INVESTIGATE CAUSE

New York Physicians Investigate Cerebro Spinal Menengitis.

AN APPALLING DEATH RATE

Doctors and Hospital Authorities Ordered to Report on Cause and Spread of the Disease With a View of Exterminating and Checking It.

Ne York, April 5.—Circulars to the number of 5000 have been ordered by the health department to be served on all physicians and institutions in New York, ordering reports made ot every case of cerebro spinal menenfitis. This must be done by the doctors and hospital authorities under the penalty prescribed in the sanitary code and marks a drastic step by the health board in combating the disease which has caused 798 deaths in Greater New York since January 1. Under the new policy each case will be disinfected and if need be, isolated.

At the hospitals many new cases are being received and at every institution that takes this class of patients there are from one to 21 sufferers. As before he majority of those sick are children.

Although little progress has been made by the commission of medical men which has for some days been investigating the disease, many answers from prominent hospital physicians and specialists all over the world have been received in response to the list of questions sent out. As yet no one has been able to reveal the identity of the meningitis germ.

Two facts which the investigators consider of importance have, however, come to light. It has been found by laboratory experiments that there is a variation between the type of the so-called germs in this epidemic and the hitherto supposed normal type of meningitis germ.

The second discovery is that all the ordinary animals used in laboratory work are immune to the meningitis germs. Guinea pigs and rabbits for instance show no bad effects when they are noculated. This is true of many other animals and the commission is at a loss how to anti-toxin can be procured. Thus far the only animals which have been successwully inoculated are mice, which are too small for practical use in supplying serum.

OREGON QUARANTINED.

Montana's Governor Quarantines Against Sheep Scab.

Butte, April 5.—Minor advices from Helena state that Governor Tool today declared a quarantine against California, Colorado, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, North Dakota, New York, South Dakota, Ohio, Wyoming, Washington and Oregon, where sheep scap is supposed to exist.

CHANCE FOR GRAFT.

Chicago Votes $5,000,000 for a New Court House.

Chicago, Apri 5.—By a vote that left no reason to doubt the final outcome when the country towns are heard from, Chicago has declared in favor of the $5,000,000 bond issue for a new court house. The votes cast for the proposition were 131,276, and those against 96,341, leaving a plurality ot 34,935. This means, according to the plans of the country board, that a new court house will be erected at once. The bonds will run from September this year and construction work will begin as soon as the issue is floated.

TAKING THE CENSUS

Assessor Cornelius Will Soon Commence Counting Noses.

LEGISLATIVE RERESENTATION

According to Laws of Oregon, Next Legislature Will Make New Apportionment for Basing Members of the Legislature From Each County.

A new legislative apportionment, based upon the state census of 1905 must be made by the legislature of 1907, and for that reason it behooves Clatsop county to see that a full enumeration of its inhabitants is made this year. The growth of Portland and eastern Oregon in the last five years is supposed to have been more rapid than the Willamette valley and western Oregon, and if the state census should show much of a difference Multnomah county and eastern Oregon will profit by securing a larger representation in the legisislature.

When the last apportionment was made by the legislature Clatsop county only had 47 population to spare to retain its own senator and two representatives. The apportionment is based upon the population and each county is entitled to so many representatives and senators as it has population. Clatsop county will have to count every nose in every precinct or it will lose one repreesntative, thereby curtailing its power and influence in the legislature and show to the world that instead of progressing, it is retrograding.

From computations made last year by Labor Commissioner O. P. Hoff that official reached the conclusion that some of the older settled valley counties and Clatsop county are not increasing very rapidly in population. Multnomah county has now over one-third of the population of the entire state and if it is given one-third of the senators and representatives there will be several counties in the state that will not have much of a representation.

County Assessor Cornelius has received the necessary blanks and is now ready to begin taking the census whenever the county court makes provisions for it. Part of the enumerators have been selected and the remaining ones will be as soon as he is authorized to commenec the enumeration. It is very important that every man, woman and child be enumerated and that no one be overlooked, and to do this, men should be selected who are familiar with the city. When the United States census was taken in 1900, there were nearly 1000 residents of Astoria that were not enumerated, simply because incompetent men were employed.

