

Table with subscription rates: Daily, Monthly, Yearly, Single Copies.

THE AMERICA OF 1899.

In many important particulars the America which the world sees at the beginning of 1899 is widely different from that which it saw at the opening of 1898.

The moral and social changes which 1898 brought to the United States have been more important than the material transformation which it produced.

Perhaps, after all, the changes which the year just ended brought to the United States may be equaled or exceeded by the transformations which the year just opening may usher in.

Two measures are before the legislature for funding the county debt. The first is a lower rate of interest than is now allowed by law.

The second bill is presented by Senator Haines, of Washington county, and is as follows: "Section 1. When any county in this state shall have any valid outstanding indebtedness..."

Section 2. It shall be the duty of any county court desiring to sell or to publish notice thereof for at least two weeks in some newspaper published in such county and to borrow said money from the person or persons who will accept the lowest rate of interest."

Some measure to relieve counties that are heavily involved is quite necessary, inasmuch as many of them are carrying heavy debts on which they are paying 8 per cent, whereas

STOLEN TO LEARN.

In default of specific figures on use of tin-plate by fruit canneries, the Oregonian recently estimated the loss to Pacific coast interests by reason of recent advance in tin-plate, at \$350,000 to \$400,000 the advance being made by the tin-plate trust, and made possible by the favoring tariff.

Mr. Morton, one of our joint representatives, has introduced a bill in the legislature making it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$50 to \$200, for one man to treat another in a saloon.

It is a member of the cabinet, one of the constitutional advisers of the president, was concerned all the time in promoting the expansion of our foreign commerce, equally concerned in seeing to it that nothing prevented the employment of American shipping in the carriage of that commerce.

There are objectionable features about the proposition to refund county debts that should be taken into consideration by the legislature before either of the bills now pending are acted upon.

Senator Daly's bill to amend and revise the school laws is the most voluminous measure before the legislature, except, perhaps, a few city incorporated bills.

More robberies and lawlessness is recorded by the Portland press of late than for several years past. There are robberies of the most daring nature that would indicate the existence of an organized gang of thugs in the city, say few arrests are reported.

That a large number of the bills introduced are frivolous and useless will hardly be denied by even the men who introduce them. No one imagines that we need 300 new laws, or that our statutes are so defective as to require such wholesale amending.

The second year of President McKinley's administration is drawing to a close, yet there is no financial legislation enacted, and there will be none at this session of congress, it having been announced that action on the McKinley bill had been abandoned.

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COURT MARTIAL FOR EGAN

Gen. Miles is firmly of the belief that the morals of some of the army officers who have testified strongly in favor of that "embalmed" beef are as rotten as the beef was.

The legislators who have been tortured by incompetent barbers will take kindly to Representative Davis' bill providing that all barbers shall serve an apprenticeship and pass an examination before being permitted to practice upon the whiskers of an unprotected public.

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LEGISLATORS FIND THEMSELVES SURROUNDED BY THEM.

SALEM, Jan. 19.—Familiar faces of many professional lobbyists are appearing about the capitol building, and from present indications there will be quite a respectable third house, from a numerical standpoint, on the ground before the close of the session.

The professional lobbyist, providing he is not retained before he reaches here, is willing to take any side of a question if he is paid for his services. His position upon a measure pending before the legislature more frequently depends upon the weight of financial support that may be enlisted either for or against it than upon the merits of the bill.

There are some lobbyists, however, who are above mercenary motives, and who appear in the arena of legislative battle only from principle. This class of lobbyists includes those who have not hobbies that they have been endeavoring to ride into legislative enactment for years.

Perhaps the most lobbying will be done in the interest of liquor, insurance, railroad, schoolbook, nickel-in-the-slot and loan and trust company legislation.

The Columbia river pilots have been represented here by Capt. James Gray since the opening of the session. Their object is to defeat the Mackay pilotage bill.

W. B. McDevitt has been looking after some insurance legislation, and W. P. Keady is charged with being here in the interest of railroad companies. Representative Whalley is supposed to look after the interest of loan and trust societies, and George A. Steel is presumed to be here doing some wirepulling in the interest of reappropriation legislation.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Jan. 19.—It is reported that owing to the trouble in Samoa three British warships will proceed to the islands from Honolulu.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The department has issued orders to the cruiser Philadelphia to proceed to Samoa at once.

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WORK OF THE LAWMAKERS.

They are still introducing bills for new laws. SALEM, Jan. 18.—In the house this morning bills were passed incorporating the 10th district, creating the office of state biologist without salary and regulating the fees of county coroners.

Thirty-three bills were read a second time and referred to their proper committees, and 10 new bills were introduced. The bills introduced were mostly of a local nature. Among them were the following: By Hall, to provide for registration by county clerk of deaths and burials.

By Blackby, to provide for submission to the people in 1900 of proposed constitutional amendments, relative to municipal indebtedness, judiciary, irrigation and repealing, by Stanley, to authorize the appointment of corporations to act as administrators, executors and guardians.

By Freedland, to repeal the act relating to the publication of county court proceedings in official papers. In the senate this morning Looney introduced a bill to authorize trustees of Jefferson institute to sell the entire property to the school district, which finally passed under suspension of the rules.

The house bill to increase the number of supreme court judges was read a second time and referred to the judiciary committee, which has the senate bill for the same purpose. Twenty-one new bills were introduced in the senate during the forenoon.

ROUTINE WORK BEING DONE BY THE LAWMAKERS. SALEM, Or., Jan. 19.—The house disposed of a miscellaneous lot of business this morning. Thirteen bills were read the second time and referred to the proper committees.

Further particulars regarding the disturbances at Samoa show that Mataafa's followers numbered about 5,000 men and the adherents of Maitoa Tausi only about 1,000. There was two hours fighting between the rival forces, during which several of the warriors were decapitated.

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BESET BY THE LOBBYISTS

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SAMOANS ARE UP IN ARMS

A Civil Rebellion in Progress on the Island. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—A cablegram to the Call from Auckland, New Zealand, under date of January 17, says: "When the steamship Alameda left Apia, January 12, a revolution had broken out on the Samoan islands and was being waged with much bloodshed and great destruction of property."

The rebels have burned 400 houses and razed towns on Upou. Broad fruit trees have been cut down in many places. Foreigners are injured. The crew of the Porpoise is guarding the natives, which is a refuge for Maitoa.

The three consuls have signed proclamations recognizing Mataafa's party as the provisional government pending instructions from the powers, with President Kaffal as executive head. The British and American consuls united in a strong protest against the president of the municipal council.

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ASSIGNEE'S NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned assignee of the estate of O. M. Bourland, insolvent debtor, has filed his final account and report in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Wasco county, at the regular February term of said court, on Monday the 15th day of February, 1899, at the court thereafter as the same can be heard by said court.

ALL persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear on or before said date and show cause, if any there be, why said report should not be settled, and that the same will be called up for hearing in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Wasco county, at the regular February term of said court, on Monday the 15th day of February, 1899, at the court thereafter as the same can be heard by said court.

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