The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance—

Daily, with Sunday, per month	$ 85
Daily, Sunday excepted, per year	7 50
Daily, with Sunday, per year	9 00
Sunday, per year	2 00
The Weekly, per year	1 50
The Weekly, 3 months	50

To City Subscribers—
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted.15c
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included.20c

POSTAGE RATES.

United States, Canada and Mexico:
10 to 14-page paper.....1c
16 to 28-page paper.....2c
Foreign rates double.

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For sale in Washington, D. C., by the Ebbett House news stand.

For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Kendrick, 906-912 Seventeenth street.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Cloudy, with occasional rain; southerly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 44; minimum temperature, 30; precipitation, 0.01 inch.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1.

THE NEW OREGON.

The fact that will be most impressive to the reader of the New Year's edition of The Oregonian will be the vast resources of the Pacific Northwest States, the enormous inducements they offer the investor and the homebuilder, and their meager population. The name Oregon, as applied to a large region of indefinite and changing limits in the Pacific West, was revealed to the world by Jonathan Carver. It has been a name dear to the American heart since Gray sailed into the Columbia River in the little ship Columbia in the first years of our first National Administration. Boundary settlements, in which England, Spain, Russia and the United States had an interest, held the stage down to 1846, when the treaty with Great Britain vested title south of the 49th parallel and west of the Rocky Mountains in the United States. The Oregon Country as defined by the treaty of 1846 was known as Oregon Territory from 1848 until 1853, when Washington was set off as a territory. At that time the Columbia River and a line extending eastward from it and terminating at the Rocky Mountains divided Oregon from Washington. In the geographical evolution of the country there have been many changes. At one time Washington Territory comprised all of old Oregon not now in the present State of Oregon. At another time Nebraska came westward to the Rockies, and still later Dakota. At still another period Idaho included all the land between the present eastern boundaries of Oregon and Washington, and the present western boundaries of Nebraska and the Dakotas. It was not until the formation of Wyoming Territory in 1868 that the states that were wholly or in part in old Oregon—Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming—assumed the geographical bounds they now have on the maps.

A paper much larger than this large number of The Oregonian would not suffice for a full presentation of the possibilities of what is historically known as the Oregon Country. This number is therefore devoted to all of Oregon and so much of Washington and Idaho as belongs in the Valley of the Columbia River and is tributary to Portland. A few facts and figures tell what the Oregon Country was at the first census, and give its approximate population at the census of 1900. What is told here of Oregon, Eastern and Southern Washington, and the Lewiston country, in Idaho, ought to convince even the most casual reader that the Northwest offers to man's energy and industry the reward of a home in the most hospitable part of the habitable regions of the globe, and the greatest possible return for capital and labor. Millions of acres of land owned by the Federal Government and the states, some of it better than others, but most of it valuable for some purpose, must sooner or later attract the homebuilder of those sections of the East where land is advanced in price beyond the reach of the man of moderate means and where the foundation of the home—the land itself—has come to represent a fortune. The lumber industry has already turned to the Pacific Coast because the supply east of the Mississippi is nearing exhaustion. As the population grows, a greater demand will spring up for home manufactures, now discouragingly small, and we shall make use of our numerous water powers, generally to generate power for transmission by wire to manufacturing centers, and locally to be applied to isolated industries. Agriculture, dairying, horticulture, mining and other pursuits offer inducements that millions of persons in the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio Valleys, now toiling under unfavorable conditions, ought to improve within a generation at the farthest. One of the striking features of our new prosperity and development is the opening of markets in Asia. Up to within the past three years we had been pent up. If, before the Spanish War, the people of the Eastern States were a lot of shopkeepers, we of the Pacific West were but a little better than a set of barterers. We were largely a pastoral people with no industrial strength in reserve for a slackening up in the times. We did little more than exchange eatables for wearables and other manufactured goods. We are not much better off now, for that matter, but the westward trend of population, the opening of new markets and all the signs of the times point to the fact that the era of industrial progress on large lines is not far distant. In Asia and the Pacific we have in area and population a larger contiguous field for our exploitation than the Atlantic seaboard has in Europe. The United States commands the Pacific and the Pacific Coast ports are the most favorably situated for handling both imports and exports.

