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THE NEW YEAR AND THE NEW JOURNAL

The year is drawing to a close, and as the New Year approaches it would be well for Portland citizens to give some attention to what has been accomplished in the last 12 months of the city's life. There has been some building, some improvement of streets, some waking up of the men and women who are interested in the city, but not enough to satisfy those who are deeply interested in the welfare of this great center of Northwestern trade. Portland has the reputation of being somewhat slow to grasp her opportunities. She has permitted other cities to take from her that which is rightfully hers. We have stood supinely by and watched the efforts of places north and south of us to reach out for business, safe in the belief that our natural geographical position and splendid surrounding country would always supply wealth and traffic for the city.

But the time has arrived when ACTION is necessary to hold trade that is ours and to secure more business for our merchants. We must not let conservatism be used as an excuse for commercial stupidity, for he who sleeps too long must have a rude awakening.

Therefore let us all work together. The Journal will lead the list of local enterprises in the coming year and will devote its energy to any legitimate cause that will help Portland. The Journal will sacrifice any amount of its space for the good of the public, and will try to be absolutely unselfish when a public question involves the public's good. Let the merchants come to the fore and assist The Journal in bringing Portland and her advantages to the notice of the world. Organize for public action; don't pass resolutions and order them placed on file. Resolutions are in most cases only a weak acknowledgment that there is something that ought to be done, and that no one is willing to go out and do it.

Portland needs proper advertising in the East and West. The Atlantic Coast hasn't the faintest conception of Portland or Oregon. Why? Because there has never been any concerted effort to tell the people of the East that we have one of the finest cities in the country of its size, a magnificent location and business opportunities such as no other city of equal population in the country can offer.

In a couple of months The Journal will be in a position to do much good for Portland. It is absolutely necessary that the city sustain at least three newspapers. That she has gone so long at the mercy of ONE has long been a problem to newspaper men all over the United States. For years newspaper men have avoided Portland as they would a desert town, and newspaper men travel and talk. But it will all be different now. The Journal has come to stay, and The Journal will employ good newspaper men and produce what Portland has needed for years—a daily that will advertise the city properly and speak for all and not solely for itself.

Will you held The Journal to help Portland? By helping Portland you will indirectly help The Journal.

UPTOWN TREND.

The trend of retail trade away from water fronts has always occurred in every city of the world. Such a trend takes place just now in Portland, and has been noticeable during the past 10 years as never before in the history of Portland. Ten years ago down on First street were numerous retail business houses that are now so far as Sixth or Seventh streets, and business is pushing out towards the west, with an inclination towards the southwest, away from the water front and the railroad yards and docks that lie in the opposite direction.

Heavier trade in wholesale and shipping always commands the right of way, when proximity to rail and water carriers is concerned. Wholesale dealers must be near to rail lines and near to points where the ships tie up to the docks. Manufacturing must be where good rail and water facilities may be had. Hence, retail trade must move out.

It is frequently remarked by older settlers that such and such a firm used to be down on First street, who now are six or seven squares distant from their former locations. Old Trinity Church was recently torn down, and the site will be used for business purposes, although for just what has not yet been announced. Occasionally a residence is taken to pieces or burned, and in place of the destroyed structure arises an iron and brick or stone building to be devoted to commercial uses.

There is now no business beyond the line described by Fifth street running north to Yamhill, and turning west to run up Yamhill. Yet every one knows that before many years where now are the residences of wealthy citizens will be stores, shops and other business concerns. When the Portland Hotel was built, by persons interested in the Northern Pacific Company a few years ago, there were predictions of failure, and opinions that it never would be a profitable institution. Yet it is now returning a yearly profit upon the investment, being owned entirely in Portland, and is in as good a location as could be selected. The Morning Oregonian building was rather far out when it was constructed, yet now it is regarded as an admirable location for business. Only a few years ago the site of the Oregon Daily Journal offices and plant would have been a lonesome spot in which to do business, while nowadays it is in the center of traffic. Over towards the Imperial Hotel the same conditions exist, with humming industry and trade surrounding what was at first an isolated site for the transaction of business.

