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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon and Wash-
ington—Occasional rain.

CLATSOP'S COURT HOUSE.

Of the four bids for the completion of the superstructure and interior of the new court house for Clatsop county, less vault doors and heating system, filed with the county commissioners' court yesterday, that of Hastie & Dugan, of Seattle, at \$39,599, was the lowest, and, presumably, the most acceptable; and will constitute the basis upon which the court and the taxpayers of Clatsop will coalesce, or disagree, on the matter of the January tax levy including this great essential.

The sum of this lowest bid exceeds the earlier estimates of the court in this behalf, by about \$35,000; but that is neither here nor there, in practical calculations that must ensue and be acted upon or absolutely rejected. As nearly as can be ascertained at present writing, the building of the court house will carry a two-mill access over the millage of last year in the city, and nine mills in the county; and if this is not as widely measured as was the probable total cost for finishing the structure it strikes us as fairly reasonable and a not undue burden to bear, in the light of the immeasurable good the completed court house will do the county: the laying forever of a long-drawn and vexatious public question; the salvation of the public records, now amenable to deterioration, or destruction, in the flimsy, cramped and unwholesome quarters now maintained; the marked improvement to city and county such a building would be, all contribute their measure of affirmative support to the proposition; and all are accentuated by the larger reason that by waiting another year, or two, the cost of the work will be so enhanced by the striding rise in the cost of materials and labor, as to impose a much greater burden than the present figures suggest.

But the matter is strictly up to the taxpayers; as they view the matter, so will it eventuate; but we believe public policy warrants the speediest conclusion possible of a contract that shall give Clatsop county her most imperative governmental need.

CENTRALIZATION.

If there is any great measure of truth in yesterday's dispatches from Washington, forecasting the tenor of President Roosevelt's special message to Congress on Tuesday next, in which, it is declared, he will take high and specific ground for a closer centralization of the federal governmental status, to the abridgement of the latitude of the several states in their relation to general government upon questions involving the co-ordinate action of both, it were well for the country to "sit up and take notice!"

Primarily, he will use the Japanese issue in California as a predicate upon which to launch his new doctrine, and this he cannot do without disturbing, and perhaps mortally offending the Californians, and, incidentally, the whole Pacific belt of states. That there will be meat in his new proposition cannot be doubted; but the departure must be, necessarily, very radical and radical steps in this direction are not palatable. This, of course,

does not indicate that his views will be wrong, or unjust, but it does mean that they must be calmly and carefully weighed before popular opinion asserts itself. His base of argument is wholly unpopular here, and this may lend color to the final deductions drawn and expressed by the people of the coast; but, without attempting to prejudge his proposals, we may, and do, urge forbearance and honest wisdom in meeting the situation as he shall thrust it upon us. He is too loyal an American to insist upon any vital sacrifice or dishonorable changes; and wise and honest as he is known to be, he may be verging upon the blunder of his career; and in any case, his high record calls for a patient, deliberate and loyal estimate of his extraordinary conclusions, whatever they may be.

CAUSE OF SICKNESS.

A Kansas City physician has discovered that high collars worn by women produce cancer of the throat, and the Hopkins Journal adds that low-necked dresses produce pneumonia, corsets produce heart disease and shortness of breath, long skirts gather up germs of all infectious diseases, thin soles produce consumption, and tight shoes cause the toes to grow together, and looking at bright millinery causes sore eyes. Women should be careful about these things.

THE MAN.

Give me the man who can hold on when others let go; who pushes ahead when others turn back; who stiffens up when others weaken; who advances when others retreat; who knows no such word as 'can't' or 'give up,' and I will show you a man who will win in the end, no matter what obstacles confront him."—Orison Swett Marden.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

The state bank of New York, doing business on the east side of that city, has just paid a dividend of \$900 a share on its \$100,000 capitalization. This beats the record of any national bank and without the aid of government deposits free of interest charges either.

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy (if he will take care of his health), wealthy (if he will hustle and save) and wise (if he will study and remember).

