Oregon Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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A leopard and a fox had a contest which was the finer creature of the two. The leopard put forward the beauty of its numberless spots, but the fox replied: "It is better to have a versatile mind than a variegated body." —Aesop, 560 B. C.

THE RATE CASE

THE first step in the Columbia river rate case is won. The report of the examiners to the interstate commerce commission is a finding very largely for the Inland Empire, Portland and Vancouver contention.

It lays down a principle in rate making that is very vital and very important to the petitioners. The cost of haul and distance are taken into consideration in spite of the insistence of Puget Sound and Astoria and the railroads to the contrary. The examiners find that because the cost of haul is "appreciably less" to Portland and Vancouver than to Astoria and Puget Sound, for the rates to be the same would be "unduly prejudicial" to the former.

It is recommended that order issue requiring that commodity rates to Portland and Vancouver be not more than 90 per cent of the rate to Astoria and Puget Sound. It is also recommended that Portland and Vancouver be given differentials on class rates ranging from 8 cents on first class down to 2 cents in the lower classifications. The differentials in both commodity and class rates are to be from points in the Inland Empire south of Snake river.

The report concedes the principal part of the contention urged by the petitioners. In the latter's brief it was urged that the differentials include the territory south of the Milwaukee railroad. If the commission confirms the finding of the examiners justice will at last be done the shippers and producers of the Columbia river basin.

The full commission can confirm the findings of the examiners, or it may modify them, or it may reverse them. The report will be the basis for further struggle by both sides to the controversy. In the final outcome the findings might be even more complete for the Columbia river contenders.

The situation is such that it would seem to be wisdom on the part of Astoria to abandon her alliance with Puget Sound and join interests with the other Columbia river ports. She might thereby land in a better position in the final outcome.

In this victory in the first step, there is new assurance to those who fought this fight when there were but few to assist, that they had a sound basis on which to make their contention. There is such encouragement for The Journal which, for years was the only newspaper that pressed the issue. It must also be a stisfaction to those few other pioneers who never lost faith in the justice and therefore in the ultimate triumph of the Columbia river contention.

It was a wrong to the Columbia river when the unjust and discriminative rate structure was built up by the railroads. Ultimately, justice and the right come to those who refuse to permit themselves to be wronged, no matter how numerous their oppressors, or how powerful.

"Social work is a reproach to the press," Dr. Edward T. Devine, himself a well known social worker, is quoted as saying to a Portland audience. Does he mean that the executives of social service institutions should be given reportorial positions on newspapers? Does his experience indicate that exposure of evil conditions is sufficient without constructive effort on the part of those especially trained for such work? Newspapers have their faults and shortcomings. They have left uncultivated corners of their wide field. It is probable that had it not been for their staunch championship of human welfare, social workers would be jobless and social service unknown as a profession today.

TRAIL OF THE TIN CAN

PSYCHOLOGISTS seriously assure us that people tend to make their environment merely a reflection of their own lives. If this is so, what mental refuse piles must be the minds of the persons who, to save a scavenger's fee, stealthily border our highways with heaps of tin cans and other junk!

The belittlement occurs within and without the city. From Willamette boulevard where it overlooks the river flow foul little streams of discarded tin containers. Terwilliger boulevard has similarly defacing spots. Powell valley and Foster roads beyond the city limits are infested with accumulations that have become a public reproach.

Even the proud and beautiful Columbia River Highway has not greenery along its borders of sufficiently rapid growth to conceal the leavings of tin can vandals.

If the community had never a visitor, local sentiment should arm officialdom with the weapons of prevention and public condemnation should reveal the sneaking practice in its full scurrilousness.

But Portland has normally many visitors who have been assured through painstaking and expensive publicity that this is a city of roses and beauty. More of them will come next summer than ever before. Do we want them to see tin cans or our scenic gems?

Women have an instinct for housecleaning. The Women's Ad club is wielding the mop of a vigorous campaign in behalf of highway cleaning. The community ought to support them. We don't want our visitors to go away repeating that line of Heber's, "Though every prospect pleases, and only man is vile." Let's use the borders of our highways for other purposes than as tin can repositories.

It's a safe prediction that when Easterners see the pictures of camp grounds in Lane county, the travel toward the West will be materially, not to say numerically, augmented. Lane county slopes from the ridge of the lofty Cascade mountains to the Willamette valley, ascends to the lesser summits of the Coast range and is lost in the Pacific. From ocean to the snowy spires of the Three Sisters, Lane county is a region of beauty and charm. It is the purpose of the forest service to scatter pamphlets containing photographic reproductions of some of these beauty spots.

