"The truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth"
in time telling means the time as told by the
ELGIN WATCH
Every Elgin Watch is fully guaranteed. All jewelers have Elgin Watches. "Timemakers and Timekeepers," an illustrated history of the watch, sent free upon request to ELGIN NATIONAL WATCH CO., ELGIN, ILLINOIS.

East Oregonian

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1903.

Thy husband is thy lord, thy life, thy keeper,
Thy head, thy sovereign; one that cares for thee,
And for thy maintenance; commits his body
To painful labor, both by sea and land,
To watch the night in storms, the day in cold,
Whilst thou liest warm at home, secure and safe;
And craves no other tribute at thy hands
But love, fair looks and true obedience,
Too little payment for so great a debt.
—Taming of the Shrew.

THE CHILDLESS FAMILY.

The Living Church Annual, the year book and authority of the Episcopal church, bitterly complains that infant baptism has decreased in that church 50 per cent in 14 years.

In the past year the number of adult baptisms has largely increased, while the number of children baptized has decreased greatly.

The annual does not mince its words in explaining the cause. It goes directly to the bottom of the statistics and shows why this decrease in the number of children coming into the church. It shows that it is caused by a diminishing number of children born to members of the church; it complains of the childless families, and the childless Sunday school classes and rather sharply rebukes those responsible for this condition.

In the homes of the wealthy and prosperous, among people amply able to raise families, educate them and prepare them for useful lives, there are found no children.

People with palatial homes, with wealth to lavish on "poodle" dogs, donkeys, cats and freakish and empty ideals, have learned to despise children and this high church authority predicts that the time is near at hand when a condition will prevail in America resembling that in France, where a woman bearing one child is given a premium by the government, the mother of twins is given a pension for life, and a mother of triplets is canonized.

INEVITABLE STATE CONTROL.

Elbert Hubbard, editor of the Philistine mazagine, one of the most original thinkers in the United States, has figured out the railroad question in a practical manner and here is what he says:

"The trusts are a movement of nature in the interests of mankind. The people will yet own and control the railroads, just as we do the postoffice. The state will own the railroads, just as we control the highways, where once everybody paid toll. But the change cannot come by voting out the strong men who have brought railroading up to its present high degree of excellence, and putting in dissatisfied walking delegates. We will make terms with these strong men and retain them in power.

"The nation can only be strong by using the efforts of its strong men. These men in power have proved their fitness and the men who operate the railroads of the co-operative commonwealth will be men trained and educated by the men now in power. And the change will come as quietly and imperceptibly as a change in schedule. It will be evolution, not revolution.

"I believe in co-operation, even with people we do not like, if it will bring us any nearer our ideal. Never was there a time when men of steady judgment were more in demand. We want hopeful, earnest men, and above all, men of patience, kindness and good cheer. We want the opportunist—the man who does what he can, the best he can, and who tomorrow will do the same thing."

The unsatisfactory labor situation revealed by the riot of the Greek track laborers at La Grande, on Sunday, is worthy of serious thought by every one interested in his country. If the O. R. & N. company could secure sober, steady, trustworthy white men to perform its work, does any one think for a moment this horde of mongrel barbarians would be tolerated, no matter what the price? If gangs of white men, who could be depended upon to return to work sober and in fit condition to perform their work, on Monday morning, after being paid off Saturday evening, could be secured, does any one think the company would invite such unpleasant occurrences as the riot at La Grande, by hiring the riff-raff of Europe and Asia in even the most menial service? In conducting large enterprises like railroad construction and track repair, it is necessary to keep a heavy force on hand, ready to crowd work when it will not interfere with traffic, and the fact is that white men cannot be depended upon to "stick." Some form of contract must be entered into between the company and the laborers to insure a working force at all times, hence these gangs of Greeks and Japanese are contracted from large employment concerns in order to have some responsible force back of the individuals to insure the presence of a certain number of men at times when most needed. The gradual deterioration of the shiftless white laborer on the Pacific Coast is responsible for the presence of the barbarians. Railroad companies hate these pagans as heartily as anybody, but they are driven to employ them in self-defense.

