

IN LAKE precinct, Douglas county, the whole number of votes thrown were 48. Republicans 27, Democrats 15 and People's Party 6.

AFTER one refusal Dr. Roland P. Falkner, of the Wharton school of the University of Pennsylvania, will accept the secretaryship to the United States Commissioners to the international monetary conference in Brussels.

THERE were six detective tickets cast in this precinct. Three of these were not scratched at all, and three were scratched from top to bottom. It is a serious comment upon the intelligence of our two hundred reading and voting population that six can be found who do not understand how to vote so that their ballots will be counted.

THE *Times* has gathered together its material and left Newport. Wesley L. Davis has conducted an excellent journal in that place for some years, but his opposition to a certain element in society lost him patronage. Mr. Davis asserts that he has made money in Newport, but proposes to leave before his gains are all spent. Newport has the reputation of being a newspaper "graveyard," and the suspension of the *Times* is another illustration that the town proposes to maintain its reputation.

AN EFFORT is now being made to get a wagon road from Heceta Light-house to the mouth of Yahats. It is only a few miles and excepting around the cape will not be hard to build. Already, a good horse trail is built around the face of the cape. When this little piece of road is open there will be a wagon way from Coos Bay to Newport. As there are continuous mail routes between these points, no doubt the opening of the wagon road will put on a line of hacks all the way through.—Newport *Times*.

IT SEEMS to us that we have reached a point where it is in keeping with the spirit of the times, to make every thing a question of money. We have gone a good way in that direction. In politics money is the only consideration. Moral or mental worth is a secondary consideration. Good statesmanship and honest law-makers figure so little in political discussion, that we are upon the point of believing that they are buried in the forgotten past, and in their stead the statesman must needs have no better qualifications than that of legislating every body rich.

WE BESPEAK for Mr. E. Ricksacker, the civil engineer who succeeds Mr. G. A. Lyell, a hearty welcome by our people. After having met him, we naturally come to the conclusion that he is a gentleman who will be keenly alive to the responsible trust placed in his keeping, and with this understanding, we leave the improvement of the Siuslaw bar to his thoughtful, careful and disinterested judgment. Of this improve-

ment the people of Lane county are ever watchful and intensely alive to its furtherance, and we trust they will not be disappointed in the interest Mr. Ricksacker will take in the great need of our community.

THE predominating note of the good opinion of our entire people, regarding the worth of Mr. G. A. Lyell, our retiring civil engineer on the harbor work at this place, was struck by the employes in making Mr. Lyell a handsome present. Energy, honesty and economy, together with an enlarged order of intelligence, are among the higher qualifications of our late engineer's characteristics. Mr. Lyell is an excellent civil engineer. He has managed the jetty work here in a more than satisfactory manner to all concerned. He leaves us with a host of warm, personal friends, and none are or can be more sincere in their wishes for his future success, in whatever position he occupies, than is THE WEST.

IN THE Florence precinct 196 votes were cast. Of these Harrison and Reid received 120; Weaver and Field 39; Cleveland and Stevenson 29, and Bidwell and Cranfill 1. This gives the Republicans 51 majority over all and 81 plurality. Nathan Pierce, the Democratic-People's fusion candidate received 59 votes. This shows that Pierce was not supported by all the Democrats nor by all the People's Party voters. A list of all the known Democrats voting in this precinct were kept at this office, and the number is 59. This shows that 30 of these voted the People's ticket, as directed by the Democratic state central committee, and 39 remained true to the principles of democracy. This leaves but 9 Populist voters in this precinct.

ENGINEER LYELL, of the Siuslaw Jetty, was in Eugene over Sunday on his return from Portland, leaving on Monday's stage for Siuslaw again. The Portland papers are a little too previous in stating that the work done on the Siuslaw jetty "is already beginning to have a good effect." The work so far has been preparatory only and the jetty proper has not yet been commenced. Another appropriation will be necessary before the jetty proper is commenced. The fact of a jetty being planned for Siuslaw harbor may have encouraged the present increased shipping but the Siuslaw bar is just the same as it has been all the time—a good channel without the jetty. When the jetty is completed Siuslaw will have one of the best harbors on the coast, but it will be several years yet before it has any effect on the bar. It will have to be commenced first at any rate.—*Oregon State Journal*.

