The Sanbiam News.

POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT.

Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon, as second class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
T. L. DUGGER
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

One year in advance $1.50
Six months in advance 75
Three " 50

Card of Thanks 50c
Local advertisements per line per issue 5c
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THE WEATHER BUREAU.

Probably most all newspapers in Oregon have received a letter of warning against all weather forecasting sharps, other than those the government initiates who are selected. The communication conveys the idea that any and all persons who indulge in the harmless pastime of making weather prognostications, are frauds, fakirs, or relicts of the barbaric ages. In other words the weather bureau assumes that in all matters pertaining to weather forecasts it is the only "It" worthy of trust and anybody, no matter how well versed in weather lore, who dares to predict what the weather may be next week, or next month, or next year, is trespassing upon its prerogative.

Now, if "Old Probability" was invariably correct in his weather prophecies, nevertheless his predictions cover a period of but two or three days in advance, the warning given might be regarded with more seriousness. But everyone who has taken the trouble to notice the weather flags, knows that the flags are about as often wrong as they are right. So true is this, that but very few people pay attention to them. Then if the government's paid officials are faulty in their forecasts, why should they kick if others should presume to guess what the weather may be a week or a month hence.

The government has signal stations at all prominent points throughout the country, and if the officials of the government attend to business, they are very apt to locate any storm that may be wandering about our shores. They seem to be able to foretell the coming of a storm or of its abatement for from 12 to 36 hours in advance. In this regard the weather bureau is valuable to the shipping interests, but to the country in general its predictions are of but little service.

The communication did not state just who the fraud or fakir was who had the temerity to trespass on the government's weather preserves; but the NEWS suspects that Rev. Irl. R. Hicks, publisher of the "Word and Works," of St. Louis, Mo., is the poacher for whom "Old Prob." has gone gunning. Brother Hicks is also the author of an almanac, that seems to be offensive to Uncle Sam's weather sharps. While the Rev. Hicks does not possess the advantage of being in daily touch with signal stations throughout the country, he does possess a fine astronomical knowledge. His weather predictions are based upon the position of the panets relative to the sun, and which seem to be reasonably accurate. True, he sometimes misses the mark, but what of that? Has he done, or does he do, anything more in that line than does the weather service? Any way if he makes a mistake in his calculations, where is the harm? It is said that "All signs fail in dry weather in Oregon." We know the signs of the weather bureau, even with all the advantages it possesses, are frequently at fault. In fact Brother Hicks seems to possess the inside track in the weather predicting business, for, from our observations, he is oftener right than they. Perhaps this is the reason for the cry of fraud and fakir.

From the earliest of recollection we have heard old men and old women say that a morning change of the moon was indicative of foul weather, and an afternoon change presaged fair weather. "The nearer midnight the moon change occurs, the fairer the weather will probably be; and the nearer midday it occurs, the stormier." This is a saying of the great astronomer Herschel, and we have noticed that it is much oftener true than false. At all events we take the weather as it comes, notwithstanding we have the weather bureau, Prof. Hicks and the proverb of Prof. Herschel. All of them guess correctly sometimes and at other times fail. The weather bureau is of value to the country. So is Prof. Hicks. So is Herschel. Let us get what good we can from each and overlook any misfits that either may make.

This is supposed to be a free country, where every one can express his opinion freely upon whatever subject he may select. This attempt of the weather bureau to suppress the same, is, to say the least, childish and beneath the dignity of men who profess knowledge enough to conduct a signal service station.

Apparently the U. S. Weather Bureau assumes that it has of a right, a monopoly of making weather forecasts and that anybody who has the hardihood to make weather forecasts, insults to the dignity of the aforesaid weather bureau.

The Yaquina cannery put up 3,200 cases of salmon this year.

The Hurt family, of Corvallis, is reported cured of Holy Rollerism. All are at home now and are of a normal state of mind.

The public is apt to accept the merchant's own estimate of the importance of his store. If a merchant thinks that a few inches of advertising space adequately represents him the reader will probably think so, too.

Judge Parker is in luck, financially speaking. The Supreme court of New York has already given him two commissionership appointments worth from $5,000 to $7,000 each. At this rate he will soon have a law practice as large as a United States Senator's.

