GOOD EVENING.
The Weather.
Tonight and Thursday, fair; minimum temperature tonight about 35 degrees, southeasterly winds.

The Oregon Daily Journal

"WE PAY FOR OUR OWN WINES"

The Circulation Of The Journal Yesterday Was 19,612

VOL. III. NO. 297. PORTLAND, OREGON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 15, 1905.—FOURTEEN PAGES. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

NEW LAND INQUIRY

Legislature Investigating Acts of W. H. Odell and L. B. Geer.

LATTER IS COUSIN OF FORMER GOVERNOR

State's Selections of Lieu Land in Place of Mineralized School Sections the Subject Under Examination.

(From a Journal Staff Correspondent.)

Salem, Feb. 15.—The acts of W. H. Odell and former State Land Agent L. B. Geer in connection with the state's selections of lieu lands in place of school sections found to be mineral, are again undergoing the scrutiny of a legislative committee.

Ever since investigation by the last legislature there have been persistent reports of huge graft in these transactions. The present state land agent, Oswald West, in his biennial report recently published, reviews the matter, and says that "Odell must have received near $100,000 for the base which he handled."

Geer and Odell seem to have worked together.

The committee which now has the matter in hand consists of Senators Brownell, Laughary and Representatives Dobbins, Caldwell, Settlemier. The committee is shrouding its proceedings in secrecy, but it is learned that some highly important evidence has been obtained. L. B. Geer was before the committee last night and made some admissions which are regarded as sensational.

The committee renewed the inquisition this afternoon. Land agent West's report shows that Odell made huge profits out of the sale of base for indemnity selections. The title of many purchasers of school lands has been involved in great confusion, and it is the belief of many people who are conversant with the facts that if the investigation is thorough a huge scandal will result.

L. B. Geer is a cousin of ex-Governor Geer.

KANSAS CUTS RATE ON OIL FIFTY PER CENT

(Journal Special Service.)

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 15.—The house today passed a bill fixing the maximum freight rate on oil. It reduces the present rate 50 per cent. The bill has already passed the senate and will undoubtedly be signed by the governor.

RACING MAN KILLS HIMSELF.

(Journal Special Service.)

Los Angeles, Feb. 15.—Morris Rothschild, a Chicago racing man, committed suicide this morning in the Hotel Lexington by shooting himself through the head. Ill-health was the cause.

LIFE ENDS SUDDENLY

Marshall A. Bates Dies By His Own Hand This Morning.

HAD BEEN IN BAD HEALTH FOR TWELVE MONTHS

He Was Well Known in Portland and Enjoyed the Respect and Confidence of Large Circle of People.

Marshall A. Bates, credit man for Allen & Lewis, wholesale grocers and importers, committed suicide at the Imperial hotel this morning by shooting himself through the right temple with a 38-calibre Smith & Wesson revolver. The cause, so far as known, was despondency due to illness.

For over a year Bates has complained of stomach trouble, although his malady was never violent enough to confine him to his bed. Recently his wife, who was not in the best of health, went to Los Angeles for a stay.

Seen Alive at 9 A. M.

Yesterday afternoon, between 5 and 6 o'clock, Bates walked into the Imperial hotel. Addressing Clerk Ladd with a cheerful "Hello, young fellow," he asked for a room, remarking that he wanted to lie down for a while, and paid for it in advance. Going to his room, he removed his overcoat and outer coat and went to sleep on the outside of the bed-clothing. Evidently he became cold in the night, for when found dead his overcoat was on him.

At 9 o'clock this morning Bates rang for a bellboy and asked for a drink. The boy received a tip from Bates, who remarked, "I want you to take care of me today. I feel pretty bad."

It was shortly after taking the drink that Bates fired the fatal shot, although it was not heard by any one in the house. At 11:30 one of his close friends, Howard H. Holland of Holland & Briggs, timber dealers, called at the hotel and asked if Bates had registered there. His friend had not been at home all night and he was alarmed. The clerk told him the number of Bates' room and Mr. Holland went upstairs. Receiving no answer to his knock and as the door was unlocked, he walked in. On the bed, with his overcoat on, lay Bates, dead. The revolver was on his breast, with one chamber empty; his right hand was clutched within four inches of the handle of the pistol. His fine gold watch was in its usual place, and his money and jewelry were not disturbed.

