YEAR'S GOOD RECORD

Building Movement Has Been Active.

AND NO SIGNS OF SLACKENING

Many Large Business Buildings Are Projected, Which Will Greatly Improve the City—Realty Market Continues Brisk.

Real Estate Transfers.

Monday	$ 9,732
Tuesday	13,519
Wednesday	13,913
Thursday	.....
Friday	11,889
Saturday	5,883
Total	$54,936

Building Permits.

Monday	$ 1,000
Tuesday	3,000
Wednesday	12,600
Thursday	.....
Friday	1,925
Saturday	20,450
Total	$38,975

The closing week of the year exhibits more activity in realty and building circles than was expected. Several large buildings have been announced during the past week, and, though the real estate transfers show the depressing effects of the fag end of the year, definite announcements of buildings to be erected early in the season may properly be placed to the credit of this year, whose prosperity has shown owners that business blocks in Portland are gilt-edged investments. The proposed structure of the Marshall-Wells Company on Pine street, between Fourth and Fifth, to cost about $75,000, is the most important item in the list. The building to be put up by S. Morton Cohn at Tenth and Washington streets at a cost of $40,000 has also been mentioned. J. W. Cook has just announced that he will place a $25,000 structure on his lot on First street, north of Oak. The foundations were laid on this property some nine years ago, but no structure was ever placed upon them. As the building will be leased on May 1 to a wholesale machinery firm, construction must be begun very shortly. The front will be made of white enameled brick, and a thorough modern building will soon occupy this long-vacant lot. Mr. Cook says that he has much sentiment over the proposed structure, as the property has been in his family for the past 40 years. The erection of the Lawrence building, on the southeast corner of First and Oak streets, seems to have stirred up the surrounding property-owners as to the possible improvements of their realty holdings in that vicinity.

The Portland Gas Company has taken out a permit for a three-story brick addition to their building at Front and Everett streets. The addition will cost $10,000.

The new mill of the East Side Lumber Company, at Sellwood, has been granted a $10,000 permit.

The prospect for the coming year in the building line is even brighter than at the opening of the present year, and another 12 months will see Portland improved with several scores of handsome and costly structures.

REPUBLICAN PROSPECTS.

What May Happen to the Party if the Stand-Pat Policy Prevails.

Philadelphia Bulletin (Ind. Rep.)

In alluding to the fact that if the campaign last Fall had taken place in a Presidential year the Republicans would have received 318 electoral votes as against 158 Democratic votes, or a clear majority of 160, the Boston Herald remarks that "the Democratic party has no fair chance of carrying the next Presidential election."

This would unquestionably be true if it were possible to give an assurance that political conditions two years hence would be practically unchanged. It cannot be denied that the vote on November 4 indicated that the sentiment of the country is still with the Republican party. Yet, in spite of the success of the Republicans in holding Congress, it should not be forgotten that their majority in the House was reduced from 40 to 20; while their strength in the Senate, although denoted by an ample majority, will be less by several votes after next March.

In the nature of things it is impossible to predict how the two great parties will stand before the people in 1904. The Democrats have shown signs in several important states, especially in New York, of a disposition to get together on their former basis and let bygones drop out of sight. If this tendency continues, they are likely to put up a much more formidable fight the next time the Presidency is the prize than they did either in 1896 or 1900.

The most that can be said with anything approaching certainty is that if the Republicans in Congress can be persuaded to unite on policies which are plainly demanded by public interests and obviously favored by a preponderance of intelligent voters, they will enter the next Presidential contest with the odds distinctly on their side. But if the party leaders refuse to do anything effective in curbing the trusts and persist in ignoring the sentiment in favor of a moderate and equitable revision of the tariff; if they deny justice to Cuba and attempt to rest their claims of popular support on what the party has done in the past, rather than on what it proposes to do in the immediate future, it would be foolish to assert that they can count on a "walk-over" two years from now.

The American people have been educated to regard the Republican party as an organization that does things when they need doing. The effort to transform it into a merely passive force whose motto is to "stand pat" on pretty nearly every issue, notwithstanding conditions which are constantly changing with National development, is essentially short-sighted and unwise.

Properly Punished.

New York Mail and Express.

They had been reading a Rolfe annotated edition of the play, and there was nothing in "Julius Caesar" that they were not perfectly familiar with. Before the performance was half through there was nothing that they knew which everybody within half a dozen rows did not hear about; for among the three of them—a man and two women—there were such capacities for superfluous conversation as are met with nowhere except in a theater.

