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WON'T HOLD TOGETHER.

In commenting on the resolution introduced by Senator Teller providing for the payment of bonds in either gold or silver, the Oregonian makes one of its customary misleading statements. It says:

"If the United States should begin to pay its bonds in silver, there would be money and business panic. From the beginning the bonds have stood on gold value. When the debt was incurred, there were no silver dollars, and 'coin' meant gold and nothing else. It has been so interpreted under all administrations. To change the payment now to silver would be flat repudiation of more than one-half the value. But that wouldn't be the worst. It would be notice that the country had started to the silver basis, and the act, indeed, would be a long step toward it; and the wildest panic would be the consequence."

There is no foundation whatever, except in the mind of the Oregonian editor, for the statement that "from the beginning the bonds have stood on gold value," for when the first bonds were issued the currency of the country was paper, gold having gone into hiding during the civil war when the government was forced to issue interest bearing obligations. And the statement that "when the debt was incurred there were no silver dollars" is equally false. At least that part of the debt amounting to $162,315,600, incurred during Cleveland's administration, was contracted at a time when there were 437,000,000 silver dollars coined. Those bonds were coin bonds, and the word "coin" written in them meant either gold or silver. The Oregonian knows this, still it persists in its statements to the contrary. It knows too that there is not an obligation of the government is existence that calls for payment in gold, except $40,000,000 gold certificates. Further it is cognizant of the fact that interest on bonds has not always been paid in gold, but has been paid in every class of money extant.

Why then will it persist in making such false statements and declaring that for the government to choose what manner of money it shall use in paying its bonded obligations would create a panic? And how could this panic be brought about? There are no sight drafts in the interest bearing debt, hence bond holders could not make an immediate run on the treasury. None of the debt is payable until 1904, when $100,000,000 falls due, then there is $559,633,300 that matures in 1907, and $162,315,400 that matures in 1925, while the remainder of the bonded debt falls due at remote periods.

Who is going to create this panic? Will it be the holders of the bonds who will cause the value of their securities to depreciate by getting up a scare? It is hardly likely that they will, and if they do it is their own fault. And besides, since we have an administration that is pledged to "keep every dollar in circulation as good as gold," who is to be the looser if the government chooses to pay its debts in gold, silver or paper money? The Oregonian's scare about the panic is about as true as is that with reference to the bonds all being gold obligations, neither of which will hold together.

A UNIQUE DEFENSE.

The defense offered in behalf of Chris Merry, now on trial for wife-murder, in Chicago, is unique, but it is the natural outcome of the latitude allowed for defense in criminal cases. Merry's counsel have advanced the theory and will attempt to support by "expert" testimony that the defendant is a "degenerate." Pre-natal influence, heredity and the surroundings of his childhood, are to be in evidence to show that he is the natural product of crime and no more responsible for his criminal actions than the person who dies of consumption is responsible for an heritage of pulminary disease.

Any advance of the defense along such lines should be promptly stepped by the court. The theories of Professor Lombroso and Dr. Max Nordau are intereting as sociological studies, but are not so sufficiently definite to be held in opposition to the criminal code. There is no doubt that Merry is a "degenerate." So are all cold blooded murderers; but this is no reason why society should not be protected from them. Little time is wasted in studying the causes of hydrophobia when a mad dog breaks loose in the streets, nor should time be wasted in considering the causes that lead to a cold blooded murder. The murderer may be a "degenerate," may have none of the feelings of humanity in his soul, and that is the greater reason that he should be dealt with speedily before his degeneracy shall claim another victim. It is ever better that the willful murderer be hanged than that he be turned loose to murder some innocent and law-abiding person.

BEAUTIES OF PROTECTION.

This morning's news brings out two pictures on the obverse side of a successful protective-tariff law. In southern Italy and sicily oranges and lemons hardly pay for the picking, because the higher American duty cuts down the price at the groves. In Great Britain many industries languish, because of our higher duties on textiles. These are deplorable consequences of tariff wars, and we must say, like old Kaspar in Southey's story of Blenheim: "Things like that, you know, must be, after a famous victory." The victory is ours, and the losses theirs. Yet some loss is ours also. Not much American flour can these poor Italian fruitgrowers afford now. Not so much American iron and steel will the British factory towns require. When we have reduced the European laborers quite to penury, whither shall we turn for markets for our teeming products?—Oregonian.

