

EDITORIAL PAGE

NOTE AND COMMENT
ABOUT VARIOUS THINGS
WHICH FLASH ACROSS YE MINDS OF YE EDITORS

Well, here we are, landed hard in the editorial chair of the HEADLIGHT. We assume the responsibility, to the public make our saluum, for this week. We intend to please no one but ourselves. The editor W. F. D., and his able corps of assistants, even to the devil, have surrendered, stepped down and out for the space of one week. The firemen of Tillamook city hold the fort, and of we stir things up generally, mix things promiscuously we alone will bear the blame, this being the first time we grease! or run a press, we find it much different from running the Hook & Ladder truck in the mud; if we raise the mischief all around we will consider ourselves very fortunate, being new hands at the business. We shall not try to make a fine paper in grand style, but to give our original productions from beginning to end. We expect to offend many of our readers, not intentionally, but from the fact that all of us do not think alike. Our politics. Every man vote as he pleases. Our religion is, We believe in a supreme being, the author and ruler of the universe. And it is our belief that water will put out the largest fire that ever existed, and in time past, have found that a fire cannot be mastered by ladders and buckets alone. Since the fire of 1893, the city has been rebuilt in a manner that does credit to its enterprising citizens, yet nothing in the shape of an apparatus to fight fire with has been procured. The large hotels and public buildings are built with an eye to the accommodation of the public, not to its safety. We think it is our duty to call attention to an ordinance now before the Common Council, in relation to fire escapes. When this becomes a law, power will be given to the Marshal to enforce its provisions and see that the work is done properly. A few good wells in each block where they could be got at conveniently, and without trouble, with force pumps, would do some good. A large tank at every house, full of water, and a few feet of hose, would be good also. All that is wanted is plenty of water and some good way to get it on the fire when needed. The cost of the late fire would have supplied the city with a number of good steam fire engines. We ask you to think of these things, then help us to work for them.

With the war in China, the rebellion in Hawaii, the growling between tribes of Central America the awful cold snap and terrible storms along the Atlantic coast, the continual wars in Alaskan waters against the seals, the disasters of late on sea and land, the free trade of the country, cutting the wages of the laborer, the gold grabbing shysters of New York and other countries forcing the country to bankruptcy, the silver kings trying to force the country to pay them two dollars in gold for a dollars' worth of bullion, the cry of distress from Nebraska, the increase of taxation and crime, and the deadlock of the Oregon Senate, the bombastic talk of Vest and W. L. Wilson about a comfortable surplus in the Treasury, is it to be wondered at that the United States Treasury should run behind in the month of January to the amount of \$6,700,000 in ordinary expenditures, not including \$2,200,000 for redemption of bonds which have become due, making a deficit for the month, of \$8,900,000, or at the rate of more than \$100,000,000 a year. All this so soon after a time of peace and plenty, leaves us to wonder what the end will be. Can it be possible that the grippe which is reported to be spreading

in various parts of the country is that which the Treasury has lost on the gold reserve? We think if the quacks, cranks and and political fools in the present congress would leave "gin slings" and hot cocktails alone, long enough to clear their brains, providing they have such things, they might perceive the plainest requirements of the financial situation. If the democratic party could hold the gold-bugs off for a while and the president be kept mum, they might adopt some measure whereby the government could avail itself of the resources of its own people, and not give bonds for gold to foreigners, to drain more gold out of the country. Why not adopt a people's loan, placing the greater part of the bonds, say at \$5 or \$10 and offer the same for sale at every county seat, or better still, at every post office? Or, they could adopt the postal saving bank plan, which would perhaps be the best means after all, to arrive at the same end. Any of these ways would place the loan in the hands of the common every-day people, and pay them the gold interest. (I wonder how near this comes to being populistic doctrine?) Supposing there to be seventy thousand post offices in the United States, and if five and ten dollar bonds were authorized, it would require an average of about fifteen hundred dollars for each post office to take up a loan of one-billion dollars. Let the interest be fixed at three per cent, and we will have three-million dollars in gold paid out each year to our own people at every post office, every village and cross road in the whole country. It would go to the poor man as well as the rich one, and not to foreigners across the Atlantic Ocean. Every holder of a \$100 government bond would receive three dollars a year in gold from the government for the use of his money. It is estimated that there are \$1,770,000,000 deposited in the savings banks of the country by the laboring people. These banks are some-what scarce compared to the post offices, and such banks exist only in certain portions of the country. Let every post office be made a saving bank, then the amount of the people's savings would be increased beyond computation and would not only provide for the present need of the government but would soon pay off every cent of the rest of the public debt, furnish the money to build the Nicaragua canal, which enterprise we hope the government will soon undertake, and furnish means to properly improve our bay and bar, and to defend our harbors. History repeating itself, is only the consequence of coming generations not profiting by the experiences and lessons of generations gone before. Yet we think this so simple and clear a plan, that we are amazed that even such shallow brained blather-skites that are now filling the seats in congress and the public cars with rant and rot on the finances, do not see it.

