

CURRENT TOPICS TODAY

Prepared for the Public Schools and the Family Circle.

A large track of prairie land near El Paso, Texas, is gradually sinking, and a lake is forming. The water is already three feet deep, and seems to be increasing.

Another portion of the crater of Mt. Vesuvius fell in Thursday, and caused a big eruption of sand. It was immediately followed by a number of small earthquakes.

President Roosevelt is exerting his efforts to have the break in the Colorado river repaired as soon as possible by the California Development company.

Switchmen employed by the Northern Pacific, S. P. Co. and O. R. & N., have been granted an increase in wages.

Freight rates on flour and wheat between Pacific northwest ports and the orient have been cut \$1 per ton to Shanghai and 50 cents per ton to HongKong and Japanese ports.

Letters to School Children.

New York, Dec. 14.

Dear Children: When I patronize a church, a restaurant or a barber-shop away from home I always attend the nearest. So I dropped into a little German barber-shop at the corner of Broadway and Fifth avenue. It was built out under the sidewalk and was finished entirely in white marble, except the ceiling of glass.

The barbers were all veteran German soldiers and the proprietor explained to me that the shop was a rendezvous of Germans who had fought in the union armies in Bismarck's campaign against the French in the 70s and an occasional revolutionary hero of 1848.

"Besides," he added, "shops always advertise for young men. These old men are better barbers and they work cheaper."

When I mentioned that my father was a soldier in the German revolution, they all tried to talk at the same time, they were so pleased.

"Mein vader was auch (also) in der revolution," said the little man-cress in the corner of the shop.

"Es was ein student auf her Universitaet zu Heidelberg, und gieng in die Schweiz nach dem Krieg."

I thought she was very young to be a daughter of the revolution. She said she was a daughter by a second marriage. Her father was a professor at the University at Leipzig, had a large family and she had come to the United States to make her living. Think of that, and not yet sixteen.

In all the large cities of the east nearly all women employ a hair-dresser and nearly all men employ the barber-shop manuevers.

I had my nails cleaned in German, French and English. Before leaving I suggested that her knowledge of language ought to get her a better position, and if she would insert an advertisement in a New York paper as follows it would get her a job:

"Wanted—Position by young girl as manuever to actress. Speaks French, German, English."

A few days later I was in there again and the proprietor told me the little German girl had fifteen applications and had left there in an automobile with a noted actress. He was so mad he would hardly shave me.

I told him he ought to be happy if the daughter of a compatriot had got a start in the world, but he was not. Right there is the difference between the east and people out west. We are always glad to see anyone prosper.

On the corner of the street a man

was trying to sell a thing he called a fox to a crowd. I butted in and asked him where he got that coyote.

"There's another one of them gold-durned westerners," he said. "I don't any more'n get a crowd worked up to buy than some fellow who's been out west yelp: 'Whar d'you g't that coyote?'"

My thoughtless remark had spoiled his sale, for it was a sure-enough young wolf, and he was keeping his tail concealed under his coat, only showing the forepart of his body. But the large-strong legs proved it a wolf quickly enough.

E. HOFER.

Puget Sound's Big Lead.

In spite of flood and car famine the wheat export trade of Puget sound, meaning thereby chiefly the port of Tacoma, broke all records during the eleven months ending with November of this year. The total shipment of wheat for this period, as shown in our news columns yesterday, was 7,080,782 bushels, as against 2,497,556 bushels for the corresponding period of 1905. Of flour the shipments have also shown a satisfactory increase, reaching a total for the eleven months of 2,212,280 barrels.

Now that San Francisco has practically dropped out of the running as a wheat and flour exporting port, it is only necessary to compare the sound's shipments with those of the Willamette district. Portland's exports of wheat for the first eleven months of the year were 3,643,760 bushels less than those of the sound, and of flour the shipments from Portland fell 1,642,796 barrels below the sound's flour export. Portland's wheat shipments increased from 3,320,333 bushels during the eleven-month period of 1905 to 3,337,022 bushels for the same time in 1906. This is a gain of less than 50 per cent as compared with the sound's increase of 180 per cent. In flour the Portland shipments fell off from \$15,081 barrels last year to 549,494 barrels this year.

Portland exporters ascribe the falling off in their trade partly to the freight-handlers' strike in that city, but on the other hand the sound's shipments were greatly decreased by the floods of November, which tied up the railways at a time when grain receipts at Tacoma and Seattle would otherwise have been heaviest. The plain lesson of the figures is that the sound is steadily increasing in importance as a grain terminal. The better rates for grain prevail here, as a result of lower ship charters and better facilities for loading, will continue to increase the lead established by this year's trade—Tacoma Ledger.