The first of the several trials of the Puter-McKinley-Watson crowd has come to a close. Miss Ware, at the instance of the prosecution, was relieved of the charges of crime in this trial as the proof did not seem to connect her with the conspiracy. The government seems to have established her case in every particular. The only hope of the defendants is in technicalities. There is not a shadow of doubt of their guilt. A plainer case, perhaps, has never been submitted to a jury.

Every citizen of Linn county will endorse Judge Stewart in his effort to collect taxes on lands held by fleu land title by the Northern Pacific R. R. in this county. These big land thieves ought to be willing, one would think, to pay taxes on the valuable timber lands that has cost them practically nothing. But they refuse to do so. Let every acre thus held, be sold by the county authorities to any one who will pay the taxes on it, just the same as if owned by people who had obtained it honestly.

Very heavy fighting is again reported at Port Arthur. The Japs seem to be making headway. They have now captured and hold a hill that with long range guns planted thereon, will command the entire harbor. The Russian ships that have heretofore found the harbor a place of refuge, will now have to surrender or be sunk. Just how soon the garrison of Port Arthur can be forced to capitulate is a problem. The Japs have been trying for many months to solve it, but the end is not yet. In the vicinity of Mukden the Russians seem to be making headway, though none of great moment.

The Portland papers for the past two weeks, have given considerable space to the proceedings of the trial of the land fraud case. Without a doubt the defendants are guilty of the crime for which they have been indicted. But they have done nothing more than the Northern Pacific people have done. These defendants acquired title to worthless base lands by fraud and received script for the titles thus acquired. This script they used in securing valuable timber lands elsewhere. The N. P. people possessed a large amount of worthless land, given to them, in the first place by the government. They, by methods best known to themselves, prevailed upon congress to make a government reserve, which included a large amount of these worthless lands. The railroad then received script from the government for their worthless sections. This script has been located wherever valuable government land could be found. Some 75,000 acres of it in Linn county has thus been located, and upon which the railroad even refuses to pay taxes. In either case the government has been defrauded. The Portland defendants made the mistake of stealing illegally, while the railroad did its stealing under the shadow of title by-law. In either case the government, that is to say the people, has parted with the lands without consideration. The little thieves are punished, while the big thieves escape and even refuse to pay taxes on the stolen lands.

Preston Clark's dog Rex, which he has trained to find money lost in the streets, recently took to his master a muddy two dollar note, making $127 that he has found since the first of June. The dog receives a dainty each time he finds money, and is now wise enough to frequent the shopping districts on crowded days, where he found the two dollar note. His chief finds are small silver pieces, nickels and cents, but he carries so many of these to his master that the amount thus found is considerable.

When he can do so, Clark returns the money to the owner. The dog, by some remarkable instinct, a short time ago, realized that a check which he had found was worth money and took it to his master.—New York Sun.

Two hundred farmers of Dunklin county, Missouri, have petitioned the legislature of that state to cede their county to Arkansas, as "they are too self respecting to reside in a state which has gone republican." This is taking defeat pretty hard, but it is a question whether a state would be allowed to cede a county to another state even if disposed to do so, and even if the reason was sane.

Congress assembled on Monday. The president's message, which we give in full, was delivered to both Houses on Tuesday. The present session is what is known as the short session, because it must end at midnight on the third of March next. The long or first session of a congress may and often does last well into the summer. It is not expected that a great amount of legislation, especially matters pertaining to the modulating of the tariff, will be undertaken at this session. Appropriations for rivers and harbors will receive attention as well as other necessary legislation. If tariff legislation is undertaken, it will probably be delayed for an extra session.

The vote of Oregon in the Presidential election was small. The vote for Roosevelt was the normal Republican vote—over 60,000. The opposition vote of all shades should have been at least 50,000, but it fell more than 20,000 short. Democrats refused to vote for Parker. In Multnomah county the vote for Roosevelt exceeded by over 3000 that cast for McKinley—which was about the natural or normal gain. And yet the total vote was below that thrown in 1900, or even in 1896. That is, the Democrats refused to vote for Parker and didn't appear at the polls. It is significant that though the Republican vote of Oregon increased so largely, the total vote of 1904 was much below that of four years, and even of eight years, earlier. In the late election the Democrats of Oregon didn't vote. Maybe they never will. Yet it will hardly do to bank on the supposition that they will not.—Oregonian.

