

RICULEMORNINGPAPER'S ESTIMATE OF POPULATION

CONSERVATIVE CITIZENS ANGRY

Look Upon the Oregonian's 160,000 Guess as Wanton and Wholly Unjustifiable Attempt to Belittle Portland in Eyes of Outsiders.

Prominent men of Portland, interested in the growth and continued prosperity of the city, hoot at the contention of the Oregonian that there are less than 160,000 people resident in the city. Those who have had occasion to watch the growth of the city and to note its steady advance are practically unanimous in the opinion that the population estimate can be conservatively placed at 200,000, while some of them go as high as 225,000 and 250,000. In only one or two instances is the estimate placed below the 200,000 mark.

In making these estimates leading citizens have taken into consideration the postoffice and its growth of business, the increase in mail delivered and sent out and the large number of carriers necessary to deliver the mail. They have estimated with the school census as a basis, have calculated from the registration of voters, from the amount of business done by the streetcar lines in comparison with 1900, when the last census was taken, and have used many other bases for their calculations. In every case the result has mounted to the 200,000 mark and above.

Hurts City's Reputation. Men who have been in business for years in the city and have noted its great growth; real estate men who have sold the land, business men who have sold the food, merchants who have sold the clothes, men of different creeds and occupations, all join in the contention that the city has more than reached the 200,000 mark. Any estimate below that is a wrongful one and harmful for the development and reputation of the city these men say.

Directory Manager Talks. "It is the height of the ridiculous for the Oregonian or any one else to say that Portland has only 160,000 people," said Mrs. E. L. Clinton, manager of the Peck Directory company. "The Oregonian makes its estimate and fixes its figure and expects it to be accepted just because it is the Oregonian. It has no basis for its reasoning. It just sets the figure." "I have no official figures as yet," continued Mrs. Clinton, "but I am willing to stake my reputation on the estimate of 250,000 or more. No one with common sense, who will estimate the population on a basis of the census of 1900, from the known and tried sources of reckoning but will be forced to conclude that Portland has now fully three times the population of 1900. The population then was 90,000 or more." "The estimate on the school census basis is too low. There are hundreds of children who are not in school. There are many private schools. Portland is not a city of large families. All of these things will tend to make the school census estimate too small. Portland is much nearer to 300,000 inhabitants than to 160,000."

Manufacturers' Views. Fletcher Linn, president of the Manufacturers' association, and one of the statisticians of the city, places his estimate of the population of Portland at from 200,000 to 225,000. "I believe 200,000 is a conservative" (Continued on Page Four.)

LAW NOT GOOD; LILLEY IS SAFE
Court Decides Corrupt Practices Act Contravenes the Constitution.
(United Press Leased Wire.)
New York, Jan. 2.—That a corrupt practice act which will withstand any test in the courts will be the outcome of the charges brought by George J. Fox against Governor-elect Lilley of violations of the present act, which met with such an abrupt death today when Judge Robinson and Bennett decided that the law is unconstitutional in the opinion of progressive politicians of both parties. This was the first invocation of the law, and now that its father, Fox, has stated that he will not press the present case further, a new bill or at least an amendment which will make the present law invulnerable, is expected to be introduced in the coming legislature and supported by influential members on both sides of the assembly. The act was declared to be unconstitutional in that it contravenes the state constitution.

SENATOR KNOX AND FAMILY



Senator P. C. Knox of Pennsylvania, who has just been appointed secretary of state in President-elect Taft's new cabinet. His home in Washington, D. C., which magnificently residence is purchased from Mrs. George Childs, is one of the finest homes there. The appointments are superb and well adapted for receiving the diplomatic corps on New Year's day. Mrs. P. C. Knox, wife of the newly appointed secretary of state, is one of the most charming women in official life. Her entertainments are the most elaborate given in Washington. The senator's grandson, Philander Knox, III, who is the pride of his grandfather's heart.

WEDDING MAY PREVENT TRIAL

Lawyers in Breach of Promise Suit to Hold Johnson to Promise.
If Peter Johnson, a wealthy flour and feed dealer of the east side, really wants to marry Elizabeth Bock and save her the trouble of trying her \$5000 suit for breach of promise, all he will have to do will be to say "ready" tomorrow morning when the case is called.