In tones that alternately hissed and brayed and rasped till spinal columns all around them ached, they told one another that Antony was much better done than Brutus, that Portia would come on in a minute in the garden scene; that Casca was supposed to be a gruff old Roman; that Caesar actually did have fits—think of it! that it was a pity (this in a whisper that shivered far down the aisle and splintered at least a score of vertebrae) Roman ladies didn't wear corsets. So on, ad nauseam.

At last the ghost and the distraught Brutus met and there was a thrilled silence in all the crowded house, save in row Q, where a strident voice complained: "I can't hear a word the ghost says. Why doesn't he speak louder?"

A man behind the querulous disturber, quite beside himself with rage, leaned forward and said in tones as courteously sweet as the sting of a honey bee:

"Perhaps the ghost is a gentleman, and does not like to annoy people."

Which, of course, was very rude, though it did fill many hearts with an unholy joy.

NEW CANE-CUTTING DEVICE

One Man Can Operate This Simple Machine for Use in the Tropics.

New Orleans Times-Democrat.

A. Leblanc, of this city, has invented a cane-cutting machine which he believes will do fine work in tropical countries where the cane loses its leaves when it is ripe. Here in Louisiana the leaves are stripped at cane-cutting time by means of the cane knife. This is, to a great measure, unnecessary in the tropics. The machine first cuts the cane at the top and then at the ground, and but for the stripping of the leaves would serve well in this state. It is simple in construction and has few adjustable parts. It is pulled along the cane rows by means of a capstan fixed on the headland, with which it is connected by means of a rope. There are two capstans used, one for hauling the machine one way, and the other for the return trip. One man is all that is necessary for its operation.

The machine consists of a wooden frame supported on two wheels, on the principle of the two-wheeled cart. Two shafts project out in front, but these are for no other purpose than to scoop in the cane for the knife. The knife, which is stationary, projects out between the shafts and terminates at an angle. As the machine moves along the row the cane is gathered in between the shafts and the knife and is cropped off about three feet from the ground. By means of a knife at the back, which Mr. Leblanc has not yet arranged, the stalk will be chopped off at the ground. A rope is attached to an upright in the center of the frame, by means of which the machine may be pulled from one end of the field to the other.

Nuthin' Doin'.

London Express.

"My word, Fitznoodle," said a War Office clerk to a colleague who sat at the next desk, "just look at that workman on the roof of that building over the way!"

"What's the matter with him?" inquired Fitz, glancing through the window at the individual indicated.

"Matter," retorted the other, "why, I've been watching the lazy beggar for the last 25 minutes, and he hasn't done a stroke of work all the time."

At the precise moment at which the above conversation occurred a British workingman was addressing his "mate."

"S'y, Bill," he remarked, in a tone of deep disgust, "d'ye see that 'ere loafin' War Offis clurk in that room down there? S'help me, if Hi ain't bin a-watchin' 'im fur nigh on arf a hower, an' the bloomer's done nothin' but stare hout o' th' winder the 'ole blessed tyme. That's the sort o' chap as we pys taxes ter keep!"

AT THE HOTELS.

THE PORTLAND.

W J Ball, Tacoma
Rev E Gordon Saville, Tacoma
V M C Silva, Vancouv
J B Patton, N Y
J R Lane, Seattle
Syd Weinshenk, S F
W H Herman, city
E C Seebohn, New Orl
W W Brodick & wf, Everett
W R Ramsey, Brookvil
H C Litch, do
H B Magill, Chicago
Henry Jacobs, S F
Jas L Paxton, Omaha
E A Keithly, S F
J D Campbell, S F
Victor Stoadecker, St Paul
Geo W Reid, do
Henry Spring, N Y
W A Drown, Paul Gilmore Co
F C Thayer, St Paul
J M Pennion & wf, Woodburn
T J Gorman, Seattle
Mr & Mrs C M Weatherwax, Aberdeen
Mrs Nina Larowe, city
Dr Key Churchman, do
S I Guiss, Woodburn
R L Guiss, Gresham
Wm Gross, Minn
F B Staukamp, N Y
Joe Cook, N Y
Samuel Ofner, Chicago
C S Jackson, Pendleton
Mrs Carlisle, Locksley Hall
A B Calder, Seattle

THE PERKINS.

