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

GROWING BETTER.

Of course the world is growing better, physically, mentally and morally. Man is better, body, mind and soul. He is healthier, longer lived, better fed, clothed and housed. He knows more of the religion of the body, the laws of life and health, and is more careful to obey them to enjoy the good results. He is better fed with purer and more nutritious food. Wages are higher and he will buy more comforts of life. The clothing, especially of children, is better, warmer, more decent and healthier. Mind is better cultivated, intelligence is more diffused, more books are read, more lectures given, more newspapers circulate, read and understood. Schools, school books and school houses and methods of instruction are better. Farms, highways, transportation facilities, tools, shops, factories, domestic animals from the chicken up; sheep, cattle, horses, barn and stable—everything you can name or think of is better. Governments, laws, administrations are better, even Portland is likely to be better soon. There is now and then a little eddy in the great stream of progress, but it is all coming right. In morals we are better; churches are more enlightened, less bigoted and tenacious of creeds, more given to co-operation in Christian association, Bible societies and Sunday school conventions. There is more magnifying of essentials and less quarrelling of non-essentials. Persecution cannot draw the sword and is even ceasing its clamor. Some are terribly distressed about divorces, but there are things a great deal worse than divorces. Domestic tyranny, drunken brutality, wife-beating, working a wife to death or starving her, desertion, refusing support, extreme cruelty, are all worse than divorce, and none of these things are increasing to any fearful extent. We hear of all the crimes committed now—our newspapers rake the world with electric fingers and drag it all in. But crime cannot hide nor elude the detective and condign punishment. But men do not crowd the churches, but they do the fraternal societies. There is more money paid to relieve distress, assuage affliction and dry up the fountains of suffering and want than ever before. There is more practical brotherly love

showing itself, not in criminal aims giving, but in paying sick and funeral benefits, burying the dead and endowing the widow and educating the orphans than ever before. Religion has penetrated far outside the churches, is touching the hearts of men who cannot be cramped into a creed. Let the pious man fight his best, each in his own way, by such precept and example as he can wield, leading others into the straight and narrow way, all the time holding high faith in God and man, and all will come right in time. Wake all your powers of persuasion, lay hold of the one you would capture and give him no rest till you bring him into the fold. If possible, but never despair. Hope on, hope ever! The world is growing better.

The fact that Tracy is still at liberty casts no reflection upon Arizona. It is evident that he did not desire to honor the city with his presence, and perhaps in that matter he was wise. But there is a more important capture for Astorians to make than that of the convict. The posse is now being formed and it is only a matter of time, if they receive the hearty cooperation of the citizens, when the home-seekers' rates will be a real thing. It is important that every one should become interested in this matter, as it will be of great benefit to the city. Why not prepare for a celebration? The Clerks' union, Push club, Woman's club, all clubs join hands. It's a great work. Help it along.

NOAH NOT RESPONSIBLE.

A Critical Essay on the Why and Wherefore of Fleas in the Ark.

Boston Post.

Editor All Sorts:
Please tell me why Noah took fleas into the ark? Yours truly,

ANXIOUS INQUIRER.

Lynn, Mass.: It will give me the keenest pleasure, Mr. Anxious Inquirer, to throw some light on your query. I am passionately fond of dealing with such an abstruse psychological problem as the above, because the deep concentration of thought necessary to its solution serves to keep my brain muscles in good working order.

Before taking up the main question it will be necessary to look into the social standing and family record of the flea. It belongs to the genus pulex and is regarded by entomologists as representing the distinct order Aphaniptera, probably so-called from its playful habit of nipping. It is found largely in the United States and cheap hotels, where it soon learns to jump anything from a tired traveler to a board bill. The flea has two eyes and six legs. It might first appear that six legs would be more than it could use, but the facts in the case bear out the statement that the flea needs all its legs in its business.

