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clusive. If there is insistence that it shall be so regarded, more than one-half the Republicans of Oregon will prefer Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Gearin, or any other reputable and able Democrat, to Mr. U'Ben—and perhaps do some others who might be named.

THE SEATTLE ELECTION. The City of Seattle seems to have made use of its large Republican majority by electing a Republican Mayor. Ordinarily this might seem to be a logical result for an election in which the Republicans have an overwhelming majority.

THE OHIO PLATFORM. The Republicans of Ohio have adopted a progressive platform. There is no contest for Mr. Foraker or any other reactionary of whatever stripe or pattern he may be.

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of several good positions which he had at Portland is now working in La Crosse, Wis., and gravely informs the local paper that the Western cities, including Portland, are "frightfully overcrowded" with unemployed, and that "the (Portland) City Council has just appropriated \$10,000 to be added to a very much larger fund raised by the citizens for the relief of the starving people who are out of work with prospect of better times for a long time to come."

So far as Portland is concerned, there are no starving people here, and very few who are able to work are out of employment. Wages are not as good in all lines as they were before the slump in the East began, but there is still plenty of work.

It is a pity that there are thousands of stranded people at Seattle, but Portland most emphatically declines to be included in the same class with the Puget Sound metropolis.

In considering "knocks" such as have been given us by a disgruntled ex-Portland, it is always well to remember the source.

February was a short month with a good many holidays, but in the twenty-four official business days the Custom-House in this city collected in duties \$37,500, or a trifle more than \$3260 per day. The import business of this city is practically all merchandise and other commodities which are distributed by Portland merchants.

Very little is received here for transshipment to the East, where the duties are collected, and as Portland has never regarded this class of imports as Portland business, it has never been included in the totals for the purpose of padding out the statistics of the port.

January and February are well ahead of those for the first two months of 1907, and there is enough cargo tonnage now arriving to make it certain that March receipts will exceed those of February. Viewed in almost any of its phases, Portland's commerce appears unusually healthy.

E. Benjamin Andrews, chancellor of the University of Nebraska, in a recent address before the Baptist Ministers' Association of Chicago on "The Decline of Education," declared that far too much attention is paid to facts and fancies instead of to the solid elements of substantial education.

"If there could be some educational institution located so far in the woods and so poor it could not get into the limelight, it would give to the world students that gathered knowledge instead of worldly fancies." This is no doubt true, but where, in the name of "Young America, the Mighty,"

could such an institution get its students? Boys and girls choose their schools and colleges these days; they do not, as in the time in which Dr. Andrews went to school and college, go where they are sent, after careful parental investigation and decision.

Miss Harriman chose for a husband a plain, untitled American, although, from the New York point of view, there was no reason why Edward had should have failed to bring one of the best foreign titles in the market. No wonder that Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish declared the Harrimans as "impossible" in New York society.

The idea of a young woman born and reared in the fetid atmosphere of New York being permitted to marry an American was enough to warrant the social taboo being placed against the family, even had there been no objection on the part of Harriman pere to the borrowing of Illinois Central funds by Mr. Fish.

"I would have been better to drown all those rats trapped in the barrel than to build an enclosure and turn them loose and put the rat-killing dog upon them. The object is to get rid of the rats. They are a hateful breed; but after they are trapped there is no need of ferocity, cruelty and blood.

It is a pity that the rat-killing dog beings should delight in seeing the rat terrier plunging among frightened rats, to tear the miserable creatures that can't escape. We must get rid of the rats, but after they are trapped drowning is the simple, easy and merciful thing.

The Tillamook business men who have suffered by the wretched transportation service are not inclined to be appeased by the promise that the steamer Elmore will run to Portland. They announce that they will give their business to any opposition line that can be arranged.

The story of George Washington must have been told in far-off India, for each of a band of Hindus who landed in Victoria on route for the United States, Tuesday, was armed with a hatchet. If they follow in the footsteps of a good many undesirable citizens who land on our shores they will soon exchange the cherry-tree weapon for a hammer.

Two members of the Douma have been expelled from that body because their political speeches were unsatisfactory to the proprietors of the Douma. If the makers of political speeches in this country were all subjected to such treatment after election the hilarious joys of a campaign would be sadly missing.

