

### PRaise GIVEN PIERCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

#### Methodists and Baptists of Astoria Adopt Resolution of Commendation

**Western American Special.**  
Astoria, Ore., Jan. 16.—At the Sunday morning service of the combined audiences of the Astoria Methodist and Baptist churches, the Rev. Melville T. Wire, Methodist pastor, introduced a resolution praising Governor Pierce for his firm stand on the prohibition question.

The resolution was passed by the unanimous vote of the congregation, a copy of which was forwarded to the Governor at Salem.

Dr. Wire also spoke for a few minutes endorsing the recent work of the city and county officers in ridding the community of some of its vice, and general cleanup work.

Dr. Wire recently attracted State-wide attention, when he exposed the committee of ten for trying to usurp the local government after the great fire. Since that time it has been very hard for the would-be-powerful committee to hold any prestige or gain much attention, although the new mayor, O. B. Retters, is reported to be working in harmony with the rest of the TEN.

### LOOK OUT FOR GREEK AND NOTIFY SHERIFF

#### Astoria Barber Charged with Leaving Behind Long String of Creditors

**Western American Special.**  
Astoria, Ore., Jan. 16.—About three weeks ago The Western American carried a story about a certain Greek named "William Hill" operating the O. K. Barber shop in the Sparks building at cheaper rent than was afforded the other new tenants, and about his announced intention to "buck" the local union.

A week ago, after receiving his insurance money, the Greek changed his mind about continuing his shop in Astoria, and departed suddenly for parts unknown, leaving behind him a string of creditors who would like

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### White-Robed Klansmen March in Old Indiana

**Western American Special.**  
Anderson, Ind., Jan. 17.—Headed by two bands, and with a fiery cross held by a man in an automobile, more than a thousand Klansmen in full regalia paraded through the principal streets of Anderson a few days ago. The spectacle still is the talk of the community. The streets were lined with thousands of spectators. An invitation meeting was held in the armory. A false fire alarm was sounded while the parade was in progress, but the Klansmen evinced their military training by marching serenely on, dividing ranks in perfect order to let the fire apparatus pass.

### PRISON FOR FIEND WHO SOLD COCAINE; LYING PLEA FAILS

#### Sheriff Slusher and Police Trying to Stamp Out Narcotic Evil

**Western American Special.**  
Astoria, Ore., Jan. 16.—James Martin, local Russian junk dealer and law violator, received a jolt when he appeared before Judge Bean in the federal court in Portland last Thursday and pleaded guilty to two indictments charging him with the sale and possession of cocaine. He was sentenced to serve thirteen months at McNes's Island, and this ended, temporarily at least, the operations of one of the worst law violators that has ever lived in Astoria.

Upon information that many dope fiends, both young and old, were obtaining their supplies from Martin's junk store, Sheriff Harley J. Slusher and his staff of deputies, together with some of the local police, swooped down on the store last September and after a search that lasted from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until after midnight they found two four-ounce bottles of cocaine buried in the basement. Previous to the raid, Sheriff Slusher arrested a 19-year-old girl coming from Martin's place who had two bindles of cocaine in her possession. The girl admitted buying the dope from Martin.

Martin maintained his plea of "not guilty" until the hour of his trial, when his attorney, A. W. Norblad, changed his plea to guilty.

Before the court Mr. Norblad stated that his client had always led an exemplary life and that this was his first offense. He appealed to Judge Bean for a light sentence. This plea was made despite the fact that Martin had been arrested many times before, both by the Sheriff's office and the police department and he had been convicted and fined for having moonshine in his possession, and he also was arrested on the charge of receiving stolen milk bottles. Several dope fiends admitted buying cocaine from Martin and it is reported that he was a user of cocaine himself.

As the fire completely destroyed the building and contents of the Northwest Junk Company, Martin's place, at Ninth and Bond, and James Martin himself is now safely disposed of, a big stride has been made towards curbing the narcotic evil in Astoria.

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### SECRETS FOR OUR BUSINESS MEN WHO ARE INTERESTED IN CHINESE

Business men and others who are interested in China may find some valuable information in the article appearing below, which came to The Western American from a secret source absolutely reliable.

ONE of the best signs of prosperity for the American merchant marine, which ought to mean good times for all in this country, is the hopeful outlook and progress in China. Every nation in the world is beset with internal troubles, of large or small magnitude, but China is on the eve of settling permanently its internal troubles which have existed for the last nine years.

Hitherto China has been divided into sections, each separated from the other as distinctly as is America and Canada, with little or nothing in common between them. The Peking government has exercised a superficial authority, but each military leader rules supreme in his own province.

#### Japanese Causing Trouble

The Japanese have been causing most of the trouble. It has been notorious for several years that the Anfu Club suborned all Chinese interests to the will of the Tokyo government. The titular head of the Anfu Club until lately was Tuan Chi Jui, who was suddenly and forcibly shorn of his power some time ago in the most important battle fought in China in many years. This battle took place between Tientsin and Peking. It marked the downfall of the Anfu Club and the ascendancy of Young China, composed of efficient young men, who have pledged their lives and their wonderful energies to the cause of civilization.

#### National Spirit Ready for Leader

At widely separated places in China there is sporadic fighting, but it is of no consequence insofar as trade and commerce are concerned. With public sentiment in China solidifying back of a man who has China's best interests at heart, the troubles are bound to disappear quickly. The chaos of which the world has heard so much will give place to order and progress in a short time. This chaos of China always was exaggerated greatly. The Anfu Club (Japanese), in order to further its own interests and to hold its grip upon the different parts of China, followed the policy of pitting one locality against another, leader against leader, emulating the example of the Roman Catholic church in dividing an opponent in order to conquer, and thus stirring up civil strife. The trouble-making propaganda emanates from sources outside of China, and the enlightened Chinese leaders will have no more of it. The best interests of China will be represented in conference, soon, and the two sections, north and south, will form a permanent union. The outcome will be representative government in Peking, and this will be the salvation of the country.

#### American Bankers Opening the Way

The Bolshevik movement never will gain a foothold in China. If the Russians and Japanese try it upon any scale, they will have nothing but pains for their trouble. The Chinese are too conservative and steady to be bamboozled by the Bolshevik stuff.

To Americans one of the most hopeful signs of a developing opportunity in China is that of the American banks. The Asia Banking Corporation, represented by the National Bank of Commerce of Seattle, and the International Banking Corporation, which is the house of Morgan in the Orient, have brought to China courtesy, kindness, efficiency and wonderful dispatch, and a feeling of permanency and square dealing in American banking affairs. These banks are the drawing magnets for all kinds of trade.

#### Millions Come Out of Hiding

In Peking, after the opening of the Asia Banking Corporation's offices there, several million dollars in gold and silver coin, which had been hoarded secretly, was brought out of the family strong boxes and deposited in these banks, because the Chinese knew they were absolutely secure.

The assistance which these banks are rendering our trade is gradually changing the method of handling foreign trade affairs. Bills now can be paid by checks on American banks—something never heard of before.

Close competition will mark the development of world trade with China. The Chinese buyer and seller is shrewd, but a most desirable customer. The channels of trade opened up during the war will remain open for a long time, but Americans must adapt their trade to the need of close competition with foreign countries. The wise open door policy of John Hay is about to bear wonderful fruit

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