The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, DEC. 19, 1903.

TAKE CARE, YOU TAX OFFICIALS.

When taxpaying time comes round property-owners are reminded, each time with more force than before, of the extravagance of their public servants in office. They elect those servants to administer the county, city and state governments economically, but every year the office-holders pile on taxes faster than the community grows.

The tax levy in Portland next year threatens to reach 17 or 18 mills. This will not provide for the huge interest on the new debt, that is about to be incurred for bridges, parks, docks, water, fireboat and Port of Portland. The big tax increases are to be levied for the city, the city schools and a new county courthouse.

We suppose school expenditures will have to be considerably enlarged. But the city expenditures should be held within closer bounds than city officials are apparently willing to allow. The county can get along with the old courthouse until other needs, more pressing, shall be provided for. Two years ago the City Council refused to heed the demand for a low levy. Several months later there was a city election and a number of the members of that Council have not been heard of since. They were the men who were sure that high taxes must be wrung from property-owners. They wished to be re-elected, but were relegated to the political boneyard. Next May and June there will be more elections.

Two years ago tax assessments were marked up to so-called cash valuations. Theretofore, assessments had been held down to but a fraction of their actual worth, in order to limit the taxing power of the several departments of government and force upon them economies. When this system was abandoned it was said that the tax levy would be held down in the same proportion as the assessment was raised, and that taxes would be relatively no higher. But it seems to be turning out that the old system was better.

This city pays more than $1000 a day interest. The new debts will double that interest. The municipality is going the pace too fast. There will be a day of reckoning for the officials who pile on extravagant taxes.

RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT WORK.

The Oregon Electric Railroad has filed its first annual report. As the road did not begin operations until January 1, the report covers only the six months ending June 30. The road was not in a position to handle freight until July 1, and the report accordingly covers only the passenger business over a new, half-ballasted track at the poorest season of the year. In spite of these unfavorable features of operation, the report shows revenues for the six months, $13,535.21 greater than the operating expenses and taxes. The showing, in the circumstances, is a decidedly flattering one, and offers incontrovertible proof of the value of transportation as a means of developing a territory.

Oregon has suffered too long from that policy which has resulted in no roads being built because there were no settlers where the roads were wanted, the obvious reason for the absence of settlers being failure of the railroads to supply the transportation facilities. It was simply a case of the railroads mistaking the effect for the cause, and it remained for the Oregon Electric to expose the fallacy of such reasoning. The people living along the line of the Oregon Electric, prior to its construction, despite the attendant difficulties, succeeded in reaching a market with their products and in getting supplies back to the their homes. But poor transportation and high charges removed all incentive that might have attracted new settlers. They huddled in close to the cities, or settled in Washington, where suburban lines have made life more attractive for the people who do not care to live in the city. With the coming of the Oregon Electric appeared a host of new settlers who scattered out from the cities and began developing the rich lands along the road.

This development is, of course, in its infancy, but it is increasing more rapidly than ever before, and each additional mile of new electric line or steam railroad means more people and more traffic as soon as it is in operation. The figures given in the Oregon Electric report, of course, do not take into account the interest on the investment, and it will necessarily be a year or two before the line can make a very good showing for the men who have put their money in it. At the same time it has demonstrated that it is possible to build up a traffic where none existed before, if the proper transportation facilities are provided. Similar results follow the construction of all railroads in a new, rich country like Oregon. Two years ago the territory now traversed by the completed portion of the Tillamook Railroad was practically an uninhabited wilderness, and today the woods are full of settlers, all of whom will be supplying traffic for the road as soon as it is completed.

For years Astoria was denied railroad connection because "the route could not supply business for a railroad," and yet, as soon as the road was built, new towns sprang into existence and new industries were started, and today the traffic which pours off that sixty-mile stretch of road between Goble and Astoria is simply phenomenal. That it is all new traffic is shown by the fact that the steamboats are doing practically the same amount of business that they were handling before the railroad was built. The Oregon Electric is a bright and shining example of what an independent, well-managed transportation line can accomplish. It is entitled to hearty support and liberal treatment from the people, and the same treatment should be given to all transportation lines that can be induced to come into the field and aid in the development and upbuilding of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

JUST A TRIFLING TECHNICALITY.

