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WEATHER REPORT.

Portland, Dec. 6.—Western Oregon, Western Washington, Occasional rain.
Eastern Oregon: Fair.
Eastern Washington: Probably fair.

REGULAR REPUBLICAN TICKET.

FOR MAYOR
J. W. Suprenant.

FOR AUDITOR AND POLICE JUDGE
A. B. Dalgity.

FOR TREASURER
John Nordstrom.

FOR POLICE COMMISSIONERS
John W. Babbidge, six year term.
W. C. Laws, two year term.

FOR SURVEYOR
Alfred S. Tee.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS
James F. Kearney.

FOR COUNCILMAN—FIRST WARD
Karl Knoblock.

FOR COUNCILMAN—SECOND WARD
James J. Robinson.
R. M. Leathers.

FOR COUNCILMAN—THIRD WARD
C. A. Leinenweber.

"WHITER THAN SNOW."

In Tuesday's issue of this paper there was an editorial arraignment of the Dance-Halls that once flourished here, and which the Democrats are now getting in line to "open up" again. No names were used but the facts referred to seemed to hit home with a force abundant enough to evoke a column screed of denial in the morning opposition paper of yesterday. It was signed, too. Now the Astorian is not predisposed to mistakes, but they will occur in the great detail of daily business; and having made an apparently mendacious blunder, there is nothing left to do but apologize for it; this the Astorian does with great good will, and only deplores its inability to make it quite adequate to the offense committed: All dancehalls, and the one assumed to be attacked, in particular, were doing business under a misnomer: they were not dancehalls in the sense of the word as it is commonly applied; they were "Sunday Schools" established in the slum centers of all towns to afford the erring, young and old, an opportunity of abandoning their evil and vicious ways and instincts, and lapse back to the decencies and virtues of life: They were presided over by men who were known to have no eye for the nimble and elusive dollar, and whose sole interest in their "schools" was to head off the "careers of vice" that are so apparent in those neighborhoods and places: These presiding officers were backed by a corps of musicians and ushers and other aids, to force the saintly doctrines these halls stood for, down the throats of unwilling slaves to vice

who congregated there: So sedulous were these moral agents in doing their humble, yet noble, duties that even the police of the city were prone to let them alone when their efforts at "evangelization" made a rough-house of the "schools," presumably on the hypothesis that they could not, with any conscience whatever, stop the earnest and convincing processes toward "conversion." They were not open-sesame to the life of misconduct, nasty pursuits, and unblushing vice and crime they were supposed to be: Nay. They were refuges for the weary and sinning youth, and the vicious and perverted of middle-life, and a last peaceful resort for the aged criminal who desired surcease from the demands incident to the life of wrongdoing: They were havens for the tired sinners of Astoria, seeking to abandon courses of dissipation and worse and were "sanctified" by the presence of "women" who added their allurements to the other strenuous agencies for the redemption of the profligate: They were fitted up for the edification of the unwary and stumbling brother and every sign and attribute of the premises was for the good of the weak and falling: No money was required in the work of redemption they did: All was as free as water: "salvation" was dirt cheap and without "price" of any sort: That's what these so-called "Dance-Halls" were, and how any community could be misled in such a grave matter is beyond understanding: The Astorian was humbugged along with the rest of the world, at home and abroad, and now hastens to offer its profound requital for the sad error. This is its apology, and it hopes for pardon from every Church and Sunday School in Astoria, for its temerity in making it under the guise it has.

NO NEGLECT PERMISSIBLE.

The Republican of Astoria, on next Wednesday, owes a complete duty to the whole ticket, from top to bottom, and it is presumed he will do it without this suggestion, but there is one thing that must not be overlooked, and that is the Councilmen. It may appear to some that because they are not in the first place on the ballot they are not as essential as the officers who lead them in place, but this will be a wretched blunder and if it shall be made to the extent of defeating a single one of these gentlemen, the work of the campaign is neutralized to a point of hopelessness and leaves the party without the power to effect the reforms that are to be enforced if the victory is given it. Whatever happens, stick by the Common Council nominees in order to secure to the party the first prestige in the work of controlling the moral and financial status of this community. The work cut out by the Republicans will be difficult enough without having to combat opposition in the very heart of their official camp. Don't forget the Councilmen.

