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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon and Washington—
Showers.

HUMAN SOIL AND SEED.

Man's conscience and the law are woefully at variance and the margin is the wider, it would seem, upon matters of the most vital importance of the day. One of the blindest discrepancies in Astoria, as in every other city, is in the matter of messenger boys and their constant presence in the slums. They are sent into the vilest dens of the cities, and are in frequent and familiar contact with the lowest specimens of humanity and in the midst of the worst possible phases of human conduct. Their minds are charged with everything that is utterly detestable and soon become seared in the processes, until, when the years of responsibility are attained, they are inoculated with all the virus of debauchery, and it naturally "looks good to them." It is from just such sources that the macabre is built up, and the criminal class augmented. It would seem as though we might expend a sturdier line of thought and a more determined course of action in breaking down this evil that is undermining the moral health of the cities, instead of standing supinely by and endorsing the outrage by our silence. The truth of the whole matter is, that the social standards are sinking on all sides, the home-life is steadily departing from out the country, and the inordinate craze for money is stifling every decent attribute and stultifying every effort for the maintenance of the clean spirit in living. It is high time the law was being invoked to, at least, spare the children and give us the hope of a progeny innocent of these things until their time shall come to know them, instead of willfully and deliberately training them to their own damnation.

HOME INVESTMENT FIRST.

A friend at our elbow suggests that it might be a good thing for the Astoria citizen to quit flinging his money abroad in bum oil stocks, in bunco mining stocks, and all untoward ventures that take his money away from home and yield him no increment whatever, except such as comes with the conviction that he has been an ass.

The get-rich-quick money he sends out of his home city might have been invested in a lot here, and if he could not have put a house on it or otherwise improved it, he could have raised cabbages or onions or something else, or have planted it to fruit, or done some turn that would have netted him the taxes at least, and the property would have paid him handsomely in the near future.

If you have not enough faith in your home place to invest some money in it, you are bereft of the first impulse to good citizenship. Our friend is right in his strictures. It should be Astoria for the Astorians.

At the end of Washington's administration there were sixteen states in the Union. There was also called, not yet organized into states, "Northwest Territory," as it was—the whole wide region between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, from which slavery had been forever excluded by a law passed by Congress in 1787. The first census of the nation was taken in 1790; and the population was about four millions (3,929,214). The population March 1, 1906, according to the estimate of the Treasury Department, was 84,194,000.

COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE.

Among the hundreds of good things that are being introduced daily in the business world of the country, is the afternoon board meeting, and the abandonment of the night session, especially in public affairs. Councils, committees, directorates, trustees, and all other commercial bodies are taking up the day session, and leaving the business man's evening undisturbed for his rest and recreation and it is time Astoria should be falling in line. There is no reason why the council, the school board, the park commission, all public committees, should not hold their sessions from 2 p. m. to 6 p. m. The hour taken from a man's business does not injure him one whit more than when it is taken from his home leisure, nor as much, because in attending the meeting in the business hours of the day he is in the business humor and his mind is in touch with men and affairs and it is easier to transact business, than to relinquish it for the dinner hour, and then take it up again just when he wants to rest. It is quite an innovation, but we would like to see it tried for the common good of all concerned.

SHE HAS STARTED.

Alfred B. Wolf, after trying in vain for twelve months to win the love of his wife, has given her up to become the bride of Henry C. Bullock, of Newark, New York.

A year ago Mrs. Wolf confessed frankly to her husband she had fallen in love with another man, that never before had she known what the word love meant, and that she must leave the good home which her husband had made for her and join Mr. Bullock in New York, where she had met him while on a visit to her old home. Mr. Wolf met the situation philosophically and sought to temporize.

"If after twelve months you still love the other man," he promised, "I will get a divorce."

The wife agreed and the remarkable courtship began. There were long evening spent at home, carriage rides and outing trips. Wolf did everything a faithful lover could do, but made no progress in winning the affections of his wife.

When the year elapsed, Mrs. Wolf called for the fulfillment of the contract. Her husband obtained a divorce and she is now Mrs. Bullock.

COMMON SENSE NEEDED.

It is high time that a lot of experimenting doctors and yellow journalists quit scaring the people to death every day. More than one-half the illness of today is caused by lively imagination fostered by detailed publication of the theories of doctors. They may act from the best motives, but it would be as well if a good deal of their theorizing were confined to medical journals, where it would be read by those who can take it for what it is worth. Our forefathers ate what they wanted, drank water from the springs and brooks, with never a thought of the microbe, and they lived to a green old age. We strain and filter and boil and examine and test and worry and stay and most of us die untimely from digestive troubles, if we escape an operation for appendicitis. Let's have a little more common sense, a little less popular science and a whole lot better health.

DOES THE SUN SET?

"It ill becomes any of us to criticize lapses in grammar," says an authority, "when we all of us consent to and constantly make use of one such lapse ourselves. To speak of the 'setting sun' is wholly incorrect. You may set a book on a table or even set a son on a chair, if he is big enough to fall off; but what does the orb of day set and where does it set? No, sir; queer as it may sound to ears grown accustomed to the universal form, 'the sun sets.' If it sets anything, why doesn't it raise something? If it shouldn't be rising and the setting sun, it should be the raising and setting sun. Think it over and when you get it arranged to your satisfaction, try to find out what you mean when you speak of a setting hen."—Philadelphia Record.

But when it comes to expediting the gas question with some effect, the meter is no slouch.

Automobiles made for the German army haul five to eight ton loads through hilly country.

Steel needles were first made about 1545, when to make ten was a day's work for a man.

There will, according to James J. Hill's estimate, be 200,000,000 people in this country in 1950.

All men are created free. If some of them want to get married and spoil it all, that's their business.

