

WIND BLEW A GALE

Off Columbia It Gained Velocity 100 Miles an Hour.

"PROBS" INDICATE ABATEMENT

Communication Between Astoria and Mouth of River Has Been Destroyed—No Report From Coast Ports.

ASTORIA, Dec. 16.—All telegraph and telephone connection between here and the mouth of the Columbia river for the past two days, and it was not until the arrival of the steamer Nabocotta this afternoon from Ilwaco that any definite knowledge was gained that the wind from Ilwaco yesterday for Astoria on her regular run, but put into Fort Canby, where she remained until today. Several of those on board of her visited the look-out station and the man who watched stated that the wind was blowing at a rate of nearly 100 miles per hour, but the barometer had begun to fall and the gale was showing signs of abatement. The lower harbor area at a safe anchorage. At high tide today the tug Escort was at the quarantine station to assist the steamer Thing We in getting away, but the high wind would not permit, she will not come around before tomorrow. She was passed by the quarantine officer, and will proceed directly up the river.

EUGENE HAD BOTH THUNDER AND HAIL. EUGENE, Or., Dec. 16.—The storm which has been raging on the coast reached this place last night. A strong wind blew all night, although it has lost much of its strength as reported on the coast. Quite heavy rain accompanied the wind and hail storm occurred, lasting only few minutes. No damage was done here.

Chehalis River is Rising Rapidly. CENTRALIA, Wash., Dec. 16.—There has been a steady downpour of rain here for the past three days, and the Chehalis river is rising rapidly and is already considerably higher than at any time this year.

Violent Thunder Storm at Corvallis. CORVALLIS, Or., Dec. 16.—A thunder storm of considerable violence happened here today. No damage has been reported.

SALEM SUNDAY SCHOOL CENSUS

Figures of City Enumeration Have Been Announced. SALEM, Or., Dec. 16.—The results obtained by the Sunday school workers taken in this city December 5, were made public this afternoon at a mass meeting of Sunday school workers at the First Methodist Episcopal Church. The statistics show the following facts:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Families visited.....                             | 163 |
| Persons enumerated.....                           | 621 |
| Church members.....                               | 339 |
| Children enumerated.....                          | 492 |
| Adults in Sunday School.....                      | 241 |
| Adult church members.....                         | 311 |
| Church attendants.....                            | 111 |
| Persons with no church preference.....            | 47  |
| Children 3 to 10 years old.....                   | 191 |
| Children 11 to 17 years not in Sunday School..... | 63  |

The census was taken through the united action of the Sunday school workers of most of the churches of Salem. The work was directed under the supervision of an executive committee consisting of J. B. Tutbill, superintendent of the Congregational Sunday school; W. H. Osborne, superintendent of the Christian Sunday school; J. B. Tutbill, superintendent of the Congregational Sunday school; W. H. Osborne, superintendent of the Christian Sunday school; J. B. Tutbill, superintendent of the Congregational Sunday school; W. H. Osborne, superintendent of the Christian Sunday school; J. B. Tutbill, superintendent of the Congregational Sunday school; W. H. Osborne, superintendent of the Christian Sunday school.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS CABIN.

Reverend Farmer Thought to Have Been Killed by Fire. HILLSBORO, Or., Dec. 16.—Andrew Bahlinger, an inoffensive farmer, residing near Reedville, was today found dead in his cabin. The dead man had a bad condition on his face. He had recently sold some produce and was supposed to have considerable money in the house. It is generally believed that he was killed for his money. The coroner will hold an inquest in the morning.

Bold Robbery at Kalama.

KALAMA, Wash., Dec. 16.—The residence of Dr. L. M. Sims was burglarized last night. The robber vaulted a bedroom window, unlocked a door, opened a cabinet and pocket-book while the latter was asleep. The pocket-book contained \$15 in silver.

HELD FOR CRIMINAL LABEL.

