

The Oregonian

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DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

PORTLAND, Jan. 12.—8 P. M.—Maximum temperature, 57; minimum temperature, 47; height of river at 11 A. M., 10.4; change in the past 24 hours, 1.1; precipitation today, 1.17; precipitation for 24 hours, 1.89; average, 2.22; deficiency, 4.89; number hours sunshine today, 1.57; possible number, 1.99.

WEATHER FORECASTS

Forecast made for Portland for the 24 hours ending at midnight January 13: For Oregon and Washington—Rain and nearly stationary temperature, with fresh southerly winds; light on the coast.

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

THE SPIRIT OF REFORM

Never has there been so auspicious a time to reform the excesses, the extravagances and the multifarious abuses that have crept into every department of our government, from state to precinct, as now.

THE UNDERGROUND CONDUIT

The bitter war waged in the Eastern cities against the introduction of electric railways has not availed to keep them out. The leaders, paragraphs, and cartoons on the "deadly trolley" have not so completely frightened the people that they are willing to endure horse-cars forever.

THE HOUSE MAY AS WELL FIDDLE AWAY

The house may as well fiddle away its time over private bills and pension claims as anything else. It is incapable of any useful legislation. The country is waiting impatiently for it to do some good.

TOO MUCH PARTISANSHIP

How each party tries to put the other "in the hole." PORTLAND, Jan. 12.—(To the Editor.)—You say Senator Vest is saying that unduly to the majority.

A VIGOROUS ARRANGEMENT

"Shirley Dars," one of the most vigorous writers among the women who contribute to current literature, recently published an article upon what may be called the popular follies of youth that abounds in good sense and timely suggestions.

ture had such a summons to duty as rests upon the one that will assemble tomorrow. Our whole official system has become honeycombed with practices which to use no harsher terms, are burdensome to the taxpayer and destructive to the state.

There is need of searching inquiry and deep insertion of the pruning knife into the administration of every office. The general appropriation bills have been made to carry extravagances and jobbery, which could not be trusted to separate bills, and introduced at the very heels of the sessions, have been carried blindly through.

A VICIOUS MEASURE

Vest's bill means the silver basis, and silver certificates, national bank notes, and both forms of treasury legal tender, substituting for them all an unlimited issue of new treasury notes, nominally redeemable in either gold or silver.

There is a pretense of gold redemption in the provision that the notes may be redeemed in gold at the option of the holder when the gold reserve in the treasury is above \$100,000,000, and that five-year 5-per-cent bonds may be sold to replenish the gold reserve whenever it falls below that figure.

While bonds could be sold the wretched see-saw of the last year would be kept up. Speculators in New York and elsewhere would buy bonds with accumulated gold, turn around and draw the gold out of the treasury with notes, thus reducing the reserve below \$100,000,000 and compelling a new sale of bonds, which they would buy with the same gold, thus increasing the burden of interest indefinitely so long as the credit of the government held out.

When this was exhausted—and it could not last long under such a strain—we should go to the silver basis with a rush. The plan provides that whenever the gold reserve falls below \$100,000,000, coin notes may be redeemed in silver, the redemption to be covered for this purpose.

The moment this was done, the moment the treasury compelled any noteholder to take silver instead of gold, the purchasing power of all the notes would fall to the commercial value of the silver named on their face.

Timber-thieves, under the modest guise of homesteaders, have, according to State Land Agent Hickman, of Montana, gotten away with an enormous amount of government timber in that state since 1890.

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The most opportune and apposite quotation recently made in congress came the other day from Henderson of Iowa. Holman of Indiana, who has sat in congress thirty years, but was beaten last November, has long been known as the watchdog of the treasury.

morally the business boy for two weeks before and after. His brain forces go to speculation before he has time to curdle into cells. It is weakness, not vice, that steers many a young man straight for the penitentiary; and for this weakness they must answer who have made his whole boyhood a rehearsal of men's duties and excitements.

The undue proportion of relatively young men, in all of our penal institutions, many of whom went there direct from the accountant's desk or from the position of a confidential clerk or trusted employe, is in evidence in support of this arraignment. There is not a city in the land—scarcely a community—which has not been shocked at the story of a young man, of good family and previously honorable record, gone wrong, largely because of this going process, which pushed a boy into a man's place before he had the ballast of years and the training of subordinate lines of work to give him moral equilibrium.

A child in a child's place and a boy in a boy's; a youth in a youth's place and a man in a man's—these are the gradations of nature which, if followed, give a sure formation for usefulness in life, and such measures of success as individual ability and industry can compass. It is well to remember that "steadiness of nerve is a great help to moral steadiness, and strength is essential to the vigor of the intellect."

The latest fad at the state university is a business college, free of course, like the rest of the group of charity schools. There are two or three better business colleges in the state than can be created by the legislature, supported by their own exertions.

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The bank surplus in New York has increased nearly \$6,000,000 by increase of deposits and calling in of loans, but it is a wholesome sign that all the increase is in legal tender notes.

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To have the greatest effectiveness and utility, a board of public works should be wholly independent of the council and responsible only to the mayor. The grand secret of effective municipal government is complete separation of the executive and legislative functions and strict limitation of the council to the latter.

This is the exact position of Benjamin Harrison, Thomas B. Reed, William McKinley and William B. Allison, one of whom will probably be the republican candidate for president in 1896.

President Harrison appointed as delegates to the Roosevelt monetary conference, in 1891, Messrs. Allison, Cannon, Jones, Andrews and McCray, all in favor of bimetalism; and every one of them today stands in exactly the same position with the Roosevelt monetary conference.

