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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho, — Showers.

THAW'S HORROR PASSED.

The commission called in New York to pass upon Harry Thaw's mental condition, has reported to the court that he is normally sane and in possession of all his faculties; and the court has so adjudged him and will continue the trial on that hypothesis. Jerome does not like it, and shows his disgust plainly, because it amounts to sharp defeat for him in a matter of superlative importance.

It will have another good effect. It will clear the popular mind of the fallacy that all high-toned murderers are relying upon some such judgment to free them from the harsher penalties of the law and seek ultimate freedom through the sequent recovery of their mental balance by treatment at some convenient and luxurious asylum.

It speaks well for Thaw that he has always expressed a preference for the electric chair rather than for the condemnation and agony of false imprisonment in a retreat for the insane. He takes the manly attitude of full responsibility for the tragedy he wrought and was willing to suffer the rigor of death if the people declared for it, and his fight to evade the contingency thrust upon him by the state, (usually the resort of the defense) will reflect conspicuous credit upon him in the public mind.

PUBLIC REPRESENTATION.

A nearby friend suggests the safeguarding of the public interest in local franchise giving, by the incorporation in the terms of the act bestowing them, of the compulsory inclusion of two or more directors on the boards of the favored companies, from among the people; to be elected by the people, to work and watch and protect the public interest, upon the same terms of salary that accrue to the other members; their compensation to be paid by the company holding the franchise.

The idea has merit and would tend to popularize the quasi-public industries of the community; would serve as a sharp deterrent in the reckless handling of the privileges bestowed by the people. It would also help to protect the companies from the encroachment of vicious agencies operating from jealous or spiteful motives and set up a phase of regulation that would be acceptable and valuable, in the long run, to the concerns in question.

That it would contribute to the safety of the people from imposition and sacrifice goes without saying so long as the people put their best and truest men in the places of trust and responsibility. Possessing such a right, they would be wholly to blame if they chose unwisely, and would have to bear the onus of subsequent undoing at the hands of their own servants.

ENTIRELY LOGICAL.

The press of the country is full of the new development anent the rupture between President Roosevelt and E. H. Harriman, namely, the formation of a gigantic conspiracy among the trust barons of the nation to supplant Roosevelt with one of their own class at the White House.

We do not know yet that the story

is true. We hope it is, for it will bring Theodore Roosevelt to the center of the national field, as champion of the people and as their supreme representative, when nearly all hope was lost of his conceding the favor to them again.

It will focus the realities and issues between the people and the money combines that will settle, once and forever, the grave problems now besetting them, and free the nation at large from the curse of syndicated domination as it has been exemplified and borne for the past half-score years.

If the trusts want to see this man sent back to the chief magistracy by a vote that will be their utter doom, they will prosecute this conspiracy to its logical end. The common people are ready for the engagement, they know their man and they know the trusts, and will put up such a fight, for such a victory, as was never chronicled in the world's history.

THE STORK IN SPAIN.

The famous old bird that has been accredited with the beautiful (and endless) monopoly of supplying the world with precious babies, through the countless thousands of its years of existence, is due at the Spanish capital with another pledge of human love and destiny.

All Spain, from the royal master and mistress of the nation, down through the grandee ranks, to the humblest servitor and citizen of the race, is alive to the impending gift of an heir to the throne. Prince, or princess, it will make but little difference to the commonalty, however devoted the desires of the principals may be, for either; the main thing with the populace there is the coming of a royal infant and the jubilation attendant upon the event, the pardons, the gifts, the benefices, the grand holiday it always confers. Spain is just as old as she ever was; her traditions are as deeply rooted and as reverently observed, as in the days of the Golden Fleece, the Armada, the Wars of the Sepulchre, or an other antediluvian standard one may quote. She is the relict of the old kingly era, and has never broken from the ties of the dim, romantic past. The new baby will open its innocent eyes upon an antiquated heritage of fame, and infamy, glory and shame, romance, and dominance, without parallel in all the earth. The stork is now winging its flight to the old peninsula.

EDITORIAL ENCLAD.

When the defense for murder is insanity, with testimony that the prisoner has been moody, excitable and eccentric, the trial lasts only one day, the judge instructs that the question of insanity has nothing to do with the case, the jury convicts in nine minutes, and the sentence of death is immediately pronounced, to be carried into effect within three months from the time the crime was committed. It must be mentioned, however, that this is in England, where the science of law has been very much neglected.

Ohio Republicans talking about harmony are like the nations talking peace and increasing the size of their battalions. There are more tomahawks and scalping knives ready for use in Ohio than when the Indians were in control.

Andrew Carnegie says stock gamblers are parasites. They are, and microbes and atoms and bacilli. And their chief delight is to persuade the public to buy stocks when they should sell and sell when they should buy.

The board of appraisers has lowered the duty on polo balls. Not enough people are being killed playing polo. Something must be done for the game to keep up the average.