North Yakima Doctor Alleged to Have Maligned a Practitioner. NORTH YAKIMA, Dec. 16.—Dr. David Lindsay, who has been doing business here for several months at the Washington Medical Dispensary, yesterday created one of the greatest sensations that has ever stirred the minds of Yakima people and tonight reported to the county jail, having been unable to give a bond in the sum of \$500 for his appearance at the February term of court to answer to a charge of criminal libel. The alleged crime for which he was held consisted of the publication on a handbill of a violent attack upon the character of Dr. P. Frank of this city. The handbill contained a letter from Dr. Frank's former wife, charging him with various crimes and misdeeds, and also some caustic comments on the letter by the Washington Medical Dispensary, the signer.

North Yakima Farmers' Institute.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 16.—The two days' Farmers' Institute held here by members of the faculty of Pullman Agricultural College, closed yesterday. The attendance was good, from 100 to 150 farmers being in attendance at the sessions. The first day was devoted to horticulture. Professor Balmer and Fletcher, of the college, closed yesterday. The attendance was good, from 100 to 150 farmers being in attendance at the sessions. The first day was devoted to horticulture. Professor Balmer and Fletcher, of the college, closed yesterday. The attendance was good, from 100 to 150 farmers being in attendance at the sessions. The first day was devoted to horticulture. Professor Balmer and Fletcher, of the college, closed yesterday.

Are Beans Neglected?

Yesterday Professor Spillinger spoke on "Feeding Dairy Cows." Professor Fletcher made an address on "The Art of Landscape Gardening Applied to the Planting and Care of Home Grounds."

Big Lot of Hay Fired by Incendiary.

POSSIL, Or., Dec. 16.—Early Thursday morning 100 tons of hay was destroyed by fire on West Branch, near Mitchell, Wheeler County. The hay was the property of Isaac Gray, a well-known sheepman, and all indications point to the fact that the fire was the work of an incendiary. A few years ago several other sheepmen, including Eugene Looney, County Commissioner of this county, who lost over 300 tons, suffered similar losses at the hands of firebugs, and the sheepmen of the vicinity are considerably worked up over this latest case of arson.

To Give Walls Rural Mail.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Representative Jones recently presented to the Post-office Department a number of petitions asking for the establishment of two rural mail delivery routes for supplying the outlying districts in the vicinity of Walla Walla. He says that the section involved is quite thickly populated, and a mile ditch and fence, making the water high up the hillsides. Within the past few days Edwin Fish, manager of the Baker City Gas & Electric Light Company, acquired the ownership of this piece of property.

Increase of Pension for Soldier.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—At a recent session, the Senate put through a bill introduced by Senator Simon at the last session, and favorably reported by Senator Turner, granting an increase of pension to allow being 24 per cent.

Oregon Notes.

Lane County teachers will meet at Eugene Saturday. Young men of Brownville will form an athletic association. Girls of Pendleton Academy have organized a basketball team. The Methodist Church at Canyon City has received a \$6000 donation. The Oregon Council last Monday approved bills aggregating \$25.

The National Bank Recently Organized at Ashland will open February 2.

Cottage Grove will present a new charter to the Legislature for approval. A cougar which had killed several valuable dogs was shot near Thurston Monday.

H. L. Kite, of Merila, was recently granted a patent on an improved type case.

Toledo schools will give an entertainment Friday for the benefit of the library fund. The Modford Council will hold a special meeting Monday to discuss a new charter for the city.

James Fisher is superintendent of the Lion County poor farm at a salary of \$2000. A McMinnville resident has a cat 21 years old which catches rats and mice almost every day.

The safety deposit boxes and vault door of the Oregon City Bank have arrived and are in place. The Brownville Council has appointed a committee to investigate the best methods of protecting the city against fire.

Seven teams have been hauling rock to the Yamhill locks lately. The stone is being used to protect embankments from wash. The Brownville Council has passed an ordinance for regular inspection of chimneys and smokestacks within the city.