There are just eight months in which to speculate upon the name of the man who, one year from today, will be feasting on buckwheat cakes and fried eggs, turned over, in the White House.

It is scarcely to be expected that the manufacturer will overlook the opportunity to advertise the brand of cigarette Mrs. McCree's publicly smoked at San Francisco's leading hotel.

No well-informed man believed, six months ago, that Taft could secure a solid delegation from his own state. In Ohio as elsewhere, the plain people are not led this year by political bosses.

No small number of Oregon sinners will do penance the next forty days by renouncing Statement No. 1.

Good morning, Venezuela! Here you are back on the first page again. President Roosevelt has still 265 days left in which to do things.

Well, Mr. Bristol is still holding down the job.

WATER PROBLEM UP AGAIN

Despite Defeat, Hood River Drags

Fourth Old Fight Once More.

HOOD RIVER, Ore., March 4.—(Special.)—Although the taxpayers of Hood River have voted on the questions of municipal ownership of the city water system twice and on propositions to provide more water the same number of times in the past two years, the question of a greater water supply for the Apple City, like Banquo's ghost, will not down. The water problem has been here before, but this important feature of a city's welfare took place last evening in the Commercial Club rooms in response to a petition widely circulated and signed the investigation of a number of residents in the hill section, who claim that their water supply is inadequate.

A. J. Treiber, president of the Hood River Commercial Club, was chairman. E. J. Treiber, representing the hill section, stated that a committee of citizens here had decided to make an investigation into the city's water supply and would defray the expenses of the State Engineer to come to Hood River and report a tax was feasible and how much it would cost to have water brought from a spring which the city owns, situated several miles from town but which has never been utilized and added to the supply already in use. The proposition of Mr. Treiber is to have another vote taken to bond the city for \$75,000 to this spring.

H. P. Davidson, representing the water supply, stated that the present water supply, apart from actual protection, is inadequate to supply for more than a larger city than Hood River, and that the company was considering the matter of laying additional pipe for more protection. A vote was taken to determine the sentiment of the meeting in recommending to the City Council a proposition to close the water company and have the laying of new pipe for this purpose and also an option on the present water system for five years, was carried.

Residents of the hill section say, however, that the action has not disposed of the matter, and that if the investigation to be made by the State Engineer warrants the laying of new pipe, they will call another election to vote the bonds.

RAILWAY WILL ESCAPE TAXES

Seattle Can't Assess Trackage for Street Improvements.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 4.—(Special.)—Holding that a franchise to operate a street car is not a franchise in an easement and does not constitute an interest in the land, and as such cannot be assessed under a power to assess the block, tract or parcel of land, the Supreme Court today rendered a decision in the case of the City of Seattle, as appellant, against the Seattle Electric Company, upholding a decision of the Superior Court of King County in favor of the electric company.

The city caused all that portion of West 4th street from Duwamish to Mercer street to be widened and otherwise improved. The Seattle Electric Company holds a franchise to operate street cars along this line. The city proposed to improve the street, and the improvements should be assessed, and paid for in part, against the property benefited by the proposed improvements. A commission appointed to appraise the assessment found that the Seattle Electric Company's right to operate street cars was benefited and levied an assessment of \$2300 against the company.

RESTRAIN LOGGING COMPANY

Kalama Power Plant Wins Suit in Supreme Court.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 4.—(Special.)—The Supreme Court today joined the Kalama Driving Company from interfering with or placing a dam in the Kalama River above the power plant of the Kalama Electric Light & Power Company. The river has a flow sufficient all the year to operate the generating plant of the company. The driving company, which delivers logs down the river, has closed the dam and the snakes and rock, erected wing dams and other structures along the river to make artificial freshets to float logs in the dry months. It was intended to construct a large dam above the plant of the light and power company to store water for booming purposes. The electric company sued a writ on the grounds that to fill the storage basin would cause a shutdown of their plant for nine hours several times a week while the water was collecting. The court holds that they are the prior riparian owners, and cannot be interfered with or damaged without full compensation.