The question raised by the lawyers in the Jew Nun murder case was a pure technicality affecting the merits of the case in no respect whatever. The defendant was legally charged, tried and convicted. After he appealed to the Supreme Court the constitution was amended by insertion of a clause declaring that no person shall be charged with crime in the Circuit Court except upon indictment by grand jury. Attorneys for the defense then raised the far-fetched question whether this did not invalidate the complaint filed against Jew Nun by the District Attorney under a law existing at the time the case was begun. As Chief Justice Bean very clearly pointed out in the opinion affirming the case, the language of the amendment shows that it is prospective and not retrospective. It applied only to charges to be made in future and did not in any way affect trials of cases already begun.

But, aside from the language of the amendment, common sense precludes any such construction as was attempted in this case. Even if the wording of the amendment had permitted an interpretation favorable to the defense, it would be a reflection upon the intelligence of the people of this state to assert that they could possibly intend to turn loose criminals who had been legally charged with crime and some of them tried and convicted. In the interpretation of any law the first effort is to determine the intent of the lawmaker. By no course of reasoning could the conclusion be reached that the people, in adopting an amendment, desired to throw open the doors of jails and prisons. Nothing short of a clear expression of such an intent would warrant such an interpretation.

The decision of the Supreme Court in this case not only puts an end to an effort to secure liberty for a convicted murderer, but it puts the seal of disapproval upon a highly technical contention. The regular course of justice will be pursued.

CRIME AS A PROFESSION.

Conditions being what they are in Portland and other cities, to a young man of parts and energy in search of a profession a career of crime offers singular advantages. The arguments for choosing it, as we shall try to show, are numerous and weighty, while against it can be cited nothing except certain rules of morality which are largely out of date. Indeed in that wider career of crime in which our Rockefellers and Ryans have shone so brilliantly, morality has been entirely superseded by a higher law which permits them to do anything they please without blame so long as they make money by it. But it is not our present purpose to expatiate upon the manifest and splendid advantages of following up such a glorious path as Mr. Rockefeller has trodden. To do that requires more than ordinary gifts and a steadfast piety which most young men have, alas! failed to cultivate. We purpose to speak only of those humbler but still very attractive and profitable paths which lead into express cars, bank safes and the pockets of lonely wayfarers by night.

As to the advantages of a career of crime in this lowly but lucrative field one remarks in the first place that a young man can engage in it almost entirely without capital. A dirty rag to cover his face costs little or nothing, while a gun he does not need at the outset. A crooked stick will do quite as well in those modest adventures to which he will naturally confine himself while he is learning the business. Some have held up a man merely by pointing a finger at him. Almost anything will make a timid pedestrian stand and deliver on a lonely street in a dark night. Thus if the ambitious young man begins his career of crime in an unpretending way, as he should, he will be able to make it pay from the outset, and he can gradually acquire from his profits those implements which are indispensable in the higher walks, such as jimmies, a supply of nitro-glycerine and a first-class revolver. If he aspires to the very highest summit of the profession he must of course provide himself with competent legal talent, which is abundant and eager for the service but never cheap.

In the second place a career of crime offers distinct social advantages to a young man of ambition and enterprise. Of course at the beginning things must be done which carry a sort of stigma, but the same is true of every profession. To knock down a woman and snatch her money does not of itself make one a drawing-room favorite in select circles, but neither does sweeping out a bank or mastering the Greek grammar. In every calling there are preliminary drudgeries which bring neither fame nor fortune, and yet without conscientiously working through them one can never hope to rise high. When the weary season of picking pockets and holding up night passengers has passed then come the really desirable rewards of the profession both financial and social. If the aspiring youth chooses to loot a bank he will find all doors open to him while his ardent task is under way, provided he goes about it without vain display. If he prefers to imitate the truly able robbers who plundered the East Side Bank the other day and secured $15,000 by a few minutes' of deft activity social recognition will not be so speedy, but as soon as the proceeds are safely invested it is sure to come. If he has the sublime gifts which make it possible for him to plunder with the massive grandeur of a Rockefeller or Carnegie he will find all the world at his feet before he dies. Professors will fawn upon him, ministers will kneel to him, kings will seek his company.