The local telephone line between Central Point and Eagle Point has been purchased by the Sunset Company and connected with the main circuit. Emil Cameron has been bound over to Canyon City to the Circuit Court for assault upon Dave Irwin, with a dangerous weapon. His bond is \$1000.

The people of Sand Lake are out in force at work on the roads, says the Tillamook Headlight. They propose to connect Sand Lake with the plank road of Hayes. Jackson County has disallowed the bill of the Sugar Pine Company, of \$2200 for constructing a bridge across Rogue River, Florence Rock Precinct, with expenditure of \$200.

A large number of hogs are dying of cholera in the central part of the valley, says the Jacksonville Times. P. E. Bybee has lost about 30 Mrs. S. E. Ish, 80, and A. Schultz, 111. The Bohemian proprietor of the Baker City-Cornucopia Stage Line has made an assignment to P. Basche, of Baker City. It is thought that the creditors will receive payment in full.

The Bohemian football team of Cottage Grove has issued a challenge to all eleven in Lane County. Millita Company C, of Eugene, will contest with the Bohemians next Saturday.

The people of Shaniko will present a petition to the next term of County Court asking that the town be incorporated. The petition is signed by 73 residents and legal voters of the town.

There has been a big run of salmon in the streams of the district. Two years ago, Winzer Bros. blew out the falls 30 miles below Kerby, so that the fish do not have to wait there for a rise in the water before going up.

Lane County Court at its recent session ordered the repairing of the bridge near Depot Slough on the Newport-Toledo wagon road, commonly called the "Dundon Bridge." The approaches to the bridge are still in fairly good condition, but the span across the stream will be pulled down and replaced.

F. G. McWilliams and F. M. Granger have filed their bond with the County Clerk in the sum of \$1000 assignments of the Ashland Grocery Company, incorporated. The creditors have been given a conference in the receivers and it is thought the stock will pay nearly 90 cents on the dollar. E. Edholm, the abducting manager of the concern who robbed it of its capital stock and accumulated surplus, has not been heard from. The Foresters have checked his accounts and told that he has absconded with \$80 of their money.

Idaho Notes.

The Weiser creamery will soon be in full operation. An electric light plant will be installed in the new flour mill at Kendrick. It is estimated that 500 carloads of cattle have been shipped from the Clearwater this year. About 40 carloads of hogs have been shipped out.

A A. A. shipper of carload of apples to Kamela Tuesday and another later in the week. Mr. Lander says that there are not many first grade apples in the country, and that this will be his last shipment. The price of apples remains in the neighborhood of 50 cents per box.

The Boston & Seven Devils Copper Company, operating the Decorah, Helena, Arkansas, Peacock and South Peacock in the Seven Devils district, suspended operations on December 13, and discharged all their men on the 15th, with the exception of two men on the Decorah and two on the Helena.

The revenue from this year's taxes will put Kendrick out of debt and leave a surplus of \$10000. The city council has passed a resolution that the policy of the Council for the past four years has been to economize so as to put the town on a cash basis and then pay for improvements as they are made. A fee apparatus has been secured and will be paid for this winter. The operating expenses of the town have been paid this year out of the license fund.

Fort Stevens Beat Portland Orients. ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 16.—The Orient football eleven, of Portland, played the

POWER FOR BAKER MINES

PLAN TO INSTALL ELECTRIC PLANT ON EAGLE CREEK.

Will Furnish Entire District With Power and Perhaps Supply Baker City Lights.

BAKER CITY, Dec. 15.—An electric plant larger than any ever installed in Eastern Oregon, and capable of furnishing power and light for a region 50 miles in diameter, is being talked of here. The idea is not new, but it has not in the same scale were carefully considered a year ago. Both the supply and the demand have been thoroughly estimated, and it is not until the spring of 1902 will not pass before a big plant will be installed.

