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ECONOMY NEEDED.

Every newspaper in Astoria owes a duty to the public, and one of its duties is to call attention to extravagance in the management of city or county affairs. These criticisms should not be considered in the nature of a "roast," as they are not so intended. The people of Astoria are very sensitive when something is published that reflects incidentally upon them, but they read with feelings of mingled pleasure and joy, a criticism on any of their neighbors. There is no doubt but both the city and county government are actuated by honest motives in the administration of affairs, and grafting is virtually an unknown quantity in Astoria or Clatsop county. It is, however, noticeable that all the large bills presented to the city or county usually come from people who were once members of the tax payers' league, whose object was to reduce expenditures in city and county affairs and create a system of rigid economy to the end that taxes might be reduced and inducements offered to intending settlers and investors to locate in Astoria and Clatsop county. The tax payers league did considerable good in this direction during its brief existence.

There is one item of public expenditure that The Astorian, and a large majority of tax payers protest against, and that is the allowance by the county court of \$750 attorney's fees to Hon. George Noland for trying the county court house case in the circuit and supreme courts. While it may be what is called in legal parlance, "a reasonable attorney's fee," yet in the opinion of a very large number of tax payers, it was an exorbitant fee, but being presented, without a previous contract, the county court had nothing to do but allow it, as in the event of a suit to collect from the county, every attorney in the city would go on the witness stand and hold up his right hand and solemnly swear that it was a reasonable fee. Fulton Bros. were employed by the county to represent the county and their bill was only \$250, but they don't belong to the Citizens party, and are not familiar with that brand of economy.

Here was a case in which Clatsop county was a party, in fact, the only party to the controversy, and they had to employ attorneys on both sides. It seems to a layman that \$1000 for attorney fees in trying a case of that kind was outrageously exorbitant. In the opinion of a large number interested, it is double the amount that would have been charged a private individual, who would have made a contract in advance so as to know just what he would be compelled to pay, and thereby determine whether it would be a paying investment. We are not criticizing Mr. Noland or any attorney, but the methods adopted in contracting indebtedness.

Considerable favorable sentiment had been worked up in organizing a company of local capitalists to furnish the money and complete the court house, with a strong possibility of success, but the presentation of that claim and its allowance has caused a cold shiver to run down the backs of intending good Samaritans, with the result that they have got, what is called by players of the great American game, "cold feet," with the result that no effort will probably be made to extricate the county out of the hole, and the \$41,000 already expended on the foundation alone will probably have to lie idle until such a time as the tax payers of Clatsop county feel it incumbent upon them to make a change in the management of county affairs. As to whether that time will ever come is probably as problematical as the dawning of the millennium, but it will come "some sweet day bye and bye."

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT.

That a spirit of civic improvement has taken a firm hold in Astoria is evidenced by the many notable improvements being made by some of the more enterprising property owners. Attention has been frequently called to certain sections of the city where renovation and cleaning up would be more conducive to the beauty of that section of the city, but as the property belongs to a class of people

who are too poor to subscribe for a paper, the comments were not read, unless neighbors informed the owners of their dereliction, and being too poor to take a newspaper they are too poor to take a bath. Fortunately this number of people is very few and growing less day by day.

There is a spot in the limits of the city of Astoria that should be considered hallowed; sacred to the memory of departed ones, but which is a disgrace, not only to the city of Astoria, whose duty it is, by or through its officials to take care of it, but to those who have loved ones sleeping the sleep that knows no waking. It is Hillside cemetery on the hill. The city having sold all the lots in the cemetery is of the opinion that its duty to the public ceases. Friends who have relatives buried there having liquidated with the undertaker imagine that their duty has ceased. About the only time the place is visited is on Decoration day when the old boys in blue, who never forget their comrades, dead or living march up there in solemn tread to plant flowers on the graves of those who laid down their lives that this country might live and be perpetuated to the rising generations.

It has been suggested that some effort ought to be made by some one to go up there and brush it out, cut down the ferns and weeds, so that the monuments that mark the last resting place of loved ones gone before can be found by the Grand Army of the Republic on Memorial day without taking the city surveyor along with a crew of brushers and axmen to find the graves; to clear away a place sufficiently large upon the graves to plant at least one small rose. The manner in which these sacred spots are neglected makes it no inducement for a person to die, knowing that his grave will not be kept green, even by those whom he has supported during his lifetime.