This comparison might profitably be carried further, especially by the food producer. It is an undisputable characteristic of human nature, that we patronize those who patronize us. If the European producers cannot sell any of their products in America, where will they look when in need of bread and meat? Will they scrimp and economize to save up pennies to send over here in payment for our wheat, corn and meats, while we say to them, you shall not sell to us?

This is a question that is worthy the consideration of the farmer who has been voting for a protection that will build up a market for his cereals, his cattle and his hogs, and should cause him to enquire, "Where am I benefited by protection?" The past year has evidenced what an important factor the farmer is when he produces a good crop and is able to sell it at fair prices. Had it not been for him and his mammoth crop harvested last year, together with the shortage in the cereal crop abroad, the prosperity of 1897 would have been penury and want. Still the farmer was not the sole cause of our recent prosperity. The European consumer is entitley to a portion of the credit. Had he, during past years, been reduced to starvation by not being able to sell the products of his labor, he would not have been able to buy and pay cash for the products of our soil. In that event our abundant harvest would have gone begging for a market, and our farmer instead of receiving fair compensation for his products, would have put them on the market for what they would bring. This will be the result if we pursue our present policy of shutting out what the world has to sell. Should abundant crops be harvested throughout the world this year, our farmers will find themselves without a market abroad, for the European consumer will buy where he can sell. In this event we will come to a full realization of the beauties of protection.

"QUINTESCENCE" OF FOLLY.

Gov. Lord should get a move on and convene the legislature. Oregon standing on one leg in the senate when she has abundant ability that could aptly represent her is the quintescense of egregious folly.—Linn county Republican.

It is but natural that the Republican should see but one service for an Oregon legislature to perform—that of electing a United senator, regardless of cost or consequence, since it is a paper just sprung into existence, having for an excuse for its birth the advocacy of that gentlemen's interests whose only use for the taxpayers of the state is a seat in the upper house of congress.

We agree with the republican that Oregon has abundant ability from which to make senators; it is hanging around loose everywhere; it is going to waste; in fact we have a surfeit of senatorial timber that would perhaps serve the nation better following the plow.

With such an abundance of ability on every hand it may be folly for Oregon to "stand on one leg in the senate," at least that is the opinion of the "ability" especially one particular gentleman who considers himself especially fitted for the place. But we would ask, what is Oregon losing by thus being "one-legged" in the senate? And what would it cost to supply the missing "leg?" At present there is no legislation pending before congress in which the state of Oregon is so deeply interested that it can afford an expenditure of $30,000 to $50,000 to get a full representation in that body. Besides the state is fairly well represented, numerically at least. and more than this, one of our former senators demonstrated that the state's interests could be fully represented by one senator, when he deserted his post of duty at Washington in January and February of 1897, and came home to look after his re-election. There are many reasons why Gov. Lord should not "get a move on" and convene the legislature. Principal among these is the expense that would be incurred, with little hope of any direct benefit except saddling upon the nation the salary of one more senator and more taxation. It would cost anywhere from $30,000 to $50,000 to conduct an extra session for twenty days, and what could the people expect from it? In the light of the session of 1895 and the so-called session of 1897, nothing. It would be the worst sort of folly for the governer to place an extra burden on all the people of the state just in order to satisfy the desire for office possessed by one man, and a few of his strikers.

THE WEAK GOLD STANDARD

Even the firmest advocates of the gold standard are beginning to realize what a frail thing it is and are enlarging upon the dangers that might beset it if its stability is put to a test. One of the staunch supporters of the gold standard sounds the alarm thus:

"Payment of the public debt in silver, or refusal of gold, even in part, would, under existing conditions, shake the confidence of the world in our monetary system. That confidence is weak already, and it would be quite easy to destroy what remains of it.

"Such an act could not but be interpreted by the world as a sure proof that we were going to a silver basis. This would make a run on the treasury gold, for holders of notes would make an effort to get gold while they could. Again a declaration that the bonds of the United States were to be paid in silver would be considered tantamount to notice that free coinage of silver was to follow. Our whole monetary system would go to pieces like a house of cards."

