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Trade of Portland draws heavily. In the city proper, the dinner-pastry brigade is larger than ever before, and is increasing in keeping with every thing else in the city. There are plenty of prosperity signs to indicate that in all forms of industrial activity, Portland and the surrounding territory will terminate the old year with record-breaking business.

TRIMMING TO JUSTIFY MURDER. The man who undertakes to justify the assassination of Attorney Fisher by Finch is unworthy of living room in a civilized community. The attempt to make it appear that Fisher or anybody else persecuted Finch is a frivolous effort to frame up a defense which only a weak-minded jury would consider for an instant. Finch pleaded guilty to three charges—appearing in court while drunk, drawing checks on banks in which he had no money, and using the notarial seal of another man. He was certainly guilty, else he would not have consented to enter the plea. He deserved to be punished. Fisher did merely his duty when he brought the disbarment proceedings. So far was Fisher from desiring to persecute Finch that he wrote to the supreme judges asking them to have mercy on Finch, to suspend him instead of disbarring him, and to give him a chance to reform. Finch had every reason to feel grateful to Fisher for a kindness.

OUR MISMANAGED NAVY. In the current issue of Pearson's Magazine, which a fortnight ago was a criticism of the poor construction of our battleship fleet, has a very interesting article on the Navy. It is a criticism of the poor construction of our battleship fleet, has a very interesting article on the Navy. It is a criticism of the poor construction of our battleship fleet, has a very interesting article on the Navy.

URBAN AND SUBURBAN GROWTH. The November, the first of the winter months, shows Portland building permits of nearly \$1,000,000. Construction work on either residential or business buildings in winter Portland is of course a matter of serious probability in localities where extremely cold weather prevents such work from being carried on to advantage. But even here it can be carried on to no much more economically in the Spring.

THE PORT OF TILLAMOOK. Tillamook will hold an election next Monday to vote on the question of enlarging the territory of the Port of Tillamook, which has been organized as a district of the Port of Tillamook. The district originally included in the Port of Tillamook was somewhat restricted, and an adjoining district would participate in any of the benefits resulting from the work of the Port of Tillamook.

These unsanitary conditions pertain exclusively to farm life in Oregon or in the West. The old New England farms literally reek with them. They are common indeed in rural and suburban life in many sections of the Middle States and the great Middle West. Improved sanitation in farming districts everywhere is necessary if the drift from the country to the city is to be arrested. If the Commission succeeds in awakening the people of the rural districts to a real sense of their unsanitary surroundings and in suggesting some practical and available means of correcting them it will have justified its appointment.

WHAT FRUITGROWERS MUST KNOW. It is agreed among fruitgrowers that one of the greatest needs at the present time is better methods of packing fruit and preparing it for the market. Growers have been taught how to grow fruit, but they do not know how to pack it. A large portion of the fruit is placed upon the market in an unattractive condition, though free from disease. In every apple-producing district there should be held local meetings for the purpose of giving instruction in this important matter. Lectures from a platform are but little more effective than pictures and descriptions in a pamphlet.

EMMANUEL MOVEMENT GROWS. As the Emmanuel Movement grows it necessarily—because of more or less distant kinship—comes into contact with Christian Science. Some sort of conflict is inevitable. Followers of Mrs. Eddy's teachings are at variance with those who believe in the "outsider" theories. To the "outsider" listening to arguments from both sides, discussion has more than momentary interest. What Christian Scientists think of the Emmanuel Movement is pertinent. Alfred Farlow, the Oregonian committee of the Christian Scientists, has prepared such an opinion. It will be published by The Sunday Oregonian in three parts, the first to appear next Sunday.

THE CHRONIC WEATHER GROWLER IS NOT TO BE DAUNTED BY THE BRIGHT DAYS THAT HAVE USHERED IN DECEMBER. Though the mercury has scarcely touched the freezing point in the most exposed places, the weather has been "too cold" for him.

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REPUBLICAN PARTY SUPREMACY From 1789 to 1913, its Rule Will Be 65 Years. C. R. Saunders in Boston Herald. Now that Taft has been elected, it is interesting to note that, during the 124 years terminating in 1913, which our Government will have existed under the Constitution, the supreme executive power will have been placed for 65 years with the Republican party and for 59 years with the Democratic party and its predecessors.

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"EMPIRE BUILDER" JUSTLY APPLIES TO JAMES J. HILL. Comment on the Opening of the North Bank Road by the Leading Financial Paper of the Country—Mr. Hill's Place in Pacific Northwest Sentiment Now and for Future Time. New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle. Mail advices bring full accounts of the noteworthy banquet given by the Portland (Or.) Commercial Club the early part of the present month to celebrate the opening of the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway. It is interesting to note that the opening of the action of James J. Hill in building the road. Great enthusiasm was manifested at the banquet, which was attended by the higher officials of both the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern companies. There was one incident connected with this dinner and justification meeting, for such it was, which deserves to be put on record. Mr. Hill was the honored guest of the occasion and when he got up to deliver his address, a most remarkable and significant demonstration occurred. In order to show the esteem in which he is held, and as an expression of the gratitude which the people of Portland feel in having been furnished with this unexcelled road, a surprise had been prepared for him. As he rose to deliver his address, the hall was plunged in momentary darkness; then in front of him the folds of an American flag which had been used as drapery, fell apart and Mr. Hill beheld, in blazing letters, the expression, "James J. Hill—Empire Builder."

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