

\$10 REWARD

We shall give \$10.00 in gold as a first prize, and \$5.00 as a second prize, to the boy or girl under eighteen years of age writing the best poem of two or more verses, using the MONARCH RANGE as subject of the poem. All poems to be handed in before 6 P. M. on February 16, 1905.

CHARLES HEILBORN & SON

Complete House Furnishers 590-592 Commercial St.

THE MORNING ASTORIAN

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Telephone Main 661.



Today's Weather.

Portland, Dec. 31.—Washington and Oregon—Sunday, fair south; probably showers in north portion.

THE NEW YEAR.

The year 1904 has passed into oblivion. It has been relegated to the past history of city, state and nation. Many of our fellow-townsmen who wished us a happy new year one year ago, have passed to the great beyond. A new generation of people are stepping upon the world's field of action to uphold and direct our commonwealth. The vicissitudes attending life's journey will be forgotten in the advent of the new year.

The year 1905 dawns upon the people of Astoria resplendent with a brighter future than in many years past. The past year has been one of unequalled prosperity, brought about by an influx of eastern people animated with a spirit of progressiveness that has pale into insignificance the old contingent that so long held the boards in the city by the sea. It marks another milestone in life's journey, and happy is the man who can look back upon the past year without feeling the pangs of remorse of work undone.

There is a bright future in store for the people of Astoria, and upon the coming of the people in united efforts to advance the business, social and moral tendencies, depends to a great extent the prosperity and growth of our commonwealth. Astoria can be made a most beautiful city, resting as it does upon the crest of the ocean, surrounded by streams of living waters and fir-clad mountains, nestling in the beauties of nature at the mouth of one of the grandest rivers in the world, surrounded with all the luxuries that nature has endowed us with, our lot should indeed be a happy one.

Let the year 1905 be a memorable one for all the people. Let united effort to ameliorate our conditions, develop our natural resources, build up our city, beautify our homes and solidify our people upon all questions for upbuilding our city be the all prevailing spirit of the people. All the facilities for carrying out these grand and ennobling objects lie at our very door, and they are placed there for us to use.

The Astorian starts out with the new year more fully equipped and prepared to cater to the wants and requirements of a thinking and reading public. As a purveyor of news dignified and conservative in its policy with a purpose of giving its readers the best possible service, the Astorian is pre-eminent, the leading and exclusive family newspaper of Astoria. That its efforts have been appreciated during the past month is attested by an increased subscription list and advertising patronage, showing that the public appreciate merit and willing to accord it the support that its renewed efforts and life deserves. The dissemination of knowledge, educational in its character, refined and conservative, owing allegiance to its patrons, will be the predominating features of the Astorian during the new year.

UNREGENERATE BANKERS.

According to the dispatches published this morning, a man in Minnesota sold his farm and crops to some sharpers who gave him several checks in payment thereof. He resembles a good deal, some of the people in Astoria, who never subscribe for a newspaper and are in total ignorance of what is going on in the world. One of

the checks given this ignorant rancher was for \$99,999.99, signed by "John the Baptist" and indorsed by "St. Peter." Evidently neither one of those gentlemen had any account at the bank at which the check was presented for payment, as the bank refused to cash the checks. It is very evident that the bank had never before heard of John the Baptist or St. Peter, but if it had consulted its bible it would have found out that both gentlemen are responsible or were at one time. Another check was for \$50,000 drawn on an El Paso, Texas, bank and signed by "Adam, once proprietor of the Garden of Eden." Very few people in Texas have ever heard of the Garden of Eden or Adam, and the check was protested for non-payment.

It is very evident that there is a good field for missionary work both in Minnesota and Texas, and it shows a wilful ignorance on the part of the banking houses of those two states, of the early history of this country. But come to think of it, no banker will ever meet either John the Baptist or St. Peter in the next world, as up to the hour of going to press both Minnesota and Texas are unrepresented in heaven, and probably never will be. The Minnesota farmer will have to wait until after the millennium before he can get his checks cashed, as they are not payable in this world, but he can spend the few remaining years of his life on earth, kicking himself for being a sucker of the vintage of '49.

MUST SETTLE IN FULL.

