The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

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

Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.

(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and weekly, one year	3.50

(By Carrier.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16 to 28 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 44 pages, 3 cents; 46 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage double rates.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1909.

ENGLAND'S NAVAL PROBLEM.

Once more the woes of the British Empire and the dangers that beset it, real and imaginary, are laid to the account of the Liberal party, whose policy is said to be to "save money by reducing the defensive forces," with "vague promise of distributing it among the poor." Just as Gladstone was accused of surrender of the Empire's interests in Africa to the Boers, for a temporary peace, which later brought on the costly South African war, so now the Asquith Government is alleged to be sacrificing the means of national defense, under the delusion that there never will be danger of war, to sentimental theories of universal peace and good will among all the nations of the earth. The conservative and forecasting British man can see in this policy nothing but the danger of national ruin.

The National Review (London) from whose pages The Oregonian recently printed a long article on the probability of hostile clash between Great Britain and Germany, returns to the subject of the dangers to which the British Empire under its present policy is subjecting itself; insisting that England now, on her East Coast, her vital point, has no adequate means of defense, no provision for coaling vessels in war time and no repairing dock east of Portsmouth in which a crippled battleship could be repaired; no land or submarine defenses; in fact, no preparations for any emergency that might suddenly occur. "The obvious point of attack," says this writer, "is the East Coast, and the Achilles heel of the island is the mouth of the Thames, because great part of the supplies of London comes up the Thames every day and night, all the year round." Further: "If a foreign fleet held the mouth of the Thames for twenty-four hours, no matter what happened afterwards, we should have received a blow from which we might never wholly recover."

Nothing is more certain than if supplies of food and materials from the outer world should be cut off by enemies, England would be compelled quickly to make what terms of peace she could. The accusation against the present government on this head is that it has virtually consented at the Hague Conference to allow revival of privateering—not in name, but in fact; and morever, it has permitted the conference of naval powers (held in London last year) to adopt a rule which would allow food stuffs designed for British ports, even in neutral bottoms, to be declared contraband of war, as so adjudged by prize courts. Therefore, "upon the outbreak of war—before the outbreak of war—enemy privateers will be holding up British sea-borne trade and supplies all over the world."

These things are interesting, chiefly as showing the perturbation of the British mind; for the apprehensions are not those merely of a few croakers. So strong and deep is the impression made by the criticisms that the government itself, though sentimentally opposed to preparation of armaments, has been moved to more active measures than it had originally intended or planned. It is true, indeed, that there may be no such dangers as these critics fear. The British Empire cannot desire war anywhere, or with any power. Yet no subject of the Empire, nor any observer, can doubt that unless preparations are maintained, the Empire will run great and probably increasing risks. The preparations, of course, must be mainly those of naval armament. "The Navy," says an English writer, "exists for the purpose of defending the Empire, whose various provinces are connected by water ways. If they were connected by land roads, the Empire would require an army instead of a navy."

LUMBER SUPPLY AND DEMAND.

Views on the lumber supply and demand, as expressed at the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association, at Seattle, are somewhat paradoxical. Secretary Smith, of the Association, said that "Figures for lumber produced in 1908, as compared with 1907, show a decrease of 17 per cent, and undoubtedly a similar percentage of decrease, or a larger one, will be shown for 1909. The supply has exceeded the demand during the past 18 months, and neither the volume of business nor the price has been satisfactory."

R. S. Kellogg, a forestry service expert, read a paper in which he insisted that the time had come for a practical application of forest conservation because the lumbermen have for years destroyed, but not produced.

A decrease of 17 per cent per year in the amount of lumber produced could not be in evidence very many years without showing some results in the available supply, and, unless the demand gets closer to the supply than is shown by Secretary Smith's figures, it will be several generations yet before the available supplies in the Pacific Northwest are in danger of exhaustion. While there is an apparent conflict in the respective views of the forestry expert and the lumbermen, they are, to a degree, both right. It is equally true that the evils of which each complain are but temporary. There has been a decrease in the demand for lumber, partly on account of the still lingering effect of the panic of 1907, and partly because advancing prices have driven consumers to the use of other materials.

