

NINE-MILE TUNNEL COST \$4,000,000

MOST REMARKABLE TUNNEL IN WORLD TO BE BUILT

Will be Used for Street Car Service Under the City of Los Angeles and Will Admit of Cars Being Run at Any Speed Desired—Wonderful Structure Will Cost Enormous Sum and Work Has Already Begun.

Portland, Feb. 3.—Eli P. Clark, who is building the Mount Hood electric railway from Portland to Bull Run, has begun construction at Los Angeles of one of the most remarkable tunnels on the western continent. It will be a four-track electric railway tunnel, a little more than nine miles long, extending under the city of Los Angeles and giving an outlet for the beach lines of the Los Angeles & Pacific railway system. The tunnel will cost \$4,000,000.

The company's present fast line between Los Angeles, Santa Monica and other beaches makes the trip one way in 26 minutes. The distance is 19 miles. A Los Angeles man can reside at his seashore home and attend to business in the city as conveniently as can the Bellwood resident who works down town in Portland.

The trip between Los Angeles and Santa Monica is retarded by the necessity for running trains slowly through the city, and the last time has to be made up by the run south after passing the junction of the Sherman line branch to the oil fields. This junction is about eight miles out from the city.

In seeking a direct outlet from the city the company was confronted by a high hill that skirts the city limits and incloses it like a Chinese wall on that side. The company determined to tunnel under this hill. When the levels were taken it was found that the topography would permit continuing the tunnel several miles. The opportunity to stay underground was seized by the company. It purchased hundreds of acres of ground, to which it now holds title "from China to the gates of heaven," and none can say nay if it wants to run its car 100 miles an hour.

The tunnel will be extended a distance of more than nine miles, with four separate car tracks, by which it is hoped to operate an entirely safe system of rapid transit. The exit of the tunnel is nearly at the Sherman line junction.

The result will be to give the company two long tangents, one of nine miles through the tunnel and the other of eight miles on the run south from the junction, where a speed of 70 miles an hour can easily be maintained. The net gain secured by the construction of this enormously expensive work will be to clip ten minutes off the present running time between Los Angeles and Santa Monica, making the trip in 16 minutes.

OFFERED \$2000 FOR METEORITE

Timber Cruiser Who Found Valuable Curiosity Receives Fancy Offer.

H. G. Herrold, the timber cruiser of Tacoma, who last fall discovered a meteorite in the foothills of the Baker mountains in Whatcom county, and who has been corresponding with the Smithsonian institute and several other museums of the country relative to the sale of the curiosity, has received an offer of \$2000 for it, states a Tacoma report.

Mr. Herrold does not at present care to say what museum has made him the offer for the celestial visitant, but the representative will be on the sound in March and will make an examination of the meteorite. The meteorite is a monolith four feet wide, six feet high and 16 feet long, and consists of the meteorite iron, according to Mr. Herrold, that when once seen can never be mistaken. He says the meteorite was probably three times its present size when it fell, and he is convinced from observations made on the spot, that it fell at least 2000 years ago, and probably 2500.

"The meteorite is lying on a hogback. A little creek that now flows through the forest close by has been fringed since and has been flowing down its bed for untold ages. The big hole made in the earth by the mighty impact of the monolith, as it was hurled by the power of gravity, has been healed by the erosion of centuries of rainfall, leaving the meteorite, which was originally half buried, lying almost on top of the ground."

A scrap iron man of the city has made Herrold an offer for the meteorite, providing he will deliver it. This is where the shoe pinches, as, according to letters Herrold has received from museums, it will take a great amount of money to get it out of the foothills.

THE CATLOW COUNTRY.

Great Valley in Lower Harney County Is Exceedingly Rich.

There has been lots of advertising of Harney valley the last few years, according to a dispatch from Burns, but some of the other large valleys in the southern part of the county have never been mentioned.

One of the largest is Catlow valley, which is 35 miles long by 15 miles wide. The land is a rich sandy loam, covered with large sage brush. The principal creeks are Roaring Spring, Home and Rock. Most of the land on the creek bottoms is held by the large stock men, but the sage brush land is still in the hands of the government.

