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TELEPHONE MAIN 68.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

- Western Oregon and Washington—Showers followed by fair; warmer except near coast.
Eastern Oregon—Generally fair; cooler.
Eastern Washington and Idaho—Generally fair.

THE OTHER ESSENTIAL.

For years the city of Astoria has been in conspicuous need of two essential utilities, a fine modern hotel and an electric line over and around the hills that constitute the backbone of the peninsula upon which she is builded.

The other essential thing, the railway over the crest and around the base of the hill line, is still among the crying wants of the city and must as certainly materialize in the future.

The line need not stop at municipal limits, and would not, in the general nature of things, but its faculty for development would make the southern slope of the Astoria hills blossom into a veritable garden of home spots.

Warrenton would be drawn into almost instant touch with Astoria and the venture would redound to the enrichment of both places and start a hundred auxiliary enterprises that would ultimately pay the cost of the original venture.

JAPANESE SECRET SERVICE.

The frequent detection of Japanese spies within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States has become so common as to confirm the conviction in the public mind that the secret service of that country is vast and comprehensive and peculiarly directed toward the institutions of America and the elemental nature of their conduct and maintenance, especially the army and navy and the war establishment generally.

dence of the army and navy officers, as quiet, efficient and trustworthy employes and this partiality has been made the most of by the shrewd "little brown man." He has imposed on the situation immensely since the termination of the Russo-Japanese war, and has, for all we know, gathered some invaluable secret statistic and passed them up to his government at home and been duly rewarded for his work.

It is said that some of the aristocracy of Japan, notably among that nation's naval attaches, have been discovered in very delicate and inexplicable situations in this connection and have been ordered out of this country in disgrace, but the circumstances have not been made public because of the operation of diplomatic codes and agreements, also classed among the national secrets.

The Japanese is intensely loyal to the Mikado and will go through every conceivable peril to attain what his monarch desires to know, all of which is commendable enough, from the standpoint of fidelity to one's country, but entirely unacceptable to the country under exploitation.

Every nation maintains a secret service corps, and it is an admitted feature of governmental work, but none of them do the raw stunts the Japanese have done, nor in the clumsy fashion they seem to be partial to.

MOTHER FINDS SON.

Identifies Him on Slab in Pittsburg Morgue.

PITTSBURG, August 14.—Two weeks ago John V. Miles, aged 31, of Bellevue lost his job in a glass works there and came to Pittsburg to obtain work.

Yesterday the young man's mother, Mrs. Mary Miles, 70 years old, came to Pittsburg from Bellevue on a brief shopping trip.

"It's strange, I haven't heard from my boy since he came here," remarked the old lady; "I thought of looking him up." A friend took her to see Pittsburg's sights and they visited the morgue.

Gently the mother was led into the chapel. There among the unidentified dead she found her son. She was prostrated. "It can't be!" she said.

Two weeks ago the glass plant at Bellevue shut down. The following day Miles left home, saying he was going to look for work, and adding he would not return until Monday. Wednesday night Miles, accompanied by a man supposed from the papers on his person to be Charles Palmer, were run down and killed by a Pittsburg, Virginia & Charleston railroad train near Green Springs.

The bodies of both men were taken to the morgue to await identification. No one could identify Palmer's companion and the body was being prepared for burial when Mrs. Miles arrived yesterday. Mrs. Miles said her husband had been ill for about a year and unable to work and their son was their only support.

Since his father's illness Mrs. Miles said her son had postponed his marriage, declaring he would never marry so long as they were dependent on him for support, although he had been engaged to a young woman for more than a year. The body of the young man was sent to his home by the railroad company.

The Limit of Life.

The most eminent medical scientists are unanimous in the conclusion that the generally accepted limitation of human life is many years below the attainment possible with the advanced knowledge of which the race is now possessed. The critical period, that determines its duration, seems to be between 50 and 60; the proper care of the body during this decade cannot be too strongly urged; carelessness then being fatal to longevity.

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CHEAPER INSURANCE

New Law in Massachusetts Will Aid Laboring Classes.

COLLECTOR DONE AWAY WITH

How Industrial Life Insurance Policies May Be Written By Bay State Institutions Of Savings After Next November—A Massachusetts Law.

BOSTON, August, 13.—With the design of benefiting wage-earners, Gov. Guild of Massachusetts has affixed his signature to an act which is believed by many of his advocates to be the most important single measure passed by any American legislature in the session of 1907. There is, of course, the Public Utilities Bill in New York; but this, after all, was simply the application in the Empire State of principles of public control that have before now been recognized in other American commonwealths.

