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THE ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.

THE PARENTS TO BLAME.

The epidemic of scarlet fever, diphtheria and smallpox which is now prevalent in Astoria properly occasions much alarm. Vigorous action on the part of the board of health is necessary to prevent further spread of the pests, and that body should receive the earnest assistance of all the people of the community in its work. It was indeed fortunate that the diseases did not break out during the sessions of the public schools, else the number of cases and consequent fatalities might have been many times greater.

Carlessness of parents is largely responsible for the prevalence of scarlet fever and diphtheria. These mothers and fathers neglect to look after the health of their children, permitting them to frequent filthy places, or allowing their yards to become unhealthy through accumulation of refuse. As a usual thing, a child is well along with the disease before its illness is discovered, and the contagion has spread to its playmates. The negligence of one family will often result in scores of cases in other families, and the disease will continue to spread until the afflicted district is quarantined.

Some time ago The Astorian pointed out in a forcible manner the absolute necessity of more sweeping health precautions on the part of the people living in some of the residence districts. The attention of property owners and city officials was called to the cesspools which exist in many parts of town, and steps to abate them were urged. It was also explained that more intelligent effort should be required in keeping clean the homes of the city.

Failure to heed this advice has resulted in the present alarming contagion, and the parents themselves are to blame. It is not the intention to state that every family in which there is scarlet fever or diphtheria has been uncleanly, but rather that improper sanitary precautions in some of the homes have brought on this era of fatal disease. So long as people allow filth to accumulate about their homes, just so long will the community be subjected to dread disease. The present epidemic demonstrates only too plainly that the greatest work of the board of health will be in the homes of our city.

The condition thus far warrants the closing of the schools for a time. We cannot afford to take any further chances of spread of the prevailing diseases, for, once they secure a foothold in the schools, the result will be terrible.

That cautious parents are becoming much alarmed is evidenced by the following anxious communication received from a father:

Editor Astorian: Kindly inform me as to whether the school board has taken any action on the recommended action of the health officers as to closing the public schools during the epidemic of scarlet fever now raging in this city. Yesterday seven new cases appeared and today seven more. Is that not sufficient grounds on which to order the schools closed? While parents may be anxious as to the mental welfare of their children, still they are more anxious as to their physical welfare, and it would most certainly relieve the minds of all parents if the school board would investigate the matter and take action before school again opens. PARENT.

CALIFORNIA TIRES OF INVALIDS.

East Oregonian: Since the balmy breezes of California first became known to Americans, she has been a mecca for the invalid. Her cities have been overrun with people who could not live in other climates. A short span of life was promised the tottering consumptive in the invigorating breezes of her sea coast and Sierras. A few hours more of sunshine seemed added to the lot of the dying in the whispering zephyrs that spread their healing wings across that favored state. The feeble flocked to the cities and hamlets of California until she is a sick man's home. Business is carried on almost exclusively in many towns by people who are just simply hanging on to the edge of life, hoping for the climate to keep blood in their veins and breath in their lungs another year.

The salaried positions are filled with cheap men who are willing to work for a bare living in order to be able to remain in the state. The laboring man finds an invalid ready to try to hold his job, at a decreased salary. The state is thronged with tottering, ghastly men and women. Its condition is so serious that an effort is to be made to restrict the entrance of consumptives into that state.

A committee from the state senate has been appointed to investigate present health conditions, and this committee emphatically opposes the wholesale admission of consumptives to that state. It has been proposed to establish a home for such invalids at some isolated place, where elaborate arrangements could be made for their care. This plan is also opposed on the ground that such a resort would further encourage the sickly to flock there.

Where will the sick turn for relief? That suffering host:

"To whom the goodly earth and air,
Are barred and banned, forbidden fare,"

will be compelled to turn elsewhere for health.

AN ELECTRIC FLYER.

