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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

WEATHER.

Western Washington and Oregon—Occasional rain. Eastern Oregon and Washington and Idaho—Rain or snow.

DIRECT INFORMATION.

There is one thing about President Roosevelt that every man admires, be he politically disposed toward him, or not, and that is the direct way in which the chief magistrate goes about the work of informing himself of public affairs. He is not satisfied to take ex parte testimony on anything if he has the time to go after the knowledge in person. It is to this determined and aggressive policy of knowing for himself all that has to do with the energies and policies of the nation, that his individuality has been so indelibly fixed upon the thought of the people and that keeps him in such intimate and friendly touch with the masses. He is now at Panama investigating the scope, the plans, the system, the resources, the actual facts, the big, portentous, unescapable facts we are up against in the prosecution of this work, and when he is called upon to solve the inevitable problems that will arise, he will be independent of the warped, and perhaps, not quite interested opinions of men with "fish to fry." Without doubt Theodore Roosevelt is today, the best informed man in the nation, on the general trend and status of its affairs, great and small, and it is a qualification of inestimable value to the people. They know it, too!

THE STAGE MASHER.

A tenor, belonging to the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York, has been arrested there for grossly insulting a lady in Central Park. The fact emphasizes the conclusion that the stage masher in general is the most pernicious, the most assinine, and the boldest operator along this line of folly, in existence. There are innumerable gentlemen in the profession that condemn this thing unreservedly, genuine, clean, manly men, who know and do their duty toward all women, but when one of the profession lapses to the level of the masher, he is "it"; and unhappily, it is the fault of woman-kind. A handsome face and a splendid voice, coupled with a foreign name, and perhaps, an empty title, are enough to drive a certain element of our women to the verge of idiocy in their attempts to flatter the characterless bearer of these attributes; they use no discrimination, no judgment, no care in manifesting their pleasure and preferences and interest, and the empty-headed ass on the stage, with less discrimination, and infinitely more vanity than caution, presumes upon the folly of his admirers and thrusts himself upon all women in the mistaken pursuit of the flirtatious or worse, of the sex. It is a shame that the only thing to be said in extenuation of the man's reckless and insulting acts, is the equally reckless indiscretion of the young women themselves. This, as observation proves, never prevails with any of the police judges who are called upon to punish the masher but it should all the same.

AMERICAN-JAPANESE ISSUES.

Some jingo Americans are doing all that is possible to stir up sensational conditions in connection with the re-

English Farmers' Ways And the American Plan

By JAMES WILSON, Secretary of Agriculture

IT is true, as J. J. Hill says, that the British grow on an average thirty bushels of wheat an acre to ours of less than fifteen. But we can get thirty IF WE ADOPT THEIR METHODS. They fertilize for a root crop every four or five years, and then grow wheat the next year, and that only on the best land. They grow barley and oats on the poorer land. Wheat grew twenty to thirty bushels in Iowa fifty years ago. Now little is grown, because the farmers find STOCK GROWING more profitable. But the Iowa blue grass lands can be turned up today and will produce as big wheat crops as ever.

In the Mississippi valley the farmer nowadays works altogether for corn, and his system of rotation is based on the requirements of the CORN AND LIVE STOCK that he wishes to produce. There need be no fear of the capacity of the soil to feed the population which Mr. Hill expects to see here. And I don't question his figures, either. We will have the results too. But we must have different farming methods.

Mr. Hill's observations on the subject of farm help are correct. But it is hard to do much for the farmer at this point. HELP IS EXPENSIVE AND SCARCE. But better appliances make it produce more. A year ago, traveling in the southwest,

I saw this well illustrated. In Arkansas and Tennessee I would see a man cultivating behind a single horse that might weigh 800 or 900 pounds. Going on to Oklahoma, that man would be working with two horses. Up in the corn country of Kansas or Iowa he would have three or four SIXTEEN HUNDRED POUND HORSES.

IN OLD TIMES A MAN AND TWO HORSES WOULD HANDLE A TEN FOOT HARROW; NOW A MAN AND FOUR BIG HORSES DRAG A TWENTY FOOT HARROW.

Every acre of our domain is good for something. We are raising the spineless cactus on the sands of the Mojave desert and feeding cattle on it to determine how the results compare with those in more favored sections.



cent protest of Japan against the exclusion of her children from the public schools of San Francisco. It is palpable folly. Japan has, or thinks she has, a real ground for protest, and perhaps, under a strict interpretation of existing treaties, she has certain claims; but that does not constitute formidable ground for the assumption that either country will go to the battle field for an adjustment of matters that will be sensibly and quietly settled in the two cabinets interested. She is a friendly nation, and a valuable neighbor, and will be treated with all consideration and respect in her contentions. She will ask no more than is her due and will be granted all that is due; that is all there is to the matter. The gravity of the situation lies in the doing of simple justice on our part, and the refraining from extraordinary demands on the part of Japan, two lines of action equally adaptable to the modern common sense of both nations.

