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THE ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.



OUR NATAL DAY.

One hundred and twenty-seven years ago tomorrow the thirteen American colonies declared themselves free from allegiance to any foreign ruler and to be an independent and united nation. That declaration has been nobly maintained ever since. From the struggling settlements of 1776 the nation has grown by development, assimilation, purchase, conquest and other means of expansion, territorial and otherwise, to be the greatest nation of the world.

The citizens of such a country have a just right to be proud of the results which they have helped to attain, and at their citizenship in such a land.

Inseparably connected with the arrival of this anniversary of the nation's birth is the idea of celebrating the event. From long association this means firecrackers, bombs, cannon, flags, reading the declaration, speeches, a dozen kinds of races and games, two or three varieties of drunks, an assortment of accidents and other irrelevant or disagreeable features. All this in the name of freedom, to cultivate patriotism, and to commemorate the sublimest event of our history. It is gratifying to note that there is a tendency toward reform in this respect. People are realizing that the folly of such so-called celebrations has been carried far enough. Ere many years instead of the rowdy act we will be employing more genteel methods of expressing our patriotism and love of country, and more effective means of fanning the patriotic flame, if it needs fanning.

The idea that those of our people who have not lived for generations in this country need especial instruction in this line, is rather contradicted by the fact that our Fourth of July celebrations the citizens of foreign birth compose the larger part of the crowd around the speaker, while the blue-blooded more than likely are herding together in private picnics somewhere in the woods or at the beach. Such an occurrence has often been remarked in Astoria.

THE PASSING OF SILVER.

"Of the forty-one foreign governments of whose coins the Secretary of the United States treasury took notice in his proclamation of October 1, 1896, fixing their value in American money, fifteen were legally upon the gold standard, eleven were still experimenting with bimetalism, and fifteen were on the silver standard," says the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

"Of the forty-one foreign governments enumerated in the similar proclamation issued on October 1, 1892, not one was still attempting to make both silver and gold standards of value. Several that in 1896 were only nominally on the gold standard—such as Chili and Japan—had actually made all their money equal to gold. Of the fifteen avowedly on the silver basis in 1896, only Bolivia, China, Columbia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador and Mexico still remained upon it.

"Of the twenty-six governments which in 1896 were giving more or less countenance to bimetallic and silver standard theories, there remained on the silver list at the end of 1892 only seven small or backward Latin-American states and Mexico and China, which really had no standard at all. It is not surprising that Mexico is weary of such company and is seeking to get away from the commercial and industrial handicaps that the silver standard imposes.

"As races and empires rise and fall, so do metals. At one time, there is reason to believe, silver was a 'pre-

cious metal as gold. Its manner of occurrence and the work of winning it offered greater difficulties to primitive metallurgy. Its name is still the synonym for 'money' in several great languages. But the advancement of science made it too common to serve as a standard of value.

"In the arts, for household utensils, and as material for small divisions of the currency, it will doubtless continue to be used. Among the poverty-stricken myriads of Asia, stores of it will continue to be the symbol of wealth. But with modern civilized men, as a standard of value in their industry and commerce, silver is passing, to join the procession of cattle and wampum and copper.

THE SOUTHERN VIEW.

An old Florida colonel recently met Booker T. Washington, and in a libidinous burst of confidence said to the negro educator:

"Sub, I am glad to meet you. Always wanted to shake your hand, sub. I think, sub, your the greatest man in America."

"Oh, no," said Mr. Washington. "You are, sub," said the colonel, and then, pugnaciously: "Who's greater?"

"Well," said the founder of Tuskegee, "There's President Roosevelt."

"No, sub," roared the colonel. "Not by a jug full; I used to think so, but since he invited you to dinner I think he's a blank scoundrel."

ONE OF THE GIANTS.

According to Everybody's Magazine for July, the year's consumption of tobacco in the United States includes seven billions of cigars, ten billions of cigarettes, and two hundred and eighty millions of pounds of manufactured tobacco. The one item of smoking and chewing tobacco, exclusive of cigars, cigarettes and snuff, registers an annual over-all value of more than \$500,000,000. In addition, England smokes six billions, Japan three billions and China one and one-half billions of cigarettes every twelvemonth. This outside cigarette-puffing burns up forty-five millions of pounds of tobacco and puts about \$4,000,000 into the bank account of the American grower, giving the giant balance to the trust.

One of the magnates of this wonderfully puffed up power is James Buchanan Duke, president of the Consolidated, the Continental and the American tobacco companies. His modest salary is \$100,000 a year, and of it Mr. Duke says: "I'm not paid those \$100,000 for what I do, but for what I don't do. I'm paid for the mistakes I fail to make."

In this age of big things the tobacco habit is evidently not the least. Mr. Duke may be infallible when it comes to selling tobacco, but the expenditure of such enormous sums of good money in the generally useless gratification of an unnatural appetite would seem to indicate the fallibility of several million of the common people.

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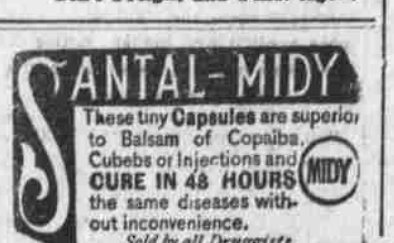
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LEAVE	PORTLAND	ARRIVE
8:00 a.m.	Portland Union Depot	11:10 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	For Astoria and Way Points	9:40 p.m.
ASTORIA		
7:45 a.m.	For Portland and Way Points	11:30 a.m.
6:10 p.m.		10:30 p.m.
SEASIDE DIVISION		
8:10 a.m.	Astoria for Warrenton, Flavel, Fort Stevens, Hammond and Astoria	7:40 a.m.
5:50 p.m.		10:45 a.m.
6:15 a.m.	Seaside for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens and Astoria	12:50 p.m.
7:30 p.m.		7:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m.		7:20 p.m.

