

# The Morning Astorian

ESTABLISHED 1873

PUBLISHED BY

ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

J. H. CARTER, GENERAL MANAGER.

### RATES.

By mail, per year ..... \$6 00  
 By mail, per month ..... 50  
 By carriers, per month ..... 60

### THE SEMI-WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance ..... \$1 00



### WHY NOT CURB NIHILISM?

Five thousand howling nihilists or nihilist sympathizers crowded Cooper union, New York, Friday night to celebrate the fiendish deed of the assassin who hurled the bomb that caused the death of Minister of the Interior von Plehve of Russia. Every mention of the name of the assassin, the dispatches tell us, was the signal for an enthusiastic outburst on the part of the mob.

America—as the United States is called—is a free country, and all that sort of thing, but isn't it about time, in the light of our recent experience, to put a stop to public meetings of nihilists and bomb-throwers in general? The death of President McKinley was the direct outcome of just such gatherings as that held at New York Friday night, the assassin having been a weakling who proved a pliant tool in the hands of the leading conspirators.

Yet, notwithstanding that the assassination of the president is still fresh in the public mind, 5000 howling nihilists are permitted to congregate in one of the American metropolis' most prominent halls and there shout themselves more frantic in exultation at the terrible achievement of the St. Petersburg dynamiter. That no effort was made to prevent the meeting is indeed a sorry commentary upon our boasted civilization, and bespeaks sympathy with the madmen who seek to destroy all authority. Certainly the officials of New York city have permitted a blot to come upon the name of the republic.

The nihilist has no aim in life other than to kill. He rebels against authority, no matter in whom it is vested. He would as gladly dynamite the president as the czar, and is willing to reach the highest official, would gleefully hurl his death-dealing missile at the first member of the cabinet who came in his way. His acute mania for murder is encouraged by his fellows, who go to extreme ends in laudation of his accomplishments. He joyously accepts death if he can but kill some one in whom authority is vested. He is a low creature who constitutes a permanent menace to all government, and therefore to society. Advocacy of nihilism or of any of its branches should be punished with death. No measure would be too severe to employ in dealing with the bomb-thrower.

All of us know that poor Finland is bleeding under the Russian knout. Hers is a fate that calls up the genuine sympathy of the whole civilized world. Her people are downtrodden and as unhappy as a race possibly could be. The Russian government may be tyrannical, her official brutal, and her prisons veritable hell-holes, but no condition of affairs could justify nihilism. There must be authority, else all nations will perish. The man who seeks to destroy government, who hurls bombs at public officials, is an enemy not alone to himself, but to all other people as well. He should be shot like a dog.

If nihilists are to be permitted to hold their ghastly senaces in our great cities, without the slightest effort on the part of the police to prevent the gatherings, it will not be long until the republic is overrun with bomb-throwers. The spectacle of 5000 men celebrating the assassination of a public official is revolting, and the severest condemnation should be called down upon the authorities who permitted the gathering.

### LET US BE FAIR.

A great cry has gone up because the Russian Vladivostok squadron has captured a few vessels which sailed from coast ports with cargoes for Japan. The case of the Arabia, sailing from this port, has evoked much adverse comment, and there is widespread demand for "reparation." The charterers of the steamship have called upon the state department to "take action."

We may just as well be fair in this matter, for the state department can be depended to proceed with full consideration for the rights of the belligerents. The Arabia sailed for the far east with cargo that was unquestionably contraband. She had a large quantity of flour for Hongkong, but she also carried much stuff for Japan. Her charterers knew well enough what was and what was not contraband, and when they sent away the cargo they knew they

were accepting a big risk. They knew no reasonable ground for complaint at the capture of their vessel, and the state department will take only such action as will insure recognition of the international code governing seizures.

The exporters who are sending stuff to the belligerents are doing so in direct violation of the law. They are just as amenable to the law as highwaymen. The idea that the United States government will protect them in what is at best a nefarious traffic is absurd. The sympathy of the people of this country may be with Japan, but this circumstance does not mean that our exporters are to be allowed to violate international law. The charterers merely took a chance that the Arabia would escape capture. They have lost. This may be regarded by some of us as cause to bring the government into the far eastern mess, but right-thinking people will consider it a fitting finale to what at best is disreputable business.

### BUILDING UP OUR MARINE.

Tacoma is deeply interested in the inquiry as to what can be done to re-establish the American merchant marine on the high seas, says the Ledger. It is a matter of pride to every citizen of the country that we have a foreign commerce, and are the largest exporting nation on earth. But it is a source of humiliation that less than 10 per cent of foreign trade is handled in American bottoms. This means that we are paying tribute to the nations whose vessels carry our traffic. It also means that we are subject to their whim or caprice. Suppose there should be war or international complications that diverted the foreign ships that we patronize from their present routes. Our foreign trade would be paralyzed for the time being. We are not masters of our own commerce when we handle but a small proportion of it in American ships.

One of the methods proposed to remedy the situation is to allow a drawback or reduction of duty on imports brought to this country in American ships. This would not work. Our total imports for 1902-3 were valued at \$1,025,719,237, of which \$406,180,979 were free of duty. Some ports handle a larger share of imports that are free of duty than others. For instance, the leading imports from the Orient at Tacoma are raw silk, tea, hemp and matting. Raw silk, tea and hemp enter free of duty. Matting pays a tax. The imports of the Puget Sound district for the year 1902-3 were valued at \$12,177,243, of which only \$2,689,154 worth was dutiable. A larger proportion of the merchandise sent through to interior ports without appraisalment was dutiable, but not enough to bring the average anywhere near up to the ratio of dutiable to total imports for the country to large.