SECOND BOX OF POISONED FUDGE

Denver Police Have a Doubtful Mystery in Arsenic Candy Case.
(Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)
Denver, Jan. 2.—Following close upon the heels this morning of an attempt to kill through the medium of poisoned fudge, Mrs. Maria Smith, divorced wife of A. C. Smith, a wealthy Miles City, Mont., business man, and her two daughters, comes the announcement from police headquarters that an attempt was made this evening to murder in a similar manner Mrs. Amelia Wiltner of 226 West Twelfth avenue, and perhaps her son, Charles C. Wiltner, a prominent young attorney. Mrs. Wiltner was suspicious of the package and did not eat of it, but turned the box over to her agent when it returned home for the day, and by him it was taken to police headquarters.

DUCK HUNTER SHOT WITH HIS OWN GUN

(Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)
South Bend, Wash., Jan. 2.—Sam Geer, a prominent logger of this city, was accidentally shot dead at about 11 o'clock this morning while hunting ducks in Mall Boat slough, near this city, in company with Floyd Brown, Geer was about 15 years of age. Geer's body now lies at the morgue with the entire top of the head blown away.

SHERIFF HAS NEGRO; MOB ON THE TRAIL

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 2.—A sheriff posse in charge of a negro believed to be the man who choked and criminally assaulted Mrs. R. D. Moore, 63 years old, is hurrying to the mountains near Collierville, Tenn., closely pursued by a mob bent on lynching the negro. Mrs. Moore's condition is critical. When she was found today and told of the assault, the sheriff started to look for her assailant. A negro was captured near Silverdale, 12 miles north of Chattanooga, and a mob immediately formed. The sheriff hurried towards the mountains and at last reports was trying to elude the mob.

BEGIN WORK ON SECOND ANNEX

Wright & Dickenson Now Erecting Another Seven Story Addition to Oregon Hotel to Cost \$200,000—Plans Are Ambitious.

Work has been begun on another seven-story annex to the Oregon hotel. The new addition, when completed, will make the Oregon the largest hotel on the Pacific coast north of San Francisco. Like the first annex, recently opened, the second annex will be of steel and concrete, throughout. The cost of the additional wing will be \$200,000.

Thompson Starr & Co. of New York, the contractors who are erecting the Meyer & Frank annex, are building the new addition. Messrs. Wright & Dickenson, proprietors of the Oregon, are financing the building. The contract was let several weeks ago and the foundations for the second annex are nearly ready. The addition is 50 by 100 feet and the ground occupied at present by a part of the old hotel. This will be torn down in sections, as the work on the new annex progresses.

May Build Higher. When the second annex is completed, seven stories high the new Oregon will extend through from Seventh to Park street. The foundations are built to support 10 stories and in time Manager Dickenson says the firm expects to raise the hotel to this height. The hotel will contain 400 rooms after the completion of the second annex. The total cost of the structure with furniture and fixtures will approximate \$1,000,000.

Director Newell Has Praise for Oregon Governor.
Department of the Interior, United States Reclamation Service, Washington, D. C., Office of the Director, Dec. 26, 1908.—Honorable George E. Chamberlain, Governor of Oregon, Portland, Or.—My Dear Governor: I have received and looked over with great interest the report of the Oregon conservation commission, dated November, 1908. This is an admirable piece of work, and I think you have reason to be proud of the excellent work of your commission and the promptness with which reports were made known. I assume that copies have been sent to the governors of other states, and I am sure they will envy you the possession of such an effective board of men. Very truly yours, (Signed) F. H. NEWELL, Director.

Live Like Their Great Exemplar
Members of Three Church Societies to Make a Christly Test.
(United Press Leased Wire.)
Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 2.—Tomorrow afternoon a group of more than 11,000 Christian young people will meet in the Epworth Memorial church and for two weeks live as they believe the Savior wrought in the Christian Epworth society, the Epworth League and the Baptist Young People's union, comprising 12 societies, have sent representatives to the meeting.

In the Want Ad Section of Today's Journal
Advertisement for help, situations, furnished rooms for rent, real estate for sale, business chances, houses for rent, flats for rent, housekeeping rooms for rent.
Hundreds of new ads in the classified section of this paper every day. If you do not find what you want today, Read the Classified Section of Tomorrow's JOURNAL!

