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KEEP GOOD MEN IN OFFICE.

Within a few weeks the republican convention wil assemble at Astoria for the purpose of nominating candidates for county offices. The aspiring ones are beginning to announce themselves, and from this time until the date of the convention the various candidates will make their canvasses.

The Astorian is not inclined to be bitterly partisan in municipal and county elections, and believes, with most people, that politics should be more or less a small factor in such elections It does believe, however, that good men should be named for offce. Men who have been tried and who have proven their worth command the support of the voters, whereas men who have not been tried weaken the ticket on which they are nominated and often drag down to defeat deserving candidates. It is advisable both for political parties and for the taxpayers that trustworty men, in whom the people haev full confidence, be named for public office.

We desire at this time to call particular attention to one of our prominent county officials, whose administration of an important office has been highly satisfactory and successful, and who is richly deserv ing of re-election. Reference is made to Sheriff Thomas Linville. Mr. Linville was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the assassination of J. W. Williams, a man in whom the people had unbounded confidence. Mr. Livrille took up the work of his popular predecessor, and it may truthfully be said of him he has been Clatsop's best sheriff. At all times he has paid particular attention to the interests of the people, and has accomplished more for familiar with all of the public offices of the coast During Sheriff Linville's career in his present position the public had ample opportunity to judge of his work, and it will be generally agreed that he has discharged his duties with credit to himself and to the people he represents.

should be the aim of the public to keep him in office Sheriff Linville has now been in office for about five years, having been appointed to fill the lamented Sheriff Williams' unexpired term and twice elected for he is the man whom the people have chosen to great powers. represent them and returned him again for his excellent services. There is no real sentiment against third terms for county officials, but to the contrary it is the cry set up by politicians who seek to create prejudice against efficient men, who can in no other manner be assailed. One good term deserves another, and so long as a county official serves the people well he should be kept in office.

treats everyone alike and is honest and conscientious not the slightest interest in the fate of Manchuria. at all times. We believe he is the best available man for the republican nomination, and that he should be the unanimous choice of the convention. His nomination is equivalent to election, for the people have confidence in him. He should receive the enthusiastic support of all the delegates to the concyntion.

SALARIES OF FEDERAL OFFICIALS.

Senator Gallinger introduced in the senate a few days ago a bill increasing the salaries of the executive officers of the government and also of the members of both branches of the federal congress. Senator Gallinger's bill proposes to raise the president's the house of representatives from \$5,000 to \$8,000 the sea wall-and do it now.

each, with \$12,000 for the speaker of the house.

There ought to be no objection to the increase proposed for the executive officers of the government. says the Ledger. Cabinet officers in particular are now under paid. A salary of \$8,000 a year was doubtless adequate when it was fixed by congress, but times have changed and the expense of living in Washington is vastly different from what it was a few decades ago. The men who have accepted cabinet portfolios during the past few administrations have generally made a heavy pecuniary sacrifice in order to serve the government. They are positions requiring men of great executive ability, and exacting most unbroken and painstaking attention When Elihu Root accepted a cabinet position he forsook a professional income of at least \$75,000 or \$100,000 a year to take a government salary of \$8,000 Of course Mr. Root is an exceptional man, but the president should be able to seenre the services of the ablest men in the country without asking them to make a pecuniary sacrifice for the privilege of directing a department of the government.

The treasury portfolfo is the most responsible financial position in the country. Mr. Gage left the presidency of the First National Bank of Chicago and after four or five years at Washington accepted the presidency of a large trust company in New York. He was worth \$50,000 or \$75,000 a year to a financial institution, but the government paid him \$666.66 a month, or about enough to pay house rent for a suitable residence for a man of his means at the national capital. The postoffice department certainly requires a man with the ability to manage a railroad successfully. Railroad presidents draw salaries from \$25,000 to \$50,000, or even more, a year, but there is not a railway system in the country whose annual gross earnings equal the cost of operating the post office department. There is no reason why the federal government, which is the most important and powerful organization in the country, should not pay its chief officials something like the compensation which their talents and ability command in private life.

There is no such glaring incongruity between the salaries paid and services rendered by members of congress. Nevertheless, it is expensive to live at Washington, and few, if any, congressmen more than cover their actual disbursements with the salary allowed by the government. The salary of a congressman should be large enough to be attractive to able men, and to justify the neglect of private business that proper attention to legislative duties requires. The government can afford to pay all that Senator Galinger's bill provides, and the right man is worth the increased salary in every case.

The difficulty of capturing such a place as Port Arthur through naval attack recalls memory of one the betterment of conditions here than any other man of the many inventions of the great Dundonald. who has filled this important position. His office has That extraordinary genius devised a "secret war been a model of busines activity and has merited plan' which, he declared, would within four hours and received the unstinted praise of experts who are annihilate Sebastopol or Cronstadt, and he offered it to the British government for such use in the Crimean war. An expert committee investigated it, pronounced it practicable, infallible and irresistable, but added that it was too terrible for a civilized nation to adopt. Therefore it was never tried, but has to this day been kept a profound secret. Whether An efficient public official is a blessing, and it there is any record of it, or anyone now living knows what its awful details were, is uncertain.

Peter the Great said: "He who has only an army fights with only one hand. He who has also a navy afterwards. Rather than being an argument against fights with both hands." Therefore he built the Rushis renomination, the circumstance affords proof that sian fleet. In the loss of her east Asia fleet Russia will he should be continued in office. He was first elected be doomed to fight the war through with one hand because the people were satisfied with him, and he against a two-handed opponent, unless the war shall was re-elected for the same reason. It is not a matter prove to be a long one. So vast an empire as Russia of politics, but one of business, to keep good men in can quickly replace an army that is lost. But no office, and the longer a good man is retained the bet- nation in the world can build a new navy within ter served will the people be. The very fact that several years; and Russia is not well fitted for ship-Sheriff Linvlle has held office for five years furnishes building, so that it will take her much longer to rereason why he should be renominated and elected, place her lost fleet than it would any other of the

Among the neutral fleets in the far east the British is first, the American a good second, and-there is no third. France, Germany and Italy have fine squadrons of cruisers there, but not a single battleship while we have three of the most powerful battleships ever built. It is said that Germany will send four battleships thither as quickly as possible, a curious Sheriff Linville is not much of the politician. He commentary upon the declaration that Germany has

> The Astorian desires to extend its congratulations to the ladies of the public library, who have now placed themselves in certain position to receive \$70 monthly for the maintenance of the institution. They conducted an excellent campaign, and were present to see that promises were kept. From this circumstance, we take it there is no lack of business ability in the library association.

The sea wall should be built now. To defer the improvement will add to the expense and inconvenience of the undertaking. It's the greatest salary from \$50,000 a year to \$75,000, of the vice- proposition ever put before the people of Astoria president and members of the cabinet from \$8,000 for their advancement, and the property owners each to \$15,000, and of the senators and members of should display the proper spirit. By all means, biuld office hours: 10 to 12 a.m. 1 to 4:30 p.m.



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