If our present money system, based on the gold standard, is really so weak that the mere attempt to pay the obligations of the nation in the coin of the realm would knock it to pieces like a house of cards, then the system is decidedly in need of fixing. If it is really so weak as this, it is about time that some other system be inaugurated, for instance it might be better to discard the gold standard and go back to bimetalism by the opening of our mints to the free coinage of both metals. Then we would not have two kinds of money—one for the bond holder and one for the laborer.

The Pacific coast has lost its representative in President McKinley's cabinet since McKenna has been appointed to the supreme bench, and John W. Griggs, of New Jersey, has been appointed as his successor. It is to be regretted that the president has not named some man from the coast for attorney-general, as it is all important that the section west of the Rocky mountains be represented in the cabinet.

From the way the populists all over the state are accepting the proposition of union it looks as if Young and Mr. U'Ren would be all that is left of the obstructionists. These two worthies are destined to be leaders without a following.

WOULD DEBASE CURRENCY.

The controversy over the Teller resolution, to require the United States treasury to pay bonds in either gold or silver, has lead the gold-standard press into deep water from which it is difficult to extricate themselves. For in this discussion they have shown who are the ones that are undertaking to debase the currency of the country. This they have laid at the door of the silverites in the past, but now they have proved beyond contradiction that it is the gold advocate who is causing distrust in the money of the United States and would debase every kind except gold. Even the Oregonian has lent its effort in this direction by insisting that the bondholder must be paid in nothing but gold, while all other creditors of the government must accept whatever they can get. For instance, it says:

"Upon what is the demand for payment of bonds of the United States in silver based? On the knowledge that silver is not as good as gold. Hence the wish to make the public creditor take it. So long, indeed, as the gold standard is preserved, silver and gold are equal; but to give notice that the debt of the United States is to be paid in silver is to weaken, perhaps destroy, the gold standard."

When analyzed, what does this mean? Simply that every class of money issued by the government except gold is of inferior value. For if the government discriminates in favor of the bond-holder and permits him to dictate in what class of money he shall receive his dues, it says to the world that all other money is base. What then will be the result? Every other crediter will refuse to accept silver or paper money in payment of his claims. And the final outcome will be, congress will be asked to pass a resolution that we have no money but gold, that officers' salaries and all debts of the government be paid in gold, for if silver and paper are not good enough for the bond-holder they are not good enough for other creditors.

Further or in the same article, the Oregonian continues to show what what effect the agitation of the gold press has had in creating distrust. It says:

"We have seen from experience how difficult it is to maintain that reserve. Government even now gets no gold through its revenues. If it is compelled to have gold, it can get it only by sale of bonds. But it is not very probable it could sell bonds for gold, under notice that they were to be paid in silver."

Already those who owe the government have begun to doubt the genuineness of the credit currency and are paying their obligations to the nation in money they fear is questionable, and why? Because the gold press of the country has led them to believe that nothing but gold is good enough for the bond-holder.

If we are to have one kind of money for the bond-holder and one kind for the other creditors, there will ever be distrust in our financial system, and this distrust has been brought about by the gold-standard press. They are the ones who seek to shake confidence, which is nothing short of debasing the currency.

OPPOSED TO UNION.

The Times-Mountaineer has for some time been convinced that John C. Young, chairman of the populist state central committee, was laying his plans to deliver the vote of the populist party into the hands of the republicans, and this theory is confirmed by the letter Mr. Young published in Monday's Oregonian. In it Mr. Young gives his hand away, and any one can read between the lines and see that his sole purpose is to get a middle-of-the road populist ticket nominated, not with any hope of its election, but to divide the vote of the reform forces and to insure the election of the nominees whom Simon, Scott and Mitchell will compromise on and nominate.

Young is inconsistent in the reasons he presents for opposing union. The fact that the democrats and silver republicans have criticized the actions of some populists for having entered into an agreement with Mr. Simon to hold up the Oregon legislature, is childish and absurd. When he assumes that the populists in the last so-called legislature were above censure for their acts, in which he and Mr. U'Ren played such a prominent part, he talks like a child, and shows beyond question that he has but one excuse for being in politics—to gather in the spoils.

