Daily Astorian.

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The Astorian guarantees to its advertisers the largest circulation of any newspaper published on the Columbia river.

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Independent of the question of the qualification of the signers of the petition for the "three-roads" improvement, as submitted to Mr. Fulton, it appears that he concurs with Mr. Thomson as to the illegality of the attempt to incorporate three separate and distinct road improvements in the same petition. To quote Mr. Fulton exactly, he says:

"There are several reasons why thus uniting the three proposed improvements in one petition renders it void. It is contrary to public policy thus to "pool issues." The residents of one part of the county desire a certain improvement undertaken by the taxpayers; the people in another part of the county desire a different improvement so undertaken. One may be a matter of great public concern, while the other may substantially subserve only private interests. They are embodied in one petition, in order to secure the one of vital public importance a voter is compelled to support as well the one in which the public really has no concern. The petition can not be granted in part and rejected in part. It must be granted or rejected as a whole. In the case instanced, a voter could not remonstrate against the project in which the public had little or no interest without also remonstrating against that which the public welfare required. Can you doubt the invalidity of such a petition? Every proposition submitted to the people must be so framed and so submitted as to permit a full, free and direct answer.

This argument is irresistible, and, it seems to the Astorian, whatever may be thought of the intrinsic merits of the "three-roads" proposition, is conclusive. Aside from the force of Mr. Fulton's opinion, the county court solicited and will have to pay for his advice on the theory that its action would be thereby definitely determined. There is no escape, therefore, from the horn of the dilemma. Whatever may be the opinion of the county judge and his associate commissioners, there can be no question as to their public duty in the premises—it is to dismiss the petition as illegal and void of any effect in conferring jurisdiction upon them to proceed with the enforcement and expenditure of the public taxes contemplated in the "three roads" movement. There can be no possible room for doubt as to the propriety of such action. To proceed otherwise would justly entitle them to the condemnation of all conservative and intelligent taxpayers—whether favoring the roads or not. It is to be hoped there will be no further delay or vacillation in this important matter.

CASTRO AND THE CANALS.

There is lively news from South America, which has a bearing on matters closely affecting the interests of the United States, particularly and especially the building of the great waterway which is to connect the two oceans and shorten the distance for American ships by some thousands of miles.

It seems that President Castro, who recently "wrested" the government of Venezuela from Senor Andrade, has a great scheme, that of a "federal" republic to be composed of the states of Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador, with its capital at Panama, the main object of which is the "control of the Isthmian Canal route." He is said to have assurances of support from Ecuador, from Governor Serrano, of Panama, and the Liberal party of Colombia, who, by what follows, would seem to be liberal to a fault, since it is admitted by the supporters of the scheme that it is "only feasible through war," and the invasion of Colombia in order to "bring the Colombian government around to the federal point of view."

There is to be more "wresting" then, it would seem.

Colombia would be attacked simultaneously by Venezuela and Ecuador, which flank her on either side. It is hardly to be wondered that the scheme is "viewed with alarm" by the foreign residents in Venezuela.

This scheme means the Panama canal, of course.

Our congress, on the contrary, has seemed to favor the Nicaragua route as the more feasible, less costly and most easily managed. It is a curious coincidence, perhaps, that just at this time a movement should have been made in Paris to "Americanize" the Panama Completion Company by letting in a number of American capitalists, and that it should have been insisted the change should take place before congress makes its final decision between the two routes. That the United States interests would come out second best under the Panama plan may be accepted as certain, for nothing is to be hoped from a government like that contemplated by Castro, which would not hesitate to employ such means as already indicated to carry out what should be regarded as merely a mercantile proposition. If Colombia should ask for the good offices of the United States in this threatening condition of affairs it would seem to be good policy to grant them, and, if needful to intervene between her and her assailants.

GAINS IN OUR ASIATIC TRADE.

The interesting and important feature of the recent report on our Asiatic trade, compiled by the chief of the foreign markets section of the agricultural department, is the slow growth of our imports from China and Japan compared with the remarkable increase of our exports to those countries during the last decade.