OUR ROAD BOND TOTALS

IN CONNECTION with the suggestion that the legislature authorize an additional issue of state road bonds it is noted that of the $17,819,280 already authorized there have been sold installments amounting to $10,140,000, leaving available a balance of $7,679,280. This balance is divided as follows: Bean-Barrett, $619,280; six million authorization, $2,060,000; ten million dollar authorization, $5,000,000.

All of the bonds disposed of thus far have been sold at a discount. In the aggregate this discount amounts to $362,823. In other words, the net sum obtained for the $10,140,000 sold was $9,777,177.

The discount was especially heavy on the 4 per cent bonds.

On a total of $5,140,000 the discount was $297,200, making the net return $4,842,800. Of the 4½ per cent bonds the discount on $5,000,000 was $65,625.

Now that the coal strike is comfortably past, word comes from Washington that national waterpower legislation may be upon the statute books within the space of months. Laws that will permit the development of Oregon waterpower for public use will benefit Oregon and Washington more than any other two states of the Union. Oregon's streams possess a potential hydro-electric energy estimated to aggregate 3,000,000 horsepower. Authority backs the assertion that the waterpower of Oregon could provide all the energy, light and heat the state could use for business, industry and homes and leave enough to operate all the railroad trains.

THE HEART OF THRIFT

SOME one endowed with prescience selected the last of the subjects for National Thrift week, which is to be observed January 17-24. "Pay Your Bills Day" will fall on Saturday, January 24.

The infrequent moments of thoughtfulness which cross the mental horizon of careless spenders come when bills are paid. It is easy to make bills. Merchandisers are so eager for trade that they will sometimes take long risks with doubtful customers who put up good fronts. But the day of reckoning is set whenever a debt is contracted. That day, evil in the eyes of spendthrifts, always presses for observance and cannot long be deferred.

The heart of thrift is industry, frugality, careful buying and scrupulous payment of debts. There would be less trouble and unrest today if there were less mortgaging of the future.

Every family and every individual ought to have a budget system. Expenditure should be measured against income. There ought always to be something left when the bills are paid. A current debt more than 30 days old becomes a gray, unshaven and depraved associate for anybody.

Other subjects of National Thrift week will awaken interest. Saturday, January 17, will be devoted to exposition of the bank's service to the community, and that service is a very large and important one which the public incompletely understands. The following Sunday will be called "Share With Others Day," and it is intended to reveal the relation of money to character.

The forethoughted affection that prompts a man to provide for his loved ones with life insurance, the stabilizing desirability of home owning, the confusion that may result from failure to make a will, the interrelated interests of employers and employes and family budgets are successive subjects.

Business men and civic leaders should join with the Y. M. C. A., which is arranging for National Thrift week, in driving its lessons home.

"Portland Wears the Crown," is the title of an excellent and informative leading article in the November issue of the Pacific Marine Review, by Sydney B. Vincent, publicity manager of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. It is one of several articles laudatory of Portland's marine industry. It tells the story of Portland's achievements in shipbuilding. Careful reading of it is commended first of all to Portland people, then to competitive ports that their gossip may be changed to report of the facts, and finally to the officials, naval and otherwise, who still use the data of 1890 in their comments on the port.

HERBERT HOOVER

NO MATTER what political party he may be of or for, there are many things in his record to suggest Herbert Hoover as an eligible for the presidency.

His declaration to the Portland Jackson club may eliminate him from consideration. It may not. It might happen that he would be drafted by his countrymen.

Mr. Hoover is one of the discoveries of the war. He is one of the very few who rose to the crisis. There is always a man whose personal qualities and powers lift him above other men in the supreme trial. They rise to leadership because they are able to lead.

Belgium was stripped and starving. The British government was afraid to permit relief supplies to reach the hungry Belgians lest the food would be hurried into Germany by the German military then in control of Belgium. The Germans on the other hand were afraid to permit the Belgians to be fed lest they be strengthened to resistance.

A man was needed to defy governments and resist so-called military necessities. Without him, the hungry men, women and children of Belgium could not be fed, though American relief was knocking along Belgian borders for admission.

Mr. Hoover, a mining engineer, an Iowa blacksmith's son, a product of Oregon, little known except to the mining world, rose to the emergency, solved the problem and fed Belgium. At one bound, he leaped into international renown as a man and as an administrator.

