


**THE MORNING ASTORIAN**  
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**TELEPHONE MAIN 661.**

Phillip Krigh, "Indiana's 700 pound man" is dead. Tailors will lament and undertakers will hug themselves in unholy glee.

A circus lioness held a search party of 200 armed men at bay for two hours in New Jersey. With an army of such quadrupeds, the Little White Father, could soon put his yellow opponents to rout.

A young soldier at Benicia, Cal., sprouts forth as a wizard; he has invented a wireless telegraph instrument that not only has been put to a practical use, but surpasses the apparatus of Marconi. Then the life of the "boy in blue" is not so uninteresting as some are wont to picture it.

It will be remembered that a Hoffman aggregation astonished Europe some time ago by their wholesale swindling. Los Angeles boasts of a couple of the same name who have victimized a number of real estate dealers. But taking it as a whole, it is not the palmy metropolis of Southern California a gigantic swindle?

We fail to appreciate the sense of inducing men to travel across the continent presumably to attend the National Irrigation congress, but in reality to listen to uninteresting discussions as to whether or not the National Irrigation association shall be affiliated or not. Twelve hundred delegates are in Portland. In the neighborhood of fifty attend these meetings. A day was consumed yesterday endeavoring to enlighten those who suppose the National Irrigation congress and the National Irrigation association are one and in adopting several unimportant resolutions. Irrigation is an altogether too important factor to be so jostled. Instead of wasting time in Festival hall at the exposition, the remaining few delegates had best emulate their fellows and visit the irrigatory building of the government group where some exceptionally good examples of the most recent irrigation projects are on display, together with statistics and descriptive matter that can only be seen on occasions.

The outlook for peace between the belligerents in the Far East is dubious. M. Witte has very bluntly refused to consider the compromise protocol conceived by President Roosevelt, in which Japan modified its terms to such extent that the indemnity and limitations to Russia's naval strength in Chinese waters and the surrender of the interned ships have been removed leaving merely the session of Sakhalin. Unless M. Witte's perception is remarkably keen and he has discovered an ulterior motive in Baron Komura's apparent frankness, we fail to see why he should accept the modified protocol with such apathy. Nothing could be more fair and moderate than the last terms offered the Russians. The plenipotentiaries are in a deadlock; the emissaries of both countries are burning the wires to obtain instructions from their respective sires. It seems likely that Russia expects a further concession from Japan before agreeing to the consummation of peace and it also seems likely that the Japanese envoys have gone the limit. President Roosevelt has eclipsed all records in diplomatic circles and through Ambassador Meyer has made a personal appeal to the Czar. We hope this move may not prove fruitless and that the end of the week will see the signing of a treaty.

A text for homilies is found by some California newspapers in a recent murder case. The perpetrators of the crime

are alluded to as "five young men," all belonging to respectable families, who have grown up in a community that ranks among the most moral in the state. And now the sad reflection that "if the parents had kept their boys at home or if the police had broken up their nightly larking, several respectable families would not be suffering the pangs of misery and disgrace, and the lads in the county jail would not be fearing the gallows for an atrocious crime." No doubt the gregarious nature of the boys leading to the formation of groups, or "gangs," is largely accountable for early steps in the crime. In all such groups there are individuals who are farther advanced than the average in bad habits and in such company the better element in boyhood is apt to succumb to the baser kind. Bad company surely is ruinous in its effect upon the plastic mind of youth. The group or "gang" stage of a boy's evolution is not the point, however, at which the work of reformation should begin. At that stage the twig has grown to such an extent that it is not easily bent. The effort should begin when it is a mere sprout, easily shaped in such manner as to insure ultimately a symmetrically shaped tree, for it is then "just as the twig is bent the tree is inclined." It is within the home circle, long before the "gang" tendency is apt to develop, that the character of a boy should be developed. The time to begin such shaping is in the period of infancy, when the young mind is most plastic. So soon as a child is old enough to be observant it develops a liking for pictures. The first impression upon the mind counts for something, and when the time comes for first efforts at reading the character of the matter within the youngster's reach counts for still more. Yellow newspapers and books of improper or sensational character fit the mind of a boy for the stage when the "gang" is alluring to him. Keep from his sight the pernicious literature that makes immorality and crime seem attractive, and he will curb the inclination for evil association and its baneful influences.

**BIG REDWOOD SHIPMENT.**  
Cargo to be Loaded at Eureka and Shipped to New York.

San Francisco, Aug. 24.—An important deal has just been closed here, contracts having been signed for the shipment of 1,000,000 feet of redwood to New York city. It is the largest single shipment of redwood ever made direct to New York and the first to go by the water route.

Under the contract the cargo is to be loaded at Eureka by the middle of November and delivered in New York in April. The value of the cargo is about \$75,000.

**HAVE MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.**  
Automobile Struck by Train and Demolished—Nobody Hurt.

New York, Aug. 24.—Three men, guests of Commodore Frederick G. Bourne of the New York Yacht club, had a miraculous escape from death late yesterday when their automobile, traveling about 50 miles an hour, was struck by a train on the Long Island railway at Oakdale and demolished. The men were thrown 30 yards with the wrecked engine, but received nothing more than a few bruises.

**FORGED CHECKS CASHED.**  
Banks Victimized for Large Amount by Trusted Employee.

New York, Aug. 24.—Through forgeries said to have been committed by a trusted employe in the office of the estate of D. P. Morgan, New York banks have been victimized to the amount of about \$44,000.

The Morgan estate was left by D. P. Morgan, and among the heirs are Hewitt and D. Perry Morgan and Mrs. Rudolph Hermann Kessel, who was Caroline Morgan.

The clerk in question, by means of checks torn from the back of a check-book, obtained the proper form and it is charged, forged the name of Hewitt Morgan to several checks, varying from \$1,000 to \$3,000. So closely was the signature of Mr. Morgan imitated that the paying tellers of three banks in which the estate had deposits readily paid out the sums called for by their face. A statement made by one of the Kessel family is to the effect that the forgeries were discovered by Rudolph Kessel, who happened to be in the cashier's office when notice of an overdraft was received from a New York bank. One of the clerks said it was a mistake and started for the bank, ostensibly to have the matter rectified. Not returning, he was traced and found in another state. Then he confessed and returned to New York voluntarily.

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Emil Held Advertising and Circulation Manager,  
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**STATEMENT OF Astoria Savings Bank**  
At the close of business August 10, 1905.

**RESOURCES.**  
Loans and discounts ..... \$567,809 70  
County warrants 18,130 40  
City warrants .. 43,449 82 829,389 92  
Real estate ..... 14,500  
Due from banks 91,916 73  
Cash on hand.... 55,936 00 147,832 73  
Total ..... 791,742 65

**LIABILITIES.**  
Capital paid in ..... \$100,000 00  
Surplus ..... 35,000 00  
Undivided profit ..... 14,927 21  
Dividends unpaid ..... 120 00  
Subject to check \$389,704 31  
Time certificates, 237,150 12  
Demand certificates ..... 14,861 01 641,895 44  
Total ..... \$791,742 65

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