

SANITATION NEEDED

Civic Improvement League Should Begin Work.

THAT BILLBOARD NUISANCE

When Spring Housecleaning is Commenced it Ought to Include the Back Yards and Vacant Lots in Residence Districts.

In all the cities of California of any importance the civic improvement league is busily engaged in assisting nature to beautify the landscape and in planting trees. Last week the fact was published that 600 school children turned out in one day and planted nearly 20 miles of trees on both sides of a county road. The same thing is being carried on in all the principal cities. In California beautiful flowers and shrubbery meet the eye on every lawn. Not only in the front yard, but in the back yards as well, until today California is regarded as the garden of Eden. In Astoria tomato cans, rubber booth, hoopskirts, old bottles and rags take the place of flowers and shrubbery. Along the streets the hideous telegraph and telephone poles supplant trees. Some people have an idea that a house is simply a residence place where afternoon societies are held to play euchre and progressive whist for a washboard or nutmeg grater.

People in Astoria do not seem to realize that there will be thousands of eastern visitors in the city this spring and summer, or if they do realize it they are apparently indifferent to cleanliness and sanitation. It is to be doubted if there is another city or the coast that has as slovenly appearance as Astoria. Some of the yards in the residence district are characteristic of an Indian village. Along the water front old dilapidated shacks ready to tumble down, the beach strewn with old lumber and refuse. While the people of Astoria have become accustomed to seeing these unsightly evidences of total depravity the impression created on the minds of visitors is not conducive to formulating an opinion that Astoria is a desirable residence place. Visitors usually form their own opinion of the characteristics of the people by the appearance of the yards and streets. One thing is certain, no eastern family looking for a new home will locate in Astoria under the present condition of the streets and yards.

Attention has been frequently called to the unsightly appearance of the bill boards, and an ordinance was introduced in the common council to regulate them, but it has evidently gone to the bone yard along with the Whipple hotel proposition and about 25 or 30 franchises granted by the common council to itinerant promoters. On the bill board question, it is noticed that Portland is taking steps to eradicate the evil and the following taken from the Portland Telegram applies with equal force to Astoria.

Why foster the bill board monopoly in this city? Like most monopolies, it is a detriment to the general interest and serves alone that of a single concern which controls it. The spirit of civic improvement is now in process of rapid development. There is reasonable hope that its hold on the popular mind is destined to be strong and lasting, making Portland one of the most beautiful cities on the continent, as it has ever a natural right to be. Why retard, why nullify the movement by allowing the bill board to remain undisturbed when there is profit in it neither to the city government nor the public?

As a matter of fact there is no consideration of profit that should be allowed to interfere with the progress of the civic improvement propaganda. It is to be considered on an altogether higher plane than is suggested by mere revenue to the city or profit to the individual. It means eventually a larger benefit to the entire community than can be involved in either of these. In municipalities where its influence has been manifest for some time, in a practical way, the bill board has been one of the first points of attack. It is only a question of time in the development of any city where modern ideas are becoming dominant when this nuisance has to give way. Portland cannot do better than to dispose of the matter at an early stage in the proceedings.

LOCAL BEVETIES.

At the morning session of the county court yesterday the demurrer in the case of J. T. d'Arcy and B. A. Labbe vs. the O. R. & N. Co., was overruled and the defendant given 10 days to answer. The suit is brought to recover \$495 damages to the owners of the sloop Oriel, which was run into by the T. J. Potter during the regatta of last year. The Oriel was participating in the sloop race and had only started

when she was run into. She finished the course, but was a total wreck.

Chief Engineer Foster is having all the fire alarm boxes equipped with key jars. These jars are placed over the fire box doors, with a glass in front. The key is placed in the box and in the event of a fire all that is necessary is to break the glass and turn the key. Heretofore the keys have been kept at different stores in close proximity to the boxes, and frequently the store or place of business was closed when a fire occurred. The present system will greatly facilitate matters.

