

The Oregonian
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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1916.

THE BALLINGER FINDING.

Seven members of the Ballinger investigating committee, a majority, return the expected report vindictive. Four Democratic members have persuaded themselves that it is their duty to their party and presumably to one member, a Republican, stands apart from the majority and the Democratic minority in his own strange view of the case.

WHY FOREIGNERS DO NOT BUY.

The remarkable decline in the Oriental flour trade has been one of the most striking features of the Pacific Coast commercial situation. This business, which reached its peak mark in the season of 1906-07, when more than 4,100,000 barrels were shipped from Portland and Puget Sound, has declined until for the twelve months ending June 30, 1916, the total shipments were but 1,237,000 barrels.

WHAT THE FIGURES TELL.

The average number of votes, "yes" and "no," received by each measure submitted in the recent election was 35,042. On the basis of 117,690 votes cast for candidates for Governor this was but 72.2 per cent of the total vote cast in the election.

THE PUBLIC DOCK SITES.

Now that the public dock elephant has formally passed to the hands of the Portland taxpayers, with a \$2,500,000 fund to support it, the matter of spending the money is becoming a burning issue. It has frequently been stated that the money should be spent on the basis of the experience that not more than 18 per cent of the water-borne commerce in and out of the port can be handled at a public dock.

WHAT MEN DON'T LIKE AS GIFTS.

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ment were won solely by the unnecessary inhibition against the polltax and knew nothing of the other provisions.

GOVERNMENT 6000 MILES AWAY.

President Taft is tenacious of his opinion that home rule for Alaska is not desirable or necessary for the territory's best development. The President has had experience with American colonies or dependencies or possessions, and he has demonstrated his own great capacity for direction of their affairs.

UNCLE JOE.

Just contemplate for a moment the serene contentment of Uncle Joe Cannon as he looks around him on the wreck of political worlds. Disaster befell standpat and insurgent, but he shows up smilingly at the abort session of the sixty-first Congress with the approval of his constituents at the recent election, the assurance that nothing untoward will happen for the remainder of his term as Speaker and with the certainty that neither regular nor insurgent Republicans will take any interest in him in the next Congress.

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NUMBER OF CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS.

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