SAYS ROAD IS INDEPENDENT

Attorney Admits, However, That N. P. Paid Purchasing Cost.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 4.—(Special.)—B. S. Grosscup, attorney for the Northern Pacific, appeared before the Railroad Commission today as a director of the Port Townsend Southern, in answer to a complaint filed against that road charging 5 cents per mile fare. Mr. Grosscup said that the road was an independent road, operating as such, and was entitled to the exemption allowed all roads operating less than 100 miles. Grosscup claims that the Port Townsend Southern is owned by the Northwestern Improvement Company, which in turn is owned by the Northern Pacific. The right of way of the Port Townsend Southern has been deeded to the Northern Pacific, and the short road has been reimbursed by the Northern Pacific for all moneys expended in securing the right of way and terminal grounds at Tenino.

BROUGHER SPEAKS AT EUGENE

Long Face, He Says, Not Always a Requisite of a Pious Man.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Ore., March 4.—(Special.)—Dr. J. Whitcomb Brougner, of Portland, addressed the students today on "Hair and the Backbone." The speaker was entertained by the students. Among other interesting things, Dr. Brougner made the statement that one does not necessarily have to wear a long, pious face to stay in the good graces of a narrow path, but may indulge in a little mirth occasionally, just so he retains complete mastery over himself.

Lumber Company Wins Suit

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 4.—(Special.)—The Supreme Court today issued a peremptory writ ordering Sam H. Nichols, Secretary of State, to file the articles of incorporation of the University Lumber & Shingle Company, an Oregon corporation, as proposed to him and admit the company to transact business within this state. Nichols had refused to file the incorporation papers because of a state law prohibiting foreign corporations from dealing in real estate, but the Supreme Court holds the statute was not intended to keep a foreign corporation from doing other business as authorized in their incorporation articles.

UNDOING OF THE BECKHAM MACHINE

How the Democratic Politicians of Kentucky, Under the Leadership of an Ambitious and Unscrupulous Governor, Wrecked the Party and Betrayed the People—A Democratic Paper's Review of the Events Leading to Senator Bradley's Election.

Under the caption "The Wages of Sin," the Louisville Courier-Journal has the comment on the late Kentucky Senatorial election: "The political death of Beckham, like the physical death of his ally, Hargis, was logical. Each reaped as he had sown."

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day before his taking off he tried to play his conscienceless game of trickery, as was evidenced by the astonishing ruling of his Speakers of the House in denying to that body the right to decide its own membership. If it is also the end of Beckhams it will be the beginning of reanimated Democracy.

The Senator-elect is an old-line, thorough-going Republican, and regrettable as doubt that a sound exponent of Democracy could not be elected, the elimination of Beckham, both now and in the next campaign, clears the way for the party to kick the remnants of the shattered machine out of its path and come into its own again.

ONE OF THE PLACES TO VOTE 'NO'

No Reason Why Legislative Pay Should Be Increased.

Corvallis Times. Whether the Legislature should receive \$2 or \$10 per day is a question voters will have to pass on in June. Members receive \$3 a day or \$10 per session at a regular session now. They also get mileage at 15 cents per mile, coming and going one trip to and from the session by the most usual route. A constitutional amendment was submitted at the last session, raising pay to \$100 per session, with \$20 for presiding officers, and, instead of mileage their full expenses, to and from sessions. The change will increase the salary cost of members from \$10,500 to \$38,000 per session.

There has never been a dearth of legislative candidates. The old pay always brought on its crop of them. It is not probable that any good man has been kept from seeking election to the legislature, by reason of the smallness of the salary. It is doubtful if more pay would bring out any better men. If money is the object of their going, they are not likely to be good timber anyway. Legislators who would be attracted by the larger pay would go from mercenary reasons, and would be no better, if as good, as those who go because it is an honor, and a citizen's duty. All things else at the Legislature are increasing in cost, and this item, it might be well to keep the lid on.

Highly Intelligent Queries About President Roosevelt

Arleta Or Mar 4.—To the Editor Oregonian: Dear Sir: In today's issue you tell of the President of the U. S. being insulted by the Suomi Temperance Society. I wish information on the following: What is the president of the U. S.? Is the man who is acting as president of the U. S. above criticism? If so, by what authority? Hence if the president of the U. S. is a purely mythical being as "Uncle Sam" or, Almighty God, is the removing of Theodore Roosevelt's picture from a hall an insult to the president of the U. S.? If so by what authority did