-countryman.

Stolen Goods Recovered.

ASTORIA, Dec. 11.—Some time ago two automatic steam registers were stolen from the warehouse of the Astoria Iron Works. A few days ago they were found by the police in Portland and were returned this morning. The registers had been missing several months, and are valued at $100 each.

GRAIN CAN BE RAISED IN ALASKA.

Will Mature Almost Anywhere—Report of Government Official.

SEATTLE, Dec. 11.—Professor C. C. Georgeson, special agent of the United States Agricultural Department, in charge of the experimental station in Alaska at Sitka, has arrived here from the north for the purpose of making his annual report to the Government. He has proved that Alaska will ultimately be as promising a field for agriculture and stockraising as it is now for mining. He was sent to the north in May, 1898, and his first work was to ascertain what could be produced there in the way of vegetables. He succeeded in raising choice barley and oats. In speaking of his experiments in Alaska, Professor Georgeson said today:

"There is not the slightest doubt that grain can be matured almost anywhere in Alaska. I have this year obtained samples of perfectly ripe barley, oats, wheat and rye from several points in the interior as far north as Eagle. These grains were grown and matured there this year. With one exception, they were volunteer products from seed accidentally scattered and grown wild. If grains will grow and mature without culture it stands to reason that they will grow and improve with culture.

"I also grew flax at Sitka the first year. It attained a height of more than three feet, matured seed and produced a fiber of excellent quality. There is no doubt that flax can be made a successful crop in the coast region of Alaska.

"My instructions the first year were to examine the coast region and reserve lands for experiment stations at suitable places. With this end in view we started a station at Kenai, on the Kenai Peninsula, in Cook Inlet. We made a reservation of 230 acres there, some of which has since been cleared and has matured grain successfully."

TO WATER BIG TRACT OF LAND.

Canal to Cost $50,000 to Be Constructed in Moxee Valley.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 11.—Bids for the construction of the Selah and Moxee canal, a new irrigation enterprise in the Moxee Valley, were opened at Seattle Saturday, and word was received here Monday that the contract had been awarded to E. C. Burlingame, a well-known contractor of this place. Mr. Burlingame will perform construction work for the company to the amount of nearly $50,000. He has already begun work, and parties will be stationed at various places along the line of the canal and kept busy all Winter. About 200 men and 100 teams will be employed, and the ditch is to be ready for use after 100 working days. Should the weather be favorable so that work could be carried on every day, Mr. Burlingame's task would be completed about the middle of March. The company's contracts for water service date from May 1, so that Mr. Burlingame has been allowed about six weeks for possible bad weather.

Mr. Burlingame, speaking of the contract, said: "I have 26 miles of ditch to construct. It will be 12 feet wide on the bottom, 4 feet deep, and the sides will have 1½ to 1 slope. There will be three miles of flume to build. There will be some rock work, but most of the canal will be easy digging, and we will get over it in a hurry. I shall hire men for the job wherever I can get them, and will use as many as possible. I expect to pay $1 75 and $2 for men, and $3 75 for men and teams. The fluming will be let in sections to local carpenters. About 1,000,000 feet of lumber will be required for the flumes. I do not anticipate that there will be the slightest difficulty about finishing the work within the time specified."

It is said that, should this enterprise prove as successful as those who have promoted it believe it will, the completion of the Burlingame ditch will probably follow. This ditch takes water from the Natchez, and would open up over 10,000 acres of excellent land near town. It is intimated that the Eastern men back of the Selah and Moxee may be willing to come to the assistance of Mr. Burlingame by the time he finishes his work for them. He says, however, that he has nothing definite to say about his ditch now. He believes he is going to be able to complete it, but he doesn't know when.

WILL NOT PLAY MULTNOMAH.

Oregon Eleven Declares Christmas Game Off—Faculty Objects.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 11.—The University of Oregon football team will not play a return game with Multnomah Christmas day, as requested by the clubmen. The faculty athletic committee has declined to allow the 'varsity men to participate, and the game is off.

There is a feeling of general dissatisfaction throughout the student body, for the football men are quite anxious for a game, and declare that they could even matters up with Multnomah.

Baker and Sumpter Elevens to Meet.