WU'S LITTLE JOKE.

A Washington man recalls how Minister Wu once talked at a mothers' congress. He told how mothers-in-law were revered in China. Then he said that all the mothers before him would be mothers-in-law some day, and therefore he would tell them something that they might remember and profit by. A "parlor maid," he began, "answered a ring at the doorbell one morning, and a few moments later ascended to her mistress. 'If you please, ma'am,' she said, 'the strangest lady is downstairs. She won't give her name, and she has taken off her coat and hat; and she opened the two closets and rummaged through them, and then she looked at the windows and shook her head, and she rubbed her finger over the mantel and piano and then she held it up to see the dust on it, and now she is'—But the mistress interrupted calmly. 'Dear me!' she said. 'My husband's mother wasn't expected back from Texas till December.'"

RUSSIAN REBELLIONS.

There have been a good many bloody rebellions in Russian history, and there have been several assassinations of Czars, often by palace plots. Except for the Polish uprisings, however, rebellions have been more frequent during the last few generations, while two Czars were assassinated in the nineteenth century. Cold-blooded as the thought may seem, the rumored plots for the murder of the present Czar are really less significant than the mutinies and rioting which have already reached the stage of revolt. If, indeed, some of the relatives of Nicholas are implicated, it is

not the first time such a thing has happened. A really important development would be a rebellion headed by some noble officer or member of the governing class. The luckless Schmitt, at any rate, succeeded in making things quite interesting for the army and navy while his revolt lasted. His demonstration of the ability of mutineers to make a respectable resistance might arouse the interest of some officer of real military genius, who would manage future operations on military principles, for the sake of glory or ambition. At present, if the incoherent revolts are invariably put down, they at least seem to succeed in spreading the spirit of discontent.

STATE OWNERSHIP.

W. M. Acworth, the well known British railway expert, in a recent lecture at Manchester, Eng., said that practically there were only three exceptions in the world to the rule that railways are not only controlled, but owned by the state. These three countries are England, France and the United States. These are rather important exceptions, because these three countries include half the mileage and half the capital and half the traffic of the world, but it is certainly an impressive fact that nearly every other country has adopted government ownership.

Mr. Acworth says, and this is the most significant utterance that he made, that in no country have the railways been deliberately taken by the state, because the people, on the abstract question of state ownership believed, that state ownership was preferable to private ownership. It was rather that each country was forced into state ownership, believing that state ownership was preferable to difficulties in which it found itself.

This declaration has a significant bearing upon the situation in this country. The people of the United States on the abstract question of government ownership would, it is safe to say, vote overwhelmingly against such a proposition. Nevertheless, it is easy to see that conditions might exist that would lead to government ownership. It is a powerful argument for government regulation of rates that unless this control of the railways is adopted by the federal government there would inevitably be a movement for government ownership so powerful that it could not be checked.—Wall Street Journal.

TRIBUTE TO JAPAN.

The address of Grover Cleveland at the Jewish anniversary celebration was a clear and moderate exposition and review of the life and work of a race that has been, and is becoming more and more, an important factor in the life of the nation. "If we ever have favors to ask of them," he said, "we can do it without the shame-faced remembrance of humiliations and persecution." He called attention to the impress that the Jew has made upon the life of the nation, his industry, obedience to the laws and easy assimilation of the spirit of freedom. Nor is there a lagging in any of those virtues of citizenship. The immigrant population impresses more powerfully upon their children the force of arguments of knowledge, civic pride and blameless lives, while taking utmost advantage of the peculiar opportunities offered under this government for education, advancement and the uplifting of the citizen and the race. The former President has made a study of the Jew, and he marked his good points not too strongly nor drew into the calcium his frailties not too critically.

President Harper of the University of Chicago, stricken by a fatal disease, but still keeping the direction of university affairs in his hands and even hearing reports of a football game by telephone, is an excellent illustration of the saying of Vancenarges: "To do great things, a man must live as though he had never to die."

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