Three of the eastern Oregon surveys to California were surveyed through Catlow valley last year, and there is good prospect of this feeder being built when the main line is

completed across the state. The road leaves the main line at the Narrows, in Harney valley. Near Roaring Springs creek would be a fine location for a townsite, as good water power could be developed there and the town would be the distributing point for part of Harney and for southeastern Lake county.

The valley has not been developed in an agricultural way, but the Telegram correspondent has seen fine grain and garden truck growing at the Roaring Springs ranch, while at the Home Creek ranch fine shade trees and fruit trees were making as nice growth as could be wished.

The prospect is excellent for striking artesian water in this valley, as a few miles south flowing wells have been struck at 35 to 100 feet deep. Under the land laws a person can take 320 acres, and with artesian water, a claimant would find no trouble proving up on desert land. Real estate men and locators have not been locating people in this part of Harney county, as it is too far from Burns, being 80 miles south.

There is no place in Harney county that offers better inducements to the homeseeker than Catlow valley as it is on the railroad survey and has good land. It is about 60 miles from the Peblow mining district, which is being developed.

SHEEP SCAB FROM MICHIGAN.

Wyoming Sheep Infected by Importation From the North.

A serious outbreak of scabbies prevails in the country west of Casper in Natrona county, where more than 30 bands of sheep have been placed in quarantine by the state board of sheep commissioners, says the Cheyenne Tribune. Commissioner Delfelder is on the ground and has taken charge.

He has appointed a large number of inspectors and the quarantined bands will be watched closely and in the event of the disease appearing therein the sheep will be promptly and effectively treated.

This outbreak is alleged to be due to the importation of diseased bucks from Clarkston, Mich., by J. Le Roy Davis, the bucks having entered Wyoming without government inspection.

The state law, the governor's proclamation of last April, and the regulations of the bureau of animal industry are in harmony in prohibiting the importation into the state of animals without clean bills of health.

This particular shipment of sheep was dipped at Casper on arrival by an inspector of the state board of sheep commissioners, but despite this precaution, the bucks broke out with the disease. Shortly after being subjected to the dipping process the bucks were divided up and sold to different sheepmen in Natrona county, the bucks going in as many as 15 to 18 bands.

The government authorities have been asked to prosecute Davis for entering the state without receiving government inspection.

The Natrona sheepmen are greatly incensed over the matter and threaten Davis with lawsuits. The sheepmen have held two mass meetings in Casper, and efforts will be made to extradite Davis.

DRY FARMERS INTERESTED.

Baker City Herald Says Hillside in Baker County Will Soon Produce Excellent Wheat.

Since the Herald gave publicity to the locating of claims on Virtue flat by men from Washington state, who are familiar with dry farming and stated they exercised no hesitation in filling on the land as soon almost as they saw it, others have been heard from. Several inquiries have reached this office directly and indirectly, asking if there is much land on the foothills that can be homesteaded, says the Baker City Herald.

An effort is to be made shortly to advertise the dry lands of Baker county in a practical manner. This idea was conceived by members of the Commercial organizations, and it is a good one. Last year many excellent products were raised from the dry lands and in some instances photographs were procured. It is suggested that a folder be made giving these photographs of the dry land products, stating that they were raised, and attached to the folder shall be an affidavit as to the truth of the statement.

The latter feature is a good one, for in the zeal and enthusiasm to portray a country's richness and fertility it is not uncommon for circulars issued to go a trifle beyond stubborn facts. With the affidavit of several leading citizens accompanying them can be no doubting the absolute truth of the statements, and more men will be attracted that way than in any other.

Even if no further advertising was done Baker county will have a steady stream of inquiries relative to her dry lands for they are now before the public.

California to See Yakima Apples.

North Yakima fruit is to be taken to California as an illustration of what can be done in this state in the way of growing superior apples. Four boxes from among those which won the Ankeny cup at Walla Walla last week have become a part of the exhibit of the Inland Empire association on its trip to Los Angeles this week. The fruit is to be displayed in one of the large plate glass windows of the car on which the excursionists will travel and is to be labeled, "Grown in the Inland Empire." For the purpose of the trip this description is close enough as the excursion is to advertise the state of Washington as a whole.—Yakima Republic.