No Inquest Necessary.

Coroner Finley was summoned, and removed the body, afterwards deciding that no inquest was necessary.

Bates was 53 years of age and was born in Honolulu. He lived at the Norton, Twelfth and Morrison, with his wife. They had no children. Mrs. Bates was telegraphed immediately and will start at once for Portland.

His death was a terrific shock to

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MAD DAY IN WHEAT

May Option Within an Eighth of $1.20 a Bushel.

GATES BATTLING FOR ENORMOUS ADVANCE

Millionaire Predicts Dollar and a Half Wheat—How His Plans Are Laid and What He Expects to Do.

(Journal Special Service.)

Chicago, Feb. 15.—The wheat market today was the most sensational during the past year. In fact, it was the most sensational that has been witnessed in many years. The cause of all the excitement was the announcement by Gates that the market would surely touch $1.50 for May option before the time for delivery arrived.

Until this statement came forth the bears were in the majority and plans had been laid to knock the props from under the market. At the present values speculators have been led to believe that wheat was a good sale to make and many went short on that opinion.

The fact that the market opened very strong at $1.18 this morning did not stop some of the shorts from getting in a little more, but they soon realized their mistake when the market kept up its good tone and just before the close the price of May went to $1.19⅞. This is the highest mark reached for the option during the past season, the former high level being made several months ago when the price touched $1.18⅝.

John W. Gates is engineering a wheat deal which will make money for western farmers who still have wheat. It promises to be a record-breaker. Gates is out for the blood of a large number of bears in the Chicago wheat pit. This was plain within 24 hours after he reached the city Sunday, and required the sale of several million bushels of wheat to prevent the premature touching off of the fireworks. Gates is on his way west. Before he left Chicago he said the present prices of wheat would look very cheap within the next 60 days. As a result there is a panicky feeling among the shorts.

Gates figures the western short sellers might be able to deliver 10,000,000 bushels of contract wheat by the end of May. With such a basis to figure from it did not take experts long to show that Gates' present holdings in wheat are 25,000,000 bushels at the lowest estimate, some conceding Gates 40,000,000 bushels. At the present, not more than 6,000,000 bushels of wheat are in sight in the country of good enough grade to "contract."

Allowing all necessary losses for marketing wheat at lower prices, in case the next crop proves a normal one, wheat experts calculate that Gates will close the deal set with a record for many years to come—a record that will eclipse any known in the Chicago pit.

FIRM TO DISSOLVE

Tanner and Mitchell Will End Partnership Formed in the Early '90s

ROBERTSON'S PART IN THE FINAL CRASH

Believed That the Former Private Secretary Will Be Given Place in Government Employ for Information Divulged.

The law partnership of Mitchell & Tanner will be dissolved at an early date.

Judge A. H. Tanner, junior member of the firm, was asked today in regard to the matter, and declined to discuss it, but the fact has become public information. It is stated that Judge Tanner has notified Senator Mitchell of his intention to withdraw from the firm. After Judge Tanner was placed in the embarrassing position of the past week while trying to shield his partner from prosecution by the government, dissolution would be natural.

This legal firm has been one of the landmarks of the profession in Portland for many years, dating from the early part of the '90s. For a period the firm was known as Mitchell, Tanner & Mitchell, Hiram Mitchell, son of the senator, was the junior member. After appointment of the latter as an officer in the United States army the firm took the name of Mitchell & Tanner, and has been known so since.

Both partners have been practitioners in this city for many years.

Law Office of Senators.

As early as 1870 the firm of Mitchell & Dolph had a lawyer's shingle out, the two members of that partnership afterward serving their state in the United States senate together. In those days Joseph Simon was a law student in the office that seemed to be a senator-maker. This student soon became a partner, when the firm was known as Mitchell, Dolph & Simon, and later the student went to the United States senate at a time when his former patron and law partner, Mitchell, wanted the seat.

