

Getting Ready to Inventory

On December 28 we shall commence taking our annual inventory. We have lots of stock on hand that we do not want to inventory. Rather close it out and count the money. We never carry over goods from one season to another, when Low Prices, Cut Prices, Cost Prices or any other kind of prices will sell them. So we will now commence a

GREAT INVENTORY SALE

and continue until that date. Of course you can stay from this sale, if you want to, but you will lose money if you do. Note a few of our prices. Everything CUT.

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OREGON COMING EVENTS.

Dairymen's association, Corvallis, December 15-16.
Poultry and pot stock show, Salem, December 17-18.
Special session of the legislature, Salem, December 21.
National livestock convention, Portland, January 12-15.
Angora goat show, Dallas, January 14-15.

The Weather.

Tonight and Wednesday, cloudy, with occasional rain.

SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE WARM

Those who were praying that the special session of the legislature be a very brief affair, and confine itself to amending the tax law, are liable to be disappointed.

Tremendous interests are struggling for advantages in Oregon. That audacious and long-suffering person known as the ordinary business man, may be heard from.

While the governor has primarily called the law-making body together to remedy a defect in the tax laws, other fish are frying.

Gigantic interests will seek to repeal the state portage law, will seek to repeal the new tax law, will seek other special advantages.

In this they will overreach, and the producers and the shippers may be heard from. The time is past when a few hired lobbyists can run the whole law-making power of the state, as a kind of sideshow to their "business."

THE COURT STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Property owners on Court street are figuring on an asphalt or vitrified brick street pavement.

If they would arrange their cement walks and parkings on each side so as to take about 25 feet, allow five feet for a cement curb and brick gutter, they could afford to lay down a 40-foot asphalt street.

At an expense of five dollars per front foot, distributing the payments over ten years, the assessment would be about thirty dollars per lot each year for ten years.

Property on an asphalt street would rest at an increased figure of double that amount. Hence the investment made would be immediate profit.

The owner of business and renting property would be immensely benefited. Residents on such a street would enjoy freedom from dust and mud, and a great deal of moral satisfaction.

A LESSON IN STREETS.

During the past week the principal

business streets of Salem were "cleaned," as well as that is possible under the circumstances.

Now a week of rain makes them as sloppy and as muddy as before. It is mud, mud, mud, slop, slop, slop, and ever will so remain.

Until the streets are built upon a different plan, and of different material. The grinding of the unsorted gravel produces mud, mud, mud. In two weeks they will be ready to be cleaned again. Hundreds of wagon loads of pulverized gravel and sand and mud can be removed.

This is useful to give some one employment. To give some one cheap filling for their vacant lots, to use up public taxes, etc.

But will the enlightened readers please tell us for what other purpose it can be commended. It would tax his thinking apparatus.

Can Salem people learn from the past? Does it pay to build any public street in a city, but a permanent one?

REPUBLICANS GOING SLOW.

It is understood that the Republican mayor and city council will not take office until required to do so by law—that is in January.

In taking this position they will have the benefit of more time to post themselves about their duties, and to formulate plans of action.

By waiting, they will know better whether the city will have revenues on the assessment of 1903. Great property interests will still seek to defeat tax levies on this year's assessment.

They will seek to defeat the new tax laws that have been adopted by the last legislature. The great financial institutions always profit by disordering the state and local revenues.

All the big banking interests of the state were secretly averse to calling a special session. So were the great corporations.

The Republicans by waiting will be better able to do what is right under the circumstances than by going into office before their time.

TROUBLES OF THE REPUBLICANS

The problems of the Waters administration have only begun. There are a great many demands for places—more than can be filled.

The Republicans have been out of office for five years, and many of the party workers have fared pretty slim, politically speaking.

The Young Men's Republican Club has acted wisely in refusing to endorse applicants for places in the city government.

Every Republican has a right to apply for any office he thinks he is fitted for under the incoming administration.

This is not saying that competent men in any department may not be retained in office, if the Republican administration see fit to do so.

No one will pretend that because a man is a Republican he is not as well qualified for any office as the same man would be if he held some other political belief.

But merely being a Republican does not qualify a man to make a good policeman or street commissioner. The Republican city administration will not lower the standard of efficiency for party rewards.

HONEST WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There has been a great deal of complaint on account of buyers of fuel getting short measure. The Greater Salem Charter contains this, as among the enumerated powers of the city council:

22. To provide for measuring and weighing hay, wood and other commodities bought and sold in the city.

If there is no ordinance on this subject, there should be one enacted.

The people who buy fuel have a right to have one hundred cents worth for a dollar.

The incoming city administration should investigate this, and give the

consumers all the benefit of this protection.

An effort also should be made to ascertain if the milk sold to the people of this city is pure.

In most cities, where there is no milk inspection, there is a great deal of water and other adulterants used. All municipal vice is not confined to the gamblers in this wicked world.

British Railway Accidents.