J F Peebles, city
L Peebles, city
T E Kelly, city
H Booker, city
C E Johnson, Forest G
Raleigh Tumbler, WW
P J Sharp, Tillamook
G H Lammers, S F
C E Moulton, Tacoma
W S Lyons, Tacoma
Lee Clinton, Salem
Albert Jaffray, city
Virginia Deaton, Ione
A J Hicks, Heppner
C Hughes, Hood Rivr
Dr J T Walls, city
W B Sawtell, Dalles
D C Fletcher, Newberg
G N Host, Newberg
W B Jackling, Seattle
J H Bridgefort, do
A B Thomson, Echo
F H Van Norden, The Dalles
Frank A Cram, HoodR
Lester Smythe, Tekoa
Dr C J Whitaker, Pendleton
E N Sawtell, do
W D Stewart, Kalispell
Chas Hansen, do
J A Gaslin, do
C W Barr, Astoria
Mrs Clara Lash, Pendleton
R S Hutchinson, Quincy
J Johnson
W B Scott, Seattle
N R Stewart, Aberdeen
Mrs L B Reeder, Pendleton
Wm Siegrist, Chehalis
N E Harmon, do
Tom Rogers, McMinnvl
Geo E Johnson, Minpls
Mrs G E Johnson, do
Theo Jeffries, McCoy
Mrs Jeffries, McCoy
C O Leland, Bay City
T A Garrow, Corvallis
C M Dunlap, Spokane
N A Debble, Burns
Ed Harbin, Prineville
M W Wilson, Beulah
T D Bartlett, Ontario, Or
T A McDougall, do
S C Brown, Duluth
A E Crosby, Dalles
Mrs Crosby, Dalles
M F Hill, Goldendale
G C Mathers, Seattle
Mrs Mathers, Seattle
W A Miller, Wash

THE IMPERIAL.

Wm Ellis, Wash
J H Henderson, do
J W Edmunson, Eugene
Mrs Edmunson, do
Dick Hughes, Ione
Jas A Vaughn, Asto
F W McGrath, St Paul
J G Sutton, Winlock
Mrs A Buchler, Dalles
Mrs E Gerichten, do
Henry Goetz, city
Arthur Frame, do
W W Johnson, Burns
S Motherhead, Burns
H McArthur, W W
Mrs McArthur, W W
Julius L Haas, S F
G Bultman, S F
J B Markley, S F
B B Colbath, Salem
W Troyer, Astoria
Chas V Brown, do
John F Donovan, N Y
Sadie Ranson, Madison
Nettie Willoughby, do
Lillian Coler Bethel, Columbus
Mrs Lombard, N Yak
Miss Sue Lombard, do
C R Green, Abrdeen
David Cary, Burns
Joe Spiegel, Boise
Mrs C E Rosevelt, Pendleton
Minnie Burdens, do
Mrs W M Slusher, do
Miss Edith Slusher, do
Mrs Alice Sheridan
E L Smith, Hood Rvr
Mrs A Wickherd, Empire
A Wickherd, do
F A Seufert, Dalles
W M Waldron, S F
P A Biesen, Salem
L H Pockenar, city

THE ST. CHARLES.

W R Emerson & wife, Nehalem
W J Wilson, Kerns, Wash
T Harlan, Vancouver
N Merrill, Clatskanie
D Hall, city
C A Lyson, Salem
J M Sears, Dallas
H Craven, Dallas
G Harrington, Scio
D H Pope & fmy, do
J F Bowman, Newberg
F C Badges & wife, Gray's River
W Hendricks & fmy, Everett
J H Lane, Oregon City
W J Roberts, do
W A McCord, do
M C McCord, do
A Swift, Sightly
T Thompson, do
J L Preston, Gresham
G B Preston, do
W L Upson, Hood Riv
W G Snow, do
C Fidler, Fishers
M Modrom, Kalama
E S Bird & wf, Salem
J W Fenton, Oxford
L E Dray, Kalama
E McKay, Scappoose
N McKay, do
M J Martin, Elsmore, Cal
T Jay Buford, Sumpter
L Miller & wf, city
F A Martin, Kelso
J I Bowers, Kelso
A Ginn & wf, Elma
G Weeks, Marshland
C F Gessner, Orchards
L W Price, do
E M Proebe, Wasco
G H Mills, Wasco
E R Lithrow, Loomis, Cal
H M Ackley, Iowa
C Mitchell, Bohemia
N C Iverson, Hoquiam
J Deming, Hoquiam
C Ratsch, Salem
C T Caldwell, Lyle
A C Allston, Salem
M R Wagner, Forest Grove
Carrie Coe, do
F Lonkey, Westport
J Manary, Marshland
W W Porter, Oregon C
W Curtiss, Oregon C
S Jones, Oregon City
A H Bell, Rockwell
S J. Bliss, Rockwell
N H McKay, Sauvie's
I L Carter, Tacoma
R Brett, Vancouver
W Lillie, McMinnville
R D Byland, Dalles
J R Fisher, Hoquiam
E Dutton, Eagle Point
M Earnes, Oregon City
S Aplin, Rainier
D M Shattuck, Gresham
J H Maxwell, Wasco
H Thompson, Mountaindale
D M C Gault, Hillsboro
H G White, La Center
W Gant, city
Miss Thompson, Gervais
A A Hosford, Vancvr
M Moran, Seaside
H Brown, Kelso
W G Young, Warren
C F Gesner, Orchards
J M Sears, Dalles
Thos Thompson, Sightly
A Swift, Dusty, Or
S McCutcheon & wife, Ashland
H Smith, Grant's Pass
H Archibald, Hillsboro
A L McGuire & wife, Stevenson
H B Kelly, Colo
E J Ellis, Canada
R Latourell, Latourell
J F Medley, Walla W
J Baldridge, Rainier
C Goetzen, Grass Vy
J H Legg, city
N L Coffenbury, Astoria

