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CURRENT THOUGHT.

Four parties of surveyors are to be put in the field to survey a route for a railroad from Seattle to a junction with the Baker city branch of the ORN at Umatilla. Mr. Mackey is credited with being the promoter of the enterprise.

In order to be sure of the interest of a vast number of persons in his death, a man has but to insure his life in a dozen or so benevolent organizations for sums ranging from \$2,000 to \$6,000. John Tyler, of South Norwalk, tried it, and though the method kept him pinched and poverty stricken through his latter years, he left at his death papers that will tap the pockets of a million people for the benefits of his relatives.

A shrewd Chinaman has hit upon an article of export from Germany, which has thus far escaped the money getting Teutons. It is neither more nor less than cast off horse shoes, of which some Berlin firms are about to ship some three thousand to four thousand tons. The heathen Chinese has found out that the wrought iron, of which horse shoes are made, owing to the constant and even hammering on the pavement, together with the equine animal heat, gradually assumes the hardness of steel, combined with great malleability and elasticity, qualities which fit them more especially for the manufacture of knives and sword blades.

Action has been taken by the citizens of Brooklyn to compel the authorities of that city to furnish school accommodations for 20,000 children for whom there is no room. This is probably an aggravated case, but it is well known that a similar trouble exists in some degree in about every large city in the country. The growth of population, and consequently of the number of children of school age, seems to go away ahead of the comprehension of those whose duty it is to provide adequate public school facilities. It is the same story every where. High salaries and few pupils in the upper grades. Comparative pittance and crowded rooms in the inter-

mediate and lower grades. The trouble is that the machinery of the "system" has outrun the original intent and subverted the policy of free schools.

The Chicago News intimates that the suggestion to elect Mrs. Mary S. Logan to succeed her husband in the United States senate is being discussed with considerable seriousness down east. It is pleasant to find that so much candid opinion is being expressed on the subject. There is no doubt that Mrs. Logan would make a much more capable senator than many men now serving in the senate; nor is there any doubt that she is the intellectual superior of many men at home who have been named as possible successors to the senatorial office. The spectacle of a bright, good woman in the senate would be an edifying one. and Mrs. Logan's influence in the senate would be as salutary as it would be powerful; better than these things would be the ennobling effect which the elevation of this representative woman would have upon the social condition of its worthy womanhood, and to confer a distinguishing honor upon one of the purest staunchest, and brightest of her sex.

Newberg Notes.

The new boarding hall, belonging to the Friend's Pacific academy has been completed, and is now occupied by the students. Board, rooms, fires, lights etc., furnished at \$2.70 per week.

The proprietors of the eight acre farm north of town are having some surveying done, preparatory to commencing the work of grubbing. Mr. Cook is in charge of the business.

A well appointed gymnasium has been added to the academy.

Messrs. Edwards and Hoskins have just raised the frame of a building, to be used as a tile factory. It is on the Dayton road west of the academy.

Vocal music is taught at the academy without any extra expense to students.

The new Evangelical church is receiving the finishing touches. It is situated two blocks east of the academy.

The Good Templar's hall is nearly completed. The lower story will be used for a drug store and doctor's office.

Mr. Cottle's building, to be used for a hardware store is nearly completed, and presents a very attractive appearance.

There are sixty-four students in attendance at the academy. The spring term opens Feb. 28th.

Assembly Committees.

The speaker of the house announced yesterday. Following is a list of the

SENATE COMMITTEES:

Judiciary—Simon, Hare, Barin, Weatherford and Siglin.

Ways and means—Shupe, Rinehart, Lee, Chandler and Miller.

Elections—Emmett, Dimick, Irvine.

Claims—Allen, Simon and Chandler.

Corporations—Bird, Cauthorne, and Emmett.

Public lands—Barin, Cartwright and Stanley.

Federal relations—Gray, Dimick and Veatch.

Mines—Stanley, Cartwright and Dawson.

Printing—Siglin, Shupe and Williams.

Railroads—Miller, Allen, Steel, Coleman and Hamilton.

Public buildings—Hare, Looney and Veatch.

Counties—Chamberlin, Gray, and Hamilton.

Military affairs—Dimick, Wager and Chamberlin.

Commerce—Barin, Gray and Rinehart.

Education—Watts, Shupe and Cauthorne.

Enrolled Bills—Dawson, Steel and Siglin.

Engrossed bills—Bird, Williams and Rinehart.

Assessment.—Lee, Hare, Steel, Wager and Coleman.

Agriculture—Allen, Looney and Irvins.

J. H. Holland, of Vale, representative in the assembly from Baker county, is merchandising fifteen miles from Ontario, on the Short Line, and is on the line of survey of the OPR, or some company represented by it, and is also on the line of a road projected by the OSR. The former company now have engineers and graders in the Malheur canyon, twenty miles above Vale, and the latter has a party locating on the line and grade of the former. Between the two companies the people feel sure of one road.

Pensioners are not exempt from road taxes; only disabled and infirm persons.