FIRE PROTECTION.

This is a matter of more importance, than any other subject that could be talked of at the present time. What would we do if a fire should start in the west end of town some day when we are having one of our northwest winds blowing. What we want here is a *Chemical Engine*. They cost money, but we ought to have one. Now suppose a year ago last June that the fire had broken out in the forenoon instead of at night. The result would have been different; instead of only part of the town being laid in ashes, there would have been very little of it left. It would not have stopped until the

Court House would have been destroyed. Of course money is tight and all this, but what would be an indebtedness, of say \$1000 or \$1500, compared to what would be saved in case of a fire. The reports say that one third of the fires in Portland last year were extinguished with *Chemical Engines*. There is no doubt that part of the buildings burned in our late fire would have been saved if we had had something of the kind. The question is how will we raise the stuff? Shall we bond the city? As soon as you talk of doing this, there will be a great howl raised by a few that pay from fifty cents to a dollar a year city tax, and the matter is dropped. But we, as firemen say that it must be done, for the benefit of the town. Our opinion is that the difference in insurance for three years will pay for the apparatus; besides being protected, we could put a fire out, whereas as we are fixed at the present time, we would do the best we could. This matter will be argued to the board of councilmen, and the firemen will do all they can to see the matter accomplished. We will say again that it is of vital importance that we we have some protection against fire, our worst enemy.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

It is with pleasure that I turn the HE DUGHT over to the firemen this week, who will conduct this issue for their own pleasure and benefit. For fear that modesty will prevent Mr. Drew and Mr. Steinhilber from claiming due credit, I wish to state that Mr. Drew has worked unceasingly and patiently, devoting much time, to make the paper interesting, and Mr. Steinhilber has put in a great deal of time soliciting advertisements, and his skill as a printer is displayed in several artistic ads. in this issue. His time for the past few weeks has been taken up with the project. Mr. Geo. Cohn, city editor, has also contributed much labor and other substantial support to make the enterprise a success. In fact, all the Firemen and everybody else have aided earnestly and generously.

The firemen and their editors are responsible for the sentiment expressed in this issue, and their committees will attend to collecting the receipts for all advertising and extra papers this week.

Respectfully, W. F. D. JONES.

There has been a good deal of talk about an opposition line of boats between here and Portland, some few kickers are afraid they are going to be charged enormous prices for freight, as one company has control of the shipping, but they had better wait until they are hurt before they squeal. The present company informs us they propose charging nothing more than living rates. We all know that for the past two years both companies lost money and it is nothing more than right that they should have a price for carrying which will enable them to hold their own. Of course opposition is a good thing. We had low rates this winter, and who was benefited by it? No one but the consumers. It was no benefit to the merchants, for if they pay \$1.00 more, they add that percent to cost. Likewise if they pay \$5.00 per ton.

It does seem strange that this school district is not able to support teachers enough to give our pupils all a chance to get full benefit. On account of being short one teacher, part of the children must remain at home part of the day, which is not right. Under the teachings of Mr. Steinhilber, our proficient chief, the school children are doing finely in the art of drilling, which is a very essential matter. It is not only a good thing to know, but also very healthful exercise.

M. H. Larsen's \$30 and Stillwell & Hoag's \$10 towards well digging will be of material aid in beginning the work of fire protection.



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Merchandise Dealers in
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Quality Considered.

Being connected with the large wholesale firm of Mark L. Cohn & Co. of Portland, enables us to buy direct from the manufacturers and we can therefore sell our goods, quality considered, cheaper than anyone else in Tillamook.

Annual Clearance Sale.

We have just concluded our Annual Clearance Sale which has been a grand success, showing that people appreciate it when they are getting real bargains. About March first we shall receive our immense stock of spring goods which has just been purchased and carefully selected from several Eastern factories.

Ladies' Dress Goods.

In Ladies' Dress Goods we have all the very latest patterns, and an immense selection to choose from, and our prices are lower than they ever been before.

Fancy Goods.

Our line of Ladies' Fancy Goods will be the finest ever shown in the city. In hats we will have the latest spring and summer shapes, fashionable colors.

LATEST

Summer
Clothing
Spring

STYLES

We will receive the largest stock of Spring and summer clothing, in all the latest styles, ever shown in the city and our prices will be astonishing low.

Forty Cases of Shoes.

We will receive about forty cases of shoes, consisting of Ladies, Misses, Mens, Boys—all the newest —direct from the largest factories in America. We pride ourselves on being able to buy direct from factories and giving our patrons the benefit of extreme low prices at which we will sell goods hereafter.

Country Produce.

We pay the highest prices for all kinds of country produce, eggs, butter, hides, and furs in season. Feed by the sack, ton, or carload furnished at the lowest prices. Logging camp supplies.

Our 25 Cent Tea's

NEVER FAIL TO
GIVE SATISFACTION

COUNTY WARRANTS TAKEN AT 95 CENTS.

Our 25 Cent
Baking Powders
Are Good.

Remember we are Leaders
In every line of Goods we
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