

The Weekly Chronicle.

The only Republican Daily Newspaper in Wasco County.

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 Clerk..... A. M. Kelsey
 Treasurer..... C. L. Phillips
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Weekly Clubbing Rates.
 Chronicle and Oregonian..... \$2 25
 Chronicle and Examiner..... 2 25
 Chronicle and Inter Ocean..... 1 85
 Chronicle and Tribune..... 1 75
 Chronicle and N. Y. World..... 2 00

NOT TO BE EXPECTED.

The earnest desire for peace, says the Tribune, is worthy of praise, but does not justify accounts calculated to create in the popular mind false ideas of the possible interruption of business or injury to seacoast towns which might result from war, or wildly exaggerated conceptions of danger. Fidelity to the welfare and honor of the country demands that there should be no panic manufacturing at this juncture, whether for selfish or higher motives. The straight forward and careful statement of the facts is warranted, but nothing more. The fact is that there is no occasion to apprehend arrest or serious interruption of any of the great departments of business in this country in case of war with such a power as Spain, except such seizure or destruction of merchant shipping as might occur mostly in distant waters. This would indeed involve much loss to individuals. But little over a tenth of the imports by war into the United States and exports by water from the United States was last year in American vessels. It is not a fact in which Americans can take pride; but it shows how small a part of the foreign trade is liable to interruption if the further fact is considered that only about a sixth of the tonnage of the United States merchant marine is employed in foreign trade.

These considerations reduce to a very small proportion of foreign commerce the part which is liable to interference by hostile vessels. But respecting the part remaining, the coastwise trade and the possible injury to ports along the seacoast, other facts have to be reckoned. Spain cannot keep aloft along this coast, thousands of miles away from supplies of coal, any considerable number of vessels engaged in preying upon our commerce or threatening our seaports. It is therefore pertinent to consider what objects would be gained by a hostile vessel sent on such a cruise far from a base of supplies. The capture of sundry merchant vessels would offer no return of consequence, because there is no ready port into which prizes could be taken for sale, nor could an armed vessel afford to load itself down with the goods from merchant vessels in order to carry them across the Atlantic.

It is always possible that for hope of gain or advantage men will take desperate chances, but who would wish to risk a vessel, and the cost of a voyage across the ocean, and his own life besides, without chance of gain or advantage? If the Spanish government could with hope of success attack any port of importance it might accomplish something in the way of vengeance, if not of gain. But what port of that character could be attacked and its defenses overcome and its business laid under contribution before a powerful fleet at the command of Spain to betray its presence anywhere along the coast a thousand miles away from Spanish coal yards. The question whether Spain has a fleet that it wishes to risk on such a venture, leaving the West India possessions undefended, is one which will be studied with a great deal of seriousness by the Spanish government before any vessels are ordered on such an errand.

THE PRESIDENT.

A great deal of this criticism going on about President McKinley is mere twaddle. We cannot see what great harm has been done through the president's action. It is true opinion may differ as to the wisdom of his judgment in treating the de-

struction of the Maine as an incident and not as a cause of war; but under the findings of the naval board it would have been hard for the president to force war on an issue which a board of inquiry had not been able to find chargeable to Spain. Still, we believe it would have been better had the president done so, and an expression of difference of opinion upon the part of the press and people is perfectly in order. But to charge the president with being unpatriotic and vacillating when he has shown a firm and dignified purpose throughout, reverts more on his detractors than the executive himself.

It was an exceedingly trying and difficult position, and we believe McKinley has conducted himself as well as any other man could have done. He has placed the responsibility of declaring war where it belongs—with congress, and if it want war, congress can so declare. The president does not run the country; he is only a factor in it, and though a potential one, he can do nothing more in this instance than to lay the whole matter before congress for such action as that body thinks. To criticize is easy, but how many of those who criticised could have done as well under the circumstances?

WILL CUBA BE DEFENDED?

As matters stand the question should read, Can Cuba be defended? says the Globe-Democrat. The conditions for a vigorous defense are not in sight. Not a single armored Spanish ship covers any harbor in Cuba, while our powerful fleet is but a few hours distant from Havana. The harbor of that city is mined and covered by a few powerful guns. But the far more numerous of our ships have a greater range and should be able to knock the land batteries to pieces in a day's bombardment. It has been stated, and probably with truth, that the supply of heavy ammunition in Havana is short. Our fleet will not lack for this requisite. Probably Gen. Blanco can mass 20,000 or 30,000 men in the works around the city. But he is beleaguered at the outset, absolutely cut off from a base. It is not believed that he has supplies to last a month. The surrounding country is desolated and full of insurgents. The element of disaffection in the city has not been gauged.