A man named Pills was elected to Congress in Indiana. It is not stated whether he is of the little liver or pink pale people variety.

Every rural free delivery box should be placed on a neat post and made an ornament instead of an eyesore by the roadside.

The Review of Reviews says Butte, Mont., is "a flowerless, grassless, godless town." But she's a Butte just the same.

In the last 500 years over twelve billion dollars' worth of gold is estimated to have been dug from the earth.

The Norwegian catch of codfish this year yielded 1,973,257 gallons of medicinal cod liver oil.

Although South America has about the area of the United States, it has only half the population.

It is said that John L. Sullivan will take up farming.

Over 350,000 acres of land are devoted to raising peanuts.

Don't waste your time; you will need it all before you die.

A Rhode Island man sold his wife for \$200. Some men are born lucky.

WHAT'S

worth doing is worth doing well. If you wish to be cured of Rheumatism, use Ballard's Snow Liniment and you will be well cured. A positive cure for Sprains, Neuralgia, Bruises, Contracted Muscles, and all the ills that flesh is heir to. A. G. M. Williams, Navasota, Texas, writes: "I have used Snow Liniment for sprained ankle and it gave the best of satisfaction. I always keep it in the house." Harts Drug Store.

What Adam ate, not what he drank, Was he from Eden's garden driven, O, what a difference there now would be.

If he had taken Rocky Mountain Tea, For sale by Frank Hart.

Pine Salve Carbolicized acts like a poultice; highly antiseptic, extensively used for Eczema, for chapped hands and lips, cuts, burns.

Sold by Frank Hart's Drug Store.

COME TOMORROW

IT MEANS A BARGAIN IF YOU'LL HAVE ONE.

The stock of fine new Kimball, Haddorf, Clarendon, Balley, Crown, etc., are well selected for a critical buyer's inspection. Whether it's the case or the tone that you are particular about, you'll "like 'em."

And if the matter of price is also an object, you'll like them still better.

Furthermore, if any special terms are necessary in your case, you have but to intimate as much. You'll find our men, "Ward and Cyrus," to be careful observers of the variable qualities of tone and durability in our superb line of instruments and they will cheerfully do the conscientious salesman's part by not loading you with too much advice, nor expecting you to purchase without any. There are some important facts about our pianos that you have a right to know; such as wearing qualities and relative values of our different makes.

And if we don't tell you, no one else will; and we know better than anyone else about our own goods.

Between our long experience and your good judgment, it should be an easy matter to pull a few good bargains out of our present stock tomorrow. Come in and get yours.

EILERS PIANO HOUSE.

424 Commercial St.

Ward & Cyrus, Managers.

SOCIETY.

One of the very pleasantest social events of the current season transpired last evening at the handsome hall of the I. O. O. F., at Tenth and Commercial streets, when a public reception was tendered to the Right Reverend Charles Scadding, Episcopal Bishop of Oregon, and but recently invested with the new and important charge. The affair was practically impromptu, and was given under the auspices of Rev. W. Seymour Short, rector of Grace church, and his wardens and vestrymen, and was attended by a very large number of the leading people of the city, all denominations, professions and callings being in evidence for the common and grateful purposes of greeting this distinguished Oregonian.

Brief addresses of welcome were made by Rev. Mr. Short, and by Mayor Herman Wise, Rev. W. S. Gilbert, pastor of the Presbyterian church; Rev. Mr. Moorehouse, pastor of the Congregational church; Rev. C. C. Rarick, of the Methodist church, and by Frank Spittle, senior warden of Grace church. All were in the happiest and most cordial vein, and were palpable contributions to the prime object of the evening, the acquainting of the bishop and one large group of the people he was to be in touch with through the coming years, which it hoped may be many and most happy, for him and them.

Bishop Scadding responded in kind, speaking in the kindest and broadest fashion of the duties and responsibilities of the individual and the commonality in the general uplifting of the community and of the state, and while invoking the aid, tact and actual of his hearers in this great work, pledged his own good will and strength in the splendid endeavor. His remarks were most cordially received and at their close, light refreshments were served, and the assemblage passed the hour in friendly interchange of ideas analogous with the spirit of the gathering.

