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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho— Fair and warmer.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The vast majority of Americans are doing their best to come to a sensible understanding of all this Japanese-American war talk. They cannot realize the cause for it; they know that only a short while ago, when Japan was in the throes of her great encounter with Russia, that American sentiment and expression was practically, almost universally, pro-Japanese, and just why the revulsion should ensue, to a point that puts the "little brown man" in the category of our enemies is a national conundrum our people are trying, in all kindnesses and patience, to solve; and in this behalf they have reached but one conclusion, so far, and that is, the cause, whatever it may be, is not indigenous to this soil and people. We have always been the friends of the Japanese, so far back as any one now alive can remember, and the mystery surrounding our present attitude will take some mighty plain talk from one government, or the other, to effect a satisfactory solution.

If it arises from the Japanese sense of glory and pride, and lust for conquest, wrought by the victories achieved over Russia, and which makes the victors eager to keep in the field of war just to see how far they can carry the measure of their success, we are sorely disappointed in the race, since we had accredited them with a better poise and sounder principles; if it is because we have given them ground for war, we know what the claim is based upon, unless it be the local reaction in San Francisco, and this we do not believe to be a "causis belli" and we do not believe that they believe it; and in default of better grounds than these, we must accept the hypothesis of racial bigotry and folly, the like of which has never been noted yet in history.

There will be war if the Japanese government fails to put a muzzle on the tongues of some of her naval officers who are charged with such sentiments and expressions as that credited, in yesterday's despatches, to Admiral Sakamoto, who is reported to have said that our men "would desert the fleets" and that our officers were without professional perspicuity in the handling of those fleets. Such further comment as he made upon the patriotism of the Americans is of a piece with the text of his recorded judgment, and a little of that sort of thing goes a long way on this side of the Pacific. America has had nothing but clever and generous things to say of the Japs for years past, and the knowledge of such estimates as this held and uttered over there, is poor return for the specific friendliness she has experienced at our hands.

If Japan must have war, she is likely to get it, not only from us, but from a few other sources that she cannot hope to avoid once the engagement is declared, and we doubt if she can stand the pressure that will be brought to bear upon her if she carries her bumptious penchant to its foolish conclusion. She must be drunk with the access of her glory to pursue the path and pace she is going, and she cannot possess the wisdom we have always accorded her, if she adheres to her present program. We like her spunk, but we'll have to lick her all the same!

Presbyterian.

Morning worship, 11 o'clock; communion; "The Name"; Sunday school, 12:15; Y. P. S. C. E., 7:00; evening worship, 8:00, "Four Gifts of God." All are invited. Wm. S. Gilbert, pastor.

Morning Astorian, 60 cents per month, delivered by carrier.

A GREAT CIVIC MERGER.

When the destiny of a section, such as that in which the City of Astoria is the dominant factor, is under consideration by the people inhabiting it, there are many things that rise in the minds of men to swell and enrich the possibilities that are inherent in the developing program, and among the bright and better elements of progress attributable to this city and section, has occurred the happy and feasible prospect, and prospectus, of the civic merger of the peninsula townships of Astoria, Warrenton, Hammond and Flavel, the whole to be included in one splendid and composite municipality bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean on the east by the township line between townships 8 and 9 west, on the south by the township line between townships 7 and 8 north, and on the north by the lordly Columbia itself; giving to the world a corporate site 60 square miles in scope, for the building of a magnificent Pacific metropolis, a second New York, and the finest location and latitude for the establishment of an incomparable marine depot that shall serve Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho, and all their tributary territory as well as the farther, foreign realms of commerce, for all time to come.

In making this suggestion we are mindful of the crudeness of the idea and its startling effect on the minds of those who have given the matter thought, and expect to meet a volume of dubious debate as time and study shall uncover the arguments, for, and against, the plan. It is a large matter and many people and huge and valuable interests are interwoven with it, all of which must be studied inclusively and conclusively, until there shall have evolved a concrete and wholesome sentiment in favor or disfavor, of it.

It has some extraordinary phases that tend to its acceptance, and there will be much that is logical to urge against it; but it is big enough and promising enough, to warrant the best thought of every citizen involved, and it is broached here, and now, for the sole purpose of inviting the aptest and fullest expression of that thought, from all interested sources.

The leading idea is, perhaps, the value of creating a concrete, interdependent, wealthy and commanding municipal district, that shall operate on large and comprehensive lines for the development of the territory intimately engaged, as well as for the county and the state; the establishment of a civic force that has an influence and prestige that shall make for the accomplishment of those things that might be unattainable by the lesser community acting alone and unaided. It is rich in possibilities, and the impossibilities may take care of themselves.

