

The Oregonian

SUBSCRIPTION RATES, INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE. (By Mail.) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$5.00...

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...

POSTAGE RATES—Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter. 10 to 14 pages, one month, 1 cent...

IMPORTANT!—The postal laws are strict. Newspapers on which postage is not fully prepaid are not forwarded to destination.

EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE—The E. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 510-512 Tribune Building.

CHICAGO—Advisory Office, Postoffice News Co., 175 Dearborn st.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Ryan's Theater Ticket Office, Penn. Hotel.

NEW YORK CITY—L. Jones & Co., Astor House, Broadway, Telephone 2754.

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waukee & St. Paul has called no halt in its march to Pacific Coast waters; Mofatt, of Denver, keeps pushing steadily toward Salt Lake; the lines controlled by Hill are paying extra dividends and he is opening up new territory all the time, and every Northern railroad has more freight offered than it has motive power to handle.

CANDIDATES AND PLEDGES

A valued correspondent, who has a notion that he may desire to become a candidate for the Legislature next year, wants the advice of The Oregonian as to whether or not he should sign Statement No. 1. He finds some difficulty in subscribing to that justly celebrated pledge because he may thereby be required to vote in the Legislature for a Democrat. Being a Republican, and the Senatorship being essentially a political office, he thinks that he could not thus conscientiously go with Statement No. 1 to its logical conclusion. The correspondent finds the people in the Legislature who were Republican candidates in last year, known as "Republican voters' choice." He thinks that conditions might arise where it would be awkward and well nigh impossible to carry out the terms of such a pledge.

He is right. Such conditions might easily arise. Suppose, for example, that the Republican primary nominee for Senator should be defeated at the succeeding June election. If the Republican nominee shall thus fall, it would mean that the people do not want him for Senator. There is no other interpretation to their verdict. Yet the member of the Legislature who has subscribed to the "Republican voters' choice" pledge would be in the position of having to cast his vote in the Legislature for a candidate whom the people do not want.

YORKTOWN.

The 125th anniversary of the surrender of Yorktown will soon be here and preparations are making to celebrate that decisive historical event in a fitting manner. Mr. H. G. Wells, in his recent book on America, says that we do too much of the celebrating, or, at any rate, that we are too much preoccupied with the glories of our past and too little concerned with the problems of our present.

LAMENTING HIGH WAGES.

What are we coming to, when hired men on the farm refuse to milk cows and the farmer or his wife must do that work? This is a question agitating the folk in the country, and we find Editor Geer, in the Pendleton Tribune, commenting on it as follows: The scarcity of men has caused wages in many lines of business to become almost prohibitive and in the end it appears the result will be that the golden egg for laboring men will be slain by its beneficiaries.

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RATS.

Among the pests that annoy mankind and use its food supply is the rat, together with his cousin, the mouse. In Portland, the rats recently have been gnawing through lead pipes in their frenzy to get water after poisoning. This has made trouble of a new sort. It has not been known here that the teeth of rats could cut lead pipes. The little animals have been associated with men for so many ages that it is not until they are set for their destruction, and have accommodated themselves to so many changes in their habitations, that they have become exceedingly clever. Men have been unable to exterminate them with traps or poison or disease.

CLOUDY IN ONE PLACE.

The secret of President Ripley's fears for the country's immediate financial future which he took great pains to exploit in the newspapers, is out at last. In the Federal Court at Los Angeles, his company has been found guilty of rebating and the Santa Fe now faces the problem of paying fines which may reach more than a million dollars.

Both are extremely prolific. The females bring forth between twenty and fifty annually, in litters of from ten to fourteen each time. Neglected babies have been known to be killed and eaten by them. Every boy who has learned their ferocity when they are cornered or driven to bay.

OUR AWPEL WOMAN.

A certain "Discreet Frenchman" has an article in the current Saturday Evening Post on "The American Boss." By American he means American woman. He believes that women in America dominate too much and that the manner of their rule is bad, for, in his opinion, they are like spoiled children.

There is justice in the request of the schoolteachers of Portland for increase of their salaries, at least for this year of high prices. Subsequent years can take care of themselves. It ought not to be forgotten, however, in the interest of persons paid by the public, that the cost of living has been increased as much for the taxpayers as for others, and the cost of doing business likewise.

Nothing could be more transparent than the crafty selfishness of Mr. Cleveland's character and proceeding, and nothing more obvious than Mr. Bryan's character and proceeding; each of them working relentlessly for the interest of his wife, while the party giving nothing and getting everything; the party to whom the party gives nothing, and the party to whom the party gives nothing.

HARRIMAN IS UNFATHOMABLE.

When the doctors begin to make their rounds of the public schools, the troubles of the teachers will begin. The parents will be on hand early and often to claim exemption of their children from inspection and threatening the offending teachers with dire penalties in case Tommy's tongue is looked at or Mary's temperature is taken.

Learning the Ways of Franchises.

OREGON has a streetcar drawn by horses, in the town of Klamath Falls. One day the horses frightened at an auto and ran the car off the track.

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personal or political advantage; and young Mr. Parsons, the local Republican boss in New York, is minded the same way. So they have joined the Republican cause and the Independent League as in a team to pull the patronage wagon to a corrupt and shameful victory.

Two battleships, the Connecticut and the Virginia, have been equipped with wireless telephones. The object is not to supersede, but to supplement the ordinary telephone.

Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria-Hungary, is an aged man and a man of many domestic sorrows and bitter personal disappointments. His only son, Crown Prince Rudolph, came to a shameful death some years ago in an obscure hunting lodge in a Pomeranian forest; his wife, Empress Elizabeth, was later assassinated while traveling in Switzerland.

UP SANTIAM'S FORKS.

DAYS ARE gone when we "Summer" at the beach, or in the mountains, or "Sunday" with our wife and children. But what do you think of this announcement of the Linn County Fair at that place? We can eat any number of people, but can sleep comparatively only a few.

PARROTS INSTEAD OF DIVORCE.

SCHOOL-BOOK PARADISE.

HAPPINESS at last has come to Forest Grove parents who buy schoolbooks. The following from the Times, of that city, signed by a dealer in schoolbooks, says: "After this day, no more school books, stationery, magazines, sheet music and other small goods will be sold only for cash."

MR. HUME NO SCOTCHMAN.

COMMENT ON VARIED OREGON TOPICS

Woman as Nature's Blunder.

WOMEN ARE women so queer in love affairs? Why do they spurn this man because he wears a tall hat and that man because he wears none? The magic has crept out in Lane County. Hear the Lowell correspondent of the Eugene Guard tell about it:

THE women folks are mighty queer, that's what. Each is only one of Nature's agreeable blunders. It's her nature to make such blunders.

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Advertising That Doesn't Pay.

DO call and settle up? If he has forgotten the editor of the Weston Leader, the following may sharpen his memory. It is instructing, suggestive, artistic:

AVOID DUPLICATE STATEMENS.

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HOW FEELS A COLT?

WHAT does a young colt feel like? P. B. Howard, according to the Prineville Journal, feels like one, meaning his health is improved to that extent. But there are others who are not improved by feeling like members of the equine species.