

# OREGON MIST

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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### COUNTY OFFICERS.

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Joseph B. Dunn, Rainier  
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Auditor... H. C. Copeland, Rainier  
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Surveyor... Dr. H. S. Cliff, St. Helens  
Comptroller... P. A. Prakes, Scappoose  
Commissioners... W. D. Case, Pittsburg



JANUARY 25, 1901.

The oil mining craze has "struck" Oregon. The particular place of contact is in Powell's valley, where something like six or eight quarter sections of land in the neighborhood of Gresham have already been bonded by hustling promoters who propose to commence prospecting for oil at once. No specified valuation has been placed upon the land in question, by either the owners or promoters but in lieu of such an understanding an arrangement has been made whereby the owners of the land will receive 15 per cent of the profits. As the proximity of that country to Columbia county makes any public enterprise there a practically local affair, the result of these operations will be watched with more than passing interest. It is believed there is more than a probability of developing some heavy producing wells in the new district and this probability greatly intensifies interest in the enterprise.

And now that Multnomah county has a real, fully developed coal oil boom, what's the matter with Columbia county having one, too? If Multnomah can entice on the strength of a simple suspicion that they have oil, surely Columbia can afford to get excited over the actual possession of that commodity. It will be observed that we have said "actual possession," and we do not wish to qualify the statement because possession is ours for a certainty. That coal oil exists in this county is a fact well known by many of our citizens and it has been known to many of them for several years, therefore the statement is not at all premature. Near the Peble creek coal fields are, perhaps, the strongest indications but conclusive evidence of the existence of oil has been found in the district between the headwaters of Oak Branch creek and the St. Helens-Vernonia road. Soon after the discovery of oil at Peble creek citizens of Vernonia secured quantities of the crude fluid as it seeped from the ground and after separating it from the surface water, with which it was impregnated, fire was applied to it and the result was entirely satisfactory. Parties from Washington county are now in the Peble creek district examining the indications there and the result of their labors will be obtained, if possible, and made public.

QUEEN VICTORIA is dead. She has abdicated her throne and laid down her scepter at the command of a monarch greater than herself and more potential than mortal ever knew. This is the inevitable fate of all men be prince or pauper, master or man. It is simple obedience to a sentence passed by nature upon all mankind and from its mandate there is no appeal by great or small, high or low. The reign of Victoria has been a remarkable one—exceptional one in many respects. She lived the longest and reigned the longest of any British monarch. Her reign has not only been the longest as measured by the simple flight of time, but it has certainly been the most brilliant and creditable to herself as well as fruitful and progressive the English nation ever enjoyed. This splendid result has been attained not so much by the exercise of any potential power personally vested in herself as queen, as by the charm and influence of her own regal personality. It is not believed by some critics that Victoria was as brilliant a woman intellectually as her predecessor, Queen Elizabeth, but her virtues were greater and naturally her influence was more effective. Under the benignant reign of Victoria England has made vast progressive strides, but it is not to be disputed that had her authority been less abridged and hedged about with constitutional limits her splendid reign could have been made even more lustrous and beneficial to her subjects.

This proposal to have a centennial in Portland in 1905 in commemoration of the advent of Lewis and Clark into the regions of this portion of the Northwest should meet with the hearty co-operation and support of every individual in Oregon and Washington. We, especially of the Columbia river region, should do our utmost to make the celebration a decided success. Here particularly are the scenes of the early explorations of those gentlemen, and the marks of their wonderful and valuable discoveries remain with us as a foundation upon which we have built an empire. By all means let us have the centennial and let us do the occasion honor.

