

The Oregonian

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Portland, Monday, Dec. 13, 1909.

A CIVIL PENSION LIST.

If we are to have a system of civil pensions for support of persons advancing in years, who have been feeding at the public crib till they don't know where else or how else to feed...

UNDoubtedly there are thousands of incapable persons in the departments, who ought to be "let out," so the work can be better done.

HELL-FOR-SARTIN.

The incident is rather a funny thing. Some fellow at Corvallis, signing the initials "E. M.," wrote and printed a letter attacking The Oregonian, deprecating its editorial page, yet saying that the paper and its editorial page had the approval and received the commendation "almost without exception" of statesmen, bankers, merchants and even our professors and preachers...

PROBLEMS AT PORTLAND.

The position of a city, like that of Portland, astride a river, has its difficulties; and these difficulties ought to be met, in an intelligent manner, with a view to the whole situation. From one side the river to the other there must be means of transit; but these should be considered with a view only to general purposes, not for any private object.

A BREAD TRUST.

Now it is asserted in New York that a bread trust is to be formed or is being formed in that city. And that proposition to put in a bridge at one street is fought by those who want it at the street next adjacent, for benefit of their own peculiar property; and this extends to the whole situation, where owners and promoters have lots and tracts to sell. Consequence is that one part of the people are continually trying to check and to defeat the efforts of others. It is not the spirit necessary for the making of a city.

THE WORLD'S WHEAT.

A very interesting table, compiled by the Liverpool Corn Trade News, showing the world's wheat output for 1909, appeared in yesterday's Oregonian. This table, which gave the output of each country for the past five years, shows the 1909 crop to be the largest ever harvested, and by comparison with its predecessors the crop might seem to indicate easier prices for the great majority of consumers.

RED CLOUD, HERO OR FIEND?

A generation ago announcement of the death of Red Cloud, the famous Sioux chieftain, who died at Pine Ridge, South Dakota, Thursday, would have been hailed with delight. A generation hence, or perhaps a few years farther in the future, it is not improbable that the historians of that coming day may have Red Cloud and a good many of his fellow-chieftains set up on pedestals as heroes, instead of as murderers, and the same class a generation ago. Time is a great leveler of ranks, and it also rights a great many wrongs that do not appear when they are committed.

Director of an Eight-Year-Old Girl.

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A Matter of Feet.

"The term 'to walk in huff' is no longer mere poetry, since the women spend a fortune for tresses."

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The Struggle Between the Parties for Supremacy. The British Parliament, King Edward's second, was prorogued just four years, lacking a day, after the resignation of the former Unionist government, and again dissolved just a few days after the former dissolution. It was on December 4, 1905, that Mr. Balfour resigned office, and it was on the next day that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman was commissioned to succeed him. It was on January 8, 1906, that King Edward's first Parliament was dissolved, and the election of the second promptly followed. The result of that election was the return of 400 Liberals of various shades, 100 Laborites and 53 Nationalists making a total ministerial coalition of 513, and 157 Unionists, leaving a ministerial majority of 356. Since then there have been 53 by-elections, of which 25 have been contested. In these the Liberals have not gained a single seat, while the Unionists have gained 11. The Laborites 3 and there have been some secessions from the Liberal to the Labor ranks. At the moment of dissolution the House consisted of 513 Liberals, 53 Laborites, 51 Nationalists and 157 Unionists, leaving a ministerial majority of 312.

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SCHOOL FOR UNITED STATES CONSULS.

The school for United States consuls, which is now being conducted by the University of Chicago, sometimes termed the "consular" school, though established less than two years ago, is rapidly becoming one of the best in the world. It is growing to be recognized as in all essentials as truly professional as are the law or medical schools, and is doing a very good work. It is a good market is contributing materially to the growth of the city. We can stand a lull in the movement in corner lots, provided there is no let-up in the volume of business in farm, orchard and garden lands.

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KINDLY EYES VIEW PORTLAND, OR.

Our City Lauded by Boston Critic as Most Beautiful Business Center. Christian Science Monitor, Boston. Portland, Or., probably is growing the fastest of any city on the Pacific Coast. The population increases at the rate of about 20 per cent per annum, and the census of 1910 undoubtedly will show a total population of more than 250,000, not including the thriving suburb of St. John, with 12,000, or other outlying districts adjacent to the city limits, which are served by a 6-cent trolley fare. Should all these 250,000 face zone as included in the estimate of the city's population it would bring the total up to more than 300,000.

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JAMES J. HILL AS A JEREMIAH.

He Has Diagnosed the Diseases, but Neglected to Offer a Cure. Baltimore American. James J. Hill, organizer of railroads, has in recent years become a lecturer at-large upon the subject of National economics. He is a modern Jeremiah constantly lifting his voice in warning to this generation that it is traveling too fast. In an article published in December magazine—The World's Work—he explains the outlook, as he sees it, as follows: "Practically speaking, the public domain has been occupied. Our National resources have been exploited with a lavish hand; our iron and coal supplies will show signs of exhaustion; our forests are being rapidly passed; our forests are going rapidly; our supply of mineral oil flows to the ends of the earth; the soil of our country is being impoverished by careless treatment—in some of the richest sections of the country its production has deteriorated fully 50 per cent."

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