In America his name is a household word. As the American food administrator there rested on him the responsibility of rationing the allied armies and sustaining the commissary of the millions battling against the central powers. America was the chief food supply. The American output, to be conserved, had to be distributed with a full realization of where and to whom nicely adjusted quantities must go, and above all, had to be produced in quantities to meet a gigantic demand and a vital and unprecedented situation.

It was a problem of immense magnitude. It required experience, vision and vast powers of administration. All this responsibility was met by Mr. Hoover, and the armies of democracy and liberty were fed to victory. It was a leadership that none can challenge and that but few have criticized.

The armistice brought even greater problems to Mr. Hoover. The whole world was his workshop then. All Europe was starving. Four hundred million war-wrecked people were on the borderland of starvation. A continent was in chaos. There was no organization of peoples, no responsible authority to deal with.

To ration this riot of races, to get supplies to them in spite of railroadless transportation, to parcel out supplies to match requirements, to overcome the myriad obstacles required consummate knowledge and the unmeasured resources of a superman.

The nations were fed. The fires were lighted on millions of dreary hearthstones. Succor and cheer were carried into homes that had known nothing but privation and agony for 51 months.

Possibly other men might have done it as well. Perhaps not. Herbert Hoover did do it, did organize a stupendous relief system, did direct a relief that was beyond all precedents and that overtopped all similar operations in the whole history of mankind.

In it all, what a lieutenant he was for the president of the United States! What a load of responsibility was shifted from the White House to the broad shoulders of the man whose boyhood was spent in Oregon, and with what confidence and relief for Mr. Wilson!

And then and since, at Paris and in America, Herbert Hoover, by his utterances, has stood for the treaty, has stood for a world organized for peace, has stood for a new order on earth, has stood for a truer democracy in America, has stood for the wellbeing of peoples and races under every sun.

It is no fault that he seems to be partyless. It is no defect that politicians look askance at him. The country is sick of politicians and politcs.

In many ways Mr. Hoover seems well suited to take up the great work that, bye and bye, Woodrow Wilson is to lay down.

Oregon City Once a Slave Mart in a Small Way

Most Settlers Opposed Slavery, for Practical Personal Reasons

Oregon City and slavery seem to have little in common, yet in the early days the principal slave market of the West was located on the bank of the Willamette river, at what is now the foot of Eleventh street, in Oregon City. Here in the '40s and early '50s the Klamath Indians brought Indian slaves for sale, usually children captured in their frequent forays against Shasta and Rogue River Indians. The Klamaths traded these Indian slaves for blankets or other Hudson's Bay wares owned by the Willamette valley Indians. Scores of these Indian slaves were purchased from their Indian owners by the white residents of Oregon City. In most cases they were liberated. Occasionally they were adopted and educated.

The anti-slavery and anti-negro legislation passed by the legislative committee of the Oregon provisional government at Oregon City in 1844 as a result of two negroes having had trouble with an Indian named Cockstock in March, 1844, in which the Indian and two white men were killed, was indirectly responsible for the formation of the "Free Soil," or Republican party, in Oregon. A large proportion of the emigrants to Oregon from 1843 to 1852 had come from the Southern states by way of Missouri. A large number of Oregon settlers were from Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. They knew all about slavery from first hand information. They knew free labor could not compete with slave labor. They were poor and unable to own slaves. They didn't want to see slavery introduced into Oregon, for they had come away from their old homes to escape the evil economic effects of slavery. In the early '50s the question came up constantly in all political discussion as well as in the newspapers. On June 27, 1855, a convention of "Free Soilers" was called to meet at Albany to draft a platform for an anti-slavery political party. A second meeting was arranged, to be held at Corvallis, October 31, 1855. This was the beginning of the Republican party in Oregon.

The committee which met at Albany to pass resolutions against slavery and to draft a platform for the new political party which should declare against slavery consisted of the following members: John Conner, B. F. Whitson, Thomas S. Kendall, Origen Thompson and J. P. Tate. At the meeting at Corvallis, October 31, the following delegates were in attendance: Origen Thompson, David Irwin, Hezekiah Johnson, Samuel Hyde, W. L. Coon, William Marks, Isaac Pest, R. A. Buck, Samuel Bell, Milton B. Starr, J. P. Tate, William Blaine, H. H. Hicklin, T. S. Kendall, John R. McClure, W. T. Baxter, John McCoy, W. C. Hecklin, H. F. McCully, J. Smith, J. W. Stewart, G. W. Lambert, J. B. Forsyth, J. M. McCall, John Conner, B. F. Whitson, W. C. Johnson, J. T. Craig, D. C. Hackley, S. R. McClelland, U. H. Dunning, Alfred Wheeler, Sam Colver, D. H. Bodinn, D. Beach, W. C. Garwood, Charles Ferry, Thomas Cannon and J. F. Thompson.