"THIN ICE! KEEP OFF!"

"I can skate right along on the edge of the state's prison, and still keep out," said a man in St. Louis. He did—for awhile.

His name was Theodore Stegner, the proprietor of a get-rich-quick concern of St. Louis. The boast was the cause of his undoing. The saying made a woman whom he trusted suspicious. She decided that a man who could skate so skillfully, would bear watching, especially since Stegner had some of her money in his business. Being employed in his office, she became his nemesis. She copied letters and secured evidence by which the reckless skater was brought to bay. He was convicted in the United States Court on the charge of using the mails to defraud. Lettson Balliett, who "operated" in Eastern Oregon, was another.

Multitudes are skating on thin ice; till presently they wish they hadn't. Here are these defendants in the land trials. Here are contractors for public works, under fire or brought to book. And persons without number skating close to the perilous edge of social immorality. The male flirt and the female flirt, married or single, are among these skaters on thin ice. No telling when they may drop through. Some do not, indeed—but some do. And you can't tell who may, or when.

Everybody knows where the thin ice is; or certainly very few who don't. There are innocent girls and boys who are sometimes entrapped, and it is pitiful; but that is usually the consequence of irresponsible parentage. But the real offenders all know when they are on thin ice; and they have no right to complain, still less to be surprised, when they plump in.

The real enjoyment in skating is on good solid ice. Much of it every where. Then, governed by the icy precepts of respect, you will not fall into the sugared game pursued by the Nan Pattersons, the S. A. D. Puters and the Emma Walsons.

The Rev. Irl. Hicks 1905 Almanac.

The Rev. Irl. R. Hicks Almanac for 1905 is now ready, being the finest edition ever issued. This splendid and costly book of 200 pages is a complete study of astronomy and storm and weather for 1905. It is too well known to need comment. See it and you will so decide. The price, postpaid to any address, is 30c per copy. The Rev. Irl. R. Hicks, scientific, religious and family journal WORD AND WORKS, new abreast with the best magazines, is 75c a year, BOTH WORD AND WORKS and the Almanac $1.00 per year. No better investment possible for any person or family. Try it and see. Send to WORD AND WORKS PUB. CO., 2201 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

ELECTRICAL CHIMES AT THE FAIR.

Portland electrical experts are at work upon an extremely novel feature for the opening exercises of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition on June 1 next. The scheme is to have President Roosevelt, at Washington, touch a few keys and set in motion the chimes in the towers of the Government Building at the Exposition. The chimes, 300 feet above the water will play "My Country 'Tis of Thee." The sound will carry a great distance owing to the fact that the government Building is located on a peninsula in Guild's Lake, half a mile from the mainland. Arrangements have already been made to have President Roosevelt touch a button that will set in motion the machinery for the Western World's Fair, and it is thought there will be no difficulty in arranging for the additional feature of the chimes.

18,187,618 SCHOOL CHILDREN.

More than 16,000,000 pupils, or 20.04 per cent of the entire population, were enrolled in the common schools of the country in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904. The total school enrollment for the year, including public and private, elementary, secondary and higher education, was 17,559,478 pupils, and to this there should be an addition made for evening schools, business schools, private kindergartens, Indian schools, State Schools for defectives, orphans, etc., 648,440, making a grand total of 18,187,918.

These figures are taken from the annual report of the United States Commissioner of education. In 1870 the number of pupils enrolled in common schools was 6,871,522, the same being 17.82 per cent of the population. In 1880 the percentage enrolled had increased somewhat, being 19.67 per cent of the population. In 1890 the percentage of the total population was somewhat in excess of the present rate.

The average daily attendance for 1903 was 11,054,502, the same being 69.2 per cent of the total number enrolled. This is the largest average attendance on the number enrolled ever reported in the United States. It was only 59.3 per cent in 1870.

Women are rapidly supplanting men as school teachers. Male teachers formed nearly 39 per cent of the entire number in 1870, and nearly 43 per cent in 1880, but only 34 per cent in 1890, and only 26 per cent in 1903.

