

The Oregonian

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

Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 cents; 15 to 20 cents; 25 to 30 cents; 35 to 40 cents; 45 to 50 cents.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beckwith Agency—New York, rooms 18-19 Tribune building.

Portland, Wednesday, Jan. 27, 1909.

A CHECK ON EXTRAVAGANCE

The assessment of the great City of Chicago for purposes of taxation—all property—for the year 1908, was \$475,770,359.

The assessment is estimated at one-fifth of the value of the property, but may be below that. The tax rate for all purposes was \$23,954,950.

Chicago's tax levy, for all purposes is \$11.35 per capita. Portland's, even on a basis of 220,000 inhabitants, will exceed \$20 per capita.

We believe the Legislature of Oregon realizes the gravity of the present situation in our state, and that its sincere purpose is to serve the people.

Details of the foreign trade of the United States for the year 1908 throw some interesting side lights on the trend of that which was recorded in this country.

Even our readily available diamonds provided there is an ample supply of bread and meat.

There were, of course, some heavy decreases in other necessities which were imported, and this in the aggregate ran into a large sum.

Broadstays as a whole, however decreased \$3,000,000, and meat and dairy products were \$20,000,000 less than in 1907.

Governor Macgown's recommendation that the wreck of the Maine be removed from the harbor of Havana should be favorably acted upon.

blowing up of this battleship marked the beginning of a history-making epoch in this country; but there is nothing to be gained by keeping the old, battered hulk as a menace to navigation in Havana harbor.

TO PATERNIZE EVERYBODY

Who are the paupers? Who are they who must be supported by the public? It is pitiful, every way.

On the one hand are those who fall to the position of poor-house inmates, supported by the public; on the other hand the beggars, who go to the Legislature, and besiege the doors of the Common Council, clamorous for "more"—who have no idea whatever of getting their livelihood in any other way than by proying on the public.

Now also comes a class between these two favored by such as ought to know better, that "where poverty exists in the home state aid should be given."

But, of course, if the state is to grant the position of every office-holder and office-seeking man, for new official places and for larger salaries, then we should do better to "go direct to the people," and supply all deficiencies, where "poverty exists in the home."

This whole thing really is appalling. Seekers of office clamor from who their heads and make claim to respectability, as well as inmates of the poor-houses, who long ago lost all sense of dignity and all incentive to effort, alike claim support from the industry of those who are willing to work, and who practice self-denial.

It is a serious error to look upon the divorce problem in the United States as something unique. The whole civilized world has it in various forms.

Even our readily available diamonds provided there is an ample supply of bread and meat. In the eleven months ending December 1, 1908, the imports of diamonds were but \$12,000,000, compared with \$22,000,000 in the same period in 1907.

There were, of course, some heavy decreases in other necessities which were imported, and this in the aggregate ran into a large sum.

Broadstays as a whole, however decreased \$3,000,000, and meat and dairy products were \$20,000,000 less than in 1907.

Governor Macgown's recommendation that the wreck of the Maine be removed from the harbor of Havana should be favorably acted upon.

we can expect to make marriage entirely stable. Even then we shall not be apt to succeed, because there is a disquieting tendency of too many factors to develop disquieting.

But perhaps the principal cause for divorces is the indifferent care we take in arranging marriages. A good bargain, made in this matter, at least, makes us much more secure of a happy ending.

The Philadelphia Inquirer are the only newspapers in the United States that have entered any objection to sending the Liberty Bell to Portland and the Seattle Exposition.

In presenting to the Legislature a bill designed to save the state something like \$40,000 per year rather than to tap the hard-used public coffers of a large sum, the National Guard Association should be hailed as refreshingly original, to say the least.

The new charter, under preparation for Portland, is well advanced. It will follow, substantially, the system known or designated as the McInnes plan.

Professor Ferrero undoubtedly is right about Antony and Cleopatra. Antony wanted money. He had dreams of vast political achievement, and expected to divide the Roman world with Octavianus.

Graingrowers in the bunchgrass country are finding comfort in weather conditions that are knacker over.

It is believed that a provision for "recall" of elective officers will be inserted, for this is a feature of the McInnes plan.

Not a week passes that the Oregon newspapers do not knock over the heads of a club in the marshes, and the writer is personally cognizant of two instances in which this "sport" has been practiced.

There is a Democratic Senator because one faction of the Republican party, in order to get advantage over another, took Statement One—not supposing it would lead to the pit. Yet this faction no more believed in Statement One than the other.

Representative Orton is right in his demand that all bills introduced "by request" should carry on their face the name of the person or association making the request.

Oregon's commissioners of the Seattle Fair maintain that they think a disease is spreading for the money (\$100,000) placed in their hands; but like all other who handle public money, they want "more."

typhoid fever 247 cases, while small-pox, which Dr. Wheeler held down to 33 cases in 1908, beyond control of the present administration to such an extent that 299 cases were reported.