Potter Offered Wife a Fortune



Mrs. James Brown Potter, who arrived from Europe today.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
New York, Jan. 2.—If Hanker J. Brown Potter offered his divorced wife, Mrs. James Brown Potter, \$100,000 to change her name when he heard she was going into vaudeville, his munificence has all gone unheeded.

FOURTH BATTLE FOR MR. BRYAN

But It Is for His Bank Plan in Nebraska—Big Fight Is in Sight.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—William J. Bryan is now planning the fourth battle. It will be a fight, too. Led by the Hon. J. C. Gurnea, vice chairman of the Democratic National committee, a number of members of the legislature have bolted the Bryan leadership. Hall has perfected a powerful political organization and intends to fashion the next legislature that all the radical features of the Nebraska bank guarantee will be omitted from the proposed Nebraska statute. Bryan stands for immediate payment to depositors when a bank fails. He was amazed at the strength of the opposition.

Swine Prey on the Dead.
After what I have already seen I can not but exclaim: "Merciful God, what horrors!"

Reaching the village of San Giovanni I found English sailors from the warship Exmouth, whose captain merits praise for having established the first shore hospital in all the stricken region. The Exmouth's doctor, Burton, was assisted by Engineer Ranier in attending the wounded. The hospital was improvised in railroad cars. Half of San Giovanni's population of 10,000 has been killed here. Bagmaria and Palmi, the atmosphere reeks with stagsmoking odors.

GRIPPING TALE OF HORROR TELLS OF ITALY'S TALE OF ADUSE

Monsignor P. O'Kelly, Who Was Sent to the Front by Church Gives an Account of His Harrowing Experiences.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Media, Pa., Jan. 2.—Never in the history of a Pennsylvania court has there been recited a tale of abhorrence by man such as was told on the witness stand here today by Mrs. Florence Erb, widow of Captain J. Clayton Erb, in her own defense for her husband's murder.

By Monsignor P. O'Kelly.
(Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)
Reggio, Jan. 2.—I arrived here last evening after an arduous journey from Palermo. Throughout it was a strenuous struggle to push forward against the stream of fleeing survivors.

I found Palmi a scene of desolation, most of the town destroyed and all the houses uninhabitable. Of Palmi's 11,000 inhabitants 700 bodies have already been discovered. The constant spectacle that makes me sad is the swarms of hungry children crying vainly and seeking their parents. That this there is nothing more pathetic, I scarcely reached the ruins of Palmi. I turned to and helped the soldiers extricate two children from a wrecked house.

Four Days; Yet No Relief.
Thursday night two sharp earthquake shocks completed the wreck caused by the first titanic shock. I started walking each day three miles away, tramping with the troops. The most distressing feature of the disaster is the lack of food. I have been four days since the earthquake.

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Montana Solons Convene Monday
Five Candidates for Pre-shipment; Anxiety Over Political Plume.
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Helena, Mont., Jan. 2.—The eleventh legislative assembly will convene Monday but the understanding now is that the governor's message will not be transmitted until Tuesday. It is known to contain many important recommendations, but the matters exciting the attention are the various offices at the disposal of the governor. Naturally, there are five candidates for the speakership, claims for the chair. There are five candidates with Burke of Anaconda and McJannet of Butte apparently in the lead.

Never in History of Pennsylvania Courts Has There Been a More Pathetic Story Than That of Mrs. Erb.

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Revolting Cruelty.
She was very pale and her peculiar style of beauty was well set off by the mourning garb she wore. She related to the jury circumstantial acts of many assaults upon her, of beating and confinement of furniture and bare floors and culminated the entire story with an account of a night of horror when, according to the witness, she lay on a couch while the man who had made her his wife threatened to torture her.

Madam Damning Confession.
Mrs. Erb admitted that she had lived with Captain Erb at Red Gables from May, 1906, until November, 1907, as his mistress, and that she had been unduly friendly with him for six years and more.

Speech Left Her and She Seemed About to Fall from the Oaken Bench on which she was sitting. It was not a cry in the courtroom, but the witness seemed to realize that every effort was necessary, failing her failing nerves, to push herself backward into the chair and through eyes deeply inflamed with emotion, stared at her lawyer, her pathetic weeping sister, conjointly in the shadow of the gallows with her, and continued:

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