For Oregon itself the future could not possibly be brighter. At nearly every other period of our history when we were about to move forward something has occurred to distract attention from us and divert immigration in another direction. We were in our swaddling clothes as a territory when the gold discovery in California not only drew from us people who were coming this way, but many of those who flocked to the West to make by their presence the preponderance of population in favor of the United States in the boundary dispute with Great Britain. When we were about to move on again there began that rush of settlers to the north of us which has continued to this day and made Washington the first state in population on the North Pacific Coast. When our mines were emerging from the obscurity into which they had been thrown by false reports of shallow and pockety ledges, the Klondike excitement occupied the public mind. But now all of our industries are firmly rooted, and nothing can shake them. They can't go backward, they must go forward. As for the state in general, the people of the East and Middle West, who are enervated by heat half the year and frozen the other half, have begun to realize that in the wild rush for lands they have overlooked one spot, and that the most habitable. No matter how man may like his Eastern home, no matter what traditions may bind him to the ancestral fireside, he cannot stay in a country where the cost of living exceeds his revenue. These are the people who will come to Oregon and give it the forward step which it has long merited. As for the City of Portland, it needs but keep pace with the country of which it has been the commercial emporium for half a century to retain its position as the metropolis of the North Pacific.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE YEAR.

The past year has been full of events of far-reaching character both for the United States and Great Britain. The unexpected taking off of President McKinley was a most important event, as it brought to the succession a man of very robust and impressive individuality; a man so utterly antagonistic in temperament to President McKinley that his assumption of the executive chair implies a certainty of changed political atmosphere. It would not be possible for such a man as President Roosevelt to meet an important executive responsibility exactly as President McKinley would have met it. For this reason the assassination of McKinley is sure to prove a far-reaching event. Not only a new President has succeeded, but a young, resolute, aggressive man, who is sure to be a very alert, energetic Executive, full of honorable ambition to make a record that will make him the standard-bearer of his party in 1904. Under such a President the outlook for the year is favorable for public peace and prosperity. The character of the new President is assurance that our military reputation will be cared for on land and sea, and that domestic disorder will be sternly repressed. Probably the most important event of the year, measured by its probable results, was the accession of a new President through the murder of Mr. McKinley.

The accession of King Edward through the death of Queen Victoria was an important event, as the death of the old Queen permitted the final obliteration of some usages and ceremonials that had become obsolete. While the prosperity of the United States has been unexampled during the past year, it has become the habit of the foreign critics of Great Britain to pretend to believe that England's commercial prosperity has reached its highest level; that henceforth Great Britain will be but second rate among the great powers of Europe. While the United States has natural and acquired advantages that will probably enable her not only to maintain her present commercial lead, but even to increase it, it is, nevertheless, true that, next to the United States, Great Britain has the best commercial outlook for the future. It is true that the Boer War has been a vexatious and expensive burden to carry, but the irrepressible Englishman, in spite of this burden, has been able during the past year to complete the Uganda Railroad, the latest achievement in developing tropical Africa. This railroad, extending from Mombasa, on the Indian Ocean, to Port Florence on the northeast coast of Lake Victoria Nyanza, is 582 miles long, and brings the Uganda protectorate, inhabited by 4,000,000 of people, within easy reach of the sea. These people are the largest consumers in Africa of cotton cloth and many other foreign products. Out of this country Great Britain will create another Ceylon, for the soil is very fertile and suitable for coffee growing, cocoa, tea, sugar and rice. The country exports also rubber and ivory. The Congo Railway has paid a dividend on the capital invested from the first year of its operation, and this East African Railway is sure to be ultimately a good business investment. Now British capital and energy have built this railway and opened it for traffic, while the Germans have their East African Railway not only uncompleted, but hardly yet transferred from paper existence to actual construction. It is absurd to describe as decadent a power like Great Britain, which not only has the most money of any power in Europe, but manifests the greatest enterprise.

France is inhabited by a thrifty, money-saving, money-potting people, but France bears no comparison with Great Britain as a world-wide trader and colonizing power. Germany is next to Great Britain in commercial brains, energy and ambition, but Germany has not so long a purse and feels today the effects of its severe exertions. Russia has largely completed her great railway from St. Petersburg to Vladivostock, on the Japan Sea, a distance of 6677 miles, with an extension of 1100 miles to Port Arthur, on the Yellow Sea. This great railroad line is broken by 1400 miles of steamboat travel down the Amoor River, but it is the longest railway in the world, and will serve to colonize Southern Siberia with millions of people. China has gone through a memorable experience, but with no permanent valuable results. The present prospect is that the Chinese military establishment will be entirely reconstructed under Japanese officers, by the administration of Yuan Shi Kai, the new Viceroy of Pekin Province. This reported alliance between China and Japan, if perfected, will drive Russia out of Eastern Asia. It is a shrewd stroke on the part of both Japan and China, and the birth of this policy is likely to be followed by memorable results. The outlook for the rest of the world seems to call for no special comment. The action of the United States, Great Britain, Germany, Russia and Japan in a large sense may be said to determine the course of political events for the near future.

