

NORTHWEST BREVITIES

Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving Star States—Oregon.

The sheep inspector of Benton county says there are very few scabby sheep in that county.

Prominent men in Heppner say that they will build a telephone line from Heppner to Long Creek, in Grant county, if they can arrange for a satisfactory bonus.

The legal complications that have so long arrested the operations of the Divilish quartz mill in Coos county, have finally been satisfactorily adjusted, and the miners of the Johnson creek district will now have free use of the mill.

Superintendent Morrison, of the Western Union construction department, has finished receiving and storing at Flavel 2,000 poles for the main telephone line between Astoria and Portland. It required two acres on which to stack this material.

While leveling off the grounds about the house on the Blind Slough ranch, in Clatsop, Martin Inoué found buried two feet in the earth an Indian stone weapon, shaped like a ship's mainmast spike, having a hole bored through the handle, which had evidently been made by a stone implement, says the Astorian.

Some very old residents claim that Rogue river was up where the Grant's Pass depot now stands in 1862. The river bed has deepened and widened very much since then, and there is very little probability that it will ever overflow its left bank again. The winter of '02 made gullies and gulches where all was level before.

Fully 100 men are hard at work along the Alderbrook water front cutting wood for their winter's use, says the Astorian. During the recent freshet hundreds of cords of wood, and about 2,000 shingle bolts from the Cowitz river were thrown upon the beach. It was an interesting sight to see these men cutting huge logs into stove-wood lengths, and rolling them up the beach to their homes. They used a large instrument like a pair of ice tongs with which to drag the logs along.

Fisher and William Logan, brothers, were caught out in the cold snap of last month in Crook county, while driving cattle. They left their cattle and tried to reach the cabin that was their destination, but, thinking they could not find it, they built a fire under a rimrock and remained there all night. It was the coldest night, and others who were out say it was thirty-four degrees below zero. The men made themselves as comfortable as they could. They had no blankets, and while sitting around the fire both fell asleep, and after awhile young Logan was awakened by his clothes catching on fire. On waking up he found that both of his feet were frozen. They also discovered when daylight came that they were in sight of the cabin.

Washington.

There are said to be fully 500 cases of measles reported and unreported in Walla Walla.

The Northern Pacific Railway Company paid \$9,008.60 taxes into the Lewis county treasury last week.

Burglars attempted to open the safe in the office of Indian Agent Erwin, at Fort Simcoe, one night last week, but failed to get away with anything of value.

The United States revenue cutter Bear has been taken to Quartermaster harbor to be put on the drydock for repairs to her hull. A \$5,000 contract has been let, and extensive repairs are to be made.

Work will be resumed at the Coweeman shingle mill, in Clatsop county, as soon as the water recedes sufficiently to permit of it. Attorney Fisk will have charge of the plant. It is the intention of the company to pay off all claims as soon as possible.

A mandamus sued out to compel the commissioners of Jefferson county to make a special levy to pay certain road warrants was quashed last Saturday at Port Townsend. The effect of the decision is thought to be to invalidate the road warrants issued under the law of March 7, 1890.

It is estimated that to build the telephone line from Eastern Washington to Puget sound points it will take 100,000 poles, 1,854 miles of No. 10 hard-drawn copper wire, 15,000 cross-arms and braces and 22,000 pins and insulators. The estimated cost of material and labor is \$73,000.

The Washington Mining Company has been incorporated for \$1,000,000. The stock is divided into a million shares of the par value of \$1 each. The trustees for the first six months are J. Lynch Montgomery, of New York; Ralph L. Clarke and T. E. Jefferson, of Spokane, and John L. Retallack, of Kaslo.

The last season's work at Hall & Bishop's logging camp, in Clallam county, is one to be proud of. At the beginning of the year two miles of railroad were put down, and since then the loggers have been busy getting out logs. The season's cut amounted to 7,000,000 feet, most of which was towed to Hadlock, and from there was distributed to different points on the Sound and British Columbia. Forty men were employed in the camp throughout the year, at an average of \$2.50 per day.

Mrs. Sweney, of Ashford, in Lewis county, who recently cut the throats of three of her children and then tried to kill herself, is improving very rapidly. After she was removed to the house of a neighbor, a note was found in the room where she had tried to kill her children and herself, which she had written before she had commenced the horrible work. In that, after stating her intentions, she asked to be buried "in the spot that looked the most like home."