The statement of the total city and school district assessment of this city for 1903, published in today's issue of the East Oregonian, is one of the most convincing arguments yet produced in favor of the higher valuation of property. It is shown by these totals that the levy in the city and district can be reduced from 19 mills last year, to about 13 mills, to produce the same amount of taxes this year, and the total tax levy in the city, including county, state, city and school district, may be reduced from 47 mills in 1902, to about 30 mills this year, to yield a like amount of taxes. While it is claimed to be a fact that the same property holder pays the same proportion of the total tax, under any system, it is a fact also, that a higher valuation brings much more property under assessment, than a low valuation can reach. Under the low valuation, a great amount of property escapes assessment, altogether, through the exemption law, which would be assessed under a higher valuation, and this action alone distributes the burden of taxation more equally among the total number of property holders. Where a man owns but $1,000 worth of property and the assessor values it at one-third actual value, or $333, the $300 exemption wipes out that $1,000 worth of property entirely, and that man escapes taxation, while some neighbor must be taxed to make up the deficiency. If that $1,000 were valued at two-thirds of even its full value, every man in the county owning any amount of property, would bear an equal portion of the burden.

Senator Charles H. Johnson's denial of the reputed interview which the Oregonian gave out as coming from him, on the repeal of the portage road bill, comes somewhat late, but even now will please his numerous friends and supporters in Eastern Oregon. At the time the interview was given out, quoting the author of the portage bill as being in favor of its repeal, the friends of the bill felt the last prop fall from under the road, and many premature curses were uttered against Mr. Johnson for what appeared to be a surrender. It proves a false alarm, and Mr. Johnson declares in his letter to Senator C. J. Smith, published in the East Oregonian yesterday, that he is not in favor of the repeal and has never been. This gives the friends of the bill renewed hope, and they will go to the legislature, determined to see that it is not repealed, but rather strengthened by an additional appropriation, if necessary, to carry the plan through. Mr. Johnson deserves the condolence of his friends for the unwarranted grilling he has received from the press of Oregon for his reported surrender on the portage law, and he should receive damages from the paper which "faked" an interview and credited it to him.

There are 200,000 miles of ocean cable in the world, valued at $210,000,000, their maintenance and repair requiring the service of 40 specially equipped vessels. The land lines of telegraph in Europe and America aggregating 2,809,000 miles of single wire, valued at the enormous total of $110,000,000, with several hundred thousands of dollars invested in repair and construction equipment. All this wonderful achievement and investment, binding the remotest corners of the earth together in almost instant communication and employing a million servants is threatened with absolute disuse by the alarming growth and simplicity of the wireless miracle, and yet how wonderful it was before Marconi swept his wand across the dark realm of science.

A MENACE TO THE RESERVES.

Representative Wallace, of Arkansas, has introduced a bill in congress authorizing the secretary of the interior to sell timber, stone, mineral, grass, plants, shrubbery, brick-clay and other substances from the government forest reserves, and also authorizing the secretary to sell the privilege of erecting hotels, summer resorts, pleasure parks, boulevards, driveways, sawmills, stores, mining mills, and all other industries calculated to promote settlement and development of the country, within the reserves.

If this bill were not so pernicious it would be humorous. If it did not threaten the very foundation of the forest reserve idea, it might be classed as legislative wit. If it did not deal with so serious a subject concerning the vital interests of the people, it would be a side-splitting joke.

But as it is, the people fail to see anything but its menacing features. It is an "under cut" at the very heart of the reserve idea.

It is a plan of the opposition to turn the reserves into playthings for the syndicates which would secure these priceless privileges from the government.

The building by the government of parks, boulevards, highways, even camping cabins and paths in the reserves for the use of the people, in summer outings, and pleasure trips, is all right. That would show an interest in the peoples' welfare, and would make the reserves something more than gloomy, untrod mountain fastnesses.

But who that has the interest of the reserve idea at heart would consent to selling privileges for sawmills and smelters, with the right to purchase timber, and the right to make a graft out of the sale of these privileges? What are the forest reserves for? Are they intended to preserve the forests, or are they reserve opportunities for political corruption? Are they to be protected for the future use of the people, or are they just temporary lines intended to save up priceless privileges for the waiting syndicates?

