

anthracite ledge, when the company will begin placing it on the market. By next fall the output will be 1,000 tons per day, when shipments to San Francisco and other outside markets will begin. While anthracite coal has been discovered in several places, in none other has the vein been so near the railroad as to admit of its being worked in the immediate future. The importance of the development of this find can hardly be estimated on the material advancement and prosperity of Washington. Tests of the coal have been made by parties competent to judge, and it has been pronounced of first class quality. Analysis shows it to contain about eighty-five per cent. of carbon, which is fully twice as much as the best bituminous coal yet found. This much desired article has been reported as having been found so many times in this section, only to prove untrue upon investigation, that it is with genuine gratification the above discovery is chronicled.

At a meeting of the city council of Astoria last week, a committee appointed to examine into the water question reported in favor of the city owning and operating the works necessary to furnish that very necessary article, and presented a resolution that had been adopted to the effect that the legislature now in session be asked to authorize the formation of a commission similar to the body managing the Portland water system, and that it be authorized to issue bonds of the city to the amount of \$300,000 for the purpose of buying and repairing the present plant of the Columbia Water Co., and for securing another source of supply and constructing an entirely new system of works. The city will make explorations to ascertain the best source of supply and make estimates of cost, etc., which is to be repaid by the commission after sale of the bonds.

The Belt Line Improvement Company, a corporation composed of Seattle capitalists and John D. Rockefeller and Gen. Russel A. Alger, of Michigan, has purchased 1,300 acres of land on the eastern shore of Lake Washington, near Seattle, for which \$2,000,000 were paid, which is the largest single real estate transaction ever recorded in King county. The company proposes to begin the improvements to be made on this tract by erecting a mammoth steel plant. At another place a large establishment for the manufacture of car wheels and axles will be erected. Other important improvements are to follow in a short time.

Four enterprising individuals living at Helena, Montana, have been extensively engaged in the milk business without having the necessary dairy outfit usually required for conducting such an enterprise legitimately. The police authorities succeeded in entrapping them last week and found the stuff they sold was made of a mixture of saltpetre, burned sugar, chalk, water, and some red-colored stuff, the name of which they did not know. The expense of making fifty-six gallons of "milk" according to their formula is only \$1.25, so the business was proving very remunerative.

Four separate movements are on foot for the division of Linn county into as many different counties, with fair prospects of none of them being successful. Difference of opinion as to county road improvements and bridge building is the cause of most of the dissatisfaction, and the aspirations of one or two places to become county seats is also made a prominent feature.

The Airlie, Toledo & Nashville Railroad Co. has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$150,000, for the purpose of building and operating a line of railroad from Airlie, in Polk county, to some point of Rock creek in Benton county, Oregon.

A vein of cannel coal was discovered near the town of Muckilteo, in Snohomish county, Washington, last week, which is the first of that variety found in the state.

Articles incorporating the Oregon Logging & Lumbering Co., of Independence, Oregon, have been filed with the secretary of state. The capital stock is \$40,000.

Portland and Fairhaven parties have organized the Fairhaven Ice & Cold Storage Company, of Fairhaven, Washington, with a capital stock of \$25,000.

A new church to cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000 is to be erected at Medical Lake, Washington, by the Methodist denomination.

The Multnomah Stave & Barrel Company, of Portland has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$15,000.

ATTITUDE OF RUSSIA TOWARDS HER JEWISH SUBJECTS.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE REFORM LEAGUE, PORTLAND, OREGON, BY D. SOLIS COHEN.

If I were not addressing an audience of the character here assembled, I should hesitate long before presenting what I desire to say as I propose to express it. I feel that I am speaking to those who, after years of mature consideration of the problems of existence, and personal experience of the doubts which precede conviction, are above and beyond the superficialities and prejudices which, unfortunately, control so large a portion of our common humanity. I see before me those who not only imbibe thought but evolve it. It is in the process of evolution that we pierce the clouds so often concealing the bright light of truth, which shines for all who open heart and eyes together. In that light we perceive the unity of mind and soul. We strip from humanity the meretricious differences of fortune, birth and station; differences of form, face and figure; differences of national and religious training; and from the level of the soul aid and encourage one another in those aspirations which we hope will eventually produce a nobler race, a better world, a purer system of life. To reform we must first uniform, in opinion as in other things. If we can nullify wrong, right is everywhere ready to take its place. With us, distance should be of no consideration. A wrong to humanity in farthest Africa should be precisely the same as a wrong to humanity in our city, at our own doors. While in the latter case we might be permitted personal effort, we can in the former exert the power of spirit, of protest, of declaration; powers which have been the initiative of all reforms, the fulcrums upon which the levers which move the world have rested and always must rest.

I speak to you as a Jew, tracing back my lineage to those immortal minds which first pierced the density of matter that the light of the spirit might shine forth. But I speak to you also as a man, born by the same will and power which has created all mankind, with the same rights in the world to which I have been sent, the same privileges, the same accountability to its natural laws. I have neither the desire nor the intention to enlarge upon the history of my people. Interwoven as it is with the annals of the world, it permeates every nerve and fibre of that world's being, and acting under a law superior to those of earthly conception or execution, it will continue an important factor in the spiritual progress of the world until the purposes of nature shall be accomplished. Into the mouth of his much maligned and misinterpreted Jewish character the master mind of the poetic world has put the assertion, "sufferance is the badge of all our tribe." So it has been. In ages of force the weak must suffer; where brutal power prevails the powerless must succumb; where heartless injustice rules the friendless can only weep. But we see the dawn of a brighter age, when the ruling force shall be mind, the dominant power that of intellect, and the prevailing justice that which is meted out in the spirit of the great central light of the universe, which is justice. Sufferance should no longer be our badge, but manhood's rights, the gift of God himself. In this spirit I come before you today to place before you unhappy facts, and to ask of you, as brothers and sisters in humanity, to uphold the claims and progress of our age. If the closing years of the nineteenth century are to be marked by the unreasoning bigotry of what we have, in self adulation, termed the dark ages; if the chance of birth is to be made a cause for oppression and despair; if the common right to live, breathe, hope and aspire is to be denied to a proscribed race, let us, at least, utter that protest which our claim to a common spiritual brotherhood demands. If my people were void of intellect, emotionless, with no aspirations but to live as does the beast until nature claims its carcass; if we were, as some see fit to paint us, a people too sordid for any thoughts save those of temporal gain; if we loved money so much more than do those of other faiths around us; if we employed more questionable means of obtaining it, or made a more usurious use of it when obtained; if we, indeed, felt ourselves to be the abandoned of God, vile in the past, selfish in the present, and hopeless in the future, I should certainly not be here opening my heart before you. But it is unnecessary to submit to intelligent minds that such is not the case. Our history is an open book to all who care to read its pages. It is the world's tragedy, not a Newgate calendar. We ourselves know our people. We know they have all the failings which are common to humanity, none peculiar to themselves, and we know they have their full share of the virtues which redeem mankind. Let me refer briefly to one epoch in our history bearing somewhat on the subject matter to which I purpose calling your attention. Our country is now preparing to fittingly commemorate the discovery of the American continent. On the third day of August, 1492, from the port of Palos, in Andalusia, under the flag of Ferdinand and Isabella, of Arragon and Castile, Columbus, after years of trials and disappointments, sailed forth upon his eventful voyage. In this same year, 1492, by these same monarchs, Ferdinand and Isabella, an edict was issued banishing all Jews from their united kingdoms called Spain. Four months' time was given to the proscribed people to embrace Christianity, or to leave the kingdom and all their possessions in it, or to suffer death. Words fail hopelessly to describe the