Finally a career of crime is pretty nearly the safest pursuit which a man can adopt. Other callings are beset with financial risks and some of them, like war and engineering, are physically dangerous, but that is not the case with crime if one is ordinarily cautious. The three bold men who held up the train near Portland Thursday night must have seemed to inexperienced eyes to run some risk, but in reality they were perfectly safe. Nobody ever shoots at a robber. Nobody ever tries to do him the slightest injury. The police might possibly seek to make things unpleasant for him if they were present, but they are always absent, so they may be left out of the discussion. The old fancy that the courts will punish a criminal if he is caught may be laid aside with other ancient superstitions. Almost the entire time of the courts is taken up with finding ways to avoid punishing criminals when they are caught, but for the most part they are never caught. This is no reproach to the police. There are not enough policemen in Portland or any other American city to prevent crime or detect those who commit it. Moreover the detection of a crime planned with moderate skill is almost impossible unless the author of it himself furnishes a clew either in his cups or by making indiscreet confidences. In real life there are no Sherlock Holmses. If a criminal is caught it is usually his own fault entirely. We see therefore that to an ambitious youth who cares nothing for morality and has not the fear of God in his heart few careers offer anything like the advantages of crime either in money, in safety or in social eminence. The only weighty consideration on the other side is the possibility that the legal profession may some time cease to foster crime and the courts begin to punish it. Then the advantages will suddenly vanish.

SOLVING ONE FRUIT PROBLEM.

Establishment of a fruit cooling station at Salem next Spring will undoubtedly be an important event not only for that immediate vicinity but for the fruit-growing sections of the state generally. Should the fruit-cooling plant be the success which is confidently expected of it, its erection will mark the beginning of a new era in the marketing of perishable fruits grown in this state. The great problem has been to get fresh fruit to the Eastern consumer in first-class condition. In order that shipments of perishable fruit may be profitable, the fruit must not only reach the Eastern market in presentable condition, but must be in such a state of preservation that it will stand up a day or two after being put on sale. It is not sufficient that most of the shipments reach the consumer in merchantable condition. Even if four-fifths of the fruit should reach the East in good shape, the loss on the one-fifth that spoils would wipe out the profits. The shipper must therefore know that his fruit will be salable when it gets to its destination.

The purpose of a cooling plant is to reduce the temperature of fruit to near the freezing point before it is packed in cars. If not so cooled, it frequently will not stand shipment, even though transported in refrigerator cars. If properly cooled before the cars are loaded, the ice in the cars will preserve it while being transported across the continent. The quality of Oregon cherries and berries is so superior that there can be no doubt as to the market when we have learned how to deliver the fruit in good condition. No other fruit can hold its own with ours in any market. Since this cooling plant is a practical experiment in the all-important matter of transportation, it means no more for Salem than for every other section of Oregon where fruits are grown in quantities materially larger than necessary to supply local demand. When the transportation problem has been solved, there is practically no limit to the market for Oregon fruit.

WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG.

Some discussion has been excited by a recent remark of Mrs. Amelia Barr's about women who earn their own living. Mrs. Barr is a novelist of mild repute who began to write at the age of 55 after bringing up fifteen children. She is of the opinion that no woman ought to take up breadwinning until she has imitated this achievement as nearly as conditions permit. "A woman has no right fo a career until she has married and had children," says Mrs. Barr a trifle oracularly.

Perhaps, we may say the same of men. There are zealots who maintain that no man ought to be permitted to live who is not a father, or at least a husband, but a truly philosophic mind would probably temper both Mrs. Barr's opinion and the latter one with a little mercy. A serious difficulty in the way of making every woman starve unless she marries is the fact that in all civilized countries they outnumber the men. Hence Mrs. Barr would practically compel several women to share the same husband in many cases. Remembering what poor creatures sundry husbands are, it may be doubted whether this plan would work well.

It may be doubted, too, whether it would be well upon the whole for every woman to bear fifteen children, or even ten. A good thing may be carried too far. If we apply the same rule to both sexes, as in fairness we must, and forbid men to enter upon their careers before they have become fathers to this perilous extent, shall we not put an end to every other pursuit? One may easily guess that Mrs. Barr is a querulous old person who tries to apply to the present generation the unsuitable standard of a day that is dead and gone.

THE CHRISTMAS STAMP.

The postal regulations of the Government are simple but stringent. No employe of the Postal Department is authorized in any way, or by any contingency or emergency, to use his discretion in the matter of enforcement or of following the rules. He must simply abide by them or suffer the pains and penalties provided.

