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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon—Cloudy; threatening showers north portion.

PUBLIC FOUNTAINS.

A clever stranger in Astoria remarked to a citizen, yesterday, in a casual way, that "it seemed the city was short on public drinking fountains; that back where he came from there were fourteen handsome drinking stations about the town, put up by the different fraternities, and that each had tried to outdo the other in their gifts, the consequence being that the place bristled with fine utilities of this sort"; all of which struck the home man as good text for public comment.

Astoria can well stand for several more fountains along the long line of its east and west traverse, and they would be appreciated most thoroughly. The saloon is alright for such luxurious beverages as are wanted at certain intervals by certain people, and the council, the fraternities, civic bodies, or well disposed individuals, may attain to marked and appreciative recognition, by installing one, or may, as time and circumstances may dictate. It is not merely adults that are included in such public spirited manifestations; the very children are the real beneficiaries.

SCHWAB SOUNDS KEYNOTE.

Charles M. Schwab, the great steel master of this country, is in San Francisco, and in an interview anent the ugly strike there, has given public expression to certain views on the labor question that are timely and wise. We have never thought very much of Mr. Schwab as an exponent of labor theories, but he is one of the largest employers of labor in the world and surely knows some things that are pertinent and essential.

He avers that labor conditions in the Bay City have, for years, been such as to make it practically impossible for manufacturing capital to operate there at a profit and mentions specific losses of his own to prove it. The feature of his declaration is, that the matter of wage and hours has no bearing on the question he is raising. It is the quality of the service rendered, which is far below the accepted mechanical standards and practically worthless to the investing and producing factor.

This statement is very vital and one that organized labor has got to take into actual and practical consideration very soon or give up its prestige, because it is going to assail that prestige as time goes on and work to its detriment. The great unions of the country are the custodians, sponsors and champions of labor, skilled and unskilled, and it devolves upon them to so classify and arrange the people and the service it stands for as avoid imposing upon the public by sending out inferiorly equipped men under the guise of highly skilled and long trained craftsmen to draw the wages they cannot repay in work. This is a cardinal complaint of the employing class and it must be heard and admitted soon, or the merit of unionism will be sharply challenged some day to its own undoing.

Let the big trades establish three classes of workmen, first, second and third; put these classes upon three separate scales of wage so clearly cut as to plainly indicate the real value of the divisions, and the employer will know what to hire and appreciate what he gets and pay for it with some sense of compensation. It is only justice to the fine craftsman; and it will serve as an impelling force to urge the man with lesser skill to more quickly acquire the talent of his superior in order to earn the higher scale of pay. As matters are conducted now, with a few excepted lines of mechanical service, there is no attention paid to the qualifications of the workmen and the slough with a card is on an equal footing with the man who has devoted his life and brain to the splendid acquisition of adroit skill in his particular branch, and draws down the wage he does not begin to earn.

We have often heard the excuse urged against this rule by organized labor, to-wit, that the employing people would always be calling for the lower grades of workmen in order to have the work done at the lowest possible cost, but this could be obviated by a counter rule that certain elements of work must be done by the best craftsmen, a rule that would be soon recognized as safe and wholesome. At all events, there has got to be a start made, that will wipe out the most formidible and plausible complaint now made by those who do the employing.

THE QUIET INQUIRER.

That four-runner of real things in every community, the quiet inquirer, is in our midst. He is not conspicuous, nor insistant, nor obtrusive, but he is here, prosecuting intelligent investigation and summing up the advantages and disadvantages of the city and country and meeting a few people with whom he will do business in the early future; and he is one to be honestly and cleverly cultivated. He is no fool and has not travelled several thousand miles with his snug capital to be worsted, or done for; he is the man we have been looking for, for years, and he is to be our fellow-citizen if we make him welcome and give him a show to come in and establish himself. He is one of the 40,000 that have come out to the coast by virtue of the low west-bound rates that have been in vogue, and now that he is on the coast, it is our business to see that he stayes and stayes because it is to his interest to do so. If we do not keep him, it will be because we do not use good judgement, and to be guilty of error in that line, is to confess ourselves unworthy of his confidence and patrohage. Keep your eye on the quiet inquirer; he is of the very substance of our future!

EDITORIAL SALAD.

We are not the only nation experiencing canal troubles. The German government is asking for an appropriation of $55,750,000 to enlarge the Kiel Canal. Only a few years ago this important waterway was completed at a cost of $40,000,000. American critics of Panama affairs would do well to note this lack of foresight on the part of the German government.

With 20,000 odd immigrants landing in one day, it seems to us there is a more important question before the house than, "What shall we do with our ex-presidents"?