WASHINGTON advises indicate that the friends of the Nicaragua canal bill are determined to pass that measure at the present session of congress with regard to the action of Great Britain on the amended treaty. While they would prefer that England should accept the treaty without further controversy, they do not intend to delay action on the canal bill beyond the present session on that account. They will give the British government until February 1st, and if no action is taken by that date they will pass the bill, which has already gone through the house and has been recom-

At the present session of the legislature an effort will be made to amend the game laws of the state, and the proposed amendments will be far more serious than are the present provisions of the law, which are a travesty on justice and a disgrace to the state. Under the present laws, which were designed and engineered through the legislature in the interest of the Portland Rod and Gun Club, an organization composed of alleged sportsmen, the average citizen has no rights whatever, that he may exercise with impunity. It is almost unlawful for him to be seen with a gun, and if he should kill or take a bird or deer for the benefit of his family he is arrested and thrust into prison, but the alleged sportsman of Portland can sally forth to the fields and lakes belonging to the farmer where he has purchased the privilege of shooting for a consideration out of reach of the average citizen, and there slaughter birds in a disgraceful and shameful way, under cover of a law which has been enacted for his particular kind. The birds he kills have been tolled to their slaughter by the feeding of wheat, and the methods employed for their taking are as unportmanteau-like as the law that gives them the privilege is unjust. The members of the rod and gun club are no respecters of decency, let alone the law. They not only have no regard for the law, but they trample on the rights of law abiding, decent citizens, who, as a rule, are inclined to respect the law. These alleged sportsmen slaughter birds by the hundreds for pecuniary gain, and it is not an uncommon thing for the garbage wagon to haul away from the markets in Portland hundreds of partridge birds to the crematory. A law which licenses such conduct is pernicious, and the members of a legislative body who assist in placing such law should, by law, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment. The common people should rise up in a solid mass and demand the repeal of all game laws of this state which give to a certain class the privilege of slaughtering fowl and beast for financial gain.

Since the enactment of game laws much has been said by farmers about organized rod and gun clubs. The rod and gun clubs are accredited with being the authors of the game laws. It is a well remembered fact that prior to the enactment of game laws, game was much more plentiful. Prior to that time the farmers, or possibly the gentlemen from town, would go out and kill four or five birds or catch one or two dozen fish for their private table. After the rod and gun clubs were formed a rivalry soon sprung up as to who could catch the largest number of trout or kill the largest flock of birds. It was soon an every-day yarn to hear of one catching five or six hundred trout in a single trip and killing one hundred and two hundred birds in a single day. This wanton and wasteful slaughter of fish and game led to the passage of game laws. But these have never stopped the rivalry to destroy the most game. It simply put a stop to their boasting about it. The game law which now permits a person to kill fifteen birds should be restricted to four or five. What use has any one man to kill more than the latter number unless to waste them? A penalty should be provided so that if one kills more than that number he shall be prohibited forever after from hunting, under severe penalties.—Corvallis Gazette.

REPRESENTATIVE A. W. VINCENT, of Washington county, who was elected last June on the anti-republican ticket, has created much of a stir in the political world, not only in his own county, but throughout the state, by going bird and breeches into the boodle camp in Salem, and very freely and promptly voting for Mr. Corbett for senator, for a consideration, of course. His party associates in Washington county are justly indignant, of course, and the Hillsboro Argus, the populist organ in Washington county, roasts him to an elegant finish. Mr. Vincent is quietly "sawing wood," as he well knows that any attempt to elucidate his actions would only add insult to injury. Vincent set his price, and got it, and now his populist brethren are lamenting the error of their way in electing an individual who would sell his soul for a mess of pottage. But history has demonstrated the fact that the average populist in the Oregon legislature is approachable, and Vincent is no exception to the rule. Were Vincent a republican not so much would be thought of his actions, but being one of the sturdy "reformers" of the state, it looks as though his pie crust was made and moulded only to be smashed to smithereens at the first opportunity.

SENATOR DALY, of Benton county, has introduced a bill for the creation of a State Board of Equalization, consisting of three members to be appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate. The board is clothed with enlarged powers and may call witnesses from any part of the state to give testimony as to values and as to the mode of assessment. In the absence of a complete assessment law, Senator Daly's measure is probably the best that can be secured at this time, and will be a necessity if the laws on assessment and taxation are allowed to stand.

