

The Morning Astorian

ESTABLISHED 1873

PUBLISHED BY

ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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



SHOW YOUR PATRIOTISM.

All good Astorians will attend the joint meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and the Push Club this evening. Astoria's interests are deeply involved and the Astorians to whom Astoria always looks in times of need must again display their public spirit.

It is idle for The Astorian to further point out the need of a modern hotel. The subject has been discussed until the veriest itinerant is fully acquainted with the situation. It is patent to everyone that the city's greatest present need is a large hotel, which would do more to attract capital to Astoria than almost anything else which could be advocated.

Astoria has always bought what it wanted. It has contributed liberally to secure new enterprises for the city, and the present era of expansion has resulted. It is about to reap the returns of its public-spirit. The population has undergone a great change in the past three years and new people are constantly arriving. On every hand new homes and business buildings are being erected, yet there comes a persistent demand for more homes and business houses.

Some of us perhaps may not realize it, but Astoria's long-deferred day has arrived. The city has entered upon its era of prosperity. In the next five years it will treble its population and commercial wealth. From a small, lively fishing center it will grow into a metropolis, and in time outstrip all the other cities of the coast. Nature decreed that the greatest city of the west should be built at the mouth of the Columbia, and nature's decree will be realized.

But nature is crying out for assistance. She has provided us with our fisheries and our magnificent forests, but she can neither prepare the fish for market nor cut the trees into lumber. She has provided us with the most glorious climate in the world, but she cannot bring the people here, nor care for them after they arrive. The people of Astoria must do these things. They are preparing the fish and have made an excellent start in lumbering, but they have thus far neglected to care for those thousands of people who come to the city every month. They are now called upon to look after this detail.

A start in that direction will be made tonight, when the commercial bodies will meet at the Chamber of Commerce rooms. All loyal Astorians will be there.

TRADE STILL IMPROVING.

The last quarter of the year, upon which we have entered, according to the estimates of financiers and posted business men, will probably end better than it began, says the San Francisco Call. As already mentioned, there has been a gradual expansion in trade during the past month or two which has extended all over the country. This is due to the decreased production of many commodities, which has allowed the demand to again overtake the supply, the settlement of several important labor disturbances, good crop prospects, continued abundance of money, a gratifying absence of the usual apprehensions preceding a presidential election, a belief that there will be no deleterious changes in financial and tariff conditions for a year at least, and an increasing demand for all sorts of merchandise throughout the country. These encouraging conditions are reflected in a larger volume of bank clearings, improved collections in many parts of the country, a visible advance in the jobbing and retail trades, increasing railway earnings, an upward tendency in railway and industrial stocks in New York, and in numerous minor ways which cannot be fully enunciated here. But the improvement is with us and is perceptible to everybody conversant with the trade situation.

The great staples are especially exhibiting marked improvement. There is a heavy demand for wheat all over the country to satisfy a largely-increased demand for flour. The millers are buying wheat everywhere. They have even entered the two northern Pacific states as heavy buyers, have already purchased 10,000,000 or 12,000,000 bushels and would now be taking a great deal more were they not compelled to pause by the inability of the overland rail-

roads to haul the grain east as fast as it is bought. This demand has caused advances in wheat and flour all over the country, though wheat has shown some recessions from the high prices at Chicago during the past several days. These are golden times for the wheat farmers. Provisions are also showing more firmness. The corn and cotton crops are still a matter of some uncertainty, but large crops of both seem reasonably assured. Wool continues firm and active at all important centers. The buying of hops has been unprecedented, and though the 1904 yield is not yet fully prepared for market, all but a small fraction of it has already passed out of the growers' hands and, what is especially gratifying, at extremely high prices. More activity in pig iron is reported and those conversant with the trade are predicting better times in this industry. Large purchases of hides in western markets have strengthened prices there. So it will be seen that the country's great staples are in most excellent condition, and this alone almost assures another year of prosperity.

Thus far the movement of the crops, now commencing, has produced an appreciable effect on the money market. Rates are naturally a little firmer, but no advance of any consequence has occurred and no future stringency is expected.