Mitchell left the Dolph-Simon firm and became associated with Judge A. H. Tanner in 1890. And until the sensation of the past week had been his business colleague. The old firm became Dolph, Bellinger, Mallory & Simon, then Dolph, Mallory & Simon when Judge Bellinger was chosen circuit judge, and latterly Dolph, Mallory, Simon & Gearin, C. A. Dolph maintaining that family name in the firm after the death of Senator J. N. Dolph.

What Does He Get?

Why did Harry C. Robertson, private secretary to Senator Mitchell, deliver the letter written by his employer to the federal officers? This is a question asked by a multitude of people since the sensational events of the past week. Mr. Robertson has been the confidential

(Continued on Page Two.)

SUSPECTED BANK ROBBERS ARE HURRIED TO ALBANY

With the Lebanon bank robbers in two carriages, racing against time to catch the south-bound train, Sheriff R. L. White, Deputy District Attorney Gall S. Hill and Special Deputy Sheriff Frank F. Toevs of Albany, this morning defeated an attempt to prevent bringing the prisoners to trial, and have them now behind the bars of the Linn county jail.

Yesterday a writ of habeas corpus was sued out by Ditchburn & Watts in Watts' name, who endeavored to secure the release of J. A. Crossly, alias Jim Reynolds, one of the robbers, but Presiding Judge George dismissed the writ and remanded Crossly to the custody of the sheriff.

Another attempt to defeat bringing Crossly and the other suspected persons to trial was feared, and to forestall the Portland attorneys, arrangements were made to hurry the prisoners to Albany. Sheriff White and the other officers arrived on the early train this morning, carriages were ordered to the jail and the drivers were instructed to drive at high speed to the east side station. Just as the conductor was calling "All aboard!" the carriages dashed up to the curb and the party hurried into the cars.

Suspects Under Arrest.

Four suspected persons were taken to Albany—J. A. Crossly, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Dunne and A. D. Hendryx. Mrs. Dunne's father. Crossly and Dunne are directly charged with complicity in the looting of the bank; Mrs. Dunne is held on the suspicion of being accessory, and Hendryx has been added to the list originally given out by the officers.

The Albany men came here on the early train this morning. Toevs, who is city editor of the Herald of that town, as a deputy sheriff. Secrecy was observed in the movements of the officers.

John Ditchburn and John F. Watts, attorneys, who yesterday swore out the writ of habeas corpus, had not been retained by Crossly as counsel, but had sworn out the writ at their own instance, as was ascertained in the proceedings in court. Judge George dismissed the writ, remanding Crossly to the custody of the sheriff, who showed a warrant of arrest from Justice Reid's court charging Crossly, Dunne and Hendryx with robbing the Lebanon bank.

Judge George ordered that no one hold communication with the prisoners, excepting when permitted to do so by the court. Watts several times attempted to talk with Crossly, and finally was forcibly prevented by Deputy Sheriff Cordano.

J. F. Kingsley, Supposed Leader of Bank Robbers.

Watts Threatened.

Watts arose and with some heat stated that he had been subjected to an outrage by the deputy.

"This officer," he said, "has just told me that if I did not stop talking with the prisoner he would 'knock my block off.'"

The cruel threat, and Watts' word caused merriment. After silencing the excited attorney, the judge granted Crossly an opportunity to talk with the two lawyers in the hearing of the court in the latter's private office. Watts and Ditchburn then withdrew from the case, and got back part of the costs of the proceedings.

All the evidence collected here was placed in the hands of the Albany officers—the money taken from Crossly, which is battered as though it had been in a bank vault when the dynamite was exploded, together with their weapons and burglars' tools.

The movements of the suspected men during the past six weeks have been known. They have not been free from espionage since about January 1, and, now that they are in custody charged with the specific act of breaking into the Lebanon bank, the officers believe that they have abundant facts to prove their case. A Pinkerton man traced them from the very doors of the robbed bank to their rendezvous in Portland, while the sheriff's deputies here procured knowledge of every movement after they reached Portland.

Movements of the Gang.