BAKER CITY, Or., Dec. 11.—A game of football between Sumpter and Baker City is now being arranged. The date has not been fixed, but will likely be about Christmas, or perhaps the Saturday preceding. Negotiations for the game have been under way for some time. Sumpter business men donated liberally for the preparation of a football field there, and to provide other necessary articles for a home team to enter the arena fully equipped. But until recently the Sumpter boys have not been able to arrange for a match except with Baker City.

The Sumpter team has had little practice. Coach Stickney, who is well known for his work with the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club team, will probably get them in shape when the match is definitely settled. The Baker City eleven has played some this Fall. The High School team has played a few games, and a team picked up from the town generally played Heppner. There will be no difficulty in securing a team with some experience.

New Interest in Sports at Vancouver.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 11.—Considerable interest in sports is being aroused by the Vancouver Amateur Athletic Club, which has outlined an attractive programme of indoor sports for the coming season, to take place at the club's gymnasium. Tomorrow evening the first of a series of basket-ball games between the Vancouver club team and the Y. M. C. A. of Portland will be played. Arrangements are also being made for a series of games between the home team and the Multnomah Club team, the first game of which will probably take place here December 19.

New Gas Company for Seattle.

SEATTLE, Dec. 11.—The Times tonight will say: Seattle is, in the near future, to have a new gas company, according to plans which are very well materialized. The opening of the mines of the Northwestern Improvement Company, near Carbonado, is likely to be followed by the establishment of a plant in connection for the production of fuel gas and by-products. The mines of this company will have an annual output within two years' time as great as that of the Rosslyn mines, east of the mountains.

Woman Held for Grand Larceny.

SEATTLE, Dec. 11.—Irene Earl, of Spokane, was arrested here tonight by Detective Phillips, on a charge of grand larceny, upon information furnished by the Chief of Police of Spokane. It is said that she bought diamonds for which she neglected to pay. She says they were bought on the installment plan, and the last payment is not yet due.

Wahsington Notes.

The next meeting of the Walla Walla County Teachers' Association will be held January 11.

John Bradley was sentenced at North Yakima Monday to 10 days of hard labor for vagrancy.

Mrs. John J. Morrison, 3½ miles south of Walla Walla, is sick with smallpox, and is under strict quarantine.

A son of J. E. Moomon, three miles north of Colville, cut off three fingers of his sister's left hand with an ax last week. The children were playing.

The eighth annual declamation contest of the Washington Agricultural College came off at Pullman Saturday. Joseph W. Tungate, junior, won first prize, and Olga Todd, also junior, second prize.

The Mayor of Aberdeen will recommend to the Council that an expert bookkeeper investigate the records of the city. Other recommendations will include a public library, sewerage system, good streets and a City Hall.

A herd of 1500 sheep recently shipped to North Yakima from Montana for a company of Mongolians have been sold at $5 per head. It is reported that the sheep will be shipped to Alaska and sold for mutton. They are said to be the finest band of mutton sheep ever seen in this county.

H. M. Gilbert, a farmer of the Yakima Indian reservation, is shipping his large bean crop. The prices received range about 3½ cents per pound. He has harvested and threshed 1000 sacks of 100 pounds each. His beans are the brown Mexican, white California and red navy varieties. They yield, under ordinary fair conditions, from 40 to 60 bushels per acre, thus giving an income of $85 to $125 an acre. Gilbert has 1000 acres of the Lillie property leased at Toppenish, and includes the Reserve hotel in his holdings. The land is leased from the Indians at about $1 an acre per annum.

Colville is awakening to the fact that the disease which has been for a year past designated by the local physicians as Manila itch is in fact smallpox. In the past two months two deaths have resulted from this malady, and one victim has lost his sight. It is said that the state quarantine law is inoperative except in seaboard and border towns, where invasion of infectious diseases from foreign countries is possible. The coming Legislature will be asked to enact a law covering the case and provide severe penalties for violation. There have been over 50 cases of smallpox in Colville within the past six months. The attacks have been light, but this is due to the general practice of vaccination and the warmth of the season. As the cold weather approaches the disease becomes more severe.

AGRICULTURE IN STATE

STATE BOARD SUBMITS REPORT OF WORK FOR PAST YEAR.

Patrons of Diversified Farming Have Enjoyed Greatest Prosperity—New Officers.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 11.—The State Board of Agriculture, consisting of George L. Rees, of Albany; J. H. Settlemeir, of Woodburn; W. H. Wehrung, of Hillsboro; Jasper Wilkins, of Coburg, and George Chandler, of Baker City, met at the Capitol today in annual session.