In 1862 the Oregon legislature passed an act that each and every negro, Chinaman, Hawaiian and mulatto should pay an annual poll tax of $5, and if they failed to do so they should be taken up and forced to work out their poll tax and all costs, on the roads, at 50 cents a day.

On February 1, 1865, congress submitted an amendment to the constitution of the United States abolishing slavery. The Oregon legislature was summoned by Governor Gibbs for a special session at Salem on December 5, 1865, to adopt the amendement. This was done on December 11, and the existing state provisions discriminating against negroes then became a dead letter.

Letters From the People

[Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length, and must be signed by the writer, whose mail address in full must accompany the contribution.]

"Cast Out the Lodge Bunch"

La Grande, Jan. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal—In 1912, in the Chicago convention, Mr. Roosevelt said the Republican party had become so corrupt that he could not remain in it. So he pulled out and organized the Progressives. Such men as Hiram Johnson followed him. That is what elected Wilson. In 1916 these men got back into the Republican fold and the chief stock in trade in that campaign was that "the Democratic administration had been a failure, and that the Democrats did not have sense enough to run the affairs of this government." The people did not believe this, and so they were defeated on that ground. We are wondering now just what they will put up to us in the present campaign. They think the peace treaty and the League of Nations is a failure, that there is a nigger in the woodpile, that those nations are dishonest and would get us into trouble, and we had better stand alone and attend to our own business. They don't seem to realize that there is more danger in staying out than in going in. If a man moved into a neighborhood and concluded to "stand alone," how long would he last? Just so with us—if we stand alone we are on the down grade. I am a Republican of the Abe Lincoln type. I cast my first vote for him in 1864. But we sure have few of that kind at the present time. Republicanism needs a new birth—to be made over again, throw off its corruption, its impurity, its selfishness. There are lots of good men in the Republican party, but they are not running it. The Lodge bunch needs to be cast out, and the affairs of the party put into the hands of good men.

ABE LINCOLN REPUBLICAN.

On Capital Punishment Psychology

Portland, Jan. 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—Some day, when evolution has eradicated the still lingering ape and tiger in our nature, when we shall be wholly human and not merely veneered with culture, the thought of taking life, except in unavoidable self defense, will be intolerably repugnant.

It struck me as peculiar that almost all elderly church members and upholders of the "good old-fashioned religion" believe in capital punishment. Witness the impanelling of the juries at murder trials. Perhaps it is that too much familiarity with the bloodthirsty Jehovah of the Old Testament breeds contempt of life. Perhaps it is that in too much fussing with the letter of the law the spirit (of the New Testament law) takes flight.

If you wish the punishment to be deterrent, put the prisoner to work and divide his wages between his victim's and his own dependents. If a prospective murderer thinks at all he will think twice when facing the certainty of slaving for the rest of his life for the benefit of his enemy's heirs. Capital punishment exercises a bad psychological influence in that it familiarizes and perpetuates the idea of taking life.

W. LARREBE.

Remedy for Speeders

Scio, Dec. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have read with interest about your campaign of education against the auto killers, and at this distance it looks to me as if Mr. Dean has the Portland idea all right, only expresses himself more frankly. Any real interference with the above named persons would quite materially reduce Portland's revenue from fines, etc. Education in this case will be about as effective as feeding a Bolshevik on chops and brandy to tame him. If the lawmakers of your city really wanted to stop and prevent accidents and killings they could reduce the speed limit and provide penalties that would make automobile casualties as scarce as gunshot "accidents." If punishment is made swift, certain and severe the speeders will look to their own brakes and other equipment themselves, and won't need Captain Somebody-or-Other to examine them after they run over someone. Trifling fines and suspended sentences are rather mild for these birds, and if the city's arm is too short, Portland's legislature meets soon, and it is always willing to oblige.

HARRY FREEMAN.

Make a Start for World Peace

Portland, Jan. 4.—To the Editor of The Journal—In turning in my ballot on the League of Nations, permit me also to say: War was the only occupation of the ancients; industry is the aim of modern communities. Military life caused a contempt for industrial pursuits. Slavery, or near slavery, was essential. Labor was degraded, and free artisans were but little esteemed. There must be a first attempt if we would abolish war. Let's vote No. 3, and give the league a chance.

