

Daily Astorian.

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

Advertising rates can be had on application to the business manager.

BETTER PATENT LAWS NEEDED.

Unusual interest will attach to the final report and recommendations of the commissioners appointed by President McKinley to revise and amend the patent laws which have been holding sessions in Chicago, because of the continual clamor of the populists and anti-trust agitators for the abolition of "patent monopolies."

A patent monopoly, according to the populists, arises from the safeguards which the government is supposed to throw around the patented products of inventive genius. Some of the populists are opposed to any sort of protection to the owners or inventors of patented articles, believing that the world is entitled to the benefit of all mechanical devices or processes that are calculated to contribute to the comfort or happiness of mankind.

Instead of lowering or removing the governmental barriers against infringements of patents all revision or amendment of the patent laws should be in the direction of making the protection now afforded by the government more secure against the encroachments of those who seek to profit by the industry or genius of others. The government issues "letters patent" to an inventor, which is supposed to protect him in his right to the manufacture and sale of a device, but the protection is notoriously ineffective and inadequate.

It is not creditable to our patent legislation that such an inventor as Thomas A. Edison should finally announce his conclusion, after long experience in litigation, that a "United States letters patent does not protect." It is stated,

In fact, that Mr. Edison does not take out any more patents on his electrical devices.

Every bona-fide inventor or discoverer of a mechanical contrivance or process is entitled to the profits from the products of his inventive skill and the United States should secure him in that right or abolish the patent office.

BRYAN THE CONQUISTADOR.

New York Tribune.

Mr. Bryan in his Nebraska platform, which may well be taken as an antitype of the forthcoming Kansas City platform on which he will take his stand as a presidential candidate, is particularly hot and strenuous against militarism, imperialism and all the other like bogies which have been conjured up in his "mirage of overheated language."

And yet in that same benign and philosophical charter of humanity Mr. Bryan declares: "We are in favor of the immediate construction and fortification of the Nicaragua canal by the United States."

Is not Mr. Bryan aware that the Nicaragua canal is to traverse the territory of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, two independent, sovereign states? Are we to go down there, invade that territory with force and arms and purchase trade, or a highway for trade, "at the cannon's mouth with human blood?"

THE PUERTO RICAN PETITION.

New York Tribune.

Some of the planters, merchants and manufacturers of Puerto Rico have concluded that after all they do not wish their island to be made part and parcel of the United States. That is the meaning of their latest petition asking for the entire abolition of customs duties between this country and Puerto Rico, and the raising of revenue by an internal tax equal to one-third of the revenue tax levied in the United States.

The estimate of the committee of ways and means was that 25 per cent of the Dingley tariff rates would produce a revenue of \$2,500,000. If that is correct, 15 per cent of those rates ought to produce \$1,500,000. The Puerto Rican petition estimates that the taxes levied by the United States internal revenue laws would amount to \$2,277,000. It would therefore cost the people of Puerto Rico nearly \$1,000,000 more a year, all coming out of their own pockets right at home, to live under the constitution than would be raised for their benefit from both the Puerto Rican and American traders in the custom houses here as well as on the island.

The Puerto Ricans think this constitutional internal revenue tax is too much for them to pay, and quite naturally. In a country where living is cheap and wages low the stamp and other internal taxes which we pay might be a serious mishap. For instance, \$1.10 a gallon might put rum to a prohibitive price, discouraging production or encouraging illicit manufacture. Other levies might operate in the same way on industries such

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.

Dr. Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure. This is beyond question the most successful Cough Medicine ever known to science. A few doses invariably cure the worst cases of Cough, Croup and Bronchitis, while its wonderful success in the cure of Consumption is without a parallel in the history of medicine.

more worthy of encouragement. Imposts become oppressive as the selling price of articles taxed at a fixed rate decreases, and the taxes suited to us probably would be onerous to people who live well in tropical climates on incomes utterly inadequate to the demands of our more complex life.

WAR HEROES TOO PREVIOUS. West Coast Trade. The frigate, pronounced by Admiral Dewey announcing his presidential aspirations is likely to be succeeded by a child's hizzard, with General Miles placing himself in the lists. War heroes are blossoming decidedly too early.

NO MORE BACK ACHE. KIDNEY TROUBLES. OREGON GRAVEL. INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER, AND ALL KIDNEY DISEASES. Purifies the blood by eliminating all poisonous matter, stimulating the secretions, regulating the bowels and aiding nature in throwing off that which makes a yellow skin. The effect on the complexion is quite pronounced, as a few days' use will demonstrate.

NINTH STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the common council of said city, has determined and intends to improve all that portion of Ninth street in the city of Astoria, from the north line of Bond street to the south side of Astor street, to the full width thereof and on the established grade.