A Portland brewing company is trying to make arrangements to open a beer garden in Grimes grove at Seaside. Such an institution is of doubtful propriety, and will have a tendency to drive a large number of people either to Cannon beach or Gearhart park. There is no particular objection to a side bar in a hotel, but when it comes to establishing beer gardens at a summer resort, it will meet with considerable objections from owners of summer cottages. Summer resorts are designed principally for women and children and a beer garden is not a necessary adjunct to a family summer home. However, if a liquor license is granted to one, it must be granted to others. Herein lies the objection to the law incorporating West Seaside.

Standing room only again at the Star last night. Not only was the theater crowded to the doors, but the sidewalk and streets were blocked with an anxious throng eager to gain admittance. The consensus of opinion by critics is that it is the best bill ever presented in Astoria. That it is far above the average is attested by the immense crowds that visit it every night. The Cycle Dazzle is the drawing card this week and people are not satisfied with seeing the wonderful performance one night, but go every night. Homes and Homes is one of the finest teams ever in the city and win merited applause after each performance. Every number is of superior merit and in the aggregate the best vaudeville performance ever seen in the city.

PERSONAL MENTION.

J. M. Donoghue of Seattle is in the city.

R. M. Thornburg of Knappton is in the city.

W. R. Whitman of Ilwaco was in the city yesterday.

James Mehan of Pillar Rock was in the city yesterday.

Peter Grant of Portland is visiting friends in Astoria.

B. S. Worsley of Portland was a visitor in Astoria yesterday.

James McDonough of Pillar Rock was in the city yesterday.

S. J. Basel of Chinook returned home yesterday morning.

Chas. Davis of Chinook returned home yesterday morning.

L. S. Davidson of Portland was in the city yesterday on business.

W. F. Wilson and wife of Portland are visiting friends in this city.

Geo. F. Burton and wife of Elgin, Ill., are registered at the Central.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Washburn of Brookfield were in the city yesterday.

Harry Hamblet of Portland is in the city on a pleasure and business trip.

W. A. Huddleson of Portland was among the arrivals of Astoria yesterday.

Clifford Herman and wife of Westport, Washington arrived in the city yesterday.

August Larsen returned to Altoona yesterday, where he will remain during the summer.

F. Z. Heuston, a prominent attorney

of Tacoma was in the city yesterday on legal business.

A. N. Smith, formerly of Astoria, but now of Portland, was in the city yesterday on business.

Werner Storm of Hammond was in the city yesterday on business.

Frank M. Warren, a prominent canneryman of Portland was in the city yesterday on business.

After being highly entertained by Hon. J. N. Laws, representative Burns of Coos and Curry returned to Portland yesterday morning.

Good tea, good coffee, best baking-powder, best flavoring extracts, best spices, pure soda, at fair prices and moneyback. Schilling's Best, at your grocer's.

Great Auction Sale of Shanahan Stock.

Beginning on Monday morning, March 6th, I will sell at public auction my entire stock,

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, NOTIONS, ETC.,

without regard to cost. No reservation whatever will be made and any reasonable bid for any article in the store will be accepted. Don't forget the great Auction Sale that will begin next Monday Morning, March 6th, at 10 o'clock.

MAX STRAHL, Auctioneer.

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Wise Leads the Van

No. Astoria, Oregon, 1905.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE AND CHRISTMAS CERTIFICATE

Mr. has bought Ten Dollars worth of goods at

HERMAN WISE'S STORE

and is entitled to receive the sum of Ten Dollars in return in case of accident, subject to the conditions printed on the back of this certificate;

Or, if he has three certificates, issue of 1905, he will receive from me a nice Xmas present.

Six certificates will entitle holder to two presents; Nine to three presents. Certificates must be in the same name to be good.

HERMAN WISE,

By

This is the form of certificate that Herman Wise gives to his customers with every Ten Dollar Sale. Save all sale slips until you have Ten Dollars worth and you get a certificate for the asking. In case of an accident Herman Wise will give you Ten Dollars for each certificate. If you are fortunate and meet with no accident Herman Wise will give you a nice Xmas present for every Three Certificates.

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ONE PRICE AND LIBERAL TREATMENT.

That's why Herman Wise does the largest business in his line and always will.

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The Reliable Clothier and Hatter.

New Steel Passenger and Freight Steamer

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Sails from San Francisco Thursday night for Astoria and Portland.

Will Make Regular Trips Every Ten Days.

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For three days only.

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