

THE MORNING ASTORIAN

Established 1873.

Published Daily Except Monday by THE J. S. DELLINGER COMPANY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mail, per year.....\$7.00
By carrier, per month..... .30

WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

1, mail, per year, in advance..\$1.00

Entered as second-class matter July 3, 1906, at the postoffice at Astoria, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Orders for the delivery of THE MORNING ASTORIAN to either residence or place of business may be made by postal card or through telephone. Any irregularity in delivery should be immediately reported to the office of publication.

TELEPHONE MAIN 662.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Apropos of Astoria's bright and impending development as one of the leading seaports of the Northwest, it may be observed that there are frequent additions to the roster of her realty firms; and these new firms and companies and corporations are made up of some of her best, and best-informed citizens; the tendency of the movement being to demonstrate the popular faith in her assured advancement.

It is a good thing, too, for there is no booster like the real estate man who is alive to the exigencies of his business and the destiny of his town. He is generally a student of conditions upon which the unfoldment impigns, and familiar with the agencies that contribute most to that establishment. He and his business are closely interwoven with the work of carrying out the great program, and if he is any good at all, he is foremost among the boosters and sings no other song whatever. Luckily for the craft at Astoria there is wide and justifiable range for his every faculty for pushing. No place in all Oregon, at this time, is so directly in line for development and expansion, as this city, and he who pushes Astoria now, himself, goes ahead with his momentum to reap handsomely from his endeavor. There is no great uproar afoot, about it, but there is more genuine enthusiasm around here based on tangible and actual knowledge of what is to come, than has been known for years.

The real estate man is a pretty fair barometer (provided his mercurial tendencies are not too pronounced), and as a booster, he is the cream de la cream of bona fide promoters that is, in Astoria.

TOTALLY IRRECONCILABLE.

Oklahoma, as a State, has gone on record as stoutly Democratic and immensely Prohibition; a condition of affairs wholly irreconcilable, and which promises all sorts of confusion and trouble in the future. Just how the blend was worked passes all understanding, and addresses itself to the universal mind as the newest expression of an ancient mystery.

As a new, organic body of people, banded for the development of a commonwealth of their own, they may smother most of the incongruities certain to arise; and placate the tumultuous tendencies inherent in the situation by conceding, on the sly, to the Democratic appetite, which never yet, in the history of man, has withstood denial in this particular. And any attempt to purge the dominant political faction of the State of its well-known disposition to the convivial bowl will result in manifest disaster to the astute politician, for a Democratic relies devoutly upon the suasion and effect of the "good old stuff" to carry most of his political engagements, and this aside from the individual propensity and indulgence he stands for.

We can see infinite perplexity, if not calamity, ahead of the fine new State and wish we could offer some effective advice in advance; but the real truth of the matter is, we of Oregon have a mix-up of our own altogether too similar to that of Oklahoma; and not until we get rid of our own Democratic incumbencies, can we venture to administer our sister. Once we have done this, however, we will be glad to send her word as to how we did it.

ONE THOUSAND PER CENT.

The pressure of the law honestly and vigorously applied to Standard Oil affairs at the New York investigation, develops the startling fact that that huge concern enjoys a profit of 1000 per cent per annum on its investment and business. By degrees the deep secrets of this accursed monopoly, long and jealously hidden from the outside world, are being dragged into the open, and people are beginning to learn the true inwardness of the term, and processes of, modern industrial "combinations." It is fast making socialists of people who never knew, nor cared to know, the first principles of that cult and if the American temper is not altogether misunderstood, there is going to be very

bitter reckoning for the "full dress" parasites and thieves who have thus wantonly and shamelessly exploited the whole nation all these years. And the hand and doctrine of resentment will not stop at the great types of the evil, but in pursuing the destruction of the principle and practice, the reprisals will fall thick and fast in the crushing of the little simulator, the petty local robber, as well as his arch-type. The government of the United States was never engaged in a work of finer character than it is now pursuing in the unmasking of this tremendous scheme of robbery; and the hope of the nation is that its course may be such, that when it is through, there will be never again, the faintest shadow of a show for the resumption of the blasting methods. Monopoly is on trial before the world today, and tomorrow we hope to chronicle the death of all its infinitely bad qualities, the worst of which have been exemplified by the infamous Standard Oil Company, whose relentless and remorseless code has wrought its own undoing.

DRAWS HALF A MILLION A YEAR.

Though personally one of the quietest of men, John Hayes Hammond occupies a position as a mining engineer second to no other man in the world if he is to be judged by his responsibilities and the salary he draws. So begins an interesting article on Mr. Hammond and his career in the Technical World magazine for October. As consulting engineer of the vast interests of the Guggenheim Exploration Company, Mr. Hammond is said to receive \$500,000 a year. At any rate he has attained wealth by his profession and lives in a princely style at Laewood, N. J. Mr. Hammond is a native of California, and was at one time consulting engineer of the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific railways. He is a graduate of the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale University and of the Royal School of Mines in Saxony. He was sent by the geological survey to examine the gold fields of California and his interest became so intense that he made a study of mines and mining properties his life work. The tremendously rich Barnato brothers of London sent Mr. Hammond to report on their mines in South Africa. It was while there that he became associated with Dr. Jameson and mixed up in the movement that led to the Jameson Raid. He was one of the five men sentenced to be hung for his activities in Transvaal reforms, and only escaped by paying \$123,000 for his freedom.