The location of the generators is to be on Eagle Creek, 15 miles from Baker City and five miles north of Sparta. Eagle Creek at this point, even in the summer, has always over 200 inches of water, and during most months of the year double that quantity. The fall is very great, so that the water will not have to be conducted far before all the power required is developed. The place most likely to be selected has already a three-mile ditch and fence, making the water high up the hillsides. Within the past few days Edwin Fish, manager of the Baker City Gas & Electric Light Company, acquired the ownership of this piece of property.

Professor W. H. Stalker made an earnest effort to get the same enterprise started last year, but he was unable to secure the necessary funds. He went over the field in detail, measured the volume of water available for power, estimated the horsepower that could be generated, asked for bids for installing generators and other parts of the plan and for constructing the conducting lines from the generators to Baker City and other points where electricity could be utilized for power or light. Professor Stalker's figures showed that the plant could be installed and the lines constructed for about \$30,000; that is, a plan for the power and light.

First generators for 600 horsepower were considered in these estimates, the plant being so constructed that additions might be made in an increasing demand. A large electric company agreed to install the generators, and a contracting firm to erect the poles and stretch the wires for this sum.

Oregon intended to inspect the proposition. Contracts for power that would bring in \$1000 a month were made, conditional on construction, of course, and the necessary contracts were entered into. This did not include lighting of Baker City, which seemed an assured opportunity for the company. The latter reached the town with a good current of electricity. It was estimated that the current could be brought to Baker from Eagle Creek with a loss of not to exceed 12 per cent. The water would be used under conditions opened to the investor, no Oregon capital could be found to take hold of the matter, and it was never pressed beyond the paper.

Since that time the Cornucopia mines of Oregon, which was one of the heaviest assured patrons, has constructed its own electric plant, and the plan is to take electricity from the Eagle Creek plant, construct its own lines and let the power concern pay for them with power. Such inducements were not sufficient to attract investors, and other conditions seem to have changed. Plans are being formulated to promote such a company, and, if necessary, capital will be raised by the sale of bonds. This year the field will be immeasurably enlarged. Each new mine opened up within the radius, or an old one started again, will be a source of power.

A incorporated company will be perfected in a few days to erect and maintain an amateur and dance hall at North Yakima. It will be under the management and control of officers of Company C, of the National Guard.

John C. Smith, who shot Jacob Gior Fairhaven some time ago, was arraigned before the Superior Court on the charge of assault with intent to kill. He pleaded not guilty and was remanded to jail for trial at the January term.

The North Yakima G. A. R. post has elected officers for the year ending December 31. L. R. Lovell, junior vice-commander; Comrade Peck, junior vice-commander; Nat Vestes, quarter-master. The installation of the post will be at the State Grain Inspector George P. Wright has his biennial report to the Legislature ready for the printer. It is a reference to the duty upon jack mts. Mr. Wright speaks of the duty of an onerous burden upon the graingrowers of Washington.

Professor Charles A. Barry, head of the modern language department of the Agricultural College, is in a critical condition. He has been suffering from typhoid fever for some time and is expected to be at least three months before the professor will again be able to meet his classes.

Physicians of Everett are puzzled to know the cause of the epidemic of typhoid fever which is spreading in that city. The disease has been reported in the past few weeks there as many as 18 persons who have been taken down with the disease.

A band of five tough characters was before the Superior Court at North Yakima last week, charged with robbing the Northern Pacific freight-cars near Klona last October. Each demanded a separate fine, but all were convicted. They will be sentenced by Judge Davidson this week.

The residence of Mr. Keenan was totally destroyed by fire last Monday night at 11 o'clock. The fire was caused by a gas stove. A store building near the house ignited, but was prevented from burning by the efforts of the entire community, which turned out in force to fight the flames.

The Shelton Council is considering the plan of laying a pipe direct from the springs to the reservoir over ground purchased by the Shelton estate, and also of purchasing the springs. At present \$10 a month is being paid for the rent of the springs, and claims are also being presented for use of the right of way of the household goods man. The matter is before the Council for action.