Bishop Scadding will be the guest of Grace parish for a day or two to come, and will then return to his home and duties at the metropolis. His visit was opportune and graciously welcomed and will not soon be forgotten.

The Owl Club intends to give another of its delightful dances on New Year's night, and preparations are well under way for the making of it the star event of the course of delightful entertainments for which they stand sponsor, so successfully.

The clover Club met on last Tuesday afternoon at the Seventh Street home of Mrs. L. Mooren, and after going through the regulation scope of its affairs, were regaled with a delightful lunch set by the hostess of the day. The decorations were beautiful and confined to a magnificent line of chrysanthemums, and the event was one of the pleasantest in the history of the club. It has disbanded until after the Christmas and New Years holidays.

WHILE BUYING

Christmas Presents

You might as well take advantage of a well selected stock of holiday goods that embraces, quality, style and appropriateness. Things made for Christmas and what your friends and relatives want, besides supplying their needs in minute detail.

SPECIAL SALE MONDAY NIGHT

LAST CHRISTMAS WEEK WE CONDUCTED A SERIES OF SPECIAL SALES WHICH WERE BRANDED AS "CRAZY," BUT THE PEOPLE RECEIVED THE BENEFIT OF THE REDUCED PRICES AND WERE MADE HAPPY. NOW THESE SALES WILL BE REPEATED ALL THIS WEEK.

Monday Night, commencing at 6 p. m. we will sell any piece of our fancy dress goods for one-fourth off regular price.

WE WILL BE OPEN EVENINGS, AS MUCH AS WE DISLIKE TO BREAK OUR RULE OF EARLY CLOSING, WE WILL DO LIKE THE ROMANS AND KEEP OPEN WITH THE OTHER STORES. DAYTIME IS THE RIGHT SHOPPING HOUR AND SINCE YOU ARE OUT AT NIGHT WE WANT YOU TO VISIT OUR STORE AND SNAP UP THE BARGAINS AT THESE SPECIAL EVENING SALE.

SALE STARTS AT 6 P. M. EACH NIGHT

THE A. DUNBAR CO.

Astoria's Foremost Holiday Store.

On last Wednesday evening, in connection with their 2nd annual meeting, the Norwegian Male Chorus, as well as the Ladies Chorus, presented their leader Mr. Larson, with a handsome gold watch and chain, as a token for the work done since the organization was started. A musical program was rendered and short speeches made by members and others present, and afterward an elaborate supper was served by the ladies.

NOTICE.

All persons interested in trapping and seining are requested to attend a meeting to be held in the council chamber of the city hall, Astoria, Dec. 17, 1 p. m. Permanent organization will be affected and the report of committee on by-laws and constitution will be received and acted upon. The future policy of the organization will be outlined at this meeting.

WM. DIXON, Secretary.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the Committee on Streets and Public Ways, City Surveyor and Superintendent of Streets, have filed a certificate of completion of the improvement of Tenth street from the South line of Duane street to the North line of Exchange street, by Dill & Young, the contractors, in accordance with general ordinance number 3264, and the contract therefor. That unless objections are filed against the same, the same will be accepted by ordinance at the next regular meeting of the Common Council. OLOF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

Dated Astoria, Dec. 14, 1906.

STAR THEATER

P. GEVURTZ, Manager

THE EMPIRE STOCK COMPANY

IN

"Tennessee's Pardner"

Matinee 2:45 Saturday and Sunday.

Evening prices, 15c, 25c and 35c.

Matinee 10c and 25c.

Box Office Opens 7:30. Curtain Rises at 8:15 Sharp.

Seats can be secured by Telephone Main 3821 for all performances. Box office open from 2 until 4 p. m. daily.

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IRON AND BRASS FOUNDERS LAND AND MARINE ENGINEERS

Up-to-Date Saw Mill Machinery Prompt attention given to all repair work
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