In this connection the eager, generous public must know that the Christmas stamp is not a postage stamp; that mail clerks are not responsible for the fact that when used to seal packages of merchandise they elevate these packages to first-class matter upon which letter postage is required for carriage and delivery through the mails. In brief these stamps are a gratuity merely, indicating the interest taken in and the pity felt for sufferers from tuberculosis in whose behalf they were conceived, issued and are being sold and used by hundreds of thousands. They mean nothing whatever to the Government in the way of revenue. It merely carries them when attached to mail matter in a way that does not infringe upon the postal rules.

These stamps represent a most gracious charity—a widespread generosity, the mite of pity—bearing the insignia of the Red Cross, which is finding its way through the mails all over the country. No one is too poor to pay this tribute to charity and few will be churlish enough to withhold it. Let everybody use these Christmas stamps, remembering only that they are not postage stamps and that they must not be used to seal packages that are given to the mails as second-class matter.

The Chicago farmers who have such a keen eye for the appearance of all unfavorable factors which might affect the wheat market have about exhausted their supply of Argentine scares, and from this time forward must depend on American news. It is a little early yet for the chinchbug, the Hessian fly, or the variegated rust, but it should be remembered that the microscopic and telescopic, not to mention telepathic, vision of the Board of Trade farmers has in the past been able to discern wheat pests that never were disclosed to public gaze. The wheat market throughout the past week has been in a highly nervous state, and this nervousness is probably only a reflection of a similar state of mind experienced by the investors who have been attempting to follow the bewildering maze of conflicting news regarding the growing crop, not only in this country, but in other portions of the world.

A Seattle judge has decided that if a husband flirts with other women while walking on the street or riding in a car with his wife, this does not constitute grounds for divorce in favor of the wife. While this seems a reasonable decision, let's see to what it leads. If a woman is not entitled to a divorce for the cause stated, then it is her duty to continue to live with her husband. Since flirting is not a crime, she cannot have her wayward spouse punished by the courts. Yet no one will say that she should submit passively to such conduct. Two courses are evidently open to her. Since he will not listen to protest, she might club him over the head with a rolling pin or disregard her duty as a wife and desert him. In either case he would be entitled to secure a divorce from her. His conduct, therefore, which does not entitle her to a divorce, forces her to take measures which will entitle him to a divorce. Perhaps that is a proper penalty to place upon a woman who is so unfortunate as to make a mistake in accepting an offer of marriage.

The Socialist doctrine of the equality of man is not fully borne out by the reports of a meeting of the sect at Seattle. There was trouble, according to the news dispatches, and it "ended only after Parks was expelled from the meeting and his wife, Winnie Parks, had stood off four special sergeants-at-arms with a chair and was escorted, fighting and scratching, from the meeting." Winnie afterwards admitted that "I pasted that Stevens one on the nose," and regretfully sighed for the lost opportunity to "have hammered one of them with that chair or stuck him with my hatpin." Talk about the "equality of man," when four of them are required to handle one weak sister armed only with a chair and a hatpin! Instead of quarreling over a two-bit charge for a bowl of mush, Upton Sinclair should hasten to the Queen City and get the "uplift" to working on the recalcitrants who display such "inequalities."

A Paris cable announces that the Castellane family has never been so hard up as at this time, and that both parents of Boni are actually working for a living. This is indeed distressing, but the tragedy has not yet reached a stage where there seems to be any possibility of the nasty little Boni being forced to work. Such a contingency is very remote, for, as a last resort, this accomplished macquereau would probably come over to America and trade his title for another bundle of American millions attached to some fool girl. The international marriage business has demonstrated that for every disreputable foreign nobleman there is some silly American girl waiting to purchase him. It is deplorable, disgusting and disgraceful that such a social condition should exist, but, in the face of the evidence, we cannot deny that it does exist.

The Senate has passed the bill officially changing the name of the customs district from Willamette to Portland, and by reason of the change Portland will in the future be more prominently on the commercial maps of the world than ever before. This city was originally named in honor of Portland, Me., and it was a number of years after it was christened before it attained proportions that reflected credit on the original Portland. The situation has been reversed and the far Western city became the "big Portland" more than ten years ago, and has since been increasing the lead until today it is better known throughout the United States than the more ancient Maine city from which it secured its name.

The recent National political campaign was fought out with guaranty of bank deposits as the main issue. There is absolutely nothing in the returns to indicate that the people have any desire whatever for the enactment of such dangerous experimental legislation. The Oregon Legislature will do well to let the project alone.