The principles of the republican party, as at present outlined, are directly in opposition to every principle dear to the true populist, and his implied threat of throwing the populist vote to the republicans is evidence that he is unsincere. Since Mr. Young has shown his hand it is evident that his sole object is to aid Simon and the Oregonian in dictating the administration of Oregon the next four years. However there is a large majority of populists in Oregon who hold principle above spoils, and will accept the decree of the state central committee, that the question of union shall be left to the different county conventions. They will not submit to the dictates of a self-appointed boss who proposes to surrender them to the party that is opposed to every principle they profess.

HERE YOU HAVE IT.

Supporters of the gold standard want no personal or factional contentions. They are more than willing to let bygones be bygones. But the gold standard must be upheld, and gold-standard men will not support for either branch of congress anybody who does not declare for the gold standard, in plain and out-spoken way. No equivocator can be smuggled in, no man who tries to escape the issue through use of loose and doubtful phrases. The question is far too serious. Politicians must face the music. Office-hunters, out for grubstakes, may as well take notice. No evasive arguments about "sound money," or "international agreement," will avail. The plain questions the candidate must meet are these: Are you for the gold standard, or not? Are you for free coinage of silver, or not? All parties want these questions answered, and only deceivers or cowards will try to dodge them.—Oregonian.

And this is the fiat that goes out from the headquarters of the gold-standard wing of the republican party in Oregon. Wonder how it rings in the ears of the friends of Hon. John H. Mitchell? How will it suit them to see their leader fall down before the cross of gold and take a solemn vow that he has forever renounced his allegiance to bimetalism? It puts Mr. Mitchell between the devil and the deep blue sea, as it were. His record as an advocate of bimetalism is so well known that more than an ordinary oath will be administered to him before "bygones are allowed to be bygones." That "I am a republican" will no longer suffice in defining his position. What will he do? What will his supporters do?

Without the assistance of the gold standard element he cannot hope to carry a majority of the next legislature. How far will he go to get that support? Will he submit to the test prescribed by the Oregonian? If he does, will he retain the support of those followers who have stood by him through thick and thin the past twenty years, because of his opposition to the gold standard? Can they stick to him after he has renounced all his former principles and made his bed with those who have always been his enemies?

There are still in the republican party of Oregon many who honestly believe in bimetalism, and who supported Mr. McKinley in 1896 because they hoped through his administration to secure bimetalism by international agreement. This pronunciamento of the Oregonian affects them the same as it does Mr. Mitchell. Before they can be seated in the councils of the party they must, in unmistakable words, declare for the gold standard pure and simple. It says, "no evasive argument about sound money or international agreement will avail." Will they humiliate themselves by accepting these terms or will they tell the gold standard republicans to go buy some brimstone and start a little place of their own?

WHAT OF THE OUTCOME?

Hundreds of thousands of American citizens are rushing toward Alaska in a sort of wild hope that fate has something there in store for them, but few of them are preparing for the return to civilization in case their hopes shall be blighted. In short, most of them who contemplate going north have "burned the bridge" behind them, and should not their hopes be realized, they will be cast upon the icicles of Alaska as dependent upon charity as they were the day they were born. All will expend their last resource in the search of gold, and when their last dollar is gone, when their last mouthful of food is consumed, they will realize what a predicament they are in; that starvation stares them in the face and that they have no means with which to ward off the grim messenger.

When this time shall come, which is as certain as time, what will they do? Nothing, for they will be helpless. Then the government will be called upon to lend its aid, and the sensible ones who staid at home will be punished for the folly of their less provident brothers. The government will be called upon to furnish return transportation from Alaska for those who in the mad rush squandered their substance in the frozen clime. Of course congress will then act, and will supply means for the disappointed argonauts to get back. But would it not be better for those who rush away to seek for wealth if they would prepare some means for getting home before they start.

DUTY OF SILVER MEN.

The question whether or not international bimetalism is possible, has been put beyond the pale of discussion by the failure of the Wolcott commission, says the Salt Lake Herald. While few had faith in the commission being able to do anything for the cause of silver when it departed on its mission, Senator Wolcott's speech, as a matter of courtesy, will be generally accepted as the explanation why it failed. He himself announced that he would resign from it. From all this anyone can see that the present administration will make no further effort in behalf of international bimetalism. No matter what view may be taken as to the administration's sincerity in all it has done, no one can deny that it has demonstrated that any further efforts in behalf of international bimetalism would be futile.