The exposure of the tactics and methods employed by the directors of the Nehalem Coal Company, published in the Astorian, created quite a sensation in Astoria. While there was a vague suspicion that there was something crooked, and many of the stockholders had exposed the methods of the self-constituted board of directors, the principal facts were not known by the public until they appeared in the Astorian. The Astorian has no strings on it, politically or otherwise. It proposes to publish the facts, hit who it may, and if there is any crookedness in any transactions affecting the public, the same will be published in detail, as a warning to intending investors and to keep them from being roped in by unscrupulous promoters. It may be perfectly legitimate to secure subscriptions of stock from business men, who have an opportunity of ascertaining the facts for themselves, and who are possessed with ordinary shrewdness, but to inveigle poor widow women and decrepid old men into a scheme in which there was no possible hope of their ever realizing a cent on their investment, with the prospect of losing everything they possessed on earth, meets with the disapproval of every honest citizen.

No man has any legal right to hold out inducements incapable of being fulfilled, to poor widow women who have saved up a few dollars to assist them in old age, by picturing in glowing terms an opportunity of doubling their money within six months, and inducing them to invest their savings of a life time in a company that was absolutely worthless, so far as immediate profits or developments of the coal mines were concerned. What made it more despicable was the action of the self-constituted board of directors absenting themselves from the city; refusing to call a meeting or accounting for the money they had received and did not and cannot account for. That they received the money and it was diverted from the channels for which it was intended and converted to someone's own use, admits of no doubt.

While on the face of the proposal made at the meeting, to sell the property and reimburse the minority stockholders for the money they had been dishonestly deprived of, may satisfy the indignant stockholders for the time being, there is no possible show, in the opinion of a number of the stockholders, of ever realizing one cent from the money they were induced to part with by the machinations of a smooth promoter. This matter is not settled, and it will not be until those who received the money and converted it to their own use, reimburse the minority stockholders, the poor widows and decrepid old men for every dollar they invested in the worthless wild cat concern. Unless this is done within the time limit, the Astorian is in possession of facts, backed up by affidavits, if published, will create a sensation as great as the Chadwick fiasco at Cleveland. Subsidized newspapers may attempt to shield the men implicated in the transaction by statements that everything is serene and harmonious, but it only places them, in the estimation of the public, as the pliable tools of dishonest promoters.

If the business of the company had been conducted on honest business principles with the object of realizing a good interest on the investment of the minority stockholders, why did they sign an agreement to reimburse the minority stockholders for the face value of the stock purchased by them? This of itself is evidence of foul play and crookedness, and will require a more explicit explanation than any yet furnished by the subsidized press of Astoria.

MUST PAY THE PENALTY.

The efforts of some charitably inclined people to use the office of the sheriff and district attorney to collect bills is not conducive to the general ideas of justice. A young man commits a crime, by taking money that does not belong to him. His friends are anxious to save him from the penitentiary and circulate a subscription to raise funds to reimburse the person from whom the money was stolen. Upon the repayment of the money stolen, the action is dismissed and the criminal discharged. The proper way to proceed in such cases is to have an indictment returned by the district attorney, have the defendant arraigned before the court, and then give his friends an opportunity to plead for mercy. If restitution has been made, and the interests of justice will be subserved by imposing the lowest penalty and suspending sentence during good behavior, the impression made upon the minds of youthful criminals will be productive of more good. Judge McBride can be depended upon to mete out justice as the exigencies of the case requires. If he is convinced that reformation can be best attained by not sending a young man to the penitentiary; and an admonition with a suspension of sentence can be depended upon, but the district attorney's office and the sheriff's office should never be used for the collection of stolen money.

To do so only thwarts justice; it is an inducement for young men to steal, knowing that they have friends who will get them out of the scrape, and nine out of every ten young men thus released from the clutches of the law, never appreciate the efforts made in their behalf. Many of the petty crimes of stealing money are brought about by gambling games, not only in saloons but in the rear of cigar stores, and many a young man has been ruined by blowing in money at gambling that does not belong to them.

There are a large number of young men who spend all their wages, and often money that does not belong to them, at the gambling table, and if they commit a crime in their endeavors to buck another man's game, crimes are committed, and the culprit is bought out of the penitentiary by men who are anxious for him to continue in his reckless and downward course of gambling. There is not a young man in Astoria who ever won a dollar at gambling, and they never will, but the fascination allures them on, and as long as gambling is allowed, just so long will crimes be committed and young men arrested for squandering the money of their employers.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mrs. A. M. Vassil of Falls City is visiting friends in Astoria.

R. S. Barr and wife of Grays River were in the city yesterday.

James Goff of Colorado is in the city visiting Mrs. L. H. Sprauer.

W. A. Williams of Portland was in the city yesterday on business.

G. W. Badger of Portland was in the city yesterday on business.

Miss Kathryn Shively left last evening for Seaside to visit friends.

