

COTTAGE GROVE LEADER

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COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1906.

NO. 37

Happy New Year to All

Christmas Time Celebrated in Great Style.

Christmas day was celebrated in royal manner in Cottage Grove. The stores were open until ten o'clock and big crowds were on the streets in spite of the heavy rain. Every train was met by a huge delegation to welcome friends and to see the sights. The merchants all state that their sales were unusually large and that they all have reason to be thankful for their business of the year.

The churches all had Christmas trees for their Sunday School scholars Monday night, and fine programs were prepared.

At the Methodist Church a Christmas cantata entitled "Christmas Fairies" was given by a large number of the young folks and little tots of the Sunday School, and was well rendered. Too much praise cannot be given to the instructors for their work in preparing it. The church was finely decorated with two large trees on either side of the pulpit, hung full with things for everybody. Santa Claus in this instance had a fine tenor voice, a thing he is not usually credited with possessing, and enlivened the occasion with an excellent solo.

He Was Raised.

A year ago a manufacturer hired a boy. For months there was nothing noticeable about him except that he never took his eyes off the machine he was running. A few weeks ago the manufacturer looked up from his work to see the boy standing beside his desk. "What do you want?" he asked. "What my pay raised?" "What are you getting?" "Three dollars a week." "Well, how much do you think you are worth?" "Four dollars." "You think so, do you?" "Yes, sir, an' I've been thinkin' so for three weeks, but I've been so blame busy, I haven't had time to speak to you about it."—Army and Navy Life.

Dan Brumbaugh Kills a Bear.

More fun and more business in a few minutes than ever before in his life is what Dan Brumbaugh says he had on his trip out from Bohemia last week, when near Adams mountain a bear was sheltered in a hollow tree leaving just a little of his head in sight. Mr. Brumbaugh's companion took several shots with a small revolver, the only weapon they had, which only served to anger the bear. It came quickly out from his shelter and prepared for a fight. The man and the revolver retreated, leaving Mr. Brumbaugh alone in the battle which was quickly ended by the death of bruin, caused by several upper and lower cuts over his head rapidly applied by Mr. Brumbaugh with a walking stick he had which proved a faithful friend in time of need. The stick was hard wood and seasoned, the end that did the deadly work was worn into shreds and is kept in its blood stained condition as a souvenir by Mr. Brumbaugh who also has the hide of the bear.

Eugene Wins.

The basket ball team of Co. C of Eugene and the older team of Cottage Grove boys met in battle Christmas night in the Opera House. The Eugene team had something of a walkover winning by a score of 23 to 9, which is largely accounted for by the fact that the Cottage Grove team had little or no practice, while the other team is in regular trim, despite the difference in the teams, the game was interesting for the onlookers, who well filled the house.

Low LeRoy is in the Grove from Portland.

Eugene voted to increase their school tax to 4 1/2 mills.

J. I. Jones made a quick trip to Eugene and return Thursday.

Miss Stella Cochlin is here from Creswell spending Christmas week at the home of Miss Knowlton.

Silk Creek School Report.

Third month ending December 21.	
Total no. days present	387
Total no. days absent	21
No. cases tardiness	8
No. enrolled	23
No. neither absent or tardy	14
Names of those neither tardy or absent:	Lena and Otto Bureham, Clinton Medley, Pearl, Ruby, Edna and Hazel Asby, Carl, Ruby and Sherril Slagle, Frank, Cauton and Katie Willis, Neal McCoy.
LANCELOTTE D. FRITZ, Teacher.	

Vesuvius.

On account of the holidays, work on the Vesuvius trestle is delayed several days.

The high bents are all in place and but little is left to connect with the tunnel, then it will be a short job to finish and get into running shape; the stormy weather has made the work of raising and bracing the tall bents difficult. The crew will return to camp in a few days and make short work of that that is yet to be done.

A good delegation of Cottage Grove people attended the minstrel show at Eugene Wednesday evening.

Eugene is asking Congress to increase the appropriation for their Post Office building from fifty thousand to one hundred thousand dollars.

Many of the large corporations throughout the country have shown that they are not always as hard and stingy as reported, by having given great sums to their employees. In some instances an additional month's salary, others 10 per cent of their years earnings, down to lesser sums.

WASHINGTON NOTES

Gathered For The Leader by Our Special Correspondent.

Washington, D. C. Dec. 17, 1906.

Has the general activity of the country reached Washington? This is apparently the case, for never before has congress tackled so many details of general administration at the beginning of a short session. It was freely prophesied that but little would be accomplished beyond passing the appropriation bills this winter, and probably this will prove true, yet questions are coming up daily for discussion that will have a momentous bearing on future policies. In fact, members of congress are "doing business," instead of splitting hairs as usual. The influence of the big stick is shown pretty conclusively, and the consensus of opinion is that while some matters have been brought to the fore that might have been relegated to future generations, yet in the main the effect has been to regenerate the entire government service.