The Los Angeles Examiner, Hearst's new paper, has been launched under the most remarkable circumstances ever attending the establishment of any newspaper, or in fact any other industry, in the United States. Before a copy of the paper was issued from the press, a paid circulation of 30,000 subscribers was entered on the subscription books and the Typographical Union of the United States pays to the paper the sum of $35,000 annually, until further action by that body, for the purpose of building up business and fighting the non-union Los Angeles Times, owned and published by General Otis, this amount being the fund raised by the union by assessment, throughout the United States, with which to fight the Times. Before the first paper was issued from the office of the new Examiner, a special leased wire, independent of the other Hearst wires, was connected with the office, giving it an exclusive news service on the longest special wire in the world. The editorial announcement of the new paper was published simultaneously in the Hearst papers in New York, Chicago and San Francisco, the day before the Los Angeles paper was issued, so the new infant was born, full grown, into the journalistic nursery of William Randolph Hearst, the greatest genius ever occupying the world of newspaperdom.

Gradually the Pendleton creamery plan is taking form, and if the farmers in the vicinity of the city will signify their willingness to sell milk to the institution, it will come. The capital is waiting for assurances of milk customers. That is the only guarantee asked. The people of McKay and Birch creeks and other localities could do no better than to hold mass meetings and organize for the purpose of getting the matter of furnishing milk in shape. If one team could be furnished by the entire community for the purpose of gathering the milk, it would be the practical and economical way to handle the question. The expense would be very small to each customer and it would do away with the trouble of having a delivery wagon on each farm.

The people of the United States do not realize what an empire of wealth and possibility Alaska is until they read something of the wonderful country in the report of the secretary of the interior. It is the coming country of the world, and the United States owns it and will make the best of it. Oregon is fortunate in being in such close communication with the insatiable markets of that northern empire, and Oregon farmers and manufacturers should be prepared to meet the demands of that market.

GENERAL NEWS.

William J. Bryan did not tarry in Vienna, leaving that city for Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Enough democratic senators are expected to vote for the Panama treaty to insure its ratification.

Cholera rages along the Euphrates river, the district around Bagdad being nearly depopulated by death and exodus.

Three hundred thousand men will vote next fall in the United States who have attained their majority since 1900.

Amarillo county, Texas, defeated prohibition by a vote of 56. Eighty per cent of the state is under effective prohibition.

As attaches of the board of health of New York City, there are 64 inspectors detailed to look exclusively after smallpox cases.

Fletcher Ladd, for three years justice of the supreme court in the Philippines, died Monday at a private sanitarium in Boston.

The Dowie movement for the regeneration, sanctification and salvation of New York City, resulted in 50 converts to Dowieism.

In Chicago during October and November, 12 murders were committed by robbers, and a total of 300 robberies were committed.

The crown prince of Germany was locked in his room three days by his father for reckless horseback riding against his father's orders.

The past season was disastrous to potato growers in England and Ireland, causing much distress, and expense for importing tubers.

Charles Scoville is at the bottom of an 80-foot well near Santa Maria, Cal., with several tons of earth and rock piled upon him by a cave-in.

In the Roman Catholic churches of New York City, women comprise two-thirds of the attendants and 56.6 per cent in the Protestant churches.

The complete early extinction of Korea as a nation is predicted. The little that Russia does not "assimilate," Japan is expected to "absorb."

William Mayme, superintendent of the Lancaster, Pa., state insane asylum, was killed by Thomas Fox, a patient, who brained him with a poker.

Bert Ross, in San Quentin, will hang December 18, unless pardoned by Governor Pardee. It is the 11th date set for his execution in four years.

Thomas Bradbury, the wealthy piano manufacturer, lately deceased, left $1,000,000 to his nephew, Frank Bradbury, a machinist at Ottumwa, Iowa.

England stads pat with Russian aggressions in Thibet. A British expedition has entered that country from the south, through Jelep Pass, 14,380 feet above sea level.

Pope Pius IX is a musician, and plays the piano an hour every day. The entire vatican did not contain an instrument, and one was purchased for his especial benefit.