On and after November 1, 1907, if advantage is taken of privileges now granted by Massachusetts, the Bay State wage-earner who wants protection for his family through one of the policies of the type known as "industrial"—that is whose premiums are payable at frequent intervals—will be able to exercise a choice. Henceforth there will be competition between two different life insurance systems. The working man may, on the one hand, yield to urgings to take out a policy with one of the insurance companies which do an industrial business and which will keep a collector perpetually on his heels to gather the premiums as they fall due.

One of the greatest advantages claimed for the new system of savings insurance is, of course, its greater cheapness. The expense of teasing people into insuring their lives and of collecting their premiums from house to house causes this form of protection to the wage-earner to cost from two to eight times as much as his wealthier neighbor has to pay for ordinary life insurance.

These folk think that Massachusetts is a particularly good state in which to test their ideas. The savings bank, which is naturally adapted to handling life insurance—since insurance is only a specialized form of savings—has such public confidence that it is, they hold, the ideal institution from which to offer policies "over the counter." The first savings bank in the United States was opened in the city of Boston ninety years ago. Massachusetts has long had the best saving communities, proportionately to population, of any American state.

Part of the original scheme of the savings bank as this was devised in England was that it should contain departments for issuing life insurance policies and annuity contracts. The sav-

ings banks in this country have up to this time had to establish their position as a necessary part of the financial world, and as civic centers comparable with the school and the church in the inculcation of the standard virtues. Now, however, it is proposed to see if the original idea of the founders of the institution cannot be successfully executed, first in Massachusetts and afterward elsewhere.

The act enabling the experiment to be tried was passed by decisive majorities in both branches of the Legislature on Beacon Hill. Public opinion in support of the measure was aroused through the energetic campaign conducted by the Massachusetts Savings Insurance League—an association formed last November for the purpose of promoting the idea of savings insurance, an outgrowth of the investigations made by Louis D. Brandeis, a Boston lawyer into the present excessive cost of industrial life insurance.

Practical direction of the affairs of the League was taken by Representative Norman H. White, a young Boston publisher, serving his first term in the Legislature. Mr. White organized the activities of the League much as a campaign for new business would be organized. The argument for savings insurance was presented in every important center of the state by a flying squadron of speakers. Citizens were urged to enroll themselves until at the present time a membership of more than 100,000 stands on the books at the headquarters, No. 2 Park street, this city. Ex-Gov. William L. Douglas, a wealthy shoe manufacturer of Brockton, who early became interested in the plan, consented to become the League's president. Among the vice-presidents is Ex-Gov. John L. Bates. The present Governor of the State, Curtis Guild, Jr., was so strongly impressed with the project that he included a strong recommendation of it in his 1907 inaugural. Large proportion of the labor unions of the state, one after another, have expressed their approval of the scheme, almost always by unanimous vote.

By the law an insurance trust may at any time after next November be established by any one of the 189 savings banks of Massachusetts. This must be kept, however, entirely separate from the ordinary savings trust; and before any step can be taken in this direction, a majority vote of the incorporators and a two-thirds vote of the trustees at a meeting specially called for the purpose must express sense of the wisdom of the action. A license by the state will not be granted until a special guaranty fund has been provided from sources outside the bank to cover any possible deficiencies in the expenses of the department, and a special insurance guaranty fund has been secured to make good any death losses exceeding the expectations of the ordinary or special mortality tables.

In the employ of the trustees of the state fund there will be an actuary, in charge of the work of preparing all the standard forms, and empowered if necessary to construct special mortality tables. He will have as assistant a state medical examiner. Many provisions safeguard depositors and the general public.

It is understood that a number of Bay State savings banks are already preparing to take advantage of the new law. At the same time, enthusiastic advocates of the idea, who without possibility of personal aggrandizement have spent considerable sums of money in getting the measure tried in Massachusetts, hope to extend the demonstration in the near future to other American states. The feeling among thousands of members of the savings insurance league is expressed in the words of Thomas G. Plant, one of the best known of American shoe manufacturers: "I wish to express my sincere belief that you have started a movement which will become as national and as great a benefit to the people of the United States as are our savings banks."

Ten Years in Bed. "For 10 years I was confined to my bed with disease of my kidneys," writes R. A. Gray, J. P. of Oakville, Ind. "It was so severe that I could not move part of the time. I consulted the very best medical skill available, but could get no relief until Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended to me. It has been a God-send to me."

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