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RIDICULOUS EXCUSE.

The most ridiculous stunt now being done on the world's stage for the edification of its people is that of the Russian authorities endeavoring to excuse their defeats. Every time they get licked in good old country style or chased over hill and dale like a watermelon thief with an active bulldog in pursuit, they begin to fill the circumambient with explanations of how it all happened. As usual, it was "part of their well-planned campaign." They appear to report just as little of the truth as possible, and so worded that the casual or unsuspecting reader will place exactly the opposite construction on it—just as they intended that they should. Whenever they retreat (which of late has been about all they have done in the way of actual operations), whether with some little semblance of order or pellmell in disorderly panic, they report that they very "quietly retired," in order to "take up a stronger and more commanding (that is, where the Japs have less chance to get at them), position." Why they failed to "take up that stronger and more commanding position before hostilities began, as a capable general would, undoubtedly do, their report neglects to explain. Continued practice is said to make one nearer perfect in anything to which he may devote his endeavors; and this being true, the Russ must be the most "expert explainer" on this planet. One of the latest reports of Russian failure and inefficiency explains in connection with their disorderly stampede from the Yalu, that it was not the intent nor purpose of the Russian forces to "impede" the approach of the Japanese columns, but merely to "observe and harass them!" Now, wouldn't this make you tired? What in the name of all hades are their scouts and skirmishing parties there for if not to accomplish this purpose? Is it customary, even sensible, to station whole regiments merely for the purpose of "observing and harassing an approaching enemy?" Rats! Likewise, rodents!

NEW THOUGHTS.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox has started a magazine in Chicago called New Thoughts. Ella has evolved from her brain a new religion which is a cross between theosophy and moonshine. One cannot explain it and for this reason it has made many converts. Some people go wild over that which is not easily understood. Ella does not make her home in Chicago. She is too aesthetic for that. The Bungalow holds here in the summer time and there she gathers all the new lions cowboy poets, straggling authors and struggling musicians. A quaint, quick-witted and audacious little woman is Mrs. Wilcox. One million blubbering maidens gulp down her poems of passion, one million spinsters read her treatises on "How to Rear Babies" and all the theosophists in the country look upon her as divinely gifted. Gertrude Atherton should cultivate Ella Wheeler Wilcox's loving grace and learn to grow old without a murmur. Ella isn't old, but she expects to be some day.

WILL PAY LICENSE.

Earnum & Bailey's circus will pitch its tent in Portland, Ore., in August, the advance agent having finally agreed to the license charge of \$330 per day. He protested loudly at first against such a tax, but upon investigation discovered that Ringling Bros., upon their last visit to Seattle, were forced to pay \$750 per day. While agreeing to the Portland rate an effort is being made to have an ordinance passed in Seattle to cut the license to \$250. Circuses take a great deal of money out of a community legitimately and bring in their wake a gang of "sure-thing" men, pickpockets, petty larcenists and other gentry who also levy tribute. A good, stiff license fee, just short of prohibitory, is the proper one to impose.

PATHOLOGY OF BLUSHING.

Southerners will learn with no little local pride that one of their medical journals has explained the pathology of blushing in technical language that could never have been surpassed by a Boston medical journal. Southern

Medicine says: "A blush is a temporary erythema and calorific effluence of the physiognomy, aethologized by one preceptiveness of the sensorium when in a predicament of un-equilibrium from a sense of shame, anger or other cause, eventuating in a paresis of the vasomotor filaments of the facial capillaries, whereby, being divested of their elasticity, they are suffused with a radiance effeminating from an intimidated praeecordia."

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Epitome of Anecdotes and Incidents With Comments By a Layman. There's a smell of violets—and gas—in the air.

"If a court of inquiry is necessary for the donor of every gift why not also investigate the recipients."

The prize-fighter we must always have with us, if not in a fake ring performance, then under the guise of a bad actor.

Labor union organizers are circulating among the lobstermen of the Maine coast trying to prove that they merit the name.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society factions have trapped a bird that looks like the dove of peace, but it may turn out to be a pigeon.

"Why don't you study American statesmanship for your model?" asked the diplomat.

"That's what I am doing," answered President Castro. "I am now engaged in standing pat."

The British house of commons is holding all-night sessions. At that rate the English common stock will soon be earning a dividend.

Mexican scientists have discovered that the tapeworm is the deadly foe of the tubercular bacilli. Well, they'll have to fight it out in the open, that's all.

"I see that President Roosevelt has abandoned his tariff reform ideas."