It is respectfully suggested to those westerners, who are studying the question of slow trains that they send a committee to confer with the Harlemites.

There is a splendid argument for real estate men in the latest government census report. If you don't buy now there won't be any room left soon.

A New York grand jury talks of increasing the penalty for burglary. How would it do to provide that anyone committing burglary shall be discovered by the policeman on that post?

The South has at last been shown how baseball is played. Muggsy McGraw has assailed an umpire and has been removed by the police.

As usual, people who went to church

The Morality of Americans.

By LUDWIG FULDA, Eminent German Dramatist and Poet.

AMERICA is a far more moral country than Germany. Its educational system is equal to the best of Europe. In women's colleges the United States excels, and THE AMERICAN WOMAN LEADS THE WORLD. German parents might well send their daughters to America for higher education, and the spirit they would bring back would do Germany much good.

The MORAL LIFE of the American people is on a higher plane than that of Germany. Without a question the life of the young people is purer, the demeanor of men among themselves less frivolous. One sees less of vice on the streets of the large cities than on those of our own.

The belief that the American woman lords it over the sterner sex, an idea prevalent in Europe, is unfounded. Conditions there provide for meeting more on an equal footing rather than have the one lord it over the other. As a result of the mingling of the sexes from early childhood American marriages, on the whole, are happier, for the man and the woman HAVE LEARNED TO UNDERSTAND THEMSELVES and better know the shortcomings of the other and the better side as well. There a young couple has years in which to pass judgment on the question of marriage, while in Germany the daughter is virtually THROWN UPON THE MARKET by her parents before she has learned anything about the opposite sex.

ONE RESULT OF THE AMERICAN CONDITION IS THAT CELIBACY IS NOT LOOKED UPON BY AMERICAN WOMEN AS SOMETHING TO BE DREADED. SINGLE WOMEN ARE LOOKED UPON WITH EQUAL RESPECT AND HONOR TO THOSE SHOWN THEIR MARRIED SISTERS.

because it was Easter were annoyingly crowded by those who went simply because it was Sunday.

The temporarily dethroned Tolly bear can console itself with the thought that the rabbit is only a mollycoddle, anyway.

McGraw's Giant's have rounded into shape, being now able to forfeit a baseball game in midseason form.

HOTEL MAN KILLED.

Kansas Telegraph Operator, Shot and Killed By Unknown Persons.

PUEBLO, Colo., April 5.—A special to the Chieflain from Scott City, Kas., says:

Between ten and eleven last night a shot rang out from the depot of the Missouri Pacific Railroad and aroused the proprietor of the hotel nearby. Upon investigation it was found that Operator Kirchoff had been murdered in cold blood by some unknown persons. The body was found partly in the office and partly in the waiting room. The hotel man who discovered the body at once notified the day agent and he came to the scene but no clue could be found to the murderer. It is thought robbery was the motive, but that the murderers were frightened away by the quick response to the shot.

Yes, I Have Found it at Last. Found what? Why that Chamberlain's Salve cures Eczema and all manner of itching of the skin. I have been a leted for many years with a skin disease. I had to get up three or four times every night and wash with cold water to allay the terrible itching, but since using this salve in December, 1905, the itching has stopped and has not troubled me.—Elder John T. Ongley, Rootville, P. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

WHEN ALFONSO TRAVELS.

Special Train Carefully Guarded For Months in Advance.

MADRID, April 5.—Great precautions are being taken by the Sargossa & Licente Railway Company in regard to the coaches on the special train which will convey King Alfonso and his mother queen Christina, on their journey to Cartagena to meet King Edward and Queen Alexandra. The company has affixed seals to the doors of all the coaches in the train and has detailed a special watch to guard over the coaches night and day. This watch has been ordered to allow nobody to approach the coaches not even employes of the company.

TRUNK MAKERS STRIKE.

Chicago Trunk Factories to be Involved in Sympathy Strike.

CHICAGO, April 5.—The vacation season is placed in peril by a strike which threatens to cause a shut down in the chief trunk factories in Chicago and neighboring cities. At the factories of the Fitzgerald Trunk Company nearly 100 men quit work yesterday, demanding higher wages, and more concerns may be affected today.

H. J. Fitzgerald, president of the firm which experienced the first walk-out said that he would continue to make trunks despite the unions. He said that non-union employes would be hired.

"Pneumonia's Deadly Work

had so seriously affected my right lung," writes Mrs. Fannie Connor, of Rural Route 1, Georgetown, Tenn., "that I coughed continuously night and day and the neighbors' prediction—Consumption seemed inevitable—until my husband brought home a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, which in my case proved to be the only real cough cure and restorer of weak sore lungs." When all other remedies utterly fail, you may still win in the battle against throat and lung troubles with New Discovery, the real cure. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers, druggist, 50c. and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

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509 Commercial St.