A. C. R.

U. S. Navy Rate of Pay

Ashland, Jan. 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—Please print the rank and wages of officers in the United States navy from ensign to captain, with rate of pay at home and on foreign service.

A. DAHUFF.

[Captain, $4000 a year; commander, $3500; lieutenant commander, $3000; lieutenant, $2400; lieutenant (junior grade), $2000; ensign, $1700. All officers on sea duty and all officers on shore duty beyond the continental limits of the United States receive 10 per cent of salary additional. Besides this, there is an increase every five years of 10 per cent of the pay of their grade that applies to all below the rank of rear admiral.]

BALLOT ON PEACE TREATY

Vote one choice. Indicate preference by X mark in square.

1 [ ] I favor compromise on reservations and immediate ratification of peace treaty and League of Nations covenant;

Or, 2 [ ] I favor ratification with Lodge reservations.

Or 3, [ ] I favor ratification of the peace treaty and League of Nations covenant substantially as presented to the senate by President Wilson.

Or, 4 [ ] I am opposed to ratification in any form.

Name .....

Address .....

Fill in and mail to The Journal. Limitation of ballot to qualified voters is requested.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Soon be time to trim the rose bushes.

* * *

There's no telling where burglars are going to land next.

* * *

Mr. Daniels will be envying St. Peter, on whose awards of decorations nobody ever kicks.

* * *

And this is steam-roller year again—also the first of a long, long string of water wagon years.

* * *

But really, we had heard so much about 1920 that we at once felt as if we had known him always.

* * *

Tentative reports of the I. C. C. on the Columbia river rate case indicate first-rate news for Portland.

* * *

The only joke about the prune that's left us now is how few of the delicious things you get for your money.

* * *

Our answer to the argument that the H. C. L. hasn't been as high in Portland as in some other large cities, is that it has been high enough.

* * *

Apparently the time has not yet arrived for the application of the ancient and honorable geographical test to all these presidential candidates. Boy, page a few "pivotal" states.

* * *

"Mountains at Baker Seem to Be on Big Jag"—Headline. And this, in the olden days, would have seemed to indicate, too, that someone else had been on one of those things.

SIDELIGHTS

"We believe in a band for Carlton," declares the Sentinel. "It might help revive some of the town's lagging civic pride. Let's have one."

* * *

Guy Nelson, a farmer of Hillside, after holding a post mortem over a cow which died from unknown causes, discovered, according to the McMinnville News Reporter, that the animal's heart was much enlarged and that she had swallowed five nails.

* * *

The lower Columbia river section, the Astoria Budget says, has been enjoying some of the finest winter weather in recent years, the new year having been ushered in with sunshine and just enough tang to the atmosphere to make one's blood circulate good."

* * *

"New Year's eve passed off last night with 'nary a bell ringing, nor whistle blowing," says the Hillsboro Argus. "The town was at watch meetings and parties, and everybody had a good time—but old Albert Tozier failed to ring the M. E. church bell—a trick he has turned over 40 years. But he is here from Dee and was at the watch meeting."

* * *

The Baker Herald's McEwen correspondent reports "more houses moved away from Sumpter." Not long ago J. L. Edmiston was moving one from Sumpter to Baker for his own occupancy, and now T. H. and James Tibbs "are moving some small houses from Sumpter down to their farms while the roads are in good condition for such work."

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Jim Kyle, who used to be the mayor of Stanfield, and may be yet, for that matter, is looking about as sad as it is possible for him to look. He is suffering from the same complaint that troubles the most of us the most of the time, namely and towit, that he has not got more of that which he has. Mr. Kyle deals in potatoes, what used to be the humble spud but has now arisen from the bourgeois class to become one of the lord high chamberlains in the court of King Hi Cost. He contends that the fertile acres around about Stanfield are the original home of the spud, and insists that St. Patrick took the first Irish potato from there to the Emerald Isle when he went over to excommunicate the snakes. But, be that as it may, Mr. Kyle is just now grieving because potatoes are "high."

"What do I know about spuds?" he asks, as he answers, "I know they are high, and I know that I have none to sell." Which demonstrates in a few words why Mr. Kyle is sad.

* * *

The legislative brethren of Senator C. M. Thomas of Jackson county seem to be more or less worried about the loquacity of that Southern Oregon solon. Some of them, who have foregathered at Portland to be ready and waiting for the big show scheduled to start up at Salem on Monday morning next, have been wondering what they may do to be saved from the opened floodgates of the Thomasonian oratory, having heard, or read, of the first installment unloosed at the fish and game committee meeting at the capitol on Monday last.