An electric locomotive has just been constructed which it is claimed will travel at the rate of from 100 to 125 miles an hour. From this it would seem that there is no limit to speed possibilities, nor is there any limit to the possibilities of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters for suring stomach, liver and kidney complaints. Its record of cures during the past 50 years proves this without a doubt, and also establishes its superiority over all other remedies. When the system has become weak and run down either from sickness or neglect, you will find a few doses of the bitters very beneficial. It will give you new life and energy, restore the appetite, purify the blood and cure flatulency, headache, indigestion and dyspepsia. Try it.

NEIL WINS ON FOUL.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Al Neil won from Tommy Reilly of Seattle tonight in the eleventh round, on a foul. Reilly put in a straight left in Neil's groin. Neil claimed a foul. His claim was confirmed by the physician and the referee awarded him the decision.

DUE TO ELOPEMENT.

DRESDEN, Dec. 30.—The condition of the king is alarming. It is said his illness is due to excitement over the elopement of the crown princess.

ANOTHER LIBRARY.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 30.—In a letter dated December 16, Andrew Carnegie offers to give $65,000 to build a library at Liverpool.

A STARTLING SURPRISE.

Very few couldb elieve in looking at A. T. Hoadley, a healthy, robuust 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 wholly 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 50 cts. at Chas. Rogers drug store.

NORTH COAST LIMITED.

Is only run by the Northern Pacific between Portland and Minneapolis and St. Paul, through Tacoma, Seattle, Spokane, Missoula, Butte, Livingston, Billings, Bismark and Fargo. Eight of these trains are on the run daily, four east and four west. Each is a solid vestibuled train, carrying standard Pullman tourist sleepers, dining car, day coaches, mail, express and baggage car and the elegant observation car. Each train is brilliantly lighted with over 300 lights and the beauty of it all is you can travel just as cheaply on this train as on any other. All representatives will be glad to give you additional information. A. D. Charlton, Assistant General Passenger Agent, 255 Morrison St, Portland, Oregon.

STARTLING, BUT TRUE

"If everyone knew what a grand medicine Dr. King's New Life Pills is," writes D. H. Turner, Dempseytown, 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 Chas. Rogers' drug store.

"WHERE TO HUNT AND FISH."

Northern Pacific's new game book is now ready for distribution. Illustrations of live game a particular feature. Four full pages from Seton-Thompson's drawings made specially for this book. Send address with six cents and book will be mailed to you by Chas. S. Feo, G. P. & T. A., St. Paul, Minn.

LUCK IN THIRTEEN.

By sending thirteen miles Wm. Spirey, of Walton Furnace, Vt., got a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve that wholly cured a horrible fever sore on his leg. Nothing else could. Positively cuures Bruises, Felons, Ulcers, Eruptions, Boils, Burns, Corns and Piles. Only 25c. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers, druggist.

ASLEEP AMID FLAMES.

Breaking into a blazing home, some firemen lately dragged the sleeping inmates from death. Fancied 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 perfect protection against all Throat, Chest and Lung troubles. Keep it near, and avoid suffering, death and doctor's bills. A teaspoonful stops a tickle cough, persistent use the most stuborn. Harmless and nice tasting, it's guaranteed to satisfy by Chas. Rogers. Price 50c and $1.00. Trial bottles free.

ASTORIA AND COLUMBIA RIVER RAILROAD.

LEAVE	PORTLAND	ARRIVE
8 00 a m / 7 00 p m	Portland Union Depot For Astoria and Way Points	11 10 a m / 9 40 p m
ASTORIA		
7 45 a m / 6 10 p m	For Portland and Way Points	11 30 a m / 10 30 p m
SEASIDE DIVISION		
*8 15 a m / 11 45 a m / 5 00 p m	Astoria for Warrenton, Flavel, Fort Stevens, Hammond and Astoria	7 40 a m / 4 00 p m / *10 45 a m
6 15 a m / *9 30 a m / 2 30 p m	Seaside for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens and Astoria	12 50 p m / 7 30 p m / *9 25 a m

*Sunday only.
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J. C. MAYO, Gen'l Freight and Pass. Agent