NATIONAL DIFFERENCES.

Mr. Alfred Mosely tells the British world of commerce and industry that the American boy is brighter than the English boy. The reason for it, he thinks, is in the kind of education we give our youth. His ideas have found such acceptance that a batch of pupils is to be sent over here to study us. They will represent not only Parliament, but business houses, labor circles and universities. It is not at all improbable that the American boy is brighter than the British boy, for travelers seem agreed that our grown-ups are brighter than Britishers, and it is doubtless true here as in Wordsworth's England that the child is father of the man. But is this difference attributable to education solely or even chiefly?

No one need expect to settle a question of this sort decisively out of hand, for if it could be done the nations would soon be on a dead level of mediocrity. They differ greatly as it is, and from time immemorial they have studied each other's excellences for hints to use at home. Great Britain seems continually to have a commission of some sort on the Continent or in this country, searching diligently for the secret that is to do away with German superiority in textiles, for example, or American advantage in steel. But the problem remains unsolved, and a new commission is always needed as soon as an old one has made its report.

Fortunately, certain things are implanted in Nature's laws, including human nature, which the equalizing efforts of man are powerless to eradicate or overcome. The American public school system has undoubted advantages in sharpening the young mind which are impossible anywhere except under democratic conditions with cosmopolitan population. On the other hand, we lack the legacy which insularity has given to Great Britain, Napoleon's organizing faculty to France, and Bismarck's unifying achievement to Germany. We are unable to shake off the tariff shackles that Great Britain shed generations ago, we have not the French taste in art, nor the German's talent for plodding thoroughness. Climate and soil, inheritance and environment, all stamp ineradicable traces on National processes of thought and handiwork.

Each people, that is to say, has its peculiar advantages, and what is more, each always will. Centers of iron production or cotton manufacture or carrying trade will shift about, but no nation can hope to retain all its points of superiority while it is acquiring new ones. A New Year's resolution most urgently needed among certain American statesman is that they will abandon the idea that this Nation can supply the world with all its foodstuffs, turn out all its manufactures and do all the carrying trade besides. Each in his place, and not one in everybody's place.

THE NEW CENTURY'S FIRST YEAR.

Halting for a moment at the first milestone and looking backward to the dawn of the new century, we see:

The death of Queen Victoria and the world paying tribute to her worth as a woman and a sovereign.

This Nation with one accord in homage to John Marshall, expounder of the Federal Constitution.

Formation of a steel trust involving capital nearly equal to the National debt.

The passing of Benjamin Harrison, who for four years gave to this country an exceptionally strong and clean administration.

Frederick Funston's daring capture of Aguinaldo, thus far barren of political results.

Great oil discoveries in the State of Texas, based on which were floated many wildcat schemes.

The Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo and its lamentable financial failure.

Death of John Fiske, whose historical and philosophical works have added riches to American literature.

The gigantic strike of steelworkers.

Further discoveries in bacteriology by Dr. Robert Koch, the most distinguished figure in the medical world.

Practical completion of the Trans-Siberian Railway, the most stupendous transportation enterprise in the world, fraught with political possibilities whose future no one may estimate.

Andrew Carnegie, lying awake nights, in devising schemes whereby he can give away $240,000,000 so that it may benefit the people from whom it was obtained.

Combination of transcontinental railways and a division, between two groups, of nearly all the territory west of the Missouri River; whether for good or evil, time must decide.

The awful crime of the year, the murder of William McKinley.

Inauguration of Theodore Roosevelt as President of the United States.

Celebration of the bicentennial of Yale College.

Development of the automobile to a speed greater than is attained by the fastest limited trains.

Santos-Dumont controlling the movements of an airship.

Inquiry into the conduct of Admiral Schley, with a verdict not approved by the country.

And the astounding scientific achievement by William Marconi of sending a message by electricity a distance of 1700 miles across the Atlantic ocean without a wire.

Some of these events, if they had taken place fifty years ago, would have been more than a nine days' wonder. But we live in an age of such tremendously fast movement that nothing creates more than a momentary surprise.

