

## The Daily Reporter.

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### Worthy of Consideration.

Commissioner Coleman urges upon the various states legislative action concerning the spread of the pleuro-pneumonia scourge. He expresses an opinion to Chairman Hatch, of the house committee on agriculture "that it is useless to attempt to eradicate pleuro pneumonia in states where inoculation is practiced and where inoculated animals are afterward allowed to mingle with the cattle of other herds. The money expended in purchasing diseased animals for slaughter under such conditions is consequently largely wasted, and for this reason I have decided not to expend any part of the appropriation for this purpose in states where inoculation is practiced. I have, however, assisted the state authorities of New Jersey, by employing one or more veterinarians nearly the whole time, whose duty it has been to investigate reported outbreaks of disease and give such aid as was needed in inspection, and in enforcing the state quarantine regulations." The commissioner then gives the states that have refused or neglected to accept the rules laid down for states infected with the disease. In closing he says: "I desire to urge upon the committee the necessity of legislation granting to this department power to carry out the measures required for extirpating pleuro-pneumonia untrammelled by state laws or state authorities, if it is expected to promptly suppress this disease. The task is a difficult one at best, and I fear that under any plan of co-operation our history will be that of England, where for years the failure of local authorities to enforce the required regulations has not only perpetuated the contagion, but allows such frequent and alarming extensions as have lately occurred."

There are still two blanks out for signatures to the county seat petition, which will swell the number of signers to nearly if not quite 1400 names.

The 24 hour system of time has been put into effect on the Idaho division of the UPR, and the system will be extended to the ORN soon. This change does away with the suffixes a. m. and p. m. How it will work remains to be seen.

If the insurrection at the Salvation army barracks does not wear itself out with age, the Portland evening Democrat thinks it will become necessary to station a couple of fire engines at the corner of Fourth and B, to wet down the disorderly crowd that nightly congregates about the barracks.

The idea of two members of the committee on temperance in the lower house of the Georgia legislature assaulting each other in an outburst of anger, shows how little there is in a name after all. There are no terms, perhaps, which have been more persistently misused than temperance, temperate, and their opposites.

Prevention is better than cure for chilblains as for everything else. A very hot foot-bath every night for a month, followed by the most vigorous rubbing, will usually cure cold feet and set the blood in good circulation in the extremities. But if the chilblains come they may be successfully treated in several ways. A good ointment is made of castile soap melted in a little rum. If from rubbing, the skin be broken, the rose salve is very healing. Camphor ice cures some chilblains, and the various cerates are suited to those of other people. Peppermint essence, cologne and alcohol are recommended to allay the stinging and burning of a frost-bitten heel.

A natural gas well was lately struck near Elko. The well was bored for oil, but when at the depth of about 300 feet, a vein of gas was struck which took fire, shooting up to a height of 200 feet above the surface, burning up the derrick, machinery, and everything near it, the employes being barely able to escape with their lives. As they described it now, the flame has gone down to a height of about thirty or forty feet, and is in the shape of a pineapple. They can't approach within 100 feet of it on account of the heat. They had an Indian employed, who left, horror-stricken, for the mountains. The Indian expressed himself that they had raised hell, and they are of the same opinion.

## Col. Parke's Report.

Astorian.

That is a very lame report that Col. Parke makes to the secretary of war regarding his delay of the work at the Cascades and the mouth of the Columbia. It is an explanation that needs an explanation. Without any undue desire to misconstrue motives, and actuated by no intent or wish to cast discredit unjustly, the Astorian is compelled, in the light of Col. Parke's explanation, to express his belief that the whole business appears to be a job to cause delay. This is not the first time. Nor is it the first instance where an officer was removed or superseded for reasons seemingly unjust to the public. When Maj. Jones was in San Francisco he co-operated with the city of San Francisco in the matter of public water works and Golden Gate Park, a scheme that was endorsed by the San Francisco press, and would, if carried out, have saved the San Francisco taxpayers many thousand dollars annually. But the Spring Valley Water company's revenues would be interfered with and before the plan could have been transferred from the subjective to the objective form, from the brain of Maj. Jones to practical, tangible reality, that experienced officer was "transferred" to Oregon—and the Spring Valley Water Co. magnates winked at each other, and tightened the cinch.

Now when he displays commendable zeal in his new field of duty he is "relieved." This may be civil service reform or swivel service reform or snivel service reform, and it may be the proper thing—but it is hard to get the ordinary mind to grasp the situation. Probably if we uns out here held as much ORN stock as Secretary of War Endicott's family is said to own, we dwellers in the Columbia river basin could understand and acquiesce with better grace. It all depends on the point of view. From our point of view a gross injustice has been done this section by the action of Col. Parke, "authorized" by the secretary of war.

This in no way takes cognizance of personal matters. The transfer of charge to Capt. Powell, was but the transfer from one competent gentleman to another equally competent. It is the action of those who had the power to hasten or delay, and chose the latter, that characterize as petty misuse of official place.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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