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A. V. ALLEN.
 PHONES MAIN 711, MAIN 3871
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POOR TELEPHONE SERVICE.
 Pacific States Telephone Co. Do Nothing to Improve Poor Service.

About a year and one-half ago a franchise was granted by the city council to the Home Telephone Company for the construction and operation of a new telephone system, but nothing has yet been done by that company in the way of constructing the system.

When the franchise was granted the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph Company was profuse in its promises of an overhauling and rejuvenating of their plant. A lot was purchased for the site of a modern station and plans for the building prepared. A new switchboard was reported as being prepared at San Francisco for installation and a fine up-to-date system was to be constructed. Not a thing has been done toward improving the plant and today Astoria is afflicted with an absolute telephone system that would be a disgrace to a village of 500 inhabitants. The old system of ringing up "central" such as we have has been discarded for years by towns not one-half the size or importance of Astoria.

Those in charge of the station here are using their best endeavors to give good service but handicapped as they are by the poor system placed in their hands they cannot make much headway.

Cannot something be done towards Astoria getting a better telephone system? Has the lack of work of installing on the part of the Home Company any connection with the failure of the Pacific States people to keep their promises to Astoria?

If the Pacific States Company cannot equip their lines and station with modern instruments and give Astoria the service to which she is entitled to some steps should be taken to compel them to. If the company will not do better than it is now doing it should withdraw from the field and let some other company handle the matter. A company composed of local business men or capitalists handling a modern telephone system may be the only solution of the difficulty.

It is up to the Pacific States people to put a little ginger in the rebuilding of their poor excuse for a telephone system here and give us the system that it necessary.

NEW INSPECTION SYSTEM.
 WASHINGTON, July 16.—Secretary Cortlyou has announced that a new method of baggage examination will be put in operation to greet the homecoming European traveler this season.

Under the new system customs officers at the harbor will receive from the steamship officers after the declarations of the passengers and deliver them to the chief representative of the surveyor on the dock. A coupon which will be the passenger's receipt and which will contain the same official number as the declaration itself, will be tendered and the passenger will present this to the proper representative of the surveyor, secure the service of an inspector which will examine his baggage and verify the declaration previous made by him on board ship. No oath of any kind or character will be required.

GYPSIES UNABLE TO MOVE.
 GENEVA, July 16.—A party of 22 Gypsies, men, women and children are stranded at the top of Great St. Bernard Pass owing to curious circumstances. On being expelled from Italy, they ascended the Pass, intending to go to Switzerland, but when they had reached the top they were refused admission to Switzerland territory unless gendarmes. Unable to return to Italy as Italian gendarmes followed. They are now camped at an elevation of 8100, unable to advance or retreat. They may freeze to death unless either Italy or Switzerland relents. The monks of St. Bernard rea feeding them and lending them warm clothing, but they cannot be sheltered in the hospital because it is in Swiss territory.

EUGENE TO HAVE CARS.
 EUGENE, Or., July 16.—Actual construction work on the street railway line, for which the Willamette Valley Company had the franchise it recently sold to A. Welch, vice-president of the company, was begun yesterday, and that portion of the system which leads from the Southern Pacific depot to the University of Oregon will be completed and in operation this fall, the builders announce. The franchise calls for the completion of a line from Eugene to Springfield, but as there has been no move toward building a bridge across the Willamette River, it is thought that the line will not be started at all this year or else the Southern Pacific Company's bridge, recently completed at Springfield, will be used by the electric cars. The work of paving Willamette street will begin just as soon as the work of laying the streetcar tracks advances a block or two.

SEVERE EXPLOSION.
 Entire Front of Store is Blown Out in An Italian District.

NEW YORK, July 16.—Little Italy, in East Harlem, was the scene of a terrific explosion early this morning. The entire front of the grocery store of Marco La Tadino who had recently received attention from the Black Hand Society in the form of threatening letters, was blown clear across the street and hundreds of windows in the neighboring houses were shattered so strong was the force of the explosion. The district had been celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Carmel, and a crowd of

MILITIAMEN HAVE GONE HOME

BREAKING OF CAMP AT FORTS STEVENS AND COLUMBIA, AND AT SEASIDE—REGULARS WILL CONTINUE PRACTICE.

The annual encampment of the regulars and Oregon National Guard closed at Forts Stevens and Columbia on Monday and at Seaside yesterday.

Sunday at Fort Stevens was devoted to interesting lectures delivered by the regular officers of the post and were much appreciated by the visiting officers. Late in the afternoon the men were paid and on Monday afternoon at an early hour camp was broken. At Fort Columbia camp was broken at 4:30 a. m. and soon the boys of Companies B of Portland and M of Salem soon appeared on the streets of Astoria.

