### Morning Astorian

Established 1873



Sent by mail, per month..... 50c Served by carrier, per month ..... 60c

SEMI-WEEKLY.

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The politicians of the state of Washington are working up an early excitement over the offices to be filled more than a year from now and the work of combination is already advancing at a rapid rate. In Oregon, with conventions to be held in March or early in April, and an election to be held in June there is as yet scarcely a ripple to disturb the placidity of the plitical Of course, in Oregon, there is not a governor and full state ticket to elect nor does the election of a United States senator become a part of the duty now apparent for the next legislature as is the case with our sister state across the river. However, there is importance enough attached to the coming Oregon election to insure considerable warmth when the time comes. The senators elected next June will have a voice in the election of a United States Mitchell. Multnomah county with five to elect will, of course, be the center of interest. Clatsop county will have one to elect to fill the vacancy left by SenatorFulton's election to the UnitedStates sonate and another will have to be elect ed in 1906. Another vacancy has been created in Benton county by the appointment of Senator John Daly as surveyor-general, so there will be considerable more than half of the senate to elect in the coming contest.

It is to be observed in relation to legthree men who have exercised vast infinence in the deliberations of that body for several years-C. W. Fulton of grafts of city government, keep track Clutsop, B. F. Mulkey of Polk, and of the individuals of a police force or John D. Daly, of Benton, neither of regulate the doings of a red-light diswhom is liable to return for a long time. | trict? Other influential members whose terms will have expired next June are Senators R. A. Booth, of Lane, Dr. Andrew will take a Michael Angelo to paint an C. Smith, of Multnomah, W. H. Weh- old fence, put Chief Justice Fuller in rung, of Washington, and W. H. John- as Justice of the peace at Skamokawa, ston, of Wasco, and A. R. Marsters, of make King Edward a Liverpool cop or Douglas. All of these may be return- set General Miles to drilling a raw comci though Wehrung is handi-capped in The positions would be as appropriate being a democrat in a republican county. Alex Sweek, another retiring sena-, and clean out all the fifth of Portland's tor from Multnomah, has the same obstacle to overcome if he is reelected.

The state officers to be elected-a supreme Judge to succeed Frank A. Moore cident to the mayoralty of the city to and feed and dairy commissioner to which his name has brought much hon-Succeed J. W. Balley-are not liable to or for the past 40 years, it would be arouse much of a contest.

The great contest in Oregon will be for control of the state convention and the choice of eight delegates to the national convention, as well as four presidential electors, and it can be safely surmised that even now, the wires are being quietly laid for the purpose of con a deep pride in the ownership. In the trolling those positions. Many a local ordinary course of events, he cannot candidate for county office, who now considers his chances of nomination excellent, will find himself dumped in the bitter the remnant of his life, which back yard to wonder what hit him af- has been always clean, always honorter his chances have been obliterated through machinations to secure delegates to the state convention.

The first few months of 1904 will see some lively politics in Oregon, as well as Washington, though the commencement be not so early.

Senator Hanna, one of the nation's best business men, recently delivered a Labor day talk on arbitration to the citizens of Ohio. To capital he declared that "the laboring man is entitled to a greater share of the products of industry than he has enjoyed in the past." To labor he said: Dignify labor by conservative action and by choosing as your representatives men who fully appreciate and fully understand both sides of the question, men who do not feel it their duty to lead you into the fight for the sake of a 'scrap.' Why, I claim in my business affairs that the best lawyer for me is the fellow who will keep me out of lawsuits, and the best leaders for you are the men who will keep you out of difficulties which

It is to be hoped that Admiral Cotton gets the first shot at the Turks when the final brash is precipitated in the Balkan state

can be avoided."

Benator Mitchell has gone to the antipodes to get rid of Oregonian report-

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#### PORTLAND'S AGED MAYOR

Portland, Sept. 8 .- (Special Corresndence.)-The greatest political mistake ever made by a public man in this state was by General Geo. H. Williams when he allowed himself cajoled into permitting the use of his name for mayor of Portland.

This grand old man was held up as the only man that could at all fill the office of mayoralty, and by keeping his virtues before the people, he was unfortunately for himself, elected. Now vain regrets for the step down from the high pedestal he long occupied to mingle in the jealousies, the scramble, the deceit and the corruption of city bood-

ling and grafting and crime. And some of the vry influences that were most potent in coaxing him into the position of candidate for mayor are n-w the most industrious in hounding General Williams with bitter criticism, annoying innuendo and damaging misrepresentation, all joining in the ensenator in 1907, to succeed Senator deavor to hold him responsible for condition of affairs which has been brought about without his knowledge or con

There is positive cruelty in the experience to which General Williams has been subjected during the past fifteen months.

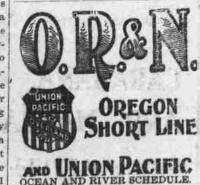
A senator of the United States and training with the ablest men in the world; author of the reconstruction act a nation-building and a nation-making piece of legislation-an act of worldwide moment and importance; a member of the cabinet of President Grant and the latter's choice for the supreme bench of the United States, what can isiation that the state senate has lost such a man know of the corrupt machinations of local ward forces? How could it be expected that he is able to ferret out and prohibit the various

These things are foreign to his nature and have never come within his line of study or experience. You might as pany of the Oregon National Guard. as to expect General Williams to find augean stables.

Inasmuch as the honored old statesman consented to load down his declining years with the annoying duties inat least the part of decency for the newspapers of Portland to refrain from harassing comments and for the substantial business men of the city to insist upon supporting the old gentleman with all their moral and substantial

power. General Williams belongs to all Oregon and the people of the state have long be with us, but while he is there should be no unkindness said or done, and no criticism that is liable to emable, always patriotic and always marked by a high ability which has given him recognition as an equal

among the great men of earth. He made a mistake in accepting this party honor under the pressure of pretended friendship, and the least that can be done is to allow him to go through the disagreeable ordeal with as little additional punishment as possible,



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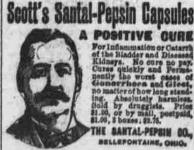


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