Indeed, the most remarkable accomplishment which the flea possesses is its ability as a long-distance jumper. It holds the world's championship against all other athletes of its weight and size for the longest and highest standing jump on record. When a flea splits on its hands and leaps into space there's no telling where it will light, because it never looks before it leaps.

No flea that is in love with its art will potter around trying to find a soft place to "light before it doubles itself up and begins to throw somersaults into space.

The great objection to fleas is that they will bite. No amount of civilization has served to cure the flea of this vicious habit. Frequently a flea will lose its temper about something and bite an inoffensive person all night just for spite.

To return, however, to the main question, why did Noah take fleas into the ark? As a matter of fact, Noah's log-book, where he recorded incidents of the voyage, shows us that he meant to exclude fleas from the ark, but failed in his effort. He talked the matter over with his wife before the ark was driven aboard, and they decided to leave all fleas behind to a watery grave. It happened, however, that when Noah drove the two dogs aboard several fleas had camped on the dogs' backs, and in this way gained admittance to the ark, where they concealed themselves as stowaways until the ark was beyond sight of land. It was not until the fleas ventured out one night and kept the Noah family awake until morning that their presence was discovered. Noah himself caught several and threw them overboard as a rebuke to the deception they had practiced on him, but there were others.

When the ark landed on Mount Ararat the fleas said to each other: "Get on to the dog!" They did and in this way managed to hide the custom-house inspectors and reach dry land, where they settled down and began to rear their families, the descendants of which are with us today.

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"I am so thankful for what Dr. King's Favorite Prescription has done for me," writes Mrs. John T. Smith, of Slocan, B. C., Box 50. "It cured me of a disease which was taking away all my strength, helped me through the long months before baby came and I have a big strong baby girl, the most healthy and happy of all my three."

MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.



Sound kidneys are safeguards of life. Make the kidneys healthy with Foley's Kidney Cure.—Sold by Frank Hart, druggist.

Spring could truly be called the sweetest season of the year if it was not for the onions.

When other medicines have failed, take Foley's Kidney Cure. It has cured when everything else has disappointed.—For sale by Frank Hart, druggist.

This would be a beautiful and pleasant world to live in if every one discouraged the flying reports derogatory to his neighbor's conduct.

A. R. Bass, of Morgantown, Ind., had to get up ten or twelve times in the night and had severe backache and pains in the kidneys. Was cured by Foley's Kidney Cure.—For sale by Frank Hart, druggist.

Try to be calm and serene, for life is full of blessings, and we should learn ourselves how to magnify them and be happy.

Foley's Kidney Cure purifies the blood by straining out impurities and tones up the whole system. Cures kidney and bladder troubles.—For sale by Frank Hart, druggist.

We don't see how a woman is able to tell or not whether her hat is on straight. The pesky things are built crooked on purpose.

TREAT YOUR KIDNEYS FOR RHEUMATISM.

When you are suffering from rheumatism, the kidneys may be attended to at once so that they will eliminate the uric acid from the blood. Foley's Kidney Cure is the most effective remedy for this purpose. R. T. Hopkins, of Polar, Wis., says: "After unsuccessfully doctoring for three years for rheumatism with the best doctors, I tried Foley's Kidney Cure, and it cured me. I cannot speak too highly of this great medicine."—For sale by Frank Hart, druggist.

A true gentleman will treat every woman he meets as he would with another man to treat his innocent, confiding sister.

A STARTLING SURPRISE.

A very few could believe in looking at A. T. Headley, a healthy, robust blacksmith of Tilden, Ind., that for ten years he suffered such tortures from Rheumatism as few could endure and live. But a wonderful change followed his taking Electric Bitters. "Two bottles cured me," he writes, "and I have not felt a twinge in over a year." They regulate the kidneys, purify the blood and cure Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Nervousness, improve digestion and give perfect health. Try them. Only 50c at Charles Rogers' drug store.

All marriage ties are the same. For an afternoon wedding a four-in-hand is worn and at an evening wedding a luncheon.

LUCK IN THIRTEEN.