A United States mailcar was robbed while standing on the main track near the Seattle Union Station depot, at Seattle, Friday night. The robber escaped unnoticed with a leather pouch containing letter mail from Sumas. Two hours later the pouch, ripped open and entirely empty, was found on the tracks about 50 yards from the spot where the mailcar was taken the theft occurred. The Government surveyor in charge investigating the case says that the robber probably carried a few dollars in coin and bills, since the pouch contained no registered mail.

The Supreme Court has handed down a decision in the case of Verzhba B. Dane vs. Melissa K. Daniel and E. J. Dyer, reversing the ruling of Judge Prather and dismissing the action, giving costs to the defendant. The case, which has been pending with interest by the legal fraternity, as it brings forward the question whether both husband and wife are necessary parties to an action to foreclose a mortgage upon real estate property. The Supreme Court decides that both are necessary, and says that the precise question suggested has never before been determined, though the principle has received repeated consideration. At former decisions have been rendered in the same line upon actions to foreclose mechanics' liens, assessment liens, etc.

Are as small as homeopathic pellets, and as easy to take as sugar. Everybody likes them. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Try them.

WALLA WALLA HAS TO HAVE A FIRE ALARM SYSTEM.

Catholics of Kent will erect a new church.

B. F. Wasson is establishing a brickyard at Everett.

Gray's Harbor bar now has 28 feet of water at low tide.

New Whatcom authorities arrested a clothes hawker, Fred J. Tacoma, who will build a sawmill at Everett.

A camp of Sons of Indian War Veterans will be instituted at Aberdeen.

Sisters of St. Joseph's Hospital at Aberdeen will conduct a fair this week.

A Farmers' Institute is to be conducted at Walla Walla, December 12.

The faculty of Whitman College has prohibited tobacco smoking on the campus.

C. P. Hallet has been convicted at Spokane of assault with a gun upon E. C. The Eastern Washington Normal School has received a consignment of books for its library.

Nearly 15000 bushels of wheat are stored in warehouses at Prescott near Walla Walla.

The labor unions of Everett have boycotted two restaurants for employing Jaycocks and waiters.

The North Yakima Council will be petitioned to issue a rock-crusher for street repair work.

The Patterson hop crop at Oregou, 654 bales, has been sold to Balfour, Guthrie & Co., at 14 1/2 cents.

Three hundred residences are in course of construction at Everett. The quarry more than 600 homes have been completed.

R. M. Shaver, of Holtford, started up his sawmill on the Hanford Tuesday. It will cut about 300,000 feet of road plank.

In order to save an hour's time, the chief dispatcher of the Great Northern Railway at Everett is arranging a new time-card.

It is said that settlers are flocking to Horse Heaven, and that not only is all of the railroad land sold, but that every patch of Government land worth \$5 has been filed on.

The Kalamia Council has passed a current law prohibiting dog-wagging under the age of 17 years from being on the streets, unattended by parent or guardian, after 7:30 P. M. in the winter and 9 P. M. in the summer.

Frank Morris, a laborer, was killed one mile from Puyallup, Saturday, by the chain of a plow snapping, one end of which struck him on the head. The other end struck a point on Clark's Creek, where the county is building a bridge.

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EUGENE AND ITS CENSUS

CITIZENS ACCEPT LOW RETURNS WITH EQUANIMITY.

School Census Shows That Population is Larger Than Recorded—Many Suburban Residents.

EUGENE, Dec. 16.—People who were surprised by the low population of Eugene as shown by the census returns are not allowing the matter to be a cause for worry. There is not a man in town who has any doubt that the population has increased in the past decade. This population is not outside of the corporate limits, either. At least 5000 houses have been built in the city in the past five years. They are all occupied now, and a vacant house is rare.