Our local situation remains about as before. A week ago it was feared that widespread damage had been caused by the severe September rains, and, indeed, the dry feed has been seriously damaged. But fortunately the storm was followed by a hot, drying north wind, which did much to modify the effects of the storm. Grapes, hay, beans, tomatoes and some grain on river banks have been injured, but the ground has received such a thorough wetting that unusually early plowing can be begun, so that the rain was not such an unmixed evil after all. What we want now is showers enough to keep the new feed growing until the regular winter rains set in, and if we get them we may consider ourselves fairly embarked upon another year of agricultural and commercial prosperity.

EUROPE'S SHORT FOOD SUPPLY.

According to statistics already of record, supplemented by estimates from the most reliable official sources, most of the leading cereal crops of Prussia—spring wheat, winter rye, barley and oats, to be more specific—show a marked falling off this year from the yield of 1903, owing chiefly to the drought that has been long-continued and widely extended in that country. Winter wheat is the only German cereal crop that will show an increase this year—an advance from 1,759,952 metric tons in 1903 to 2,200,965 tons in 1904. But the net deficit in all six crops this year will be 1,132,768 tons; and all of this shortage—or as much of it as possible—will have to be met by increased importations. There is also a falling off in the yield of forage, fruits and dairy products in Prussia this year.

Russia, Austria, Germany, Switzerland and France are all in a similar situation to that of Germany, and have little or no surplus for export. Increased importations, if they are to be obtained at all, will have to come from distant sources—Argentina, Canada, Australasia and the United States. There will be an increased demand in Germany not only for corn, wheat and rye from the United States, but for fresh and preserved fruit, dried and salted fish and such meats as the present inspection law of Germany permits to be imported.

As for the United States, it will have less grain for export this year than last—even if the home demand for it were to be no greater than it was a year ago—and this is especially true of wheat. And thus the situation abroad is not one calculated to depress the prices of agricultural products in this country. In the absence of "bumper" crops the law of the compensations does not appear to be passing the United States by in 1904.

THE SUMMER FALLOWED FARM.

Rudolph Gohlman gives an interesting story of success on his summer fallowed farm in Lincoln county, says the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. The land comprises one section, of 640 acres, near the town of Harrington. Of this tract 590 acres were planted to wheat this year. The owner had nothing to do with the work except to pay the bills. When the grain was threshed it sold for 75 cents per bushel. After paying all expenses the crop returned a profit of \$5,833.25. The income was for two years, but it paid over 15 per cent on the investment in land at \$30 an acre.

The Harrington Citizen publishes the figures as given by the owner of this valuable tract. The farm was plowed last season at a cost of \$1 an acre, or \$590. Seed cost \$350 and planting it required an expenditure of \$500. Harvesting was performed by contract and cost \$1462. Grain sacks were purchased in bales and cost \$333. The expense of hauling the grain to market was \$300. Thus the wheat grower had an expenditure of \$3535. The crop was sold for \$9368.25, leaving him the balance of \$5,838.25 for profit.

Tom Watson is not hampered by the necessity of seeing to the judicious expenditure of a large campaign fund.

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 At New York—Columbia, 31; Tufts, 0.
 At Ann Arbor—Michigan, 48; Ohio Normal, 0.
 At New Haven—Yale, 23; Holy Cross, 0.
 At Cambridge—Harvard, 17; Bowdoin, 0.

October 27, 28 and 29.
 World's fair excursion tickets to Chicago, St. Louis and all eastern cities will be sold by the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY on October 27, 28 and 29, in addition to October 3, 4 and 5. Apply to any Great Northern agent for rates and full information.

Personal: Wife Wanted.
 The man who wants the spouse is at the Star this week.

Yes; It Was He.
 Oregonian: A straw vote taken on the A. & C. R. road showed one man for Prohibition Candidate Swallow. Wonder if that was an Astoria man?

Confessions of a Priest.
 Rev. Jno. S. Cox of Wake, Ark., writes, "For 12 years I suffered from yellow jaundice. I consulted a number of physicians and tried all sorts of medicines, but got no relief. Then I began the use of Electric Bitters and feel that I am now cured of a disease that had me in its grasp for 12 years." If you want a reliable medicine for liver and kidney trouble, stomach disorder or general debility, get Electric Bitters. It's guaranteed by Chas. Rogers. Only 50c.



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