

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

According to an announcement made by Secretary of Agriculture Houston, all records for farm production were beaten during 1914, with crops and farm animals totaling nearly \$10,000,000,000 in value, or about \$83,000,000 more than in 1913. The crop value was \$6,044,480,000, and that of animals and their products \$3,828,456,000. The corn and wheat crops were the most valuable ever produced in the United States.

One of the matters that is to come before the state legislature this session is the question of whether public service corporations in cities should be under local or under state control. A start has been made in this direction and efforts are being exerted by some communities to regain supervision of these utilities. Both experience and the opinions of the country's foremost economists incline to the belief that state regulation is the proper way. With many confusing local issues that arise, where judgment is clouded by the passions of factions, justice to the public and to service corporations can only be secured when there is a fair and disinterested tribunal to consider problems as they arise.

With the advent of the new year there is every prospect that one of the state's big industries, that of lumber, will enter on a new era of prosperity. Inquiries, since the Interstate Commerce Commission allowed a rate increase, have begun to pour in and lumbermen believe that in a short time the railroads will begin to place orders for lumber for equipment and ties. Labor conditions, as they affect this industry, have also improved and the open shop generally prevails. The big strike at Centralia mills, fanned by leaders of the International Timber Workers' union, who would not permit the workers to accept a reduction in wages during the dull period in order to keep the mills going, has collapsed, particularly because the big union with drew its strike benefits and left the laborers to shift for themselves. The Port Angeles strike also fell down in a similar manner. There is, of course, a plenitude of labor that is being hired as fast as orders for lumber come to justify the reopening of the mills.

The work of the Public Service Commission of Washington in the past two years, under the administration of Governor Lister, has nearly doubled as compared with the previous two years, according to the fourth annual report of the commission just from the press. The period November 1st, 1910, to November 30th, 1912, showed 898 cases acted upon. This included the informal complaints disposed of and orders issued in formal cases. From December 1, 1912, to November 30, 1914, the report shows 1698 of such cases acted upon. The report consists of 335 printed pages, reviewing in detail the work of the commission for the past 12 months and giving a summary of the reports of the electric and steam roads the past year. There are listed 698 public utilities of all kinds which file tariffs with the commission and render annual reports. Copies of the report will be furnished without charge on application to the commission at Olympia.

Ignorance of the powers and duties of the state examiner of banks and banking has led to some unfounded criticism of State Examiner Walter E. Hanson. To begin with the law does not permit Mr. Hanson to select receivers for failed state banks. All he can do is to take charge of the bank temporarily and straighten up its books and affairs so far as possible until the receiver has been appointed by the state court. But few of the receivers so far named by the courts have been recommended by Mr. Hanson. The department has been criticized for not making public the result of its investigations into the failed banks. The critics lose sight of the fact that section 3308 of Remington & Ballinger's code provides that if an examiner or any of his employees make public any such information they are subject to a fine of \$1000 and imprisonment in jail until the fine has been paid, and to forfeiture of office.

The old Walla Walla court house is to be torn down preparatory to the erection of the new \$150,000 one.

HENRY SHRAPNEL.

Inventor of the Deadly War Missile and His Reward.

Shrapnel was originally the name of a British general who, about a hundred years ago, was begging the board of ordnance of his native land for some substantial recognition in respect of the new and deadly missile he had placed absolutely at their service and was being told that the institution in question "had no funds at its disposal for the reward of merit."

Henry Shrapnel's invention was probably first employed at Surinam in 1804 and was then "favorably reported on," but eleven years later Sir George Wood, who commanded the artillery at Waterloo, declared that shrapnel had won that famous battle. Without it, Wood asserted, no effort of the British could have recovered the farmhouse of La Haye Sainte.

In 1814 the government granted Shrapnel a pension of £1,200 a year for life, but this was interpreted by his paymasters to cover all the inventions Shrapnel had given to the army, including an ingenious gun mounting whereby the recoil was utilized to bring one gun into action at the same time as another was put under cover. Shrapnel was thus placed at a disadvantage, though he had the satisfaction of drawing his pension to a ripe old age. He died in 1842, aged eighty-one.—Argonaut.

THE MALTESE DERBY.

