

The Oregonian

Published at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as second class matter, June 17, 1878. Description:—Irregularly in Advance. (BY MAIL) Subscription rates—Per year, \$3.00; six months, \$1.50; three months, \$1.00. Single copies, 10 cents.

TWO PUBLIC SERVICE BILLS.

Public utilities everywhere in Oregon are going to be regulated. No doubt about it. The railroads are being regulated through a state railroad commission, and now it is desired and planned that street railroads shall be subject to the same discipline. Here in Portland there is a definite, even an overwhelming sentiment for a public utilities commission, especially in the matter of requiring the Portland Light & Power Company to maintain satisfactory service.

Several bills to this end are before the Legislature. One is by Senator Malarky, which imposes the duty and bestows the power of control, discipline and regulation of street railway companies throughout Oregon on the State Railroad Commission. Another has been framed by Senator Kellaher, and introduced in the House by Fouts. It opens the way for a separate and independent public utilities commission for Portland.

A TANGIBLE PROGRESSIVE MOVE.

President Taft has attained greater prestige as a "progressive" through his Canadian reciprocity plan than any politician has gained in previous years. The bill which the President seems determined to enact, will meet with strong objections, but it is likely to serve all the public less than it serves some of the politicians.

ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS' WARD.

The announcement of the death of Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' Ward which occurred at her home in Newton Center, Mass., January 28, has awakened a feeling akin to personal bereavement in thousands of hearts.

A LESSON FROM HOLLAND.

With potatoes \$1.75 per sack, butter 90 cents per roll, eggs from 60 cents to 80 cents per dozen, and every other article produced on the farm commanding similar figures, there is a possibility of a great increase in the price of farm products.

THE CHIVALROUS MR. HERON.

It is pertinent to inquire what the Mississippi posse which is searching for the chivalric A. Heron will do with him when it finds him. The careful reader will note that we did not say "catch" him. Mr. Heron is a hard man to catch.

STEEL TRUST EXTORTION.

The successful manner in which the steel trust bounces the American consumer out of many millions per year is shown in the export figures for 1910.

Being a Mississippi gentleman Mr. Heron very likely talks a great deal about his respect for women and his admiration for the sex, but when he gets mad at the train band he kills a couple with his revolver point-blank among a crowd of helpless women and children.

THE STATE AND EDUCATION.

The Eugene Register professes to believe that the Oregonian offered its own version of certain remarks made by Senator Malarky, recently, at the State University. The Senator was reported as being uncertain in his own mind as to the duty of the state to give every young man and young woman a "higher education."

IS FLETCHERISM SILLY?

We dare say that Dr. Alonso E. Taylor did not intend his anathemas against Fletcherism to be taken quite literally. He is a medical professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Despite this liberal use of milk, the Holland dairies turn out an average of 147,000,000 pounds of butter and 176,000,000 pounds of cheese. With a population of 5,600,000, it might be supposed that there would be little if any surplus of farm products for export, but the consul informs us that the export trade in farm products is very great.

WIDE RANGE OF OREGON PRODUCTS.

Anything Grown in Temperate Zone Will Do Better Here. PORTLAND, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Homeseekers should investigate the splendid opportunities which Oregon offers.

Portland is the second largest wheat-exporting city in the United States. Condon, in Gilliam County, Oregon, was, two years ago, the largest primary shipping point in the country.

CELEBRATING A DAY OR EVENT SACRED TO ONE PEOPLE OR ANOTHER IS ENJOYABLE.

It does not appear reasonable, however, that the noise made in celebrating the Astoria Centennial means defeat of any legislation on that subject, it is unfortunate. There ought to be a worthy celebration at Astoria, for the event is of great historic interest.

PORT MEMBERS WOULD QUIT.

Portland Commissioners Appeal to Solons Before Retiring. STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Communication was received by the Legislature today from the Port of Portland Commission calling attention to the fact that members of the commission had long been anxious to retire but had been given legal advice that the Legislature has no power to name new members of the commission.

CHINA SAFE FOR FIVE YEARS.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—If a bill introduced this morning by Senator Carson becomes a law it will be illegal to shoot or kill any wild game in the State of Oregon for the next five years.

LIBRARIES URGED FOR ALL COUNTIES.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Making the possibility of county libraries state-wide is the object of a bill introduced by Sinnott in the Senate this morning.

COLUMBUS DAY NEAR LAW.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—All necessary now to create October 12 as Columbus day and a public holiday are signatures of President Solling, Speaker Rusk and Governor West.

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STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Senator McCulloch has introduced a bill providing for a curative act to validate all marriages contracted before the six months' statutory period following divorce.

STANDARDIZATION BILL PASSED.

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HUNTING LICENSES CUT.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Consideration for non-resident hunters is shown by Representative Mariner in a bill offered today. It reduces the hunting license of non-residents of the state from \$10 to \$5.

HAPPENINGS IN LEGISLATIVE HALLS.

INQUIRY COMMITTEE NAMED. THOROUGH PROBE PROMISED—FOUNTS IS CENSURED FOR PERSONAL ATTACK.

STATE CAPITOL, SALEM, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Thorough investigation of the affairs and the management of his administration until after the special committee from the House appointed today by Speaker Rusk.

HOUSE PASSES BILL TO PROVIDE GRAVEYARD AT PORTLAND.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Following addresses in its behalf by Representatives Eggleston, Fouts, Buchanan and Abrams the bill providing for a new graveyard at the plot in River View Cemetery, Portland, for veterans of the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection passed the House this morning.

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STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Bills passed by the Senate this morning for the purpose of repealing the Tuttle law and a new law have been a bone of contention.

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Carson Would Repeat Act Compelling Assessment of Lands Near. STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Senator Carson this morning introduced a bill for the purpose of repealing the Tuttle law.

SENATE INDEFINITELY POSTPONES BILL COVERING TRI-COUNTY PROJECT.

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