

NEW PRESS IS INSTALLED IN THE OREGONIAN PRESS ROOM



Very Latest Improved Hoe High Speed Sextuple Press, Just Installed in The Oregonian's Pressroom



◆◆ View in Oregonian's Pressroom Showing Papers Being Delivered From Three Presses. ◆◆

"I AM THE PRINTING PRESS"

BY ROBERT H. DAVIS, in the Fourth Estate.

I am the printing press, born of the Mother Earth. My heart is of steel, my limbs are of iron and my fingers are of brass.

I sing the songs of the world, the oratories of history, the symphonies of all time.

I am the voice of today, the herald of tomorrow. I weave into the warp of the past the woof of the future. I tell the stories of peace and war alike.

I make the human heart beat with passion or tenderness. I stir the pulse of nations and make brave men do braver deeds and soldiers die.

I inspire the midnight toiler, weary at his loom, to lift his head again and gaze, with fearlessness, into the vast beyond, seeking the consolation of a hope eternal.

When I speak a myriad people listen to my voice. The Saxon, the Latin, the Celt, the Hun, the Slav, the Hindu, all comprehend me.

I am the tireless chariot of the news. I cry your joys and sorrows every hour. I fill the dullard's mind with thoughts uplifting. I am light, knowledge, power. I epitomize the conquests of mind over matter.

I am the record of all things mankind has achieved. My offspring comes to you in the candle's glow, amid the dim lamps of poverty, the splendor of riches; at sunrise, at high noon and in the waning evening.

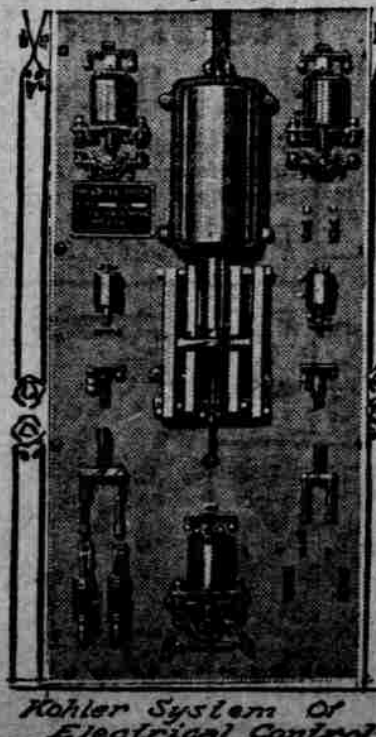
I am the laughter and tears of the world, and I shall never die until all things return to the immutable dust.

I am the printing press.

WITH the installation last week of the very latest improved Hoe high-speed sextuple perfecting press, The Oregonian has added another unit to this up-to-date mechanical department. The pressroom is now better enabled to meet the demands made upon it by the increase in circulation, the departure of early trains and the improvements in Portland's growing interurban car service. The purchase of the new press provides an equipment of three sextuple presses,

which makes it possible to print the different editions at a great saving of time. The new press, which is of the straight-line type, with color equipment, was built especially for The Oregonian by R. Hoe & Co., and represents the highest type of press mechanism. Although it occupies a comparatively small space and is of open construction, its weight is something that would surprise anyone not familiar with this kind of machinery. The press, with its complete equipment, weighs 73 tons, or 146,000 pounds. It would take 1000 men

weighing 146 pounds each to balance the scales with this leviathan of the printing-room. Yet, an inspection of the press suggests anything but ponderous mass of iron and steel. On the other hand, it has almost as fine and intricate mechanism as a Swiss watch. There are such accurate adjustments and every part has such a precise relation to each other that the difference of a hair might interfere seriously with the operation of the press. To build such a press there are re-



Kohler System of Electrical Control

quired approximately 25,000 parts. To give an idea as to the immensity of the number of parts in the press, they would be equal to the combined population of Medford, Salem and Hood River, according to the 1910 census.

The actual working of the press and its ability to turn out the printed papers, pasted, folded and counted, demonstrate the remarkable mechanism of this type of machinery and make it perform almost human work. In one hour the press can turn out 12,000 copies of either 4, 6, 8, 10 or 12 pages; it can print 34,000 copies of either 14, 16, 18, 20, 22 or 24 pages, and it can turn out 18,000 papers of either 28, 32, 36, 40 or 48 pages, with a capacity the press literally "eats up" white paper from the large, wide rolls at the rate of 1137 feet every 60 seconds.

The press is driven with two motors, one of 75 horsepower and one of 10 horsepower, controlled by the Kohler system. Complete control of the press when in operation is guarded by the use of ten push buttons located in different sections. By touching any one of the buttons the press can be brought to a sudden stop, or its speed slackened, as desired.

The combined weight of the three presses is approximately 183 tons, or 366,000 pounds. A full complement of plates on The Oregonian's press equipment requires 5400 pounds of stereotype metal. To operate the three

presses requires over 200-horsepower of electrical energy.

The policy of The Oregonian throughout its entire existence has been to secure the very latest printing equipment obtainable. Contrasting modern methods of newspaper printing with those in vogue 30 or 40 years ago, one marvels at the great progress that has been made in improving and perfecting presses now used by the leading newspapers of the country.

Up to 1871 The Oregonian had used a drum-cylinder type of press. This could no longer meet the requirements of the growing circulation. It was not discarded, but one of Hoe's largest single small-cylinder presses was added to the equipment. This press printed sheets 40 by 60 and had a capacity of 1500 sheets an hour. Each sheet had to be run through the press twice before both sides were printed, but on the second "feed" two complete papers were turned out. It was not long before the capacity of these two presses was taxed to the limit and in 1880 the Hoe double-cylinder mammoth press installed. This was the largest press ever built to be fed by hand and its capacity was 3000 papers an hour. With its purchase the old drum-cylinder press was removed to Hillsboro, where it is still used.

The next step in increasing the efficiency of The Oregonian's press department was taken in 1884, when a Hoe web rotary was purchased. This press printed from type placed on "turtles,"

making a segment of cylinder. This was the first press in the Northwest that printed from rolls of paper. Type was used on it until 1888, when the stereotyping process was introduced. The Oregonian was the first paper in the Northwest also to use stereotype in press work. At that time the "turtles" were adjusted to take stereotype plates instead of type direct in forms. This machine had an automatic folding device which, proved another step forward in turning out papers more quickly. This press printed 12,000 papers an hour. Later the double-cylinder press was taken to Seattle and used in printing the Post-Intelligencer until 1889.

Another press of improved type was installed in 1891. It was a double, supplement perfecting Hoe and had a capacity of 24,000 four to 12-page papers, or 12,000 16 to 24-page papers an hour. This met all requirements until 1901, when the quadruple Hoe was installed. The quadruple was built to turn out in an hour 48,000 four, six or eight-page papers, 24,000 16-page papers, or 12,000 30 to 34-page papers. In a few years it again became necessary to increase the capacity of the printing department and a Hoe sextuple was purchased. This press turns out 48,000 eight, 10, 12, or 14-page papers, or 24,000 16, 20 or 24-page papers an hour. It prints from three rolls of paper at the same time, pastes, folds and counts the papers. It

(Continued on Page 4)