"Invasion" of England and other foreign countries with the manufactures of the United States is advancing with rapid strides, and it may be that the year 1901 has marked the beginning of America's commercial conquest of the world.

A few words must be added to the historical matter in this number regarding the Lewis and Clark expedition. The movement that had been on for a year to hold a fair to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the great journey culminated in the fall in the incorporation of an exposition company with a capital of $300,000. Early in November an executive committee composed of leading citizens was formed for the purpose of placing the stock. After careful organization, subcommittees took the field, and in two days secured pledges for $305,000. Work done by the committees in the two days has since grown to pledges amounting to over $325,000, and the papers for nearly all of this sum have been placed in the hands of the temporary officers. No city on the Pacific Coast, and no city in the United States of Portland's size, has ever subscribed so large a fund for a public enterprise. At this time there is no doubt that the fair will be held in 1905. Nor is there doubt that soon after permanent organization is effected this month the capital stock will be increased to $500,000 and the increase subscribed.

The day of the dunghill fowl is ended in Oregon. Every high-bred rooster crowing beside high-bred mates in the coops of the Oregon State Poultry Exhibit, now in progress in this city, proclaims this important fact. The old-fashioned speckled hen that stole her nest in the brush pile, laid fifteen eggs and in due time "came off" with a dozen fluffy, spindle-legged chickens, belongs to the past. She was a "good mother," scratched industriously for her brood, and got them ready for the frying-pan early in the season. But there was not enough of them. Her highly developed sister, with high-sounding title and long pedigree, scorns to sit, but is a good layer; her eggs go into the incubator and she repudiates all family cares, but sings and maintains her independence the year round. Up to date, paying her way as she goes, comely and of ample proportions, the evoluted hen is a cheerful exponent of progress in the poultry business and is entitled to the consideration that she receives. "May her tribe increase."

A movement the object of which is to clean up and beautify the city by sections should meet the cordial co-operation of citizens, in whatever locality it is started. What is everybody's business is nobody's business, and if the talk on civic improvement is to amount to anything it must be through specific rather than general action. The announcement, therefore, that a branch of the American Civic Improvement League will be organized and devote its efforts toward cleaning up occupied and unoccupied blocks, from Sellwood to the city limits north, and from the river east to the city boundaries, is to the point. The wide area covered by this announcement shows that a very large contract has been undertaken, but it is at all events specific, and, with co-operative effort on the part of citizens, will succeed in accomplishing a great deal. The East Side leads thus far in the lines indicated. It may be hoped that its example will be contagious.

Owing to the effect of the Naval controversy upon the public mind, the proposal to erect a grand naval arch at the Battery in New York has been abandoned and the money already subscribed will be refunded. The plain truth is that it is impossible, so disgusted have the people become at the uncovering of the petty spites, rancors and jealousies among men high in rank in the Navy, to secure a sufficient sum to carry out the plan conceived when the Navy was high in popular favor. It will take another war and at least one more great victory to restore this gallant arm of the service to the favor that it lost by the unwise publicity given to the conspiracy of one set of officers to injure another.

The Astoria News desires removal of the military forces of the United States from Vancouver and permanent establishment of the chief post of the Northwest at Fort Lawton, near Seattle. The Astoria paper publishes an editorial in this behalf, which, of course, is gratefully and gladly reprinted by Seattle papers. The object, of course, is to do injury to Portland and to Oregon. Let Astorians be asked whether it is a wonder, when such a spirit is shown by their town, that neither the men, the measures, the proposals or the suggestions that Astoria may offer—whatever they may be—will get consideration at Portland? It is a situation for which Astoria is responsible, and Portland will see it through.

Admiral Schley will accept the situation without further struggle, contenting himself with Admiral Dewey's opinion and the popular verdict in his favor. His friends, it is said, however, will ask Congress to retire him on full pay and reimburse him for the expenses of his trial. This would add material to popular vindication, but it might not be wise to press it, since there is clearly no way to drop the matter but to drop it. The public is only less tired of the controversy than is the Navy Department, and Congress will not care to take up a spent issue and infuse new acrimony into it.

The year 1901 ends as it began, with a considerable body of exceedingly mobile Boer troops in the field defying British authority. Careful estimates place the number in the field at from 8000 to 10,000, while the whole fighting force amounts to something like 20,000. The desultory warfare carried on by these troops against the British shows no sign of abatement, though Lord Kitchener continues to report progress. It is clear that the condition of the noncombatants in the concentration camps cannot greatly improve while this defiant host is in the field.