Our demand for the products of the Orient has caused an increase of only a little over a million a year in the value of imports since 1889, while there was an average gain of nearly $3,000,000 a year in exports. As a matter of fact, however, the gain in exports in 1899 was greater than that of any previous year, while the imports for the last three years show an actual falling off. While we are gaining rapidly in exports to China and Japan, it is still a fact that we buy of those countries more than we sell to them. Of the $87,205,688 valuation placed upon our trade with Japan, China and Hong Kong in 1899, $47,815,035 represented the imports into this country and $39,490,653 represented the exports from this country, leaving an excess of imports over exports amounting to only $8,324,382. Ten years ago this excess of imports amounted to $24,099,173.

Another important feature of our Asiatic trade disclosed by the report is the fact that our trade with Japan shows a greater increase than our direct trade with China. The gain in trade with the former country was valued at $22,675,204, while the increase in trade with China was $13,233,148. It is highly probable, however, that our trade with China was much larger than the figures would indicate. In fact, it is hardly possible for the agricultural department to secure accurate statistics of our exports to the Mongolian empire, for the reason that vast quantities of American-made goods are shipped from England through Hong Kong, and such exports are generally credited in the custom house returns to Great Britain. Our exports to Hong Kong in 1899, however, are placed at $7,732,525, more than double those of 1889.

Great as is this increase in trade with the Orient, it is only a drop in the bucket compared to what will be chronicled at the end of the next decade if this nation makes the most of its opportunities in the Pacific and will proceed at once with the construction of an isthmian canal.

"Housework is hard work without Gold Dust"

WASHING WOOLEN BLANKETS

The theory now is, that blankets must be washed instead of dry-cleaned to be healthy. To have your blankets as soft as new, make a soapy suds in half a tub of warm water by using one-half cup of

Gold Dust Washing Powder

and soak a blanket in it for half an hour; then simply move it around and rub the soiled spots; rinse in warm water of the same temperature as the one in which you wash it, hang up in a warm place or sunshiny outdoor air and see what a soft, white blanket you will have.

The above is taken from our free booklet "GOLDEN RULES FOR HOUSEWORK" Sent free on request to

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If women were unable to see the fine clothes other women wear, they would probably have fewer wrinkles.

NERVITA PILLS

Restore Vitality Lost Vigor and Manhood. Cure Impotency, Night Emissions and wasting diseases, all effects of self-abuse, or excess and indiscretion. A nerve tonic and blood builder. Brings the pink glow to pale cheeks and restores the fire of youth. By mail 50c per box, 6 boxes for $2.50; with a written guarantee to cure or refund the money. Send for circular. Address,

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For Sale by Charles Rogers, Druggist, Astoria, Oregon

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NO MORE KIDNEY TROUBLES

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CURES GRAVEL, CONSTIPATION, INFLAMATION OF THE BLADDER, AND ALL KIDNEY DISEASES.

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Both mother and child will feel at once its strengthening, upbuilding and fat-producing properties.

At all druggists; 50c. and $1.00.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

ASTORIAN BARGAIN COLUMN

The Most for Cash.

I am advertising for the Cash grocery trade, for which I offer the fullest weights and lowest prices. Everything clean and fresh. Prompt attention.

CHARLES LARSON,
Groceries and Crockery.

There's Satisfaction

In buying silverware where the stock is complete and you have an assurance as to quality. I have a large assortment of sterling silver and hollowware in latest designs for wedding presents and holiday trade. Be sure to see it before you buy.

G. W. SMITH,
526 Commercial street.

Who Does Your Laundry?

We claim, and we will prove to every one, that we have the best and most up-to-date laundry on the Coast. A trial order will convince the most particular. If you want neat, prompt work, try the

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY,
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There is nothing nicer than a piece of silverware or cut glass. I have a complete assortment of the latest productions at reasonable prices.

H. EKSTROM,
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The Bond Street Fish Market is better than ever prepared to supply fresh and salt fish of all kinds. Goods delivered to any part of the city and satisfaction guaranteed.

