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THE WEATHER

Oregon—Fair, warmer southwest; colder in east portion.

AN ECONOMIC ERA DUE.

The Portland Oregonian gives its readers a ringing warning against the mad irresponsibility of modern municipal extravagance...

It is time for the dawn of an economic era; it is long overdue; and unless it breaks soon, and the people get down to the realities of honest and rational living...

This city and county are going straight up against an embarrassment of senseless debt as fast as they can; the taxpayers are honestly and genuinely frightened at the prospect of the passing of all stable values under the pressure of exorbitant and absorbing taxes...

THE NEWS FROM ITALY.

Making all deductions for exaggerations inseparable from such disasters, the world is agast at the news from Southern Italy and its sympathy will set instantly to the devastated shores of that sunny clime...

Lisbon, San Francisco, Messina; these are the names on the tongues of men today; and each story but magnifies and emphasizes the pitifulness of the other.

REUF IN THE TOILS.

A sigh of genuine relief goes up from the thinking masses of the Pacific Coast at the news from San Francisco, that Abraham Reuf goes to the penitentiary for 14 years.

The long and foul history of his crimes against civic and social law has long since killed every vestige of compassion that might have been his and his interminable, adroit and costly warfare in the courts has left him without standing in any tribunal...

It is estimated that the American people distribute 200,000,000 presents at Christmas time, at a cost of \$100,000,000.

Mr. Taft said at a recent dinner: "I am glad you all praise me before I have taken office."

Christmas is also a harvest time for John D. Rockefeller and his associates. Working late at night on sofa pillows, smoking jackets and doll clothes means the withdrawal of more oil from the storage tanks.

The understudy Castro left in his place has established a new government in Venezuela. Castro is well enough acquainted with revolutionists to put himself 3000 miles away when one was due against himself.

FIGHTING THE BAD MEN OF THE PLAINS BY BUFFALO BILL



I HAVE often been asked for stories about the "bad men" of the west in the early days.

Once I wanted a grizzly bear skin, or rather, one of my sisters wanted it for a rug.

After shooting a bear and skinning him I started back, but the going was bad. By sunset I saw I couldn't hope to get back to camp that night.

There, hidden in a little gulch, were about twenty horses. They weren't guarded. Looking around in the dusk, I saw a dogout about a hundred yards up the hill.

I knocked at the blanket door. The voices I had heard as I climbed the slope were hushed all at once.

I accepted the invitation with some degree of fear and hesitation, which I endeavored to conceal, as I thought it was too late to back out and that it would never do to weaken at that point.

They were charged with the murdering and robbing of a ranchman, and having stolen his horses, it was supposed that they had left the country.

I gave them no signs of recognition, however, deeming it advisable to let them remain in ignorance as to who I was.

"Where are you going, kid, and who's with you?" asked one of the men, who appeared to be the leader of the gang.

"I am entirely alone. I left Horseshoe Station this morning for a bear hunt, and not finding any bears, I had determined to camp out for the night and wait till morning."

"They proposed going after the horse, but I thought that would never do, as it would leave me without any means of escape."

"I left him down at the creek," I answered. "I immediately waked up the men of the station and told them of my adventure."

"We had a brisk ride and arrived in the immediate vicinity of the thieves' rendezvous at about 10 o'clock in the morning."

"All right," I replied, for I could certainly have done nothing else. "Come along," said one of them, and together we went down the creek and soon came to the spot where my horse was tied.

"Very well," said I. "I've got a couple of sage hens here. Lead on."

I picked up the sage hens which I had killed a few hours before and followed the man who was leading the horse, while his companion brought up the rear.

ground. I then instantly wheeled around and saw that the man ahead, who was only a few feet distant, had heard the blow and had turned to see what was the matter.

Probably the most noted event in his career was his single handed fight with Jacob McCandles and his gang of nine men at Rock Creek, western Kansas, while riding pony express in 1891.

"My heavens, Bill, McCandles and his gang are in the neighborhood, or were this morning!"

This gang of bandits had been laying a trap for Hickok to get him out of the way. Rushing to the door to remount and get back, he saw several heads pop up out of the grass, and a bullet struck the door jamb.

At last they came so near that I saw that I must abandon my horse. I jumped to the ground and gave him a hard slap with the butt of one of my revolvers.

Although wounded with buckshot and bullet and struck over the head with a rifle that caused him to bleed at the mouth and nose, he still "stayed with 'em."

"I immediately waked up the men of the station and told them of my adventure. Slide himself happened to be there, and he at once organized a party to go out in pursuit of the horse thieves."

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specimen of manhood and one of the most deadly shots with rifle or pistol that ever lived.

For many months he was confidential secret service agent for the Confederate forces under General Price in an invasion of Kansas, and in one battle while among their advance guard he saw a maneuver of which, he thought the Union general should be informed.

Probably the most noted event in his career was his single handed fight with Jacob McCandles and his gang of nine men at Rock Creek, western Kansas, while riding pony express in 1891.

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