In every mile of railroad there are 7 feet and 4 inches that are not covered by the rail—the space left for expansion.

The Awakening Power of Labor

By UPTON SINCLAIR, Author of "The Jungle"



THE American nation is at present facing the GREATEST CRISIS in its history. Corruption, which has been feeding upon the body politic for a generation, is now admitted to be threatening its very life. Our public spirited and thinking men, who for decades have been wrestling with this corruption, HAVE FAILED UNIVERSALLY.

They have failed because they did not appeal to labor; because labor was asleep. And now at last labor is beginning to wake up. The workingman is beginning to realize the part which he plays in the political game. It is his business to FURNISH THE VOTE. He sells it to the political boss, perhaps for a dollar or two, perhaps just for a kind word and a little buncombe. So the political boss gets the offices, and then he sells the privilege of government to the capitalist, who uses his advantage to SQUEEZE MORE MONEY OUT OF THE WORKINGMAN.

There is a natural and obvious limitation to the continuance of that process. It can go on until the capitalist begins to have so much money that the workingman has NONE AT ALL; and then the workingman goes into politics.

I do not talk buncombe when I talk to workingmen. I do not tell them about the importance of delivering the American republic. The present day conditions keep the workingman's nose on the grindstone, and he has no time to think about anything but MAKING A LIVING and keeping his family alive. And so when I talk to workingmen I show them how they are being robbed and ask them how much longer they propose to stand it.

IT IS TIME ENOUGH TO THINK OF DETAILS WHEN A MAN HAS ENOUGH TO EAT.

All thinking men among our capitalists are agreed that we are on the verge of hard times such as the country has not yet known. When those times come several millions of men will be out of work, the unions will fall like houses of cards, and THE WORKINGMAN WILL BE OUT ON THE STREETS. I tell him about it in advance because I know that if it catches him suddenly he may take to bricks and clubs, which is a wasteful process, while if he has had time to think about it he will be organized and ready to GO INTO POLITICS.

It is the same all over the world, the same story of corruption and oppression, and of a new hope of justice and right conditions, depending solely upon the WORKING CLASS to force them. At the present moment all are forced to recognize that the organized revolutionary proletariat of Russia is the only power capable of making headway against the bureaucracy. In Germany it is the working class Socialistic party which holds the emperor in check and prevents him from crushing the Russian struggle for freedom. Great Britain stands upon the threshold of an era of long needed domestic reform, and the time has come simply because her public men realize that the working class is prepared TO FORCE IT. The same time must come soon in this country.

IT IS TIME THAT WORKINGMEN HAD ENOUGH OF BEING BUNKOED BY POLITICAL BOSSES AND TRUST MAGNATES. IT IS TIME THAT THEY THOUGHT OF PUTTING THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVES INTO CONGRESS TO LOOK AFTER THEIR INTERESTS AND TO RESTORE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS TO AMERICA.

IN THE CITY THEATERS.

On this, Wednesday, night, at the new Astoria Theater, will be witnessed the only original life-like reproduction of the greatest battle ever fought in the history of the prize ring, that of Battling Nelson and Joe Gans, on 11,270 feet of film. Most marvelous accomplishment of modern photography. Every move plain and distinct; watch for the last blow to come and be convinced as to whether it was a foul or not. The largest purse ever fought for, \$35,500; gate receipts \$69,715. The theater management wishes to state that these pictures are genuine; they have just been completed and give only one performance before coming to Astoria; that is in Vancouver, Wash. From here they go to the Hellig Theater at Portland, the Grand in Seattle, and all of the principal cities and first-class houses which will undoubtedly convince the public of their merit. See the pictures while they are new and distinct.

"The Man on the Box," one of the famous plays now before the American public, is approaching the West, and Manager Elvers will endeavor to capture it for the new Astoria.

The new iron chairs for the new Astoria theater arrived from the East yesterday and will be placed in position as soon as practicable. They will add materially to the comfort of the patrons of the new and handsome house.

THE MACK SWAIN THEATER CO.

"The Westerner," at the Star Theater, has proved a good drawing card, and given the best of satisfaction. It is an admirable play, full of life and action, brilliant with wit and sparkling comedy, and well acted. It will be repeated tonight and at the

Saturday matinee. Tomorrow night will mark the first production in this city of the great sensational melodrama, "Shadows of a Great City," a vivid picture of life in the great metropolis of New York, which will be presented with special scenery and a strong cast of characters. Reserved seats can be secured during the day at the box-office of the theater from 2 to 4 p. m.

Wounds, Bruises and Burns.

By applying an antiseptic dressing to wounds, bruises, burns and like injuries before inflammation sets in, they may be healed without maturation and in about one-third the time required by the old treatment. This is the greatest discovery and triumph of modern surgery. Chamberlain's Pain Balm acts on this same principle. It is an anti-septic and when applied to such injuries, causes them to heal very quickly. It also allays the pain and soreness, and prevents any danger of blood poisoning. Keep a bottle of Pain Balm in your home and it will save you time and money, not to mention the inconvenience and suffering such injuries entail. For sale by Frank Frank and leading druggists.

Though Miss Krupp is married she will keep on making guns, instead of going in for stewpans and chafing dishes.

NAPOLÉON BONAPARTE

showed, at the battle of Austerlitz, he was the greatest leader in the world. Ballard's Snow Liniment has shown the public it is the best Liniment in the world. A quick cure for Rheumatism, Sprains, Burns, Cuts, etc. A. C. Pitts, Redwood, La., says: "I use Ballard's Snow Liniment in my family and find it unexcelled for sore chest, headache, corns, in fact for anything that can be reached by a liniment." Hart's drug store.

AMUSEMENTS.

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GANS

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