The use of cement has, without doubt, affected the demand for lumber, and higher prices than were in evidence when lumbermen were actually "wasting" timber, have had a tendency to lessen the demand. But this country is growing so rapidly and the wealth of the people is increasing to such an extent that the demand even at increased prices will soon stop any "decreases" in the output. Forest conservation is already occupying the attention of the lumbermen themselves, and, as most of the great forests of the West are in the hands of the men who have lived long enough to witness disappearance of the timber in the Middle West and Northwest, they are taking full precaution against repetition of any unnecessary waste in the timbered regions on which they are now drawing for supplies. In future increased demand for lumber will go hand in hand with increased effort to conserve our forest resources.

THE SINGLE POETIC WORD.

What is the one single word in all poetry that expresses the most? The opinion will differ, as tastes may differ, as the emotions of the person in one situation or another, may differ. But where will one find a single word that expresses more than in the line of Keats, that describes Ruth "amid the alien corn?" First, think of the situation. Then a single word carries everything that appeals to the best part of human nature; to the feeling or emotion, to the imagination of man and woman, in the common course of life; to its closest ties and to its best affections.

Keats died at twenty-five, and left but a small volume of poetry; but part of this little is of immense value. Every person who has knowledge and appreciation of poetry in English, on going to Rome, visits the grave of Keats.

Of course, there was more of Keats, much more, than the word of this one passage. We may find in the body of his poetry, small as it is, expressions perhaps as striking. It will depend on the mood in which we read them and think on them. What an association of ideas is started by the description of a place as "the murmurous haunt of flies on Summer eves"; or of "magic casements opening on the foam of perilous seas in fairy lands forlorn!" And the incomparable poem, "The Eve of St. Agnes," selected for reading and study in every school.

PROSPERITY AT OUR DOORS.

Unless all signs fail, this country is on the eve of an era of the greatest prosperity it has ever known. Mr. James J. Hill, the same pessimistic individual who, a few months ago, viewed everything through the bluest kind of blue glasses, gave out an interview at Washington a few days ago in which he said: "Last month I traveled extensively through the West, and I never saw such activity among the farmers. Everywhere I made inquiries and learned and saw that crops were abundant and the farmers satisfied." Regarding the bearing this coming prosperity had on his own business, Mr. Hill said that "Freight cars will be at a premium within a few weeks. We of the railroad world judge the prosperity of the Nation as much by the number of idle cars as anything else. Throughout the last year there have been thousands of cars idle, but they will soon be rolling about the country, filled with freight."

This testimony compares with that which is heard on every hand and in practically every line of industry. In no other part of the country is this coming prosperity reflected more brilliantly than in the Pacific Northwest. While the crop now being harvested is the most valuable ever known, there is less money going into the interior for crop-moving purposes than at any previous season. This is due to the remarkably healthy financial condition of the people in the interior. Several years of good crops, which sold at prices ranging from fair to high, and never at low prices, have placed practically the entire country east of the Cascade Mountains in a position of independence. The $50,000,000 for which the grain crop will sell will be poured into coffers already well filled, and most of it will seek investment in the Pacific Northwest. Mr. Hill, like most of the business men of the country, is inclined to blame the delayed action on the tariff bill for holding back this wave of prosperity which is already in sight.

The uncertainty over the final tariff schedules to be adopted has had the effect of causing everyone from the manufacturer to the consumer to hold off buying either raw material or the manufactured product until a permanent price can be fixed in accordance with the revised figures. Revision or no revision, however, will not serve to stay the wave of prosperity that is gathering momentum every day as harvest time draws nearer.

JAPANESE LAWBREAKERS.

The increasing boldness of the Japanese strikers at Hawaii may lead to serious trouble in the near future. An injunction issued by Judge Robinson, restraining the strikers from picketing, boycotting or in any manner interfering with laborers who sought to work, has been utterly ignored. The Japanese are reported to be so well prepared for carrying on the strike that they have a regular organization which usurps the functions of government, and holds military court-martial for disciplining those who violate its rules. This kind of work is not in accord with American principles, and Hawaii is American territory. The orders of an Hawaiian Judge are entitled to the same respect and consideration as those of an American judge in the United States.

Contempt of court of this nature would be reprehensible in Americans, but the insult and offence becomes more glaring when it is committed by aliens. The assurance, braggadocio, and general "cockiness" assumed by the Hawaiian Japanese at this time may be due in part to the reported ascendency in Japan of the military party. The Japanese "Jingo" seems to be about the worst of the breed that can be found anywhere. Had it not been for the conservative element, these fire-eaters might have made serious trouble many months ago when the California protest was made against admitting the Japanese to white schools. It is reported that Ambassador Takahira, who has represented Japan in this country for several years, is about to be recalled. The reason given for the change is that he has not been strict enough in his demands for more privileges for his people in this country. As Takahira was sufficiently gifted with diplomacy to secure every concession for his people that this country could possibly grant, it is not easy to discern any advantage that will accrue from the change.