It is this uptown trend that makes property valuable in the center of any city that grows gradually and surely. Below the line of retail trade there cannot be depreciation to any extent, for wholesale and manufacturing interests and demand for shipping facilities will always maintain values. And the purchase of property bordering upon the present active business district will be certainly profitable, because of the pushing out for new business sites.

PURE FOOD LAWS.

Word comes from the national pure food association that the law as before Congress, and which was passed by the House, is not desirable. It is particularly cited that the provisions referring to adulterated foods are not adequate.

Probably, this is true. In all likelihood, the makers and dealers in the vile adulterations that are palmed off upon the public are strong enough to prevent inserting in the bill sufficiently stringent provisions. Whenever Congress or a Legislature attacks such a problem, always come the human vultures who are willing to profit from the necessities of their fellows and who make and sell products that are not fit for beasts to eat, which, in fact, beasts would not eat.

Upon the proposition of enacting a pure food law, there may be no debate excepting with all good citizens upon one side, and selfish, conscienceless persons upon the other. A federal law is imperatively needed, and settles for once and all the vexed question of regulation of traffic passing from state to state.

However, if radical defects have been discovered, let our Congressional representatives exert their influence to prevent excluding from the bill as finally adopted, provisions such as will cover the ground.

Oregon offers to the world, for export, nothing but pure food products. Practically everything sold to other states or foreign countries is as pure as sunlight, rain and soil nutrition can make it. Hence, both from general considerations, as well as selfishly, Oregon is interested in seeing that the foods of the nation are pure, so that we may not compete against illegitimate goods that are made cheaply and to save expense.

We have had agitation of the pure food question here in Oregon, through the exposures by the Oregon Daily Journal. And now we are in a frame of mind as a commonwealth to support the national pure food movement with heart and courage.

J. W. Bailey, food and dairy commissioner, may assure himself that the people of the state will back him in any request he may make from the representatives who are at Washington in both houses.

It is gratifying to the friends of the governor-elect that his selection of appointees is not hampered to any degree by unpleasant contentions between applicants for positions. The supporters of Mr. Chamberlain are agreed that he shall make up his list of appointees only with the good of the public service in view, and not according to the too common considerations of rewards for political servee. Mr. Chamberlain has the confidence of the members of his party, and no less the confidence of thousands of Republicans who supported him in the campaign last spring. They believe that he will act wisely, and practically without exception will endorse his selections. His wisdom in the past in such matters warrants the assurance that whatever he does will have been done with an eye single to the duties and responsibilities that are incumbent upon him in the position to which he has been elected.

THE TABASCO COLUMN.

The Legislature meets so soon after the holidays that it will give us all a chance to do penance for our shortcomings in the glad yuletide. We suggest for mild offenses, read the headlines in the dailies concerning its doings. For greater offenses, read the articles, and for genuine sins, read the bills introduced.

An exchange tells a story of a schoolma'am who asked all the little boys in her school who would like to be President to stand up. All stood but one. "What's the matter, Johnny?" said she. "Don't you want to be President?" "Yes, ma'am," was the reply, "but I'm a Democrat."

The King of Saxony has punished George Aultes for singing in America. The German tenor has been expelled from the Order of Albrecht and is no longer royal court singer. Congress should give the King a vote of thanks.

Portland, 200,000 in 1905, sounds all right, but Oregon, with 1,000,000 in 1905, and Washington saying the same to you, sounds better, and comes nearer filling the bill for the Lewis and Clark Fair.

When the animals were coming out of the ark, it is related the ant said to the elephant: "Who are you shoving?" But nothing is said about it taking two or three elephants to resent the insult.

There are 3,425 people in this country, according to the Census Department, who are over 100 years old. It really looks as though the former generations lived longer than the present one.

When you find a man who is hungry, and you feel charitably inclined, just take him down through Chinatown, where the markets are, and he won't want anything to eat.

