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

THE CONDITION OF EUROPE.

The president of the Imperial bank of Berlin expresses the opinion, based upon carefully collected reports from various parts of the empire, that the worst of the business depression in Germany is past, and that henceforth there will be a steady if not rapid return toward normal conditions.

In France national finances are a subject which has long caused increasing anxiety. The debt is by far the largest in the world. It is quite true, as the finance minister has recently pointed out, that two-thirds of that debt must be charged against previous forms of government.

If from France we turn to Russia we behold debt, depression and famine. That empire has one of the most noted and probably most competent finance ministers in the world, who has done great things for it. But some conditions are too strong for even M. de Witte to master.

The London Lancet, its daily paper, printed a criticism of a medical lecture given in 1821 upon the power of the digestive organs upon "substances endowed with vitality," a category which includes the prophet Jonah.

Such, then, is the state of Europe at the opening of the new year. It is not satisfactory, though we may hope

it is not gravely ominous. There are embarrassments and distress, but there is not and may not be actual disaster. Assuredly, it is to be hoped, here as elsewhere, that the forecast of the Berlin banker, already quoted, will prove to be correct, and for other lands as well as Germany.

Even yet babies are thrown into the Ganges, and in far lands there are mystic rites not unattended by shocking scenes. In a general way, it is knowledge of this circumstance that impels the missionary to go abroad.

Colonel Frank Munsey is bitterly opposed to the newspaper editorial unless he can write himself. Per month pays for the best daily paper published on the Columbia river, delivered six times a week at your residence or place of business.

There is no rest for those who live in the workers' - Dr. King's New Life Pills. Millions are always being cured. The pills are of J. C. Williams, Druggist, and drive out Malena, never gripe or sickness, small parts, etc., work soldiers. Try them. Agents at Hart's Drugstore.

England and Germany ought to be in better relations than making faces at each other. A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT. "I was troubled for about seven years with my stomach and in bed half my time," says E. Demore, Somerville, Ind.

Consolidation and health never go together. DeWitt's Little Early Bitters promote easy action of the bowels without distress. "I have been troubled with constipation nine years," says J. G. Greene, Depue, Ind.

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stomach either he was alive or was not alive. If he were not alive the stomach would have had the same power over him as over any other inanimate substance, and the prophet would have been digested in the ordinary way.

Stops the Cough and Weak the Colds Off. Laxative Bismarck Tablets cure a cold in one day. No cure, No Pay. Price 25 cents.

A young man in Illinois volunteers to fight for the Boers. He continues in Illinois fighting from that distance is easy.

SAYS HE WAS TORTURED. "I suffered such pain from corns I could hardly walk," writes H. Robinson, Hillsborough, N. C.

CHILD WORTH MILLIONS. "My child is worth millions to me," says Mrs. Mary Hill of Harrisburg, Pa. "I would have lost her by this time had I not purchased a bottle of One Minute Cough Cure."

Quay says he will stay in the senate to the end of his term. Nobody ever thought he would do otherwise. Senator Quay revisits in the shade of the plum tree.

Burns, bruises and cuts are extremely painful and if neglected often result in blood poisoning. Children are especially liable to such mishaps because not so careful. As a remedy DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve is unequaled.

Probably all the talk on West Indian secession is through a hat.

A FIREMAN'S CLOSE CALL. "I stuck to my engine although every joint ached and every nerve was racked with pain," writes A. W. Bellamy, a locomotive fireman of Burlington, Iowa.

During the absence in China of Ah Dong, senior partner and general manager of the Hop Hing Lung Company, the affairs of the firm will be managed by Ju Young, himself whom all business must be transacted.

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WORKING 24 HOURS A DAY. There is no rest for those who live in the workers' - Dr. King's New Life Pills.

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Happily every good resolution to keep a diary this year has been broken. DON'T LIVE TOGETHER. Consolidation and health never go together. DeWitt's Little Early Bitters promote easy action of the bowels without distress.

THE SW-OLD TROUARDING. In the British army the sw-old has been discarded, so far as its usefulness is concerned in modern warfare. A half century ago it was considered the best weapon, but the sw-old has now taken its place.

Dr. T. L. Ball. DENTIST. 524 Commercial St., Astoria, Ore.

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THE ANNUAL Masquerade Ball. Will be given by THE SONS OF HERMANN on the evening of Monday, February 10, at FOARD & STOKES HALL.

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Table with columns: LEAVE, PORTLAND, ARRIVE. Lists train schedules for The Northwestern Line, The Latest Pullman Sleepers, and The 20th Century Train.

THE BADGER STATE EXPRESS. Daily Train Running Between St. Paul and Chicago, via the Short Line.

Connections from the West Made via THE NORTHERN PACIFIC GREAT NORTHERN AND CANADIAN PACIFIC RY'S.

The Northwestern Line. W. H. MEAD, General Agent, 245 Alder Street, Portland, Oregon.

O. R. & N. OREGON SHORT LINE AND UNION PACIFIC. TIME SCHEDULE. Depart From Portland, Arrive.

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.

The Wisconsin Central Lines. and you will make direct connections at St. Paul for Chicago, Milwaukee and all points East.

KOPP'S BEST A Delicious and Palatable Drink Absolutely Pure. The Northern Pacific Brewery, of which Mr. John Kopp is proprietor, makes beer for domestic and export trade.

North Pacific Brewery NEW ZEALAND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY Of New Zealand. W. P. THOMAS, Mgr., San Francisco. UNLIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

We Rent New Typewriters. Many new improvements added. See our latest No. 2 Smith Premier Typewriter. L. M. ALEXANDER & CO. Exclusive Pacific Coast Dealers.