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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

WEATHER REPORT.

- ◆ Portland, Dec. 16.—Western Oregon: Rain, cooler.
- ◆ Western Washington: Fair.
- ◆ Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington: Occasional rain, snow in mountains and foothills.

ATTEMPTS TO RENIG.

The Democrats and their organs in this city have started a campaign of "renig." They are victorious from a campaign for a "wide open town" and are afraid the character of their success is going to react on them in the State campaign this spring. Well, whether it does or not, their's the burden to carry and their's the responsibility for the conditions that warrant the fear. Their worry over the matter is inexplicable in that the majorities they received were overwhelmingly large and unequivocally direct in their meaning.

They were charged again and again during the past two months with holding to this creed, and, but for one faint, late, and half-hearted semi-denial, were never heard to disparage the popular doctrine; and now in full flush of their victory, they are beset with a fear that they have "bit off more than they can chew" and are attempting to hedge against the very evil they provoked and invoked. It is poor politics; in fact it is no sort of politics. This they will find to their cost if they persist in publicly disclaiming the vital point of their recent achievement. Their whole fight was centered in this single issue, they dared not avow openly through the columns of their papers, but which was, none the less, their primary and final purpose. If it were not so why was every dive-keeper and gambler and dance-hall man in the City of Astoria squarely at their back with money and influence and working trailers? Why were such men as Babbidge and Laws turned down? Why were the majorities in every precinct entirely in their favor, if the people of this city were not in favor of "opening up the town"?

The opposition to their program was buried under a very avalanche of dissent and it accepts defeat upon this issue with willingness because it is direct and unquestionable; the least the victors can do is to make the best of their splendid dictum from the people and not try to wriggle out from the shadow it casts about them. Stand by your colors, and make the most of your reactionary triumph!

PHOTOGRAPHS OF MARS.

Prof. Percival Lowell has now told in an article for Popular Astronomy how at last he succeeded, after four years' effort in getting photographic plates of the canals of the planet Mars. The two principal difficulties were the varying air waves and the insufficient speed of photographic plates. Prof. Lowell therefore had a camera made on the pattern of a biocopic film, in which many successive pictures could be taken rapidly. He also used a diaphragm instead of

the full objective, thus getting better definition. He says that these negatives thoroughly confirm the eye in showing not only the extent of the canals, but the fact that they are continuous lines and not the synthesis of other markings.

EVEN OUR NEIGHBORS.

The city election in Astoria occurred on Wednesday. It was a landslide for the Citizens ticket. The issue was "Open or Closed town." The open towners won by 2 to 1. The business men and taxpayers took a hand silently, and they knocked the moral wave off its feet. The taxpayers were alarmed at the prospect of being compelled to pay double their regular taxes, and the merchants saw the fishermen's money going to Portland and other parts.—Chinook Observer.

NORTHWEST PASSAGE FOUND.

A report from Fort Egbert, Alaska, announces that Capt. Roland Amundsen of Norway, on the steamship Gjoa, had succeeded in finding his way through a northwest passage from the Atlantic to the western Arctic ocean, on a voyage of thirty months, and was wintering at King Point, with all on board well. Capt. Amundsen is said to have found the true magnetic pole on King William island. The search for a northwest passage began in the latter part of the Sixteenth century, but it was not until 1819 that William Perry navigated the passages before Greenland and the mainland reaching toward the Arctic. It was in an attempt to follow his track that the expedition of Sir John Franklin was lost in 1845.

A "BUTTER-IN."

Probably the most surprised man on the western continent will be Edward C. Ryan, "Territorial Delegate to Congress" from the Isle of Pines, who expects to appear in Washington shortly with his "credentials" from the "Isle of Pines Legislative Assembly." Mr. Ryan expects his "credentials" will be referred to a committee of the House, which would then proceed to consider the question whether the Isle is American territory. He foresees a very pretty legal fight, but when he is informed that delegates from Cuba, or the Bahamas, are not recognized in the American Congress, one can fancy his feelings. They will be akin to those of a man who tried to butt his way through a stone wall.

As to those alleged Americans in Cuba's possession who talk of blood they should remember the fate of poor Polly, who talked too much, and got into difficulties thereby. The attempt to compare the Isle with Panama is absurd. The revolt of the Isthmian people was a revolt of natives, not of outsiders who happened to own property there.

HERE TOO! HERE TOO!

The Republicans who "knifed" party nominees in previous elections can now see what they are responsible for. We have no sympathy for the party, and it deserves none, for putting Democrats into office. It was bad enough when the Republicans made a Democrat the governor and made a present of other offices to persons of like political faith. A Democrat was recently appointed on the supreme bench and now a democrat is to represent Oregon in the United States Senate. Pile on the agony, the Republican party of Oregon is getting what it deserves, which will, no doubt, bring it to its senses after a while.—Tillamook Headlight.

SURGERY RESTORES LOST MIND.

By a surgical operation at the University of Michigan hospital on December 1, William Dwyer, a man hopelessly insane, was restored to apparent sanity. Dwyer's skull was crushed two years ago in an iron mill at Portland, Ohio. The operation showed that his ravings were due to a brain abscess. This was removed and a silver plate was fitted into the hole in the skull.

CIRCULAR BATTLESHIP.

The society of naval architects, at its annual meeting, received from Anson Phelps Stokes the conception of a coast-defense battery to be known as the "Ultima." It would be a floating spheroid of such an immense size that it could carry sixteen 15-inch guns and of such weight that the most powerful guns made today would not pierce it. Mr. Stokes describes it as "a modification of Ericsson's Monitor." It would have a displacement of 30,000 tons, whereas, the largest battleships now have only a displacement of 16,000 tons.

Gov. LaFollette's slow progress toward the Senate chamber at Washington is a reminder that there are several railroad presidents on the way who have not been lynched yet.

They will please hold that New York production of Tom Dixon's negro play till word comes from South Carolina whether to send the sporting editor or the police headquarters man.

But it does not really make such a difference what you buy her, so long as it is something conveniently carried to the exchange department.

Some reckless person points out that the President did not mention Venezuela. There was a feeling perhaps there was something.

English self-government seems to have survived, as they still have the choice of what Scotchman will govern them.

These bits of baseball news just now are to the doleful fan like reading a bill of fare in time of famine.

The new king and queen are reported bothered about the lack of aristocracy in Norway, that country that has neither fads nor fancies.

The next annual report from Sing Sing will probably discuss a striking increase of political ability of the practical kind.

France is at last getting around to take her church and state separately and both in moderation.

Mme. Bernhardt will be careful about going to Canada again, where even the hens are laying for her.

Evidently the government at Washington still lives and keep the public printer busy.

To the question: Why is a czar? the only answer left is: The Cossacks.

SEND REINFORCEMENTS.

Russian Government Sends Warship to Riga.
New York, Dec. 17.—A cable dispatch to a morning paper, dated St Petersburg, December 16 says:
Warships have been sent to Riga from Libeau to quell the rebellion there and recapture the town.
This action was taken in response to an urgent dispatch from the governor, who asked for a cruiser and two torpedo boats, besides troops. He declared it was imperative that strong reinforcements be sent speedily. They can be sent by sea. Communication by land is interrupted.

CHINA WARE

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