Jack Matthews' attack on Croasman resembles the row John Derby got into when he "inserted his nose in his opponent's mouth, and held him firmly to punishment."

President Castro and the revolutionary leader, El Mocho, have agreed to forget the past. As they don't seem to have any future, this is peculiarly sad.

There are provided for the use of our Senators, including committee rooms, more than 600 cuspidors, or about seven for each Honorable Senator.

Castro has left the settlement of his difficulties to United States Minister Bowen. He will probably prove to be that famous Bowen of contention.

The House has voted Attorney-General Knox $500,000 to be used in fighting the trusts. This is $499,999.95 more than he actually needs.

If Russia, Japan, Turkey and Austria would stand in with England, Germany and Italy, they might possibly intimidate Venezuela.

England and Germany have turned an X-ray on the Monroe Doctrine. They will probably see through it before they are done.

Bill posters now have to pay a license of $200 a year. This is tough on William.

The pure food bill has passed the House and will doubtless become law. It will operate to correct innumerable abuses that have grown into the manufacturing and commercial system of the nation, and will obviate the enactment of state statutes in many cases. As a matter of course, the extent to which the federal government may go in legislating upon this question has a limit, because of the recognized police powers of the states, and the explicit reservation to the states, of those police powers, by the national constitution. However, even the most strenuous advocate of state rights will not object to such legislation as keeps reasonably within the lines set by the national Constitution, and will even countenance a slight infringement of the states' rights in these premises.

It is pertinently suggested that general reading of the fascinating story of Lewis and Clarke's expedition from the East to the Pacific Coast a century ago would engender more enthusiastic support of the proposed fair. It is romantic, and will engage the attention of all who love daring deeds and the relation thereof. Mrs. Eva Emory Dye has performed inestimable service in bringing into readable form so many of the facts of that expedition, woven into tales told with fine literary flavor.

Dr. Ella K. Dearborn, a Portland woman, has written and published "The Sorrows of Cupid," a booklet containing some clever poems pertinent to the theme the title indicates. It is artistically gotten up, and possesses no small merit. She plays a genuine poetic lyre and sings a song attuned thereto that will give pleasure to all who read the booklet. It is to be found at J. K. Gill & Co.'s.

The East Oregonian wisely counsels the settlement of the annoying range question according to considerations of justice to the stock interests involved therein. There have been numerous disputes, natural under the circumstances, and these disputes should not operate to cloud any right nor to prejudice any interest.

Notice that while Portland, and, in fact, all of Oregon, has been enjoying ideal winter weather according to usual local conditions, Wyoming has had the worst blizzard in its history.

HONG KONG PAPER TELLS OF THE BIG FAIR.

That the Lewis and Clark Exposition is being talked of in the far East, thanks to the efforts of Hon. John Barrett, may be judged from the following article taken from the Hong Kong Daily Telegraph:

The great Exposition which is to be held at St. Louis, U. S. A., in 1904, to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the purchase from France by the United States in 1803 of the Louisiana Territory, is to be followed in 1905 by another exposition at Portland, Oregon, to commemorate the centennial of the famous expedition to the Pacific Northwest Territory by the intrepid explorers, Lewis and Clark, in 1805.

Before Hon. John Barrett, commissioner-general for the St. Louis World's Fair, left Hong Kong recently for the countries of southern Asia and Australasia, after successfully completing negotiations with Japan, Korea, China, and the Philippines, for their participation, he made an interesting statement about the Lewis and Clark Exposition, which we print below. Although the commissioner-general's official mission is solely on behalf of the St. Louis World's Fair, he has a deep personal concern in the success of the Portland Exposition, because that city is his home and legal residence in America. As the governments which he has visited have promised in response to his diplomatic representations to take part at St. Louis on a more comprehensive scale than ever undertaken at any other exposition, it is probable that they will be ready to continue their exhibits at Portland in 1905, some four months only after the close of the St. Louis Exposition in 1904, and so derive the double advantage of two expositions coming in succession in widely different sections of the United States.