Its Curious Race Course With Go as You Please Rules.

Horse racing is a favorite sport the world over, but it is doubtful whether any nation can boast of such a curious race course or claim more remarkable ideas of the sport than the Maltese.

Once a year the road skirting Silema harbor is reserved as a race course, and the people turn out in thousands. There is no regulation of the course. The crowd simply clears out of the way as the horses come along.

The jockeys ride without bridles or saddles, and each carries a whip in either hand—one for his own mount, the other to keep back any horse which may try to overtake him. We saw one of the spectators deliberately trip a horse up by putting his leg out, at grave risk to himself.

These things, however incredible as they seem to sportsmen in this country, are taken as quite a matter of course, and consequently hardly a year goes by without a fatality of some kind. All things considered, it is not likely that the "go as you please" rules of this Maltese derby are likely to commend themselves to other turf authorities.—Wide World Magazine.

Quicksilver.

The ore from which quicksilver is obtained is a brilliant red rock known as cinnabar. When of high purity it is actually vermilion in color. Cinnabar is the original source of the pigment known commercially as vermilion. It is a compound of sulphur and quicksilver, and in order to separate the latter from the sulphur the rock is roasted. Passing off in the form of a gas, the mercury is afterward condensed and flows out in a fine stream, like a continuous pencil of molten silver. Like gold and silver, mercury is occasionally found in a native or pure state. Sometimes the miner's pick penetrates a cavity that contains a cupful or more of the elusive and beautiful fluid. Miners suffer much from the poisonous effects of the quicksilver fumes. Extreme cleanliness is the best safeguard for workers in this dangerous occupation.

Moving Picture Tricks.

Some of the most thrilling scenes in the moving picture dramas are taken with the aid of small models, which are considerably less than life size. It is much cheaper, of course, to burn up a toy building or to sink a miniature ship than to destroy an original to make a moving picture holiday. The models used for this work are carried out with great attention to detail, and the pictures are taken with the camera very close to the ground to get the proper perspective. The moving picture audiences, even when paying the closest attention, are completely deceived.—Boston Herald.

The Stronger Material.

A crockery dealer was just closing up his store for the day when one of his customers, a grocer, came in in a great hurry. "Here," said he, "I packed this jar full of butter and the jar split from top to bottom. Perhaps you can explain the phenomenon." "Oh, yes; I can!" was the ready reply. "The butter was stronger than the jar."—Atlanta Constitution.

Side Stepped.

"I can give you a cold bite," said the woman. "Why not warm it up?" asked the tramp. "There ain't any wood sawed." "So? Well, give it to me cold."—New York Sun.

Accommodating Him.

Youth—Oh, I don't want to take that character. I'll make a fool of myself sure. Maiden—Well, you said you wanted an easy part.—Exchange.

Ruinous.

Crawford—I hear it was a bad failure. Crabshaw—Very. Even the receivers didn't make anything out of it. —Puck.

We are slow to believe anything that, if believed, would hurt our feelings.—Ovid.

WHAT IS FEAR?

A Feeling Based on the Instinct of Self Preservation.

That well known investigator of psychological abstrusities, M. Fernande Mazade, has attracted much attention by a discussion of the query, "What is fear?" The famous psychological playwright, Alfred Capus, who has dealt with the human emotion with such fidelity in his masterpieces, writes:

"In general, I think that when there is an accident or an illness one has not a sufficient perception of the peril to have the feeling of fear. Fear implies a consciousness of danger and the refusal or moral impossibility to face it. Fear consists in capitulating to the instinct of self preservation."

M. Victor Marguerite says: "Fear is a physical trouble much more than a feeling" and can ultimately be overcome by force of will. M. Alfred Mezieres of the French academy considers that fear is caused by some unexpected danger. M. Pouchet of the Academy of Medicine doubts whether any man has ever been quite free of fear for himself or for others.

M. Sicaud, who is a professor at the Faculty of Medicine, considers fear or courage to be the result of temperament, training and thought. Fear can be partially eradicated by reasoning and education, but it will never be overcome in its most acute form—namely, the instinct of self preservation. The conclusion is that it is far from being unanimously admitted that fear is a ridiculous malady.—Philadelphia North American.