The average monthly wages of teachers for 1903, was $49.98 for males and $40.61 for females, a slight increase over the previous year.

According to an estimate of the report of the total amount of schooling given to the average of population has risen from 82 days in 1880 to 1,034 days in 1903.—Scientific American.

The Oregonian has reason to believe that immensely greater land frauds have been perpetrated—successfully—in Colorado than these which the General Land Office is pursuing so industriously in Oregon. What "pull" is there on the General Land Office that holds investigation in Colorado down? Here a great story might be told of the mote and the beam; and indeed the materials have been furnished to the Land Office, but they could get no attention. On a few petty cases in Oregon the department is concentrating all its energies, oblivious of immensely greater abuses elsewhere as well as in Oregon. Possibly these things yet may get the attention of President Roosevelt. Then investigation will ensue. But thus far the whole strength of the Land Department is employed on a few little, trifling steals in Oregon. The greater offenders here and elsewhere seem to have the "pull." Is it hypnotism, or near-sightedness? — Oregonian.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING.

Down in Baltimore a man named Lee is great on collecting tags and coupons connected with some prize scheme or other. He considers that about as near to getting something for nothing as any deal you can figure out.

Lee read in a farm and fireside magazine of some sort that for a certain number of tags taken from a certain manufactured article a Philadelphia firm would send a horse and runabout. He collected the tags and forwarded them to the concern. He received a small package in a few days containing a toy rocking horse.

Mr. Lee was wroth. To be trifled with in such a manner was an insult to his intelligence and enterprise—so he thought. He took his pen in hand and wrote the following in a sarcastic vein:

"I have received the horse you advertise, but you failed to enclose the runabout."

In a few days he received the following from the head of the house:

"We are in receipt of your letter acknowledging the horse. As for the runabout—go chase yourself."

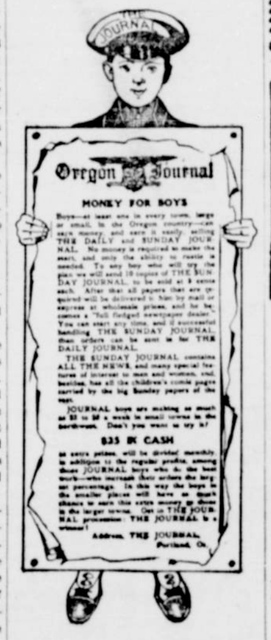
This was a little hard on Lee, but, after all, it is about all you can expect of these something-for-nothing schemes. Many of the people who follow these rainbows might just as well be chasing themselves around the block. Their profit would be just as large.

Do not feel disappointed if you cannot convince everyone on that point. People have been looking for something for nothing since the world began. Old Adam's clothes did not cost him a cent. His family expenses were very small, as Eve was not bothered with constantly changing fashions, and grocery and fuel bills were nothing. The Garden of Eden had everything good to eat with the possible exception of Nut Sundae, and everything good to drink excepting root beer. Adam was about as near to a something-for-nothing basis as a man could be. Was he satisfied? No. The old rascal got a long pole and began knocking persimmons off the tree just because they cost him nothing. The rest of us have been paying the bill ever since.

That's the way it has been going down to the present day. Lee was after horses and runabouts instead of juicy apples and nice persimmons but it all amounts to the same thing. The woman who patronizes a special sale to get a fifteen-cent box of berries for seven cents finds that the fruit is bad or the bottom of the box is shoved half way to the top. The boy who guesses the rebus and in order to get in on the grand prize sends twenty cents in silver and receives a paper which is dear at twenty cents.

Five hundred years from now they will still be at it. A certain kind of church people will be asking the Lord for help and material blessings because it does not cost anything to ask—just as if the Lord isn't onto that kind of a game. Boys will still be crawling under circus tents or over the fence of the baseball park. Women will still be trying to get forty cent value at the five cent counter and applications for railroad passes will be just as numerous as they are today, if the railroad is still in use.

Pay for what you get and be glad if you get your money's worth.—Eli in Commercial Bulletin.



Corvallis & Eastern R. R.

TIME CARD.