Commissioner-General Barrett said: "While I have no official association with the Lewis and Clark Exposition and my negotiations are confined to the participation of Asiatic and Australasian countries in the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, I am glad as a citizen of Portland and the State of Oregon to answer a few inquiries about, and say a few words in behalf of, the Lewis and Clark Exposition to be held at Portland in 1905, the year following the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904.

"The business interests of the Far East, both native and foreign, should give special attention to this exposition at Portland because that city and the wonderfully rich section of the United States in which it is located are destined to play a most important part in the development of commerce on the Pacific. There are already several direct steamship lines running from Hong Kong and the other Oriental ports to Portland, Oregon, and to Seattle and Tacoma, Washington, in addition to the one that has its terminus at Vancouver, British Columbia, which adjoins the State of Washington, and to those having as their destination San Francisco, California, which state is equally interested with those of the Northwest in the Asiatic trade.

"The States of Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho, which ultimately became a portion of the United States largely as a result of the expedition of Lewis and Clark, comprise an area approximately of 400,000 square miles, or three and a half times the extent of the Philippines, and rank among the richest states of the Union, although in the infancy of their development. Both Oregon and Washington border on the Pacific and have a combined coast line of nearly 1,000 miles. Portland, Seattle and Tacoma, enterprising cities that have grown almost to 100,000 population each during the last two decades, have a large growing trade with Hong Kong and Asia generally, and are the ports through which the products of the Pacific Northwest, the best known of which are flour and timber, are chiefly shipped.

"As for nearly ten years, beginning with my experience as American minister to Siam, I have devoted my energies to awakening interest in the possibilities of Asian-American commerce, I may be excused for expressing the belief that the two expositions to be held respectively at St. Louis and Portland will provide the best opportunities ever afforded for the legitimate exploitation of Trans-Pacific trade, from which incalculable benefits will result not only to the United States but to Asia."

NEW NOVEL DRAMAS.

To the long list of dramatized novels which have filled more or less prominent places on our stage during past seasons three more have been recently added—"The Eternal City," "The Crisis," and "Audrey." Hall Caine and Winston Churchill themselves undertook the work of dramatization in the case of the first two named, and the stage version of "Audrey" was prepared by Miss Harriet Ford and Mr. E. F. Boddington.

"The Eternal City," which is being presented in London by Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and was performed in this country for the first time in Philadelphia, with Miss Viola Allen in the principal role, has elicited criticism of a rather unusual nature. It introduces a Pope—"Pius X."—as one of the characters, and this feature has proven very distasteful to many Roman Catholics. Father Ducey, of New York, has gone so far as to say that "Mr. Hall Caine's Pope of the stage is an insult to the whole Catholic world." On the other hand, the London Tablet, Cardinal Vaughn's organ, takes the view that the Pope of "The Eternal City" is a "beautiful, dignified and pathetic figure," and sees nothing in his conduct to offend the religious sensibilities of the most devout Roman Catholic.

On its dramatic side, the play is not regarded by the New York critics as a work of permanent value. "It hardly explains and does not at all justify the other, that has preceded it," observes Mr. Winter of The Tribune, "but it is a successful play of an inferior kind, and doubtless it will have a remunerative career." The Commercial Advertiser says:

"In its original form as a novel, 'The Eternal City' afforded scope for many different opinions. It was a composite piece of work, with a great deal of politics, theology and social economics, as well as romance, woven into its fabric. In the play Mr. Caine has carefully omitted all those extraneous matters, retaining only what he calls the 'human interest,' and the result is melodrama, pure and simple, although melodrama of a distinctly high order. There is an effective climax at the end of each act, the staging is admirable, with some portion of the impressive panorama of the Seven Hills always in the background, and voices constantly rising from the streets below—the inflammatory oration of the patriot Rossi, the angry cries of the mob, changing to groans when the soldiers fire upon them, or the newsboys calling out the arrest of Rossi, their voices mingling with the gay band of serenaders singing the familiar strains of 'Funiculi-Funicula.'"