Bro. Nutting, an Albany editor, and Governor Chamberlain have just returned from Eastern trips. Strange to say they saw, on their travels, none of those "nonpartisans" that constitute the majority of the patriots of Oregon. It must have been a revelation to them that folks elsewhere are not so easily fooled.

It would bother any man to suggest twenty-five subjects upon which legislation is needed, yet, if past experience is a safe basis for prediction, there will be something like 300 bills introduced at the coming session.

Castro dismisses the Venezuelan revolution by remarking, "I don't believe it." Wasn't so because it couldn't be so. There's a great future for Castro as a Christian Scientist.

Of course everybody who wasn't in that train hold-up knows exactly what he would have done to those robbers if he had been there. Why is it that the brave men never travel?

Mayor Lane certainly does not wish the office of Fire Chief to be vacant after he shall have "fired" Campbell. Then who is the man that is to take the job?

The City Jail is said to be a very uncomfortable place for Winter residents. The city probably ought to hire for them the Portland Hotel.

Castro won't believe the uproar news from Venezuela. The surgical operation he needs is one to get things through his head.

Plumbers ought to regard this cold weather as their Christmas gift from Santa Claus.

Too cold to stir out, eh? We told you to buy those presents early.

Those train robbers, seeking a safe refuge, headed for Portland.

CRISIS FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS

New York Woman Rebels Against Mrs. Eddy, Whom She Hopes to Succeed.

New York Dispatch to Chicago Inter Ocean.

New York, Dec. 18.—Christian Scientists throughout the world are watching developments in Boston and in New York with deep and anxious interest. The very general impression prevails that a crisis in the history of the cult is at hand.

The crisis centers around the apparent approaching death of Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy and the remarkable defiance of an official edict issued by those surrounding her in her name by Mrs. Augusta Stetson and her followers of the First Church Christ, Scientist, at Ninety-sixth street and Central Park West, this city.

In direct disobedience of the officially declared wish of Mrs. Eddy, the members of Mrs. Stetson's congregation last week voted to build another church edifice to accommodate the rapidly growing membership, which overflowed the parent church. This action was a deliberate repudiation either of Mrs. Eddy's authority, never questioned before, or of authority which is being exercised in her name.

Close students of the remarkable situation insist that Mrs. Stetson, the foremost figure in Christian Science next to Mrs. Eddy herself, would not have ventured upon this daring move but for her accurate knowledge of the aged leader's true condition.

The great congregation which Mrs. Stetson has gathered about her filled the superb edifice at Ninety-sixth street and Central Park West. It was a distinguished gathering in appearance and personnel. Men and women of wealth and social position crowded the pews.

From 4 until 7 o'clock the discussion continued behind doors closed to the general public. The result was a decision to build the new church, for which the site along Riverside Drive, between One Hundred and Eighth and One Hundred and Ninth streets, will cost $350,000. Upon this costly piece of realty in New York's most beautiful residential section Mrs. Stetson will rear another temple at an outlay of close to $1,000,000.

Information in the hands of the Christian Science leaders in Boston leaves no doubt that Mrs. Stetson's purpose is to succeed Mrs. Eddy in supreme authority in the church. Failing in this, she will build up a new Christian Science establishment upon the broad foundations which her genius has already laid in this city. The new church, in Riverside Drive, is a detail in this plan and will be managed by an advisory board under the chairmanship of Mrs. Stetson.

No other Christian Science church was ever established under like conditions. This will be a church built by Mrs. Stetson and managed by Mrs. Stetson.

Ashland's City Election.

ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 17.—(To the Editor.)—Ashland goes dry again. R. N. Snell, former Yamhill man, elected Mayor. Terms of office changed from one to two years. "Bank" crowd snowed under.

Ashland has just closed the most exciting and important election in her history. With the development of her water power and installing of electric light and power municipal plant, using the surplus water from Ashland Creek in the canyon above the city to generate electricity, the important paving, park and civic improvements projected for the ensuing year, and the fact that the city again went dry, this election marks an epoch in civic progress. There were two tickets in the field, one of which has been called the "Bankers'" ticket, which consisted of C. W. Root, Mayor; Hon. E. V. Carter, Hon. L. L. Mulit and Robert Neil for Councilmen. This ticket, although pledging themselves to accept no compensation if elected (the ticket carried an amendment providing the Mayor a salary of $100 a year and Councilmen each $75), and making numerous ante-election pledges, was overwhelmingly defeated.