Hotel Brunswick, Seattle.
European plan, popular rates. Modern improvements. Business center. Near depot.

Tacoma Hotel, Tacoma.
American plan. Rates, $3 and up.

Hotel Donnelly, Tacoma.
First-class restaurant in connection.

Rainier Grand Hotel, Seattle.
European plan. Finest cafe on Coast. Hdqrs. naval, military and traveling men. Rooms en suite and single. Free shower baths. Rates, $1 up. H. P. Dunbar, Prop.

40 PEOPLE IMPLICATED

SAID TO BE IN PLOT TO ROB NORTHPORT SMELTER.

Man Under Arrest Is Alleged to Have Made Confession—Other Arrests To Be Made Today.

NORTHPORT, Wash., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—There is good authority for the statement that Peter Swanson, an old resident of this place, who was arrested yesterday at Rossland, B. C., while trying to dispose of $1600 worth of matte, which had been stolen from the Northport Smelting & Refining Company, has made a confession which implicates 40 other Northport people. It is said that many more arrests are to be made tomorrow.

A Very Troublesome Citizen.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—John Lamberty again occupies apartments in the City Jail, and in the absence of any other manner to dispose of such a freak, he will have an examination to determine his mental soundness. Lamberty is a German baker, and in years past has been the cause of much trouble to his wife and the officers of the law. Finally Mrs. Lamberty sued for and obtained a divorce, and since that time John has been the means of causing more trouble than before. Several months ago he was arrested on a charge of sending letters of obscene character to his former wife. While under bonds awaiting trial, he took a sudden departure and forfeited his bail, since which he has given his wife and the officers here peace until last Friday, when he returned. Yesterday, Mrs. Lamberty reported to the officers that her life was in danger while John was about, and upon her complaint he was arrested and jailed. John says he only returned to see his children, for whom he claims to have a great degree of parental affection.

ROW AMONG THE PAINTERS.

Organization at Oregon City Alleged to Be Irregular.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—The controversy that has arisen over the action of the Painters' Union in pushing the charges made against Johnson & Andrews for subletting the painting contract on the new Garde building to S. S. Mohler, a nonunion painter, has aroused considerable interest among the trades unions of the city. Mr. Mohler declares that he has not been treated fairly by the Painters' Union, of which he is a charter member. He says that after organization was perfected a schedule of minimum prices for contractors was prepared in August, 1901, but with the exception of himself none of the members of the union observed the schedule, but took contracts at less money than the minimum scale provided. He remonstrated more than once, without avail, and finally withdrew from the union. He cites several instances, and so does Mr. Andrews, where members of the Painters' Union took contracts at much less than the minimum scale.

Mr. Mohler states that he does no journeyman work, but contracts only, and cannot be held amenable to union rules. He offered to resign from the Painters' Union, but that body refused to release him. On the contrary, they have repeatedly offered to reinstate him upon payment of his delinquencies, but he holds to the opinion that the body is not strictly union, and says he does not care to affiliate with it under present conditions. He has even gone so far as to petition the General Executive Board of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators of America at La Fayette, Ind., and intends to forward the following paper, which is signed by nonunion painters:

We, the undersigned painters and paperhangers of Oregon City and vicinity, who believe in unionism in the fullest sense, and knowing that Union No. 482 is not run on union principles, but to the detriment of unionism, beg your honorable body to call in the books, so you can see some of the irregularities of the organization here.