There are two things that might have operated to make the census returns show less than the true number of inhabitants. There are many men who have located homesteads on Government land, who, with their families, are simply sojourning in town. These may all have been enumerated as residing on their homesteads, while they are actually living in Eugene from the population of the town. Second reason, the enumerators may have failed to make an accurate count.

As evidence of the fact that the enumeration below shows the true number of inhabitants, there are now 334 pupils actually attending the public schools, which proves a greater population than census returns indicate.

People here do not see that it affects their welfare whether all are counted or not, and care little whether the census returns report the population 3000 or 35,000.

TWO FARM RESIDENCES BURNED.

LEBANON, Or., Dec. 16.—The farm residence of Bass Cooper, with all of its contents, was destroyed yesterday by fire. The place is about four miles north of Lebanon, near Spicer, and is occupied by B. B. Doughton. Mr. Doughton and wife had come to Lebanon to do some trading, and during their absence the fire started. When discovered by neighbors, it was under such headway that nothing could be gotten out.

It is supposed the fire originated from an ash barrel and some live coals, as the ashes had been carried out that morning. There was no insurance. The farm residence of Rev. S. F. Doughton, which was destroyed, was a fine one. It was destroyed by fire. Rev. Mr. Doughton and his family were all at church when the fire started. When discovered the entire roof was on fire. The neighbors soon gathered, but the flames had gained such headway that only a few things could be gotten out. It is supposed the fire originated from a tin stove. Rev. Mr. Doughton is the father of B. B. Doughton, whose house burned yesterday, and they only lived about a mile apart. There was no insurance.

RECEIVED \$1,000,000.

Cut Made in Lane County's Assessment by Board of Equalization. EUGENE, Or., Dec. 16.—The Lane County Board of Equalization, after sitting the entire week to listen to taxpayers on the subject of assessment, adjourned last evening. The final action of the board was to cut the county's assessment 30 per cent on all real estate in the county. The same was done last year. The reason advanced for this reduction is that property is assessed higher than in other counties, and consequently more than a just proportion of state taxes would have to be paid. Also it is argued that real estate is assessed higher than personal property. The action of the board is generally approved, but there is strong sentiment in favor of a State Equalization Board. The amount of the reduction made yesterday is about \$1,000,000.

Oregon Industries.

Stinking will begin in a few days at the River Queen on Snake River. The Arlington warehouse is said to contain 250,000 bushels of wheat. The Fischer flouring mill at Corvallis is equipped with a new dynamo.

An operative of the Oregon public school system has been elected to the board of the county at Coquille at Lee. A large fruitdrier will be built at Union for next year's crop, says the Republican.

Middle Bros. shipped five carloads of hops to Portland Thursday and two to Seattle. It is probable that a matting plant will be erected at the Iron Dyke early in the spring.

Plans have been advanced for the Corvallis-King's Valley telephone line has arrived at Corvallis. Sheep at Long Creek are commanding top prices. As high as \$25 per head have been offered for the animals.

It is reported that a new sawmill is soon to be built on Fox Creek a short distance back of Rainier. A 4-horsepower boiler passed through Prineville last week for the Chewaucan lumber company near Prineville. R. C. Goodwin, of Wheeler County, has again gone into the sheep business, and has bought 2000 head near Isee.

A 70-horsepower boiler and engine arrived at Shaniko a few days ago for the new power plant at Crook County. Over \$35,000 worth of blankets has been shipped from the Union Woolen Mills this month, according to the Republican.

J. P. Simpson has about 4,000,000 feet of lumber ready to do for the Lockman as soon as there is sufficient water for driving. A. S. Hulbert, of Linn County, recently imported some Black Leghorn chickens to Oregon. They will be on exhibition at the coming poultry show at Corvallis.

The Simms mine, in Waldo district, is operating two pipes. Beers on the upper East fork is also running two pipes. The latter is operated by Mr. McCully is operating one pipe in Scotch Gulch.

