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WEATHER REPORT.

Western Oregon and Western Washington—Rain with gale along coast and at sea.

ASTORIA AND ASTORIANS.

This paper is going to have considerable to say, off and on, about the value of remembering that Astoria belongs to Astorians; not only in the electoral and property sense, but in the larger field of dictating her future and husbanding her resources for the common good of Astorian, and not for the benefit of the outsider whose interest in the city ceases when she fails to pay him some sort of revenue.

The city has a splendid future, rich in a hundred lines of possible development, and the profits belong to the people here primarily, and to the outside investor as she shall regulate their distribution.

Hope is perennial, action uncertain and irregular. She is buoyant with hope; she has much to do; she needs inspiration, and she needs, above all else, to get a move on her energies; she has done much; she can, and will, do more. She built a railroad once by taking the initiative, and she is going to build others; she is going to have terminal advantages and rates; she is going to have a seawall, and a host of essential and valuable things but she has got to take the initiative and show what she is after; that she means business, and is going to have business by showing herself capable of doing business.

There is no such convincing argument on earth for the drawing of capital and influence, as the exercise of inherent powers and the declaration of vital purposes, on the part of a community. Enterprise attracts money. Man, nor city, can hope for much if he, or it, lies supine and inert while the available moment and dollar slips by under the guidance of others.

Men of wealth, of business resources, of strong influence, and large affairs, in this city, must merge their attributes and get to work, and not leave everything to the inadequate activities and meagre programs of a few public spirited citizens.

The Chamber of Commerce must be reinforced with the copious and revivifying aid and potential encouragement of an attendance of its full clientele, gathered to do something, with far less talk about doing it. It is up to the leading men of the city to get out and take a hand in all the affairs that promise so much for Astoria, and make it what it is supposed to be, the medium for the doing of things that shall redound to the good of the city.

IN EVERYTHING THAT ASTORIA WANTS, AND IS GOING TO HAVE, SHE MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE. TAKE IT EARLY, TAKE IT VIGOROUSLY.

COWS AND WOMEN.

If it ever does come to pass that buffaloes become the farmer's next

friends and do his hauling and drawing in a more intelligent and satisfactory way than oxen ever did, it will be of interest to know how the women folk take the change. Not only the farmers' wives and daughters, but the summer boarder within his gates. Even now many of these ladies cannot be hired to trek through a pasture where the mildest old cow that ever lived lies under a tree half asleep chewing her cud. For there has always been feud between women and cows; no one knows where it started or which was the first offender. As the saying is, there is no love lost between them. Of course there are exceptions on both sides. Some cows, it is perfectly plain, have no prejudices against the sex, even at milking time, and a few women will pick their way fearlessly through a drove of cattle. But the ordinary woman, especially the one who spends but a few weeks in the country each year, is persuaded, and would persuade all her friends, that a cow is an awful beast of prey and she wouldn't trust herself in a five-acre lot with the best trained and gentlest specimen that ever lived.—Ex.

AFTER ANOTHER EVIL.

The National Commercial Teachers' Federation, now in session in Chicago, is to take steps to root out an evil that has kept the literature of many such institutions out of the mails and caused some engaged in the practice to languish in jails. It is the scheme once almost universal of securing students by assuring them positions. Men who will promise in correspondence places to people they have never seen are securing money under false pretenses to put it mildly. The federal government has so interpreted it. The school frequently cannot secure the position if an effort be made. The federation probably will bar all schools continuing the fraud. There are instances in which such a school may honestly pledge itself to find work for a pupil; but these instances are the exception and not the rule where the promise is made before the scholar enters upon his course.

BRITISH LABOR MARKET.

Further figures on the British situation show that out of a probable total of 7,000,000 able-bodied men about 750,000 are out of employment, or one in ten. These for the most part are unskilled laborers. Craftsmen belonging to unions are taken care of by their organizations when unable to secure work. The labor unions of the United Kingdom number about 6,000,000 in membership and of these only 5 per cent are on the subsidy rolls, showing that skilled labor still is in demand. Those out of work are the ones least able to bear it, because being without organization and having received low wages when working they are utterly without means.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

The prizefighter's trade is hard to retire from and hard to stay in.

Ultimately, those Russian walking delegates hope to be able to pull all the Grand Duke jobs.

Within reasonable limits, no doubt all Ministers look alike to the Nationalist member of Parliament.

And no doubt there is peace on earth, too, it being understood that Russia does not count, anyway.

Somebody in Washington may have started on the hunting trail, but is he really off the reservation?

Health hints for the season are to put no trust in thermometers and beware the deadly Christmas cigar.

And certainly no one will be so ill-informed as to ask the janitor, the office boy or the elevator man where he got it.

Almost any old kind of government will be popular government in Russia after the experience with anarchy.

Those "who are opposed to the use of part yfor personal profit" will now please line up, and not forget to exhibit their credentials.

There might at least be a law that superintendents of insurance shall have access to such sources of information as the newspapers.

John Alexander Dowie announces he is going to retire from business and look after his health, something Elijah was not able to do in his two previous incarnations.

Rather than to see injustice done to the great men of the present generation by perverted history, possibly Uncle Joe Cannon could be induced to write an autobiography.

It may be said in defense of Insurance Commissioner Hendricks that he does not appear to have withheld from the investigating committee anything which he did not know.

According to one of the speakers at the Pilgrim dinner in Boston, democracy came from Calvinism. Of course, the speaker spells the democracy he refers to with a small "d."

Doubtless the Pilgrim Fathers would have been the more convinced it was worth while if they could have foreseen all the annual good dinners they would be responsible for.

Uncle Sam is proving a sort of Santa Claus to the Old World about this time. It is stated that in two weeks' time steamships sailing for Europe carried more than \$4,000,000 sent by immigrants to their relatives.

President Eliot says that in the city of Cambridge, in which he lives, there is not a single rich man. There are a number of its citizens, however, who are "rich from the very want of wealth."

The persistency with which the men who are past forty years of age keep after Dr. Oesler is likely to make that distinguished theorist more certain than ever that a man is of might little use in the world after he is past forty.

By stirring up a row with the president over the employment of a press agent for the Panama canal, the honorable senate may unearth a lot of valuable information about the press agents of the railway companies which are opposed to the canal enterprise.

With corrupt lawyers convicted and with Sing Sing recruited by fourteen additions from New York since the last mayoralty election, the wisdom of Josh Billings' remark is manifest: "Honesty is the best card in the pak; it is always trumps, and there is no man big phool enuff but what he can play it right every time."

Admiral Dewey believes that hazing and any tacit encouragement of the practice should be sternly punished. He would expel from the Naval Academy a midshipman who witnessed rough treatment of a fellow student without reporting it. The two Congress committees to which Secretary Bonaparte recently sent a letter on this subject would do well to get hold of the ad-

miral after the holiday recess and draw him out fully. They might learn something to the country's advantage.

In Mad Chase.

Millions rush in mad chase after health, from one extreme of faddism to another, when, if they would only eat good food, and keep their bowels regular with Dr. King's New Life Pills, their troubles would all pass and quick cure for liver and stomach trouble 25c at Charles Rogers' drug store; guaranteed.

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