

The Oregonian

Subscription rates: Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$8.00; Daily, Sunday included, three months, \$2.50; Daily, Sunday included, one month, \$1.00.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, June 16, 1881.

Postage rates: First class, 10 cents; Second class, 5 cents; Third class, 3 cents.

Eastern Business Office: The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency, New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building.

Chicago, Auditorium Annex, Postoffice News Co., 178 Dearborn street.

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Bell, H. H. Colorado Springs, Colo., 906-912 Seventeenth street.

Kansas City, Mo.—Richards Clear Co., Ninth and Walnut; Yoma News Co., Minneapolis—M. J. Cavanaugh, 50 South Third.

Cleveland, O.—James Pushaw, 807 Superior.

Washington, D. C.—Ebbitt House, Pennsylvania avenue.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Ryan's Theater Ticket Office, Park city.

New York City, N. Y.—Jones & Co., Astor House; Broadway, Theater News Stand; Arthur H. Hays Sulzberger, Empire News Stand.

Omaha, Neb.—Empire News Stand, Twenty-fifth street.

St. Louis, Mo.—E. A. Amos, manager ten West Main.

San Francisco, Cal.—E. A. Amos, 1000 Market.

San Jose, Cal.—St. James Hotel News Bureau.

Dallas, Tex.—Southwestern News Agency, 214 Main street.

Portland, Ore.—H. H. Jones & Co., Astor House; Broadway, Theater News Stand; Arthur H. Hays Sulzberger, Empire News Stand.

Portland, Friday, Jan. 17, 1908.

SOME REASONS FOR DOUBT.

Can a President push a candidate for the presidency to the office he holds without peril to the candidate and to the party they represent? Many think not; for the propriety of the action also comes into consideration, and many persons believe that it is not proper to prescribe his own choice of successor to them.

And yet it has been done successfully. Jefferson chose Madison, and after Madison Jefferson and Madison chose Monroe. But their success was due to the political and social conditions existing at that time.

Now, therefore, our precedents sustain the idea that the man who has made his mark in the Presidential office may select his successor and the people will elect him. But the times are so changed that repetition of such events is very problematical.

Authority, which in Jefferson's time and in Jackson's was supreme in our politics, now is nothing more than a scepter, is a pitiful thing to behold. Popular undoubtably as Roosevelt is, there will be no idolatrous devotion to the man who poses as his successor. It is the nature of democracy, as it advances and develops, to refuse recognition to idols, to forget ancestors, to go it alone.

ful enemies, in men who heretofore have acted with the Republican party, yet who are not likely to be drawn to it again by a man known as the Roosevelt candidate. Further, with the working classes of the country no Republican candidate again will be as strong as Roosevelt has been, and there is grave reason, in all the circumstances, to doubt whether the President's advocacy of a candidate for the nomination will help him—should he get the nomination—in the canvass for his election.

NO GROUND FOR PROTEST.

At the enlargement of the powers of the Port of Portland has been received from Westport, Ranier, Kalama, St. Helens or any other lower river port except Astoria. And yet each of these ports has the same interest in the maintenance of a good harbor service that Astoria has. But while the Don Quixotes of Astoria have been fighting wild winds, these other ports have attended strictly to their own business and granted the same privilege to Portland and all other towns along the river.

BANK CURRENCY.

In this country of ours we are awfully afraid of putting it in the power of some syndicate or combination to increase or decrease the volume of currency. This, doubtless, is a wise fear. But they order these things better in France. "A week ago," says the New York Times, "we were remarking upon the routine increase of note issues by the Bank of France to a total of 255,000,000 francs."

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LABOR IN THE SOUTH.

Governor Vardaman's recent message to the Legislature of Mississippi is interesting in spite of its crude barbarity. Its interest arises from its obvious bearing upon the immigration question and the industrial development of the South.

MORE FEEDERS REQUIRED.

Many needed railway extensions and branches in the Pacific Northwest were neglected during a decade of the most prosperous times that Western railroads have ever known. The reason for this neglect and the illegitimate uses to which the large net earnings were put, have been pretty fully explained in the past week.