There is more than mere community of ownership involved in the contest between Messrs. Harriman and Hill. Ownership of the community is also a mighty factor in the case.

A Chicago professor is unraveling the mystery of life. So is everybody—at the rate of twenty-four hours per day.

After all, "Historian" Maclay was not the real element of dispute in the Schley controversy.

It is now "1902," and we are one year nearer the 1905 Centennial.

STRENGTH OF TREASURY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—"The Treasury is in a condition of unexampled strength," said Secretary Gage today, when asked to review briefly the Treasury situation at the close of the year. "Only a month ago, in my annual report to Congress, I reviewed these conditions. The figures for the last month have made but little change. For the calendar year we show receipts in excess of the ordinary expenditures amounting roundly to $100,000,000. Such an excess might have resulted in serious embarrassment had not the department been able, by means of this surplus, to reduce the public debt in large amounts. Since April 1 last, the Treasury has redeemed and canceled United States bonds to the par value of $58,714,700, which have been applied to the sinking fund, and the disbursement resulting therefrom was $72,226,845. The available cash on hand is, therefore, only about $30,000,000 larger than the amount held a year ago.

"Comparing the situation as it is today with April 1, 1897, the result is most gratifying. On the latter day the Treasury held money of all kinds to the amount of $250,873,000, including $100,000,000 as a gold reserve, leaving, therefore, $150,000,000 as a cash balance. Today, in money of all kinds, the Treasury holds $296,659,000, and if we deduct the $150,000,000 now held as a gold reserve, the balance stands at $146,000,000, or $4,000,000 less than it was April 1, 1897. It will be seen, therefore, that substantial equilibrium has been maintained.

"There has been a very material increase in the volume of money in circulation since March 1, 1897, as well as in the amount per capita. The volume of money on that date, outside the Treasury was $1,675,694,933, and the amount per capita was $23 14. On December 1 last the amount of money outside the Treasury was $2,250,256,230, and the amount per capita was $28 73. The increase in amount, therefore, was $574,561,277, and the increase per capita was $5 59.

"The amount of gold coin and gold certificates in circulation increased from $553,809,945 on March 1, 1897, to $914,300,089 on December 1, 1901. Every other kind of money in circulation is greater in amount now than on March 1, 1897, with the single exception of the Treasury notes of the act of July 14, 1890. The amount of these in circulation December 1, 1901, was only $40,012,622, as against $85,546,621 on March 1, 1897. This reduction in volume grows out of the natural operation of the act of July 14, 1890, and the act of March 14, 1900. "The increase in the amount of National bank notes in circulation during the period in question was $132,132,731. This increase is mainly attributed to the act of March 14, 1900."

THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

Internal Banking Corporation Will Act as American Agent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—At a meeting of the Cabinet today it was decided to make the Internal Banking Corporation, organized in New York to do business in Shanghai, the agent of the Government for the receipt of payments to the Government of the Chinese indemnity. Consul Goodnow was appointed temporarily to receive these payments to the United States as they are collected until a fiscal agent of this Government could be selected. The Internal Banking Corporation now has an agent at Shanghai, in the person of Mr. Ferron, and to him the amount of annual payments will be made. The fund out of which the interest on the indemnity is paid accumulated from the collection of customs and will be distributed pro rata among the agents of the several governments interested.

The German-Venezuelan dispute was discussed casually at the Cabinet meeting. There is an understanding between Germany and this Government as to the matter, and no complications are expected which will involve the United States.

Philippine Coastwise Shipping.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—If Congress follows the recommendation of the War Department, commerce between the United States and Philippine Islands and among the islands themselves will be thrown open to foreign bottoms for an indefinite time. Already there is pending in the House legislation looking to the exemption of the tariff between the Philippines and the United States for the operation of coastwise shipping laws, which requires all trade between the United States ports to be carried in American bottoms. At the instance of the War Department, this measure will be amended so as to place the inter-island traffic on the same footing. Meanwhile, pending conclusive action by Congress, the Treasury will continue the order suspending the application of coastwise shipping laws to Philippine commerce.

Humphreys Will Not Resign.

HONOLULU, Dec. 24, via San Francisco, Dec. 31.—The report that Circuit Judge Humphreys has resigned is now denied here. It is stated that the Judge had his resignation ready to forward to Washington, but that a renewal of local attacks upon him caused him to tear up the resignation and keep his office. Humphreys refuses to say whether he has resigned or not.