Of course some of the old fogies may contend that less disease and small cost for the health department are preferable to existing conditions, but such a contention will never be sustained by the hungry salary-grabbers for whom the taxpayers of the City of Portland are proving such good things.

To date the Seattle Times and the Philadelphia Inquirer are the only newspapers in the United States that have entered any objection to sending the Liberty Bell to Portland and the Seattle Exposition.

In presenting to the Legislature a bill designed to save the state something like \$40,000 per year rather than to tap the hard-used public coffers of a large sum, the National Guard Association should be hailed as refreshingly original, to say the least.

The new charter, under preparation for Portland, is well advanced. It will follow, substantially, the system known or designated as the McInnes plan.

Professor Ferrero undoubtedly is right about Antony and Cleopatra. Antony wanted money. He had dreams of vast political achievement, and expected to divide the Roman world with Octavianus.

Graingrowers in the bunchgrass country are finding comfort in weather conditions that are knacker over.

It is believed that a provision for "recall" of elective officers will be inserted, for this is a feature of the McInnes plan.

Not a week passes that the Oregon newspapers do not knock over the heads of a club in the marshes, and the writer is personally cognizant of two instances in which this "sport" has been practiced.

There is a Democratic Senator because one faction of the Republican party, in order to get advantage over another, took Statement One—not supposing it would lead to the pit. Yet this faction no more believed in Statement One than the other.

Representative Orton is right in his demand that all bills introduced "by request" should carry on their face the name of the person or association making the request.

Oregon's commissioners of the Seattle Fair maintain that they think a disease is spreading for the money (\$100,000) placed in their hands; but like all other who handle public money, they want "more."

Vigorous Criticism of the Bill for a Pure Milk Supply.

Now, I take it for granted that the bill, as printed in The Oregonian, is so worded that one might believe that it was to be of benefit to the farmer.

Then, again, I should like to ask the sponsors of this bill how they would like to see a farmer who would like to feed into a cow barn at half past 3 on a frosty morning and wash cows' udders and then attempt to milk 25 or 30 cows with dry hands.

Then, again, I should like to ask the sponsors of this bill how they would like to see a farmer who would like to feed into a cow barn at half past 3 on a frosty morning and wash cows' udders and then attempt to milk 25 or 30 cows with dry hands.

USELESS PREMIUM ON SLAUGHTER.

Mr. Beebe So Characterizes Effort to Lengthen Duck-Shooting Season.

There can be no doubt of the truth of Mr. Finley's statements regarding the effect of such action, and the spirit of the law is to do this.

Mr. Finley's statement that the present open season should be shortened—not lengthened—is also absolutely correct.

PREVENTING CRUELTY TO HORSES.

Yamhill's County Treasurer to Walk to Portland in One Day.

Before the advent of railroads, the writer used frequently to ride on horseback from McMinnville to Portland.

Senator Stephenson, of Wisconsin, is charged with having bought the pardon of a felon for "more than \$100,000." Shocking! But isn't he the people's choice?

CARNEGIE HERO FUND AWARDS.

Twenty-Six Persons Recognized by Medals and Money for Lifesaving.

Sarah H. Killikelly, of Pittsburg, who is 78 years of age, received a silver medal and \$75 per month for the rest of her life for saving the life of a neighbor's servant girl.

John Bosko, Jr., aged 15, of Marblehead, O., was awarded a bronze medal and \$2000.

NOTABLE CENTENARIANS IN 1909.

Procession of Centenaries of World-Famous Men That Marks the Year.

Yesterdays attention to the Poe birthday marked the beginning of that procession of centenaries of famous men which makes notable the occasion.

WISHES DEFEAT OF BEAL'S BILL.

Writer Thinks Proposed Legislation Had for Single Claim Owners.

Portland, Jan. 26.—(To the Editor)—The Beal bill, providing for the crushing of timber claims, and which passed the House, is a severe blow to single-claim owners.

AN EXTREME ABSURDITY.

Its Devotion Costs Dog Its Life.

Life's Sunny Side

J. Adam Bede, of Minnesota, the humorist of the House while he was in it, and whose humor still bubbles, despite the fact that he was elected to stay at home, tells the following on a friend of his who travels for a carpet firm:

"My friend," said Bede, "is of a saving turn of mind, and he recently had to make a longish junket to Grand Rapids, Michigan, on the railroad station, he approached a stranger standing on the platform and said: 'Are you going to Chicago on this train?'"

"Yes, but I haven't any ticket."

"Look 'ere, parson, would you mind comin' 'ome with me to see my wife?"

"I'm already at home in it. I know my ground perfectly. It's the same law as 'ere, me prove was constitutional two years ago."

"No," snapped the sharp-faced woman at the door, "I ain't got no food for you. I ain't got no old clothes."

"No," replied Harvard Hasbep, "I could repay you well. Give me a square meal and I'll give you four seasons in grammar."

THE FAUCE IN OREGON.

Grotesque Outcome of Attempt to Abolish Representative Government.

Very Much to the Purpose.

Grandson's Legacy to Keep Sober.