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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

- Western Oregon and Washington—Fair, not so warm.
- Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington, Idaho—Fair and continued warm.

IT NOT ROOSEVELT, WHO?

It is imperatively necessary that an early answer be given to the all-absorbing query of the nation, "If not Roosevelt, who?" In view of the fact that the presidential campaign is practically over, so far as the democrats are concerned; that that party, its governors and men of place and power, are today hard at work, forming alliances, devising plans, pulling political strings in all directions, lining-up and solidifying their ranks at all points and in all ways; that they are assuming the aggressive and doing it with a sharp tincture of assurance and positive unanimity the country over, means that the earliest possible solution of the great problem confronting the republicans must be settled and declared early in the season. To acquaint, and reconcile, that body-politic to the man and the issues of the day, Roosevelt is wanted, just as badly as he ever was, and the necessity for his "strong right hand" no less than it was. But if he is not to be had, then it were wise to get to work and supply the man. And it were wiser that a MAN shall be named. The people are so accustomed to a real man in the president's office now, that anything less, means default at the republican polls.

WU TING FANG'S SORROW.

China's great reformer Wu Ting Fang retires from the field of reform in despair. He cannot impress his people with the excellence and efficacy of those things he knows to be the best for them. He is a foolish man. What can he have learned in this country, of grit, and patience, and devotion to great causes, if he is so soon disheartened? His people are not like the average Westerner, to quickly absorb, and as quickly assimilate, new doctrines. He should have known this better than most people. No people on earth are so wedded to their customs as the Chinese; and the oldest of their civic and social creeds are, practically, ineradicable. And they are no fools either. The way of the reformer is always a dubious way and a hard. It is a life-work, and then, often, the leader dies the unhappy witness of its utter incompleteness. We have a real respect for the great minister, and trust he will not forego his work thus early in the game. He has a superb code of reform and an unparalleled field, and deserves success in every way.

JAQUI, AND HIS LANTERN.

Two human lives and \$50,000 worth of valuable commercial property lost at the great oil fire at University Park, near Portland, on Sunday morning last, as a tribute to the "cheap-wage" principle of the corporation program that prevails everywhere today. This incompetent watchman, who was passing the idle hours of the night with a friend on the grounds where no friend should have been, discovers something, wrong with the great tanks in his care; he opens a man-hole in one of the enormous oil and gas storage tanks, crawls in it with a lighted lantern, and demolition and death follow instantly. He and his friend, and the plant was swept out of existence. For what? To satisfy the

culpable greed of men rich enough to pay the best of wages to competent and knowledgeable men to watch their property and do the right and safe thing, at such crises. It is the old story. Jaqui was, in the light of the developments, immensely over-paid, whatever his wage was. Incompetents are always over-paid!

HAIL! CLATSOP!

Here's to the administrative success of Clatsop county for and during the on-coming two years! May she live economically, and prosper! May she never record a blunder, nor a deficit! May her tax-roll grow longer and her taxes diminish! May she be the same sterling example of public-office-excellence, she has been for years! May she be a comfort to her citizens and a credit to the state, in all her records, public, and private! May the men who took charge of her departments yesterday be inspired for good things and wholesome, all politics barred, and may the end of their terms find them entitled to, and in possession of, the confidence and gratitude of the whole people!

THE DAY IN HISTORY.

Those good people who ought to, and do not, remember the pregnant facts allied with the passing dates, will do well to scan the brief list of historical incidents published each day in these columns. They will be surprised to find how important anniversaries are continually passing. For instance, yesterday, taking the events well within the memory of the ordinary young citizen, it will be found that July 2nd, was the anniversary of the awful murder of President Garfield; of the passage of Lodge "Force" bill; and of the battle of San Juan Hill. Look these matters up daily. They are of interest to all.

TODAY IN THE AMERICAN HISTORY.

- 1608—Champlain returns from France to New France and lays the foundations for Quebec.
- 1775—General Washington, at Cambridge, assumes command of the Continental army, consisting of 14,500 men.
- 1811—The government resolves to occupy West Florida, against the remonstrances of Great Britain.
- 1814—Fort Erie surrendered by the British without a struggle.
- 1815—Commercial treaty between the United States and England, signed at London.
- 1832—Bill to recharter the national bank finally passes Congress.
- 1839—First normal school in America opened at Lexington, Mass.
- 1844—Treaty concluded with China permitting trade and residence in certain of the Chinese ports.
- 1846—Boston and Buffalo connected by telegraph.
- 1850—House of Representatives votes to receive Kansas into the Union with a free soil constitution.
- 1863—General Lee retires from the bloody field of Gettysburg.
- 1864—Sherman's troops occupy Kenesaw Mountain.
- 1898—Admiral Cervera's fleet destroyed off Santiago.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

There are so many different kinds of prepared food stuffs on the shelves of the modern grocery, that it almost seems as if city folks must live out of paste-board boxes. How thankful the farmer should be that he, day by day, gets his living fresh from the earth that bore it. No better place to live, in all the world, than on the farm.

