

THE MORNING ASTORIAN

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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

- Western Oregon—Light rain or snow south, cloudy and threatening north portion.
Western Washington—Fair.
Eastern Oregon—Light rain or snow.
Eastern Washington, Idaho—Generally fair.

DANGEROUS REVERSION.

Bourne tactics and Bourne success have created an intense partisan feeling in Oregon against the operation of the initiative and referendum law and not altogether without cause, but this sense of injury must not be permitted to run counter to the principle of popular selection that lies at the very root of the law itself.

SAME OLD CREED.

Up at St. Helen's, on the Columbia, a good town, but small, devoid of the conveniences and markets and attractions that the travelling world rejoices in, there was gathered for a week a big fleet of big steamships, all barred from Portland, their point of destination, by the extraordinary barrier set up by Nature, at Warrior Rock.

sent 112 miles inland from such an open, navigable, safe and convenient port AT ALL? The greed and fear of the metropolis at the danger impending, is answer enough for the present.

THAW.

For the next twenty, fifty or hundred days, this country is to be surfeited with the mawkish drivelt emanating from the Eastern court that has the case of the "State of New York versus Harry Thaw" on its docket.

CLATSOP'S CONTRIBUTION.

Hon. John C. McCue, of the Clatsop representation in the House, has introduced a bill licensing the salmon packers and canners of the state. We have not reviewed the bill and cannot say what it signifies, nor how well justified it may be but, on its face, it is a good thing.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

The gentlemen who delight in introducing Mr. Bryan to the lecture audiences as the most distinguished private citizen in the country might properly and that this distinction is in no way attributable to any mere

selfish personal ambition in the Colonel. He has exhausted every resource of modest effort to avoid it.

Life would be lacking in one of its chief joys if there were not continually some statesmen at Washington who try to maneuver to put Theodore Roosevelt in a hole, and then have to call loudly to be pulled out themselves.

Five women were chosen as county treasurers and seventeen women as county superintendents of schools in Idaho, at the recent election, and yet women must fight for the franchise now conferred even on Bowery toughs.

The Imperial Gazette of Pekin is said to have been published for over 1,500 years. Its earlier files must throw light on the origin of Punch's jokes, and some of old Cauncey's after-dinner humor.

Your Uncle Jim Hill will be pleased to have the public regard the snow-blockades of this winter as a complete explanation of the abominable service of his railroads during last summer and fall.

Disgusted Congressmen have discovered that \$2,500 more a year is not to be attained merely by waiting to have the Senate force it upon them.

Boston's troubles have taken on vivid colors. An epidemic of scarlet fever has seriously interfered with pink teas among the blue-stockings.

Baseball magnates make a great mistake in not stocking their enterprise for \$5,000,000 and establishing its intrinsic value on the New York curb.

After mature deliberation it is believed that Senator Tillman will decide to reply to Senator Spooner, rather than to attempt to answer him.

The cause of justice sweeps on by summoning men before the grand jury to tell whether they committed a crime, and if not, why not.

Evidently Governor Swettenham is confident that Jamaica ginger is good for any kind of a bellyache that Admiral Davis may develop.

Oregon is in a fair way to attract the attention of magazine specialists intent upon a study of the model legislature.

There is that manner of fuel dealer

among us who when he is asked for coal gives you stone.

Motor-car sickness will probably be diagnosed eventually as automobilousness.

WHY SO MUCH CONCERN?

What Difference Does It Make Who Owns the A. & C.?

A reader of the Astorian says he does not see why there is so much concern on the part of the public as to who holds the stock of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Company? The road is running—doing a large business—making lots of money, and will soon have to double its tracks; it is now the terminal road, one, by which all the trans-continental roads coming to Oregon, reach the ocean at Astoria and Flavel?

At first glance this inquiry seems quite plausible. But another reader of the paper is of the opinion the query is answerable. He says the ownership of the road means the "difference between being a mere feeder, and an active element in a composite system; between the inactivity of a by-way and the commercial energy of a highway; between possessing the status of a fictitious terminal and that of a real, potent commercial terminal, with all its adjuncts, facilities and rates; between being Astoria, the shunting point of an indifferent, principal road, and Astoria, the fixed and desirable objective of a system of roads converging and merging here, for business."

And there you have it. One good man assumes that it will make no especial difference whether Mr. Hill or Mr. Harriman, or Mr. Hammond, owns the property; that it will not amount to any more than it has ever amounted to; and the other, undoubtedly basing his convictions on the supremacy of Mr. Hill, believes the road and its territory, has a big and definite future. Take your choice.

SUNDAY TRAVEL TO PORTLAND

Increases and \$2.50 Round Trip Rate via A. & C. R. R. is Popular.

Travel from this city to Portland on Sunday at the low round trip rate of \$2.50 is on the increase and many enjoy that day in the metropolis each week. This rate will be continued throughout the winter and the volume of travel toward Portland every Sunday would indicate that the public appreciates it.

CASTORIA

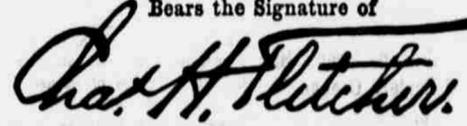
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