When it is taken into consideration that upon the census this spring depends Clatsop county's representation in the legislature is at stake and there is a strong probability that it will lose one of its representatives in the legislature, the importanec of the census cannot be overestimated. When the last apportionment was made, Multnomah county was entitled to one more senator and two more representatives than was given it, but it waived this so as to give one or two other counties a representation. The apportionment of the state into senatorial and representatiev districts is not always made in strict compliance with the constitution, and, therefore, some counties get a larger representation than their population entitles them to, while other counties get less. Should the legislature of 1907 be actuated by a desire to follow the constitution, there might be some important changes in the apportionment of representatives.

Under the old antiquated, mossback constitution that was brought to Oregon by the Hudson Bay Company, about 12,000 years before Christ, it is impossible to increase the number of senators and representatives, and it will not be 10 years before Multnomah county will elect one-half the representatives and senators and they will control the legislation of the entire state. The constitution of Oregon provides as follows:

"The number of senators and representatives shall, at the session next following an enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States or this state, be fixed by law, and apportioned among the several counties according to the number of white population in each. And the ratio of senators and representatives shall be determined by dividing the whole number of white population of such county or district, by such respective ratios; and when a fraction shall result from such division, which shall exceed one-half of such ratio, such county or district shall be entitled to a member for such fraction. And in case any county shall not have the requisite population to entitle such county to a member, then such county shall be attached to some adjoining county for senatorial or representative purposes."

WAIL FROM WARRENTON.

New Charter Disfranchises All the Voters.

Warrenton, April 5.

Editor Morning Astorian:

At the request of one man, the last legislature amended the charter of the town of Warrenton providing for the qualification of voters and disfranchising all but eight voters in the town. The new charter provides that no person can vote who does not pay taxes on property valued at $100. Although there are about 50 houses in the town, there are only eight people that are assessed $100 and over. It is a trust and makes the town a joint stock company with a board of eight directors. This trust presumes to dictate when a man shall be permitted to walk on the streets and sidewalks; the time they shall go to bed and rise in the morning; and if you want to play mumplepeg or marbles you have to get permission from the trust. It has driven and will continue to keep people away from Warranton, as people will not live in a community unless they can have something to say about its business.

People will not come here and buy a lot and build a small cottage, as they must build one that will be assessed for $100 before they will have a voice in town affairs. No American citizen will live in a town where they disfranchise voters in the interests of a trust. All the members of the legislature voted for the charter and the 75 voters, at June elections will see that they only get the eight votes of the trust magnates, and no more.

FAIR PLAY.

Marine News.

The four-masted schooner Luzon, with a cargo of lumber for San Francisco, was towed to sea yesterday.

The steamer Roanoke arrived in yesterday from San Francisco with freight and passengers.

The schooner Virginia arrived in yesterday from San Francisco to load lumber.

WORK AT FT. CANBY

Large Force of Men Employed Making Improvements.

NEW GUNS TO BE ADDED

Work Was Delayed by the Non-Arrival of Cement, But That Having Been Delivered Additional Help Will Be Employed to Rush the Work to Completion.

Since the delivery of 1000 barrels of cement at Fort Canby last month, the lot having come on the German ship Henriette and being part of a big contract placed by the government, more deliveries on which are to be made when the French bark La Fontaine arrives in this month, the labor on the fortifications at the Heads is being prosecuted in an encouraging manner. All of the gravel to be mixed with the cement in the manufacture of concrete is on the ground. The concrete is being used in the construction of foundations on which to mount big guns, and the present specifications require the placing of two heavy batteries, included in which will be five disappearing guns.

Two of the guns are to be stationed to the right of the lighthouse, and the three guns of the second battery are to be located a few hundred feet to the north. A force of over 50 men is now employed on the undertaking, and progress so far has been such that it is predicted the work will be brought to a close with the termination of 1905, but in that connection it is confidently expected the government will authorize additional improvements made in the way of erecting a complete set of barracks, quarters for officers and such appurtenances to military life as are needed at the station. One plan said to be under consideration at this time is to install a mortar battery of 16 pieces in the gully leading to MacKenzie Head, the more guns of the disappearing pattern may find their way to permanent positions on the hills to the north of that neighborhood.