S. S. Mohler, A. E. LaRose, E. E. G. Seol, William Rhode, E. H. Vonderahe, R. E. Woodward, David Caufield, D. J. Slover, D. C. Richardson, E. S. Califf, A. H. Myer, T. A. Bacon, E. J. French, Charles Kair.

Johnson & Andrews are evidently not concerned over the report that an effort will be made by the Painters' Union to have the central labor body declare them unfair.

FIRE IN SALEM CHINATOWN.

Property Valued at $500 Destroyed—Buildings All Old.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—Fire broke out in the Verani building, at the corner of State and Liberty streets, at a late hour tonight, and spreading to the adjoining buildings owned by Mrs. A. J. Monroe, E. M. LaFore and P. H. D'Arcy, practically destroyed all these buildings. The structures were all old wooden buildings, which have been standing for fully half a century. They were occupied by Chinese merchants, except that the corner building contained a cigar store. The loss is about $500, partly covered by insurance. The Verani heirs, who own the corner building, reside in Portland.

It had long been feared that fire would some time break out in this block and spread to valuable buildings across the street south or west. Under a strong wind from almost any direction a fire in these buildings might have done a vast amount of damage.

There has been a movement on foot for several weeks looking toward the erection of a large hotel of modern plan on the corner where these old shacks have stood. Representatives of the Verani heirs were in Salem a few weeks ago negotiating with others interested, in order to learn what could be done in the way of improving the property, but there have been no developments. It is now hoped that a big business block will be erected on that corner, which is one of the best in the city, but wholly neglected, though surrounded by new brick business houses.

WILL DRIVE IN WINTER TIME.

Booth-Kelly Company Willing to Take Chances on the Rivers.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—The Booth-Kelly Lumber Company is taking chances this Winter in the matter of driving logs which nobody heretofore has been willing to take. It has a drive in the Mohawk, which will be turned into the McKenzie tomorrow and driven to the Coburg mill, and as soon as this is completed it will start a big drive at Fall Creek, to be brought down the Willamette to the Springfield mill. The running of logs in these streams in the Winter season is attended with much danger, which loggers have chosen heretofore to avoid. Should heavy rains fall and suddenly raise the water to flood stage it would be almost impossible to boom the logs at their destination, besides landing many along the timber skirting the river. If no freshet comes, however, the drive can be made much more quickly and with less expense than in the Summer, and the company is willing to take the chance, and will have logs in the rivers most of the Winter.

MINE BOUGHT FOR $40,000.

Eastern Men Take Quartz Group in Southern Oregon.

GRANT'S PASS, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—A company of Eastern capitalists, represented in Southern Oregon by Captain T. J. Pierce, has purchased the Owl Gulch group of quartz claims, on Savage Creek, in the Gold Hill district. The consideration is $40,000. The Owl Gulch claims were located but a few months ago, but in this brief time have proved to be quartz properties of great promise. Few ledges have been discovered and disposed of in so short a time as have these.

The main ledge of the Owl claims exhibits a width of eight feet, and has been opened to a good depth by tunnel and shafts. The vein is well defined, and carries high values in free gold, with some sulphurets. Men have been put to work in the development of the claims, and as soon as they have been properly opened up a mill and machinery for working the ore will be installed.

WAS SUCCESSFUL LUMBERMAN.

W. W. Johnson, Who Died of Heart Disease at Dallas.

DALLAS, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—W. W. Johnson, who died here yesterday, was the senior member of the sawmill firm of W. W. Johnson & Co., owners of the large sawmill plant in this city, and also owners of one of the largest sawmills at Minneapolis. The cause of his death was heart failure. He had been working around the mill during the day, and about 5 o'clock in the afternoon went to the office to speak to his son and the firm's bookkeeper concerning some work on hand. While in conversation with them, he commenced to breathe heavily and sank down. He expired in two or three minutes. Medical aid was immediately telephoned for, but by the time the doctor arrived it was too late.