"The Crisis," which is being presented at Wallack's Theater, New York, with James K. Hackett in the leading role as Stephen Brice, evokes criticism of a similar character. Mr. John Corbin, of The Times, finds the play "pleasing to the eye and measurably moving to the heart and imagination," but lacking in greater qualities. And The Evening Post declares:

"The play is not remarkable for originality or dramatic quality. It has no plot to speak of, is constructed on the simplest possible lines, and depends mainly for its success upon those illustrations of Northern patriotism and Southern chivalry which have become almost conventional. But the theme itself is one of unfailing interest, the personages are fairly typical, no time is wasted upon irrelevant matter, and the 'crisis,' when it is reached, is sufficiently exciting and, moreover, entirely credible. Altogether this is a very respectable specimen of a genuine American play, and being of native production, entirely wholesome, and decidedly interesting, it is deserving of all encouragement."

The initial presentation of "Audrey," the stage version of Miss Mary Johnston's novel, took place at Richmond on November 17, and was enthusiastically received by critics and the general public.

MADE SOUTH'S FLAG.

The woman who claimed to be the Betsy Ross of the Confederate States has just been buried at Alexandria, Va. Although she said she made the first Confederate flag, her death was unnoted. The claimant was Mrs. Sibby A. Padgett, who lived in Alexandria. She made the flag that was the indirect cause of the death of Col. Elmer Ellsworth, the young and impetuous friend of Abraham Lincoln. She made it at the request of James Jackson, the proprietor of the Marshall House. As soon as it was completed Jackson had it raised over his hotel, when the young Colonel demanded that it come down. Jackson shot Ellsworth as he was coming down the stairs with the flag. The weapon with which the murder was committed is on exhibition in the National Museum, and a sister of Jackson keeps a boarding-house not far from the repository of the gun.—Detroit Free Press.

SWINBURNE ON "KING LEAR."

Any new article by Algernon Swinburne is regarded as a literary event of some importance. His recent paper in the London Quarterly Review on Charles Dickens (see the Literary Digest, August 16) was quoted and discussed throughout the English speaking world, and his new study of "King Lear," illustrated by Edwin A. Abbey, R. A., occupies the place of honor in the Christmas issue of Harper's Magazine. "Mr. Swinburne," remarks the New York Times Saturday Review, "is at his best in prose when he can revel in the superlative, and that he can surely do with impunity in writing about Lear." How luxuriant his superlatives are, the opening sentences of the article disclose. We quote:

"If nothing were left of Shakespeare but the single tragedy of 'King Lear,' it would still be as plain as it is now that he was the greatest man that ever lived. As a poet, the author of this play can only be compared with Aeschylus: the Hebrew prophets and the creator of Job are sometimes as sublime in imagination and in passion, but always quite incomparably inferior in imaginative intelligence. Sophocles is as noble, as beautiful, and as kindly a thinker and a writer; but the gentle Shakespeare could see farther and higher and wider and deeper at a glance than ever could the gentle Sophocles. Aristophanes had as magnificent a power of infinitely joyous wit and infinitely inexhaustible humor; but whom can he show us or offer us to be set against Falstaff or the fool? It is true that Shakespeare has neither the lyric nor the prophetic power of the Greeks and the Hebrews; but then it must be observed and remembered that he, and he alone among poets and among men, could well afford to dispense even with such transcendent gifts as these. Freedom of thought and sublimity of utterance come hand-in-hand together into English speech; our first great poet, if loftiness and splendor of spirit and of word be taken as the test of greatness, was Christopher Marlowe. From his dead hand the one man born to excel him, and to pay a due and a deathless tribute to his deathless memory, took up the heritage of dauntless thought, of daring imagination, and of since unequaled song."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

It being reported that Venezuela's rebel generals are still at large, we infer that only the private was captured.—The Detroit News.