The gang left Portland the Saturday before the Tuesday on which they robbed the bank. They had gone to Lebanon several times previously to plan for their raid. Having accomplished the robbery, they walked westward, and reached the west side line of the Southern Pacific road Tuesday night. Leaving Lebanon, they scattered, Dorland, who has not been captured, and Dunne boarded the train on Wednesday morning at Wellsdale, 12 miles beyond Independence; Kingsley took the train the same morning at Suver, eight miles beyond Independence, and Crossly joined them at Parker, two miles further this way. All of the men came to Portland Wednesday forenoon, excepting Crossly, who stopped in Independence during the day, and came on to Portland in the evening.

They got off the train in the suburbs of Portland and took their time to return to their usual rendezvous—Robert Schulze's saloon on Second and Clay streets.

Having been located again in Portland, they were surrounded by the sheriff's posse and Crossly and Dunne were taken. Kingsley and his wife escaped, going to Seattle, whither they were followed by Sheriff Word.

Kingsley is believed to have operated throughout the valley for several years, and is the leader of the gang. Crossly was formerly a railroad man, and has some knowledge of mechanics.

Loyal Dunne, the 19-year-old son of Dunne, is kept at the jail and will be used as a witness if necessary.

The prisoners were taken to Albany on a warrant from City Recorder Van Winkle of that city.

WILD NONSENSE IN SCHOOL BOOKS

Absurd Error, Misinformation and Half Information for Youngsters Learning About the Broad United States—Six Lines of Blundering Balderdash Devoted to Oregon.

Two boys, aged respectively 12 and 10, who came to Oregon last year and have each passed through a grade of the Portland public schools, were asked yesterday what they had learned at school about Oregon. They are exceptionally bright lads, and their anxious father was expecting them to tell him something of interest about the state he thinks the greatest in the union. The boys failed to respond on the subject proposed, and after thoroughly catechizing them the father found that they knew practically nothing about Oregon. Then he began examining the geographies that had cost him from 60 cents to $1.40.

"And, by the way, these books, for which I paid an exorbitant price, were produced at a cost of about 18 cents," he said. "I worked in a school-book factory, and know what I am talking about. These school books grow filmsier year by year, instead of being improved in quality and cheapened in price by the tremendous strides that have been made in 15 years in the arts of printing and binding. The high-priced geographies my boys are using have cheap pasteboard backs, glued together with a piece of gauzy muslin."

The books, he says, are chiefly notable for the information they do not give. He finds fault with one of the geographies because it contains 10 lines covering Austro-Hungary, and only six lines under the heading of "Oregon."

Many Years Behind.

"The main trouble with these geographies is that they are not properly proportioned according to the value of the information given, and they are about 10 years behind the times. What is the use of sending a boy to school to study conditions that are obsolete and that will be of no assistance to him in making up his settled views of life? Where do I get off, investing my money in a geography filled with antiquated maps and reading matter that might have been information to my great grandmother?"

He says six lines about Oregon is not enough to teach a boy in the fifth grade in one year of studying a geography.

"These six lines simply state that 'Portland is the chief city of Oregon, and is an outlet for her grain, cattle and lumber; wheat is the product of the Willamette valley.' Now, everybody in Oregon ought to know that the wheat days of the Willamette valley passed more than five years ago, and today diversified farming, hops, fruit and fine stock are its features. The only reference this geography makes to the great Inland Empire is a statement that 'east of the Cascade mountains the country is a barren lava bed.'

As It Was in Dim Past.

"Why, I can remember reading that statement from a geography when I was a boy, 30 years ago. The ancient parties who are compiling our school books ought to wake up and take some cognizance of the material advance of civilization. The great country they designate as barren lava beds has for some years been raising 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. The author of this geography, who, the title page proudly states, is the superintendent of public schools of Cuba, ought to visit the Oregon lava beds and see the combined sidehill harvesters, drawn by steam traction engines or 24 horses, as the case may be, and meet some of the eastern Oregon and Idaho farmers, who are making fortunes in a single year, and who last year supplied hundreds of carloads of wheat to Minneapolis, Chicago, St. Louis and Duluth markets. Not a line about the great mineral resources of Oregon, her vast fishing industry, her sheep and wool.