The Deschutes is rising again, swollen by the heavy rains.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Co.'s Review of Trade.

Comparative quietness ruled in wheat last week, the volume of business falling off largely on account of the smaller cash demand and the fact that some mills have closed down. This circumstance was seized upon by the short dealers as an excuse to beat prices down. They did not stop to consider that mills in the Northwest shut up shop temporarily—that is the mills located at the head of the lakes did—for the purpose of making some necessary repairs, and also to get ready for January business. However, any excuse will do for the seller to hammer values down, no matter how absurd or ridiculous it may appear. As a result of this one piece of news from Duluth and Superior, May wheat in Chicago sold down to 79½c, with, however, a quick recovery. Another thing that helped the descent was the continuation of the December deliveries by elevator people. They were very light on the first of the present month, as is well known by everybody in the trade, but since that date have increased to such an extent as to lead to the impression that warehousemen wanted to take their profits and let the wheat go out. Outside holders of December were, of course, alarmed over these deliveries, and liquidated post haste, thus the wheat found a final landing place at point of origin.

The foreign news is just as mystifying as ever, cablegrams bring only partial encouragement, quoting prices weak and depressed one day with little or no change, and the next day "a turn deers." Russian shipments were fair last week. The visible supply for the week made a good decrease, showing a reduction of 2,028,000 bushels. This was a surprise, much larger than the trade expected.

In corn there is a very interesting market to report. Prices have not changed since the last review.

In oats dullness is the rule. The market is uninteresting. Quotations show a loss of about 10c.

GENERAL MARKETS.

Portland, Or., Dec. 22, 1896.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$4.50; Benton county and White Lily, \$4.40; Graham, \$3.75; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 78c@80c; Valley, 83c@84c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, 43c@45c per bushel; choice gray, 40c@42c.

Hay—Timothy, \$13.00 per ton; cheat, \$6.50@8.50; clover, \$8.00@9.00; oat, \$8.00@10.00; wheat, \$10.00.

Barley—Feed barley, \$21.00 per ton; brewing, \$22.

Milkstuffs—Bran, \$15.00; shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$23.00; rye, 90c per cask.

Butter—Fancy creamery is quoted at 50c; fancy dairy, 55c; fair to good, 20c@22c.

Potatoes—California, 55c; Oregon, 60c@70c per sack; sweets, 2c per pound.

Onions—55c per sack.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$1.50@2.00; broilers, \$1.50@2.00; geese, \$5.00; turkeys, live, 10c; ducks, \$2.00@3.00 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 30c per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon, 11c; Young American, 12c per pound.

Tallow—Prime, per pound, 2½c@3c; No. 2, 2c@2½c.

Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6c@8c.

Hops—New crop, 9c@10c.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.35; cows, \$1.75@2.25; dressed beef, 3½c@4c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers \$2.00; ewes, \$2.00; dressed mutton, 4c per pound.

Pork—Net, small, 5c; large, 4½c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.00@3.25; light and feeders, \$2.50; dressed, \$3.50@4.00 per cwt.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 22, 1896.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent \$5.25; Novelties A, \$4.75, California brands \$5.00; Dakota, \$5.50; patent, \$6.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.50; per cwt. \$3.50; Graham, \$4.00 per bbl.; 10-lb. ctns, \$2.50 per cwt.; rye flour, \$5.00 per bbl.; 10-lb. sacks, \$2.50 per cwt.; rye meal, \$4.50 per bbl.; per cwt, \$2.40; rolled oats, \$5.75@6 per bbl.; hominy, \$2.50 per cwt; cracked, \$4.25; rolled wheat, \$5.25 per bbl.; whole rolled wheat flour, \$2.50 per cwt; pearl barley, per 100 lb sacks, \$3.50; split peas, 4½c; table cornmeal, yellow, \$1.65 per cwt; 10-lb. ctns, \$3.50; white, 10c, \$1.75; 6-lb. ctns, \$1.65; black hominy, \$2.50 per cwt.

Wheat—Choice feed, \$27.00 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, \$20.00 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$22 per ton; cracked \$23; feed meal, \$23.

SEALSKINS CHEAPER.

owing to the Falling Off in the Demand.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—The sleek and costly seal skin seems to be somewhat out of fashion. The tale of a falling demand in the product of Behring sea and the Pacific has just been told by the yearly sale at Lampton's, London. Telegrams have been received in this city, stating that the price for the Alaskan fur was 16 per cent less than that of last year; that of Copper Island (Russia) furs 1½ per cent, and that of Coast furs, including California and Japan, 20 per cent lower than in 1895.