S. Danziger will return to San Francisco Monday night, going overland.

William Chance, bailiff of the circuit court, returned to his home at Seaside last evening.

A. Wirkkala of Portland arrived in Astoria yesterday to spend New Year's day with his parents.

Miss Colwell of Portland, who has been visiting Mrs. E. Z. Ferguson, returned home yesterday morning.

Mrs. W. E. McAfee, with her daughter, Mrs. McCaustland, went to Portland yesterday for a visit. Mrs. McCaustland has been visiting her mother, Mrs. McAfee in this city.

Don't Forget the Pioneer.

Those who endured the hardships and overcame obstacles and made it possible for you and I to be prosperous citizens of a great commonwealth; also the pioneer in business enterprise, who labored and made improvements in the face of the jeers and criticisms of narrow-minded competitors and helped to build and improve Astoria.

Who was the first to introduce lights in show-windows; put in modern plate glass windows; bring daylight in all parts of his store so you could see what you were buying; who first put modern show cases in his store; who remembers his customers at X-mas and other times?

Who has his own tailor to keep his customers' clothes pressed, free of charge?

Of course all will instantly name the man who does things first. Now, Herman Wise has started a genuine cut-price sale and as certainly as he always takes the lead in modern methods, just so surely will he be head and shoulders ahead of the Foggy and the close-fisted clothiers in cut-

P. A. STOKES

"Swell Togs for Men."

Tuesday morning we place on sale our enormous stock of clothing at

10, 20 and 30

PER CENT. OFF

This "Hummer Sale"

includes all our newest and latest patterns in Gentlemen's Clothing.

REMEMBER

Everything in the Big Store Reduced

P. A. STOKES

"Swell Togs for Men."

There will be installation of officers at Eagles' lodge today at the usual hour. After the installation ceremony the lodge will be entertained by members of the Keith stock company, and a fine program is being prepared. The Eagle orchestra will be in attendance; refreshments will be served and a general good time is anticipated.

The Palace Turkish baths are a source of delight to the patrons who frequent the establishment—courteous treatment and your comfort guarded. Lady attendants furnished for lady patrons by appointment. These baths are especially recommended by the leading physicians of the city and respectfully solicit your patronage. Turkish baths and bed \$1.00. Russian bath 50 cents.

There is no complaint about business at the Star saloon. Good goods and courteous treatment will draw trade to any first-class saloon. That's what makes business good at the Star. The best is none too good for our customers.

large shipment of live Turkeys, Geese and Chickens, from Southern Oregon, at the

JUST ARRIVED!

BOND STREET MARKET

the largest poultry house in Astoria. We have hired ten men expressly to dress poultry for the Christmas and New Year's trade. You can save money by buying your poultry from us. Phone 2183 Red.

Next Time

You need a pair of Men's, Women's or Children's

SHOES

Honest, Durable Shoes

For less money than you have been paying try

S. A. GIMRE

543-545 Bond St.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TAKEN

No matter what magazine you want we are SPECIAL AGENTS for it. We can save you the time of writing a letter and buying a money order and the expense of postage and order. Bring in your list, let us save you money.

J. N. GRIFFIN

Something Going to Happen

At

S. Danziger & Co.

THE CLOTHIERS

They will be closed all day next Thursday and Friday Jan. 5 and 6 1905.

There are Reasons for It.

Where Health is Considered

THE EXPENDITURE OF A SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY SHOULD NOT PREVENT THE BATH ROOM FROM BEING THOROUGHLY MODERN AND SANITARY.

THERE IS NOT ANY PART OF THE HOUSE WHICH EXERTS MORE INFLUENCE ON THE HEALTH OF THE FAMILY THAN THE BATH ROOM, THEREFORE THE NECESSITY OF ITS BEING EQUIPPED WITH

"Standard" Baths

... AND ...

One Piece Lavatories

The most dainty and durable sanitary appliances made.



There are still in daily use many of the "cased-in" tin bath tubs and "inclosed" marble wash-stands, which were considered good years ago, but are now obsolete and unsanitary.

If these fixtures were removed and "Standard" Baths and One-Piece Lavatories installed in their places, it would not only improve the sanitary condition of the house, but increase its selling value as well.

We invite all persons interested in Modern Bath Rooms to visit our show rooms and examine the samples of "Standard" ware we have on display.

JOHN A. MONTGOMERY

ASTORIA, OREGON