There is nothing so efficacious as whitewash upon farm buildings and lane fences; and the pure white seems to make the most agreeable contrast with the green of grass and foliage. There are many recipes for making the kind that "won't come off."

The hog is an important factor in the central states. It is figured that ten of these states produce about two-thirds of all the swine in the United States. Corn, hogs, and prosperity, seem to make a good team.

Patent medicine almanacs have surely prolonged the life of many a joke, regardless of the virtue of the medicine.

The Up-to-date Mother-in-law

By Mrs. HUMPHRY, Author of "Manners for Men"

A BENEFICENT change seems to have passed of late upon the relationship between mother-in-law and daughter's husband. Interference in matters small and great was once the self imposed duty of the TYPICAL MOTHER-IN-LAW. She would have liked to rule everything, from the spending of her son-in-law's income to the choice of the various brands of matches for the family use.

Even in higher classes of society the mother-in-law has until lately enjoyed an evil renown, whether she happened to be the mother of wife or husband. The indictment against her was that of "managing" or ENDEAVORING TO MANAGE.

Now, one of the charms of home is that the proprietors may manage for themselves, have things their own way, rake out the fires at night if they like, have poultry twice a week and early salmon while it is still \$1 a pound and close their eyes upon small shortcomings in otherwise admirable servants. THAT WAY LIES PEACE and the pleasure to be found therein. If mothers-in-law disapprove they should observe a prudent reticence. Long they never so much to say, "Oh, what extravagance!" or "Jane is not an early riser," they must strangle that longing or else go under the heading of the mother-in-law WHO IS PASSING.

The new type takes things more smoothly. She knows that experience has to be bought, that you cannot insert your own by any method of hypodermic injection in the system of another, and she enjoys her early salmon and appreciates Jane's perfect waiting and smart appearance.

THE ADMIRABLE UP-TO-DATE MOTHER-IN-LAW IS BRIGHT AND AMUSING, READY WITH AN APPRECIATIVE LAUGH FOR HUMOROUS REMARKS, POPULAR WITH THE CHILDREN, AND EVEN WITH THE SERVANTS, ALWAYS WELL DRESSED AND A CREDIT TO THE FAMILY, AND SHE CHOOSES HER TOPICS WITHOUT ANY BIAS TOWARD THE LUGUBRIOUS.

Publicity Will Inevitably Destroy the "Boss" System

By JOHN T. DOYLE, Secretary United States Civil Service Commission

IT is a function of the civil service commission to afford to the public the fullest information respecting the observance of the rules and the DISTRIBUTION OF PATRONAGE. A most effectual remedy for the "boss" system and the misuse of patronage is publicity, and nothing so much fosters that system as the lack of information respecting the administration of the service. If appointments are shrouded in darkness it would be NATURALLY believed that evils exist.

Secrecy is not an element of our political system, and it is only falsehood and corruption that are sought to be kept in darkness. The appointing officer who means and acts well recognizes his obligation to the public and COURTS ITS OPINION.

Records of employees need to be kept by a central body in order that statistics may be compiled in a uniform manner. They need to be kept by a body OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENTS to guard against laxity and to bring all appointments to the light of criticism. Where the service records are open to the public IN ONE CENTRAL PLACE it is enabled to keep informed of the workings of the civil service laws and rules, and confidence is thus inspired in the honesty of their administration.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE, INTEREST AND SYMPATHY ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY LAW, AND IT IS ONLY BY ENLIGHTENING THE PUBLIC AND FAMILIARIZING IT WITH ITS WORKINGS THAT INTELLIGENT PUBLIC OPINION CAN BE ENLISTED IN AID OF THE MERIT SYSTEM.

Deadly Serpent Bites

are as common in India as are stomach and liver disorders with us. For the latter however there is a sure remedy: Electric Bitters; the great restorative medicine, of which S. A. Brown, of Ben-nettsville, S. C., says: "They restored my wife to perfect health, after years of suffering with dyspepsia and a chronically torpid liver." Electric Bitters

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