William Warren Johnson was born in Broome County, New York, in 1835. When a young man he learned the carpenter's trade and came West to follow the occupation of contractor and builder, locating at Beaver Dam, Wis. He remained there four years, and then went to Minnesota, where, after doing bridge and trestle work for railroads, he made his first venture in the lumber business. In 1868, he went to Algona, Ia., and started several lumber yards in that state. Besides lumber, Mr. Johnson dealt largely in livestock and grain very successfully. In 1888 he, in company with his sons, bought out the largest sawmill at Minneapolis, Minn., where they saw as much as 18,000,000 feet a year. Mr. Johnson was the father of five children, two daughters and three sons. The latter are interested in the lumber plants of their father, and will continue the business.

FITZSIMMONS FLOORED BALL.

Former Manager Deserted "Lanky Bob" and Called Him a Liar.

ANACONDA, Mont., Dec. 28.—With a left-arm hook Robert Fitzsimmons floored his former manager, Clark Ball, in the lobby of the Thornton Hotel a few minutes after 1 o'clock this morning. The blow struck Ball squarely on the point of the jaw, and he was knocked against a corner of the desk at the end of the counter. His head came in violent contact with a sharp corner, and a laceration resulted. In another fraction of a second Ball was prostrate and out. He was revived in a few seconds, and his bleeding head bathed. He was not seriously injured, and was apparently as well as ever within 10 minutes after the blow was struck.

The trouble was precipitated by the fact that last night Ball severed his connection with the Jeffries-Fitzsimmons combination, and signed a contract with Jack Munroe, whereby the local miner, who had stood before Jeffries for four rounds a week ago Saturday night, is to be the star attraction of an athletic show managed by the former manager of "Lanky Bob." When the men met tonight there was some wrangling, and Ball called Fitzsimmons a liar. Then the blow was struck.

BODY OF UNKNOWN MAN.

Found in Douglas County—Had Been Dead Some Time.

RUCKLES, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—A body of an unknown man was found by Jessie Bounds at the mouth of Clark's branch, on the South Umpqua River, about two miles from Ruckles Station, yesterday. The body was badly decomposed. Coroner Twitchell was notified, and will hold an inquest. The clothing indicated that the man was well dressed. The shoes had evidently been almost new when he was drowned.

La Grande Notes.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—W. R. Deal, who was sentenced to four years in the penitentiary for horse-stealing, and whose sentence was affirmed by the Supreme Court, has been denied a new trial, and will be taken to serve out his sentence.

Rural delivery will be secured to a route out of Summerville commencing February 1, 1903.

Scotch Curling Club Has Arrived.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 28.—Among the passengers on the steamer Bavarian, which arrived today from Liverpool, were 24 members of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, of Scotland. They will tour Canada, playing in all the principal cities from Halifax to Winnipeg, and from the latter city they will go to St. Paul and Chicago and thence to New York.

PIG IRON PROSPERITY

VAST QUANTITIES USED IN THE UNITED STATES.

Enormous Home Productions Swelled by Importations From Europe—Other Comparisons.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—A striking evidence of business activity in the United States at the present time is found in a comparison of pig iron statistics of the year just ending with those of earlier years, as compiled by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics. Recently published estimates of the production of pig iron in the United States during the calendar year 1902 put the total production at 17,500,000 tons. This is an increase of nearly 2,000,000 tons over last year, and is more than double the production of 1896, three times that of 1888, four times that of 1881, six times that of 1879, eight times that of 1875, 10 times that of 1872, and 20 times that of 1865. The steel production of the year is estimated at 15,000,000 tons, which is practically 50 per cent more than that of 1900, nearly three times as much as that of 1896, 10 times as much as that of 1884, and 20 times the production of 1878. In addition to this enormous production and increase over any earlier year, the importations of pig iron in the year just ending are 10 times as great as in the preceding year, and greater than in any year of the decade, and the total value of iron and steel imported will also exceed that of any year during the decade.

The following table shows the production in the United States of pig iron and steel, and the importation of pig iron at quinquennial periods from 1871 to 1901, and the estimated production and importation of 1902:

Year.	—Production— Pig iron, tons.	Steel, tons.	—Importation. Pig iron, tons.
1871	1,706,793	73,214	178,140
1876	1,868,961	532,191	76,455
1881	4,144,254	1,588,314	417,849
1886	5,683,329	2,562,500	261,674
1891	8,279,870	3,904,240	81,916
1896	8,623,127	5,281,127	88,125
1901	15,878,354	13,473,595	39,325
1902	*17,500,000	*15,000,000	*575,000

*Estimated.

A statement recently published by the Bulletin of the American Iron & Steel Association indicates that of the 15,878,354 tons of pig iron produced in the United States in 1901, 6,808,988 tons were produced by the United States Steel Corporation and 9,074,376 tons by independent companies.