The house committee on naval affairs yesterday recommended two warships of the Delaware class instead of four as desired and recommended by the navy department and urged by the president.

ALL FOR OPEN RIVER

INTEREST IN OLD SUBJECT IS REVIVING.

Dr. N. G. Blalock, the Pioneer Open River Worker of Walla Walla, Notes a Commendable Increase of Interest in Subject—Future Prosperity of Northwest Depends Upon Making Rivers Navigable.

A correspondent at Walla Walla says of the growing interest in the open river movement throughout the northwest as noted by Dr. N. G. Blalock, the pioneer worker of Walla Walla:

Dr. N. G. Blalock and Professor John Lyman of Whitman college, who have been on a trip of education in connection with the rivers and harbors improvement campaign, returned yesterday with optimistic reports of the work.

"Twenty years ago when I undertook to advocate an open river proposition I was met with silent unconcern from the people," said Dr. Blalock. "The project then was considered visionary in the extreme. Since then possibilities of open river have begun to appeal to all the people of the state. Now it is surprising how eager they are to enter into any discussion of the subject. This same change is noted by Captain Gray of Pasco, himself a life-long advocate of the open river, who is affiliated with me in the work."

"I sent letters today to our congressmen and senators urging them to do all they could to help secure the passage of the rivers and harbors appropriation bill which will be introduced in congress within a few days. I told them that if I had judged sentiment of the state aright they would make a great political mistake if they did not favor the bill. This measure will follow the general suggestion of the recent rivers and harbors congress, and will call for the appropriation of \$500,000,000 for improvements."

Will Meet With Approval.

"This bill will undoubtedly command the friendship of many congressmen, for the reason that almost every one of them has a constituency that would benefit by some provision of the bill. Of course, this is an unfavorable time to secure adequate attention to the measure, but I believe that when it comes up for consideration it will make such a strong appeal to the people of the country that congress will not dare to sidetrack it."

"It is not the intention of the rivers and harbors congress to allow the money appropriated to be spent foolishly. It is their plan to have, say, four commissions appointed to look after the various interests of the country. These commissions will inquire minutely into the needs of their particular district, and then in a general conference the share of each commission will be determined."

THE TELL-TALE THUMB.

Th thumb which bends back easily personifies great adaptability, extravagance, brilliancy and versatility. The owner of such a thumb is at home in changing circumstances—in fact, is home anywhere—is generally sympathetic, sentimental and, as a rule, improvident.

They are easily reached through their hearts, and it is difficult for them to pass a beggar on the street without contributing a mite.

The owner of a stiff thumb is practical, matter of fact, economical, exacting and weighs everything carefully.

He is the possessor of a strong will and is stubbornly determined.

He is cautious, reserved and seldom impressionable or cares to invite confidence.

Such a person has a great power to accumulate by plodding. The owner of a stiff thumb cannot make his money as easily, nor has he the power of making as much, as the more limber thumbed individual, but what he makes he is generally able to hold.

He is no extremist, and enjoys a quiet life, seldom cares to flaunt, is not erratic, and prefers to stick to one thing.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

PRINTING OFFICE RULES.

Parties wishing to enter the printing office at this season of the year should be governed by the following rules:

Advance to the inner door, give three distinct raps and the devil will tend to your alarm. You will give your name, postoffice address and the number of years you are owing the paper; he will admit you. You will advance to the center of the office and address the editor with the following countersign: Extend your right hand about two feet from your body, with the thumb and index finger clasping a \$6 bill, which drop in to the extended hand of the editor, at the same time saying: "Were you looking for me?" The editor will say: "You bet!" After giving him the news you will be permitted to retire with a receipt for an obligation properly discharged.—Exchange.

TO WALLAWA IN SPRING.

Prospects for Early Completion of Line Into Wallawa County Are Bright.

F. D. McCully, the Joseph merchant, is spending the day in La Grande on his return from a business trip to Portland, says the Star. Yesterday Mr. McCully had an interview with General Manager J. P. O'Brien in Portland in regard to the prospects for the completion of the Wallawa extension from Elgin, 16 miles of which is in operation, and Mr. O'Brien said that there was

every expectation that work on this extension would be resumed in the spring. Although all such are determined by the eastern officials of the road, the recommendations of the western officers has its weight, and it is believed that it can be shown that the continuation of this work, which is now so well along is practically a necessity.