At last the noisy jingoes of Havana begin to realize that Spain cannot risk a ship to defend them, or to send them supplies of food and ammunition.

Cuba's other ports are at the mercy of our squadron, except perhaps those at the east end of the island. Two Spanish armored cruisers are at Porto Rico. They could make no stand against our full fleet, but might attack one or two ships of their own class if caught isolated. Spain's main squadron is assembling at its home ports. It is outnumbered by our own. Would the Spanish ships dare advance, in inferior force, across 3000 miles of ocean without a certain haven of their own for coaling and repairs? It would be regarded as an insane act by any military authority. If the Spanish ships were headed for Porto Rico we can get there first. Without coal a modern warship is a mere drifting hulk at the mercy of an enemy fighting at the points of vantage.

Should the Spanish fleet under secret orders try to assail any of our ports we can concentrate against it by telegraph, and its precious coal would be going at every hour of the day and night.

The sailing of the flying squadron under sealed orders is tantamount to a declaration of war. Undoubtedly the purpose of the American fleet is to meet the Spanish flotilla somewhere off Porto Rico and intercept it. The Spaniards have been reinforced by a couple of battleships, and when Commodore Schley's vessels meet them the first great naval battle of recent years will be fought. There may be other orders contained in the sealed directions to Commodore Schley, but it seems reasonable to believe that the American ships have gone to meet the Spanish vessels. While from a national standpoint the interest in the coming engagement is intense, it will also be watched with absorbing attention by

the civilized world. It has never been demonstrated how the new battleships will act in an engagement. That the conflict will be deadly all will agree, but our confidence in American brain, brawn and patriotism leaves no doubt in the mind where the victory will lie.

The nomination of T. T. Geer for the gubernatorial chair by the Republican state convention means that he will be the next governor of Oregon. Mr. Geer is not a politician as that term is employed now a days. He is a thinker of high order; a worker of unusual energy, and a man against whose personal character not a word can be said. His popularity with the people has been demonstrated repeatedly by his election to the legislature for successive terms, his selection as speaker of that body, and the fact that among the Republican electors at the last presidential election he polled the largest vote of any on the ticket. When Mr. Geer shall assume the duties of governor, the people may be sure he will give an administration of which the state shall feel proud. He will not be controlled by political motives, a statement which cannot be said concerning the present incumbent of this office.

A project is under way to have The Dalles lighted by the new gasolene light manufactured by a company in Goldendale. We have not had the opportunity to examine closely into the plan, but at first sight it has occurred to THE CHRONICLE that a considerable increase in insurance rates would undoubtedly result from the introduction and use of the new light. We would like to hear a discussion of the merits and defects of the proposed plan, and the columns of this paper will be open to statements for either side.

Are the representatives of the American people in congress losing their senses? The scene enacted in the house of representatives the other day, and Turner's unjustifiable attack upon the president yesterday in the senate, would indicate an affirmative answer to the question noted above. What is needed more than anything else at the present time is cool-headed, conservative statesmanship, and less of hot-headed school-boy exhibitions of temper. This outbreak in congress will not go far in elevating that body in the esteem of the people.

Coming Attractions.

On next Monday and Tuesday evenings, April 18th and 19th, the celebrated Janet Waldorf and her superb company will present "Ingomar, the Barbarian," and "The Hunchback" to the theatergoers of The Dalles, and two splendid performances are anticipated. The Portland Oregonian pays the following graceful tribute to Miss Waldorf and her superb acting:

"The Waldorf company appeared at the Marquam Grand opera house yesterday evening and presented Mary Lovell's classic and romantic drama of "Ingomar, the Barbarian." It is to be regretted that the theater was not crowded, as the production was the best that has been given this season. The audience, however, became enthused with the performance and the applause was appreciative, timely and generous.

"The company and star, Miss Janet Waldorf, are new to the histrionic world, and were not known to our people, although the press notices were highly commendatory to the attraction.

"Ingomar" is one of those plays that never grow old, and those who witness it once go again and again. It is a masterpiece of dramatic interest, and the story is a dream of all that is good and ennobling in the histrionic art of holding the mirror up to nature. This is Miss Waldorf's first season as a star. She has achieved in a few years' study what has taken other actresses years to accomplish. She is gifted in form and feature with a handsome presence and is graceful to a marked degree. As Parthenia, the Greek maiden, who went far into barbaric wilds to find her father and seek his ransom, she made a delightful picture by her artlessness, naivete and gentle speech. The transformation she wrought in the barbaric chieftain, with his uncouth ways and rough speech, to that of a lovesick swain, was a subtle bit of dramatic art. Miss Waldorf is young and has a brilliant future before her; she is talented beyond her years and is destined to occupy a prominent position in the dramatic firmament.