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measured by the senate committee, so that the work can be commenced during the present year. The bill now pending is satisfactory to the friends of the Nicaragua project, and has received the sanction of a large majority of the house of representatives. It is also approved by a large majority of the senate, and the only obstacle in the way is the amended treaty.

It is to be hoped that the members of the legislature have too much regard for justice to allow themselves to enter into a compact with the Multnomah delegation and thereby force upon the people of this state such legislation as is suggested in a plan for the payment of state taxes by counties according to population instead of valuation. This is one of the plans proposed to combat the unjust methods of certain assessors to lower valuations in order to escape state tax, but the remedy is vastly more obnoxious than the evil itself. "Might is the right of the strongest," but being so often disastrous to the weak. As an example of the injustice of such a plan Columbia county will pay \$8,420.89 state tax this year on a basis of valuation, where, under the proposal of paying according to population, the amount would be increased to \$10,127.46. From the localities where the greatest wealth exists should come the larger portion of the state revenue, but under the plan of paying according to population here is an example of how it would work out: The amount due from Multnomah county this year on a basis of valuation is \$186,047.93; according to population her share would be \$167,819.58. The only method for remedying the evil of unjust assessment and taxation lies in the reinstatement of a state board of equalization, when, where everything being just, state tax is paid according to graduated valuation throughout the state. This pernicious scheme should meet a stinging, lasting rebuke at the hands of our legislators.

Never in the history of Oregon did a legislature find its comfort and convenience so well and so handsomely provided for as the one which convened last week. The hall of representatives is now a beautiful room, in which it will be a pleasure to do business. Its most annoying difficulty—the impossibility of hearing anything distinctly—has been removed and there is a general air of compactness that is pleasing. Rooms for committee work have been allotted and duly labeled, the whole building has been cleaned and renovated throughout, and the people of the state who come here to visit will be proud of their state capital. If Secretary of State Dunbar has left anything unattended to it has been by mistake.—Salem Statesman.

Inducements for the Boys. John Dellar, located on the corner of First and Yamhill streets, Portland, has a display of twenty-five different styles and grades of Boys' suits, which are offered as a special inducement from 50 cents to \$1.50 less than any other store in the city. John Dellar knows that the boys are hard on shoes; that's why he carries none but good, solid ones, and sells them from 25 cents to 50 cents less than any other store in the city. A big variety of boys' caps, regular 25 and 50-cent values, are offered for 15c, 25c and 35c. A large assortment of boys' waists at 25c and 40c, regular 50c and 75c values. The latest style of sweaters, 50c, 75c, \$1 and \$1.50. From 25 cents to very costly dresses for a very little sum of money by buying of John Dellar, corner First and Yamhill streets, Portland, Oregon.

Musical Recital. Mrs. Jones' pupils gave a musical recital at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Watts Thursday evening, the first of the class has given. Following is the programme of the evening's entertainment: Duet, "La Marmelade"; "Sudie Ellis and Birdie Harris"; Waltz, "The Broomie"; George Richards; Cyril Hattan; "Dance of the Brownies"; Kamman; Lavelle Watkins; "Curly Locks"; Orph. Op. 10; "Carroll Polka"; Steadog; Lloyd Hattan; "The Violet Waltz"; Steadog; Sudie Ellis and Beale Hattan; "Starlight Waltz"; Bratnard; Birdie Harris; "The Standard Bearer"; Sidus; Raymond Watts; "Doll's Dream"; Osten Op. 202; Sidie Ellis; Op. 134; Martha D. Krug; Beale Hattan; "The Echo of Lucerne"; Richards; Bertha Dart; "Enlalia"; Carson; Leta Whitney; "Over the Water"; Bonas; Daisy Erving; Duet—"Il Trovatore"; Verdi; Grace and Bertha Dart; "Fair Queen Gallop"; Sidney Smith; Lavelle Watkins and Raymond Watts; "Home Slack"; Selection; "Ab Cher La Mort"; Watson; Mrs. Williams; "Wildwood Blossoms"; Westendorf; Mrs. H. R. Cliff; Valea, Op. 23; Durand; Grace Dart.