A "sacred concert" according to the theatrical definition is something at which the people applaud in concert and are unanimous about.

The grand opera singers are all departing for the other side make merry music with the notes they collected here during the season.

The limits of Honolulu have been extended also—a Greater Honolulu. Didn't know the real estate boom had extended that far.

This is the day of the juror. He is in the public eye, but if his head grows any bigger our eye will have to be enlarged.

When a sufficient number of persons have died without medical treatment, X-Science may become eX-Science.

God made the country; and man is still working on the town—see lower Broadway, New York.

It would take a long time to find "the man higher up" among New York's office buildings.

Will those 28 aldermanic boodlers of Pittsburg offset the 28 good and just men?

Then there is the little mothfly! It certainly is an undesirable citizen.

They need an Edward the Confessor at San Francisco.

Disturbed the Congregation.

The person who disturbed the congregation last Sunday by continually coughing is requested to buy a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

TEXAS KILLINGS

Negro Officer Shot By Unknown Persons.

WHITE MAN SHOT IN BACK

Shooting Thought to Have Been Done by Negroes For Revenge—Hudson (White), Killed a Negro a Year Ago.

BEAUMONT, Texas, May 8.—As the result of two attempts at assassination from ambush at Orange last night one man was killed and two seriously wounded. The dead man is Major Boydkin, a negro officer, who wah fired on by unknown persons, as he was leaving a negro saloon. He was shot five times, all the bullets entering his body and producing instant death. It is thought the shooting was done by negroes and several arrests have been made.

William Hudson, of Orange, and O. F. Woodfin, of Center, Texas, were on the seat of a cab that was loaded with people riding in the outswirts of the town when they were fired upon, the shot coming from a rifle. The bullet passed through the fleshy part of Woodfin's back and entered the arm of Hudson. It is thought the shooting was prompted by a spirit of revenge Hudson who killed a negro in Orange about a year ago.

Press Dispatch: Four sons at once, St. Paul, Oct. 5th, 1906. A special from Mondovi says, "Mrs. Jno. Silverson gave birth to four boys." She's evidently a great friend of Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Frank Hart.

BRONCHIAL COUGHS

Breathe Hyomei's Healing Air and All Irritation Will Be Quickly Cured.

The most irritating and annoying form of cough is that termed bronchial. People subject to bronchial troubles whenever there is a change in the weather or they are exposed to a draft will "catch" a bronchial cough, which is very disagreeable, irritating and annoying.

Bronchial troubles cannot be cured by stomach dosing. The medicated air of Hy-o-mei is the only treatment that reaches the affected parts and gives relief and cure. It destroys all the disease germs that are present in the nose, throat and lungs, soothes and relieves the irritated mucous membrance in all parts of the bronchial tubes and quickly overcomes the irritation.

Bronchitis is really an inflammation of the mucous membrance lining the air passages and is purely a local disease, so that it needs a local treatment like that afforded by Hy-o-mei.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to the power of Hy-o-mei to cure bronchial troubles so that the system will resist coughs and colds, the unusual way in which it is sold by T. F. Lauren should dispel that doubt. He agrees to refund the money to any purchaser of Hy-o-mei who is not perfectly satisfied with the results following the use of the remedy. He takes all the risk and if the remedy does not help you it does not cost a penny, while if it cures, the expense is nominal, for a complete Hy-o-mei outfit is sold at only $1.00.

Mrs. S. Joyce, 180 Sullivan street, Claremont, N. H., writes: "About a year ago I bought two bottles of oley's Kidney Cure. It cured me of a severe case of Kidney trouble of several years' standing. It certainly is a grand, good medicine, and I heartily recommend it." T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

My Best Friend.

Alexander Benton, who lives on Rural Route 1, ort Edward, N. Y., says: "Dr. King's New Discovery is my best earthly friend. It cured me of asthma six years ago. It has also performed a wonderful cure of incipient consumption for my son's wife. The first bottle ended the terrible cough, and this accomplished, the other symptoms left one by one, until she was perfectly well. Dr. King's New Discovery's power over coughs and colds is simply marvelous." No other remedy has ever equaled it. Fully guaranteed by Charles Rodgers, druggist. 50c and $1.00. Trial bottle free.

More News From the New England States.

If any one has any doubt as to the virtue of Foley's Kidney Cure, they need only to refer to Mr. Alvin H. Stimpson, of Willimantic, Conn., who, after almost losing hope of recovery, on account of the failure of so many remedies, finally tried Foley's Kidney Cure, which he says was "just the thing" for him, as four bottles cured him completely. He is now entirely well and free from all the suffering incident to acute kidney trouble. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.