The plan has the sanction of a number of deeply interested citizens already and by the time it shall be ready for submission to the popular vote, that vote may be so popularly affirmative as to cause regret that it was not done years ago. At all events general discussion cannot do any harm and it is a question quite interesting enough to invite the widest range of treatment.

FAVORS OF REVISION.

Son Of General U. S. Grant May Be Candidate For President.

CHICAGO, July 8.—A dispatch to the Tribune from St. Louis, says:—Jesse B. Grant of New York, a son of General U. S. Grant, and H. H. Childers, formerly in charge of the department of speakers of the Democratic national committee, arrived here last night from New York and are making headquarters at the Southern Hotel.

Mr. Grant has been mentioned as a possible candidate for the presidency on the Democratic ticket.

In speaking of his coming tour which begins here, he said: "You can hardly call me a candidate for the presidency yet, and it remains to be seen whether or not I ever shall be. My decision as to entering the race depends on the results of my trip. At present I would not care to enter into any political discussion, but I, like most people today, believe there should be some revision of the tariff and regulation of the trusts."

FASTER FRIENDSHIP.

LONDON, July 8.—King Carlos has received a Brazilian deputy, Senor Serzedello Correa to whom he declared that his visit to America will be limited to Brazil. He will not go to Argentina. The object of his visit is exclusively to foster the friendship of the two Portuguese speaking countries.

The Charming Woman is not necessarily one of perfect form and features. Many a plain woman who could never serve as an artist's model, possesses those rare qualities that all the world admires: neatness, clear eyes, clear smooth skin and that sprightliness of step and action that accompany good health. A physically weak woman is never attractive, not even to herself. Electric Bitters restore weak women, give strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, beautiful complexion. Guaranteed at Charles Rogers, druggist, 50c.

MONEY FOR BABIES

Standard Oil Company Asked For to Give Witness Fees

AMOUNT TO OVER \$1200.00

Salvation Army Asks That This Sum Be Turned Over to Them to Give 400 Chicago Babies of the Tenements An Outing.

CHICAGO, July 8.—The Standard Oil Company, which is facing a fine in the United States court of a possible \$29,000,000, was asked yesterday by Chicago Salvation Army ladies to give them the old \$1200 in mileage and witness fees earned by John D. Rockefeller and others, so that 400 more babies of the hot tenement districts may breath fresh country air for a week.

The company's magnates forgot all about this small matter of \$1200 and left it in the hands of the government. John S. Miller, their attorney told District Attorney Sims that he thought his witnesses did not care about the \$150 a day they earned and the \$100 apiece in mileage and would not even claim it.

Rockefeller returned to Cleveland Saturday and left his \$100 in the hands of Marshal Hoy, enough money to send 40 babies to the country—perhaps save their lives in this hot weather. There were 14 witnesses in all who came before the court. Each is entitled by law to a fee of \$1.50 and 5 cents a mile for every mile traveled going and coming. Roughly, this amounts to a total of \$1200. It was this fund that the ladies of the Salvation Army determined should not lie idle.

After a hurried consultation among the officers of the organization last night, they despatched a personal message to Mr. Rockefeller and asked him to direct his attorney to turn the money over to them. They pledged themselves to give an accounting and devote the money to the use of the poor.

WILL SAIL FOR CHINA.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 8.—Sir Chang Tung Liang Cheng, former Chinese minister to the United States, but recently promoted to the vice presidency of the Chinese board of foreign affairs, arrived in Oakland on a delayed overland train at 2:30 o'clock this morning. After a banquet at the Chinese consulate this morning, he will be taken with his suite to the Naer Korea which sails for the Orient Tuesday.

British ships and they and all others sailing between the Congo river and Antwerp must coal at British ports. If Great Britain refused them coal, King Leopold would be helpless. President Roosevelt, Rev. Mr. Campbell continued, had signified that he would support Great Britain in any concerted effort to end the horrors and if England and America acted together no power could gainay them.

The Rev. Campbell's declarations were frequently interrupted by cheers.

Man Zan Pile Remedy comes put up in a collapsible tube with a nozzle. Easy to apply right where the soreness and inflammation exists. It relieves at once blind bleeding, itching or protruding piles. Guaranteed. Sold by Frank Hart's Drug Store.

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N. S. Williams, carpenter, of 230 Liberty street, Salem, Ore., says: "A number of years ago the doctors told me my kidneys were in bad shape. I came west on account of the trouble, thinking the change of climate would help me but nothing I did gave me relief in spite of the use of remedies and medical treatment. On procuring Doan's Kidney Pills I found them the best medicine I ever used. At the time I got them I was suffering from an intense burning sensation as if two live coals were placed directly over my kidneys. The secretions from the kidneys were the color of strong black coffee and of a bad color. After using two boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills I did not have the least pain in my back or trouble with the kidneys. I give all the credit for this to your valuable remedy."

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