The treaty between this country and Japan expires in 1911, and, as the new treaty will be a very important affair, the preliminaries will necessarily be taken up in the near future. It will be a matter of regret if Japan deprives herself of the experience of a man so well qualified for the position he holds as is Takahira. His retention will also be of material advantage to this country. The Japanese Jingoes resent exclusion of any of their people from the United States, and, if they are to take the lead in the formulation of the new treaty, it will be difficult to avoid considerable friction.

The present experience in the Hawaiian Islands offers conclusive evidence that a great many of the Japanese are not only undesirable citizens, but that they are of a class which should never be permitted to enter this country. Takahira undoubtedly understands the feeling of the American people toward the Japanese coolies and, however unpleasant his policy may seem to the Japanese Jingoes, it is a policy which, in the end, will be best for both Japan and the United States. This country already has enough foreigners who object to obeying injunctions and other laws, and if Japan should attempt to negotiate a treaty that would admit any more of the kind of Japanese now on a strike in Hawaii, serious trouble can hardly be averted.

LAND HUNGER.

The new reservation lands which have been opened to settlers in the Northwest are attracting applicants literally by the hundred thousand. Perhaps one person out of fifteen may receive a piece of land. If he does, he must pay for it the full value under appraisement. This may not come up to the real value of the land, but it is a very different thing from getting a quarter section for nothing, as the Oklahoma settlers did. The price to be paid, however, does not affect the eagerness of the applicants. They are hungry for the new farms, no matter at what price or under what difficulty they are to be obtained. Nor are they impelled by necessity. Most of those who have registered for claims are well-to-do men, both young and old, who probably hold good farms back in other parts of the country. What is the magnetic power which draws them to the Indian reservations?

Three or four reasons are apparent. An important motive is the desire to invest savings. Many of these men have sums of money laid by, a few hundred dollars, or a few thousand, and they are at a loss how to make it earn something without risk of loss. Large numbers of them do not live near savings banks. If the Government had established postal banks, as it ought, hundreds of the people would permit their little capital to lie at low interest. As it is, they must seek some other way to dispose of it. The alluring investments set forth in some advertisements do not appeal to them because they have learned from hard experience the lesson of caution. Land they know is as safe as the Government, and land they are determined to have.

There is also the gambling spirit which never fails to show itself when to men is offered the chance to win or lose. In spite of the appraised price which must be paid for these new claims, there is still a chance of winning prizes. Nobody knows just how much an acre the land will be worth when it is plowed and set to fruit or seeded to alfalfa. A few acres may make a small fortune. John has as good a chance to be the lucky man as James, so he puts on a brave face and tries his luck.

Mingled with pure investors and the gamblers are the genuine homeseekers. Probably not so numerous as the others, still they are there in a multitude. The hunger for the soil is growing ravenous in this country. Some of us can remember a time when the city man scorned everything connected with the farm. Now he is wiser. He turns to the soil as the weary Peer Gynt returned to the Solveig of his boyhood and longs to die where the birds fly and the waters run. It is well. Let him die there if he wants to, but it is vastly better for him to live there. Mother earth is the well-spring of health for all nations. When they forsake her, they wither. When they dwell near her, they grow strong and virile. Men have built many cities and time has devoured them, but the soil where they stood is still there. Cities kill men, the land makes the race eternal. So the philosopher smiles at the spectacle of the multitude struggling for the new reservation lands, but his smile is full of satisfaction.

A WINGED MESSENGER OF PEACE.

William T. Stead, the famous English publicist, in an article published recently, treats the aeroplane as the great messenger of universal peace—a peace compulsory if the nations would not cease to exist and the world be made a desolate waste. "It simply means the end of war," he declares; "armaments will go as armor went, and twelve-inch guns will be as obsolete as the bow and arrow. The aeroplane is the next step." This is an assertion that will bear analysis, and one that close analysis strengthens. As cited by Captain Tuloch, in a notable article in the Nineteenth Century, fifty miles of the concentrated essence of the life of the empire in the Thames Valley could be brought to ruin by a single airship—itself beyond reach, planting a dozen incendiary missiles in certain spots during a high wind. A few minutes would suffice to set ablaze the whole riverside, with ships, wharves, warehouses and arsenal. Absolutely unprotected from above, wholly unable to protect itself from an enemy in the air far beyond gunshot range, the earth and its peoples, its vast accumulation of riches, its industries and its commerce, would be completely at the mercy of demons of the air, with a limited number of ruthless desperadoes to operate them.