This phenomenal growth in the production of iron and steel in the United States placed the United States several years ago at the head of the world's list of iron-producing nations, but has now made its production greater than the combined production of the United Kingdom and Germany, those countries being by far the largest iron producers of the world, aside from the United States. The total pig iron production of Germany in 1901 was 7,856,149 metric tons, and that of the United Kingdom 7,928,647 long tons, making the combined production of these two countries in 1901 15,600,000 long tons, which is slightly less than the 1901 production of the United States. The figures showing the production of these two countries covering the first half of 1902, which have just been received by the Bureau of Statistics, fully justify the statement that the production in the United States in 1902 will also exceed the combined production of England and Germany.

The following table shows the production of pig iron in the United States, United Kingdom and Germany, beginning with 1886:

Year.	U. S., long tons.	U. K., long tons.	Germany, metric tons.
1886	8,623,127	8,659,681	6,272,600
1887	9,652,680	8,796,465	6,881,500
1888	11,773,934	8,609,719	7,312,800
1889	13,620,703	9,421,435	8,143,100
1900	13,789,242	8,959,691	8,520,500
1901	15,878,354	7,928,647	7,856,149
1902	17,500,000	.....	.....

FOREIGN STOCK EXCHANGES.

Shares Tend Upward on German Bourse—Better Feeling.

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—Prior to the holidays the bourse was very light, and values were maintained, but yesterday the trading was uncommonly strong, with an increased volume of business. All departments shared in the upward movement. Iron shares rose particularly as a result of better trade reports fom the Rhine county and Silesia, indicating good business for next year. Some iron shares scored sensational advances. Coal shares also were very strong. Electrical shares profited by the alliance of the Allgemeine Electrical Company and the Union Electrical Company. It is now said that the Siemens & Halske Electrical Company, of Berlin, and the Schukert Electrical Company, of Nuremberg, will make a price arrangement with the new company.

Money showed an easier tendency last week. The statement of the Reichsbank, issued yesterday, showed greater pressure than is usual. At the monthly meeting of the central committee of the bank President Koch announced that the demands on the bank were heavy. He said however, that there was no occasion to raise the rate of discount. The pressure for money during the final week of the year is expected to be extraordinary.

Increased Strength in London.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The market is winding up the year with increased evidence of strength. Business on the stock exchange last week was moderate, owing to the holidays and the settlement, but there was a perceptible inclination to speculate on the anticipated improvement in all high-grade securities. The rate for money has hardened, and money was in strong demand. The upward tendency on the exchange was specially noticeable in American and African shares. Large buying orders for American shares were received in spite of the disappointing New York bank returns. The presence and purposes of Colonial Secretary Chamberlain in South Africa buoyed up mining shares. Venezuelan bonds rose sharply on reports of arbitration. The price of consols, coupled with the belief that money will be plentiful early in January, has created confidence that the present condition will be maintained when active business begins on the exchange.

Sells to Continental Tobacco.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 28.—According to the Courier-Journal, Harry Weissinger, president of the Weissinger Tobacco Company, of this city, has closed a deal which has been pending several days for the sale of this plant to the Continental Tobacco Company for $2,500,000. The papers have been signed, and Mr. Weissinger will leave for New York tomorrow to complete the details of the transaction. The company is one of the largest independent concerns of the kind in the country.

VERMONT AND THE SALOON

The Public at Large Is Interested in the Agitation There.

Washington Post.

Vermont is still keeping herself in the public eye and well up toward the front. It is the saloon question—the saloon in politics—to which that little state is indebted for an amount of publicity that is altogether out of proportion to her physical area. There is enough of it to embarrass Texas, and there is going to be more. It began years ago, with more or less scandalous contentions inside of the Republican party caused by a law that would not and cannot be enforced, a law that has never been decently enforced anywhere and has been a most prolific source of scandals, hypocrisy and fraud in every state that has tried it. Last Summer's political campaign in Vermont was noisier than any of its predecessors. It rent the Republican party into two extremely hostile factions, while the Democrats came out of it shorn of about half of their normal voting strength. But it elected a Legislature pledged to give the people a chance to vote on the saloon question—to make choice between their present system and a local option and high license law.

