

**THE HATCHET.**

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Established for the dissemination of Washington county news, the elevation of humanity and the money we can make.  
 Items of general interest gratefully received.  
 Editor's hobbies and opinions on this page, all the rest facts—impartial and uncolored.  
 Editor is at home in his sanctum, HATCHET Building, Forest Grove, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. of each week day and always glad to talk and be talked to.

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AUSTIN CRAIG, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
 COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

**R**EADABLE .. FIGHT  
 RELIABLE .. PAGES  
 REPUBLICAN .. WEEKLY

**GOLDEN CLONDYKE**

With every mind turned to the golden deposits of the Clondyke our remoteness to that rich region is naturally a first and interesting question. How to cover the distance then follows and ways and means for living there are given no thought. Once in British Yukon the gold seeker thinks he need only turn his spade in the glistening earth to obtain the wealth needed to support him in that land of fabulous prices.

Here are the miles from Portland to the main destinations:

To St. Michael's.....	2450
To Circle City.....	3950
To Forty-Mile.....	4300
To Clondyke.....	4250

To Juneau the distance from Portland is 1280 miles, and the distances from there to the principal points down the Yukon and Clondyke are:

Juneau to—	
Chilkat.....	800
Dyea.....	100
Head of canoe navigation.....	106
Summit of Chilkoot Pass.....	1145
Head of Lake Linderman.....	1235
Foot of Lake Bennett.....	1265
Foot of Takish lake.....	1285
Head of Lake Marsh.....	1735
Head of canyon.....	275
Head of White Horse rapids.....	325
Takheena river.....	240
Head of Lake LeBarge.....	255
Foot of Lake LeBarge.....	284
Foot of Lake LeBarge.....	316
Big Salmon river.....	349
Little Salmon river.....	335
Five Fingers rapids.....	444
Rink rapids.....	450
Pelly river.....	503
White river.....	590
Stewart river.....	609
Sixty-mile post.....	629
Clondyke.....	678
Forty-Mile post.....	728
Circle City.....	858

The time of the year to get in and out of that country is another important consideration that the venturesome traveler should not overlook. The miners who arrived with the gold and news of the Clondyke were the first to get out after navigation opened, which was about seven weeks ago. The Yukon freezes over again in September, so that navigation lasts barely three months. The season for travel by the Juneau route begins when the lakes and streams tributary to the Yukon are free enough from ice to permit of boating and rafting for the 600 miles or so down to the diggings and it closes early in September. When boats cannot be thus used it is a long and perilous tramp of 800 miles, which is rarely taken.

Thus those who go in by the Juneau route this year, must get over the pass, get their boats built and make the trip within the next six or seven weeks.

The Yukon gold fields lie on both sides of the Arctic circle, but mainly just below it. The new Clondyke diggings are the ones farthest south, and are about 250 miles below the frigid zone. Up there the days are practically six months long, as are the nights. At Circle City, just a little below the Arctic circle, the sun sets for 11 minutes on the longest day, and its setting at Dawson is for but a few minutes longer in midsummer, and there is a bright twilight for that period. In spring and fall there is an almost constant twilight and there is a bright twilight throughout the winter.

The snow disappears and the streams open about the middle of

June and it is late in June usually when the Yukon is sufficiently free from ice for navigation. Then the Yukon boats begin their plying, taking up the freight and passengers brought to St. Michael's by the connecting ocean steamers of the two commercial companies. Then two boats start down the river.

Dyea, one hundred miles up the river from Juneau, has lately been made a port of entry by the United States government and provisions are transferred from there to the British gold fields in bond. Alaska has been nearly depopulated in the mad rush for the Yukon and many a bright prospect has been thrown away for the rainbow riches of the Clondyke. It is said that there are just as good placer diggings to be found at Cook's inlet as at the boasted newer fields. Not a foot of that region but has its gold in paying quantities. Lack of courage or opportunity has prevented the people of that country from availing themselves of it but there is now room for thousands of men at Cook's inlet and it is the best place in the world, say the knowing ones, for the poor man, which the Clondyke certainly is not. Mines there that have been paying handsomely have been deserted, trading posts almost depopulated and industries practically left without the means of operation.

**TRUE AMERICANISM.**

The HATCHET has uniformly urged work along patriotic lines on the part of all organizations and especially the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The members of our W. C. T. U. will find the views of the HATCHET are thoroughly endorsed and reinforced by the following editorial from the Oregon Ribbon, their own state organ:

"Some of the best effort of the country is being directed towards Christian Citizenship as the only method for purifying politics and ensuring to the people a government of righteousness.

In these principles the Christian Endeavorers are educated, and in many of the members are found their staunchest followers. This was the burden of their celebration on the Fourth of July when their leader reminded them that their "pilgrimage across the continent might be designated as a lesson in patriotism 3000 miles long."

