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Sent by mail, per month Berved by carrier, per month 60

ARMI-WREKLY. Bent by mail, per year, in advance \$1 00

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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 vards to become unhealthy through accumulation of refuse. As its playmates. The negligence of one family will often result in recores of cases in other families, and the disease will continue to spread until the afflicted district is quarantined.

out in a forcible manner the absolute cautions on the part of the people liv-The attention of property owners and This signature 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.

Fallure to heed this advice has result ed 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 footbold in the schools, the result will be ter

That cautious parents are becoming much alarmed is evidenced by the following auxious 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 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 refleve the minds of all parents if the Fisher's Opera House 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 Late and Standard Successes not live in other climates. A shor span of life was promised the tottering consumptive in the invigorating breezes of her sea coast and Sierras. A few

to the lot of the dying in the whispering gephyrs 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 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 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 isoments 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 claimel 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 Some time ago The Astorian pointed appetite, purify the blood and cure flatlency, headache, indigestion and cyspepsia. Try it.

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NEIL WINS ON FOUL.

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

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

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