The United States consumes annually 5,000,000 pounds of mohair, of which only 1,000,000 pounds are produced in the United States, and of which one-half is raised in Oregon.

A Messina astronomer named Tomaso Iandi, has all the astronomers of Europe investigating his claim to have invented a telescopic attachment that magnifies 25,000 diameters.

One plan, credited by some high officials, is to pay for digging the Panama canal by issuing "canal certificates" redeemable solely from the revenues of the completed waterway.

The 50 largest postoffices in the United States took in during November last $5,402,580, an increase of 7 per cent over November, 1902. The heaviest increase was at Los Angeles, 25 per cent.

Experts find that A. C. Bushnell, cashier of the Yale National Bank, at New Haven, Conn., was a defaulter in the sum of $17,000. Bushnell suicided the day the experts began examining the books.

Thirty citizens of Winn parish, Louisiana, horsewhipped Peter Warner, Reuben Brown and Edward Warner, and compelled them to leave the parish. The 30 citizens will now have to dig up $5,000 for each of the victims, by order of the state supreme court.

NORTHWEST NEWS.

The newly elected city officials at Ashland are in favor of a closed "dry" town.

J. D. Lee has succeeded Max M. Shillock as secretary of the Portland Board of Trade.

The Boise City Rapid Transit Company has sold its property to Philadelphia people for $95,000.

Robert Budley, the oldest Salvation Army worker in Portland, died Wednesday of pneumonia.

A footpad arrested in woman's garb, held up and robbed Frank Johnson of $26, at Priest River, Idaho, Wednesday.

A Mormon lumber company has been arrested for stealing timber from the public domain in Big Hole Basin, Montana.

Portland has exported 800,000 bushels of barley during the season of 1903, the largest shipment ever made in any corresponding period.

The question to be debated by the Oregon-Whitman college teams, at Eugene, on January 15, is: "Is Incorporation of Labor Unions Desirable?"

The total assessment of Clatsop county for 1903 is $4,613,230, or $1,428,010 greater than in 1902. It was reduced $27,000 by the board of equalization.

The total tax levy for the city of Eugene for this year is 8 mills, divided as follows: General purposes, 4½ mills; sewers, 1½; streets, 1 4-5, and library, 1-5.

J. J. Fitz Gerald, yardmaster in the terminal yards at Portland, has filed a claim for $300 reward for capturing Gay Harshman, the O. R. & N. train robber.

All the big Portland firms have agreed with the Clerks' Union, to close early until December 19, close all day Christmas, and afternoon on New Year's day.

Burt Gable, an inmate of the Multnomah county jail, was assaulted by a negro confined in the same cell, Tuesday. Goble received a cut four inches long across his face.

An unknown man wearing handcuffs, attempted to board a Northern Pacific passenger train at Post Falls, Mont., on Tuesday morning. He is thought to be an escaped burglar from Havre.

The Canadian mounted police have surrounded George Coshel, the murderer who escaped from the Calgary jail last week, at Springback, 15 miles west of Calgary, and expect to capture him soon.

James M. Neal, a traveling solicitor for a wholesale grocery firm, has brought suit for damages for $5,000 for false imprisonment against Boise City. He was arrested for peddling without a license.

Charles Lecot, a half-witted tramp, was arrested in Salem Wednesday, with a bundle of table linen and women's underwear in his possession, having robbed a clothesline between Portland and Salem.

Hoyt Arnold, of John Day, made a murderous assault on his divorced wife at Hamilton, Grant county, Tuesday, afterward attempting suicide by cutting his throat. He will recover and is now in jail at Canyon City.

A battle between the Heinze and Clark miners is reported to have taken place under ground, at the Rarus mine, near Butte, on Sunday, in which the underground workings of the mine were wrecked with dynamite.

The executive committee of Portland citizens, having in charge the coming meeting of the National Livestock convention, will meet in Portland on December 16. The sum of $10,000 for the entertainment will be readily raised by the committees.