This year Santa Claus will need a soft-coal antiseptic when he faces the chimney proposition.—The Saturday Evening Post, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Molineux will have no excuse for weepingly confiding to the trial judge that she never knew where Roland spent his evenings.—The Chicago Tribune.

It cannot be denied that the present high tariff on works of art is working a great hardship to the common people of the United States.—The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

There is nothing remarkable in the fact that the Kaiser has called on his Uncle Edward. Many men call on their uncles about this time of year.—The Kansas City Journal.

In South America.—Tourist: "You certainly do have a great many insurrections." Native: "Yes, our insurrections are as frequent as your strikes, but fortunately, not as serious."—Puck.

If the Sphinx is crumbling, the American up-to-date idea would be to let a contract to the lowest bidder to construct a new Sphinx much larger and handsomer than the old one.—The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A great deal of care and thought must be expended on the Christmas magazines, since most of the publishers still insist on furnishing some reading matter to go along with the pictures.—The Chicago News.

Wall street, it is said, needs a Republican club. Wonder what has become of the old one Mark Hanna used to carry down the street when the G. O. P. needed campaign funds.—The New York Evening Telegram.

The next great strike comes with the Christmastide. It will be universal and even President Roosevelt will not be able to arbitrate it. The minors' union will then be recognized.—The Saturday Evening Post, Philadelphia.

Invigorates the Hair?—The first edition of "Social Hell" is gone and the second edition is ready for mailing. Nothing like it to start the average man. Every barber shop should be supplied with a copy.—The Coming Nation, Rich Hill, Mo.

The election of Hon. William R. Hearst to Congress from a New York district must be something of a national event. It has elicited favorable comment from even so distant a publication as the San Francisco Examiner.—The Kansas City Journal.

LOW RECORD FOR SILVER.

With silver quoted at 46 5-8 cents an ounce, the lowest price on record, and with silver dollars worth intrinsically about 36 cents apiece, "the distance between gold and silver is greater now than that between silver and tin," notes the New York World. And the Denver News, published in a state that has a production of silver larger than that of any other state in the Union, and larger than that of any other country in the world except Mexico, says: "A fall of not many more cents would be sufficient to stop production at mines which are operated for the sake of the silver they produce, as distinguished from those which are operated for their gold, lead, or copper values, or because their ores are necessary fluxes at the smelters. It would be felt severely in three or four of th camps of the state and by the smelter trust, and, to some extent, by the railways." This low price for silver is said to be due to the flooding of the silver market by China, in paying her indemnity, and to the prospective closing of the Mexican and Straits Settlements mints, and the actual closing of the Siam mints, to the white metal. A number of papers are demanding that Congress place the Philippines at once on the gold standard; but those who have investigated currency conditions in the Far East seem to agree that the sudden introduction of our currency system and ratios of coinage into the islands would cause more derangement and loss than the continuance of the system, or lack of system, that they now have. Judge Taft, Mr. Conant and Professor Jenks agree that the Philippine currency should be considered by itself and treated with a view to local needs. The chief evil appears to be the fluctuation of the price of silver, rather than the low price.

Many interesting reflections on the state of our own currency system appear in this connection. Says the New York World:

"We imagine that we have an overflowing treasury, and so we have, but it is overflowing with what? Largely with silver coin and bullion. According to the official statement the government held over $1,315,000,000 in cash on October 1 of this year. That enabled us to set aside $150,000,000 for a gold reserve and still leave a cash balance of $221,253,394.12 after providing for all other obligations.

"But to get this very comfortable situation we counted some 13,000 tons of silver as cash to the extent of $508,545,711.20, when the market valued it at only $195,779,917.37. If we had carried this on our books at its market price we should have had no cash balance at all and our gold reserve would have been cut down from $150,000,000 to $60,000,000. In other words, instead of being 'on velvet' our treasury would have been on the verge of actual insolvency. We have averted that calamity by treating as a substantial asset an item of over half a billion dollars which is really nearly two thirds credit.