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I desire to further call the attention of the ladies to my handsome stock of trimmed millinery. It comprises the latest creations of the millinery art, and I am offering reduced rates for the next 30 days.

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THE LOUVRE.

Strangers visiting in the city will find the Louvre an attractive resort wherein to spend the evening. The Amme Sisters Ladies' Orchestra is still on the bills and presents nightly a musical program of exceptional merit. Handsome pool and billiard rooms are a feature in connection with the house. Palatable lunches will be served at all hours.

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS WANTED.

"Fort Stevens, Oregon, Jan. 6, 1900.—Sealed proposals in duplicate will be received here until 12 m. February 10, 1900, and then opened, for the purchase of three 8-inch guns and carriages (cast iron); 25 10-inch guns and carriages (cast iron); five 200-pound Parrott guns and carriages (cast iron); 1,000 solid shot 8-inch and 10-inch (cast iron); 4,800 shells, 8-inch and 10-inch (cast iron); 125 handspikes (wrought iron); two 15-ton hydraulic jacks; and many other articles of iron, wood and copper. Right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Informantion furnished upon application.

W. A. BETHEL, First Lieutenant, Third Artillery, Commending.

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS WANTED.

"Fort Stevens, Oregon, Jan. 6, 1900.—Sealed proposals in duplicate will be received here until 12 m. Feb. 10, 1900, and then opened for the purchase of the following at Fort Canby, Washington: Two 8-inch guns and carriages (cast iron); 15 10-inch guns and carriages (cast iron); one 4½-inch rifle (cast iron) with carriage and limber (wood); two 300-pound Parrott guns and carriages; two carriages for 15-inch gun (cast iron); four carriages for 8-inch rifle converted (cast iron); 1000 shot 8-inch and 10-inch (cast iron); 2,500 shell 8-inch and 10-inch (cast iron), and many other articles of iron, wood and copper. Right to reject any or all bids is reserved. Information furnished upon application.

W. A. BETHEL, First Lieutenant, Third Artillery, Commanding."

GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL.

Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., January 10, 1900. Sealed proposals for the purchase of the revenue steamer Corwin will be received by Captain D. F. Tozier, R. C. S., until 12 o'clock M., Saturday, February 10th next. The Corwin is a steamer of 213 gross tons, top-sail schooner rig; with Oregon fir frame and copper and galvanized iron fastenings; extreme length 145½ feet; beam molded 23 feet; draft 9 feet 4 inches forward and 11 feet 3 inches aft; has one inverted direct acting engine, and one cylindrical Scotch return tubular boiler, built in 1889, and is supplied with sails, awnings, anchors, chains, boats, steam windlass, etc. The vessel can be seen at Port Townsend, Washington, upon application to either Captain Tozier or her commanding officer, and will be open for inspection until the date above named. Proposals should be endorsed on the envelope "Purchase of Revenue Steamer Corwin," and addressed to Captain D. F. Tozier, R. C. S., Port Townsend, Washington.

O. L. SPAULDING,
Assistant Secretary.

NOTICE:

Notice is hereby given that all of the assets of the Astoria Football and Athletic Club have been transferred to the undersigned as trustee for the benefit of all of the creditors of said club, and that all claims against the said club should be presented to the undersigned within 20 days from this date.

C. J. TRENCHARD,
Trustee.

January 11, 1900.

"I was nearly dead with dyspepsia, tried doctors, visited mineral springs, and grew worse. I used Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. That cured me." It digests what you eat. Cures indigestion, sour stomach, heartburn and all forms of dyspepsia. Chas Rogers.

When a boy gets his first watch, he's never satisfied until he can prove that some of the parts are missing.

DeWitt's Little Early Risers purify the blood, clean the liver, invigorate the system. Famous little pills for constipation and liver troubles. Chas Rogers.

If every man could believe everything he hears about everybody else, how much better he would think himself than his neighbors.

