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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon and Washington—Fair, warmer except near coast.
Eastern Oregon and Washington—Fair and warmer.

THE SCARCITY OF LABOR.

The entire Pacific Coast is short of skilled and unskilled labor. At certain points there is enough to barely go round, and in such cases, one improvement has to be held down until the labor from something completed is available. In other instances there is marked shortage in all the building trades, and the whole situation is good for the worker, but not so favorable for the investor and builder. But it is a good sign, and means prosperity, and meaning this, there should be exceeding care taken by organized labor that its interests are conserved; that conditions are not warped by over-exaction and a too independent spirit. Like politics, the labor world is being gradually invaded by a growing spirit of independence, and old-time rules and plans are being set aside with patent disregard; a sure sign of the abandonment of the principle that one man can interfere successfully with the labor and life of another; this is due in a large measure to the wisdom of the more tolerant unions, and is amplified by the gradual disuse of the sympathetic movement all along the line. Wisdom is a vital rarity and is worth cultivation at all points of human association, and nowhere is it so essential as in the administration of the cardinal affairs of the working world.

"WHAT SO RARE," ETC.

When the June sunshine is flooding the sea, the bay and the great sweeping mountains round about Astoria, the world, and life therein, take on an aspect that makes for activity, for promise, for largeness. It is inspiring of things that are wholly good and hopeful; and the quickening impulse is felt all along the moving, acting and accumulating arteries of commerce that center here. No place on earth responds so nimbly to the heaven of the brightness of the day, as does Astoria, and it is a notable and a rewardful response, to the revivifying agency that means more to mankind than most people stop to realize.

THAT NEW HOTEL.

There is a small group of men in this city at present using the best and last means at their command to bring to pass the installation of a new and modern hotel in this city. There should be no untoward word, nor deed, nor thing, laid in the way of this enterprise; and the man who does raise the least obstacle, be it by influential suggestion, or practical barrier, is doing a deliberate injury to the city and its future. Astoria needs a new hotel more than she needs anything else, at this time, and the work now underway, and fathered by Mayor Wise, to this end, will be fraught with a host of resourceful possibilities inseparable from such an enterprise.

Our million immigrants a year are bringing with them \$25,000,000 a year besides their labor.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

If you love your friends and relatives do not keep it bottled up 364 days in the year. There are opportunities every day to show your interest and affection. Love expressed at the birthday festival or at a funeral is of very little use in the dull gray homespun everyday existence.

The story is told that a certain woman was reading the matrimonial columns of a paper and remarked to her husband: "Here's a strange coincidence—a William Strange married to a Martha Strange." "Strange, indeed," remarked her husband, "but I expect the next news will be a little stranger."

Next to the wife beater comes the horse beater and it is to be regretted we have one or two in this community. A horse is the most noble and faithful of animals and the man who would abuse his horse has something lacking in his manhood.

The Presbyterians, following what is now an almost universal custom, have decided to eliminate the word "obey" from the marriage service. One newspaper writer saucily suggests that all that is now needed is that the marriage license shall have attached a divorce coupon.

Democrats are right in supposing that Bryan can get more votes than any other man in the democratic and populist parties combined. That fact has been proved twice, along with the other fact that he failed to get enough to elect either time.

Mr. Carnegie says he would work for a dollar a day if it was necessary. How many dollars he makes every day out of work of other men and through the virtual monopoly, the tariff on steel, is the question that interests the American people.

Good looks brings happiness. Friends care more for us when we meet them with a clean, smiling face, bright eyes sparkling with health, which comes by taking Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Sold by Frank Hart, druggist.

Much of our textile materials now come from the mines. Silk rustles with 36 per cent of salt of tin, flannel is weighted with epsom salts and linen tablecloths are made from cotton filled with china clay and starch.

Have you been betrayed by promises of quacks, swallowed pills and bottled medicine without results except a damaged stomach. To those we offer Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents. Sold by Frank Hart.

Men love to be praised. And most of us have discovered the appalling fact that the last person from whom a man expects praise is his wife. Think of that. When love's tender flattery will smooth all hard places in life.

A mathematician has computed that an ordinary flash of lightning, if its electric energy could be turned to practical use, would be worth \$1400. Mr. Edison, does it not seem to be a sin to let so much power go to waste?

The income of the average American, according to United States census reports, is \$650 a year, but the meat, ice, milk, grocery, and other bills indicate that his outlay is much more.

Likewise the saving of a million a year on the government printing bill will offer a splendid opportunity to spend it on something else just (about) as good.

If you could know where the dates currants, figs and other things of that sort have been before they reach you, you never would think of using them until you have carefully washed them.

Each Osage Indian has \$4500 in the United States treasury and title of 800 acres of the 1,500,000 acres of tribal lands. Everybody works but Lo, the rich Indian.

Give the railroads their due. They have given the equivalent of more than \$4,000,000 in free transportation of supplies for San Francisco sufferers.

Anyway Mr. Jimhill will be able to lay his Canadian railway with American steel rails at \$7 under market price, which is almost as good as a subsidy.

It is better to appear in a cheap gown, remarkable for its simplicity and fitness, than to flaunt the fluffs and gaudy colors of the vulgar.

Carelessness in packing houses is not confined to the United States. The noisy foreign critics live in glass houses in the food preservative line.

Oakland has boomed its real estate so hard that the San Franciscans have been driven back to their own towns as the most promising suburb.

As soon as the free alcohol bill gets to working, stories of gasoline explosions probably will appear less frequently.

A Canadian meat inspector reports that he has not seen a diseased hog in two years. Perhaps he should consult an oculist.

Short sleeves are now popular with the girls who have pretty arms, but how about short skirts, may we ask?

In the preparation of food for the people there is an increased conviction that cleanliness is next to godliness.

There are 51,146 city office holders in New York. If you don't believe it, look at the deficit.

Government inspection of meat seems to be taking the form of a boon for all concerned.

If you knew the value of Chamberlain's Salve you would never wish to be without it. Here are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable; some nipples, chapped hands, burns, frost bites, chilblains, chronic sore eyes, itching piles, tetter, salt rheum and eczema. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

CONVICT CAPTURED.

SALEM, Ore., June 16.—Percy Allen, a member of the state farm gang, who made his escape Thursday night, while employed on the farm, was apprehended this morning at 7 o'clock at Scott's Mills. At the time of his escape he was in charge of Guard White. Allen was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for assault, which he committed in Crook county, and had been in the penitentiary six years. He will be brought back to the penitentiary this evening, where a closer watch will be kept on him in the future.

No trace has as yet been found of Thomas Young, a member of the road gang, who escaped Thursday at 1 o'clock while in charge of Guard, who had a number of convicts at work on the rock quarry.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, June 16.—The Senate spent the entire day debating the bill to incorporate a ship canal connecting Lake Erie with the Ohio river and adjourned without action on it. Patterson savagely attacked the bill, as in the interests of speculation and it was as warmly defended by Knox and Nelson. La Follette offered a number of amendments to the measure which were laid upon the table. During a lull in the proceedings, the President pro tem announced his signature to the statehood bill.

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