"Fortunately we are rich enough to be able to perform that feat and 'get away with the goods.' But we should have practically no more difficulty in doing it if the price of silver should drop to nothing, so that a silver dollar would be frankly a flat coin, owing no more to the value of the material in it than does a brass baggage check."

OPINIONS OF OTHER EDITORS.

Weston Leader: Weston has the only corn mill in the entire Inland Empire except one at Walla Walla. It is now in active operation under the management of F. H. Beathe, and has created a market for considerable field corn cropped this season in the vicinity of Weston, a constantly increasing amount of which will doubtless be raised and ground in many years to come. Among the very few weaknesses of the editor of this influential publication is a fondness for "Johnny cake," and he has discovered to his profound satisfaction that Weston corn meal is about equal to the Sioux City brand for this delectable food product. For the welcome and ubiquitous breakfast pancake, Weston meal is unsurpassed. The ordinarily sad and silent "sinker" takes on a new and lightsome character, and becomes a thing of beauty and a joy forever at the matitutinal meal. Manager Beathe has a couple of tons or so of corn meal on hand. He recently established an agency with the Peacock Mills at Milton, where he disposed this week of about 800 pounds.

Sheepmen Alarmed.

Baker City Democrat: The report printed several days ago that a petition was being circulated praying the next Legislature to enact laws similar to those in adjoining states that no sheep could be herded within two miles of a residence, has stirred up the sheepmen. They are preparing to take steps to prevent any legislation of the kind. A prominent sheep grower said yesterday: "If laws like these are passed, sheep herding in Eastern Oregon will be at an end, because the country is already almost wholly settled, when compared with the mammoth ranges of Nevada and Montana. One will have to go back a long way from the towns and railroads to find a section that is so far remote from a shack of some kind that could be styled a dwelling. Then the cattlemen, who are already anxious to drive out the sheep, will no doubt hire men to erect cabins and live in them, thus killing the sheep industry in the state."

Was Not a Corpse.

Astoria Astorian: That ghastly boatload of corpse that was seen by river steamers near Puget Island has turned out to have been of the dummy order, according to the statement of Captain Jordan, the Bailey Getzen's pilot. Captain Jordan also noticed the boat with the supposed corpse in it, and ran his steamer over to the craft that he might make an examination. The supposed dead man proved to be a suit of clothes stuffed with straw and made fast to the seat of the half-filled boat. Captain Jordan says a number of small boys on the river bank set up howls of delight when the steamer stopped, and he concluded that it was a youthful prank to bother the river steamers.

Another Forger.

Glendale News: A man claiming to be Fred Graham of Portland passed a $10 check on H. G. Sonnemann of this place on December 12, which proved to be fraudulent. It was on a printed blank of Ladd & Tilton, the Portland bankers, signed by A. L. Meyer. No such account was known to the bank. It bore the number 3431. Said Graham is supposed to have gone to the South.

Scalp Bounty Dead.

Blue Mountain Eagle: Through the pernicious activity of some members of the Oregon Wool Growers' Association in matters affecting the future of certain Eastern Oregon counties, they have, unintentionally of course, killed their pet measure, the scalp bounty scheme. That measure, which was entirely in the interest of the sheepmen, and which to some extent served its purpose, has not a ghost of a show to be re-enacted at the coming session of the Legislature.

An Able Paper.

Heppner Times: President Roosevelt's message to Congress is a very able paper. His recommendations to Congress on the trusts, Cuban reciprocity and tariff reform are in accordance with his well-known views on these subjects. The message is very characteristic of President Roosevelt and one does not have to look for the signature to know who wrote it: that is, any one who is at all familiar with his writings.

Just Sleeping.

Wasco News: The Moro Bulletin suspended publication November 21 because Bro. Holder, who has two other newspapers on his hands, could not attend to it personally and was unable to secure a printer. He assures us that it will again be issued regularly as soon as he can secure competent help.

Fixing His Fences.

