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WEATHER.
 Western Oregon and Washington—Fair.

POPULAR FRANCHISES.

America is at the mercy of the franchise-holders today, and the vast percentage of our communal ills are due to the exactions and transgressions of the concerns we, ourselves, have created and set up to outdo and undo us.

We have gone, always, upon the wrong method, in granting these valuable gifts. The assumption in the public mind has invariably been that what was asked was a vague, unestimated, transitory sort of thing, and could be safely granted because it was purely a matter of doubt whether the right acquired would ever be worth anything to those asking for it and that the people would have plenty of time in which to correct conditions after the gift had proven itself a veritable gold mine of profit to its original investors. This is where we have blundered frightfully and where we have been undone by the shrewd craft of those who came as supplicants and remained as thieving task-masters.

The lesson of all legislators should learn that the very threshold of the work allotted them, is to give nothing that belongs to the people without adequate return for the value given. Popular franchises are those in which the public interest is the first thing taken care of, and it may be relied upon, that if the right prayed for is rich enough in possibilities, the demands of the popular end of the contract will be met and paid for before the opportunity will be sacrificed by the promoters.

It is a sin to be bluffed! And we have all sinned irretrievably, time and time again, and we have paid vast toll for the subterfuge grants we have made against our own rights and conveniences as a public. It is high time we were taking the back-track and getting sensed up to the situation. The whole policy of franchise-letting must be reversed and put upon a plane of business justice and efficiency that will mean something to both parties to the huge bargains and balance the initial, and expanding, values, inherent in the splendid bounties put forth by the people.

DECLARED VALID.

The Supreme Court of Oregon has made formal declaration of the entire validity of the new amendments to the charter of the City of Astoria, and has gone even further in affirming the constitutionality of the act providing that cities of certain class, may without formal legislative enactment, hereafter, proceed with the amendment, revision, expansion, or other development of their organic law, keeping always, of course within the limitations of the constitution of the state.

This law is a good one, and serves to minify the time and trouble heretofore inseparable from the work of revising or remodeling municipal charters, and spares the legislature an immense amount of work in that particular line.

It has another important virtue. It will tend to make law-makers of the people, and give them an insight into the popular methods of legal enactment that will be of extraordinary value in years to come. We have been too dependent upon our legislatures in the past; have suffered too much to pass to that element of service without public knowledge or scrutiny, with results that are far too costly to repeat; it will invest the commonalty with a wider conception of the constitutional law of the land and equip the people to deal intelligently with momentous matters and not have to rely upon councils, courts,

Inconsistencies of International "Honors."

By **ANDREW CARNEGIE.**

THE growing perception of the INTERDEPENDENCE of the nations has brought clearly into view the question as to whether the world ought to permit international quarrels. Certainly a BETTER WAY ought to be found to settle those disputes.

It was said long ago on excellent authority that no man liveth unto himself. We have begun to perceive that NO NATION LIVETH UNTO ITSELF and that certainly no nation goeth to war unto itself. The government that decrees war is decreeing misery not only to its enemy and to its own citizens, but to thousands IN ALL OTHER COUNTRIES as well.

This is what the increasingly vexatious and involved questions as to the rights of neutrals, which form so important a part of the discussion of international conferences, mean. We are coming to understand that THE HUMAN RACE IS ONE. The interests of the army of English cotton spinners are at stake in a war between the north and the south; the interests of thousands who depend on the manufacture of agricultural implements or machinery of other sorts are at stake when the farms of Russia are lying untilled or the factories of Germany are closed because men are OFF TO THE WARS.

It is said that "honor" often requires resort to war. "Honor" requires nothing but UPRIGHTNESS. A nation's honor never requires defense by arms.

How trivial are the disputes that would jeopardize the tremendous concerns of international trade and HOW FLIMSY THE CONCEITS which move governments to fancy that they must now violently vindicate their "honor!" Perhaps it is a matter of \$10,000 affecting a few fishermen. A man could pay and settle hundreds of disputes over which governments have gone to war, wasting lives and resources in aimless, vain, reckless violence.

"HONOR" DOES NOT CONSTRAIN A NATION TO BE THE JUDGE OF THE CORRECTNESS OF ITS OWN OPINION. RATHER IT FORBIDS THIS AND SUGGESTS THAT A DISINTERESTED TRIBUNAL BE ASKED TO PASS ON THE QUESTION.

and legislatures, for every "breath" of wisdom they shall draw. We are glad to herald the new doctrine and the more the people come to know of the right that is theirs, the more they will value it and employ it.

THE BABY CRIED!

When the poor little royal chap of Spain felt the cool touch of the sacred water that ushered him into the ecclesiastical fold, he cried, and the land of the Don is all agog with the happy significance of the paltry fact, since tradition, the bread and meat of the Spaniard, declared the act was propitious of a long life and successful reign.

This is a sample of the simple and inconsequential things that sway the old and decrepit nation and illustrates the childishness of a people who are immeasurably behind the younger and keener nations of the world and what is worse, satisfied to be, and remain, so.

