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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.
 Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

be glad to meet their old friends, and new ones too, at their new location.

- Western Oregon—Showers and cooler except near the coast;
- southwest to west winds.
- Western Washington—Showers; westerly winds.
- Eastern Oregon, Washington, Idaho—Showers; thunderstorms; cooler.

WARRENTON AND ASTORIA.

The municipal annexation of the town of Warrenton to the city of Astoria is a very large and important question and involves a host of interests and people, and is likely to engage the deepest interest and scrutiny of public and private citizens to the very moment of its conclusion or abandonment. The Astorian first brooded the matter some weeks ago, and is glad to see it taken up formally by the Astoria Chamber of Commerce, since that is one of the first essential sources of interested discussion to give impetus to so serious and valuable a proposition.

It will scarcely be denied that the present and future interests of the two communities are identical and practically inseparable; and this being so, there is broad predicate at hand for general and wide elaboration of the arguments for and against the proposal. It is always well to have a logical basis for the handling of communal question since the narrow elements are at once disparaged and the issues may go to the public upon the best and broadest hypothesis.

The whole matter will eventually resolve itself to an elective adjustment, and we believe, will be settled in the affirmative because of the distinct advantages inherent in the movement for both city and town, especially in view of the huge transportation interests headed this way and which will have potent bearing on the decision and the subsequent alignment of business in both places. Neither community can afford to go "into the air" on the subject; it is entirely worthy their best and most deliberate inquiry and certainly entitled to the most conservative handling. There must be no silly sacrifices to individual interests but the issue must be viewed from the widest and wholesomest standpoint of bi-communal advantage, and every element of advantage and loss carefully weighed and balanced, and the dictum given to the tune of the "greatest good to the greatest number." This is the rule for deciding popular questions and it is the very marrow of public justice, since it serves the majority; and what benefits the majority rarely ever, hampers the minority.

We shall be glad to see the questions openly and largely discussed and offer the columns of the Astorian for this purpose.

To our thinking, the plan will be of immense value to both towns, as it will unify and strengthen the commerce, the business, the morale and the prospects of both and give impetus to interests and investments now practically dormant; it will enhance the influx of new people by widening the scope of communal limits to the dignity of metropolitan dimensions and add color and cordiality to the invitations sent out for immigration; it will tend to the establishment of bigger things for each, draw newer blood and more of it to each place and contribute to the scope and permanence of the businesses certain to find their way to a large community instead of the smaller one.

The whole matter is fascinating and engaging and is sure to be universally and rigidly investigated.

THE LID ON GAMBLING.

The order just promulgated by District Attorney Helges closing out the gambling places in Astoria on the 13th of the present month, causes no real surprise among the people most nearly affected, nor in other circles, notably among the police people for it has been looked for with a degree of certainty for some time past. The issue is no

sense a local one; it is, and has been, for some time, a state matter the popular sentiment in Oregon having been growing rapidly on the negative side of the proposition for a year or more.

It is a good thing for this and all other communities involved. Gambling is no advantage to a settled and civilized place and has no status anywhere; it is always among the debatable things of city life and is not sanctioned save under the submergence of the better spirit of communal life. It adds no quality of safety or comfort or stamina to any town but rather helps to minimize the good name of any locality that tolerates it.

Astoria is quoted over the state as a "wide open" town, and it has been a detriment to her in a thousand ways. That she is now on a level with every other community in her district should serve to bury the onus contributed by that ugly pre-eminence, and put her in line for healthful consideration of all honest men; and the further she goes in the general matter of regulation of all sorts, the sooner she will come to her own and realize all that is due her.

Of course "Uncle George" is making a morality campaign for the federal senate, and his political agents are necessarily compelled to fall in line with his policies; and as the Republicans closed this city, and the Democrats promptly opened it when they achieved power here, it is quit within the equities that they should close it again in the interests of their chief. However, it is a good thing for Astoria in other than political ways.

THE SCHOOL BOARD

Holds an Interesting Meeting Last Night.

BILLS PAID AND REFERRED

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Bills referred to the various committees were as follows: A. S. Tee \$15; Astoria Theater, \$50; S. Elmore, \$67.50; Geo. W. Sanborn, \$80; W. A. Sherman, \$52; Higgins & Warren, \$133; F. A. Higgins Co., \$17.83; J. E. Wicks, \$300.