What, then, is demanded? asks Mr. Stead. Answering the self-propounded question, he declares that, to avoid this dire extreme of man's inhumanity to man, the governments must federate into one great world state, with interpational tribunals to interpret the laws, and an international parliament, without whose command no war could take place on the earth, in the air, or on the sea.

Self-preservation, itself akin to the fighting element in mankind, the instinct which made it possible for man to survive the forces that on every hand menaced his existence as he slowly climbed the ladder of the ages, is behind this suggestion of compulsory peace. If the Dreadnoughts of the world's navies, the fortresses where lie in sleepless vigilance the nations' dogs of war, ready to bark defiance to an invading foe; the mighty armies of the world in full battle array—if all these are each and all powerless before the magic monster that rides the air charged with the very essence of destruction, what but the discretion, that is the better part of valor, will be able to cope with it for the preservation of mankind? Truly, in this view, is the aeroplane a peace persuader, armed with plenary powers. Before it armaments will go, as armor went before powerful projectiles, from the simple fact that they no longer constitute a bulwark of defense against an adversary that rides upon the air, able to scatter at will from above the elements of destruction upon sea and land.

July wheat, which went up like a rocket Thursday, came down like a stick yesterday. There was a decline of more than 7 cents from the high point reached Thursday, but as the close was $1.22 per bushel, the figures are still sufficiently high for the poor people who are obliged to pay for the widespread prosperity which these prices will give the farmers. Following the usual system, some of the farmers' papers are advising the growers not to make any contracts for sale of their wheat at present prices. This may be good advice if the present abnormal condition can be continued through into the new season, but the farmer who carries his wheat crop too long may find himself a heavy loser by the transaction. The laws of gravitation are discernible in the action of the wheat market, as well as elsewhere, and the pendulum cannot swing upward all the time.

When the juveniles are rounded up for the Fall term of school and begin taking up their studies where they left off in the Spring, they will meet a few perplexities in naming the rulers of a few of the earth's principalities. There's Castro, for example, who was an active president last term, and Abdul Hamid, who was prominent in history for several terms. Persia has a new Shah, and from present indications Mulai Hafid will be relieved of the job of running Morocco. There are a number of other rulers of minor importance who have gone into the discard since the Spring term ended, and it will be a bright child who can answer offhand, when asked for the presiding genius in Turkey, Persia, Venezuela, Morocco and a few more of the foreign lands. History has been making rapidly this Summer, and the dog days are still in the future.

Evelyn Thaw whimpers tearfully that she "cannot get along" on the $70 per week which she receives from the Thaw estate, but will be forced to return to the profession of artists' model in order to meet the necessary expenses of living. Many a better woman has lived comfortably on a tenth of that amount and earned it herself in a decent, if laborious, vocation. Where there is nothing useful in a woman's make-up, however, and she really must have large sums of money whereby to live, she may be expected to turn such physical asset as she possesses into coin, and—if she is bold enough—to enter the plea of "necessity" as an excuse.

The ten, twelve and eighteen-inch hatpin, worn carelessly, is a menace to the public on crowded streets and cars. The Prefect of Police of Hanover, Germany, has warned wearers of these spears that any future accident resulting from wearing them will subject the wearer to arrest and punishment. This is as it should be. No woman has a right to wear a fixed bayonet in her hat, which, at the bob of her head, imperils the eyesight of her nearest neighbor in the streetcar. It may be called freak legislation that limits the length of the hatpin, but it is a freak of fashion that it seeks to abate.

Another foreign grandson has been born to the late Jay Gould. And Prince de Sagan, the profligate father of this heir to American ducats, is "highly gratified," since it means a Sagan heir to share the fortune of the three children of his wife by her marriage with his detested cousin, Count Boni de Castellane. Why, indeed, should he not be "gratified"? With unearned increment constantly pouring into his coffers, and a son to divide the accruing balance with the sons of his hated rival, he certainly has no call to be discontented.

If all the water users of the city were to be placed on meters and the revenues were to be cut in half—as doubtless they would be, on the present basis of payment—and if the rates were to be doubled—as they would have to be if the system is to be maintained—what would the persons who are now so favorable to the meters have to say?