They remained here until the arrival of the special military train from Fort Stevens carrying the companies of the militia who had encamped there. The Guardsmen who were in camp at Fort Columbia met their fellow militiamen from Fort Stevens and traveled with them to Portland.

Lieutenant-Colonel Poorman, Captain Knapp, Capt Brosius, Lieutenants Leabo and Rabb and other officers witnessed the arrival of the Vice-Presidential party.

Captain Charles Murphy of M Company of Salem spoke highly of the treatment of the militiamen by the officers of Fort Columbia. "You can quote me as saying," he said, "that of all the kind treatment we received, none has equalled that of the officers at Fort Columbia. They are the best of all and nothing they could do to add to the pleasure of our trip was left undone. We wish that we could stay with them for a month."

First Lieutenant R. W. Holman of the same company also expressed himself in the same terms. The officers and men from Fort Stevens were profuse in their acknowledgment of the kindness they were recipients of at the hands of the regular officers at that post. "They are a fine lot down there. Men posted in their business and gentlemen in every respect" was the unanimous expression.

At Seaside camp was struck yesterday afternoon and the men passed through Astoria last night en route home. The successful termination of the encampment was a cause for congratulation to the officers at Forts Stevens and Columbia. It was due to their untiring efforts and thorough application to the details that success was so marked. Not an accident occurred to mar the successful outcome nor was there a hitch in any of the proceedings. Everything was made to feel at home and regrets were heard on all side among the officers and men of the O. N. G. at the final leavetaking that the period of maneuvers was not longer. The regulars will continue their drills and practice for some time.

COREA SUSPICIOUS.
 Considers the Return of the Two Pretenders as Ominous.

SEOUL, July 16.—It is reported that Prince Yi Chung Ong, a pretender to the throne and for several years an exile in Japan has reached Fusan and has the imperial mission to return to Seoul. His coming, followed on the return of Prince Yakon III is construed by Koreans as significant of all sorts of probabilities. The Emperor's subjects yet fear he will be dethroned. Hence the return to Corea of the two pretenders to the throne is regarded as indicative either of such a step or a scheme to precipitate a conflict between the forces of Corea which might give the Japanese an excuse to use force.

MAY CLOSE SALOONS.

ABERDEEN, Wash., July 16.—Present indications are that the Sunday closing crusade, started by City Attorney Campbell, of Hoquiam, will soon result in closing the towns throughout the county. There is a great stir here over the question now. Slot machines are once more under the ban and have been turned to the wall.

NEGRO ENDEAVORER HURT.

SEATTLE, July 16.—Disagreeable circumstances connected with the present assemblage of Christian Endeavorers may prompt the negro Christian Endeavorers of Seattle to seek revenge. The African Christian Endeavorers declare that it was impossible for their fellows to attend the C. E. convention on an equal footing with the white delegates and they are trying to arrange to obtain the use of one of the huge tents for the purpose of holding a series of national evangelistic meetings for the exclusive use of the Africans of America.

White persons will be permitted to attend the meetings, but will not be allowed to take part in the programme. They will not be allowed to attend the meetings as Christian Endeavor delegates, but must do so as individuals. It is probable that an attempt will be made to get Booker T. Washington to come to Seattle to attend the meetings.

Some of the other noted negro speakers of America will be called upon to deliver addresses at the evangelistic services.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mrs. James Welch was called to Portland yesterday morning to be with her sister, Miss Clara Rees, who is ill with typhoid fever.

Ex-Mayor Bergman and family left for Beaver Lodge ranch yesterday. They will be absent for about six weeks.

The Hon. C. A. Schibler, the well known attorney and politician of Marshfield, Coos County was in town yesterday.

Judge J. Q. A. Bowley returned to the city yesterday from a visit to San Francisco.

D. M. Stuart returned from the East yesterday to bury his father who died at Pipestone recently.

J. H. Cook of Portland was a visitor in the city yesterday.

Edward Hawkins and his wife of Indianapolis arrived on the noon train yesterday.

George C. Nichols of Portland is registered at the Occident.

Gray C. Rogers arrived in the city yesterday from Portland.

H. M. Maling of Portland is in the city on business.

George L. Davis is a business man in town from the metropolis.

Lester McLeod sustained a sprained ankle at Seaside Monday evening. He mistook a piece of bark for a stone which gave way with him on stepping upon it wrenching his ankle severely. Should you notice that Mr. McLeod has a flat wheel you will know how it came about.

Stimulation Without Irritation. That is the watchword. That is what Cleanses and stimulates the bowels without irritation in any form. Orino Laxative Fruit Syrup does. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS.

Delegates Tarry to See the Beauties of Portland—Take Trip up River.