The first payment on contract of Charles Verscheuer for painting on McClure school amounting to \$300 was recommended by the committee on building and repairs and was allowed. It was estimated that about \$800 worth of work has already been done.

Wilson Bros. having a contract on construction of Taylor school presented a certificate from the architect estimating the amount of work performed at \$1517 and allowing as a first payment \$1213. The committee on building and repairs recommended the payment and it was allowed.

This committee also made a report on the contract of L. Lebeck that the work was not completed yet but that as the whole amount due on the completion would be \$729 in all that \$600 would be a fair payment to allow. The amount was allowed and he was directed to finish the grading by October 1st or the Board would complete it at his expense.

It was decided that the bills referred to committees last night would be paid on approval by the committees and when reported to the clerk obviating the necessity of awaiting the next meeting.

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A communication was received from Miss Lena Liem in which she stated that on account of failing health of her sister she would not return to teach and tendered her resignation. The resignation was accepted with regret.

The clerk stated that new library books were about to arrive and asked that additional shelves be placed in his office for same. Mr. Welch facetiously suggested that he rustle a few boards and put them up.

Some discussion was indulged in regarding teachers for the coming term especially regarding a teacher for the high school and the matter was laid over until next meeting.

Chairman Holmes presented a letter he had received from Samuel Elmore in which the latter objected to the condition in which pupils are turned out of the local schools. As an employer of clerical labor he found it very difficult, he said, to find a student of the local schools that was even fair with the use of a pen. He asked if it was not possible to turn out pupils who would not be handicapped in their battles through life with ignorance of those things most needed in education. The communication was placed on file.

A requisition for office stationery was made by Superintendent Clark and on being referred to the committee on supplies was approved by this committee and same granted.

The Board then adjourned.

WHAT AN OLD TIMER REMEMBERS

BY WAY OF OREGONIAN EDITORIALS ON THE WHEAT SHIPMENTS A SCORE OF YEARS AGO.

Astoria, August, 5, 1907.

Editor Astorian:

"As an old timer and close observer, for to these many years, of the railroad and transportation system of the north-west-I was amused today in reading the editorial in the 'Oregonian' on the extension of the Union Pac. R. R. to Puget Sound, in which the 'Oregonian' to hide its confusion and chagrin (at some pertinent remarks in a Tacoma paper on the R. R. situation) takes the high and mighty position that Oregon does not care whether Harriman builds to the Sound, or whether he does not, and proceeds to elaborate its grievance against Harriman, in that he does not build railroads in Oregon where they are very much needed-all of which makes fine reading-and is also good ground for a grievance and is true; but the old timer remembers the many, and very able editorials in the Oregonian in the early 80's in which it proved to its satisfaction and no doubt to the satisfaction of its Portland readers that the Nor. Pac. R. R. could not haul grain over the Cascade mountains to Tacoma or Seattle in competition with the 'water level grade' down the gorge of the Columbia River, nevertheless the Nor. Pac. R. R. did haul grain over the Cascade mountains so that the 'old timer' is not satisfied and is inclined to think that the Oregonian and its readers are worried over the extension of the Harriman lines to Puget Sound.

Notwithstanding the Oregonian's opinion—and whether Uget Sound is, nor has been for sometime shipping more grain and its products than has Portland-Puget Sound, has also a number of independent oriental lines of steamers, where Portland has only one, and that merely an O. R. & N. chartered line, which would collapse at once, only for the support and encouragement of the O. R. & N. Co.

As a disinterested observer (but a loyal Oregonian) I cannot understand why the intelligent men of Portland do not move their shipping headquarters to the mouth of the Columbia River, and be in a position to compete on advantageous terms, with their rivals on Puget Sound and save some of the shipping business before it is too late, of Oregon for Oregon shippers.

The 'Oregonian' newspaper has great influence in its home town and deservedly so, as it has fought for the interests of Portland in season and out of season-but newspaper editorials, however able they may be, do not always solve transportation problems-while they may lull their readers into a false security in the end, if lacking in common sense and an honest and earnest adherence to facts will eventually land their admirers, and their business in the ditch of lost opportunities.

"OLD TIMER."

ARMENIANS DENOUNCE CRIME.

