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THE ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.

The French courts are wrestling with the question, "Is a frog a fish?" The average man would think that there could be no doubt about the matter, and that a frog is not a fish. But in law things are not always what they seem, and several judges and a number of barristers and solicitors have been exercising their ingenuity and learnedly discussing the matter. The facts of the case were as follows: In June last two men were surprised by private keepers fishing for frogs in private waters at 1 o'clock in the morning, and they were subsequently summoned for poaching. In their defense the men argued that frogs were not fish, that consequently they were not fishing, and could not in any way be convicted according to the fishing laws. The police court adopted this view of the case and dismissed the summons. The owners of the private waters appealed, and the case was heard recently, an inspector of rivers and forests arguing that, although frogs were not fish, strictly speaking, they were placed in the same category by law. The appeal court declined to accept this view, and confirmed the decision of the police court, but it appears that the prosecution was not satisfied with this judgment and will ask the court of cassation to declare that a frog is a fish.

It is becoming very evident that the work of the coal strike arbitration commission will end in failure. The mine owners are now coming out against every proposition contended for by the workmen, and have warned the commissioners that they will not agree to the asked for increase of wage, reduction of hours or recognition of the miners' union. Perhaps it was hardly reasonable to assume for a moment that Daer and his associates would ever actually agree to any proposal of reason if concessions on their part were rendered necessary. They have neglected all through the struggle to manifest those symptoms of common decency that would appear in negotiations with men who are actuated by a desire to be fair, and their latest ultimatum doubtless means that the strike commission can discontinue its efforts so far as the operators are concerned. Unless they recede from the

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position now assumed, there will no longer be any ground for arbitration, for they have demanded the return of the men to work under precisely the conditions that existed prior to the strike. The indications are that government control of the anthracite regions will be the only solution of the fuel supply controversy.

The men at the head of the Lewis and Clark fair are not at all discouraged because of Governor Geer's refusal to call a special session of the legislature, nor should they be. They purpose going ahead with the undertaking and doing everything possible to plan carefully and with success for the celebration. The fair is an immense undertaking, involving the expenditure, directly and indirectly, of many millions of dollars. Its success depends largely on the feeling of the people of the state, and to have attempted to force upon them an unpopular proposal, such as the extra convening of the legislature would have done much to hurt the interests of the centennial. The utmost care will be required to make the fair the success that Portland expects to be, and solidification of sentiment here in Oregon will be a long step in the right direction.

The ordinary camel, which will never hurry under any circumstances, has been transformed in Southern Algeria into an animal so different in size, temper and appearance that it may almost be looked upon as a different race. This is the racing camel, prized for its speed. The result of many generations of careful breeding, which has been encouraged by valuable prizes, it can be depended upon for nine or ten miles an hour, which it can keep up for sixteen or seventeen hours almost without a stop. Its value is five or ten times that of the beast of burden. The camel races are popular sport, and are made exciting by the evident interest of the creatures themselves in winning.

Typhoid fever has been added to the list of ailments which Christian science will not cure, the daughter of a Chicago banker having succumbed in Washington while under "treatment." It might be well to apply Christian science in the case of sick anarchists, but as a remedy for the ills of the ordinary person it will hardly meet requirements.

The crown prince of Siam will be in Portland in a day or two. Let us fervently hope that he will not get mixed up in some "21" game.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. United States Land Office, Oregon City, Oregon, September 22, 1902. Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the states of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the public land states by act of August 4, 1892,

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