THE farmers in this locality are the most obstinate (perhaps conservative is the better word) persons on the face of the earth; and it seems of no use for us and many other conservatives to advise

them to give more attention to poultry raising, fruit-growing and stock raising. Their fathers before them had a rotation of certain crops, and the sons will do the same. They relegate the care of the poultry to the keeping of their better halves, and allow such profits as accrue for her pocket money. They will tell you that poultry raising does not pay; that fruit they cannot sell; that butter at twenty-five cents per pound does not meet the expense incident to its production, and that beef is a drug on the market. Dozens of other objections still more implausible will they raise. But when fruit and eggs are shipped here and sold at a profit to the importing producer, the fact is proof conclusive that our farmers are not alive to their responsibilities, and with all their 160 acres, have not half the enterprise of the less lordly landowners further east, whose holdings are often less than forty acres.

#### AN EIGHT YEAR PRESIDENTIAL TERM.

Many American business men say that the presidential year always means a decrease of business, and a drag-weight put upon trade. Mr. Charles S. Smith, President of the New York Chamber of Commerce, feels so keenly upon this point that he has written to the *North American Review* advocating the extension of the president's term to eight years. "No experienced man," says Mr. Smith, "will deny that the recurrence of a presidential election every four years is one of the prominent disturbing features in the business world; inasmuch as the great political parties who strive to rule the country must necessarily prepare for the contest twelve months in advance, we have in effect one year in four of this periodical interruption, with its consequent damage to business interests."

Nothing is more common than the remark of business men that "this is the year for election of the President and we cannot expect the usual amount of business." We have a complete illustration of this unsettling effect in the position of the two great parties as defined in the platforms of the late conventions at Minneapolis and Chicago. The Republican party declares emphatically its purpose to maintain the existing policy of protection of American manufacturers and wage earners. The Democrats with equal emphasis stigmatize protection "as robbery and unconstitutional;" and they promise a tariff for revenue only, if they come into power. The election of President will decide which policy will prevail, for the next Congress is likely to be in harmony with the newly-elected president. Both parties are confident of success. The majority either way will be small, with the possibility of a radical change in the tariff, and the consequent uncertainty as to the future. No prudent business man will engage in new enterprises of large moment—he will prefer to shorten sail

and await the result of the election. The importer will be cautious if he conceives there is a prospect of lower duties upon his merchandise, and the manufacturer will not add to his machinery if he fears that free trade will ruin his business.

If the American people should ever decide to extend the presidential term to eight years they will probably provide at the same time that no man shall have more than one term of office.

It is not at all likely however that the constitution of the United States will be thus revised at an early date. A very large majority of our people must be in favor of such an amendment before it can be carried out and a vigorous agitation of the question in every state in the Union would be necessary. Such an agitation would probably bring forth many replies from the supporters of the present system, and the people would be in a better position to judge regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed change after hearing both sides of the question. As yet the question has never been seriously discussed by the politicians and no one knows what arguments might be brought forward against so long a presidential term as eight years.

MISS FRANCES WILLARD expressed in her annual address before the W. C. T. U. convention in Denver a few days ago, her sympathy with every intelligent movement for the uplifting of labor. In her opinion, however, three-fourths of the whole labor question is summed up in the following: "Where are our carriages?" said an anarchist, as some capitalists drove by. "Why," replied a red nosed follower, "to tell you the truth, a saloon-keeper yonder is riding in mine." The difference between the estimate of Miss Willard, as shown by her demand for prohibition, and that of practical temperance folks is that she blames the man who rides, under these conditions, and not he who permits him to ride. The latter is a poor fellow against whom all doors leading to mischief must be barred lest he enter to his own moral, physical and financial undoing; the former is a sordid creature who insists that men be given an opportunity to order their own lives. The question, "To ride or not to ride?" as put by Miss Willard, is one that every intelligent, capable laboring man is able to answer for himself. If he does not answer it in his own interest, it is not because the doors of mischief have not been locked against him but because he has failed to make use of his common sense for his own protection. The world of temptation is wide and the safeguards against it must come from within rather than from without. The mother who ties the gate to keep her boy from going to play in the street realizes her mistake when he gets big enough to climb the fence, but it is doubtful if she is ever able to rectify it.—*Sunday Oregonian*.