The United States mail on board the Inter-Island steamer Kinau was robbed last Friday night or Saturday morning. A pouch of registered mail was taken. Later the pouch was found on the water front, cut open and its contents taken.

Censorship Withdrawn.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The Commercial Cable Company this morning sends out the following notice:

"We are advised that the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company makes the announcement that the American Government has withdrawn the censorship on messages to Manila, but the Government claims the right to inspect the messages to which this measure applies."

Roosevelt Demands a Resignation.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 31.—President Roosevelt has formally demanded the resignation of Davis A. Nunn, Collector of Internal Revenue, Fifth District of Tennessee. Alleged violation of Civil Service regulations in the discharge of a clerk is said to be the cause. Colonel Nunn has gone to Washington.

SENATOR SEWELL'S FUNERAL.

Military Services at the Grave at Camden.

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 31.—The funeral of the late United States Senator William Joyce Sewell took place today from the Sewell mansion in this city. From 10 until 11 o'clock the public was permitted to view the body and thousands passed around the bier. The services were conducted by Bishop John Scarborough of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of New Jersey, assisted by Rev. R. A. Roderick, of this city.

Eight Sergeants from the Third Regiment and Battery B, N. G. N. J., carried the casket to a caisson provided by the War Department and the cortege proceeded to Harleigh Cemetery, where interment was made. General Brooke, of the military department of the East, was in command of the Government troops, and Brigadier-General William H. Cooper was in command of the state troops.

At the grave a salute of 13 guns was fired. After the reading of the commital services the body was lowered into the grave and another salute was fired. Among the honorary pallbearers were Secretary of War Root; Adjutant-General Corbin, Governor Voorhees, Governor-elect Murphy, ex-United States Attorney-General Griggs, A. J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania Railway, and Clement A. Griscom, president of the International Navigation Company.

In addition to the United States Senators and Representatives who came to attend the funeral, there were present a large number of distinguished and prominent men from New Jersey and adjoining states.

THE HANNA-FORAKER CONTEST

CINCINNATI, Dec. 31.—The fight between the Hanna and Foraker factions for control of the Ohio Legislature became acute in Cincinnati today, when it became known that two Toledo members of the House of Representatives were here in consultation with Senator Foraker. They were followed to the city by the chairman of the central committee at Toledo and by Representative Demath, of Toledo, both Hanna men. The result of the day's conference was in favor of Foraker, in that the two Toledo men who first arrived gave their pledge to support the Foraker programme.

At a meeting of the Hamilton County delegation tonight the three Senators and 10 Representatives voted unanimously to support the Foraker candidates in the organization of the Legislature.

After the meeting a statement was given out that the pending contest was not one between Foraker and Hanna themselves for supremacy in Ohio; that the party would not recognize the contest as factional, and that the Hamilton County members would give respectful attention to the advice of the local Republican organization, in which George B. Cox is universally recognized as the dominating influence.

Mr. Cox said tonight the present trouble was due to tale-bearing gossips, not to any leaders, and that the result would have no bearing in the future against any one. He added: "Whatever figure Hamilton County may cut in the contest now on you may depend on it that the question of Senatorial supremacy in Ohio has not even been considered."

Mr. Cox said that he would leave for Columbus Thursday morning and remain there until after the Legislature is organized. Senator Foraker will not go to Columbus until after the election of a Senator January 15.

FORAKER IS CONFIDENT.

Friends of Hanna Also Expect to Control Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 31.—While the friends of both Senator Foraker and Senator Hanna each claim to have the necessary number of votes to organize the Legislature, the truth is that neither side has them, though neither is short more than four votes of having a majority of the caucus. Every possible influence is being brought to bear by both factions upon the doubtful members, who admittedly hold the key to the situation.

Senator Foraker, in a talk over the telephone with one of his lieutenants here, expressed the greatest satisfaction with the present situation, and appears to have the greatest confidence in the final outcome. Senator Hanna, on the other hand, is equally confident of the ability of his friends to organize the house.

It is announced here that G. B. Cox, of Cincinnati, will come to Columbus Friday, and take the field for Price for Speaker. Price is the Foraker candidate. The potent influences behind Price's candidacy are Senator Foraker, G. B. Cox, Charles L. Kurtz and the State Brewers' Association, besides Congressmen Beidler, Burton, Neven and Kyle.

BOARD DECIDES FOR M'HARGUE.

Insufficient Evidence for Revocation of His Teachers' Certificate.