R. N. Snell, formerly of old Yamhill, making no pledges but standing on his honorable record as Councilman the past year, defeated his opponent by more than 3 to 1.

One factor leading to Mr. Snell's success was his unvarying policy of fairness to all parts of the city in the expenditure of public moneys. F. W. Moore, Councilman from the Third Ward, defeated Hon. E. V. Carter, 193 to 61. William Myer, in the Second Ward, defeated Hon. L. L. Mulit, 157 to 88. W. F. Loomis, in the First Ward, defeated Robert. P. Neil, 262 to 77.

The city recently voted to install a municipal electric light and power plant by a vote of 483 to 5, and for this purpose voted $80,000 bonds. Frank Kelsey, of Portland, was employed to plan and construct the work, and the same has been pushed this Fall. The city expects to have one of the best and most economical plants on the Coast. VOTER.

Big Champ Clark.

Boston Traveler.

Everything about Champ Clark, the new minority leader of the House, is big. He is big in avoirdupois, big of heart, big of voice and he has a big and abiding faith in the Democratic party.

The biggest thing about Clark is his voice. His oratory is the noisest in Congress. As a lawyer he is at home as a cross-examiner. He can browbeat and bulldoze a witness to the point where the witness will tell the truth if it kills him.

Mr. Clark was chairman of the Democratic National committee in 1904 and chairman of the committee which notified Alton B. Parker of his nomination for the Presidency. He was once the youngest college president in America.

Clark is 58 years old, and was born in Kentucky. He is a tall, handsome man with square shoulders and a big, deep chest.

Plumber Really Reduces His Bill.

New York World.

This is a true story.

George Scholze, manager for John F. Ryan, a prosperous plumber of Flushing, L. I., was before a Surrogate Noble in Jamaica, testifying as to work he had done for Mary McCardell, administratix of the estate of Bernard Carraher, of Flushing.

"I find a discrepancy in your bill," said the Surrogate, "you agreed to put in a bathroom for $210, while in your bill you charge only $198. How do you explain it?"

"I found that some of the work was not necessary, and so the bill was reduced," replied the plumber.

There was a tense stillness in the courtroom until Surrogate Noble, the first to rally, warmly commended Scholze for his honesty.

Muskrats Predict a Wet Winter.

Winsted, Conn., Dispatch to the New York World.

Basing their predictions on the work of muskrats, weather seers prophesy an abundance of rain before the Winter is over. The sharps have noted that the animals have built their homes high upon the borders of lakes and rivers. This, it is asserted, is regulated year by year by the height to which the water is expected to rise.

Force of Habit.

Tid-Bits.

"I wish, John," said the editor's wife, "that you'd try not to be so absent-minded when we are dining out."

"Eh? What have I done now?"

"Why, when the hostess asked you if you'd have some more pudding you replied that, owing to a tremendous pressure on your space, you were compelled to decline."

ELOPING OF MINORS TO END

Judge Frater Would Have Two Weeks' Notice of Weddings.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—If the bill now being framed by Judge A. W. Frater, of the Superior Court, becomes a law, the eloping industry recently so popular with young people who have not attained legal age, will receive a severe jolt.

The Judge completed the first draft of the measure this morning. The striking section is that which provides that two weeks' notice must be filed with the County Auditor by parents or guardians of applicants for marriage licenses, and that these notices must be made of record in the county in which the bride-elect resides. Judge Frater expects that the newspapers will give publicity to the applicants for license as they do to licenses issued. The same section of the bill also provides that a marriage license to minors shall be issued at the direction of a Justice of the Superior Court.

Auditors failing to comply with these provisions will be deemed guilty of misdemeanor and punished by fine.

"I think this bill will put a stop to boys and girls under age running away to other counties to be married," said Judge Frater.

ONE COUPLE DIVORCED TWICE

Each Married Three Times—Husband Alleges Cruelty.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Married twice to each other, divorced twice from each other within less than seven years, and both having experienced wedded bliss before they married each other, is the extraordinary record of Elmer J. Martin and Frances Martin, recently divorced in this city.

The couple were first married June 22, 1902. They were divorced January 13, 1905. They remarried ten months later, November 18, 1905, and divorced a few days ago. According to the state statute the couple cannot be remarried before July 4, 1909.

A peculiar feature of the case is that Martin is always the plaintiff in the applications for divorce, alleging cruelty and inhuman treatment. Both persons are now living at La Center, Clark County, Wash.