The following officers were re-elected to serve during the ensuing year: President, W. H. Wehrung; vice-president, J. H. Settlemeir; secretary, M. D. Wisdom; treasurer, A. Bush. Standing committees were appointed as follows:

Finance—Jasper Wilkins, J. H. Settlemeir, George L. Rees.

Publication and programme—W. H. Wehrung, ex officio; George L. Rees, George Chandler, M. D. Wisdom, J. H. Settlemeir.

Speed programme—W. H. Wehrung, ex officio; George L. Rees, George Chandler, M. D. Wisdom.

Premium list—W. H. Wehrung, ex officio; J. H. Settlemeir, George Chandler, M. D. Wisdom.

Transportation—W. H. Wehrung, ex officio; Jasper Wilkins, J. H. Settlemeir, M. D. Wisdom.

Secretary M. D. Wisdom submitted the following annual report, prepared as the annual report to the Governor, and upon motion it was adopted:

"As required by law, we submit to you this, the annual report of the proceedings of our board, for the year ending December 1, 1900. While we have no statistics of the agricultural or industrial products of this state, it affords us much pleasure to be able to report to you general prosperity among the agricultural classes. Especially is this true of those who have practiced diversified farming.

"The livestock industry, which is the right hand of agriculture, is in a most flourishing condition in this state. There has been more and better stock brought to this state the past year than in any one year of its history, which will be the means of building up our breeds and adding vast wealth to our state in the near future. The dairy industry has made wonderful advancement the past year, and promises, under the favorable natural conditions that exist, to be one of the foremost industries of the state. We will not attempt to go into the details regarding this industry, as you no doubt will receive a full and complete report from our State Food and Dairy Commissioner, who is better qualified to furnish you with this knowledge.

"Our scant knowledge of the fruit industry will not permit us to say anything further than that crops and prices have been very satisfactory to the grower. The State Board of Horticulture, whose report you will receive, will give you a full and complete showing of this industry.

"The hop crop was very satisfactory this year, and will return about $2,000,000, which goes mostly to the farmers in the Willamette Valley.

"The wheat crop was not so good, and with a depressed market will return but little over and above the cost of production. Oats, barley, hay and potatoes have yielded well, and farmers find a ready market at profitable prices.

"We have had many letters of inquiry the past year from homeseekers, asking about our resources and the chances of acquiring homes here. We believe that this board could be made a very useful bureau of information to aid and encourage immigration to this state, if funds were provided to collect and distribute reliable information. While the law makes this a part of our duty, there is no provision made to defray the expense. We therefore would respectfully urge that you recommend that a sufficient sum be appropriated, annually for collecting, compiling and distributing reliable information calculated to educate and benefit the industrial classes, develop the resources and advance the material interests of the state and encourage immigration.

"It affords us much pleasure and gratification to be able to report to you the unusual success of the recent state fair. Notwithstanding the fact of a rainy week, we gave the greatest fair in the history of the society. Our receipts aggregated $18,456 65, as against $13,735 66 in 1899. Our disbursements were $18,041 97, as against $14,565 65 in 1899. Our profits were $408 68, as against a loss of $825 99 in 1899. We paid out in premiums $786 80 more than the annual appropriation of $5000.

"The service we gave to the large number of exhibitors who favored us was so satisfactory to them, and the prestige of our successful fair is so great, that our task for 1901 should be light, and our capacity for usefulness enlarged. We were able to accomplish this result, however, through the able assistance given us by the citizens throughout the state, and especially the liberal aid and assistance given us by the citizens of Salem. The press should not go unnoticed in its very generous aid in advertising the fair, and to the newspapers we credit the greater part of our success. We hope this friendly press found in the success of the fair satisfaction compensating them for their able work. We have no means of rewarding them for their public service except to remember them as patriotic workers, such as they are.

"In conclusion, we wish to say that the buildings on the fair grounds are in a bad state of repair, and are at the best inadequate to accommodate the large number of exhibits that are now being displayed at our annual fairs. We boast of the finest fair grounds on the Pacific Coast, and our fair this year was the best and largest this side of the Rocky Mountains. The cost of erecting suitable buildings for an industrial hall, creamery and machinery hall would be light compared to the value they would be in making larger and better exhibits each year. We respectfully ask your excellency to recommend to the Legislature at its next session an appropriation for the construction of suitable buildings and such other repairs as is in keeping with the demands of our exhibitors of the present day. The State of Oregon is an agricultural state, and whatever encouragement is given this industry will be for the benefit of the state at large. The State Board of Agriculture has done great service in developing the resources of our state, in improving the varieties of her plants and fruits and breeds of her livestock, and promoting their more general distribution. The state fair is a great educational institution, where our farmers, manufacturers and breeders see all that is best in their various fields, learn the latest methods, the most approved types of excellence, and are thus qualified to produce or breed up to the highest standard.