The best form of encouragement is for the government to grant liberal contracts for carrying the mails, transporting government troops and supplies and for the privilege of taking over the vessels as auxiliary cruisers or transports if required in case of war. The government was terribly "soaked" when it needed vessels for the Spanish war or for the insurrection in the Philippines. The millions of dollars paid for old foreign ships then would have gone a long way toward supplying a merchant marine that would have been of timely service to the government in its emergency.

### THE RETURN TO NATURE.

No man who worked out a plan for living a hundred years ever carried out his program, because death cut short his experiments. Thousands of persons who had no plans have lived over the century mark. Some of the most eminent of the health theorists went to early graves, says the Saturday Evening Post.

What wonder, then, that so little attention is paid to the increasing multiplicity of rules about food and exercise, and how prone are we to enjoy the mot of Everts, who, when asked if it were not injurious to drink so many different wines at banquets retorted, "It is the indifferent wines I fear." It is folly, of course, to turn a deaf ear to the voice of experience, and every wise man benefits by the wealth of information that science has placed before us; but there is real difficulty in choosing between the abounding contradictions. Hardly two sets of rules agree, and the various fads are always at war.

Good, plain food, however, needs no prescription; temperance in eating and drinking means safety; regularity justifies itself; constant employment is the only remedy against fretting, and strong purpose and enthusiasm in work give wings to time and youth to old age. The great problem in modern medicine is immunity, the prevention of disease by keeping the body strong and natural; and people are wisely unlearning their past mistakes, and shunning medicines and drugs and nostrums as they would poisons and other dangers foreign to the needs and profits of the human body.

It may be that after a few more generations of progress men and women will become as wise as those simple ancestors who lived before their jokes got into the patent-medicine almanacs.

It might make a decided difference if congress were to suspend the tariff on beef as it did on anthracite coal.

# It's a Winner...

Our great odds-and-end sale of Men's Suits started off with a rush. Many people came just to see what we had, and others who were afraid it was a fake sale looked at the goods, bought them and left the store fully satisfied that we were doing just what we advertised, viz: Closing out about 100 odd suits, sizes 34 to 40, worth up to \$35.00 at " " " " " "

## \$10.00

We emphasize the fact that we do not expect to make any profit on this sale. Our sole object is to make room for our new fall stock which will soon arrive. Our reputation for reliability leaves no chance for doubt as to the genuineness of this sale. " " " " " " " " " "

# P. A. Stokes

One Price to Everybody

**HOSTETTER'S**  
 CELEBRATED  
  
 STOMACH BITTERS  
 When the tongue is coated, appetite poor and sleep restless, you will find a few doses of the bitters will do you a world of good. It tones up the stomach and cures indigestion, dyspepsia, vomiting, cramps and liver troubles. Try a bottle.

**BIG GUNS IN OPERATION.**  
 World's Fair Visitors Watch Handling of Coast Defense Rifles.

St. Louis, July 30.—One of the rare opportunities offered visitors to the World's Fair is the privilege of seeing Uncle Sam's big ordnance guns in operation, just as it is done in the coast defense fortifications, where no civilians are allowed. Exhibition drills are given daily with a new 12-inch breech-loading rifle on a disappearing carriage, in the fortifications built especially for this exhibit near the government building. No real firing is done, as the concussion from this gun would cause great havoc among the World's Fair buildings, but percussion caps are used to show the complete process of loading and firing.

The gun is one of the newest of its class and is an exact counterpart of the latest disappearing guns installed by the United States Army in its coast defense fortifications. It is manned by a crew of eighteen men and three non-commissioned officers. It discharges a 1000-pound projectile and has the power to hurl it a distance of 14 miles. The ordinary charge is 270 pounds of powder. The shock of the recoil after a shot, by an automatic device, brings the gun back to its loading position behind the parapet. Shot may be fired by this gun at a rate of one discharge per minute, the only change necessary being a relief of the crew.

Besides the drills given on this gun, drills are given on other guns, such as a 6-inch rifle, mounted on a disappearing carriage; a 6-inch rifle mounted on Barbette carriage; a 15-pound rapid-fire gun; a 7-inch field mortar; a 12-inch rifled mortar and a 7-inch Howitzer.

## Scow Bay Iron & Brass Works

Manufacturers of  
 Iron, Steel, Brass and Bronze Castings.  
 General Foundrymen and Patternmakers.  
 Absolutely firstclass work. Prices lowest.

Phone 2451. Corner Eighteenth and Franklin.

### FRESH AND CURED MEATS

Wholesale and Retail  
 Ships, Logging Camps and Mills supplied on short notice.  
 LIVE STOCK BOUGHT AND SOLD  
 WASHINGTON MARKET - CHRISTENSON & CO.

## Best Of Goods At Prices That Are Right

MARINCOVICH & GIACONI  
 CONFECTIONERY, FRUITS AND CIGARS

727 Commercial Street - - - - - Astoria, Oregon

## Staple and Fancy Groceries

FLOUR, FEED, PROVISIONS, TOBACCO AND CIGARS.  
 Supplies of All Kinds at Lowest Prices for Fishermen, Farmers and Loggers.  
 Branch, Uniontown, - - - - - Phones, 711, - - - - - Uniontown, 713  
**A. V. ALLEN,**  
 Tenth and Commercial Streets. ASTORIA, OREGON.

## Some People Are Wise

And some are otherwise. Get wise to the value of our Prescription Department when you want Pure, Clean Drugs and Medicines accurately compounded.  
 Anything in our stock or from our prescription counter, you can depend upon as being the best. Get it at

Corner of Fourteenth and Commercial Street **Hart's Drug Store**