"That so?"

"He told the Mothers' congress that he believed in encouraging infant industries."

The efforts to pour oil on the troubled waters of the Equitable company may prove temporarily effectual, but the sizzling lava of the Frenzied Finance volcano will doubtless continue to slop around the Equitable crater.

Brother Holder of the Jackson Herald, is right. We love to read the weekly newspapers, for we got our "fetching up" as a printer and news-hunter on one of them. The most delightful years of our life were spent trying to keep our ownership of a country weekly out of reach of the sheriff!

Mrs. Chadwick having been sentenced for swindling certain bankers it would be eminently just and proper for the government to prosecute and punish the certain bankers who robbed Mrs. Chadwick when cashing her paper.

The Dealer—Here's just the knife you want to buy, sir, to take on your fishing trip. It has five blades and a corkscREW.

The Angler—Haven't you one with less blade and—er—more corkscREWS?"

Attention W. O. W.

All members of Climax camp, Woodmen of the World, are requested to attend the funeral of our late neighbor, S. H. Maddock, which takes place from Grace church at 5 p. m. this Friday, April 14.

W. H. SNOW, Consul Commander.

The members of the Astoria Woman's Club are requested to attend the funeral services of the late Sam H. Maddock at Grace Episcopal church, Franklin avenue, on Friday, April 14, at 5 p. m. in token of sympathy and respect for the sorrowing and bereaved widow, Mrs. Frances E. Maddock.

MRS. W. V. BARNES, Vice President.

A. F. & A. M. Funeral Notice. The members of Temple lodge, No. 7, and all sojourning Master Masons, are requested to assemble at the lodge room, Masonic hall, this (Friday) morning at 9:30, to attend the funeral of our late brother, David Morgan. By order of the W. M.

E. C. HOLDEN, Secretary.

Elks' Funeral Notice. All members of Elks lodge are requested to assemble at Elks hall at 4 p. m., on Friday, April 14, for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late brother, Samuel H. Maddock.

Frightful Suffering Relieved. Suffering frightfully from the virulent poisons of undigested food, C. G. Grayson, of Lula, Miss., took Dr. King's New Life Pills, "with the result," he writes, "that I was cured." All stomach and bowel disorders give way to their tonic-laxative properties. 25c at Chas. Rogers' drug store, guaranteed.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Try our Nob Hill special blend Coffee.

FOARD & STOKES CO.

There was practically no movement of vessels along the water front yesterday business being unusually quiet.

Ray E. McIntyre and Ellen McGuire of Hammond were married at that place yesterday, Rev. L. J. Trumbull officiating.

R. M. Gaston, at his feed stable No. 105 14th street, offers for sale a Landis harness machine; one butcher's wall scales, will be sold cheap.

There is nothing nicer for breakfast than George's Eastern Codfish. It cooks white and tender.

FOARD & STOKES CO.

The British steamship Sandhurst arrived in yesterday from Puget sound and will load flour for Japan. She left up the river in the afternoon.

R. M. Gaston carries a full and complete line of wagons, buggies, plows, harrows and all kinds of farm tools and machinery at 105 Fourteenth street, Astoria, Ore.

The funeral of the late E. E. Phillips who was killed at Ft. Stevens was held from his late residence yesterday afternoon at Warrenton. The interment was at Ocean View cemetery.

Free to Adults Only—The new treatment for disease; not a patent medicine, but a rational assistant in nature. The great restorer, Alti-Tone, an alterative and tonic. If you want to try it free call at Hart's drug store.

Andrew Hannula was examined before the board of lunacy commissioners yesterday afternoon and was found insane enough to send to the asylum. He was committed to the asylum once before, but was released two years ago as cured.

The bar dredger Chinook has been overhauled and repaired at San Francisco and has been ordered to the Columbia river. She will probably anchor abreast of Flavel until such time as she will be ordered to proceed to work on the bar again. It is hoped that arrangements can be made to have work commenced this summer.

OLD FOLKS

THEIR DAYS MAY BE PROLONGED

How the Evening of Life May Be Made Happier for All.

"If people only knew the good that Vinol does old people," said Mr. Chas. Rogers our well known druggist, columns of space in our newspapers would be devoted to the subject for the benefit of mankind in general. I can truly say that we have never sold anything in our store equal to Vinol for old people.

"You see, with old age comes feebleness and loss of power, the organs act more slowly and less effectually than in youth, the appetite is poor, the digestion is weak, and there is not that same renewal of bodily tissue.