This news comes as a surprise to local traders, for the catch of this year was much lower than that of 1895. The entire catch of the Canadian sealers in Japanese waters and Behring sea amounted to 55,677 seals. In 1895, the catch of the Canadians amounted to 74,124, and 1894 to 97,474 seals. The catch of the American pelagic sealers entered at this port amounted to only 5,040 seals, as against 15,000 in 1895. To the former number, 30,067 skins are added as the catch of the North American Commercial Company on the seal islands.

MINING TOWN BURNED.

Jamestown, Cal., Had No Means of Fighting Fire.

Sonoma, Cal., Dec. 21.—The little town of Jamestown, located right in the heart of the mother lode's richest section, was visited by a costly fire this morning. The fire originated in a bakery, and the whole business section was at the flames' mercy, and the disorganized bucket brigade fought furiously but feebly against odds. When it was seen that the volunteers were unable to successfully cope with the fire, telegrams were sent for assistance to nearby towns, and many persons responded. Giant powder was used to check and confine the fire when the limited water supply and crude means of getting it on the fire failed. Nine buildings, all on the north side of the street, were consumed with almost the entire contents. The loss is \$40,000, with barely \$5,000 insurance. A favorable breeze saved the town from complete destruction.

A HORRIBLE ATROCITY.

Bucket of Lye Water Thrown in Face of a Woman and Child.

Chillicothe, O., Dec. 21.—There is great excitement at Bethel, a small town three miles south of Kingston, this county, occasioned by a horrible atrocity which occurred this afternoon. Two married women named Moon and Shell got into a quarrel over a trivial matter, which resulted in the Shell woman throwing a bucket of strong lye water into the face of Mrs. Moon and her infant daughter. Both have their eyes burned out and their heads and faces were also horribly burned. The baby died in a short time, and the mother is in terrible agony, her death being looked for every moment.

Mrs. Shell made her escape, but is being pursued by several hundred men and boys, assisted by dogs, and if captured a lynching will follow. The police of this city have been summoned to the scene.

Management of Poultry.

The conditions for success in poultry raising are: Warm, light and dry quarters, clean water, wholesome food, and a moderate range. My cold-weather ration for thirty hens consists of as much finely-cut hay as can be grasped in both hands, two quarts of bran, and the refuse from the table for the last twenty-four hours. This is scalded, cooled, and fed in the morning. They get grain, usually wheat, with an occasional feed of barley and corn, at noons and evenings. They get warmed water twice a day, which is liberally taken.

They should be kept well supplied with cold ashes, and receive ground bone twice a week. Hens should scratch for their grain, which keeps them healthy and prevents egg-eating. The house should be cleaned twice a week, and given a sprinkling of fresh lime. To keep the fowls free from vermin, sprinkle the roosts once a week with coal oil and turpentine, supply plenty of coal ashes for dust baths and whitewash the house once a year. To keep up the stock to a high standard they should not be kept over 4 years old. In the early part of March select about eight of the best hens and mate them with a male possessing as many as possible of the points desired to be perpetuated. Only the eggs from this pen should be set. This care will pay well for the doing. There is no profit in the haphazard system of management.—Rural World.

On the Care of Sheep.

It is knuck and personal management, and not luck, which will keep a flock of sheep in good condition during the winter. They should enter their winter quarters in good shape, and be tended with intelligence. It is folly to try to make anything out of the weaklings, and they should be weeded out closely. It is noticeable that the expression of confidence in the future of the sheep business comes from men of experience, who have before them, through periods of great depression up to greater prosperity. Those who rush into and out of it with every breeze of fortune are about shaken out of the business, and sacrifices will be fewer hereafter. People eat meat and wear clothing; sheep furnish both, and no other animal does. In the beginning of the depression some one wanted to see it go that way and began calamity howling. Low as sheep are, they will buy twice a pound. Hence should not be driven higher, and times point to a renewal of prosperity. The too common opinion in regard to sheep is that they are but scavengers and fitted only to consume the weeds and other waste on the farm, but out of nothing comes nothing. If there is no proper food, care or shelter provided we must expect our sheep to pine away and perish. A good sheep will make a growth of nearly three-quarters of a pound a day the first 280 days, when it becomes excellent mutton. For 600 days they will make half a pound. Such a sheep will not cost a pound on the farm, usually, and such sheep, having a large carcass, will have a proportionately large fleece, be it worth what it will. In sheep breeding there is but one way of keeping an ideal flock, and that is by trying to improve it when it is seemingly at its very best. The best pays in all things pertaining to stock. The average American eats twice the

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San Francisco

Electricity runs a Derry, Conn., shoe mill.