"The money appropriated in aid of successful fairs goes to reward the farmers for their enterprise, skill and intelligence, and imparts practical education at a small cost.

"The following is our financial statement for the fiscal year ending December 1, 1900:

Receipts.

Gate receipts	$ 5,105 05
Race entries, harness	3,600 00
Race entries, running	742 50
Division entry fees	1,028 00
Ground rent and licenses	1,212 90
Season tickets	133 40
Receipts in office	202 65
Special stock premiums	350 00
Donation, Salem Chamber of Commerce stake	320 00
Collection from National Trotting Association	89 20
Notes and interest collected for race entries	128 40
Donation from old society	75 00
Premium fund warrant of 1899	4 50
Stall rent	115 65
L. L. Judson, refund of money overpaid	5 60
Collections for National Trotting Association, Dr. P. Reeves	38 75
Collections for National Trotting Association, Ellis McLean	36 75
State appropriation for premiums	5,000 00
Collected race entry fees of 1899	90 00
Total	$ 18,650 65

Expenditures.

Attendance and mileage	$ 677 85	
Salary of secretary, nine months	225 00	
Entry clerks and office help	117 00	
Superintendent of pavilion and attendants	125 00	
Superintendent of poultry department and assistants	268 30	
Gatekeeper and ticket-venders	79 00	
Chief marshal and assistants	98 10	
Judges of races	110 00	
Judges of divisions	46 00	
Expense of farm	426 87	
Improvements	374 62	
Insurance	23 63	
Advertising and bill posting	768 10	
Attractions and music	671 50	
Premiums	5,788 80	
Purses for harness and running races	7,012 50	
Sundry expense	88 29	
Fees paid to National Trotting Association, membership	50 00	
Fees, collections for National Trotting Association	77 50	
Expenses of office	259 80	
Electric light for grounds	45 00	
Refund of cash on Salem subscriptions	20 00	
Expenses on racecourse	117 00	
Total		$ 18,041 97

Assets.

Profit on fair of 1900	$408 68	
Unpaid race entrance fees for 1900	535 00	
Unpaid race entrance fees for 1899	327 50	
Due on farm account	61 65	
Bills receivable, turned over by old society	366 70	$ 1,689 53

Liabilities.

Amount of shortage, fair of 1899, as per report of former secretary	$825 99	825 99
Excess of assets over liabilities		$ 1,063 54

GOLD DREDGER CLOSED DOWN.

Operated in Burnt River—Will Resume Work in Spring.

EXPRESS, Dec. 11.—The Pomeroy Company's dredge, which has been operated since early in the Spring in dredging for gold in Burnt River, at Weatherby, nine miles east of this place, closed down a few days ago. The main propelling wheel gave way, and as the work is not carried on during the Winter, operations will not be resumed until Spring. The dredge, which was constructed at a cost of $90,000, has been working in Burnt River for over two years.

The river runs through a wide valley, and the machine has been operated on ground that was formerly the richest hay producing section of the country. A splendid quality of fine and coarse gold has been taken out at every washing, many nuggets reaching as high as $10 in value.

GEM MINE BONDED.

Colorado Capitalists Get Control of Eastern Oregon Property.

BAKER CITY, Or., Dec. 11.—The Gem mine, in the Sparta district, has been bonded to Denver, Colo., capitalists. This property is one of the best-known in that part of the Eastern Oregon region. For years it was a prominent producer. F. J. Perkins has had charge of it for about a year past. Under his management a new hoist was constructed and general development work prosecuted. The advent of Colorado capital in the field here is cordially welcomed.

Ocean Wave Is Showing Up Well.

VALE, Or., Dec. 11.—From private letters received by M. G. Hope, of this place, it is learned that the Ocean Wave mine is making a splendid showing. I. N. Clark, a mining expert, has the development work of the mine in charge, and in a letter that was received from him today he says that several fine nuggets have been taken out lately. In a former letter he stated that the gold is not confined to the rich vein that is being followed, but that small particles of it may be seen in the dirt over the entire face and walls of the tunnel. It is his opinion that it would pay to mill the whole hill on which he is working. This mine is an extension of the Golden Eagle, which is owned by Portland capitalists.