All the grading is finished, nearly all the ties have been purchased and a large number have been distributed along the line. There remains only the construction of a couple of bridges and the laying of the track to give the residents of Wallawa valley a railroad outlet.

Mr. McCully says that there is a large amount of traffic that is awaiting the completion of the road, and it is a class of freight that cannot be very well removed in any other way. A loss is sustained on everything produced in the valley on account of the lack of railroad transportation.

In the shipment of hogs alone, of which Wallawa county furnishes a large percentage, there is a loss to the stockman on an average of \$2.50 per head on account of the necessity of hauling or driving them to the railroad at Elgin. This is but one item, and there are many other classes of products that would contribute to the business of the road that cannot be moved at all under the present circumstances.

WORK OF THE COMPOSERS.

Franz Abt, according to the figures published, created 2610 compositions, of which 1079 were choruses, 106 duets and 1134 songs. Johann Sebastian Bach is credited with 1102 compositions, of which 225 were for the organ and 611 were choruses. Beethoven's compositions are placed at 439; Brahms, 538; Handel, 297; Haydn, 575; Liszt, 955; Mozart, when he was 35 years old, had written 626 compositions; Raff, 610; Rubinstein, 550; Schubert, 31 years old, 791; Schumann, 48 years old, 671.

When we except Czerny and Diabelli, who wrote for pedagogical purposes, Mozart and Schubert rank highest for prolific work. The statistician did not consider in his list the compositions intended for the stage.—Musical Review.

A HINT FROM FRANCE.

To waste is not a part of a Frenchman's nature, says a correspondent in the Travel Magazine.

When spending several months in Paris recently in a French family, I was struck by the fact that I never saw any garbage collectors. I asked Madame de V., with whom I was staying, to explain this. She said, "We have no garbage, we utilize everything that can possibly be used, and such things as egg shells, etc., we burn. We have no need of garbage collectors." I could not but wonder what the French would say of our ugly cans heaped with filthy garbage in most of our cities and towns waiting on the sidewalk each morning for collection and removal.

GAMBLERS WERE BUSY.

The statistics of the New York Exchange for the year 1907, show that the combined sales of 12 of the most active issues, totaled 142,698,873 shares, or 73 per cent of all the business transacted on the exchange during the year. In the case of 11 of the stocks listed the number of shares traded in during the year exceeds the total stock of the companies, while Reading, Union Pacific and American Smelting were traded in for from 17 to 20 times the entire outstanding number of shares of the companies.

Now can any one claim that investment and not gambling dominates Wall street's activities.—Spokane Chronicle.

PARTY STRONGER; BOSS DEAD.

Is there a republican party in Oregon? Why, of course there is. There isn't a republican machine, however, to permit United States senatorial candidates to weld thick clubs over the heads of legislators and federal officers, as was apparently done at the time Hall and Mays were in office. And yet a deep sigh of regret now comes from those who condemn Hall and Mays over the passing to the ash heap of a system which made their trial possible! Some people are hard to please.—Prineville Review.

How Far Can You Waltz?

Society is enjoying the lull which precedes the opening of parliament, when the winter festivities will commence, says a London letter. Many invitations have been issued for bridge-dances, a form of entertainment so arranged that between rubbers of bridge enthusiasts of the game can dance a waltz or two-step. It is supposed that it will be an immensely popular arrangement.

The latest fad of glided youth is the carrying of ballroom pedometers, so that they can inform their partners how great a distance they have covered in one dance.

Heir to Immense Fortune.

An announcement has been received by James P. Goodhue, agent for the Northern Express company, that as a descendant of Israel Putnam he is one of the heirs to an estate valued at \$20,000,000, which is now in trust in the Bank of England. An effort is now being made to settle the mammoth estate; and Mr. Goodhue, together with other relatives of the Peerless Israel in the west, will establish their consanguinity with the hero of the Revolutionary war. Mr. Goodhue is a son of Clara Putnam—Walla Walla Union.

