

### The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

The only Republican Daily Newspaper on Wasco County.

EASTERN OFFICE—250 to 254 Temple Court, N. Y. City. E. KATZ, Agent.

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WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 8, 1897

#### DEFECT OF LAW-MAKERS.

The last legislature of Idaho has much to answer for because of the failure to properly pass laws which were endorsed by the people. Election of a United States senator consumed so much valuable time that important measures were pending up to the last moment of the legislative session. To get these bills through it was thought wisest to pass them without reading in full, although the last feature is required by the constitution of the state. Idaho's criminal code was defective, and the law-breaker had numerous loop holes by which to evade just punishment for his wrong doing, hence such laws were introduced. He is not slow to evade them now. In the last three months half a dozen laws passed by the state legislature have been declared illegal by the supreme court on constitutional grounds.

Failure to pass these laws in proper form was due to nothing but carelessness. In these days of civil service reform and examinations for fitness in every department of the government, it might be well to require that a candidate for the legislature be examined as to his understanding of the constitution of his state. If he be found deficient, the state could make no better investment than to start a night school and educate him. It appears strange that the Idaho senate had not one man who was sufficiently acquainted with the constitution to know that a bill cannot be made a law without having been read in full by sections on the third and final reading. If the decisions of the supreme court are of any value, the Idaho public is forced to believe that the last state senate lacked that one man.—Spokane Review.

Recent dispatches from Washington indicate that the government looks more favorably upon the project of building locks at the dalles rapids than it does the proposal of a ship railway. Notwithstanding, THE CHRONICLE is of the opinion that it will be a long time before much money is spent in removing the barriers to navigation at this point. The country's finances have been subjected to a too heavy drain from the late Democratic administration to allow of much expenditure of money upon improvements just at present. It may come later, but in the meantime it would be well to urge the building of a portage around the obstructions as a temporary relief.

The English press hastens to criticize President McKinley's message, but then, Englishmen do not like anything that is done by an American looking to the advancement of his own country. It is well understood that McKinley has no other object than to promote the welfare and prosperity of the nation whose chosen guardian he is.

The election of the present board of directors of the Commercial and Athletic Club is a fitting compliment to a body of men who, by their devotion to duty, have earned the gratitude of those who enjoy the benefits of the meritorious organization known as The Dalles Commercial and Athletic Club. THE CHRONICLE extends its congratulations both to the directors and to the club.

The charges of the Oregonian against the municipal officers of Portland show that city to be run by a scandalous set of men, and the

sooner some change is made, the better it will be for the common good. It is a sad commentary upon the ability of the American people to govern themselves when they will deliberately choose men for positions of high authority who have repeatedly shown themselves incapable of discharging the trust committed to their hands. Pennoyer is an example in point.

#### Thousands are Trying It.

In order to prove the great merit of Ely's Cream Balm, the most effective cure for Catarrh and Cold in Head, we have prepared a generous trial size for 10 cents. Get it of your druggist or send 10 cents to ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City.

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