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Today's Weather.

Western Oregon and Western Washington, Friday, occasional rain.

Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington, cloudy with occasional rain; part snow in mountains and foothills.

NOT A MORAL WAVE.

Some people, usually with no respect for morality, characterize the closing of gambling in Astoria as a moral wave. This is a misnomer. While there is a splendid field for a moral wave to operate upon in Astoria the gambling wave was not instigated by the class of people who generally interest themselves in such matters.

Some of the ward heelers imagine they see a political move in the actions of the sheriff. The only education they have been acquired in the filthy pool of politics and if a minister preaches a sermon on good citizenship, they imagine they see politics in it. It were useless to argue the questions with such sap heads as they have not sufficient brain capacity to comprehend questions other than those that pertain to politics or gambling.

Some of the gentlemen connected with the city government in an interview, evince an opinion that while gambling is pernicious and it is virtually licensing vice and crime, they believe it ought to exist, because the city needs the revenues from gambling to maintain the city government.

Last Saturday night Leander Lebak paid off a man who had been working for him on the hospital building, \$33 wages due himself and his boy. The man has a nice family, a wife and several children who some times suffer for the necessities of life. This man was inveigled into a gambling game; did not go home that night, and at 4 o'clock Sunday morning he had blown in every dollar of his own and his boy's wages over the gambling table.

A young man was employed at a large store. He had received his wages and also had collected \$80 of the firm's money. He was persuaded to visit a gambling house where everyone with money is given the glad hand, and after it is gone, is kicked out. In a few hours he had lost, not only his own salary, but the \$80 belonging to his employer. This money is needed by the city to pay the running expenses.

Instances are well known, to the police and to other city officers where young men have been in business. They attend to their business during the day, but instead of going home to their families after business hours they are found seated at the gambling

table and blow in all the profits of the day and money belonging to their creditors. A day of settlement arrives and the young man is closed up in business. He has lost the confidence and respect of his creditors and the community. But the city needs the money and what matters it if a few young men are ruined; if wives and children suffer for the bare necessities of life, as long as policemen and city officials can rake down good fat salaries, paid to them by taking the bread and butter from the mouths of starving children, hard working wives, breaking up happy homes, making criminals of their boys and prostitutes of their girls. The city cares nothing for this. They need the money. Is it right?

Look at this question in any light and from any standpoint. Make it a moral wave, a political scheme or a mercenary method of wringing money from the laboring men and driving young men to ruin, the question resolves itself down to only three words: "It is right?" This is the question to be considered. The city can devise other means for raising revenues. Better that some improvements be stopped than that every nail driven into a plank represents so much money that of right belongs to the women and children of poor men that are unable to resist temptation. Better reduce salaries than drive one young man to ruin from indulging in gambling. It is not a question of morals or politics. It is a question of right or wrong, and this must and will be settled by a large majority of the good people of Astoria that are opposed to licensing vice and crime in order to furnish revenues to maintain the city government.

JAPAN AND THE PHILIPPINES.

Talk about Japan's designs upon the Philippines is revived. It has been started again by what is now said to have been an incorrect report of an interview with Representative Hull of Iowa. Corrections of misquotations do not, however, always catch up with the original stories, and so discussion of what Mr. Hull says he did not say proceeds with lurid energy. The story of the three black crows may be emulated, so that we shall presently hear some wild tale of Japan's having dispatched a fleet to seize Manila, or having hitched a cable to Samar to tow it up to Formosa. Almost anything will serve for a sensation in a dull season, when news of Japanese victories has become monotonous.

Seriously, we can imagine few foreign complications more unlikely to arise than any trouble with Japan over the Philippines. The Japanese are pre-eminently a sensible and practical people. They do nothing without a definite and logical motive. Let us grant that—as in the case of other nations—self-interest is the chief motive. It would be difficult to discern any Japanese interest that would be served by such a venture. Japan does not need the Philippines as, for example, she needs Korea. They are too remote, and, like herself, they are insular. What she has been aiming at for many years is a foothold upon the continent. That she seems likely now to get, in both Korea and Shing-King. The firm establishment and development of her interests there will be sufficient to engage her attention in our time.

More than that, Japan realizes that our possession of the Philippines is particularly advantageous to her. Mr. Takahira truly says that, whereas before 1898 there was little trade or other intercourse between Japan and the Philippines, since that year such trade and intercourse have been considerably increasing. Japan is conspicuously a commercial nation, and whatever promotes her commercial interests is pleasing to her. There is little reason to suppose she is thinking of disturbing the eminently profitable state of affairs which exists between herself and our Asian possessions. We may go further than that and say what diplomatic considerations restrained Mr. Takahira from saying, namely, that Japan realizes it to be to her great advantage to have the United States settled in the Philippines as an Asiatic power. She knows that this country is sincerely friendly to her and is sincerely devoted to peace, and that therefore our retention of the Philippines means a constant force making for peace in that part of the world and the maintenance of an influence friendly to Japan.