It has been suggested—by a man of course—that perhaps the members of the Astoria Civic Improvement League would be willing to take scythes, brush hooks, grub hoes and rakes and put in a week putting the cemetery in a respectable appearance, but really this is asking too much of the noble women of Astoria, whose hearts are in the right place, but who were not ordained by nature to do a man's work, but they no doubt would be willing to assist in beautifying the grounds if they were cleared off so as to make it possible for them to get in the cemetery without having to climb over the fence. If some man who has some dear relative buried there would make a hole in the fence so they could crawl through, it would help some. But, seriously, there ought to be sufficient civic pride running around loose in Astoria to put the Hillside cemetery in a presentable appearance for Memorial day. Probably 500 school children will visit the cemetery on that day, and the unkempt, slovenly appearance of a place that should be the most beautiful spot in the city, will not appeal to them or their civic pride which is being instilled into their minds by parents and teachers. There is not a city in the world where a cemetery, no matter how old or how new, is not kept up and made beautiful either by relatives or the city authorities. In every other city hundreds of people visit the various cemeteries on Sunday, strew the graves of the dear departed with flowers, or plant some rosebush or shrub, but in Astoria it seems as though some of the people believe their duty to loved ones ends with the shedding of a few tears over the grave as the sexton slowly fills it up. "Gone but not forgotten" is not engraved on many of the tombstones in Hillside cemetery.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Epitome of Anecdotes and Incidents With Comments by a Layman. President Castro says his republic is small but proud. So is a bantam rooster.

From the stories now emanating from Hong Kong it is evident that the Chee Foo Har has moved.

There has never been a man born during the past 1800 years that could get out a newspaper that would please everybody.

May day was not so much more riotous in Russian under oppression that it was in Chicago under freedom.

A woman suicide in Portland left a message saying: "Put me away just as cheap as you can." It was not necessary to leave such a message in Portland.

Patient to Dr. Estes—Is skin grafting a very late discovery? Dr.—No, it is only a new branch of a very old art; all grafting is a skin process.

Cheer up. The rain may destroy the California strawberry crop, but an Astoria woman has invented a strawberry shortcake.

We now understand why the citizens party wins at every election. They charge more for their services to the "dear public."

The new city hall will cost when completed about \$40,000. It cost \$47,

000 to build what there is of the new court house. The city hall is plenty good enough for a county court house. Wonder why we didn't think of that before we paid out that \$750 cold.

It is a noticeable fact that the dear tax payers know how to charge when the bill comes out of the county, paid by the tax payers—\$750 isn't very much, but it is more than some laboring people earn in a year.

Duffy Helborn—Laura, here is a letter for you; looks rather bulky. Laura—Oh, I'll bet you it contains my new bathing suit.

After a Dover (N. H.) bank cashier was bedfast from losing a leg in a railroad accident, it was discovered that he was a defaulter to the extent of \$150,000. Was there ever a more unlucky coincidence.

As the new preacher of the "Little Blue Schoolhouse," President Roosevelt doubtless regarded it as a Christian duty to shake hands with each member of the congregation as they passed out.

PERSONAL MENTION.

J. M. Berry of St. Louis was in the city yesterday.

F. H. Crang of Portland was in the city yesterday.

M. J. Sharp of Wichita, Kan., is in the city on a visit.

A. D. Smith of Tillamook is visiting friends in the city.

J. A. Godelen of New York was in the city yesterday.

J. A. Fenger of San Francisco was in the city yesterday.

J. S. Myers of Portland was in the city yesterday on business.

August Christensen of Chicago is registered at the Occident.

E. S. Stevens of Nahcotta registered at the Parker yesterday.

B. J. Callahan of Seaside was in the city yesterday on business.

W. E. Knight of Nehalem was in the city yesterday on business.

Leon Mansur and family are spending a few days at Knappton.

John Mattson returned yesterday from a business trip to Seaside.

C. F. Goidard of San Francisco registered at the Occident yesterday.

Wm. Livingston of San Francisco was among the arrivals in Astoria yesterday.