"There is nothing more pitiful to me than to see old people tottering bring back lost years, but it will lengthen life and brighten the years that remain.

"We are hearing from all over the country remarkable results which prove my statement, and we have received letters from sons and daughters of old people telling how father or mother has been made well and happy by the vigor and strength which Vinol brings the old.

"It was only a few days ago a letter was brought to my attention from Mr. John G. Nichols of Lawrence, Mass., in which he said that he was eighty-four years old, and he had not felt so well for 15 years as he had since taking Vinol; it gave him a good appetite, and he feels strong and well, and is working every day from 6 o'clock in the morning until five o'clock at night."

"It is just this way," continued Mr. Rogers. "Vinol invigorates the stomach first of all, creates an appetite, and enables the stomach to separate from food the elements needed for rich, red blood, healthy body material and sound, steady nerves. In this natural manner it repairs worn tissues, checks the natural decline and replaces weakness with strength.

"For any one suffering from any weakness, run-down condition Vinol will do the same; and it is because we know so well what Vinol will do that we guarantee its action, and we will gladly refund the money paid for it to any one who is not satisfied. I wish every old person in this vicinity would just try Vinol on our guarantee. If it does not satisfy, then it will not cost them a cent. Chas. Rogers, druggist.

WE JUST WANT TO TELL YOU THAT OUR Spring Suits, Top Coats and Rain Coats have arrived and we can undoubtedly show you the swellest line in Astoria at from \$10.00 to \$30.00 Everything guaranteed to give entire satisfaction or money refunded. P. A. STOKES THE DRESSY SHOP FOR DRESSY MEN.

THERE IS A REASON

For the popularity of our Millinery department. Situated as it is, on the second floor of our building in a cozy, comfortable room, in charge of an expert, until recently with one of the leading millinery establishments in the country; this Department is the Mecca of all lovers of stylish millinery. Visit our store and see the elegant display at Bee Hive prices.

For a Pretty Walking or Traveling Suit

There is nothing daintier than an Alpaca or Silk Shirt Waist Suit, chosen from the complete line of new patterns, just received by us. ALPACCA SUITS made of good quality Alpaca, in several colors and grades, more or less daintily finished, from \$5 to \$12 SHIRT WAIST SUITS made of a good quality changeable silk. Several colors to choose from \$12 SHIRT WAIST SUITS of excellent quality figured silk, pattern being a broken stripe, dainty design, in blue, brown, green and gray. \$14 SAME STYLE SUITS of a better grade of material \$18 SHIRT WAIST SUITS, made of fine, heavy quality changeable silk in various colors, well finished \$22 No trouble to show goods.

The BEE HIVE M. S. COPELAND & CO.

ASTOR A GROCERY 523 Commercial St. Phone Main 681

Our announcements to the grocery buying public will appear in display advertisements hereafter. We have adopted this style, believing that we can say more and more frequently to our customers. New text, showing special items will appear every Thursday and Sunday. You will find these items of money-saving interest to you. We want your trade. If quality and prices are an object we will get it. A trial will convince you. Prompt delivery.

WOOD! WOOD! WOOD! Cord wood, mill wood, box wood, any kind of wood at lowest prices. Kelly, the transfer man. Phone 2211 Black, Barn on Twelfth, opposite opera house.

First National Bank of Astoria ESTABLISHED 1886 Capital and Surplus \$100,000

PATTON'S SUN PROOF PAINT Lasts Longer and Locks Better. Guaranteed for 5 years. For sale by B. F. ALLEN & SON

The Best Restaurant. The Palace Cafe. Regular Meals 25c. Everything the Market Affords. Sunday Dinners a Specialty. Palace Catering Co.

Are your spirits drooping? Do you feel that tired feeling? Does your appetite need coaxing? Then your blood is poor. That is nature's way of telling you that you need our ALTI-TONE It is an ideal tonic, bracing, strengthening and exhilarating. It purifies the blood, tones up the system and will make you feel like yourself again in a week or so. FRANK HART, Druggist. SOLE AGENT Corner 14th and Commercial Sts.

ASTORIA IRON WORKS JOHN FOX, Pres. and Supt. F. L. BISHOP, Secretary. A. L. FOX, Vice President. ASTORIA SAVING BANK, Treas. Designers and Manufacturers of THE LATEST IMPROVED CANNING MACHINERY, MARINE ENGINES AND BOILERS. COMPLETE CANNERY OUTFITS FURNISHED. CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. Foot of Fourth Street, ASTORIA, OREGON.