Quotations of Mining Stocks.

SPOKANE, Dec. 11.—The closing quotations for mining stocks today were:

	Bid.	Ask.		Bid.	Ask.
Blacktail	8¾	9½	Ramb. Car	24¼	26
Butte & Bos.	1½	2	Republic	57	64
Crystal	4½	5½	Reservation	2½	3
D. T. Con.	2¼	2½	Ross. Giant	2¾	2¾
Evening Star	4½	5½	Sullivan	13¾	14¼
Gold Ledge	..	1½	Tom Thumb	10½	12
Golden Harv.	¾	¾	Waterloo	2	2¾
I. X. L.	18	19¾	Winnipeg	..	6
Iron Mask	22	23	Conjecture	3¾	4¼
Jim Blaine	4	8	Amer. Boy	15	16
L. P. Surp.	6¾	7½	Trade Dollar	2½	3½
Mtn. Lion	20½	24½	Hercules	2¾	3½
Morn. Glory	6	6¾	Juno	3¾	4½
Morrison	2¾	3	Miller Creek	2¼	2¾
Noble Five	4	5	Wonderful	1½	2
Prin. Maud	1½	1½	Gold Standard	8¼	10
Quilp	20	23½			

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—Official closing quotations of mining stocks:

Alta	$0 05	Kentuck Con	$0 01
Alpha Con	4	Mexican	31
Andes	7	Occidental Con	40
Belcher	15	Ophir	63
Best & Belcher	26	Overman	11
Bullion	2	Potosi	13
Caledonia	35	Savage	7
Challenge Con	26	Seg. Belcher	2
Chollar	14	Sierra Nevada	28
Confidence	57	Silver Hill	49
Con. Cal. & Va.	1 35	Standard	3 05
Crown Point	11	Union Con	22
Gould & Curry	50	Utah Con	5
Hale & Norcross	19	Yellow Jacket	21
Justice	2		

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—Mining stocks today closed as follows:

Brunswick	$0 11	Ontario	$6 00
Chollar	12	Ophir	62
Crown Point	9	Plymouth	8
Con. Cal. & Va.	1 30	Quicksilver	1 25
Deadwood	54	do pref	7 00
Gould & Curry	50	Sierra Nevada	25
Hale & Norcross	18	Standard	2 95
Homestake	60 00	Union Con	20
Iron Silver	70	Yellow Jacket	20
Mexican	15		

BOSTON, Dec. 11.—Closing quotations:

Adventure	$ 8 00	Humboldt	$ 25 00
Allouez M. Co.	2 25	Osceola	72 50
Amal. Copper	92 25	Parrott	47 25
Atlantic	26 00	Quincy	172 00
Boston & Mont.	337 00	Santa Fe Cop.	8 50
Butte & Boston	59 50	Tamarack	275 00
Cal. & Hecla	810 00	Utah Mining	34 00
Centennial	16 62	Winona	3 25
Franklin	15 00	Wolverines	45 50

WOULD GIVE ESTATE TO CHURCH.

Pleasure of Tacoma Woman—Mother and Guardian Object.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 11.—A remarkable contest over the $8000 estate of Miss Mary Strauch, of Tacoma, Wash., began in the Probate Court here today. Miss Strauch, who is 21 years old, is a daughter of the late Adolph Strauch, a famous landscape gardener. She is a member of a religious sect known as the "Church of the Living God," and was accompanied here by an elder. She declares she will turn all her estate over to her church. Her guardian, Leopold Burckhard, objects, as does her mother. Judge Ferris reserved his decision.

Don't Tell

If your hair is coming out badly, don't tell anybody. They will think it so strange you don't buy a bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor and stop the falling at once. It always restores the color to gray hair, too, all the dark, rich color you hair had when you were young. It keeps the scalp free from dandruff.

If you do not obtain the benefit you desire from use of the Vigor, write the Doctor about it. He will tell you just the right thing to do. Address, Dr. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

Hypnotic Influences Charged.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 11.—Miss Mary Strauch left Tacoma in company with 30 others for the Shiloh Home, in Maine, in June last, under the charge of Evangelist Sanford. The gir