All this makes it certain that there is nothing to be hoped for for silver for three years, so far as the administration is concerned. Even now the administration, through the secretary of the treasury, is putting forth all its might to strengthen the gold standard. And the republican party at the congressional elections in 1898 and at the presidential election in 1900, will appeal to the people on a single gold standard platform.

Now what is the duty of the silver men in the premises? It is to unite forces as they did in 1896, and see that none but free silver men are sent to congress this year. It is recognized by almost everyone that silver will be the issue this year and two years hence, and friends of the metal can no longer fail to see that if anything is to be done for it, it must be done by the United States acting independently. If this were done it would have the immediate effect to cause European countries to take notice of the fact that this country is for the bimetallic standard, and there can be little doubt that they would very soon begin to shape matters so as to adopt it themselves. Only a partisan fanatic can believe that there is longer any hope for silver from the republican party.

In Benton county the sheriff is allowed a salary of $2000 a year and pays his own deputy hire; the county clerk gets $1500 salary and is allowed about $900 for a deputy. Still Benton county gets good service from these officials, and there are plenty of good men willing to take the job. This is pretty good evidence that some counties in the state are paying higher salaries than necessary.

The Portland Tribune in hoisting Mr. Mitchell to the front has its hands full, for it has the Corbett faction in the republican party to fight, and has also waged mild war upon the democrats and populists. From all appearances the Mitchellites are determined to have a little hades all to themselves. No outsiders need apply for tickets.

A Paris paper says that thenty-one murders, committed for robbery in that city averaged in booty less than $16 each, and all the assailants were guillotined. The certainty of justice is the most surprising part of the item.

Keeping the poor is an expense of no small account to every county in the state; but it must be met. It is a case of those who toil having to support those who do not.

Some may and no doubt will make fortunes in the Klonkike region, but more who go there will starve. The men who stay on their farms in Wasco county are certain of a living and a profit besides.

INTEREST ON PUBLIC DEBTS

The Times-Mountaineer has often mentioned that interest on public obligations in this state was too high, and as evidence of the correctness of this proposition the dispatches announce that Jackson county warrants are selling at 2 and 3 per cent premium. This unquestionably shows that the taxpayers of Jackson county are paying too high a rate of interest upon the debt of the county. It is not the purpose of the law that public obligations should be a collateral for speculation, but rather that evidences of corporate debt should bear such a rate of interest as will make them sell at par, and will give only such returns as will pay the investor a reasonable compensation for the use of his money.

County warrants are always considered gilt-edged securities, and as such should bear no higher rate of interest than bonds of private corporations, for it is the entire people who bear the burden of interest payments. When ever such warrants go at a premium, the taxpayers are paying a higher rate of interest than is just. They are paying too much for the accomodation of having the county debt carried by those who seek certain investments. One of the first acts of the first session of the legislature which the politicians will permit the state to have should be to reduce the interest rate or public debts from 8 to 6 per cent. This would result in a great saving to the taxpayers, and certainly the warrants of very few counties in the state would fall below par.

The populists of Clackamas county are to be congratulated upon losing W. S. U'Ren as chairman of their central committee. He was always a dead load for them to carry, and his resignation is certainly a relief to those of the party who are looking for something besides spoils.

Mails for the Yukon.

WASHINGTON, Jan 25.—Postmaster-General Gary has issued an advertisement inviting proposals for carrying the mails in safe and suitable steamboats during the season of navigation of 1898 on route No. 78,097, from San Francisco or Seattle, or any other seaport postoffice in California, Oregon or Washington in connection with Unalaska, Alaska, St. Michaels and points along the Yukon river to Circle City, Alaska, or to Dawson City, Canada, if steamers run to that point and back.

The contractor will not be allowed to carry more than 2000 pounds of mail each way per trip. Proposals will be received until February 23.

Bound for the Klondike.

STAMFORD, Conn., Jan. 25.—Fifteen hundred people gathered about the railway station last night to witness the departure of a party of 62 men bound for the Alaska gold fields. The party included 34 members of the Alaskan Mining & Trading Association. All came from this and surrounding cities and have given up good situations or business interests. They will go direct to Seattle by rail, and will make their final start February 4, in the specially chartered schooner Moonlight.

River Still Rising.