In such circumstances, it is worse than idle to suspect Japan of any ulterior designs upon our possessions. There was no power in the world that more cordially welcomed our advent as an Asian power. For her now to seek to dislodge us from our place would be contrary to her traditions and practice and to her own direct interests. We have seen not the slightest symptom of any such folly upon her part.

Incredible Brutality.

It would have been incredible brutality if Chas. F. Lemberger of Syracuse, N. Y., had not done the best he could for his suffering son. "My boy," he says, "cut a fearful gash over his eye, so I applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve, which quickly healed it and saved his eye." Good for burns and ulcers too. Only 25c at Chas. Roger's drug store.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Epitome of Anecdotes and Incidents With Comments By a Layman.

One thing is certain, gambling is of no benefit to the newspapers of Astoria. Add a newspaper that indorses gambling is a detriment to the community.

With gambling closed and temptation removed, merchants may be able to collect a few outstanding bills, possibly from a conscience fund.

"I wonder why Oster did not advise the chloroforming of women when they get to be 60 years old?" "He probably knows that women never get that old."

According to Mr. Bryan "whatever the people want is right." There is a painful circumstance on two occasions in this connection, where the people evidently did not want Mr. Bryan. Bryan is right.

Indiana now has a law making it a felony to possess a cigarette. The complaint here is that the man on the rear platform insists on burning his up.

Irate Spouse—Henry, how came you so late getting in?

Henry—Been down (hic) shoot'n' gallery, m' dear.

"I believe you. You look half shot now. Well, did you hit the bull's eye?"

"No, m' dear. Just ash I went shoot-sh he winked 'is eye an' I missed."

The Florida Times-Union gravely discusses Democratic party principles. Why talk so much of things that have no contemporaneous existence? If the dead past must be delved into, there is the reign of Rameses, just by way of variety.

Colorado has already had three governors as a result of last fall's election, yet newspaper reports indicate that the people are not all satisfied.

Cassie Chadwick's capacity for certifying and cashing checks has ended in catastrophe. She will be able to give the public pointers on hysterical finance, however, that will put Lawson out of business when she writes her book.

A Portland man started a course of fasting as an experimental cure for rheumatism. He lost a pound of weight each day for 13 days and his rheumatic pains left him. During that time he lived on a water diet and performed his regular work. The treatment can be tried by anyone without expense and besides, if we should happen to get another democratic president in 1908 it might come handy to be in training for that party's famous brand of prosperity.

Strikes Hidden Rocks.

When your ship of health strikes the hidden rocks of Consumption, Pneumonia, etc., you are lost, if you don't get help from Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. J. W. McKinnon of Talladega Springs, Ala., writes: "I had been very ill with pneumonia, under the care of two doctors, but was getting no better when I began to take Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose gave relief, and one bottle cured me." Sure cure for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs and colds. Guaranteed at Chas. Rogers' drug store, price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

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P. A. STOKES

KEEPS A DRESSY SHOP FOR DRESSY MEN.

The Colonel's Waterloo.

Colonel John M. Fuller, of Honey Grove, Texas, nearly met his Waterloo, from Liver and Kidney trouble. In a recent letter, he says: "I was nearly dead, of these complaints, and, although I tried my family doctor, he did me no good; so I got a 50c bottle of your great Electric Bitters, which cured me. I consider them the best medicine on earth, and thank God who gave you the knowledge to make them." Sold and guaranteed to cure, Dyspepsia, Billiousness and Kidney Disease, by Chas. Rogers, druggist, at 50c a bottle.

More White Pine cough syrup has been sold in Astoria this winter than any other kind, because it gives instant relief. The Owl and Eagle drug store are sole agents for all the best goods.

SCIENCE PREVENTS BALDNESS.

The Fatal Germ and Its Remedy Now Facts of Science.

It is the rarest thing in the world for a man to be necessarily bald. No man whose hair is not dead at the roots, need be bald if he will use Newbro's Herpicide, the new scalp antiseptic. Herpicide destroys the germ that cuts the hair off at the root; and cleans the scalp of dandruff and leaves it in a perfectly healthy condition. Mr. Mannett, in the Maryland Block, Butte, Mont., was entirely bald. In less than a month Herpicide had removed the enemies of hair growth, and nature did its work by covering his head with thick hair an inch long, and in six weeks he had a normal suit of hair. Sold by leading druggists. Send 50c. in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich. Eagle Drug Store, 351-353 Bond St. Owl Drug Store, 549 Cem. St., T. F. Laurin, Prop. "Special Agent."

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