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SOME INTERESTING FACTS.

The Oregon congressional delegation has adopted a novel and effective method of urging the Lewis and Clark appropriation. The members have secured a statement showing the amount of money derived by the government from the Oregon country during the past 50 years. The Washington correspondent of the Oregonian sends his paper an interesting story of the matter, in which he says:

"Based upon figures furnished by the secretary of the treasury, Senator Mitchell in his forthcoming speech in support of the Lewis and Clark Exposition bill, will be able to show that the Oregon country, during the past half century, has contributed four times as much to the federal treasury as has been expended by the national government for the improvement of the water ways of that section. As the river and harbor appropriations comprise the great bulk of those authorized by congress, it will be apparent that the Pacific northwest has enriched the government far beyond the total expenditures the government has made for the benefit of those states. This being the case, the request for \$2,125,000 for the Lewis and Clark exposition, which will be of especial benefit to the Oregon country, will appear more modest than without the foregoing showing of facts.

"In responding to Senator Mitchell's resolution, Secretary Shaw sent to the senate a statement showing that 'the Oregon country' has contributed in customs receipts, international revenue and receipts from public lands during the past 50 years, a total of \$54,869,653, whereas the government has expended in those three states for river and harbor improvements only \$12,181,731. In custom receipts alone, \$20,357,502 has been collected in Oregon, Washington and Idaho since 1851. The Portland district having contributed \$11,316,236 of this amount, while Astoria produced \$3,202,812, Yaquina, \$195,312, and Coos Bay, \$432. Customs receipts from all Washington ports amounted in the same period to \$6,015,362, and in Idaho, \$427,093.

"Out of a total of \$14,255,503 in in-

ternational revenue, the Oregon district contributed \$11,806,162; Washington, which was in the Oregon district from 1835 to 1902, \$1,221,218, and Idaho, \$1,228,423. "Out of aggregate receipts from the sale of public lands amounting to \$29,255,743, Oregon, since 1854, has contributed \$7,916,174, Washington, \$9,463,815, and Idaho, \$2,925,754."

It will be seen from this that the Oregon country has fully paid its way. It will do more in the future, when its resources are more thoroughly developed. With twice the population, which can reasonably be expected within 20 years, the Pacific northwest will be Uncle Sam's garden spot, as well as a bustling center of commercial activity. The government owes this region a duty and congress should not hesitate to make the appropriation for which Senator Mitchell's bill calls.

NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT.

The annual report of Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, just made public, is of especial interest, accounting, as it does, for the late reaction in market values. The secretary shows that this reaction was due entirely to natural causes—the reaction that always follows prices prevailing during the high tide of prosperity. Referring to our currency system and the status of the money market, Mr. Shaw says:

"Our currency system has been subjected during the year to some severe tests. Unprecedented prosperity encouraged the natural optimism of our people to such an extent that property of all kinds found ready and eager buyers at figures phenomenally high. A condition, therefore, existed which of necessity could not last. Within a year the market value of stocks and bonds, the proper and legitimate holdings of the people, has depreciated in an amount estimated far in excess of the cost of four year's devastating civil war. Yet, notwithstanding this enormous and inconceivable shrinkage, it has not affected in noticeable degree other classes of property. Banking institutions have exhibited no suggestion of weakness; few business failures have occurred, there has been but a slight curtailment in commercial enterprises, very little apparent hardship, and absolutely no fear of any depreciation in any form of currency. To all appearances, the crisis is passed. There now exists scant reason for apprehension—certainly no occasion for alarm."

The secretary also points out the need for the adoption of the international metric system, and steps looking to this will doubtless be taken by congress at the present session. In this respect the report says:

"During the year the attention of this department has been forcibly called to the growing need for international uniformity in so fundamental a necessity to trade as weights and measures. The customs congress of American republics, held at New York, strongly urged the adoption of the metric system to simplify the transaction of Government business in connection with international trade. Moreover, the National Board of Trade of the United States, the Board of Trade of Canada, and the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the British empire have recently urged by strong resolutions the adoption of the metric system. The experiences of 40 countries of the world has proved beyond question that the international metric system is unsurpassed for practical convenience, possessing as it does

a terminology concise, definite and free from ambiguity, affording a maximum facility in the countless transactions and computations of science, manufacture and commerce."

The loss of the Italian bark Cavour at the mouth of the river is regrettable but the disaster can in no way be attributed to poor harbor facilities. Sand Island has always existed and always will. The fault lies rather with the ship herself and her equipment. There is plenty of good, safe anchorage in Astoria harbor, and if masters of vessels will but seek it there will be no such accidents as that which ended the career of the old Cavour. Plenty of cable and proper mudhooks are very essential at all times.

Children are not permitted to participate in any theatrical entertainment in Oregon, owing to the child labor law, which was enacted at the legislative session last winter and but recently became operative. Poor "Little Eva!" What will the "Tom shows" do now?

The state of Washington is to pay \$2500 to the men who tracked Tracey. Now if Oregon will pay \$2500 to the men who made an actor out of Tracey, equity's ends will have been subserved.

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The American woman wants her bust to appear large.

A St. Louis woman was married recently with a baby in her arms.

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One hundred and thirty-three thousand women work in Massachusetts factories.

Madam Adelina Patti at 60 years of age does not look a bit over 25. Wonderful how she keeps so young.

If the women folks would remember to send their news items to this office it would relieve us of much labor.

Man proposes and woman accepts—and in after years they wonder how the fool killer happened to overlook them. A bride should always wear:

Something old something new,
Something borrowed and something blue.

In the universities and colleges, which in 1870 had hardly any women, there are to-day 23,000 women, as opposed to 27,000 men.

At this time of the year, many of our young folks are being married. A nice way is not to have wedding marches, etc., they are so embarrassing, but the bride and groom can mingle with the guests and at the appointed hour stop forward and be married.

Two thousand New York society women forgot their nice manners when May Goolet was married recently. They hid in the gallery of the church, some lying flat on the floor in order to be allowed to see the ceremony. Of course they were not invited and the janitor put them out. Poor things.

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