We do not disparage folk-lore; that is one of the beautiful gifts of the old year to the moderns and serves them with a basic knowledge and example of the foundations upon which their people and their country were founded, and leaves the inspiration needed to actuate them in the doing of their own great tasks; but we cannot sympathize with that lapse into the inert so manifest of the Spaniards, and in which they seem to take the only pride that is left them; it is pitiful, and worse, since it betokens an attitude from which there is no withdrawal, save by centuries of reaction and revivification. The people who rely upon signs and portents for the impulse to do and say things of moment, are indeed "at end of their tether."

EDITORIAL SALAD.

As Mars will be fully 35,000,000 miles away from the earth when the Lowell astronomers photograph it from the Andea there is very little danger of any of its canal summer resort society leaders smashing the camera.

As a last resort the police put on their light helmets and marched down the avenue. No use! the next day the mercury just grazed zero and there was a report of snow in Labrador.

Mr. Ahern finally announces that his department is to have a thorough spring house cleaning. It's a little late, but then this is a late spring.

General Kuroki will find that the American style of entertainment is much more dangerous than war if carried to excess.

The common or garden commuter is doing very little gardening this year.

Excursion trains just seem to invite wrecks.

Theoretically Coney Island is open to the public.

IT'S THE SKIN, NOT THE BLOOD

Costly Error of Treatment of Skin Diseases by Internal Nostrums When the Surface Alone Should Be Healed.

If you slash your finger do you drink liniment to cure it? No, you apply the lotion to the wound, yet people are treating skin disease constantly by dosing the stomach.

Until a few years ago many doctors thought that skin diseases originated with the blood. But the application of the germ theory proves that skin diseases are caused by germs which lodge in the skin.

To cure the skin direct, through the skin, Dr. Decatur D. Dennis compounded oil of wintergreen and other remedial agents into a liquid called D. D. D. Prescription. He gave this to his patients and found that the eczema germs were eradicated while the healthy skin was not injured at all.

Later Dr. Dennis was prevailed upon to allow a private company in Chicago to put up this remedy in bottles. While Dr. Dennis has not direct connection with the company selling the prescription he endorsed the remedy and sanctioned the sale of D. D. D. through drug stores.

Great credit is due to physicians who recommend this remedy—and there are many such physicians—when they can make so much larger fees by writing out their own prescriptions.

We vouch for D. D. D. Prescription and D. D. D. Soap and recommend these to all sufferers from skin diseases. Charles Rogers, druggist.

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.

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 incontinent 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 equalled it. Fully guaranteed by Charles Rodgers, druggist. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

NIGHTS OF UNREST.

No Sleep, No Rest, No Peace for the Sufferer From Kidney Troubles.

No peace for the kidney sufferer—Pain and distress from moru to night.

Get up with a lame back, Twinges of backache bother you all day.

Dull aching breaks your rest at night, Urinary disorders add to your misery.

Get at the cause—cure the kidneys. Doan's Kidney Pills will work the cure.

They're for the kidneys only. Mrs. B. Schreiber, of 560 High street, Salem, Or., says: "The good reports I have heard concerning Doan's Kidney Pills induced me to procure a supply. I had been suffering from an incessant backache which not only troubled me through the day but broke my rest at night. I began to feel the effects of Doan's Kidney Pills after I had taken a few doses. Relief speedily came and then an absolute cure. There has been no sign of the backache nor any other symptoms since. I am only too pleased to let others know of such a valuable and effective remedy."

Plenty more proof like this from Astoria people. Call at Chas. Rodgers drug store and ask what his customers report.

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

"Our Shoes"

Means Standard of Merit. Our Service and our methods of business are of the highest excellence as well as all of our Footwear

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A few doses of this remedy will invariably cure an ordinary attack of diarrhoea. It can always be depended upon, even in the more severe attacks of cramp colic and cholera morbus. It is equally successful for summer diarrhoea and cholera infantum in children, and is the means of saving the lives of many children each year. When reduced with water and sweetened it is pleasant to take. Every man of a family should keep this remedy in his home. Buy it now. PRICE, 25c. LARGE SIZE, 50c.

CANCER!
 Cured to Stay Cured.
 Without Knife or Operations and but little pain
 Cancer growth killed in 24 hours. Cancer removed in 7 to 10 days. Orifice healed and a permanent cure in 4 to 8 weeks. No Pay until Cured.
A. ROSS, 548 Com. St., Astoria, Ore.

The Chas. F. Beebe Company
 Will open up in the Flaval Brick (as soon as the Stock arrives) on or before June 1st, with a Complete Stock of
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Save Your orders for us and Save Money
F. J. Carney, Manager

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 A bad workman quarrels with his tools, but even a good workman quarrels with bad tools. No workman ever quarrels with tools bought of:
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 Nor will he quarrel with us for having sold them to him. Our reputation is made by sale added to sale. No one sale will make or break us; but the continued reputation of selling such good goods as we do, you cannot afford to despise.
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