HILLSBORO, Dec. 31.—The Board of Examiners for Washington County, sitting as a trial body in the case of the petition for revocation of the Clackamas County teacher's certificate granted U. S. McHargue and indorsed here by order of the Circuit Judge, ended last evening, after a three days' session. The board consisted of Attorney H. T. Bagley, who acted as Superintendent Ball's deputy; B. W. Barnes, principal of the Hillsboro schools, and M. C. Case, principal of the Cornelius schools. After being out but a few minutes the board decided that there was insufficient evidence for revocation, and it was permitted to stand. It is reported here that McHargue will be engaged to teach the Reedville school next term. This is the case which is now proceeding to the Supreme Court for the decision as to whether or not "may" means "must" in the statute saying that a school superintendent "may" indorse the certificate of a teacher when it is granted in another county.

Now Has a Commercial Club.

The Hillsboro Commercial Club, the only organization of its kind in the county, has been organized with a membership of 50. The new club has handsome quarters in the Schulmerich brick. Its purposes are social, as well as for the commercial, benefit of the city and vicinity. Out-of-town members are a feature of the organization.

State Land Board Collections.

SALEM, Dec. 31.—Collections in the State Land Office for the month of December aggregated $35,177 95, divided among the several funds as follows:

Common school fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales of school land	$18,923 46
Common school fund principal, payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure	5,996 25
Common school fund interest payments on certificates	2,672 16
Common school fund interest, rents and payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure	6,948 06
University fund interest, payments on certificates	20
University fund interest, rents and payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure	24 20
Agricultural College fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales of school land	463 06
Agricultural College fund interest, payments o ncertificates	75 96
Agricultural College fund interest, rents and payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure	65 60
Total	$35,177 95

Assured That Ruth Will Be Saved.

CORVALLIS, Dec. 31.—It is now practically assured that the steamer Ruth will be saved. For a time some doubt existed on this point, but the arrival of another large barge from Portland, making three in all in the wrecking appliances, enables the crew to lift the sunken boat sufficiently to make the work of saving the boat more certain. So far two bulkheads have been successfully constructed aft, and a third is now being built around the boilers. About two feet of water still remain in the hold. Enough progress has been made in the work to enable the boilers of the Ruth to be used in pumping, and they are constantly employed. Anywhere from two to six days may yet be required in getting the boat to float.

The Modoc, which has been employed by the wrecking crew ever since the Ruth sunk, left down this morning on the Ruth's run, and hereafter the daily service interrupted by the sinking of the Ruth will be in vogue.

Evidence of Prosperity.

SALEM, Dec. 31.—That Marion County property-owners are in easy financial circumstances is shown by the fact that Sheriff Durbin has collected all but about $6000 of the taxes on the 1900 tax roll. A large portion of the remainder will yet be collected, leaving but a comparatively small amount to be made by the delinquent tax sale. Of course, there are a great many poll taxes included in the amount still due on the 1900 roll, and as usual these will not be collected. Practically all property taxes will be collected.

Found Dead in Bed.

OREGON CITY, Dec. 31.—Edward Peck, a farmer, living near Molalla, was found dead in bed Sunday morning by friends who had called to visit him. He was 76 years of age, and lived alone. He leaves a daughter living in Portland.

Brought to the Asylum.

SALEM, Dec. 31.—Hattie Brown, aged 41 years, was brought to the asylum today from Portland. Charles L. Lambert, a dry goods clerk, aged 39 years, was also received at the asylum from Portland.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Happy New Year!

May it be as good as the old one, and twice as long!

Suppose we swear off swearing off for the coming 12 months.

What will you bet that you don't write it 1901 the first time you try it?

A Venezuela gunboat is named Restaurador. Wouldn't that make you hungry?

Perhaps wireless telegraphy will help a few briefless barristers to get money from home.

Was it the singing of the stars we heard this morning about the time the new year came in?

Has any one thought to send a New Year's greeting to our esteemed fellow-citizen, Emilio Aguinaldo?

It is a crime to smoke in Abyssinia. Perhaps that is why the missionaries never do it till after death.

One of them will be the happiest day of all the glad New Year. Buy yourself a calendar and take your pick.

The hammers of the myth-crushers ring loud and clear on every hand. We shall soon begin to doubt our own existence.

Admiral Casey is to be at the bat in the Peru squabble. The dinky little warships down there better be careful not to send any outshoots his way.

Now the New Year reviving old desires,
The swearer off some stimulant requires,
And, throwing resolutions to the wind,
Rejoins the goodly company of buyers.