"Mr. McVey played the part of Ingomar, the barbarian chieftain, and shared the honors of the evening with Waldorf. He is a superb actor and has made a most pleasing impression.

"The remainder of the cast was in excellent hands. Little is required of them, but they gave Miss Waldorf excellent support."

PROCEEDINGS AT ASTORIA

A Stormy Session Yesterday - An Agreement Arrived At.

Malcolm A. Moody Nominated by Acclamation - Other Nominations.

Thursday's Daily.

At 10 o'clock yesterday Chairman C. H. Carey called the Republican convention for the second congressional district to order. E. L. Smith of Wasco nominated T. C. Taylor of Umatilla for temporary chairman, put the motion and declared it carried. Carey refused to recognize Taylor, and W. M. Rasmus of Multnomah nominated Otis Patterson of Heppner, whose election was declared by Carey, amidst great confusion. A division was called for and refused by Carey.

Both chairmen then took the platform. Chairman Taylor recognized the nomination of C. E. Cochran for secretary, and Patterson recognized the nomination of F. W. Eppinger. Each was declared elected. Concurrent motions for committees of five each on credentials and on organization and order of business were entertained by both chairmen and declared carried.

Preliminary to the opening of the convention two petitions were handed to Chairman Carey, one signed by 48 of the 80 delegates outside of Multnomah county, asking him to name Taylor as temporary chairman, and the other signed by about 30 asking him to name Patterson. The refusal of Carey to grant the first petition was the reason why Smith nominated Taylor and put the motion himself.

The Patterson convention remained in session while conferences were being held between the leaders of the two sides.

Two propositions were submitted. The Taylor party proposed that Multnomah retire and let the 80 outside delegates settle the matter of temporary organization, so that business could proceed in the regular way.

The Patterson party proposed that the whole matter be referred to the state convention tomorrow, meanwhile candidates for congress to be named by outside delegates alone.

At 2:10 p. m. the Taylor convention was called to order. The committee on organization recommended that the temporary organization be made permanent, and to proceed to nominate a candidate for congress.

It was feared that Baker, Gilliam and Clatsop would remain out, but they returned to the organized convention and participated in its actions.

The name of Malcolm Moody of this place was brought before the convention and he was nominated for congressman from the second district by acclamation.

Special to THE CHRONICLE.

ASTORIA, April 14.—The Republican State Convention was called to order at 11 a. m. by Sol. Hirsch. Temporary organization was effected by the unanimous election of ex-Mayor Toose of Woodburn as chairman, and C. E. Cochran of Union county as secretary.

Chairman Toose then appointed the committee on order of business and credentials, and adjournment was taken till 1 p. m. The committee on platform, consisting of one delegate from each county, was selected during the noon hour. Just before adjournment the following resolution was offered by Judge Pipes of Multnomah:

"Resolved, that the following message be at once wired to President McKinley: 'The Republicans of Oregon in convention assembled, to the president of the United States, greeting: With the utmost confidence in the wisdom of your administration, and pledging you the support of the state of Oregon, we express our earnest conviction that the Maine was destroyed by the design or criminal negligence of Spanish officers, and that this outrage is just cause for the United States to drive the Spanish nation from the Western Hemisphere.'

The resolution was adopted amid deafening applause, after which the delegates arose and gave three cheers for McKinley.

A telegram received at 1:45 p. m. stated that the committee on credentials was still out and that they would not report until after 3 o'clock.

The following nominations were made up to the time of going to press:

Malcolm A. Moody of The Dalles, congressman, second district.
 H. S. Wilson of The Dalles, circuit judge, seventh district.
 A. A. Jayne of The Dalles, district attorney, seventh district.

J. D. Wilcox of Sherman county, and Joseph Morton of Hood River, joint representatives for Wasco and Sherman counties.

M. T. Nolan and H. L. Kuck of The Dalles, state and congressional committeemen.

Rheumatism Cured.

My wife has used Chamberlain's Pain Balm for rheumatism with great relief, and I can recommend it as a splendid liniment for rheumatism and other household use for which we have found it valuable.—W. J. Cuyler, Red Creek, N. Y.

Mr. Cuyler is one of the leading merchants of this village and one of the most prominent men in this vicinity—W. G. Phippin, editor Red Creek Herald. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.



Aermotor Windmills.

We have lately taken the agency for the Aermotor Windmill, and carry a stock on hand.

We also carry a complete stock of Deep and Shallow Well Pumps, as well as Pitcher Spout and Spray Pumps. Call and see us before buying elsewhere.

The Aermotor Mill is considered the best machine on the market. Call and see it.

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