"Maybe," one suggested hopefully to another, as they discussed the subject in the hotel lobby, "maybe, if we could convince Charlie that he is already just as good as elected to congress he would quit trying to make medicine and let some of the rest of us try to make it."

"Oh, Charlie thinks that already," the other responded, "but he doesn't want to be out of practice when he gets back to Washington."

"Isn't there any hope, then?" the first one asked, more or less despairingly.

"Just a glimmer," the second assured him. "Maybe Arthur Orton will get started first."

"The Lord help us," the first one exclaimed. "I had a hunch this was going to be a hell of a session."

* * *

Senator Roy Ritner of Umatilla county is willing to bet all comers that the special session of the legislature will not continue for a longer period than 10 days, so far as he is concerned. The senator says he has got to be in San Francisco on January 25, and that he is going to adjourn the session so far as his attendance upon it is concerned, in time to keep his engagements in the city of the Golden Gate at the time and place appointed.

Beyond that limitation Senator Ritner is ready and willing for the session to commence. There is only one other thing that he is going to hold out for, he says. He is "ferninst" any steering committee in the senate, unless he is a member of it.

* * *

Denton Burdick of Redmond, who is in Portland to attend the irrigation congress, and after that the legislature, says he can stick it out up at Salem, no matter how long they want to stay. Five days, 10 days, 20 days, or longer, it is all the same to him. He wants to get through and get home, but he is ready to stay with the bunch if the bunch wants to stay. More than that, Representative Burdick, construing the constitution, contends that the legislature can remain in session as much beyond 20 days as the majority may determine, the words of the fundamental law to the contrary notwithstanding.

"All you have to do" he says judicially, "is to stop the clocks and let 'er buck. There is nothing to it. It has been done before, and it can be done again; not that I am suggesting it, but simply stating the proposition."

IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

[Oregon pioneers with whom Mr. Lockley was in close touch in his youth are sketched here for Journal readers. Peter H. Hatch, Horace Holden and John Minto are his principal subjects, and excellent material they furnish for the chronicler of events of early Oregon.

Twenty years or so ago, when I lived in Salem, I used to spend many a spare hour with Salem's pioneer residents. Just across from where I lived, on Front street, was the home of Peter H. Hatch. He came to Oregon City in 1843. Nearly 1000 new settlers came to the Willamette valley by prairie schooner in that year, but Peter Hatch came here by sea. With his wife and child he came from the Sandwich islands aboard the bark Fama, Captain Nye. His fellow passengers were Francis W. Pettygrove, who, with his wife and child and $15,000 worth of merchandise, came to open a store at Oregon City, Philip Foster, with his wife and four children, and Nathan P. Mack. Mr. Hatch settled in Oregon City.

* * *

It was in May, 1844, that the first Presbyterian church in what is now Oregon was organized, at the home of Peter H. Hatch in Oregon City, by the Rev. Harvey Clarke. Robert Moore, who had come to Oregon with Captain Couch in 1840, Osborne Russell of Maine, a trapper and mountain man, and Peter H. Hatch, a New England sailor and whaler, carpenter, builder, innkeeper, house mover and road builder, who was made deacon of the newly organized church. This church, "The Presbyterian Church of Willamette Falls," organized 75 years ago, should have proved a strong argument for church union, for its pastor, the Rev. Harvey Clarke, belonged to the Congregational church, Osborne Russell was a Baptist, Peter Hatch was a Methodist, and Robert Moore was "a sort of a Presbyterian."

* * *

Up to 1852 all goods bound around the falls for upper river points had to be carried over the steep and rocky road which led over the bluffs. In 1852 Captain Peter H. Hatch took the contract, at $20,000, to blast a roadway around the falls at the foot of the bluffs to the old "canoe landing" at Canemah.

* * *

Asahel Bush was another old time resident who told me of the early day history of Salem and the Oregon country. D. W. Craig, who, like Mr. Bush, was an old time newspaperman, was always able to give me interesting material for my notebook, as did also Horace Holden, who lived near the "Scotch mills" on Front street, a "long block" from my home. With his wife, Mr. Holden came from the Sandwich islands in the '40s aboard the Chenamus, Captain John H. Couch being in command. I filled several notebooks with the incidents told me by Mr. Holden of his adventurous life. He was born in New Hampshire in 1810. When 16 or 17 years of age he shipped aboard a whaler for a three years' cruise. While on their way home the vessel was wrecked on one of the Pelew islands. The natives killed and ate some of the crew, while the younger men were allowed to live and work as slaves. During the three years Mr. Holden was kept as a slave he was tattooed by the natives from head to foot.