Goto's leprosy medicine, a new cure put forward by a Japanese physician, is being tested in the San Francisco (Cal.) pesthouse.

Stockton, Cal., Dec. 21.—An attempt was made at 3 o'clock this afternoon to blow up a house in Hunter street, near the heart of the city, occupied by two Japanese women. A bomb containing two pounds of gunpowder and a stick of giant powder was thrown through the window. The fuse was trampled out before the explosion could occur. It is supposed to have been thrown by a highbinder.

THE FARM AND HOME

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO FARMER AND HOUSEWIFE.

Farmers Own Less than Any Other Large Group of People and Fewer Farmers "Fail," Commercially Speaking, than in Other Business.

The Credit of Farmers.

The pessimists, the ignorant and the calamity shouters are very fond of prating on the "poverty of the farming community," and some agricultural journals, not conversant with the facts, have assisted in spreading the idea. They have done their utmost to destroy the farmers' credit. But the real truth is this: While many farmers have been in distress, yet, taking the farming people as a whole, it is safe to say that the farmers have passed through the years of depression better than anybody in the country. To-day farmers own less than any other large group of people. Fewer farmers have "failed," commercially speaking, than in any other business. Some farm mortgage companies have failed that did an extensive business, especially in the semi-arid region, where agriculture is in an experimental stage, but the records of well-managed concerns in this line of business in the Central West and Northwest show that farmers' interest is being promptly met, and the principal on many mortgages reduced or paid in full. The number of farms owned free of debt in the South shows remarkable gains. In the Middle and Eastern States farmers have maintained their good credit in the face of keen Western competition.

THE FARM AND HOME

amount of mutton he did twenty years ago because he gets it better. The fleece weighs double, too, because of better breeding and handling. Good sheep will pay, but the old scrubs will not.—Germantown Telegraph.

Immense Apple Crop.

The apple crop this year amounts to about 200,000,000 barrels. In bushels it is about equal to our wheat crop. New York contributes 95,000,000 barrels, Michigan 30,000,000, New England 40,000,000, and other sections also produce largely. One-half or more of this enormous crop is wasted—allowed to rot on the ground—although it could be dried or converted into vinegar. As a "good apple year" is usually followed by small crops the succeeding season it would have been profitable to have made vinegar. This year the product was about three barrels for every man, woman and child in the country, but apples will be high, nevertheless, in a few months.

"Blood Will Tell."

The expression "Blood will tell" applies to all classes of stock. It may be noticed in the fleet running and trotting horses, the beef, butter and milk breeds of cattle, the numerous breeds of sheep which are bred for mutton and heavy fleeces, and in the swine, which possess meritorious characteristics peculiar to each breed. Stockmen must bring themselves to a point where they must recognize these facts and obliterate from the farms the thousands of scrub animals which fail to give profit because they are incapable of so doing. High farming, with improved methods, depends for success upon stock raising based upon the best breeds of stock.

Apples for Horses.

A quart or two of sweet apples per day for each horse will be worth more to it than the same bulk of oats additional to its regular ration of hay or grain. The apples are better than any kind of roots, and this year they are everywhere cheap and plenty. Sour apples are nearly as good, but the horses prefer the sweet apples when they can be had. In nutritive value there is very little difference. There is much sweet in what we call a "sour" because an acid disguises the sweet it contains.

Farm Notes.

Turnips for table use should be put in layers of sand in barrels. When stored that way they are fresh, and never wilt or shrivel up.

Fruit, bees and poultry can be kept on the same land, and a crop of buckwheat, for both bees and poultry, will assist in reducing the cost.

There are seventy-four stations and sub-stations in the United States, in which 576 trained specialists are employed through the year, solving by experiment and study the hundreds of important problems which confront the tiller of the soil.

Experiments made in the use of salt upon crops demonstrate that it is to a certain extent beneficial to onions, cabbage and celery when used in light applications, but injurious to potatoes, beets, tobacco and melons.