"On the map given in this book I fail to see any changes in the last 20 years.

He says other states fare no better than Oregon in this geography. It

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PLOT FOR INVASION OF SALVADOR IS EXPOSED

(Journal Special Service.)

New Orleans, Feb. 15.—B. O. Shepherd, a member of the British army during the Boer war, who was sent as a secret agent to determine the exact intentions of a party of British and Boer soldiers who sailed for Nicaragua a week ago, returned immediately and went before the federal grand jury. He produced evidence that the expedition in which over 50 trained soldiers engaged is a veiled immigration scheme, is a part of an elaborately planned filibustering scheme to depose the president of Salvador and to annex the country to Guatemala. Shepherd, after abandoning the party, returned to this city. As a result of the evidence which he gave the federal grand jury it is reported that local representatives of the United Fruit company are required to explain their connection with the affair.

TURKEY SHIPS TROOPS TO SUPPRESS OUTBREAK

(Journal Special Service.)

Constantinople, Feb. 15.—The Turkish government is preparing to meet any outbreak which may occur in Macedonia this spring. Troops are leaving daily by rail and sea for Salonica. The presence of the Austrian squadron in Greek waters is causing the porte uneasiness, as no explanation has been given.

PROTOCOL WITH SAN DOMINGO

Uncle Sam to Take Charge of Black Republic's Customs, Using Fifty-Five Per Cent for Liquidation Island's Foreign Debts, Returning Balance to Government.

(Journal Special Service.)

Washington, Feb. 15.—The state department today received the new protocol negotiated with San Domingo. It must be ratified by the senate and the Dominican congress. Under the protocol the United States will take charge of the customs and receipts of the republic, 55 per cent to be used for liquidation of the republic's foreign debt, the remainder to be turned back to San Domingo. The treaty states:

"Whereas the Dominican government, in view of the debts which burden the republic, the imminent peril and urgent menace of intervention on the part of nations whose citizens have claims already established, or to be established, finding itself, as it does, unable peremptorily to fulfill its obligations on account of the condition to which political disturbances and other causes have brought the treasury, the result being that these obligations are falling due without its having been possible to pay them, or even the interest thereon, desires to reach an arrangement with all its creditors by which the latter shall obtain a sufficient guarantee, and the government itself succeed in assuring the regular receipt of revenue sufficient for the payment of its internal administration and the maintenance of its administrative autonomy without any interruption by the exigencies of foreign creditors or by internal political disturbances;

"And whereas the American government, guaranteeing the complete integrity of the territory of the Dominican republic, indicates that it is disposed to co-operate toward the end above recited, and offers to aid by lending its guarantee to the arrangement that the Dominican government proposes to effect with all its creditors;

"The American government agrees to undertake the adjustment of all the obligations of the Dominican government, foreign as well as domestic; the adjustment of the payments and of the conditions of conflicting and unreasonable claims, and the determination of the validity and amount of all pending claims.

"Out of the revenues which shall be collected in all the custom houses of the republic the government of the United States shall deliver to the Dominican government a sum which shall not be less than 45 per cent of the total gross amount collected, for the purpose of attending to the necessities of the administrative budget, this being estimated for the first year at the sum of $900,000, and which the Dominican government shall receive in monthly advance payments for the needs of the public service, divided into four installments in the following manner, equal amounts of $18,750 on the 1st, the 8th, the 15th and the 22d. If it shall appear that the total revenues of the first or any subsequent year will be less than $2,000,000, the payments may be proportionately decreased, the Dominican government undertaking to keep its administrative expenditures within the limits of the indispensable necessities of administration.

"Any reform of the system of duties and taxes shall be made in agreement with the American government, and therefore the present tariff and port duties may not be reduced except with its consent as long as the whole of the debt which it guarantees shall not have been completely paid, with the exception of the export duties upon national products, which the Dominican government remains authorized to abolish or reduce immediately.

"The American government, at the request of the Dominican [illegible] grant such other assistance [illegible] its power to restore the [illegible] the order, increase [illegible] civil administration [illegible] material prosperity [illegible] Dominican [illegible]