An attempt made to wreck the fast Santa Fe passenger near Joliet, Ill., failed because the wreckers put ties on the wrong track and wrecked the slow freight instead. The air

PORTLAND AFTER BIG CONVENTION

PASSENGER ASSOCIATION MAY COME TO OREGON.

Every Effort Now Being Made by the Portland Commercial Club to Bring Big Railroad Meeting to the Rose City—February 23 Has Been Set Aside as "Rose Planting Day" in Portland.

Portland, Feb. 4.—Portland business men have determined to make a united and most enthusiastic effort to secure from the Trans-Continental Passenger Association a special rate through to Portland and other points in the Pacific northwest for delegates and others who will attend the national democratic convention to be held in the metropolis of Colorado next July.

This was the topic of a meeting held at the parlors of the Portland Commercial club Friday night and letters were forwarded Saturday to the meeting of the passenger agents now in session at Coronado Beach, Cal.

The round trip rates that will be in vogue from Portland and other Oregon points to Denver will make it easy to organize a party of representative business men from all parts of the state and send them on a special train to Denver where an extraordinary effort will be made to convince the delegates in attendance upon the convention of the special attractions of the Oregon climate during the hot season.

"Rose Planting Day" February 22.

February 22 has been selected as "Rose Planting Day." Five thousand bushes will be planted that day in the city parks, and it is confidently believed that 50,000 more will be put out in the yards and gardens of Portland and vicinity.

An extended editorial in the Billings, Mont., "Gazette" speaks of the vast amount of advertising Oregon is receiving through the newspapers of that state as a direct result of the prize offer made by the Portland Commercial club.

Three hundred persons were in attendance upon the third annual banquet of the Hood River Commercial club on the evening of January 31st. Aspecial Pullman sleeper went from Portland, filled to its capacity with representative business men of the metropolis. Among the guests was Governor Chamberlain.

A number of eastern people are anxious to establish banks in Oregon, particularly those with a capital of from \$15,000 to \$25,000, with the new-comer putting in from \$5000 to \$15,000.

Will Entertain Excursion.

Portland has determined to give the great "Inland Empire Excursion," which spends all day Saturday, February 8, in this city, a most cordial reception. Two hundred and fifteen persons compose this party, the trip is made under the auspices of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce and Walla Walla Commercial club, and the entertainment they receive here will be an index of that extended at other Oregon points where they made stops. The purpose of this excursion is to induce the thousands of tourists now in California to return to their homes by way of the northwest route.

Big cargoes of lumber are leaving Portland to be used in the construction of the Panama canal.

FAVORS BIG FINES.

Secretary Bonaparte Says This Is Only Effective Method of Punishing Trans.

After having declined to express his views on the recent measure sent to congress by President Roosevelt and also on the speech delivered by Governor Hughes of New York, United States Attorney General Chas. J. Bonaparte dictated the following for the New York Sun: "There is one matter, however, about which I can speak with knowledge. If great clusters of corporations, such as the Standard Oil company, the tobacco trust, the powder trust and our well known railroad systems, are not to be punished by fines imposed on convicted corporations, this means that in 99 cases out of 100 they will not be punished at all. It is often possible to obtain legal proof on which to convict the corporation when it will be altogether impossible to obtain evidence to satisfy a jury against one of its superlative officers. This statement may seem a little strange, to persons inexperienced in criminal law, but a lawyer who has to enforce such statutes as the anti-trust laws will soon learn its truth."

FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS.

As a practical illustration of the old adage about the great conflagration that may be kindled by a little fire, it would be difficult to find one more striking than is furnished by the following item which we find in the New York World of a few days ago:

"Some one jostled a tired man on a subway platform. He dropped an iron ash can cover, which rolled off the platform down on the heavily charged third rail. There was a vivid, terrifying flash, a sharp hissing, that section of the subway was short circuited and trains by scores came to a sudden halt. Then the lights went out."

"Minute after minute passed. It was the rush hour. Every car on every uptown train was jammed to the doors. Passengers huddled together in darkness. Terrified women spoke in strained whispers. Even the reassuring voices of the men passengers had an anxious note. Five minutes, 10 minutes passed. The air

had become dense and foul. Delays to the passengers were used to, but darkness was terrifying. If one of those frightened women had shrieked in the darkness a panic might have followed."