TO DRAIN THE HILLS.

The late torrential rains have made plain the necessity for very careful, yet urgent action, on the part of authorities of this city, looking to the establishment of a drainage system for the hills of Astoria, that shall obviate the loss and danger now imminent in the residence portion of the city lying on these heights. What is to be done in this relation should have the sanction of our best engineers, and contribute fully and instantly the relief so sorely needed. There must be no mistakes made; the cost of blunders will not be restricted to mere dollars; the plans must be operative and successfully so, from the outset; and there must be no false economy to warp the utility of the program, whatever it may be. A thousand homes are involved in the question, and once it is settled there will be other thousands of homes to use the benefits of what shall be done in this behalf.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

"I can always tell when I am getting into New York by the way the blondes begin to thicken," said a traveling man. "When I am away out in the country districts visiting the small towns, the sight of a real blonde is rare. The hair of the majority of the country maids is dark, though I pass an occasional light-colored or red head on the streets. Their hair is often arranged becomingly, but never with a Marcel wave. Their complexions never have the steamed appearance of the city belle, but are fresh and wholesome."

Miss Louise C. Hinck, a graduate of the New York university law school, is not only a full-fledged attorney, but a successful contractor and builder. The latter calling appealed to her more than the practice of law, and her achievements in this unusual line of work, together with the satisfaction expressed by the many customers for whom she has built convenient and comfortable homes, prove that her vocation was wisely chosen. Miss Hinck bears the distinction of having been the only woman admitted to the Master Carpenters' association.

The City of Chicago employs the only woman detective sergeant in the world. And, strange as it will seem to some, she will be entitled to a pension from the city of Chicago within a comparatively short time. For fifteen years Mrs. Owens has been doing police work for that city and in all that time there never has been the slightest necessity to assail her record. The trial board is a thing absolutely foreign to her.

New York Democrats can see now that Hearst would have spoiled any of their possible combinations. He was defeated as the head of the ticket, and as a bolter would have beaten any one else placed there. The Democrats of New York ought to return to principles and stop running after the latest flashy adventurer.

If Uncle Sam cannot print the postage stamps at as low a cost as a private firm, why is it they cannot see they are losing money in furnishing stamped envelopes with the return card printed thereon at a loss? At the same time they are knocking out so much business for the local printers.

Mr. Bryan's friends in Missouri said his help in the recent state campaign would be worth 40,000 votes. The small remnant of a Democratic majority must indicate that Bryan's influence in Missouri is a thing of the past.

Governor Folk of Missouri, elected by Republican votes, will shortly have on his hands a legislature Democratic in both branches. What will he do with it, and what will it do to him?

Count Bond expected to get about \$50,000 a fine for his letters of protestation to his wife. The novelists are nowhere in comparison with this speculative owner of a title.

"This vertical penmanship may be allowed," says the Alfalfa Sage, "but I notice that not many checks are signed that way."

Mr. Edison gives the horse just six months to close up its affairs and retire. His new electric motor is perfected—almost.

Men's and Boy's Clothing superior in Style, Fit and Quality. Images of men in suits and overcoats.

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An increased use of horse meat and dog meat is reported in Germany. Pass the American canned meats, please, with the certificate of government inspection annexed. Mr. Hearst's numerous publications devoted to puffing himself continue to come out, but have a rattle like serenade and yellow leaves flying in the November blast. New York's new congressional delegation stands twenty-five Republicans, twelve Democrats. Not much comfort in that for the firm of Bryan and Hearst. Mr. Hearst may content himself at high private, but not until he had tested how far a bar'l would go toward making him governor and president. The present capitalization of the United States is \$15,500,000,000. It needs a Bryan financial imagination to deal with the problem of buying them. Dr. Parkhurst says a man can be wicked without being rich. Yes, but in that event, he has to usually pay the penalty. This year's apple crop is a big one, but your retail dealers is likely to be a long time in finding it out. Russia's postal system nets more than \$20,000,000 a year. It can't be run by any of the grand dukes. There are eight editors in the present French cabinet. What's the matter with the lawyers over there?

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A Poem for Today THE SEA'S IRONY By John Langdon Heaton ONE day I saw a ship upon the sands, Careened upon beam ends, her tilted deck, Swept clear of rubbish of her long past wreck, Her colors struck, but not by human hands; Her masts the driftwood of what distant strands! Her frowning ports, where at the admiral's beck Grim visaged cannon held the foe in check, Gaped for the frolic of the minnow bands. The seaweed banners in her fo'ks'le waved. A turtle basked upon her capstan head, Her cabin's pump the clownish sculpin braved, And on her prow, where the lost figurehead Once scorned the brine, a name forged was graved. It was "The Irresistible" I read!

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