A PUNKTOWN HOSTELRY.

When the stranger with grass germs in his tresses was shown to the last room back on the second floor of the Punktown hostelry and saw what kind of a stall he was to be bedded down in for the night, he bucked vigorously and said in the most offensive manner he could summon:

"Look at that chair, liable to fall down even if I hang my shirt on it. The wash pitcher is fatally cracked, and the bowl has a scallop as big as a summer squash. The carpet is full of holes and dirty, and so much quicksilver has been rubbed off the back of the looking glass that I look as if I had the small pox. The cover of the washstand has been on there for two long, hard, busy dirty years, and the bed looks like a swayback horse with a thin blanket over it. If I were to try to sleep on that bed I would arise in the morning looking like a waffle. The wall paper is off in large patches—in fact, it is off in a bunch. The ceiling is cracked, and a yard or so of plastering is liable to fall and smother me in the landslide at any moment. That table is really only a one night stand, and you couldn't write on it if you had two men standing and holding it.

By this time the porter was very tired and angry, so he cried out in his vexation:

"That's right—kick kick! But I'll bet a dollar you're not used to any better than this at home.

"Young man," said the stranger in Punktown, "your bet is begging for takers. Your proposition is too much of a cinch to bet on. Things at home are as bad as this, if not worse. But what does a man go away from home for if not for a change of scene? I hoped that I would find something comfortable and clean, and perhaps even elegant at a hotel."

Moved to tears of compassion by reason of the man's honesty, the porter surreptitiously escorted him to Parlor A, where things were much better, because the wash pitcher had a shallow crack in it, and there was one upholstered chair.—Strickland W. Gillilan in Judge.

FOURTEEN FOOT CORN.

E. M. Duryee, who has a fine farm on Camp Creek, just across from Thurston, brought to the Guard office today two stalks of corn which measured exactly fourteen feet high, and they were cut off four inches from the ground. The corn is of the red river variety and the seed was brought from Illinois last year. Mr. Duryee has quite a patch of this corn and while the stalks are not all this high, they will average higher than anything in this section of the country. The stalks are on exhibition at the Guard office, where they can be seen at any time.—Guard.

GETS HIS DUES.

Knappton Man Responsible For Change In Name.

"Nappton, Wash., Sept. 19, 1907. "Mr. J. S. Dellinger, Astoria.

"Dear Sir:—I noticed in the Astorian this morning quite a write up of the changing in the San Francisco Guide of the heading from 'Portland, Ore., to foreign ports' to 'Columbia River to foreign ports.' I agree with you in most everything said except that 'this important result has been secured by Manager Whyte,' etc.

"The fact of the matter is that I noticed that all of the vessels loading here at Knappton were listed from Portland. At that time, we had about 20 per cent of Portland's (?) vessels, they having been loaded here. The injustice of this appealed to me so that I wrote the editor of the Guide asking him to change it. In a few days I received a letter from him acknowledging the receipt of my letter and saying that he would change the heading as I suggested. In the meantime, however, I took a copy of the Guide up to Whyte and showed him. He sent that copy down and also wrote a letter, but from the letter received by Whyte, you will see that the change had been made before the arrival of Whyte's letter.

"GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUES. See! "Yours truly, "S. C. MORTON."

Manager Whyte, of the Chamber of Commerce was asked regarding the above letter and stated that several people had called at the Chamber of Commerce, and that he had written a letter to "The Guide," the answer being addressed to him, as was announced in the Astorian yesterday. The honor of securing the change in name was not bothering him, however, as he said it was immaterial to him, as long as the result had been attained for the benefit of Astoria.

UNKNOWN MAN KILLED.

Found on Railroad Track Near Montesano This Morning.

ABERDEEN, Sept. 19—The body of an unknown man was found on the railway tracks about a mile east of the Montesano city limits this morning. One arm had been severed from the body, the left arm broken, the skull crushed and the back severely bruised. The body bore the appearance of having been run over by a passing train and marks on the track showed that it had been dragged about 30 feet.

Coroner Girard was notified and went down this morning to take charge of the body. Nothing was found which would lead to the identity of the unfortunate man. In his pockets were found two tickets from Aberdeen to Porter and \$2.10 in money. The man was about 35 years of age, of fair complexion and weighed about 125 pounds.

The station agent at Montesano states that the dead man inquired at the station last night about 6 o'clock the distance to Satsop. He did not appear to be under the influence of liquor and nothing more was thought of the incident.

General Robert E. Lee.

was the greatest General the world had ever known. Ballard's Snow Liniment is the greatest Liniment quickly cures all pains. It is within the reach of all. T. H. Pointer, Hempstead, Texas writes: "This is to certify that Ballard's Snow Liniment has been used in my household for years and has been found to be an excellent Liniment for Rheumatic pains. I am never without it. Sold by Frank Hart, Druggist.

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