DEATING DESERVED, SHE SAYS

Woman Who Has Husband Arrested Refuses to Prosecute Him.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Three or four nights ago Patrolman O'Brien arrested William Wilson, occupation unknown, on a charge of beating his wife. This morning the wife refused to testify against the man, who, it is alleged, was choking her.

"Don't you remember the night your husband choked you?" asked the City Attorney.

"No, I don't," said Mrs. Wilson. "I was not feeling very well that night. In fact, I had been drinking."

"Well, you deserved a licking," said the City Attorney.

"I know it," said the woman. "I deserved three or four lickings."

The case was dismissed for want of prosecution.

PHILOMATH GETS SAWMILL

Noon Lumber Company, of Portland, Buys Tract on Woods Creek.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A big industry for Benton County is assured by the completion of a deal in this city today whereby the Noon Lumber Company, of Portland, purchased a big tract of timber near Philomath. The company will establish a big sawmill on the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad, four miles west of Philomath, on Woods Creek.

In this deal, the Noon Lumber Company has secured between 800 and 900 acres of timber land, Fish & Hodges, of Albany, who have been selling out the old Yaquina Bay wagon road grant, consummated the final transfer here today. Work has already begun on arrangements for the installation of the sawmill.

HUNTS HER SPOUSE WITH GUN

Baker City Woman Starts Excitement, but Is Soon Arrested.

BAKER CITY, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Mrs. Lizzie Fuller, of South Baker, turned that portion of the city into a state of excitement tonight by placing a revolver in her grip and proclaiming to neighbors that she was going down town to kill her husband.

The police were informed and took charge of the woman before she fulfilled her threat. Mrs. Fuller tried to commit suicide by drinking acid a few days ago.

Reynolds' Defense Technicality.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Today was occupied by the defense in the Reynolds case, a large number of witnesses being examined. One of the strongest points brought out by the defense is that the scene of the autobobile accident is not a street crossing within the legal meaning of the term and that being true, the defendant was not violating the speed limit when the accident occurred.

$10,000 for Chehalis Library.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The trustees of the Chehalis library received final word this week from the agent of Andrew Carnegie, announcing that the donation for the new library in this city will be $10,000. The architect has been directed to go ahead at once with the preparation and completion of the plans and specifications for the building.

Club Entertained at Hood River.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The University of Oregon Mandolin and Glee Club sang and played to a large and appreciative audience here last night in the Opera House. After the entertainment the members of the club were given a reception by the High School students in Odd Fellows Hall. The glee club will appear at Pendleton tonight.

Eugene High Wins Debate.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The debate here today between the Eugene and the Albany High Schools resulted in a victory for the Eugene. The local team was considered the stronger on all points except rebuttal. The judges were Senator J. A. Buchanan, of Roseburg; Earl Strong, of University of Oregon, and J. J. Bryan, of Springfield.

Troops Sick With Mumps.

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Forty artillery corps recruits who reached Fort Worden today for assignment to companies of the Puget Sound district are quarantined for the measles and mumps. Practically every member of the party is afflicted with either of the diseases.

Dalrymple Out on $2500 Bail.

THE DALLES, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Alexander Dalrymple, convicted of manslaughter at the November term of court, and whose case was appealed, was liberated today from the County Jail on $2500 bail, awaiting the action of the Supreme Court.

STALLCUP ANSWERS TURNER

Lawyer Thinks Governor May Receive Certificate Out of State.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Ex-Judge John C. Stallcup, a prominent lawyer of Tacoma, takes issue with ex-Senator George Turner on the Governorship question. Judge Stallcup says:

"The laws of this state provide that the Legislature shall issue to the Governor a certificate of election and the delivery and the receipt of that certificate qualifies him for the office. There is no law requiring the Governor to take any oath and it seems strange to me that Senator Turner should hold that he is required to do so.

"To my mind the only question that is in any doubt is whether or not the certificate of election could be delivered to the Governor and received by his agent in the state. The delivery of the certificate and the receipt of it by the Governor would be a gubernatorial act and must take place within the state.

"So far as the question of who would be the Acting Governor in case Governor Cosgrove lives until after the certificate of election is formally and legally received by him there is no doubt whatever but that Lieutenant-Governor Hay would at once take office. Cosgrove would become the successor of Governor Mead, who would thereupon become absolutely out of it and Cosgrove being out of the state Hay would at once become the Acting Governor."