Eugene Register: Hon. C. W. Fulton was in Eugene last Tuesday on his way from the South, where he had been to round up the boys to vote for him for United States Senator when the Legislature convenes. He says the indications are very favorable and he feels confident that he will be elected.

Can They Agree?

The Blue Mountain Eagle: The cattle and sheepmen of Grant County will shortly organize for the purpose of keeping outside sheep from ranging in that county during the coming year. If the present sentiment exists, not an outside sheep will be allowed in the county in the future.

Should Insist on It.

Oregon Statesman: The people of Portland are to ask Congress for $2,000,000 for the 1905 Fair. That is not too much. Let them insist upon it, as a matter of right and duty. It will pay the United States government to appropriate that much money for the purpose.

A Credit to Albany.

Silvertonian: J. A. Finch, city editor of the Albany Herald, came up from Portland Friday evening for a short visit with friends. He made our office a pleasant call and exchanged a few lies and we confess he carried away the honors. He departed on the 1:20 train Saturday.

Each Is the Worse.

Prineville Review: There are two nations that the people of the United States care but little to be very intimately connected with, at least in a social way. These are China and Carrie Nation.

Clear Them All.

Times Mountaineer: Congressman Tongue has had the character of every land official in his district washed whiter than snow. He called on Secretary Hitchcock the other day and got a statement from him that none of the officers for whose appointment Mr. Tongue is responsible is under suspicion. Will Secretary Hitchcock be good enough now to either give the other land office officials in Oregon a clear certificate of character, or make open charges against those upon whom he cast reflections?

Samoa Now.

La Grande Chronicle: Now it is in Samoa that volcanic activity is being manifested. Craters that have been extinct for generations have burst forth with fire and lava, and the people are terrorized. The earth is evidently overloaded with internal energy that is finding vent wherever there is a weak spot. In many parts of the world there have been disturbances, and in some instances in the volcanic regions the results have been disastrous.

Wants to Know.

Lebanon Criterion: The public hopes that nothing will occur to prevent President Roosevelt's strike commission from completing its work and giving its findings to the world. There is a general desire to know all about the work in the mining region from an intelligent and unbiased standpoint.

Getting Crowded.

Forest Grove Times: The first issue of the Tillamook Independent, R. M. Watson's new paper, made its appearance last week. It is a neat eight-page, four-column paper, with a fair representation of advertisements, and seems worthy of success, but three papers in Tillamook is rather crowding the procession.

It Is Not Enough.

Telephone Register: The announcement that the trans-continental railroads will give $50,000 to the Lewis and Clark Exposition is good news. In this gift the Harriman lines are joined by the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern. Portland rather expected more, but the directors of the fair are quite satisfied.

Railroads on Top.

Eugene Register: Some interesting moves are being made on the checkerboard of Oregon railroad building. Localities are becoming few and far between that do not have a life-sized railroad enterprise of some kind on the tapis.

The Sweepings Here.

Eugene Guard: A "reform wave" has swept Seattle clean of the dissolute class, men and women, with the result that Portland gets not a few of the unwelcome waifs. The gain of the Sound city is the loss of Oregon's metropolis.

Money Is Plenty.

Baker City Democrat: There is activity and money in the Eastern Oregon gold fields. As a matter of fact, in no other mining district in the West is there such prosperity manifest.

TEMPTATION IRRESISTIBLE.

(Washington Times.)

Although there is some justification for the indignation of the pretty girls of Bridgeton, N. J., as related in the following story from the Philadelphia Inquirer, it is not difficult to believe that they would be much more indignant if the young men of that town had failed to improve so good an opportunity. Read the story and see what you think of it:

A local photographer left town suddenly two weeks ago and neglected to remove the show case, filled with pictures of comely young women, which stood on the sidewalk in front of his studio. Now the photographs are being stolen at night by unknown persons. The glass is removed, pictures taken out, and the glass then put back.

The young women whose facial counterparts have been sequestrated in this way are very indignant and threaten dire things to the careless photographer if they can find him.