Progressive, indeed, is the German Emperor, who has approved football for his soldiery. Still the Americanization of Germany will not be complete until it learns the game wherein the "ump" calls three strikes and out.

It is too much, perhaps, to expect that Oregon's National statesmen in Washington should apply themselves to sectional matters like lumber tariff and removal of headquarters from Vancouver.

Count Boni's children now have a half-brother, the son of Prince Sagan, to share Anna's part of the Gould millions. No wonder Boni was furious when Anna married Sagan.

People who attend the Gresham cherry show today will enjoy a pleasant ride and give encouragement to a suburban community that believes in uplifting itself.

Kaiser Wilhelm, jealous of the prowess of other Christian nations, has introduced football as an exercise of his army. England now may well tremble.

Does Congress, which has promised Taft $35,000 for traveling expenses, presuppose that he will tip the porters out of his own pocket?

The "mystery" in the Brackett case develops this much, that no man is safe in a dark street with the wrong woman.

That California brute who sewed buttons on his baby's tongue has a great future in store, before and after death.

See the Summer resort man smile? He has been waiting for this since his last Summer harvest.

Here it is the 17th of July and the money still in our pocket to buy a straw hat.

OBJECTS TO BEAVER AND BEAR.

Highly Indignant Man Pokes Fun at Names for New Steamships.

SALEM, Or., July 14.—(To the Editor.)—The man who selected those names from the hundreds submitted for the steamships plying between Portland and San Francisco should be presented to some phrenologist for experimentation.

It was made a condition that the names should be suggestive of Oregon, and yet this condition precedent was ignored, and the nicknames of the States of California and Oregon, and not nice nicknames either, were saddled onto those unborn and helpless boats. With all the host of beautiful Indian names peculiar to Oregon, and with the historical events and the illustrious personages, with the wide field of sentiment aboiom with suggestive names, this absolutely inexcusable selection was made. One is forced to believe that the party responsible for this crime (and it is no less) must be at that stage of adolescence where his mental pabulum is drawn from colored picture books and Mother Goose.

There is neither sentiment, intelligence nor reason in the selection. Suppose, for instance, those ships were to be run between Charleston, S. C., and New Zealand, would the names Guyasticutus and Ornithorhynchus be considered appropriate? Or if running between Missouri and Illinois points, on the Mississippi River, would the nicknames of those states have been selected? How would "The Sucker" and "The Puke" look, anyway, on a pair of handsome ships?

The bear is one of the most treacherous and one of the dirtiest of brutes, and smells as bad as he looks, and, besides, spends two-thirds of his life in sleep. The Beaver is no more suggestive of Oregon than of Maine, Michigan or Minnesota, or for that matter than of Canada, or the larger part of North America. That it is a water animal, and might be considered by would-be jokesmiths as indicative of Oregon's climate, is perhaps true; but is that what the builders of those boats were looking for? If so, why not come out flat-footed, call it "Webfoot" and be done with it? And then, while about it, why not by the grace of nomenclature hand our somewhat supercilious neighbor to the north a bunch of forget-me-nots, and immortalize her clam-digging propensities?

If animals were to stand as godfathers to these vessels, why not, at least, take those we need not be ashamed of? The Elk and the Grizzly would at least have had something of nobility and power about them. It is much as if one having all the beautiful flora of the two states to choose from, should select, instead of the Rhododendron and the poppy, the Skunk-Cabbage and the Soapweed. Shades of Scappoose and Mukilteo, of Wahkiakum and Skookum Chuck, have we come to this!

But why elaborate an already elaborated and ultimate asininity? Let us at least hope that the good but disreputably named ships will not pattern after their namesakes, for if they do, one will be laid up all Winter, and the other will be under water half the time.

J. H. CRADLEBAUGH.

STORK FLIES OVER DINNER TABLE

Interesting Incident in the Home of a Spokane Banker.

Spokane Spokesman Review, July 15.

When Mr. and Mrs. Edwin T. Coman entertained at dinner last Sunday there was one unexpected, though not unwelcome, guest. The dinner was not a formal affair, just two or three intimate friends being invited in.

Mrs. Coman, of course, did the honors, dispensing hospitality along with choice viands, and the dinner was a decided success during the first courses.

With the dinner half served Mrs. Coman hurriedly excused herself and went upstairs. Mr. Coman, whose experience in turning down bad loans under strong pressure has taught him self-control, tried not to appear agitated and to keep his guests at ease. But the conversation lagged, and presently the host followed the hostess upstairs.