To rush the task now so well under way more assistanec is being obtained in the employment of extra laborers, and before summer opens there may be over 100 men on the payroll. The principal drawback met with in the earlier operations was the non-arrival of the cement, but as a steady supply of that material seems assured now there is no prospect of further detention.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Enhusiastic Meeting of the District Convention Held.

The second annual convention of the Knights of Pythias, comprising the local lodges from Seaside, Rainier, St. Helens and Astoria, convened yesterday. The visiting delegations from outside towns were met at the train by the local lodge and escorted to Astor hall.

Hon. George Noland presided at the meeting and introduced Herman Wise, who delivered the address of welcome, in the usual felicitious style, extending the freedom of the city to the visitors. Judge W. B. Dilliard of St. Helens responded. J. E. Gratke delivered the address of welcome to the Rathbone sisters, and that is where he shines, welcoming the ladies.

Dr. R. H. Cliff, the Demosthenese of St. Helens, followed with an eloquent address. W. F. Gratke, the Jennie Lind of Astoria, favored the audience with two songs which were appreciated. Hon. J. B. E. Bourne of St. Helens and R. E. Bradbury of Seaside also delivered short addresses.

After the welcoming exercises, the Rathbone sisters announced that lunch was ready and the members proceeded to the banquet hall.

At 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon the session was resumed. After transacting routine business the following subjects were discussed.

"Advantage of the Annual Roll Call by Subordinate Lodges." J. B. E. Bourne.

"How to Build Up a Lodge." R. E. Bradbury.

"Encouragement of the Rathbone Sisters," Dr. H. R. Cliff.

Astor Temple Rathbone Sisters met at 2 p. m. at Odd Fellows' hall, which was largely attended. The address of welcome was delivered by Miss Bertha Morton, after which routine business was transacted. Last evening a social session was held in the A. O. U. W. hall, while the Knights convened at Astor hall. After the business was completed both lodges adjourned to Hoefler's where a sumptous banquet was served. The evening was pleasantly spent by toasts, short speeches and apropriate songs.

The visiting members speak in the highest terms of the hospitality of Astor lodge and the citizens, and the convention was voted a grand success.

COUNTY COURT.

Bids Opened for Hermosa Park and Mill Creek Bridges.

The county court met in regular session yesterday, commissioners Clark and Larsen being present. Warrants were ordered drawn for certain persons.

J. N. Heckard was awarded the contract for building the county road on the Lewis and Clark for the sum of $250, the work to be completed by June 1.

Bids for improving the Smiths point bridge were opened as follows:

W. A. Goodin, $3,450; Jensen & Hansen, $1800 and 75 cents a yard for graveling; J. C. Butts, $2450 and $5 a rod for rip rap. The bids were taken under advisement.

Bids for improving the road between Van Dusen's Astoria and the John Day were opened, as follows:

W. A. Goodin, $1600; L. R. Abercrombie, $1957. The contract was awarded to W. A. Goodin.

Bids for building a bridge across Hermosa park at Seaside were opened as follows: For doing the work Birch & Jacobson, $407; Aug. Hillstrom $785; L. A. Conn, $825; L. Haagman, $500; Volmer & Wood, $600; A. Piere, $688.

For furnishing the lumber and labor Birch & Jacobson, $1191; Aug. Hillstrom, $1759; L. Lebak, $1185, the county to furnish irons.

The bid of Birch & Jacobson for furnishing the labor and material for $1191 was accepted and the district attorney instructed to draw a contract the contractors to furnish a bond in the sum of $1000.

Bids for building a bridge across Mill Creek at Seaside were opened as follows: Wood & Vollmer, $300; Laighton & Duncan, $145; John Vollmer, $233.10; George Beckman, $195; A. H. Johnson, $425. The contract was awarded to Laighton & Duncan.

In the matter of the application of John West, Jr., for a liquor license in Westport precinct, a petition and remonstrance were filed. The attorney for Mr. West contendtd that the local option law superseded the old law and no petition was necessary. The matter was taken under advisement and referred to the district attorney for an opinion.

The court adjourned until this morning at 9 o'clock. An effort will be made to complete the business today.