The ship subsidy deal is meeting with hard sledding, regardless of the plans laid for the enrichment of the steamship lines. Representatives Fordney of Michigan, Birdsell of Iowa, Hinshaw of Nebraska, and Wilson of Illinois have declared that they will not stand for the measure, and the list of "inland" insurgents is growing daily. There appears to be an impression that as the great majority of the American people never saw the ocean, and are not affected by shipping interests, there is no use in catering to a special class of business men who have everything to gain and nothing to lose. It would sound grand for the postal authorities to say that they could send a letter to Brazil in "steen hours less time than formerly, but when cables are available letters are not the important factor they formerly were.

It is certain that a movement for a child-labor law will receive an impetus this winter that will result in a more or less effective federal regulation of the subject. The labor unions of the country have for years been "hammering" on the matter, but as usual the politicians are now taking the subject under consideration and treating it as if a great discovery had been made. Out in Nebraska a student at the Nebraska university worked out the ground plan of our present interstate commerce law. Confidingly he took the data to the member of the state legislature from his county. That gentleman brought it to Washington as a discovery of his own, but he did not succeed in getting even newspaper mention at the time. Since that time there have been hundreds of claimants for the honor of having originated the plan, and even at this late day there is an inclination to use the subject for personal laudation rather than results.

Representative Victor Murdock of Kansas has revived the periodical mail-weight scandal, but it will die a-borning. The railway-mail employees tell the story thus-wise: The periods for weighing the mail are known in advance. If hundreds of sacks of franked mail leave the capitol city during that period, of course it is a coincidence. The government sends out thousands of tons of books which have been sacked and ready for delivery for some time. If a member of congress sends to his district several tons of these books during the weighing-in period, of course that is coincidence, too. Stories are rife of large publishing houses who "happen" to have large shipments of books in single wrappers at that time for delivery through the mails instead of sending them by express. Mere coincidence! A friend of the writer living over three hundred miles from New York City sent a postal card to one of the general passenger agents at that city inquiring about rates for a round trip to California. To his surprise, a representative of the company called

at his home and talked him into buying the ticket, and then "scooted" back to the big city. Now the proposition is. If a railroad will send an agent 300 miles to sell a \$300 ticket, would it not be wise to see that large shippers of mail-matter send out a goodly bulk during the weighing period, the average of that weight to continue to the next weigh-in?

COLORED TROOPS WIN.

The agitation over the discharge for the good of the service of three companies of the Twenty-Fifth Infantry has resulted in a backdown from the position that the innocent must suffer with the guilty, and it is expected that soon the major portion of the men will again be under the colors. The accustomed boast of the bravery and good conduct of colored soldiers is apparently having more effect than the distorted account of one single affair, especially when it is claimed that some of the whites in Brownsville are alleged to have boasted that they would get rid of the colored troops. It is understood that protests had been made to the war department regarding the stationing of colored troops at that point, but with the usual official disregard of government officials for the wishes of the people of a community, they had been ignored. Apparently the only way to wake up a government department is to widely advertise certain actions, and when public clamor reaches a point of "annoyance" action is taken.

Will our "Uncle Joe" Cannon consent to have the pay of government employees raised after the handsome increase in his own salary? A newspaper man remarked in the lobby the other day that a resolution would have to be passed giving the vice-president and the speaker authority to raise the salary of members of congress, because they are too modest to consent to raising their own pay. Why should not a legislator receive good pay? And why should not the members raise their own compensation? The increase can be made operative beginning with the next congress, and it would perhaps be better to spend the public funds in payment of salaries than in dredging alleged rivers where it is necessary to drive artesian wells to get sufficient water to float a canoe during the dry season.

GOVERNMENT SALARIES.

There has always been a belief throughout the country that government employees are highly paid, and to a certain extent that has been true in the past, but the experiences of a resident of the capital city the past few years has been far from pleasant. Resignations are assuming alarming proportions, and as is always the case, the government is losing some of its brightest and most efficient workers. Hardly a government employee is stationed in Washington but has been met with the answer "You are in office are you not; you can afford to pay good prices," when a protest has been made to excessive charges for the necessities of life. The scale of salaries today is practically the same as paid during the cheap-price period of '85-'95, with ordinary living expenses raised from 20 to 150 per cent.

According to high government officials, Uncle Sam is satisfied with the progress made in the work of reclamation of the arid sections of the west. It is claimed that the work is progressing more rapidly than similar improvements or projects by private corporations and railways. There has been a serious scarcity of labor and blockage on transportation lines, yet a decided start has been made, and within a few years the country will realize that the benefits are greater than the wildest dream of an enthusiast on the subject.

DEERTIONS FROM THE NAVY.

One irritation has been removed from the naval service by the revival of the custom of allowing enlisted men to purchase their discharge by giving the government two months' pay and the cost of their equipment. It has always appeared to be an incongruity to forcibly keep a man in the navy in times of peace when he wanted to get out. Peace of mind and per-

(Continued to second page.)

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