Next there was a hurried telephone call, and in a few minutes a soft-footed physician was slipping through the hall and going upstairs two steps at a time. The maid did the best she could to keep the guests entertained while the rest of the courses were served, and just about the time the dessert was brought on there was a faint wail from a tiny voice upstairs that announced the arrival of a new daughter in the Coman household.

The young woman, who was a bouncing seven-pound girl, showed her true quality by promptly making her appearance in the drawing-room and assisting in the entertainment of the guests. Both she and her mother are doing splendidly and have suffered no bad effects from the impromptu character of the dinner programme.

The occasion was all the more felicitous because the unexpected guest was Mr. Coman's first daughter. He has two sons. It is stated on good authority that Mrs. Coman is the only hostess in Spokane who can entertain at dinner and give birth to a seven-pound daughter the same day. She is to be given a lifetime membership in the booster club.

Mr. Coman is president of the Exchange National Bank.

INDIAN AGENT IS DISGUSTED

Will Resign Rather Than Live at Grand Ronde Agency.

PENDLETON, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Major E. McFatridge, the recently deposed agent of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, returned this morning from Western Oregon and announced that he would not accept the new position tendered him as agent of the Grand Ronde Reservation.

"They will never bury me while I am alive," he said in explanation, and went on to state that his new position was out of the world and that there was nothing there for a man to do and no place for his family to live. He will probably resign from the service and enter some business or secure some employment in or near this city, though he has not made any statement to that effect.

Fire Rates Are Reduced.

M'MINNVILLE, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—The board of fire underwriters has issued a new rating for McMinnville, reducing the rates for insurance 10 per cent on the public school buildings; 35 per cent on the college building and the County Courthouse; and from 15 to 35 per cent on the business blocks within the fire limits. This reduction is in fulfillment of the promise made to the people of this city when the new gravity water system was installed two years ago.

Old Man Killed on Railroad.

WEISER, Idaho, July 16.—(Special.)—Henry Dick, an employe of the Pacific & Idaho Northern, was instantly killed this morning near his home, 13 miles north of this city. He was going to his work on a railroad tricycle and in rounding a sharp curve ran into a northbound engine of the work train. Deceased was 60 years old and is survived by a widow and two sons, who reside in Colorado.

Deschutes Tract to Be Opened.

SALEM, Or., July 15.—After a session lasting nearly all day yesterday and this morning, the Desert Land Board finally granted the application of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company for the opening to sale of about 2300 acres of arid land under its reclamation project in the Deschutes Valley, Crook County, at the increased lien price of $40 an acre.

WALKS FROM TRAIN, KILLED

Southern Pacific Company Blamed for Death at Grants Pass.

GRANT'S PASS, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Walter Swartsfager, of Jacksonville, who stepped from a moving car on train 16 last night, died from the results of the injuries this morning, due to hemorrhage of the brain, from which he never regained consciousness.

Eye witnesses state that he walked down the steps under the belief that the train had stopped, or was about to do so, but the slackening speed was greater than he had calculated on, and it dashed him against the side of the train, inflicting a severe scalp wound, which resulted fatally. His relatives arrived from Jacksonville today and took charge of the body.

A Coroner's inquest was held over the remains, and a verdict of criminal negligence was brought in against the railroad company, charging negligence on its part in opening the vestibules before arriving at the station.

BELL COMPANY IS OPPOSED

Ontario Capitalists Organize Independent 'Phone System.

ONTARIO, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Filing incorporation papers today completes organization of the Ontario Independent Telephone Company, composed of local capitalists. The company is capitalized at $10,000 and will install a complete new system of lines and telephones within the next four months. One stockholder, J. C. Sinsel, is general manager of the Independent Telephone at Boise.

General dissatisfaction with the Bell Company here has caused the new organization. The Bell Company decided to remove the toll office and manager from this place and to give less service. The manager has resigned and will be employed by the new company. The officers and seven directors elected are from among citizens of the town who are all interested in the new organization. The list of telephones already subscribed for is larger than the entire Bell exchange at present. Work of installing will begin immediately.

REQUITED IN LOVE, ENDS LIFE

Edward Fawcett Takes Poison in Hotel at Pendleton.

PENDLETON, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Edward Fawcett, a stranger in the city, killed himself with poison today because some "dirty pup" came between himself and his wife.

