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TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.

The three city banks hold deposits at present of about \$2,000,000. This is a per capita of about \$133. Of the sum named, about \$1,000,000 is drawing less than 1 per cent interest.

Astoria is a wealthy community. The west end of the city is peopled largely by Finnish fishermen. Those people are hardy fellows—quiet and unassuming.

Now, that was not bad, coming from Astoria's fishermen. The fishermen stood ready to take up \$173,050 worth of municipal bonds.

If the fishermen of the west end could spare \$173,000 out of their savings to invest in municipal paper, certainly the men whose deposits aggregate \$2,000,000 can easily take up the stock of the new hotel company.

It is to be hoped that the man of moderate means will be afforded the opportunity to invest in hotel bonds. We should encourage men to put their money into such enterprises, for the influence will be of great benefit to the future.

MR. SMITH AND THE WOODPILES.

The writer of several recent communications to The Astorian, who signed himself "An Easterner," and made so many caustic and generally uncalled-for and ill-natured statements in regard to what he called "Astoria's wretchedness," nevertheless made some suggestions which are deserving of consideration.

He found particular fault with Astorians for leaving piles of wood and wagons in the streets and alleys. We agree with him there.

City Attorney Smith has an idea about the wagon nuisance. He suggested a day or two ago that the chief of police order his men to round up all the wagons in alleys and streets some night and take them to the police station.

Reform is a peculiar thing, and is generally accomplished after many committee meetings and much parade and considerable talk. Here is a reform that is easy. When you find a reform that comes as easy as that, you want to cultivate it.

And about the woodpiles—Well, that's harder. Maybe City Attorney Smith can figure out a nice, polite way to attend to them. Here's hoping.

REGARDING NEWPORT'S FAVORITE.

This Harry Lehr business is amusing, but more instructive. A few days ago Harry Lehr, prime favorite at Newport, the gilded seat of American cultured foolishness, gave a dinner—for his wife's dog.

and all came. The Lehr poodle sat at the bedecked table, the decoration being the dog's favorite flower, the cactus dahlia, and deep red silver candelabra were used at each end of the table, with red shades.

The poodles were seated in high chairs around the table, their mistresses seated directly behind them in order to assist the five butlers in serving to the guests the delicate menu, which consisted of veal cutlets, frankfurters, salads, ice cream, cigars and cigarettes and chocolates. For the "extra" more meat was served, as the canines all howled for more.

One would naturally presume that Harry Lehr was a mighty money king; but such is not the case. Harry Lehr, the spoiled pet of Newport, is an humble wine merchant. And he's a mighty good business man.

All good business men appreciate the value of advertising, but all are not clever enough to get it for nothing. Harry is. He is original. His new ideas please Newport, and accounts of his doings are interesting.

Harry Lehr deserves to succeed. Hats off to Harry Lehr, proud favorite of proud Newport, and prince of press agents!

WELL DONE, SEATTLE!

Astoria's congratulations to the neighboring city of Seattle upon the successful launching of the battleship Nebraska.

It's not so much of a trick to build a battleship, but it is a decided victory to be afforded the opportunity of building one. And when the opportunity is created by the people anxious to build the battleship, the achievement increases in magnitude.

Seattle set about to build the Nebraska just as Seattle sets about to do everything—with the utmost enthusiasm. The contracting firm, the Moran Bros. Company, needed \$100,000 to successfully compete with other bidders, and without hesitancy the people of Seattle subscribed the amount.

That's public-spirit. That is the sentiment that accomplishes things—the sentiment that builds great cities. When we consider this circumstance, it is not to be wondered at that Seattle has become a great metropolis.

Again, our congratulations, and the wish that the Nebraska may be followed down the ways by other Seattle-built battleships.

Coaling at sea, it appears, is far from being a howling success, judging by the experiment of the U. S. S. Illinois, which has recently returned to Brooklyn from a cruise in the Mediterranean and from target practice off Martha's Vineyard.

King Edward is going to appoint a commission to devise some plan of dealing with the feeble-minded. There will probably be no change in the present plan of encouraging them to remove to America.

The kaiser has conferred the order of the Red Eagle on Dr. Harper, president of the Chicago University, who has already been decorated by Mr. Rockefeller as the Knight of the Golden Touch.

When Kuropatkin declared that no Japanese soldier should be allowed to return to Japan, he might have had a hunch that they were going to take up permanent headquarters in Manchuria.

After reading over the revised list of American battleships, the czar has decided that Secretary Hay has eminently sound views on the question of contraband of war.

It is announced that Kipling's writings are to be translated into foreign languages. Some of them ought to be translated into English.

Treasurer Roberts says there are as many \$10-bills as \$1-bills in circulation. Our observation leads to a different conclusion.

The fact that Kuropatkin and Kuroki are trying to get together is not a sign of Russ-Jap peace plans.

Russians report a shortage of coal at Port Arthur, but the Japs are making it hot enough for them.

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