The Gorgons.

The Gorgons were creatures of Greek mythology, mentioned by Homer and Euripides as being of peculiarly abhorrent aspect. Their hair was composed of serpents, their bodies covered with scales and girdled with reptiles with heads erect, vibrating their tongues threateningly, while the hands of the Gorgons, adorned with sharp talons, were of brass. The gaze of the monsters was deadly, all upon whom they fixed their eyes being turned to stone. One of the three terrible sisters was conquered and beheaded by Perseus, and as he took flight in the air en route for Ethiopia, holding the severed head in his hands, the drops of blood which fell from it became serpents, which ever after infested the sands of Lybia.

"Not Like Us."

Mrs. Anderson's husband is Scotch. Mrs. Anderson is an American woman, and she has in her employ as black a cook as ever descended from Ham. One day the cook said to her mistress: "Yo' husband he ain't no 'Merican, is he?"

"Oh, no, Phoebe, he is a Scotchman," replied Mrs. Anderson.

"Well," said the cook, "I could see he wasn't like us, missus."—New York Post.

Doubt.

At a luncheon at the Philadelphia Country club a notoriously poor golfer said to a noted woman champion:

"I am improving. I did the difficult fourth hole yesterday in three."

The champion smiled.

"Three what—hours?" she said.

Not In His Line.

"They tell me," said the new reporter, who was doing an interview. "that you have succeeded in forging your way to the front."

"Sir," said the self made man coldly. "you have been misinformed. I'm no forger."

May the New Year Bring Your Heart's Desire

Is the sincere wish of the

Vienna Bakery

That you may give us the same generous patronage this year that you gave us the past is our desire.

S. H. Knowlton
Proprietor

Tailors Come and Go, But Nolan Stays On!

He has been here so long that particular dressers keep him busy, and he can't find time to take even a vacation.

His fall and winter sample showings are unusually attractive and stylish. He invites all his old customers and all others who want good stuff, good fit and satisfaction to call and inspect his line.

Thos. Nolan, Tailor
At the same old stand.

Must Keep the Curtains Up.
"In London it is strictly against the law for the driver of any public conveyance to allow the curtains of his vehicle to be pulled down," said a man who has visited the English metropolis. "By day or night the windows of cabs, hansoms, carriages, or what not, whether drawn by horses or propelled by electric power, must be so open to public inspection as to allow a plain view of those occupying the interior. A closed rig wouldn't get a block before a London bobby would nab its driver and hale him to a magistrate's office, where he would get no mercy. The law is based on the theory that closed vehicles lend themselves easily to the commission of robbery or murder and that they may also assist a criminal to make his escape."

To Change Umbrella Handles.
Sometimes a person would like to change an expensive umbrella handle to another umbrella and fasten it on solid. This can be done by cleaning out the hole left in the handle from the old rod and filling the hole with powdered sulphur. Place the handle in a solid upright position and after heating the umbrella rod red hot push the rod down into the hole containing the sulphur. The hot rod fuses the sulphur, and when cool it will hold the rod solid. This method may be applied to fastening rods into stone, iron or wood.—Popular Mechanics.

Stop the Child's Colds—They Often Result Seriously.

Colds, croup and whooping cough are children's ailments which need immediate attention. The after effects are often most serious. Don't take the risk—you don't have too. Dr. King's New Discovery checks the cold, soothes the cough, allays the inflammation, kills the germs and allows nature to do her healing work. 50c at your druggist. Buy a bottle today.



In effect November 22, 1914.

West Bound	Arrives
No. 25,	2:15 a. m.
No. 1,	2:00 p. m.
No. 3,	3:50 p. m.
No. 27,	11:35 p. m.
East Bound	Arrives
No. 2,	1:40 a. m.
No. 28,	6:00 a. m.
No. 26,	1:15 p. m.
No. 4,	3:55 p. m.

Nos. 4 and 25 will be fast trains and Nos. 3 and 26 will do the local work.

We Do Printing

of every kind at the Echo office. Keep this in mind when next you want something in our line. We do the kind of printing

That Attracts Attention

We can print anything from a visiting card to a book or double sheet poster. The best equipped plant in Central Washington.

And the Price is Right