J. Jones of New York arrived in Astoria yesterday and will probably locate here.

S. G. Williams of the Skamokawa Eagle was in the city yesterday interviewing his many friends.

Albert Beyer, the local agent of Weinhardt & Co. returned last evening from a business trip to Portland.

Mrs. Fred Brown left yesterday morning to visit her grandmother, Mrs. H. H. Strong at Mt. Pleasant, and expects to be absent about a month.

READ ALL THIS.

You Never Know the Moment When This Information May Prove of Infinite Value.

It is worth considerable to any citizen of Astoria to know how to be cured of painful, annoying and itching piles. Know then that Doan's Ointment is a positive remedy for all itches of the skin, for piles, eczema, etc. One application relieves and soothes. Read this testimony of its merits:

WE ARE SOLE AGENTS

FOR THE

BROWN SHOE CO.

Shoes for Men, Women and Children.

They are best for wear, because they last the longest.

Prices are nothing, compared with the rest.

Your next shoes will prove it, if you make the test.



Men's Glazed Kangaroo or patent leather shoe, Bal Welt, Yukon last . . . . . \$3.50

Ladies' Queen B Kid Shoe, with patent leather tips, Wellesley or Grecian last . . . . . \$2.00

Ladies' "Star Five Star" Shoe, made by the Brown factory of good kid; lace and patent leather tips . . \$2.50

Ladies' low tan shoe, latest toes, \$1.65, \$2.00 and \$2.50.

Children's shoes, new styles from \$1.00 to \$2.00.

Infant's shoes, 25 cents to \$1.25.

No trouble to show goods.



THE DRESSY SHOP FOR DRESSY MEN. Like the farmer's boy, we're "never done doing chores." Always busy on new ideas—ideas that work into novelties. Always hustling to keep our clothing ahead of the game. Are we succeeding? Well I guess we are. If you want to know how much take a look at the suits we are selling for \$17.50 ARVON is the name of one of our "natty" suits for young men, built with a very broad shoulder full back with button vented seams \$10.00 TO \$30.00 P. A. STOKES KEEPS A DRESSY SHOP FOR DRESSY MEN.

Doan's Ointment being a sure cure for such afflictions. It proved to be all that is claimed for it. Less than two boxes made a complete cure in my case. About this time my younger brother was taken with the same affliction. A box and a half of Doan's Ointment cured him. I know what I am talking about when I say that Doan's Ointment is one remedy which can be depended upon.

Plenty more proof like this from Astoria people. Call at Charles Rogers' drug store and ask what his customers report. For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Terrific Race With Death. "Death was fast approaching," writes Ralph F. Fernandez of Tampa, Fla., describing his fearful race with death, "as a result of liver trouble and heart disease, which had robbed me of sleep and of all interest in life. I had tried many different doctors and several medicines, but got no benefit, until I began to use Electric Bitters. So wonderful was their effect, that in three days I felt like a new man, and today I am cured of all my troubles." Guaranteed at Chas. Rogers' drug store; price 50c.

GOLDEN GATE COFFEE. Grind it at home (not too fine) fresh each morning. Aroma-tight tins. Never in bulk. J. A. Folger & Co. Established in 1850 San Francisco

REMOVAL - SALE WE MOVE ON JUNE 1st to our new quarters. In order to make moving easy we place on Special Sale our entire stock of Clothing, Men's Furnishings, Shoes, etc. Goods Sold at Cost During the Month of May. CHARLES LARSON WELCH BLOCK; 652 Commercial Street, corner 15th.

CENTRAL MEAT MARKET G. W. Morton and John Fahrman, Proprietors. CHOICEST FRESH AND SALT MEATS. - PROMPT DELIVERY 542 Commercial St. Phone Main 321.

The TROY Laundry Is the only White Labor Laundry in the City. Does the Best of Work at very reasonable Prices, and is in every way worthy of your patronage. Cor. 10th and DUANE STS. Phone 1891

FRESH AND CURED MEATS Wholesale and Retail Ships, Logging Camps and Mills supplied on short notice. LIVE STOCK BOUGHT AND SOLD WASHINGTON MARKET - CHRISTENSEN & CO.

AN ASTORIA PRODUCT Pale Bohemian Beer Best In The Northwest

North Pacific Brewing Co.

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

Weinhard's Lager Beer.