The English Bureau of Commerce has published a report covering the railway accidents of the United Kingdom which shows that 1171 persons were killed and 17,814 injured in 1902. As compared with 1901, the killed and injured were as follows: Of every 9,211,002 passengers one was killed in 1902, against one in 9,684,414 in 1901; one was injured of every 466,700 passengers in 1902, against one in every 546,511 in 1901. The total mileage of the railways of the United Kingdom at the close of 1902 was 22,152 miles. Most of the roads have double and triple tracks.—Philadelphia Record.

Climatic Cures.

The influence of climatic conditions in the cure of consumption is very much overdrawn. The poor patient, and the rich patient, too, can do much better at home by proper attention to food digestion, and a regular course of German Syrup. Free expectation in the morning is made certain by German Syrup, so is a good night's rest and the absence of that weakening cough and debilitating night sweat. Restless nights and the exhaustion due to coughing, the greatest danger and dread of the consumptive, can be prevented or stopped by taking German Syrup liberally and regularly. Should you be able to go to a warmer climate you will find that of the thousands of consumptives there, the few who are benefited and regain strength are those who use German Syrup. Trial bottle, 25c; regular size, 75c. At all druggists. At Dr. Stone's drug stores.

Marvelous Escape.

"The fact that I am a good musician," said the lady from a country village, "was the means of saving my life during a flood in our town a few years ago."

"How was that?" asked the young lady who sang.

"When the water struck our house, my husband got on the folding bed and floated down the stream until he was rescued."

"And what did you do?"

"Well, I accompanied him on the piano."

Social Forecast.

The wedding bells are due to chime in this vicinity over the new year ushers in, and one of the trio of good "old boys" will have a helpmate to milk the cows and make the butter sweet.—Leaf River (Ill) Mirror.

Export Excess.

From 1897 to 1902, inclusive, the total excess of exports amounts to the almost incomprehensible sum of \$2,119,000,000, an average of the some \$350,000,000 a year.

JOURNAL X-RAYS

Prime hops are going close to the 25 cent mark again.

If that cougar gets into the limits of Greater Salem he will be liable for a \$3.00 road poll tax.

The title of the play tonight is "The Two Sisters." There couldn't well be less than two.

The Young Men's Republican Club will give a very Democratic dinner—50 cents a plate, and all pay for their own plate.

Considering that they are such a had lot of people in the eyes of the Citizens' managers, it is a surprise that the Citizens' council should have been so anxious to swear in the Republicans, and be in any rush to force their wickedness on the unfortunate taxpayers of this city.

A writer about the city election bewails the defeat of the Citizens' ticket. He says the reason they were cleaned out was because so many of their voters sold their votes to the Republicans. If that is true, the question of responsibility arises, and we are all reminded of what a distinguished Polk county politician said on a similar occasion: "It is not half so great a crime to buy an office as to sell one."

ONCE GIVEN TO SPAIN.

Province of Louisiana Made a Gift by Louis XV. of France.

Under authority of M. Delcasse, Minister of Foreign Affairs, E. Spencer Pratt, ex-United States Minister to Paris, who is now residing here, is making extensive researches in the archives of the Foreign Office relative to the transfer of the Province of Louisiana by France to the United States.

The investigations have brought to light all the circumstances and details of the transaction, including the confidential letters of the French Minister at Washington advising his government as to the various stages of the negotiations and the letters and documents signed by President Jefferson and Secretary of State Madison. Many of these hitherto have been unavailable, owing to the rules of the Foreign Office which have prevented the copying of documents in the archives. In speaking of his investigations to the Associated Press, Mr. Pratt says:

"One of the most curious documents found in an autograph letter of Louis XV. giving away the vast Louisiana territory to his cousin, then King of Spain, as a present. The fact of this gift has heretofore been known only in a general way, but the text of the letter discloses the casual nature of the gift, and also the fact that Louis XV. previously offered Louisiana to Great Britain, which refused to accept it."

The text of the letter relating of the gift is as follows:

"I have caused the Marquis de Grimaldi, subject to Your Majesty's pleasure, to sign a concession of New Orleans and Louisiana to Spain. I had offered it to England in place of Florida, but they refused it. I would have ceded them other possessions to have spared, Spain having to cede this latter one, but I fear that any cession in the Gulf of Mexico might lead to serious consequences."

"I feel that Louisiana but poorly compensates Your Majesty for the

losses you have sustained, but in ceding you this country, I consider less its value than the good accomplished in uniting the Spanish and the French nations. Union is alike necessary for our subjects and our house."

The letter of the King of Spain, accepting the present, said Mr. Pratt, refers to the further strengthening of the union of the two nations by a number of royal intermarriages. Later documents show the recession of Louisiana by Spain to France and give minute details of the sale by Napoleon of the province to the United States.

W. Calvet, practical watchmaker, 158 State street, keeps repairs for all kinds of instruments: Violins, guitars, mandolins and banjos, at rock bottom prices.

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