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

TOO MUCH HITCHCOCK.

It is not out of place at this time to say that recent modifications of land office rules made by Hitchcock are inconsistent with present land laws and in direct opposition to decisions of the supreme and other federal courts on the construction and application of same.

Any person who would violate the provisions of the present timber laws ought to go to the insane asylum. The penitentiary is not the proper place for him. It is a plain law without catches that permits any person of the proper age, who has the money, or who can borrow it, to purchase 160 acres of timber.

Hitchcock was quite seriously taken by the untitled for a time and many were of the opinion that vast steals were going on in timber localities. This presumption, so bitterly followed up by Mr. Hitchcock, has had a retarding influence on all coast states and many innocent persons have been made to suffer, while the cases of fraud, so far as heard from, in Oregon especially, can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

The long and short of the whole matter is that our president has permitted an old granny to impose on him. Hitchcock should have been fired for incompetency in three months after he was appointed. His treatment of members of both houses of congress is characteristic of a vain, shallow egotist, a man without the instincts of a gentleman or the breeding of a Disraeli.

A political party that can stand Hitchcock and survive is in pretty good standing. And it is a good republican journal like The Astorian to have to admit that Hitchcock really claims to be a republican, living in St. Louis when at home, for even Missouri is deserving of a better fate.

POWERFUL ARGUMENTS.

Senator Fulton was very fortunate in securing committee places; more successful, say the dispatches, than any western senator who is just entering the upper house of congress. Mr. Fulton is not only a bright young man, but a man of strong personality. He wins men to him and doubtless these were arguments in his favor. But his friends are not in the dark as to another influence which was exerted in his behalf. His associate is serving his fourth term in the senate, is one of the best known men in that body and is a strong man both in and out of the senate. No doubt all these were used to a good advantage to further the interests of Mr. Fulton and of our state.

He is chairman of the committee on Canadian relations and is a member of public lands, irrigation, fisheries, claims and revision of the laws committees. Senator Mitchell, always fortunate in the matter of committee, retains the chairmanship of coast defenses, and is a member of the judiciary, postoffice and postroads, interoceanic canals, Pacific islands and Porto Rico, and relations with Cuba.

Suppose, for instance, that the Oregon delegation in congress is placed in the position of being able to do a great deal for the Lewis and Clarke fair, among other things, does anyone think that the people at home are going to be so ungrateful as to tie their hands by putting up a fight on them? It is not likely. Multnomah county is very largely interested and likewise a powerful factor. It is well for rabid partisans of the opposition not to allow their spleen to get away with their heads, when calculating upon who will succeed Senator Mitchell and Congress man Williamson.

The treatment of ex-Governor Andrew H. Burke, who was formerly an inspector of United States land offices, is a sample of the packages handed out by Mr. Hitchcock. Governor Burke who was chosen North Dakota's first executive, was forced to resign without reason, and no explanation was ever made. He was a splendid officer, and those who have the pleasure of his acquaintance, while deploring his treatment, congratulate him on being released from a department that is loaded down with officialism and ignorance.

Senator Morgan should not spoil his excellent senatorial career going out of his way to blame President Roosevelt for action in the Panama matter. The president acted promptly and, the Astorian believes, with good judgment.

There has been some talk of closer times east, but it amounts to nothing. Some watered enterprises have gone the natural route and the inflaters have followed the inflated. Business is good all over the United States.

Astoria people are anxiously awaiting the time when the harbor lines will be extended.

"Who said alum baking powder," reports the Missourian.

Mr. Hanson, one of the enterprising farmers of Larsen Slough, called at the Citizen office Saturday. Mr. Hanson reports things moving up his way.

What matter that the heathen rage And darkness shadows pall! That men in spite of warnings age, Rush to their hopeless fall

Let famine stalk about the land; Let war's red millions vaunt! We care not for the scourging brand, We only care to want

Mr. Hanson, one of the enterprising farmers of Larsen Slough, called at the Citizen office Saturday. Mr. Hanson reports things moving up his way.

Perhaps our memories grow dim On some epoch event; Our stock of knowledge may be slim Of deeds of grave portent.

Thanks, Mr. Hanson, thanks again— Such lessons all but melt us! You'll never more hear us complain When other people belt us.

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The Band that identifies The Brand Cremo 5c The Largest Selling Brand of Cigars in the World. The Band is the Smoker's Protection.

DOESN'T RESPECT OLD AGE. It's shameful when youth fails to show proper respect to old age, but just the contrary in the case of Dr. King's New Life Pills.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF Astoria National Bank at Astoria, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business November 17, 1903.

RESOURCES. Loans and discounts, \$290,969.48. Overdrafts, secured and unsecured, 12,124.78. U. S. Bonds to secure circulation, 12,500.00.

LIABILITIES. Capital stock paid in, \$50,000.00. Surplus fund, 10,000.00. Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid, 18,109.81.