After 11 weeks of patient endeavor the Vermont Legislature of 1902 has adjourned, leaving as its chief work a bill providing for local option and high license, which is to go to the people for adoption or rejection. This is the chance for which many Vermonters have long been patiently waiting. The vote is to be taken in February. Of course, the Prohibitionists will make every possible effort to kill the bill. The Hartford Courant says that the Anti-Saloon League will have in the campaign the zealous aid not only of the W. C. T. U., but a brand new, semi-religious organization of preachers and laymen with money in its campaign chest.

It is understood that the saloonkeepers and the liquor interests generally will cooperate with those organizations, preferring, as those good men and women do, the continuance of the present condemned law to regulate saloons in communities where the people want them.

New York and London.

New York Letter.

London and New York are coming closer together in a business way every year. London bankers began to establish branch houses in Wall street 70 years ago, and some of the connections thus made have been maintained ever since. But since New York became an international market of almost equal standing with London, the business interests of the two cities have been closer than ever.

The appearance of a large English delegation at the recent opening of the New York Chamber of Commerce was a striking illustration of this intimacy. There is nothing strange, therefore, that a great New York bank is about to take a large interest in a prominent London bank, although no official confirmation of the report has been given.

FRIENDSHIP FOR NEGRO.

Admiral Schley, Captain Hobson and Others Declare It.

Washington Post.

Rear-Admiral Schley, Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson and Representative Crumpacker Wednesday night delivered addresses to a large audience of colored citizens at Metropolitan A. M. E. Church. Their expressions of friendship for the colored man and hopefulness about his future were received with demonstrations of intense approval.

Representative Crumpacker presided and spoke about the negro in politics. He said that the ballot is a means, and not an end, with the race. "There are colored men in this country," he declared, "who would honor any race. Let the great colored race become home-owners and home-builders. The white man is apt to consider himself very important, but remember that it took 2000 years to bring him to his present condition of civilization. You have not yet had your chance. The colored race must go up or down, for there is no middle ground."

Representative Crumpacker was followed by Captain Hobson, who aroused great enthusiasm. "I was brought up with your people," said he, "and in my Southland I was nursed by one of you, who was as tender to me as my own mother was. During the Civil War the negro nobly fulfilled his duty to those of the South left defenseless at home. Your race may call upon me as long as I live, to be the truest friend I know how to be.

"I have a feeling for you also of sincere esteem, respect and affection. The colored race is one of fighters. At Santiago, when I was released, the first American troops I saw were colored regulars. You have a right to be proud of the blood you have spilled for your country. Do not complain of your social condition today. What was your brief servitude compared to the long ages of serfdom in Europe in the Dark Ages? Your condition today has no comparison to that of the European peasant.

"Your destiny lies in work, hard, persistent work. Don't let anybody try to convince you that the victory of the American Navy over the Spanish fleets in the war of 1898 was due to the inferiority of the vessels of the latter. We won our battle of Santiago, and even Manila, before the war began. If the Spanish crews had been trained by hard work, as ours were, the Spanish fleet at Santiago would have escaped our blockade, and would have then returned to destroy our ships, one by one. Work hard yourselves, as a race, and in America legislation cannot prevent you from taking your proper places according to merit."

Admiral Schley also had praise for the colored man, but was not so outspoken as the other speakers, and refrained from discussing the negro from the point of view of politics. He praised the colored sailors, and said they had always been faithful and loyal. "In courage the colored seaman has proved himself, and has shed blood and faced fire for his country," said the Admiral, and his sentiment was cheered by the audience for some time. "I shall be the colored man's friend," he concluded, "and shall be glad to see the day when he shall be in all respects what his friends would like to see him be."

An Historic Virginia Farm Sold.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The Rev. D. A. Martin, of Pittsburg, has bought the celebrated Turner farm of 1000 acres, a few miles east of Richmond, Va., and lying just between the two battlefields of Seven Pines and Malvern Hill. He will at once remove there to spend the balance of his days with his large family. The Rev. Mr. Martin walked into the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture a short time ago and was told of this property. He was particularly struck with the neatness of the schoolhouses, and bought the farm. He is a Congregational preacher, and has so won his way with his neighbors that they have proposed to build him a church if he will become its pastor, and he has consented.

Where All Agree.

Providence Journal.

Thus the controversy goes on, as it has gone on for years, but it is evident that on one ground at least both friends and foes of the practice meet: Senator Gallinger, Dr. Keen and the New England anti-vivisection society agree that there should not be any useless or cruel animal experimentation. If experimentation is necessary or desirable, by all means let the practice be surrounded by every possible precaution against the unnecessary suffering of the dumb brutes that are sacrificed for the benefit of man.

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