CINCINNATI, Jan 25.—All hopes of a falling river today were dashed when at 3 A. M. rain began to fall. At 8 there was thunder and lightning with a heavy downpour of sleet, hail and rain of short duration. At 10 another heavy fall of rain set in, and it was certain that all its tributaries would be pouring into the Ohio.

The river had been stationary at about 50 feet 7 inches and was still rising.

The Maine at Havana.

HAVANA, Jan. 25.—The United States battle-ship Maine, commanded by Charles D. Rigsbe, arrived here at 11 o'clock this morning and was saluted by the forts and war vessels.

A report is current that Consul-General Lee and Dr. Congosta, secretary of the government, have had a slight misunderstanding.

Earthquake in Arkansas.

HELENA, Ark., Jan. 26.—At 8:50 this evening, this city was startled by a severe earthquake shock. Houses were shaken to their foundations and a succession of noises were heard that sounded like immense explosions. There were three shocks in quick succession, the first being the most severe, and the three occupying less than half a dozen seconds. They were succeeded by a trembling or shaking motion and not by the usual swaying motions. Telegrams from country points indicate the shock was felt at many places.

Trusted Employe Gone Wrong.

ST. LOUIS, Jan 27.—Emil Urfer, aged 27, who has been in the employ of the Bolland Jewelry Company for 10 years, being one of its most trusted employees, was arrested today, charged with stealing jewelry and silverware estimated to exceed $10,000 in value.

The most complete line of Japanese goods ever brought to the city may be found at the Snipes-Kinersly drug store.

What a wonder it is that some women are so heedless about the things that concern them most. They endure all sorts of pain and misery with carelessness which would never be possible if they realized the consequences. Comparatively few women understand that when they neglect their health because they are too busy or overworked or their minds are taken up with other concerns, that they are balancing on the edge of a fatal precipice.

Any weakness or disease of woman's special organism is no trifling matter. A woman who through indifference neglects these troubles is laying the foundation for life-long wretchedness.

A modest woman naturally recoils from the mortifying ordeal of examinations and local treatment which doctors insist upon. But there is no necessity for any such repugnant alternative. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures these delicate complaints positively and completely. It is a medicine devised for this particular purpose by one of the most eminent of living specialists in woman's diseases.

Dr. Pierce has been for nearly 30 years chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. During this time he has received fully ninety thousand letters from women who have been cured by the "Favorite Prescription." Some of these letters are printed by permission in one chapter of Dr. Pierce's great thousand-page book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." It contain advice and suggestions for self-treatment which every woman ought to read. More than half a million copies have been sold at $1.50 each. An absolutely free edition in paper covers will be sent for a limited time to anyone sending 21 one-cent stamps to pay the cost of mailing *only*. Address World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y. For a handsome cloth-bound copy send 31 stamps.

SPOKANE HOLOCAUST

A Six-Story Building Burned to the Ground.

FOUR PEOPLE BURNED

Six Others are Known to be Missing and Many More May Have Perished.

McKinley Will Visit the Coast—Mails for the Yukon—Bound for the Klondike—McComas Elected Senator.

SPOKANE, Jan. 25.—At least four lives are known to have been lost by last night's fire in the Great Eastern block, and it is probable that other dead bodies will be found when a more thorough search of the ruins is made. The building, a six-story structure, is a total wreck, and the financial loss is estimated at upwards of $400,000.

All of the upper two floors and part of the third floor were used for lodging purposes, and at least 150 people were asleep in the building when the fire started. While most of them escaped with only their night clothes, it is now known that four lives were lost, and at least six other persons are missing. The dead are:

Miss Alice Wilson, aged 18.
Maud Wilson, aged 5.
Mrs. Rose Smith.
Mrs. H. C. Davies, of Nebraska City, who died at the hospital this morning from injuries suffered in leaping to the pavement.

Mrs. C. Lewis, W. B. Gordon, Mrs. Cora Peters and three children are missing and are believed to have perished.

Firemen are still playing water on the embers of the fire, and it will not be safe to search the ruins for the dead until tomorrow.

The Great Eastern block was built in 1890 at a cost of $250,000, and was owned by Louis Levinski, of San Francisco, who carried but $50,000 insurance.