THE PRESIDENT. A man who has opinions of his own; Opinions that are fearlessly expressed; Who wears no crown, nor occupies a throne.

HE LOVED HIS MULES. Mules was the subject under discussion and various stories were told to illustrate his obstinacy and general disposition to kick at everything that came within his kicking reach.

FISHER'S OPERA HOUSE. L. E. SELIG, Lessee and Manager. Monday, Nov. 30. B. C. WHITNEY Presents the Play of the Period.

"IN CONVICT STRIPES" Filled with Human Interest. SEE The Great Explosion Scene The Swing for Life. PRICES Reserved Seats 75c, Gallery 50c.

NOT A SICK DAY SINCE. "I was taken severely sick with kidney trouble. I tried all sorts of medicines, none of which relieved me. One day I saw an ad. of your Electric Bitters and determined to try that. After taking a few doses I felt relieved, and soon thereafter was entirely cured, and have not seen a sick day since."

THE NATIONAL SALOON AND CAFE. Finest Wines, Liquors and Cigars. 473 Commercial St. Astoria, Or.

Scott's Santal-Pepsin Capsules. A POSITIVE CURE For Inflammation or Catarrh of the Bladder and Diseased Kidneys. Sold by Chas. Rogers, 469 Commercial.

THE WALDORF. CHAS. F. WINE, Proprietor. The Best of Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

Reliance Electrical Works. 428 BOND ST. We are thoroughly prepared for making estimates and executing orders for all kinds of electrical installing and repairing.

Fulton Bros. ATTORNEYS. Offices, Odd Fellows Bldg., Tenth and Commercial Sts., Astoria, Ore.

Dr. T. L. Ball DENTIST. 524 Commercial street, Astoria, Ore.

C. W. Barr--Dentist. Mansell Building. 573 Commercial street, Astoria, Ore. Telephone RED 2061.

THE PALACE BATHS. Hours for Turkish and Russian bath 3 p. m. to 3 a. m., except Sundays. Best equipped barber shop in the city. Five artists always on hand.

CHEAP FUEL. Fir slabwood, stove lengths, \$2.00 per cord. Boxwood \$1.50 per large load. Phone 2211 Black. Kelly, the transfer man.

ASTORIA AND COLUMBIA RIVER RAILROAD. LEAVE PORTLAND ARRIVE PORTLAND UNION DEPT. 11:10 a.m. 7:00 p.m. For Astoria and Way Points 9:40 a.m.

ASTORIA. 7:45 a.m. For Portland and Way Points 8:10 p.m. 11:30 a.m. 10:30 p.m.

SEASIDE DIVISION. 8:15 a.m. Astoria for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Stevens & Astoria 7:40 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 10:45 a.m. and Seaside 12:50 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 9:25 a.m. Stevens & Astoria

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BEE HIVE STORE. Seasonable Goods at The Bee Hive at bargain prices. A delayed shipment of Ladies Suits arrived here Saturday. We will sacrifice the lot at cost. One wonderful bargain--black chevrot, Louis XIV style, body and skirt of coat all lined with silk. Coat trimmed with black silk novelty braid \$15.00. This great bargain is out of one many Latest novelties in the much desired rain coats--All wool cravenette military or two or three capes \$13.00. Children's automobile mackintoshes, all sizes. A full line of these again at hand \$2.50. Children's worsted dresses--Cheaper really than making them and with more style. The line we carry is the first in the United States, in prices, workmanship and style--our customers have found this out. This is the fourth season we have handled these goods, prices range from \$3.50 to \$4.25. Millinery Special--black jet top ready-to-wear hats reduced to \$3.00.

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O.R.&N. OREGON SHORT LINE AND UNION PACIFIC. 70 hours from Portland to Chicago. No change of cars.

Table with columns: Depart, TIME SCHEDULES, ULES, Arrive. Rows include Chicago, Portland, Special, via Hunt-ington, Atlantic Express, St. Paul, via Milwaukee, Spokane.

OCEAN AND RIVER SCHEDULE. -From Astoria- All sailing dates subject to change. For San Francisco every five days. 7 a. m. Columbia River 4: a. m. Daily except Sunday to Portland and Daily except Monday to Way Landings.

Central Meat Market. 542 COMMERCIAL ST. Your orders for meats, both FRESH AND SALT. Will be promptly and satisfactorily attended to. Telephone No. 921.

SSS FOR THE BLOOD. The best known and most popular blood purifier and tonic on the market to-day is S. S. S. There is hardly a man, woman or child in America who has not heard of "S. S. S. for the blood." It is a standard remedy, a specific for all blood troubles and unequalled as a general tonic and appetizer. S. S. S. is guaranteed purely vegetable, the herbs and roots of which it is composed are selected for their alterative and tonic properties, making it the ideal remedy for all blood and skin diseases, as it not only purifies, enriches and invigorates the blood, but at the same time tones up the tired nerves and gives strength and vigor to the entire system.