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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington and Idaho.
Fair.

"ETERNAL YOUTH."

Des Moines comes to the front with a new bid. She has in her midst a society whose aim is "eternal youth."

The object is enticing and the membership will not lag as long as faddists hold out. The purpose is to so live that disease shall be reduced to a minimum and death be discounted proportionately. The members are fined, suspended and expelled for lesser and greater indulgences in the luxury of illness, and their lives are to be regulated, morally, physically and mentally, so as to conform to this principle. On the face of it there is room for all manner of mockery, but underlying it there is a touch of real wisdom and common sense.

The average American of today is living off his or her nerves to a tremendous extent; the pace of business, social and professional life is so swift and exacting that few can stand against the demand and retain normal balance at all, and any scheme of human endeavor or interest that shall reduce the strain, must be welcomed as a direct and palpable benefit.

The title the new society has adopted, is, of course, a disclaimer, and as remote from realization as any other of the wild theories extant, but it is within human attainment, to make the youth of man of longer duration and far greater joy than is permitted under the regimen now accepted on all sides, and which tends to curtail the essence and vigor of the years allotted to that season. The club may break the ice, and set the new rules, that shall contribute to the better achievement, but beyond this it cannot accomplish much. Money, and the feverish pursuit of money, will, so long as money obtains as the chiefest of all aims and desires of the poor human mind, better down the best and effective of all such hopes. When the moneyless day shall dawn, then will the life of man be prolonged by virtue of the disappearance of man's most damning and destructive agency.

MRS. HOLTON'S SILENCE.

The mother of Evelyn Thaw has promised to make public a statement. Presumably, this is to be in explanation, or extenuation, of the recent shredding she got at the hands of Attorney Delmas in the course of his final plea for the life of her son-in-law, Harry K. Thaw.

The country at large has a deep appreciation of Mrs. Holton's late and commendable silence, and has no desire to have it broken, even by so qualified an authority as she certainly is. She is in public contempt. She can but make matters worse by starting her tongue to wagging, and it is the aim of discretion for her to remain mute from this day forth.

She stands utterly bereft of the prestige that real maternity gives to most women; this helplessness and color all she has to say, no matter what it is, and to such a strain, who has in appeal have to use own conscience, and that, we infer, is even less inviting than any argument she may offer to a disbeliever nation that has long since made up its mind in her particular case. Mrs. Holton's silence is her best refuge at this day any how.

MODESTY, AND FASHION.

The women of the famous Twentieth Century Club, of New York, are just launching into a broad discussion of the question of modesty, an

involved in the fashion of the hour, and one of the leaders has made a startling pronouncement against the varying latitude of license given to the exposure of the feminine upper, and lower, limbs. She herself fails to find any cause for disapproving in favor of either phase of license, and puts them both on the dead level of immodesty. In this she is seemingly right and she is right in daring to make the declaration.

We cannot agree with her, however, in her deduction that "modesty" is one of the latest of the virtuous requirements. We hold that modesty in woman is an inherent and normal instinct and one of the most beautiful of the strong and alluring characteristics of womanhood. It is just as much an essential attribute as honesty, truth, cleanliness, or any of the accepted characteristics freely accorded of the sex.

The real cause for why of course there may be attaching to women of today, lies in their willingness to follow the fashions so religiously, that the best tones and effects are swept from consideration and the indulgence made, not from any concession to the immodesty of the style, deliberately, or wilfully, but to the iron rule of observance set up by women themselves. They are to blame, alone, for every transgression of the sort, and the remedy lies within their province just as absolutely as the untoward tolerance does.

Women are naturally modest. If this were not so, Heaven alone knows where the tenacity of man would find its limit, or where their respect and honor for the sex would find its inspiration. We cling religiously to the doctrine, that even the most aggravated license permitted by fashion is qualified and limited by the assumed innocence and purity of the woman who may transcend the danger-line in wearing it. "To the pure all things are pure" is not yet an obsolete theory, and it will bear us out in the argument that the wearing of a questionable garment does not mark the wearer as immodest. That estimate must remain in the eye and sense of the observer and if he has the true and clean instinct of a man, the woman who offends at the instance of a reckless fashion, will be absolved at once of intended complicity and immodest purpose. No other rule than this would last as long in human society, and it is the innate and acknowledged modesty of women that preserves the balance and holds them guiltless despite the dangerous folly of the fashions.

IN THE CITY CHURCHES.

First Methodist.

A number of gentlemen have asked for more time to consider the questions with reference to who move men are not exactly interested in Church work. Others have asked me to call and talk the matter over with them in order to give more time for men to answer the questions and for the preparation of the sermons I find it necessary to postpone the first sermon in the series until Sunday evening April 22. C. C. Barick, pastor.

Grace, Episcopal.

On Sunday April 14th, there will be services at 10 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., at Grace Church, and at 2:30 at Holy Innocents. The Rev. H. D. Chambers, Arch Deacon, of the Diocese, will officiate at all services.

First Presbyterian.

Morning worship, 11 o'clock, "The finest of the fine Arts," Sunday school at 12:15, Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30. Evening worship 7:30, "Christianity and Greater Astoria," or "Serving the Community." All are invited. Wm. S. Gilbert, pastor.

At the Presbyterian church there will be a special service of music in the evening an anthem and solo work by well known local singers.

First Congregational.

Services will be held morning and evening at the usual times. Morning service at 11 o'clock. Subject "Consequences of Strife in the Home." A study of home life in Old Testament times. Evening service at 7:30, Subject: "A matter which needs urgent attention from Man." Sunday school at 12:20, Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30, p. m. Mid-week meeting Wednesday at 7:30, p. m. A cordial invitation to attend all the services of this church is extended to all strangers, visitors and residents in the city. C. E. Moorehouse, Ph. D., pastor.

Norwegian Danish M. E.

The Norwegian Danish Methodist Church, corner of 37 and Duane St. Sunday school at 10 o'clock. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. The Chorus will sing at the evening service. Thursday night, short sermon and general prayer meeting. You are cordially invited to attend our services. Rev. Elian Gjerding, pastor.

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