SALEM TEAM WINS DEBATE

Conquers Lebanon High School, Champion Last Year.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—In the first debate of the Oregon High School Debating League Salem defeated Lebanon this evening. The judges voted two for Salem and one for Lebanon. Lebanon won the championship of the state last year, but is eliminated in the first debate of the series this year.

The question debated was, "Resolved, That the law applying to Chinese immigration into the United States should be extended to Japanese immigration." Lebanon's team, supporting the affirmative, was composed of Clarence Thom, Beatrice Spencer and Harold Hurlburt. Salem's team was composed of Howard Zimmerman, Robert Minton and Seph Axley. The judges were Judge Robert Eakin, Attorney-General Crawford and Judge J. C. Moreland, none of them Salem men. City Superintendent J. M. Powers presided. This was one of four debates held tonight in the central district of Western Oregon.

ABERDEEN INCREASES POLICE

Plain-Clothes Men to Protect City Against Crooks and Thieves.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Following the arrest this morning of two suspects, believed to be ex-convicts, six plain clothes men will be added to the police force of the city to guard against the influx of crooks, petty criminals, burglars and yeggmen from the Puget Sound cities and Portland. This action was taken at a special meeting today of the police committee of the Council and Acting Mayor Hart. The additional officers will be appointed immediately by Chief of Police Birmingham, but their names will not be made public. They will be instructed to watch all incoming trains and to arrest any suspicious characters.

Thomas Dillon and Thomas Sullivan are the names given by the two men who were arrested this morning. They were taken into custody at the Northern Pacific depot.

ROBERTS TO RESIGN, IS WORD

Land Office Receiver at La Grande to Give Up Position.

BAKER CITY, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Report that Al Roberts is soon to resign his position as Receiver of the La Grande Land Office has set local politicians stirring here, and all factions of the Republican party of Baker County have indorsed W. L. Patterson for the place. If precedent is followed the appointment will go to Baker County. Mr. Patterson is a lawyer of this city.

Roberts a few weeks ago was found short in his accounts. He made good the amount.

Vancouver Merchants Duped Again.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A stranger cashed two $25 checks in Vancouver stores today and escaped before the forgeries were discovered. The first check was presented to George Hausch by a man who claimed to be J. Jackson. The check was signed J. Benet. The second check was cashed by Seney, of Cawley & Seney, proprietors of the North Bank Saloon. It also was signed by J. Benet, and indorsed by A. Johnson. The forger is described as past 30 years old, 5 feet 9 inches in height and weighing about 160 pounds. He was wearing a dark suit and light-colored hat.

Dalles Debaters Victors.

WOODBURN, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—In a debate in this city tonight The Dalles defeated the Woodburn High School on the subject of "Woman Suffrage." Woodburn had the affirmative and The Dalles the negative. The debaters were: The Dalles, Elliott Roberts, Viva Stogsdill and Marion Driver; Woodburn, Annie Dinwoodie, Marvel Frost and Ernest McKee. The judges were Supreme Justice R. S. Bean, of Salem; County Judge G. B. Dimick, of Oregon City, and President Homan, of Willamette University.

Doctor Sues Dead Child's Mother.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Judgment for a doctor's bill contracted by her deceased daughter was assessed to the mother, Mrs. James Dolan, today by Judge E. M. Scanlon. Mrs. Birdie Shy, the daughter, was ill at her mother's home, near Ridgefield. Dr. R. S. Stryker was summoned and rendered medical attendance, and when the woman died, presented his bill, $25, to the mother for payment. She refused, so the doctor brought suit against Mr. and Mrs. James Dolan.

Carline Extended 14 Blocks.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The Vancouver Traction Company extension from Eleventh street to Twenty-sixth street, in the northwestern part of the city, will be opened to travel tomorrow. A large crew of men is busy constructing the track still farther north and the company expects to have its cars running out two miles into the country toward Felida by January 1.

Find Train Robbers' Cache.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 18.—The police today found a cache of dynamite and a railroad torpedo, supposed to have been hidden by two bandits who the night of December 9 held up the Great Northern passenger train and robbed the Seattle registered mail.

Vancouver Loses Debate.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Word received tonight from Aberdeen states that the Vancouver High School lost the debate with the Aberdeen High School.

Prison for Forger Sweeney.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—C. J. Sweeney, convicted of passing forged checks in this city, was sentenced today to an indeterminate sentence in the Penitentiary.