This communication is not written to help any senatorial candidate. Hon. Charles W. Fulton, ex-senator, ex-mayor, and ex-governor of Oregon, is a republican, and a friend of mine, and good republican. If they are sound on the republican view of the silver question, if they stand with Dolph and McKinley and Harrison, no man should object to them.

This writer is troubled with great confusion of ideas. Mr. Dolph is a bimetalist, and so is The Oregonian; but neither Mr. Dolph nor The Oregonian believes in the contradictory fiction and utter impossibility of "double standard."

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NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST

Corvallis is preparing a car of provisions for Nebraska. The hall used by the secret societies of Scio has been rejuvenated. Yamhill county, Nebraska relief-car will be shipped this week.

Sixteen men have been discharged from the railroad shops at La Grande. The sheep inspector of Baker county reports 24,000 in the county, all healthy. A dog-poisoner is at large in La Grande and valuable animals have been poisoned.

A railroad from Clatskanie to the Nehalem valley is being discussed by the residents of that region. Baker City, as a matter of protection against bad characters, has decided to close saloons at midnight. The Tillamook Headlight chides the farmers of that county for not growing onions enough for the home market.

Plans have been drawn for rebuilding the hotel at Medford for Captain State Nash. The front of the first and second stories will be brick, and the third of reinforced steel. The Hotel Nash will be a fine structure. A city charter society has been organized at Hillsboro. The officers selected are: President, Mrs. J. J. Morgan; vice-president, Mrs. Julia Dennis; secretary, Mrs. E. C. Deichman; treasurer, Mrs. D. E. Hill; solicitor, Mrs. F. T. Lamkin; Mrs. R. Crandall and Mrs. W. E. Thorn.

In the city election held at Newberg Monday, M. Votaw was elected mayor, J. O. Hurd, recorder; N. C. Christensen, treasurer. The officers elected for the field for these offices. The councilmen elected were as follows: First ward, Allen Smith; second ward, Matthew Terrell; third ward, E. D. Elwood. The Arlington city election on the 8th passed off very quietly. The election was hotly contested, but the citizens' ticket was elected by the handsome majority of 38. L. C. Edwards was re-elected mayor, C. B. Wenner, recorder, B. S. Hurlbert, treasurer, and S. G. Dawson, recorder.

Boys pasturing cows on the old Watkins farm, near Eugene, have in the past few days found a number of Indian arrow-heads in the way of ornamental beads about the size of bird's eggs, and flint arrow-heads. They found over 100 arrow-heads. They are dark flint and well made. The beads were evidently made by the Indians from the Hudson Bay Company. Washington's birthday this year will be observed by the faculty and students of Pacific university as an arbor day. A tree will be planted on the campus at Forest Grove with some ceremony, an oration on forestry will be delivered by one appointed from each class, except the senior class, whose representative will take for his subject, "George Washington."

The Nehalem lumber mill has passed into other hands, and will start operations the last of this month. The parties who control it now expect to put in additional machinery and make the mill capable of cutting 60,000 feet per day. The parties who are locating a large mill below Toh's, expect to have their mill ready for business about March 1st. It is understood that E. G. E. West will put in a large mill at Nehalem. Washington. Troop C, at Yakima, will play "The Confederate Spy," January 25. A civil service examination will be held at the custom-house at Port Townsend January 30. The Port Blakely mill has begun running at night. Twelve ships are loading lumber there now.

A new receiver is asked for the Tacoma Grocery Company by F. S. Blatner, on the ground of collusion to shut out claims. The treasurer-elect of King county, J. W. Maple, has notified the commissioners that he has been unable to secure sufficient bonds. In an illustrated article on "Mount Kalama Smoked," in the Kalama Bulletin, is a humorous parody on the recent Mount Rainier volcano excitement and explosion. A weather prophet at Dayton, who has kept tab on winters since 1862, says the remainder of the winter will be mild. He does not expect a pension from a grateful country. The chief of halibut were shipped to Boston from Tacoma Friday, by the Victoria Fishing & Trading Company. The fish were caught in Hickett straits, 600 miles from Victoria.

New Whatcom has a cheap fire department. The chief receives \$9 a month and the assistant \$5. The men, 90 in all, receive \$1.50 for the first hour at a fire and 50 cents for each additional hour, and \$1 for a false alarm. The Kalama Bulletin has been purchased by two young men, whose names appear thereon as F. Ross Smith, A. B., managing editor, and T. H. Adams, A. B., literary editor. Cowitt county may safely continue upon the same terms as the G. of Journalism. PARAGRAPHERS' PLEASANTRIES. Uncle—Do you say your prayers every night, Robble? Robble—Gracias, no; I got everything I wanted Christmas, an' my birthday don't come for three months.—Inter Oceanian. He couldn't put Satan behind him. No matter how hard he tried—For, spite of his earnest endeavor, Auld Nick was still behind him.—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Mamma—The new little boy next door is so nice and good I want you to go and play with him. So I said I'd like to go to get acquainted with that little fellow. She—I—think I like you, Mr. Trotter. But I cannot marry you and leave my twin sister alone. Wait until she is engaged. He—Yes, but I don't care. You said when I proposed to her—Harlem Life. The fewer clothes the living picture "Oaks" have, the more they like. She wraps around her neck.—Detroit Tribune. "I don't belong to any of those 'good government' clubs," soliloquized the policeman; "but one of them belongs to me." Then he sauntered up the alley and whacked a hoodlum over the head with his truncheon.—Inter Oceanian. Mrs. Backroads (at the opera, looking askance at the society women in the boxes in pronounced décolleté costumes)—The urchin creatures! How dare they show their shoulders! How dare they show their necks! How dare they show their arms! How dare they show their legs! How dare they show their faces! How dare they show their souls!—Inter Oceanian.

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