Of Interest to Thin, Weak People.

It is perfectly understood by every sick man or woman that if they can get some remedy that will stop the gradual loss of flesh and strength, their recovery is assured. People that are nervous and unsteady, with dizzy spells, weakened memory, and loss of ambition, their blood is thin and watery. It shows in their sallow complexion and tired manner, soon as they commence to gain flesh they look better and sleep better. To gain from 1 to 3 pounds of good solid flesh per week, the blood must be made rich and pure, Dr. Gunn's Blood and Nerve Tonic puts in the body the very pith of what makes pure rich blood in the most direct way, and cures disease by making strength. This tonic is in tablet form, to be taken right after meals. Sold by all druggists for 75c per box or 3 boxes for \$2. For women's weakness a better remedy was never made.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS. CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS.

If you should take a peep into our store now, you would think that we were going to Slipper the whole State.

FOR MEN

We've comfortable House Slippers in Felt and Leather, Romeos, Fausts, Operas, Everetts, Dress Pumps, Bath Slippers, etc., etc.

65c, 75c, \$1 or \$2.50

FOR WOMEN

We've House Slippers of Felt and Leather, Julietts, Dainty Party Slippers and ties, of Satin and Kid, beautifully trimmed—exquisite creations.

50c, 75c, \$1 or \$2.

FOR CHILDREN

We've Slippers and Dancing Pumps for the Boy or Girl and pretty slippers creations for baby.

SALEM'S BIG SHOE STORE

OREGON SHOE COMPANY

THE SHOERS

COMPANIES ORGANIZE.

Articles of Incorporation Granted Enterprises Backed by Oregon Capital.

In the office of the secretary of state this morning articles of incorporation were filed by the following: Oregon Diamond Coal Mining and Developing company, of Portland; incorporators, W. Hutchins, M. Mattson, C. A. Hoy, E. W. Redder, C. R. Lewthwaite; capital stock, \$50,000. Silvertown Hop Growers Warehouse association; incorporators, G. M. Opsund, L. Ames, J. C. Wolfe, Chas. Oberlin; capital stock, \$3,000.

The capital stock of the Silvertown Lumber company was increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

A Western Wonder.

There's a Hill at Bowie, Tex., that's twice as big as last year. This wonder is W. L. Hill, who from a

weight of 90 pounds has grown to over 180. He says: "I have suffered with a terrible cough, when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. Now, after taking 12 bottles, I have more than doubled in weight and am completely cured." Only sure Cough and Cold cure. Guaranteed by J. C. Perry, druggist; 50c

PLAY THE QUAKERS.

Willamette University Will Play Basketball at Newberg Tonight.

The basketball team of Willamette University will go to Newberg tonight to play its initial game for the season. The Willamette boys are quite confident of success, but they are going up against a pretty good team.

The line-up is as follows: Polard and Simpson, forwards; Whipple, center; Nelson, Parcel and Forbes, guards; Price and Moores, subs. Arch Jerman, coach. Mr. Henderson, of the Portland high school, will referee.

Notice of Betray.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has taken up one sorrel mare about six years old; weight about 900 pounds; white stripe in forehead; white right hind foot; white left fore foot; brand 5 circle on right shoulder; foretop and tail bobbed off. Due notice has been posted according to law, and appraise Peace L. F. Evans, of Brooks disment of value made by Justice of the trel, and notice filed with the county clerk of Marion county, November 10, 1906. Owner can recover property by identifying same and paying costs as provided by law.

W. H. EGAN, Brooks, Oregon

11-23-1f

The Texas Wander.

Cures all kidney, bladder and rheumatic trouble; sold by all druggists, or two months' treatment by mail for \$1. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. Send for testimonials. Sold by Stone's drug store. dw-1yr

LIQUID LIME AND SULPHUR FOR SPRAYING

One 40 barrel order sold yesterday, to one of the best potato fruit men in the state. Hon. L. F. Reynolds and his neighbors made up a pool and bought 40 barrels for their own use. You had better get in and place your order now while we are making special price off the car. It will save you money and the goods are certainly doing the work.

D. A. WHITE & SONS

Feedmen and Seedmen. Poultry and Bee Supplies. 255 Commercial St. Phone 100

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The Bank Habit

Possibly you who read this have never kept a bank account. If not, let us suggest that you try the experiment. You will find it helpful in many ways. Aside from the fact that your money will be safe from theft and fire, such a habit tends to thrift and economy, discipline and a general understanding of business principles, all of which are essential to success. It also affords a convenient method for the payment of bills; and, as the checks are always preserved and returned to you, they serve as receipts for the amount paid. We will be pleased to serve you as your banker. Come in and open a bank account.

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