Again, further attention is called to an editorial of the Golden Rule on "The True Americanism." It will not be forgotten that the Golden Rule is the great national mouth piece of the Christian Endeavor organization.

"We rejoice that all signs of the times point to revival of Americanism. One can scarcely pick up a daily paper without seeing signs of the dawning of the better day. The protest against corruption and misrule; the universal attention given by pulpits and religious assemblages to matters of national and international morals; the tremulous concern of the boss to propitiate the better element, even while he seeks to retain his even more precarious position at the public corn-crib, are all signs of the times. The rise of such a political organization as the American Protective Association, whose secret methods and some of whose alleged principles have aroused much antagonism, is a protest against the corrupt rule in American affairs of lawless foreigners who care nothing for the land of their adoption except to despoil her. The new Americanism will be generous and tolerant, but it will not be generous toward crime or tolerant of political tricksters. It will not foster the jingo spirit, but it will recognize that America has a destiny to work out, and is responsible to God for the result. We use the word "American" in no provincial sense. It is not a revival of United Statesism or Canadianism, but of Americanism, which is coming, which will make in God's good time the whole American continent Immanuel's land."

The promise of abundant harvest in Oregon makes welcome reading the remarks of Bradstreet's commercial agency on the wheat outlook. "The world's wheat crop outlook continues to favor the United States much as it did 18 years ago. The outlook is that Russia alone, of all other wheat-exporting countries, will be able to compete with the United States. The advance of more than 20 cents per bushel, compared with a year ago, in the face of a domestic wheat crop probably 100,000,000 bushels larger than last year, and the prospect for a higher level from importing countries explain why the American farmer is sure of his proportion of the advance, and the coming era of prosperity. That he is alive to the situation is indicated by a tendency to hold back wheat already harvested notwithstanding high quotations."

The expected benefit from the Alaska gold excitement has already begun to be felt on this coast. Seattle has found July, usually the duller month of the commercial year, the busiest, and the sales of staples at Tacoma, Portland and San Francisco are feeling the enlivening influence.

Both Dunn's and Bradstreet's reports show business improvement. Bryan alone looks at the country's prosperity through dark-colored spectacles.

After a long siege of Good Queen Vic's virtues newspaper gossip is refreshing itself with some late scandal about the aforesaid model mother's model eldest son, the Prince of Wales.

Judge McBride in the circuit court Saturday at Hillsboro by stipulation made a ruling regarding offsets in the Pfanner bank assignment. The essence of the decision was that parties whose notes were held by the bank and also had a deposit there to their credit were entitled to offset that deposit to the extent of their notes. This opinion is not to be a general rule for the assignees but governs only in special cases passed upon by the judge. There were four parties concerned in the application and profit by the decision. Woods, Caples & Thomas of their \$1848.00 in notes have had set off \$1137.49 by unpaid drafts and have paid the assignees the balance of \$711.11 in cash. J. L. Gregg paid his \$200 note out of his deposit, Abbott & Roe exchanged \$125 check for a note and R. M. Lancefield had his deposit of \$72.07 applied on his note. These offsets will make no perceptible difference in the dividends to creditors of the bank and the allowing of the claim was an act of simple justice for the parties had given their notes for amounts left on deposit in the bank and really received no value. The matter is finally settled as the assignees are content with the decision but could not on their own responsibility decide the matter.

The telegraph columns of The Inter-Ocean bring news of the latest boon to suffering humanity. "THE FOOLS THE BUGS. Missouri farmer invents a potato that has no vines. A vineless potato has been developed by Robert Cornwall, a farmer living in the eastern part of Barton county, near Golden City. The tubers develop without a growth of "tops," thereby giving no substance to the greatest pest of potato growers, the Colorado potato beetle, which has added thousands of dollars to the cost of producing the crop since it first made its appearance. The expense of keeping down the weeds in a field planted with this new variety will also be much less than with the ordinary kind, as the ground can be worked with a common harrow." It will not be forgotten that men from Missouri were the first to cross lightning bugs with bees so that the paragons of industry might work night and day as well as day shifts. The same state furnished the genius to graft milkweed with strawberry plants and its inhabitants have since revelled in strawberries and cream just off the vine.

"Last summer one of our grand-children was sick with a severe bowel trouble," says Mrs. E. G. Gregory, of Fredericktown, Mo. "Our doctor's remedy had failed, then we tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which gave very speedy relief." For sale by J. C. Clark, druggist.

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 I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," which has been used in the homes of the Mothers of America for over 20 years. LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that the kind you have always bought and has the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* per. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.  
 March 8, 1897. *Samuel Pitcher*

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