USING TOO MUCH JUICE.

North Yakima Rooming Houses Put the Ban on Modern Electric Devices.

The curling iron, the chafing dish, the smoothing iron, the toaster and one or two other electric devices are tabooed in more than one of the Yakima rooming houses, says the Republic. Proprietors of such places look upon them with disfavor and some have acquired such skill that they can smell them out as a Zulu smells out witches. Others of less skill have an equally effective method of reducing their operations by turning off the electric current from a very early dawn until a very late twilight, or more so. The magnitude of recent bills for lighting have been found alarming. The blame for this is placed against the insinuating ways of the electric devices of today. Apart from the light which can be consumed by a careless tenant must be added the fluid used in the preparation of breakfast, that needed for properly smoothing out the creases from shirtwaists and putting proper creases into pants—or rather trousers. Then the real and the artificial hair must be curled and many a mustache is said to be given an upstanding appearance by the same method. Luncheon follows and then perhaps some electric needlework on leather, or wood or complexion. Perhaps a pot or two of tea may be brewed in the afternoon when guests are entertained or it may be that a mechanical toy is made to entertain the curious. The preparation of a light supper follows, and if, in the evening, there is an opportunity—and second attachment—the electric chafing dish is made to yield up rarebit or stew, or perhaps a dish of fried bananas.

All this costs the user about three, or maybe four, dollars a week, and the unhappy landlady who rents the rooms says peevish things at the end of each month about the grasping corporations.

WANT COOS BAY LAND.

Peculiar Suit Filed With Secretary Bonaparte and U. S. Government as Defendants.

Novel in that C. J. Bonaparte, United States attorney general, and the United States itself are made defendants, a suit was filed by 91 plaintiffs in the United States circuit court yesterday, says the Portland Telegram, with the view of forcing the Southern Oregon company to sell them 13,000 acres of the Coos Bay wagon road grant at \$2.50 an acre. The United States attorney general and the United States are made parties to the suit because of a joint resolution which is now before congress, asking that land of this nature either be forfeited by the United States or the law concerning it be enforced. "The 91 plaintiffs reside at various points in the United States from Maine to Oregon, and all are citizens of the United States—who filed applications for the land with the Southern Oregon company at Empire City within the last few months. All of their proofs are on file in the department of Washington.

The title of the suit is John R. Heron and others against Southern Oregon Company and others, and the document setting forth the claims of the defendants is bulky, containing more than 100 typewritten legal pages.

ALCOHOL MADE FROM POTATOES

Denatured alcohol is promised to replace electricity as the fuel of the future, says The Delineator. Prominent influences are at work to promote the use of denatured alcohol. The New York company that is back of it has as its president a member of the United States consular service who has resigned his diplomatic position to serve in this capacity. Argument brought to bear at legislative sources this year succeeded in having the revenue tax removed so that denatured alcohol now sells for 50 cents a gallon.

The department of agriculture at Washington has extended its co-operation by introducing and distributing through the country this season a new variety of potato from which the farmers will be able themselves to produce the alcohol. And there has just been placed on the market an alcohol flatiron, stove and lamp burner, the entire set selling for only \$7. They operate as simply and readily as those run by electricity and at a cost of one cent an hour, which is cheaper, even, than kerosene.

FEROCIOUS MUSCALONGE.

In the bed of a drained-off lake was found the skull of a muscalonge with a swan's skull inside of it, and the teeth were looked in the bone, showing that the strong, powerful bird had been attacked during a time when its head was under water, and possibly in the fierce battle that must have ensued each combatant drowned the other. The fish was supposed to have been about 70 pounds in weight. Another case on record is that of a 5-pound fish being found dead apparently choked by the party swallowed body of an other fish of three pounds. So voracious is the muscalonge that it will devour any living thing that comes within its vision. Full grown bull frogs, good-sized ducklings, small aquatic birds, as well as many water animals, become an easy prey to its yawning sepulcher of a mouth.—Metropolitan Magazine.

Rogue River valley had a three-inch snowfall Sunday, the first of the year.