FRESNO, Cal., Aug. 6.—At a mass meeting of 500 Armenians here resolutions were adopted to be forwarded to District Attorney Jerome of New York, deploring the assassination of H. S. Tavshanjian, a millionaire rug merchant who was assassinated by members of the Armenian revolutionary party. Members of the later party joined in denouncing the crime as cowardly and likely to injure the Armenian cause.

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

Wit and Humor

JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS.



THE Democratic leader of the house is one of the best story tellers at the national capital. He also has a rich vein of humor, but is rather sparing of its use in his speeches. One of the most famous examples of his irony was a satirical tribute to Admiral Crowninshield during the Sampson-Schley inquiry. This delicious take-off was done in verse—Williams occasionally drops into poetry—and wound up by declaring that—

Great Crowninshield's the bravest tar That always stayed ashore.

At the time Mr. Williams was mentioned as a presidential candidate he had considerable dry fun with the reporters over the matter. To one newspaper man he said: "My boom is making tremendous strides. My private secretary is unreservedly for me, and I have hopes of securing the support of Charley Edwards, the clerk of the minority room."

To a somewhat young and callow reporter John Sharp, with exceeding gravity, said he had quite some hopes of getting the nomination. Reports from Mississippi were especially encouraging.

"Toomsaba, Ofanoma, Noxopater, Nanachebaw, Toecopola, Tabville and Grubbs Springs, I am told," he said, "are already for me, while I have every reason to believe that I shall have the undivided support of such places as Nittayama, Wahalak, Bolatusha, Hushpukena, Ittabena, Pelabatchie, Mittayama, Skutch, Cingupin, Pawtickfaw, Oetoc, Leggo, Yellow Rabbit, Chunkey Station, Hambone, Deovolente and Whynot."

Upon being asked to spell the names he did so with great gravity.

On a later occasion, when the newspaper men asked him concerning his candidacy, he said that Mrs. Williams had objected that with her sick headaches she never could stand the White House, so he would have to give up the presidency.

John Sharp once ran afoul of Tom Reed. This is the way he tells the story himself:

"I met Mr. Reed coming out of the cloakroom, and he said to me in that peculiar drawl of his, 'Williams, what-over makes you such a bitter partisan?'"

"Well, Mr. Speaker, that's pretty good coming from you, isn't it? I replied.

"Never mind me," he replied. "But why are you such a bitter partisan?"

"Well, I'll tell you," I said. "You know I never saw a Republican until I was thirty-eight years old, and I can't get used to them somehow."

"He looked at me reproachfully and walked away without another word."

At a Washington banquet Mr. Williams once proposed this toast:

"Here's to President Roosevelt, whom the world has grossly overestimated as an author and whom the Democratic party grossly underestimated as a politician."

It was Williams who fastened the designation of "kid" congressmen to new members. Mr. Wharton, a boyish looking recruit from Chicago, interrupted and wanted to know what he meant by "kid" congressmen.

"Mr. Speaker," said Mr. Williams, with a wave of his hand toward the member from Chicago, "with that degree of reverence which the personal appearance of my interrogator excites in my mind I should say that he is perhaps the last person in the house who ought to ask the question," whereat Mr. Wharton subsided.

The minority leader once had a Democratic caucus called, and the reporters were wild to find out the reason. Williams was very short with them at first, but finally thawed out and said:

"Boys, I have decided to confide in you. I called that caucus for the purpose of advocating a return to government by consuls, under which system the Roman republic prospered for a thousand years."

Nobody bothered him after that.

John Sharp was once denouncing the committee on rules, popularly known as the house machine.

"The gentleman himself is a member of the committee on rules," put in a member.

"Yes," drawled Williams, "nominally."

The house recognized the thrust with a roar, but the other man persisted.

"You attend the meetings of that committee," he said.

"I am invited to the seances," returned Williams, "but I am never consulted about the spiritualistic appearances."

When Williams first ran for congress his opponent was a famous coon hunter and gained much support by the fact. Williams had never hunted coons, but saw that something had to be done. Buying a bunch of roman candles, he went out with the boys, fired the candles among the branches till he scared the coons out of the trees, made a record hunt and won the election.

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when your child has a severe cold. You need not fear pneumonia or other pulmonary diseases. Keep supplied with Ballard's Horehound Syrup—a positive cure for Colds, Coughs, Whooping Cough and Bronchitis.

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FINANCIAL

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 O. I. PETERSON, Vice-President. J. W. GARNER, Assistant Cashier.

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