PORTLAND, July 16.—The Christian Endeavorers took possession of the city this afternoon. They came in all day from Seattle where they closed the big convention last night. About 250 delegates have been seeing Portland and taking in the river scenery. The delegation from Washington D. C., 130 strong arrived in three special cars as also 40 delegates from Ohio.

A boat was phoned for and the crowd went up the river and did not return until this afternoon in time to catch the O. R. & N. train. Others rode in the "Rubber-neck" wagons viewing the beauties of Portland.

A committee of the state and city Endeavorers met the incoming delegates at the train and showered them with advertising literature and postal cards for their friends telling them of the advantages of Oregon. Large preparations are made to entertain the delegates as they come through Portland.

DRUGGED GIRL ON TRACK.
 FREEWATER, Or., July 16.—Unconscious and under influence of drugs a girl who gave her name as Annie Herman of Walla Walla, was found lying across the Interurban track. She may have been drugged or had tried to commit suicide. She showed evidence of being in water. She would give no information on regaining consciousness.

REASON FOR RESIGNATION.
 PARIS, July 16.—The Patrie says the real reason for the recent resignation from the army of Major Alfred Dreyfus was because General Picquart, the minister of War, refused to give him the rank of lieutenant colonel. General Picquart thought it would be impolitic to reopen the affair by making this promotion.

Your Liver
 is out of order. You go to bed in bad humor and get up with a bad taste in your mouth. You want something to stimulate your liver. Just try *Herbine* the liver regulator. A positive cure for Constipation, Dyspepsia and all liver complaints. Mrs. F., Ft. Worth, Texas writes: "Have used *Herbine* in my family for years. Words can't express what I think about it. Everybody in my house hold is happy and well, and we owe it to *Herbine*." Sold by Hart's Drug Store.

CASTORIA
 For Infants and Children.
 The Kind You Have Always Bought
 Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

These are Days
 When most people want **SOUVENIRS OF THE RIGHT KIND**
 Just call at this store and look over the immense stock now on display : : :
 If it's a fancy card or a photographic picture, Album of the city or something handsome in Burnt Lethaer, it's here for you.

SVENSON'S BOOK STORE,
 14th and Commercial Sts., Near Foard & Stokes. Astoria, Oregon

BACKACHE AND DESPONDENCY
 Are both symptoms of organic derangement, and nature's warning to women of a trouble which will sooner or later declare itself.
 How often do we hear women say, "It seems as though my back would break." Yet they continue to drag along and suffer with aches in the small of the back, pain low down in the side, dragging sensations, nervousness and no ambition.
 They do not realize that the back is the main-spring of woman's organization and quickly indicates by aching a diseased condition of the feminine organs or kidneys, and that aches and pains will continue until the cause is removed.

MISS LENA NAGEL
 Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made from native roots and herbs has been for many years the most successful remedy in such cases. No other medicine has such a record of cures of feminine ills.
 Miss Lena Nagel, of 117 Morgan St., Buffalo, N. Y., writes:—"I was completely worn out and on the verge of nervous prostration. My back ached all the time. I had dreadful periods of pain, was subject to fits of crying and extreme nervousness, and was always weak and tired. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound completely cured me."
 Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cures Female Complaints, such as Backache, Falling and Displacements, and all Organic Diseases. Dissolves and expels Tumors at an early stage. It strengthens and tones the Stomach. Cures Headache and Indigestion and invigorates the whole feminine system.

Mrs. Pinkham's Standing Invitation to Women
 Women suffering from any form of female weakness are invited to write Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Her advice is free.

WATCHES
SOUVENIRS
FRANK J. DONNERBERG
 THE RELIABLE JEWELER
 110 Eleventh St.

BANKING BY MAIL
 YOU MAY KEEP AN ACCOUNT WITH US IN PORTLAND, OREGON AND YOUR NEIGHBOR KNOWS NOTHING OF IT

4% INTEREST
 WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET ON BANKING BY MAIL
 Uncle Sam's Post Office Makes Our Banking by Mail System a Success

SAVINGS BANK OF THE
Title Guarantee & Trust Company
 240-244 Washington St., Cor. Second, Portland, Ore

WASCO
 WAREHOUSE MILLING COMPANY
White River Flour
 THE DALLES, ORE.
 FANCY BLUE STEM PATENT

Is made of hard wheat, milled by best patent process. More loaves to the sack—and more nutrition. It never fails.
 Makes Lighter, Whiter Bread
 There isn't any other "just as good"

FREE TWO-POUND SACK TO EVERY HOUSEWIFE—for thirty days only. If you haven't received yours ask us or your Grocer for details. DO IT TODAY.
 ALLEN & LEWIS, Wholesale Grocers, PORTLAND, OREGON, U. S. A.