Harry Egbert, the condemned murderer of Jack West and John Saxton, in Harney county, while being brought from Burns to Baker City on the stage, attempted to murder his guard, while eating breakfast. His hands were released while he ate and he grabbed a hammer to strike his guard, but was prevented by the sheriff.

SAFETY RAZORS

The kind we guarantee to give complete satisfaction. It renders shaving a luxury and entirely obviates the danger of cutting the face. The blades are all of the best steel, full concave ground, and easily removed, and if used for individual shaving will last for years without honing. We have them from $2.00 up to $7.50.

These make elegant Christmas Gifts.

A. C. KOEPPEN & BROS.,
The Drug Store with the Log Cabin Soda Fountain.

Daily East Oregonian by carrier, only 15 cents a week.

A Supreme Moment of expectation could be easily turned into an hour of vexation by having a dull carver to wrestle with. Your Xmas feast would be one of annoyance unless you have a set of our fine Sheffield steel carvers, with good stag handles, that will disjoint a turkey and carve it in wafer slices in a hurry. Our fine stock of table cutlery for Xmas gifts are useful and will be appreciated by the housewife.

W. J. CLARKE & Co. 211 Court Street

For sale at the East Oregonian office—Large bundles of newspapers, containing over 100 big papers, can be had for 25c a bundle.

THE BOSTON STORE
Has prepared an exceptional strong line of
CHRISTMAS
Presents for Male Relatives and Friends

An opportunity of a lifetime to choose from the cream of the cream. We have for your delectation the most beautiful, and at the same time useful, exhibit of suitable, desirable and practical presents for the man or boy. Beautiful Christmas Boxes to pack presents in, given free with all the better grade of goods.

There is no time like the present. BUY NOW, before the mad rush begins. We will hold your package and DELIVER AS ORDERED. The fullness of our Christmas stock is only exceeded by the beauty of the coloring. Our Chaistmas trade this year should be the greatest in the history of this Great Store.

Gloves

Dent's, "H. & P.," "Kennedy," "Stewart's," "Perry," in glace, suede, Mocha, and colors, black, white, pearl, tan, brown, grey and special Christmas boxes for these at no extra cost.

Fancy Hosiery

Dame Fashion having decreed that men shall wear fancy half hose, it has been our duty as servants of her majesty to prepare in advance a suitable showing at this glad Christmas tide. We show creations of artistic merit, combined with wearing worth.

25c, 50c, 75c

Handkerchiefs---Initial Handkerchiefs

Japanetfe silk initial	12½c
Excelda silk initial	25c
Silk Japanese initial	25c
Silk Japanese initial	50c
Silk Japanese initial	75c
Fancy border Japanette at	25c and 12½c
Black and white silk handkerchiefs, plain or twilled	25c to $1.00
Linen Handkerchiefs, plain or hem-stitched	25c to $1.00
6 handkerchiefs, in neat Christmas box, per box	$1.75
White, black or colored mufflers, large or small	75c to $2.00
New Carter & Holmes hemstitched Christmes mufflers	$1.25 to $2.50

Suit Cases

Best Quality, Best Styles, Lowest Prices. Will save you money on any style, size or quality suit case you want to buy. Our cases are guaranteed best made. No better at price. Come in and look at them. We carry a complete line.

All Kinds, Styles or Prices. For Men or Women

Smoking Jackets--Bath Robes

A magnificent line to select from. A present that will minister to the comfort of a man at home. All prices.

Neckwear

Our present stock of plain and fancy neckwear is now complete and compares very favorably with the best city showing in styles, colorings, assortment, prices and quality. Therefore, we can unhesitatingly asssure you the best of everything in UP-TO DATE NECKWEAR.

STYLES—
Ascots, Imperials, Four-in-Hands, Tecks, Clubs, Midgets, Shield Tecks, Shield Bows, London Squares — Twenty-five cents to three dollars and fifty cents

Don't forget that this is the last month of the GREAT CLOSING OUT of all the goods of the Dry Goods Department. Big Bargains every day.

Big Busy Boston Store

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FURNITURE
CARPETS
X'MAS PRESENTS
Pretty and Useful
Select Them Now

We Will Hold Them for You
You Will Feel Better
You Will Be Better
Someone Will be Happier

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