By sending 13 miles Wm. Spirey, of Willsboro, Vt., got a box of Burkle's Arnica Salve, that wholly cured a horrible fever sore on his leg. Nothing else could. Positively cures Bruises, Felons, Ulcers, Eruptions, Cuts, Burns, Corns, and Piles. Only 25c. Guaranteed by Charles Rogers' drug store.

The opinions of some people are not worth much. If they were they would not be spending them so freely.

STARTLING, BUT TRUE.

"If everyone knew what a grand medicine Dr. King's New Life Pills is," writes Dr. H. Turner, of Dempsie, Tenn., Pa., "you'd sell all you have in a day. Two weeks' use has made a new man of me." Infallible for constipation, stomach and liver troubles. 25c at Charles Rogers' drug store.

A broken reputation is like a broken vase. It can be mended, but the crack still shows.

Active agents wanted for "The World on Fire" by Murat Halstead. Burning mountains in American landscape, startling history of appalling phenomena, threatening the globe. 60 big illustrated pages, only \$1.50. Highest endorsements. Biggest profits guaranteed. Agents clearing from \$3 to \$25 daily. Outfit free. Enclose 10 cents for postage. The Dominion Co., Dept. L, Chicago.

If you should happen to see a man with a wooden leg don't get excited; that is just his other leg.

BRONCHITIS FOR TWENTY YEARS

Mrs. Minerva Smith, of Danville, Ill., writes: "I had bronchitis for twenty years and never got relief until I used Foley's Honey and Tar, which is a sure cure."—Sold by Frank Hart, druggist.

You can discern more of the outcroppings of human nature at a dog fight than at a prayer meeting.

NO FALSE CLAIMS.

The proprietors of Foley's Honey and Tar do not advertise this as a "sure cure for consumption." They do not claim it will cure this dread complaint in advanced cases, but do positively assert that it will cure in the earlier stages and never fails to give comfort and relief in the worst cases. Foley's Honey and Tar is without doubt the greatest throat and lung remedy. Refuse substitutes.—Sold by Frank Hart, druggist.

When a man asks you for advice first find out the kind that he wants and then give it to him freely and he will be convinced that you and himself are two of the smartest men that ever lived.

TWO BOTTLES CURED HIM.

"I was troubled with kidney complaint for about two years," writes A. H. Dals, of Mt. Sterling, Ia., but two bottles of Foley's Kidney Cure effected a permanent cure."—Sold by Frank Hart, druggist.

The mind of man is tempted with exaggeration. If he hears things derogatory to his fellow he is prone to believe them, but if they are good they pass from his memory.

ASLEEP AMID FLAMES.

Breaking into a blazing home, some firemen lately dragged the sleeping inmates from death. Fanned security and death near. It's that way when you neglect coughs and colds. Don't do it. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption gives protection against all Throat, Chest and Lung Troubles. Keep it near and avoid suffering, death, and doctor's bills. A teaspoonful stops a late cough, persistent use the most stubborn. Harmless and nice tasting. It's guaranteed to satisfy by Charles Rogers. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

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LEAVE	PORTLAND	ARRIVE
8:00 a.m.	Portland Union De.	11:10 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	Portland Union De.	9:40 p.m.
7:30 p.m.	way points.	

LEAVE	ASTORIA	ARRIVE
7:45 a.m.	For Portland and	11:30 a.m.
6:10 p.m.	way points	10:30 p.m.
		10:50 p.m.

SEA-SIDE DIVISION

8:15 a.m.	Astoria for War-	7:40 a.m.
11:30 a.m.	enton Flavel, Ft.	10:30 a.m.
11:35 a.m.	Stevens, Hammond,	4:00 p.m.
5:50 p.m.	Seaside,	5:50 p.m.
10:55 p.m.		
6:15 p.m.	Seaside for War-	9:25 a.m.
9:40 a.m.	enton, Flavel,	12:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	Hammond, Ft.	1:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	Stevens, and As-	7:30 p.m.
	toria.	10:50 p.m.

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