On the ground floor of the structure were the establishments of John W. Graham Paper Company, stationary and supplies, and Skerritt & Donnelly, boots and shoes. Both are total losses. Graham carried a stock worth $60,000, 70 per cent of which is covered by insurance.

The firm of Skeritt & Donnelly had a stock of $25,000, of which $20,000 was covered by insurance.

In the offices above these were large losses on law libraries and fixtures, beside probably a still larger loss of furniture and household goods. The fire was a singularly hot one, and the fire department was long in getting it under control. Even then the flames rose hundreds of feet into the air as long as two hours after it started. All the hose in the department was brought into use, and the stores of the city were called upon for all their stocks.

Do Not Like it a Bit.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—A Madrid dispatch to the World says:

The official intimation of the contemplated visit of American war vessels to Havana and the presence of the American squadron in West Indian waters has caused a sensation and much displeasure at Madrid, which the press of all shades of opinion echoes today with much bitterness. El Imparcial calls the conduct of America provocation without justification, and recommends Spaniards of Havana to show indifference during the stay of the American vessels.

Sagasta says the Spanish government attaches no importance to the movement of the American ships, as it is perfectly aware that President McKinley harbors no designs against the present cordial relations between the two countries. It is easy to see, however, he says, how politicians and military men can apprehend a demonstration by the old Spanish party in Havana on the occasion of a visit by American vessels, that would find an echo in the patriotic feelings and hardly suppressed irritation against the United States in Spain.

THE MERCHANTS' PLAN.

A System for Currency Reform Presented by the New Yorkers.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 26.—The following statement of its currency views was prepared for the Associated Press by the Merchants' Association of New York:

First—The legal tender note commonly called the greenback should be retired by the use of money in the treasury and by the issue of long-time low-interest bearing bonds. Bullion heretofore held as a basis for treasury notes will by this retirement become available as additional security for silver certificates still outstanding.

Second—National banks should be allowed to purchase these bonds and use them at par as the basis for circulating notes, no notes to be issued for a less denomination than $10. The features of the present law relative to the tax on circulation and the 5 per cent redemption funds should remain unchanged except that the tax be reduced to one half of 1 per cent, which will be ample to provide for the expenses of the office of controller of the currency.

Third—All national banks shall be required to redeem their notes at their own counters, at the treasury of the United States or at any subtreasury in gold coin, and all deposits for the 5 per cent redemption fund shall be in gold coin.

A Canine Livery Business.

CHICAGO, Jan. 27.—James H. Ingraham, of New York, and Thomas Wilson, of London, are on their way to the Klondike gold fields for the purpose of dealing in dogs. They will buy and sell dogs and also do a dog livery business. They expect to take in a large quantity of supplies with the 200 dogs which they already have shipped to Skagway. They will arrive in Dawson about April 1.

Effect of the Alaska Rush.

TACOMA, Jan. 27.—The rush to Alaska is greatly stimulating every industry at this port. The barks Shirley and Canada are each loading a million feet of lumber and will sail in a few days for Skagway. Three other vessels are due to load lumber for Alaska ports. Lumber ships are also loading now for France, South Africa, Hawaii, San Pedro and St. Nazzaire.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to Cure. 25c. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton, druggists.

M'KENNA TAKES HIS SEAT.

Ex-Attorney-General is Now Upon the Supreme Bench.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Hon. Joseph McKenna took his seat on the bench of the supreme court of the United States as associate justice today. The official ceremony of inducting him into this important office consumed less than four minutes, and was simple in character.

Chief Justice Fuller announced the presence of the new justice, saying:

"It gives me great pleasure to announce to the gentlemen of the bar that Mr. Joseph McKenna has been appointed associate justice of this court."

The clerk handed McKenna a copy of the judicial oath, and he read it in a clear, distinct voice, and was then escorted to his seat on the extreme left of the chief justice. The court remained standing. He was welcomed with a cordial shake of the hand from Justice White, his nearest neighbor and with bows from the other members of the court, whereupon all took their seats. With this ceremony concluded, the court proceeded with the business before it.