That the costs and expenses of said improvement shall be defrayed by a special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises fronting upon, adjacent to and otherwise said district includes the lots, lands and premises benefited by said improvement and is as follows, to-wit:

Commencing at the southwest corner of lot 4 in block 9 and running thence north to the northwest corner of lot 3 in block 3, thence east to the northeast corner of lot 2 in block 55, thence south to the southeast corner of lot 7 in block 55, thence west along the south line of said blocks 9 and 55 to the place of beginning and containing all of lots 1, 2, 7 and 8, in block 55 and lots 4, 5 and 6, in block 9, all in that part of the city of Astoria, Clatsop county, state of Oregon, as laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney.

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS.

Proposals for fresh beef and mutton: Office Chief Commissary, Vancouver Barracks, Washington, April 2, 1900. Sealed proposals for furnishing and delivering fresh beef and fresh mutton for six months beginning July 1, 1900, will be received here and at offices of commissaries at Fort Stevens, Oregon; Boise Barracks, Wallace and Camp Osborn, Idaho; Fort Casey, Clatsop; Walla Walla, Wright and Vancouver barracks, Wash., and Skagway, Fort Wrangle and Valdez, Alaska, until 11 a. m., May 3, 1900, and then opened. Information furnished on application. Envelopes containing proposals should be endorsed "Proposals for Fresh Beef and Fresh Mutton," and addressed to commissary of post to be supplied, or to Major James N. Allison, Chf. Comy.

J. A. Fastabend, General Contractor and Builder. THE PROOF IS IN SAMPLING. That's an argument that's conclusive—a demonstration. Ours will stand the test.

HUGHES & CO. Th. Frederikson PIANO TUNER. INSTRUMENT ON "CELLO AND VIOLIN. Phone 2074. H.F. Prael Transfer Co. Telephone 22. DRYING AND EXPRESSING. All Goods Shipped to Our Care Will Receive Special Attention.

"THE MILWAUKEE." A familiar name for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, known all over the Union as the Great Railway running the "Pioneer Limited" trains every day and night between St. Paul and Chicago, and Omaha and Chicago. "The only perfect train in the world." Understand: Connections are made with all transcontinental lines, assuring to passengers the best service known. Luxurious coaches, electric light, steam heat, of a verily equalled by no other line.

WHITE COLLAR LINE. Columbia River and Puget Sound Navigation Company. Bailey Gatzert leaves Astoria daily except Sunday at 7 p. m. Leaves Portland daily except Sunday at 11 a. m. White Collar Line tickets and O. R. & N. tickets interchangeable on Bailey Gatzert and Hazzalo.

Dr. T. N. Ball DENTIST. 573 Commercial Street, ASTORIA, ORE. Over Schuessel's Clothing Store.

O.R.&N. SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY EAST SOUTH

Table with columns: DEPART, TIME SCHEDULES, ARRIVE. Lists train routes and schedules for various destinations including Salt Lake, Denver, Portland, and Astoria.

YAMHILL DIVISION. Passenger depot foot of Jefferson St. Leave for Oswego daily at 7:30, 9:40 a. m.; 12:30, 1:55, 3:10, 4:25, 5:40, 11:30 p. m.; and 9:00 a. m. on Sunday only.

A FEW INTERESTING FACTS

When people are contemplating a trip, whether on business or pleasure, they naturally want the best service obtainable as far as speed, comfort and safety is concerned.

Oregon Short Line Railroad.

THE DIRECT ROUTE TO Montana, Utah, Colorado and all Eastern Points. Gives choice of two favorite routes, via the Union Pacific Great Northern Lines, or the Rio Grande Scenic Lines.

LOOK AT THE TIME 1 1/2 Days to Salt Lake 2 1/2 Days to Denver 3 1/2 Days to Chicago 4 1/2 Days to New York.

Luxurious Travel

"The Northwestern Limited" trains, electric lighted throughout, both inside and out, and steam heated, are without exception, the finest trains in the world.

THE MILWAUKEE

A familiar name for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, known all over the Union as the Great Railway running the "Pioneer Limited" trains every day and night between St. Paul and Chicago, and Omaha and Chicago.

ASTORIA AND COLUMBIA RIVER RAILROAD.

Table with columns: LEAVE, PORTLAND, ASTORIA, ARRIVE. Lists train schedules for Astoria and Columbia River Railroad.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY TICKETS

Through Palace and Tourist Sleepers dining and library observation cars. ELEGANT VESTIBULE TRAINS. No. 4, "Flyer," leaves Portland at 3:45 p. m. No. 3, "Flyer," arrives Portland at 8:00 a. m.