Miss Annie E. Gunning, Tyre, Mich., says: "I suffered a long time from dyspepsia; lost flesh and became very weak. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure completely cured me." It digests what you eat and cures all forms of stomach trouble. It never fails to give immediate relief in the worst cases. Chas Rogers.

If a man intends to drown himself, he should remove all his clothes; they might fit his wife's second husband.

Mrs. R. Churchill, Berlin, Vt., says: "Our baby was covered with running sores. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured her." A specific for piles and skin diseases. Beware of worthless counterfeits. Chas Rogers.

If handwriting is a true index to character, but few men need expect to inherit a golden harp and crown.

As a cure for rheumatism Chamberlain's Pain Balm is gaining a wide reputation. D. R. Johnston of Richmond, Ind., has been troubled with that ailment since 1862. In speaking of it he says: "I never found anything that would relieve me until I used Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It acts like magic with me. My foot was swollen and paining me very much but one good application of Pain Balm relieved me For sale by Charles Rogers.

If the waiter spills soup down your back, kick him; he expects everything to come to him because he waits.

My son has been troubled for years with chronic diarrhoea. Sometime ago I persuaded him to take some of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea remedy. After using two bottles of the 25-cent size he was cured. I give this testimonial hoping some one similarly afflicted may read it and be benefited.—THOMAS C. BOWER, Glencoe, O. For sale by Charles Rogers.

Mr. J. Sheer, Sedalia, Mo., saved his child's life by One Minute Cough Cure. Doctors had given her up to die with croup. It's an infallible cure for coughs, colds, grippe, pneumonia, bronchitis and throat and lung troubles. Relieves at once. Chas Rogers.

If you would know what your friends say of you when absent, listen to what they say of others in your presence.

"One Minute Cough Cure is the best remedy I ever used for coughs and colds It is unequalled for whooping cough. Children all like it," writes H. N. Williams, Gentryville, Ind. Never fails. It is the only harmless remedy that gives immediate results. Cures coughs, colds, hoarseness, croup, pneumonia, bronchitis and all throat and lung troubles Its early use prevents consumption. Chas Rogers.

If someone would only drag the sled up the hill for us, life would be one long delightful slide.

J. B. Clark, Peoria, Ill., says: "Surgeons wanted to operate on me for piles, but I cured them with DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve." It is infallible for piles and skin diseases. Beware of counterfeits Chas Rogers.

If the foolhardy man was only foolish, it wou'dn't matter so much; but he is always hardy and lives to a ripe old age.

A SURE CURE FOR CROUP.

Twenty-five Years' Constant Use Without a Failure.

The first indication of croup is hoarseness, and in a child subject to that disease it may be taken as a sure sign of the approach of an attack. Following this hoarseness is a peculiar rough cough. If Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears, it will prevent the attack. It is used in many thousands of homes in this broad land and never disappoints the anxious mothers. We have yet to learn of a single instance in which it has not proved effectual. No other preparation can show such a record—twenty-five years' constant use without a failure. For sale by Charles Rogers.

All Astorians who visit Portland and desire spending a pleasant evening in company with polite people and in the enjoyment of an unexcelled musical program, should go to the Fredericksburg. Besides vocal and instrumental selections there are many other attractions to delight the visitors. The new management is making the Fredericksburg a well-merited success.

BROWN & GRANT, Props.

It takes but a minute to overcome tickling in the throat and to stop a cough by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. This remedy quickly cures all forms of throat and lung troubles. Harmless and pleasant to take. It prevents consumption. A famous specific for grippe and its after effects. Chas Rogers.

TO CURE LAGRIPPE IN TWO DAYS

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Groves' signature is on each box. 25c.

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CUPIDENE strengthens and restores small weak organs.
The reason sufferers are not cured by Doctors is because ninety per cent are troubled with Prostatitis. CUPIDENE is the only known remedy to cure without an operation. 3000 testimonials. A written guarantee given and money returned if six boxes does not effect a permanent cure. $1.00 a box, six for $5.00, by mail. Send for FREE circular and testimonials.

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