It is reported that Mrs. Nation is to marry an Iowa man. Well, Iowa has two Cabinet officers; she can't expect that things will come her way always.

Dear Santa Claus: If you had any particular reason for holding out that circus I asked you for, there is still time to explain. TOMMY.

Good-bye, old year; we'll shout hurray!
It's lots of good you've done,
So unreservedly we say,
Sweet sleep to 1901.
And you, new year, while no one knows
What good or harm you'll do
We'll still full cheerfully propose
A health to 1902!

If Marconi in the next three years establishes communication with ———, Portland will send a message to Thomas Jefferson when we open the Lewis and Clark Fair.

What do we mean by the glad New Year,
In song and story and ode?
No mystery surely lies hidden here,
It's only a fork in the road.
Only a fork in the road of life,
The choice of two separate ways,
Through the Valley of Peace and the Plain of Strife,
Fading soon in our wondering gaze.
And one is traveled, and fair to see,
Like that over which we came,
While the other is lonely, and yet, may be
That it leads to Love, or Fame.
They both lead away beyond our ken,
And we choose how we go today;
So look at them, Pilgrim, look again;
Which way will you travel? Which way?

Ah King, a Chinese witness in a legal suit in San Francisco, a few days ago, was asked by the Judge if he understood the nature of an oath. "Vellee muchee understland," replied the Mongolian, "me no tellee lie." "If you do, what will happen to you?" 'Burnee hellee, allee samee white debbil!" was the quick answer. "What else will happen to you?" "Jee Cli! You likee more?"

Told my mamma I'd be good,
All the long New Year;
Looks as if the job is hard,
Now that it is here.
Maybe when the skatin' comes
Right on some school day,
I'll be wantin' awful much
Jus' t' run away.
Maybe when it's swimmin' time
Down t' Joneses' pool,
It'll seem like I jus' can't
Keep locked up in school,
Maybe when there's goin's on
In our house; instead
Of 'bein' what my mamma says
I won't go t' bed.
When I think of all the things
I 'ud like to do,
That ain't right, I wish I'd not
Uv promised, wouldn't you?

NORTHWEST OIL INTERESTS.

Steps Taken to Organize With Headquarters at Salt Lake.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 31.—Steps are being taken to organize the oil interests of the Northwest States, with headquarters at Salt Lake. This action is deemed imperative by reason of the action recently taken at Denver looking toward the centralization at that point of all Western oil interest. In view of the fact that Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah contain practically the entire oil territory in the Northwest, those most interested claim that the control of such industry should be centered at the principal city adjacent to prominent oil fields. With this object in view, it is proposed to hold a meeting in this city at an early date, when definite action will be taken on the proposition of establishing a central oil exchange in Salt Lake.

ELECTION IN CUBA.

Indications Point to a Light Vote—Masso Men Did Not Participate.

HAVANA, Dec. 31.—Election returns have not yet been received here. The indications promise a light vote. The partisans of Masso in Havana did not vote.

Little Interest at Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 31.—The elections passed off today without notable incident in the district. The Nationalist was the only ticket in the field, and consequently it was elected. Very few votes were cast in this city, and little interest in the proceedings was apparent.

New Departure in Hopgrowing.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 31.—A new departure in the hop business is being tried this season for probably the first time in Oregon by R. R. Hays, of this city. He has secured roots and is putting out an experimental yard of three acres of the famous Bavarian hops. This variety of hops is more highly prized than any other by all brewers. Mr. Hays is making this experiment in order to ascertain whether the Bavarian hop is adapted to this soil and climate, and whether it will be more profitable than other varieties. He is one of the largest and most successful hopgrowers in the county, and has 40 acres of hops now in cultivation.

Accident to Pembrokeshire.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 31.—The British steamship Pembrokeshire, which arrived down this afternoon, got out of the channel while passing Sylvia de Grass reef and grazed the rocks with her port side forward. It is thought that some of the rivets were loosened, as she made 21 inches of water in one compartment in about two hours. The steamship will be examined by a diver tomorrow.

Supreme Court Orders.

SALEM, Dec. 31.—The following orders were made in the Supreme Court today:

Julia C. Richardson, appellant, vs. Bertrand Orth, et al., respondents; appellant allowed until February 1 to file petition for rehearing.

D. B. Jenckes, of Eugene, admitted to the bar on nine months' probation, on a certificate from the Supreme Court of Nebraska.