No. 2, For Yaquina—
Train leaves Albany ..... 12.45 P. M
" " Corvallis ..... 1.05 "
" arrives Yaquina ..... 6.20 "

No. 1, returning:
Leaves Yaquina ..... 6.45 A. M.
Leaves Corvallis ..... 11.20 "
Arrives Albany ..... 12.15 P. M

No. 3, For Albany-Detroit—
Leaves Corvallis ..... 6.00 A. M
Arrives Albany ..... 6.40 A. M
Leaves Albany for Detroit ..... 7.00 A. M.
Arrives Detroit ..... 12.02 P. M

No. 4, from Detroit—
Leaves Detroit ..... 12.35 P. M.
Arrives Albany ..... 5.15 P. M.
Leave Albany for Corvallis ..... 7.15 P. M
Arrives Corvallis ..... 7.55 P. M

Train No. 1 arrives in Albany in time to connect with the S. P. south bound train, as well as giving two or three hours in Albany before departure of S. P. south bound train for Portland.

Train No. 2 connects with the S. P. trains at Corvallis and Albany giving direct service to Newport and intermediate beaches.

Train No. 3 for Detroit, via Albany, leaves Corvallis at 6.00 a. m. and connects with the S. P. Albany-Portland local train leaving Albany at 7.00 a. m. Train No. 5 leaves Albany for Detroit at 7.00 a. m., arriving there at noon, giving ample time to reach the Mt. Hood resort that same day.

Train No. 4 connects at Albany with the Portland-Albany local, which arrives here at 5.05, and runs to Corvallis leaving Albany at 7.15, arriving in Corvallis at 7.55 p. m.

For further information apply to

GWINN SAINE, Manager.
THOS. DONALDSON, Agent, Albany.
H. H. CRONISE, Agent, Corvallis.

Notice to TaxPayers.

Notice is hereby given that the tax rolls of Linn County will be closed Dec 17, 1904. No money will be received on the same after that date untill the property is advertised for for sale and penalties and costs added.

R. L. Wurtz,
Sheriff of Linn County.

HOLIDAY GOODS

My complete line of Gift Books, Novelties, etc, will be on exhibition about Dec. 10.
☞ Call and see me.

Yours for business, E. C. Peery, Druggist.

BATTLE AX PHILLIPS

We havn't got some ladies coats
That's been reduced down cheap,
Nor a large line of novelties
At prices rather steep,

Put we can make a hot beef tea
And to make this thing in rhyme,
I will simply ask my fellw men
To cough me up a dime.

H. PHILLIPS'

CHAS. WESELY, WESELY, CHAS.

I order my Christmas goods in fancy barrels.
And as fine a line as you would wish to see.
Just the thing for the Christmas tree.
Fancy pictures, albums and dolls.
All kinds of tin toys and rubber balls.
I carry the finest line in this neck of the woods. Don't you forget it. I am right here with the goods.
My prices are right, my goods are out of sight. When in town, call and see me, and I'll treat you white.

CHAS. WESELY The Housefurnisher. Scio, Oregon.

STROUSE & BROTHERS.

THE BLAIN CLOTHING CO

Have a GREAT STOCK of FALL GOODS consisting of everything that a man or boy can wear. We have BARGAINS in every line, especially overcoats.

THE BLAIN CLOTHING CO, - ALBNAY OREGON.

HARNESS AND SADDLE SHOP.
SCIO OREGON.
A. J. REX & SON, Proprietor

We have purchased the entire interest of M. Alexander in the Scio Harness and Saddle shop. We are prepared to do all classes of work usually done in a first-class harness and saddle shop. Our material is good, our work substantial and our prices are as low as good material and honest workmanship will warrant.
☞ Repairing a specialty and done at short notice.
A. J. REX & SON.

The City Meat Market.

FOREN AND SCHELMAN, Props.

SCIO, ORE.

The best of all kinds of meats obtainable constantly on hand. Steak, best cuts, 8 cents; other cuts in proportion.
☞ Shop open on Sundays from 8 to 9 a. m. Give us a trial.

THE RICHARDSON
South Side of Bridge,
SCIO ..... OREGON.

This hotel has been refitted and refurnished throughout. Clean wholesome beds, airy rooms and tables supplied with the best the market affords.
☞ Special attention given commercial men. Free sample rooms, etc.
R. E. Richardson, Proprietor.