Will Visit the Coast.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Should public business permit and there be no complication which demands his presence here, President McKinley will probably visit the Pacific coast states during the coming summer. It is understood that the president will, after visiting Yellowstone, go to Butte and then visit Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma. Portland will be given a day and then California will be traversed from Shasta to San Diego. It is said the party will include not only President and Mrs. McKinley, with their neices, who are also of the White House family, but at least four members of the cabinet, probably Secretaries Gage, Alger, Bliss and Gary and Private Secretary Porter.

Ho, Ye Klondikers!

WINNIPEG, Man., Jan. 27.—Orders have come from Ottawa to engage a reliable man to carry an important secret dispatch from the minister of the interior to Commissioner Walsh, at Dawson. Hayes, the celebrated guide of Prince Albert, has been secured. He will make the run in 25 days with a dog train.

It is believed the government has decided not to allow aliens to hold mining claims in the Yukon

DEFENSES ARE GOOD.

Spanish Troops Unable Even to Approach the Cuban's Capital.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—A dispatch to the Herald from Havana says:

The Spanish account of the victory of General Castellanos and the capture of the headquarters of the rebel government in the town of Esperanza is now proved to have been a fabrication. There is no such town as Esperanza near Cubitas. The name of the town founded and occupied as the capital by the rebel government is Agramonte. Spanish troops are unable to get near this place, always being repulsed in the mountains and forced to retire with heavy loss.

Latest advices state that the rebels are still besieging Holguin, and that the garrison cannot possibly hold out without supplies and reinforcements.

General Pando finds it impossible to send these through, though he is making desperate efforts to do so. General Pand's army is still along the banks of the Cauto river and intrenched, but is unable to assume the aggressive.

General Gomez shows no signs of taking the field and conducting an active campaign. He states as his reason that he is short of cavalry and cannot operate successfully against the Spaniards, who have plenty of horses. At this rate the war in the eastern part of Cuba can last for years. In the western provinces, however, the troops keep pretty well on the move, but neither side has achieved decisive results.

Young Hanna Sued for Divorce.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 27.—Daniel Hanna, the only son of Senator Hanna, was sued today by his wife, Carrie May, for divorce. The decree was asked for on the grounds of gross neglect of duty and extreme cruelty.

McComas Was Elected.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—McComas has been elected senator. The tenth and last ballot was taken at noon. The vote was as follows: McComas, 62; Gorman, 47; Shaw, 5.

More Warships at Havana.

HAVANA, Jan. 26.—The German cruiser Charlotte, school ship, has just arrived here. A British warship reached here from Key West and some French warships are expected from New Orleans.

CANADIAN THE LOWEST BIDDER.

Alger's Reindeer Will Probably Come West Over That Line.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Bids for the transportation of 500 reindeer and the attendants from New York to Portland or Seattle have been opened in the office of the quartermaster-general. About 25 railroads were represented at the bidding, the lowest bid being that of the Canadian Pacific, which offers to transport the reindeer and attendants with forage and food supplies for the party at the rate of $47.00 per car. Other bids ranged as high as $400 per car. The reindeer will be used in the government relief expedition to the Klondike for which $200,000 has been appropriated by congress.

The expedition will leave for the Pacific coast about the middle of February in charge of Brigadier-General Merriam, U. S. A. The supplies which the government is sending through for the miners in the Klondike consist chiefly of bacon, bread and coffee.

Lieutenant D. D. Devore and Rev. Dr. Sheldon Jackson went to Norway some time ago to buy reindeer to be used in the expedition, and succeeded in buying 500 at from $10 and $15 a head. They also hired 75 Laplanders who with their families and household effects will be part of the relief expedition.

Sailed for the North.

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 26.—The steamer City of Seattle sailed this morning on the 10th trip of the season for Alaska. She carries 600 passengers, fully 200 of them being Tacomans, a majority destined for Dyea and Skagway. Nearly all the tickets were bought before the rise in rates. Fifty dogs were shipped from this port as well as an immense lot of freight.

Subscribers to the Daily Times-Mountaineer who do not receive their papers regularly will confer a favor upon the publisher by notifying the office either personally or by telephone so that any errors or neglect may be rectified.

It is as easy to catch a cold just and easy to get rid of it if you commence early to use One Minute Cough Cure. It cures coughs, colds, bronchitis pneumonia and all throat and lung troubles. It is pleasant to take, safe to use and sure to cure. Snipes and Kinersly.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents.

Unsmoked tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c, $1. All druggists.

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