Fawcett registered at the State Hotel Thursday. He appeared moody and had little to say. This afternoon about 4 o'clock he swallowed a dose of strychnine. This did not have the effect desired, and he followed it soon after with a dose of carbolic acid. When found he was dead.

He left a note addressed to his mother, Mrs. George Dyer, of Denver, stating that "a dirty pup" had come between himself and his wife, Stella, and he could not endure it. He was about 30 years old. Coroner Folsom returned a verdict of deliberate suicide.

LOVESICK GIRL OF 13 SUICIDE

Shoots Herself With Rifle After Quarrel With Lover.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Hazel Phillips, the 13-year-old daughter of Bob Phillips, shot herself with a 25-35 Winchester rifle yesterday evening. The bullet passed through her body just above the heart. She died about midnight last night.

Hazel told the attending physician last night before passing away that she did not know why she shot herself. It is reported that she fell desperately in love with a young man named Richards, and that they quarreled.

Just how the girl discharged the gun is not understood, but it is supposed she used one of her toes to pull the trigger. The parents are well known and well respected. She was a pretty girl and well thought of.

NEWS ITEM UNITES FAMILY

Husband Learns Through Newspaper Wife Is Searching for Him.

ABERDEEN, Wash., July 16.—(Special.)—Mrs. Earl Patrick, who came here from the East, expecting to meet her husband a week ago, and who has been seeking him since, was rewarded today by meeting him at the place where she was staying.

Patrick expected his wife, but received a letter from his sister saying that Mrs. Patrick had decided not to come. He then went to a logging camp and had about decided to return East when he accidentally picked up a newspaper in which the story of his wife's arrival and failure to find her husband was told. Patrick made haste to come to this city and, with the help of the police, found his wife.

MRS. WARNER'S REPLIES SHARP

Testimony Closes in Will Contest Case at Pendleton.

PENDLETON, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Successfully withstanding the assault made upon her testimony by the attorneys on the cross-examination, Mrs. Mabel Warner closed her testimony and her side of the case this afternoon. No new features developed in the course of the cross-examination, which was marked by caustic questions on the one side and just as caustic replies on the other.

The attorneys for the contesting heirs were given until Thursday to prepare surrebuttal testimony. This will require three days and in the meantime some testimony will be taken in Walla Walla.

DEAD MAN IS IDENTIFIED

Logger Killed on Coos Bay Left Considerable Property.

MARSHFIELD, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Coroner Golden has partially unraveled the mystery of the identity of Thomas Wilson, the logger who was killed accidentally about 10 days ago. It develops that the man had quite an estate and that a lawyer in Vancouver, Wash., has charge of the property. Wilson's little daughter, whose picture was in his possession, has been located at Winnipeg, Canada.

The Coroner is trying to find the dead man's trunk which, it is believed, contains a will.

FALLS WITH GUN; KILLED

Al Amsby, Stranger, Meets Death in Woods in Douglas County.

ROSEBURG, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Al Amsby was found dead today in the mountains near West Fork, this county, with a bullet in his left side near the heart. He left camp early this morning and was found some time later by his companion. He had apparently stumbled over a log and accidentally discharged his gun.

His companion says he does not know where Amsby's home is, but supposed he came from New York. The Coroner left Roseburg today to hold an inquest.

BIBLE SCHOOL WELL ATTENDED

Second Annual Session Opens With Large Classes at Albany.

ALBANY, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—The second annual session of the Oregon Summer Bible School began in this city today. There was a good attendance at the opening sessions in Bryant's Park and a big crowd at the first evening lecture tonight.

The three leading classes of the school began their work this morning and will hold sessions each forenoon. Rev. Edwin Sherwood, Ph. D., instructor in Greek and Latin in Willamette University, began his class on the "Life of St. Paul," delivering his first lecture today on the subject, "Saul, the Jew." Rev. Milton G. Evans, D. D., of the Crozer Theological Seminary, of Chester, Pa., began his series of lectures on the "Life of Christ as Told by St. Mark," and Rev. Franklin H. Geselbracht, Ph. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of Albany, began his class on "Inductive Studies in the Gospels."

Rev. Benjamin Young, D. D., pastor of the Taylor-Street Methodist Church, of Portland, was the speaker at the afternoon and evening sessions today. He spoke in Bryant's Park this afternoon on "The Value of a Man" and this evening in the First Methodist Church on "The Man of Nazareth."