Charcoal is not considered a food, though it is used largely for both swine and poultry. It serves as a corrective of bowel disorders and is of value only when freshly burned. Wood ashes, which are alkaline, are sometimes readily eaten by hogs, especially when they are fed mostly on food of a sloppy kind which is acid.

There is far more danger of giving house plants too much water rather than too little water in winter. During the short days and long nights, with very little sunlight on the soil, it is hard to keep it at a temperature where the plants can grow vigorously. All the surplus water added lowers the temperature until it reaches a point where the plants barely exist without making any growth. If the soil has much vegetable matter, humic acid will be developed at a low temperature, and this will poison the plant roots.

Caught in His Own Trap.

He was a State street cable car conductor of most surly and disagreeable temper. When a woman carrying a large bundle for her strength boarded the car he grumbled a running five minutes straight about the perversity of human nature in general and of the feminine sex in particular. A few moments before he had viciously kicked at a newsboy who dared stand on the platform while selling a newspaper. At Adams street a portly military looking gentleman and his wife got on the car.

"That is the smallest I have," said the military gentleman, as he tendered a \$5 bill for fare.

The conductor growled again and grumbled loudly, but finally dug into his pockets for the change. First he gave two silver dollars, then 90 cents—all in dimes—and then the balance in quarters. He seemed in exceedingly great hurry as he handed the money to his passenger. The other passengers noticed it, too.

Now, it so happened that in the change made a very bad quarter was given. The military gentleman was on the point of calling the surly conductor back when he discovered the latter had handed him nine instead of eight quarters. That decided him to hold his peace; he wasn't out in any event. They had ridden quite a distance when the surly conductor came back again.

"Didn't give you too much change?" he queried frowningly; and in a tone that plainly intimated: "Well, you're a new fellow to try and beat a poor conductor."

The military looking gentleman looked up.

"You did," he said. "You gave me a very bad quarter which you were very anxious to shove on me, but as I could not possibly use it I'll give it back to you. Here it is."

The other passengers who had witnessed the whole performance laughed outright, their tantalizing sneers following the surly conductor to the door, which he opened and then slammed shut with a bang.—Chicago Chronicle.

His Return.

Clubbery I believe in society, but I don't think a man ought to be entertained unless he makes some return for it.

Castleton—Return! Great Scott, old man, during the past week I have kissed fourteen girls!—Truth.

READY FOR BUSINESS.

With a very active, energetic workingman, or a man of business, a cane or crutch is a sign of some infirmity, but he will have to use one or both if sciatica sets in and disables his hip. Worse than all this, he may be bed-ridden for a long time, and still worse, may be obliged to resort to surgical treatment. Why all this should be endured when the trouble can be easily cured must be because he don't know that St. Jacobs Oil, the great remedy for pain, is a special cure for this very much dreaded malady. It has proved itself the most soothing and penetrating remedy for reaching the sciatic nerve and effectually curing its agonies that has perhaps ever been tried.

BORNE DOWN WITH INFIRMITIES

Age finds its surest solace in the benignant tonic aid afforded by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which counteracts rheumatic and neural tendencies, restores growing inactivity of the kidneys and is the finest remedy extant for disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. Nervousness, too, with which old people are very apt to be afflicted, is promptly relieved by it.

The human race is but a contest of dollars.

Two bottles of Piso's Cure for Consumption cured me of a bad lung trouble.—Mrs. J. Nichols, Princeton, Ind., March 26, 1893.

HOITT'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

This school is located at Burlingame, San Mateo county, Cal., in charge of Ira G. Hoitt, Ph. D. It is accredited at the State and Stanford Universities, and is one of the best of its kind. Twelfth term begins January 4, 1897.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO., doing business in the city of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH OF THE BLADDER cured by the use of HALL'S CATHARTIC CURE.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896.

Notary Public.

A. W. GLEASON.

Hall's Cathartic Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Sent for lungs free.

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Eczema

All Her Life.

Mr. E. D. Jenkins, of Lithonia, Ga., says that his daughter, Ida, inherited a severe case of Eczema, which the usual mercury and potash remedies failed to relieve. Year by year she was treated with various medicines, external applications and internal remedies, without result. Her sufferings were intense, and her condition grew steadily worse. All the so-called blood remedies did not seem to reach the disease at all until S.S.S. was given, when an improvement was at once noticed. The medicine was continued with favorable results, and now she is cured and well, her skin is perfectly clear and pure and she has been saved from what threatened to blight her life forever.