At the age of 27 Mr. Holden went to the Sandwich islands to engage in the raising of silkworms and the manufacture of silk. The silk industry not proving profitable, he began growing sugar cane on Kauai island. He was one of the partners in the Kalloa plantation, which was the first in the Hawaaian islands to produce sugar commercially.

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Another pioneer whom I delighted to visit was John Minto. I filled several notebooks with his reminiscences of the early '40s and of his part in the development of the Oregon of today. He was born at Wylam-on-the-Tyne, in Northumberland, October 10, 1822. As a boy he worked in the coal mines. He came to America when 18 years old and worked as a coal miner at Pittsburg for three years. While en route to the Platte Purchase district, in what is now Iowa, he heard of the Willamette valley. He decided to go there. He had no money, but he got a job from R. W. Morrison driving one of his wagons across the plains to Oregon. The agreement was that he was to receive his board and lodging for his work. But by the time he had made the six months' journey across the plains he decided he wanted more, so he demanded and received the hand and heart of Mr. Morrison's daughter Martha.

Mr. Minto was one of the most versatile and interesting men I ever met. He could talk with authority not only about Oregon's early history but about stock raising, farming, mining, navigation, literature and newspaper publishing. He frequently recited to me poems of his own composing that were full of wit, pathos and sentiment. He is the author of two books, "Farmers' Songs" and "Rhymes of Life." Here, boiled down in his own words, was his philosophy of life:

"To stand for justice, truth and right
Against oppression, fraud and wrong.
And by your power, through legal right,
Succor the weak against the strong.
The seed of knowledge deeply plant,
Restrain ambition, pride and greed,
That all in happiness shall work,
And none shall want in time of need."

Curious Bits of Information For the Curious

Gleaned From Curious Places

The mangrove tree has a very interesting method of sending its seeds or fruits into the world. Growing as it unusally does in shallow water, it is necessary for the young fruits actually to begin growing before they leave the parent plant. The fruit, which resembles a large inverted berry, send out large leaves at its upper end and a long root, sometimes 18 inches in length, from the lower end, while yet attached to the parent plant. Then, as if by magic, the parent plant drops it into the mud, where the plant already growing begins to develop into a larger plant and soon is firmly established. If it were not prepared immediately to begin to grow in the mud it would probably be washed away. A single mangrove is ofttimes able to start a small island by its manifold roots and arms.

Olden Oregon

Northwest's First Steam Vessel Placed on the Columbia in 1836.

The first steam vessel on the Columbia river was the Beaver. The Beaver was brought out from England by the Hudson's Bay company in 1836 as a sailing vessel. On her arrival here she was rebuilt and converted into a small steam craft for local use. When the conversion was completed the vessel made a trial trip down the river to Astoria, having on board a distinguished company from Fort Vancouver.

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader.

OREGON NOTES

Payment of bounties on predatory animals cost Hood River county $253 in 1919.

Umatilla county's completed Red Cross roll call shows a membership of 7278 for the year 1919.

The North Bend Mill & Lumber company's mill has resumed operations on a double shift basis after an extended close-down.

Mrs. Jennie Bogardus, postmistress of Myrtle Creek for 13 years, is dead at her home in that city after an illness of several months.

According to many old-time growers, $500,000 will not cover the loss to fruit growers in the Milton neighborhood by the late cold weather.

Five students of the University of Oregon raised $100 at Bend last week toward the fund for the erection of the proposed Women's building.

Work interrupted on the Columbia highway between Hood River and Mosier by the December blizzard has been resumed by the A. D. Kern Construction company.

August P. Risser, who, for more than five years has been a member of the city council and the past year mayor, has tendered his resignation to the Dallas city council.

The postoffice at Thomas, a station on the Albany-Detroit branch of the Southern Pacific railroad, will be discontinued on recommendation of the postmaster, who has resigned.

Because of the increasing amount of work under construction and contemplated in Eastern Oregon, the state highway commission announces that it had decided to redistrict that territory.

Seventeen head of Polled-Angus cattle, exhibited at the Chicago International show, have just arrived at the Warren & Dickson stock farm near Prineville, having been purchased by Mr. Dickson for $24,000.

Linn county court hopes for federal and state aid in the construction of a permanent road from Albany to Lake Valley, where the road would intersect the McKenzie highway from Eugene to Eastern Oregon.