Judge Burke, who has a bond on the mines at Copper Butte, east of Union, is shipping lumber with a rapidly as possible. Three shifts are now employed. The showing is said to be excellent.

The Sanger Development Company started its 14 by 7 by 14 Knoles sink tank at the new dump, which is working in excellent shape, will be crowded to its full capacity until the mine is drained.

Hector McDonald shipped a carload of wire netting from Bismarck early last week. One weighed 1500 pounds and another 1900. They were weighed just after being driven over 30 miles of rough, muddy roads and had undoubtedly lost over 200 pounds each.

Reduction of 25 tons of ore from the old Butteville Bonanza, now known as the Paul Kruger property, in the Quartzburg district, has just been completed, says the Prairie City Miner. The cleanup was 11 pounds of amalgam, estimated to be worth over \$100.

Development of the prospects west of the town of North Fork in Union County, give assurance that mines will be opened there of permanent value. A number of claims are being opened there with paying results. The ore is generally rich in gold and some of it contains what is believed to be paying quantities of copper. The district is designated as Eldorado. A lot of machinery is now being taken out of the district to be used in the new district for reducing the ores.

The Wimer hydraulic mine is not quite ready for piping, owing to the construction of new ditches, says the Grant's

Pass Journal. The Wimers have expended over \$2000 in improvements on their mining property since their last clean-up in June. These improvements include new head frames, new pipes of sugar-pine lumber and white cedar timbers, also bridge frames along the Illinois River, extension of ditches at the mine, new penstocks and large hoists; the main outlet race upon which the pipe-heads are siphoned across to the giant pipes.

STATE PRESS COMMENT.

The proposed ship subsidy is in line with all such bounty measures. It is class legislation, and aids a few at the expense of the many. If the American merchant marine cannot be built up without Government subsidies, under the favorable conditions that made Arthur Sewall, the late famous shipbuilder, a very wealthy man, it cannot be built up at all.—Weston Leader.

There is money in the chicken industry if properly conducted. This section would thrive on hops, chickens and the creamery business. If the people entered into them with as much zest and intelligence as they have done in the past, the industry would be developed. Our farmers have had sufficient experience in that line, in the common parlance, take a tumble.—Woodburn Independent.

The flax industry, both the growing of flax and its manufacture into linen, promises to become an important industry in the Willamette Valley. It is conceded that no part of the world surpasses the Willamette Valley in the growing of flax. The investment of capital in the manufacture of flax into linen has developed into a highly profitable industry here.—Albany Herald.

The Portland Oregonian celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on the 4th inst. Four pages of the issue of that day was a facsimile reproduction of the first issue of the paper. The reproduction was made by the photographic process and the contrast between No. 1 and No. 12, 1/2 is decidedly marked. The Oregonian has advanced from an insignificant beginning to the head of the class of Pacific Coast newspapers.—Condon Globe.

While it is true that no one can be possibly injured by reading the Bible, yet all sects or religious denominations rely solely upon the Bible as their authority for their particular belief and doctrine, and claim to be able to find their way to heaven by their own interpretation, and they are, in almost every instance, sectarian to such an extent as to express an opinion on the chapter read. To read the Bible intelligently by the individual should be required in the public schools. It is a requirement that few, if any, instructors would comply with. First, they would deem it necessary to make some comment in order to give the children advance some special theory. Secondly, there would be a call for comment on certain passages by pupils who had been taught one particular doctrine by their parents or even to ideas which were instilled into their minds by persons of sectarian religious belief.—Myrtle Point Enterprise.

It is to be hoped that the proposed text book commission will be chosen from among practical educators, and not from among politicians. The Oregon public school needs a series of text books which will be permanent, for at least a couple of years. It needs condensed and assorted studies in every branch. The schools are burdened by a vast library of school books. He gets a smattering of many studies, but gets a thoroughness in none. A commission of educators, armed with authority to fix the text books for the year of the day, will be a God-send to Oregon schools.—Pendleton East Oregonian.