

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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AND WASCO COUNTY.

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STILL HARPING.

Seattle's hostility against the opening of the Columbia river is openly confessed by her newspapers. Eastern Washington might as well face the situation and be prepared for a hard struggle, for it will get nothing but obstructive tactics from King county. It is amazing how local selfishness will warp the judgment and distort the view. The Press-Times speaks of the works on the Columbia river as the "schemes of Oregon grabbers," and hopes that the ditch "will not again be hampered by invidious classification with the dalles railway scheme." The Columbia river has a drainage area of 250,000 square miles; the lake Washington canal would affect, at most, a few townships adjacent to Seattle. Seattle has proceeded in this matter with consummate cunning. Fearing the opening of the Columbia river and the establishment of a water highway in competition with the railroads, she has devised this ditch project, expecting thereby to prevent the opening of the river and at the same time bring about the expenditure of several million dollars within her own local limits, and also gain an advantage over her Puget sound competitors. It is incomprehensible how any eastern Washington official, newspaper or individual of ordinary understanding can defend such jobbery. It is simple advocacy of a scheme by which the cinch is to be retained upon the commerce of the interior, in order that Seattle and the railroads may thrive at the expense of the producing masses of the eastern part of the state.

Frank Upton's steamship service between the Orient and Portland, in connection with the Union Pacific railroad, is to be discontinued. It is generally understood in railroad circles that the service will end with the arrival of the next steamer at that port, on account of some understanding that has been arrived at between President Huntington, of the Southern Pacific and President Clarke, of the Union Pacific. Portland has had this service for about ten months now, through a contract entered into by Charles Frances Adams, when he was president of the Union Pacific, and Mr. Upton, whose home is in Kobe, Japan. The latter had three steamers and he agreed to furnish a monthly service for a period of ten years, mainly for transportation of tea to eastern points in the United States and Canada, the Union Pacific on its part agreeing to establish a tariff that would enable Upton to compete with the Pacific Mail, Canadian Pacific and Oriental and Occidental lines on through shipments. Adams made this contract in spite of the fact that the Union Pacific has a joint interest in Oriental and Occidental companies and that the latter and the Pacific Mail have a close agreement for the maintenance of rates. He also made it in spite of the protests of Huntington and the Pacific Mail, his object being to get an all-rail haul from Portland eastward on as much terms as possible.

Baker City Contests.

Democrat. The dry test contest between hose companies 1, 3 and 4, which took place on the Fourth, has not yet been settled but will probably be satisfactorily arranged at tonight's meeting of the committee. The time keepers, by mistake, gave in the time made by No. 4 at twenty seconds. They did not fully realize their mistake until the other teams made the race, No. 3, in thirty-two seconds and No. 1 in twenty-nine and one-half seconds. Their mistake was announced but No. 4 refused to run again. No. 4 claims the race on the technical grounds that the time was announced and the error should have been made known before the other teams made their run. In this, according to rule, probably they are right, but it is hardly fair since all are aware that they did not make any such time. A good plan would be for No. 1 and No. 4 to divide the purse and go at it "hammer and tongue" again next Fourth. There is no use kicking over small matters.

WANTED.

A girl to do general housework, good wages, apply at this office.

THROWN OUT OF A JOB

HOW A DISCHARGE AFFECTS DIFFERENT MEN IN A BIG CITY.

Heroic Struggle of "Joe," Who Is but a Representative of the Average Unfortunate Fellow Looking for Work—How Others Take the Sad News.

Joe's envelope said simply: "The house regrets it can no longer offer you employment, but its reasons do not hinge upon your competency, and we take occasion to thank you for good work for us, wishing you well." Joe thought to hide the message from John as he passed out—John had worked at his elbows for months—but he didn't. John followed him out and said: "Stout heart, old fellow. You'll have a better job in a week. If I can do you a favor, call on me. My turn next, I imagine."

Joe walked the streets for hours, then went home to his wife and babies not less surely years older than when he had left them in the morning. He has fixed his purpose, and will bow to it. He takes the usual trinkets to the children, a trifle of some sort to his wife, and gives her, as is his rule, the week's earnings. Then he acts for the first time in his life—he romps and carouses with Flora until she believes he is as much a child as herself, and his wife watches it all from her sewing table and wonders if she was ever as happy in the old courting days as she is now.

And Joe's heart is heavy under it all, for he determines that they shall not know of his bad luck until he has another job. He is hurt, humiliated, repulsed—he feels that the house has clipped him off because it could spare him more easily than any one of the hundred odd others that it has retained.