A Careful Seat in the Strand.

Like the negro who was on the trial for a defendant, Schmitt and his wife well say, "No, your Honor, I'm not the defendant; I'm the fellow what stole the chicken."

The Ideal Wife.

"Do you know how to cure a cold?" "If I did," inquired the sarcastic citizen, "I'd be offering free advice on the street, or I'd be occupying a fine office and catering to a waiting list a mile long."

evidence from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Now all is changed. The railroads already built through to the Pacific Coast have plenty of empty cars and every siding between the Coast and the Missouri river. With all of this rolling stock lying idle, there is an attendant large shrinkage in the receipts of the road, but the fixed charges are as large as ever.

Wreckage of the British ship Hartfield is reported coming ashore on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Wreckage about the coast that ever comes ashore from any vessel, caught in the deadly currents, that sweep along that terrible north coast, for the crew seldom gets ashore.

What stuff this is!

There is such a thing as carrying the spirit of the age. The Daily Mail has not only reached the limit of her right, but she has deliberately eliminated this city from the map and marked Oregon, and she is warned, now and here, that we of Astoria intend to square this thing and do it with the same spirit that we have done nothing else on God's green earth.

It Has Been Spotted by Governmental Paternalism.

To the misrepresentations of South American conditions we may add the opinion, so generally expressed by all writers, that individual initiative and enterprise are lacking. The Government being expected not only to perform its usual functions, but also to assist individuals in undertakings of a private character.

SALE IN LINN COUNTY.

The real property of the Corvallis Eastern Railroad Company situated in Linn County is to be sold for delinquent taxes. A majority of the stock is now owned by the Harlan Interests.

HORSE THIEF IS SENTENCED.

Ralph McBain Must Spend at Least a Year in State Prison. PENDINGTON, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Ralph McBain, the self-confessed horse thief, was sentenced today to an indeterminate sentence in the penitentiary.

Two Cars From Walla Walla.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Arrangements have been completed and pledges secured sufficient to secure two cars for Walla Walla in the inland Empire excursion to California, which leaves here at 8 o'clock tomorrow.

Laurence Condit, Native Son.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 15.—Laurence Condit, a well-known and highly respected resident of the Turner neighborhood, died Tuesday night after an illness of only two days, born near Turner 46 years ago.

Wheeler of Stage Kill Driver.

BURNS, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Eugene J. Wheeler, 45 years of age, who has been driving the stage on one of the relays between this city and Vale, a few days ago fell from his seat while crossing the mountains east of Weston.

ENGLISH NEWSPAPER MERGERS.

Similar Methods Unknown Here, Referred as "Home of the Trusts." Springfield (Mass.) Republican. It is singular that the idea of newspaper combinations should flourish better in England, apparently, than in this country, which is regarded as the home of the trusts.

Representative Barrett to Make a Campaign on Statement No. 1.

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The political situation in this county is beginning to warm up. As the county is overwhelmingly Republican, the principal contests will be between the aspirants for the nominations of that party.

ROAD WILL GO UNDER HAMMER.

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ROW AT INSURANCE MEETING.

Each Faction Elects Ticket at Forest Grove. FOREST GROVE, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The annual meeting of the policyholders of the Bankers & Merchants Mutual Fire Insurance Company, held here last night, developed an unexpected sensation, owing to the attempt of some of the managers to oust some of their associates.

Child's Uncle Lays Plans to Secure Lad by Adoption.

OREGON CITY, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The future of Harold W. Peterson, aged 7 years, depends upon the decision of Judge Dimick, of the County Court, who this afternoon took under advisement a motion to dismiss the petition of Mrs. Peterson, who asks that the child be declared abandoned and dependent under the Juvenile Court statute of 1907, and be sent to the boys and girls aid society.

FILING ON HARNEY LANDS.

Rush for Homes in Southeastern Oregon Goes On Unabated. BURNS, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The business of the United States Land Office in this city for the quarter ending December 31, 1907, makes it appear that for this country, the total entries and proofs for the period covering 12,000 acres and the payments, fees and commissions for the quarter ending December 31, 1907, amounted to \$25,000.

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