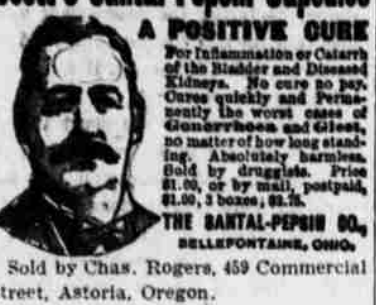
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LOW RATES TO SAN FRANCISCO.

On account of the National Encampment Grand Army of the Republic to be held at San Francisco August 17 to 22, the O. R. & N. Co. have named the low rate of \$20.00 for the round trip by steamship in both directions, or \$25.00 for steamship in one direction and rail return or vice versa. This rate will only apply on steamships leaving Astoria August 11 and 14, or on trains leaving Portland August 12, 13, 14. Tickets will be good for return within a final limit of sixty days from date of sale. Berth reservations should be made early to avoid disappointment. For further particulars apply to G. W. LOUNSBERRY, Agt.

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Office of C. Q. M. Vancouver Barracks, Wash., June 11, 1903. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received here until 11 A. M., July 11, 1903, and then opened, for repairs to hospital at Fort Stevens, Oregon. For full information apply to this office or Quartermaster Fort Stevens, Oregon. U. S. reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals or any part thereof. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked: "Proposals for repairs to hospital at Fort Stevens, Oregon," and addressed to undersigned.
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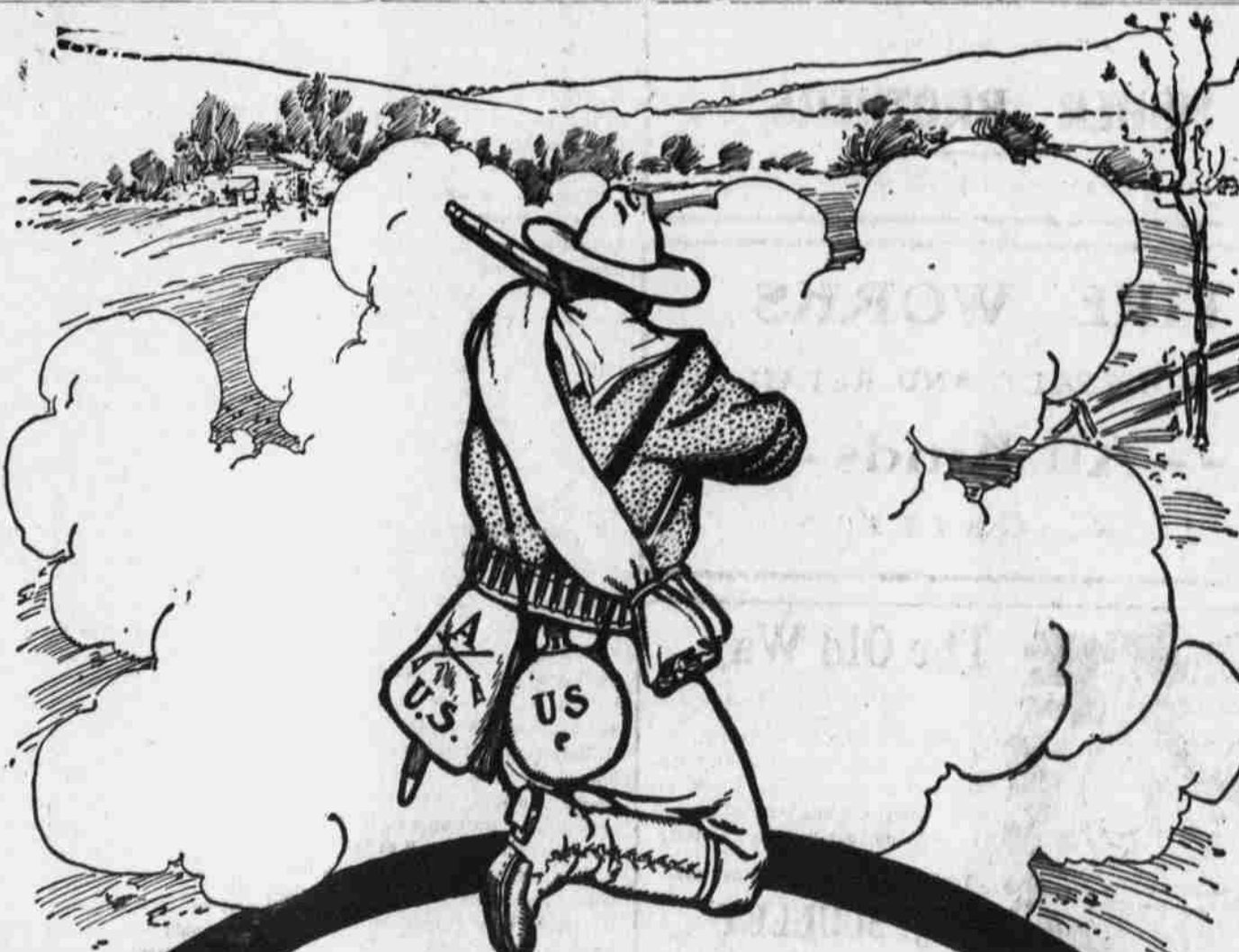
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