The classes will all continue tomorrow morning and the speakers at the afternoon and evening sessions will be Rev. Mr. E. C. Sanderson, of the Eugene Bible University, and Rev. Milton G. Evans, D. D., of Chester, Pa.

SCHOOL SYSTEM BAD; KERR

President of O. A. C. Addresses Educators at Seattle.

SEATTLE, Wash., July 16.—In the opinion of President William J. Kerr, of the Oregon Agricultural College, neither a college education nor the presidency of the United States is the goal to which grammar school training should lead. In an address before the Educational Congress held in the Good Roads building at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, the Oregon educator bitterly attacked the present school system, and made an earnest plea for an improved course in the grammer schools. Professor Kerr believes that the eighth-grade course should be bettered in order to benefit those who do not continue their education through the high school and college.

Particularly strong in his remarks was Professor Kerr when he made a strong plea for the rural schools, which he declared needed a better system of instruction and more teachers. He pointed out that the grammar school education is all the education the average person gets, and that it was a better plan to look to the majority and make the grammar school as nearly as possible all sufficient and of a nature to produce individuals capable of taking their part in the trades and industries.

"The old idea of an educational ladder to the college or university is all wrong," Professor Kerr asserted.

FEARED TO HANDLE BAD COIN

Marshfield Waiter Will Be Witness Against Floyd W. Avery.

MARSHFIELD, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—John F. Wilson, a young man who works as a hotel porter, has made public the fact that he was connected with Floyd W. Avery, who was arrested in Portland for passing counterfeit money on Coos Bay. Wilson says Avery wanted him to pass the spurious gold coin and gave him a $10 piece. Wilson got scared and told City Marshal Carter, turning over the money which Avery had given him, and which was sent to the Secret Service authorities at Portland.

Avery afterward refused to give Wilson any more of the money to pass. Wilson says he saw $500 worth of the gold in Avery's possession and was told that it was sent here from Idaho, but is not sure about it. Wilson and City Marshal Carter will leave tomorrow for Portland on the Breakwater to appear as witnesses in the case.

SIUSLAW WANTS NEW COUNTY

Would Secede From Western End of Lane County.

EUGENE, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Following the movement set on foot early in the Spring by the merchants of Cottage Grove to carve out a new county from the heart of Lane and Douglas Counties, the Siuslaw River Improvement Club proposes the formation of a new county with Florence as the county seat. The proposed new county will comprise a strip about 38 miles from east to west and will cut off the entire west coast of both counties. On the east the proposed boundary line will follow the Coast Range as nearly as possible, and will pass just west of Elkton, in Douglas County.

The proposed new county will contain property with an assessed valuation of about $5,000,000, of which $3,000,000 will come out of Lane and the balance out of Douglas. The name of the new county is to be Siuslaw.

OCTOGENARIAN TO WALK HERE

Alvin Brown to Make Trip From Forest Grove to Portland.

FOREST GROVE, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Though past 80 years of age, Alvin Brown, of this city, will start tomorrow to walk to Portland, as he has done many times in his younger days. He will be met at Hillsboro by his son, Coroner Brown, who may accompany him.

Mr. Brown has lived here for 38 years, and has the reputation of being the best walker in the county. He says he will not attempt to walk fast, but will get to the city before dark.

Death Claims Alexander Warner.

OREGON CITY, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—Alexander Warner died here today at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas A. Pope. Mr. Warner was born at Stuyvesant, Columbia County, N. Y., September 10, 1826. He was married to Maria A. Pease October 26, 1850, at Stuyvesant. They lived in New York City until 1870, when they came West, locating in this city. Later they went to Spokane, then to Portland, and returned again to Oregon City. Deceased leaves a wife and three children—Mrs. Thomas A. Pope, of Oregon City; Charles H. Warner and Mrs. W. A. Lee, of Portland—two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Vancouver to Join Picnic.

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 16.—(Special.)—The grocers of Vancouver have been invited by the Grocers' Association of Portland to join the latter in their annual picnic, which will be held on July 22, and the invitation has been accepted. The grocery stores of this city, therefore, will all be closed on the day of the picnic. The outing will be to Camas, 12 miles up the river from this city.

Rates to Seaside Reduced.

SALEM, Or., July 16.—(Special.)—The State Railroad Commission today issued an order reducing the class rates on the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad between Astoria and Seaside. In the first class the reduction amounts to 5 cents a hundred and other classes are reduced in proportion.