

Daily Astorian.

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

THE ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.

The death of John A. Devlin is a public calamity. Mr. Devlin was one of Astoria's most enterprising citizens, and without ostentation or unnecessary display he had added his full share to the city's wellbeing. His death removes one of our brightest and most capable business men.

Mr. Whipple is right. We should not pay any attention to the statement that the Union Pacific is going to utilize Astoria harbor, but should go ahead with development of lumbering. We should do twice as much in 1903 as in 1902, and place no dependence on the announcement that grain will soon be exported from this point. Our mills will do more for us than our shipping interests, and besides the results from them will be certain. Let us start off the new year by securing a few more mills, and then if the Harriman system wants to use our harbor all well and good. In the meantime, we must help ourselves—must cut out the hot air and get down to business.

Members of the city council, who seem anxious enough for the indorsement of the labor unions when they are running for office, should bear in mind that The Astorian is employing union labor throughout, and paying the highest wages, in proportion to the number of men employed, in the city. In order that union wages may be paid, it is necessary for this paper to charge living rates for its work, and the council displays a total disregard for the interests of the unions when it declines to award the city printing contract to the lowest bidder. If the merchants and other patrons of this newspaper took the same view of the matter as that entertained by the common council, our employees would be receiving starvation wages. So long as the council refuses to award the printing contract on a basis of the rates asked by this paper, just so long will its members be regarded as insincere in their frequent declarations that they are anxious over the welfare of the working man. The effort to beat down the legitimate prices asked is nothing more than a thrust at union wages, which cannot prevail at lower rates than those asked.

The following from the Butte Inter-Mountain is pertinent and timely. The last mentioned fakir, a Dr. DeAmandus, opened up in Astoria last spring, but evidently failed to find suckers plentiful in this city, as he did not stay long. The article says:

Once upon a time a man who knew human nature made the declaration that a sucker is born every minute.

No True American

is ever satisfied except with the best. The oldest is not always the best, and is seldom the strongest. In this case, however, the best is the oldest and strongest. Let figures speak:

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Then he embarked in business as a gold brick operator and has been making money ever since—save for temporary lapses when serving his country in jail. The foundation of all swindling operations is the desire, inherent in weak humanity, to get something for nothing. The wise man conquers this inclination; the fool has it with him always, and the birth statistics indicate, as set forth in the foregoing, that one comes into the world every time the big hand on the clock moves. Were it not for this desire, swindlers would of necessity cease operations. "Rebel George" Knowlton, the most successful gold-brick operator since the days of "Appetite Bill," owes his success to the fact that he invariably makes his victim believe the operator to be ignorant of the value of the brick or gilded nugget he is trying to sell. The victim, eager to cheat the poor, ignorant old rancher or prospector—for George masquerades in both roles—buys the worthless goods and then declares himself swindled. The Humbert case is another in point. On the basis of an alleged fortune, sealed in a safe under order of the court, the Humberts borrowed immense sums which greedy people were willing to lend them on promise of fabulous interest when the safe was opened. And now comes a story from Portland of two women who want redress for having been victims of a fraud the simplest should have avoided. A fakir in the Oregon city convinced them that he could charm a roll of bills into a chest of gold. He said his charm over \$1025 worth of currency they committed to his charge, pretending to put the money into a package in reality he "planted" it into his pocket—and told them to bury the package until December 23, when they would find it transformed into a box full of gold. When December 23 rolled around they dug up the package and found it contained only waste paper. The charmer had fled. As old as the hills are all of these schemes. Just so long, however, as humanity yearns to acquire property for nothing, just so long will they continue to be successful. 'Tis the "sucker" who makes a living for the gambling house proprietor and the professional confidence operator.

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7:45 a.m.	For Portland and W	11:10 a.m.
6:10 p.m.	For Portland and W	10:00 p.m.

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8:15 a.m.	Astoria for Warrenton	7:40 a.m.
11:35 a.m.	Flavel, Fort Stevens	4:50 p.m.
6:00 p.m.	Hammond and Astoria	10:45 a.m.
6:15 a.m.	Seaside for Warrenton	12:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m.	Flavel, Hammond, For	7:20 p.m.
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