WORK AT LAST.
He looks for work ten hours a day for a week and doesn't find it. Saturday he pawns his watch for a week's wages and carries it home, telling them that his watch had been stolen from him, but that he had a clew to the thief and that Inspector Byrnes would catch him in a few days. He says to himself that fate stole it from him, but he keeps up the play bravely and with fortitude answers the evening queries of the home ones about whether they have found the watch. The next two weeks are tided over by selling the Building and Loan stock. Then he borrows another week's pay of a friend.

Every morning he starts "to work" at the regular hour; every evening he returns. They go to the theater, they buy some needed and long promised clothes; they pay their regular missionary money and church fees—for Joe is playing a desperate hand now, but with an insane sort of coolness. Something asks him over and over again every day, "Where will it end?" but Joe just sets his lips a little harder and don't reply even in thought.

His encyclopedia goes next. He loans it to a friend down town at the office, so he tells them at home. Joe can't eat heartily this week. He watches his wife and children's tightheartedness something like a brute would do—stoically, unmoved. He tells Amy to drink his cup of tea; he has no appetite, and don't want it. Then he is for the first time in his life affected with satan's specially exported article of disease—insomnia. He sits for hours watching his family as they sleep, and he feels a heavy weight slowly settling upon his brain that he cannot understand the meaning of.

Next day he finds another position, and his wife doesn't understand why he gives way so completely for the first time in his life and cries like a child while telling her of it.

OTHER TYPES.
There are just a few Joes in this world—not too many.

Clarence Harney tells his wife about it as soon as he gets home. He is sure he knew the infernal job wouldn't hold out long anyhow. Plenty more, though—you just have to have a little gall; and next day Clarence has another job. A little less pay, to be sure. "But then," he argues, "it's only for a week or so—I'll strike a better one the first thing you know. You don't down me—not this year."

Jim Burton, the clerk, loses his job. He pitches into the whole family and tells them that there must be no more money spent for anything at all. "Understand? The goodness only knows when you will get any more from me, so make this last as long as it will." He goes down town, gets a job, tells them at home that he has not yet found one, and so spends the entire pay for two weeks on himself, the while ostensibly searching for work, and making the home ones pinch and worry with the lessening cash. Then at the critical moment he suddenly "finds work," and tells them he had to take it at seven dollars a week or nothing, when he really receives twelve. Jimmie's friends down town call him "smooth."

Harris Russell, who writes shorthand, loses a job because he is a bad speller. He studies up on his spelling, answers advertisements, gets a few encouraging replies, and after moving to a cheaper room once and going it for a week on a diet of crackers and milk—occasionally a nickel's worth of hot waffles—he gets another place at one dollar a week more salary, and determines that he will not flounder on the same old reef a second time. Harris is an average boy—a typical case.

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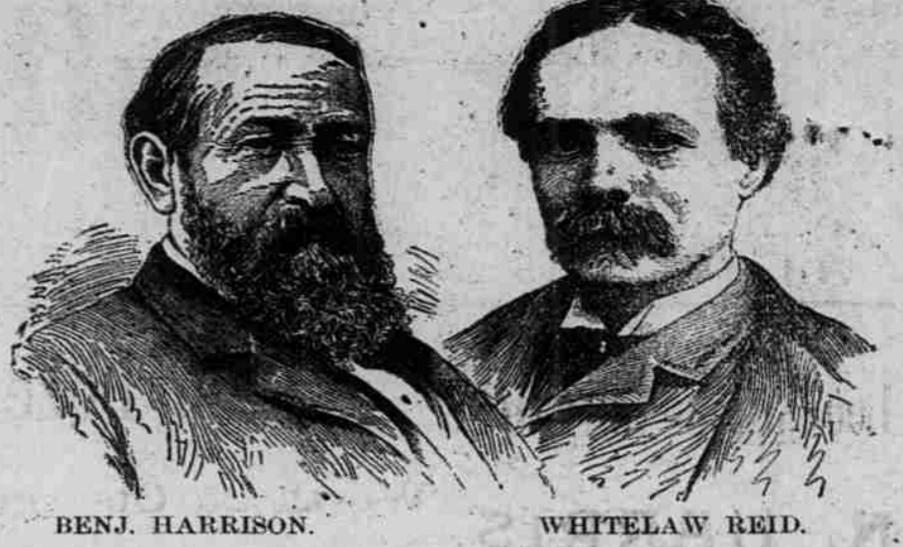
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