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Steamer JOSEPH KELLOGG. Leaves Portland on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7 a. m. for St. Helens, Kalama, Carroll's Point, Rainier and Kelso. Arriving at Portland Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 2 p. m. Wharf foot of Salmon St. H. HOLMAN, Agent.

Steamer G. W. SHAVER. Leaves Portland, foot of Washington street, for Clatskanie and way landings on Monday and Thursday at 6:30 a. m. Leaves Clatskanie Tuesday and Friday at 4 o'clock a. m. Shaver Transportation Co.

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WARREN ITEMS. Amos Slavens Jr., spent last Sunday in Portland. John Lake, of Houlton, was a Warren visitor last Sunday. Mrs. H. Morgus, of St. Helens, was the guest of Mrs. N. F. Baker last Sunday.

Mr. Max Berg is having a machinery warehouse built. H. Larson is doing the work. Mr. Floyd Pusey and Miss Ella Bacon have been spending the past few days with their sister at Scappoose. Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Hason, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Heaver and Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Bennett visited with friends and relatives at Scappoose last Sunday.

Mrs. Henry Larsen and daughter Mae, who have been spending the past six weeks with relatives at Shorewater Bay, he expected home Thursday of next week. Another change in the management of the Sunset creamery has been made in the past week. A Mr. Waggoner, of Portland, arrived last Sunday and will hereafter conduct the business of the creamery. Mrs. D. C. Allard, who is on the committee of the Artisan lodge, at Scappoose, met with the other members of the committee at that place last Tuesday afternoon. They later giving an entertainment in a short time.

The social dance given at the school house last last Friday evening was a decided success. Good order prevailed throughout the evening. A large number from Houlton were in attendance as were also a few from Scappoose. Refreshments were served at midnight.

The Mother's Favorite. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the mother's favorite. It is pleasant and safe for children to take and always cures. It is intended especially for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough, and is the best medicine made for these diseases. There is not the least danger in giving it to children for it contains no opium or other injurious drug and may be given as confidently to a babe as to an adult. For sale at the St. Helens Pharmacy.

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Old People Made Young. J. C. Sherman, the veteran editor of the Vermontville (Mich.) Echo, has discovered the remarkable secret of keeping old people young. For years he has avoided Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Indigestion, Heart trouble, Constipation and Rheumatism, by using Electric Bitters, and he writes: "It can't be praised too highly. It gently stimulates the kidneys, tones the stomach, aids digestion, and gives a splendid appetite. It has worked wonders for my wife and me. It's a marvelous remedy for old people's complaints." Only 50c. at the St. Helens Pharmacy.

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	7:30	9:30		7:30	9:30
7:30 P. M.	8:00	8:30	Portland Ar.	11:10	9:40
8:30 P. M.	9:00	9:30	Goble	10:05	8:35
9:30 P. M.	10:00	10:30	Rainier	9:00	7:30
10:30 P. M.	11:00	11:30	Pyramid	8:00	6:30
11:30 P. M.	12:00	12:30	Hayger	7:00	5:30
12:30 P. M.	1:00	1:30	Orford	6:00	4:30
1:30 P. M.	2:00	2:30	Clatskanie	5:00	3:30
2:30 P. M.	3:00	3:30	Marshall	4:00	2:30
3:30 P. M.	4:00	4:30	Westport	3:00	1:30
4:30 P. M.	5:00	5:30	Clifton	2:00	1:00
5:30 P. M.	6:00	6:30	Knappa	1:00	12:00
6:30 P. M.	7:00	7:30	Stevenson	12:00	11:00
7:30 P. M.	8:00	8:30	John Day	11:00	10:00
8:30 P. M.	9:00	9:30	Ar. Astoria	10:00	9:00

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