Receipts of the Pendleton postoffice for the last half of 1919 were $22,302.27, more than double the receipts of the last half of the year 1909, leading the residents to believe that the population has doubled in 10 years.

WASHINGTON

According to the horticultural inspector, there are still 200 cars of apples in storage in Benton county.

With nails $11 a keg in Vancouver, merchants are reminded of the good old times when they sold many a keg for $2.35.

Vancouver is now in the best financial condition in its history, all debts having been paid and the city being now on a cash basis.

A contract has been let for $42,279 for the completion of the third floor of the James Wilson hall at Washington State college.

Over 696,000 bushels of wheat have been received at warehouses in Harrington, and it is estimated there are still on the farms 25,000 bushels.

P. F. Behnke, boiler maker, died at Seattle Tuesday from injuries received when a municipal streetcar on which he was riding jumped the track and overturned.

Word is received in Vancouver that Arthur Dorland, formerly proprietor of Dorland's music house in that city, was killed last Sunday while hunting near Butte, Mont.

With 80 apprentice seamen from the Seattle station of the shipping board's merchant marine training station, the steamer Brookdale is on the high seas, bound for Honolulu.

A Hoover club was organized at Hoquiam Tuesday night and a telegram dispatched to Herbert Hoover urging him to allow his name to go before the country for president.

The body of Jack Greer, night desk officer of the Aberdeen police force, was found on the waterfront with a bullet wound through the heart. No clue to the slayer has been found.

Applications have been filed with the state engineer for diverting some of the water of the Touchet river and carrying it by canal to the Eureka flat land for the purpose of irrigating 72,000 acres.

Lucile Corbett, aged 20, and D. C. Parsons, a printer, are dead, and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Swenson suffered broken legs as the result of an automobile accident Tuesday night on the Pacific highway near Everett.

IDAHO

New buildings valued at $498,505 were erected in Caldwell during 1919.

Boise barracks is being turned into a government hospital for some 300 or 400 patients who will be sent there by the government.

Boise's construction activity for 1919 totaled $1,767,358 as against $284,522 for 1918, according to the annual report of the building inspector.

The state game warden announces that revenues amounting to $120,509.43 were derived from the sale of game licenses and permits during the year 1919.

Secretary of State Jones has declared forfeited the charters of 350 corporations operating in the state of Idaho because they failed to pay their 1919 licenses.

Wood alcohol poisoning has caused the death of Neil Davis, a well-to-do rancher, and William Jenkins, a barber, at Malad. Davis went blind before he died.

The state department of public welfare announces that the total number of cases in the smallpox epidemic now raging in 28 Idaho counties has reached 1000.

GENERAL

Rhode Island's ratification of the federal woman's suffrage amendment Tuesday brings the number of states which have accepted it to 24.

Two young men, unmasked, held up the Southern Pacific railroad station at Davis, Cal., Tuesday night, and escaped with all the money in the cash drawer.

The governor general of Canada has signed an order in council authorizing the minister of customs to refuse all export licenses to manufacturers of news print paper.

J. E. Tucker, prominent British Columbia lumberman and president of the Vancouver Lumber company, died suddenly at Bakersfield, Cal., Tuesday, while on a motor tour with his wife.

A Russian newspaper contains a report of the execution of Admiral Bakhireff, who fought brilliantly against the German fleet in 1917. The admiral was accused of plotting against the soviet government.

A remarkable surgical operation is reported from Omaha, where Steve Zakich, an Austrian, had his heart taken out, a bullet that was embedded in it removed, the organ replaced, the incision sewed up and the patient on the road to recovery.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

Old Man Peters is sufferin' from collapse of the nerves and can't do no milkin' fer a week, the doctor says, owin' to a excitin' struggle he had down to Portland to keep from runnin' his rollin' junkpile over a jaywalkeress on Washington street. She started acrost on a circlin' angle, Peters swears, then ducked back, jumped ahead agin and skidded plum around him, or else Peters skidded around her. It tuck a cop and four men to hold that woman on the sidewalk till Peters got by after his stoppin' an' startin' seven times. He 'lowed he didn't keer so much if he had of bumped her a leetle mite or so, but last time he was up 'fore Jedge Roessman he got a $50 fine and the jedge told him it'd be six months next time. Peters ain't no millionaire, and he knowed them Portland folks is lookin' fer somebody to make a horrible example of. If he'd of killed that jaywalkeress he might of got five year in the pen.