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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

THE USUAL FALSE PREMISE.

The Oregonian of Monday last contained a peurile complaint alleging that because of the failure of the "Port of Columbia" law, Portland would be denied the advantage of a fleet of steamers plying in the Alaska trade; the predicate being so densely hidden as to leave the best informed people down here all at sea as to what that notorious measure might have contributed to the desired situation. The only thing that seems at all plausible, being, that the pilots on the Columbia bar are, in some hypothetical way, responsible for the fact that Oregon has not, today, an Alaska-Portland line. This fact is adjudged to be the cause, because when the Oregonian has no other line of mean attack on Astoria it jumps on this fine body of men and assesses them with any old delinquency it cannot palm off on any other set.

Portland knows pretty well why it has no steamship line to Alaska, and if it does not know, Seattle and Tacoma are not so far away as to preclude a quick and certain explanation; or, the records of the Portland Board of Trade might be utilized very conclusively, if not happily.

It certainly was not denied on any score of pilotage fees or quality of service in that line, for it is common fame that all coastwise steamers are free of such charges from the sea to Astoria, and only meet them when the vessels go above Tongue Point, or in other words, to Portland and way ports; and by the way, the pilots in that special behalf all reside at the metropolis. Such bottoms are, by law, exempt from bar pilotage charges, and the big daily will have to seek another cause, if it has one, for even sailing vessels in that service are also exempt.

Since the "Port of Columbia" bill became a matter of interest to people on the river, the especial promise of its authors and friends has been that once it was passed they would correct the vicious evils inseparable from the bar pilot service, and these promises have been accompanied by repeated insulting allusions to the Columbia River Bar Pilots' Association, the reading of which tirades would convince an outsider that this particular group of men were pirates instead of pilots and used their franchise, and licenses, for the deliberate robbery of everything afloat and within sight and hall of the bar. Whereas, the real fact is, there is no abler set of men on the Pacific Coast than these same skillful seamen, every one of them a master of his craft and a respectable, law-abiding citizen, to boot, whose incomes are fixed by law and the coming of ships to this river, from abroad; but, unhappily for the Portlander they all live in Astoria, and for this reason alone, they are utterly discredited at the metropolis, and this despite the fact that the records of this great barrier at the mouth of the Columbia are clearer of wreck, loss and death annals, than any other port-bar on the coasts of America.

The whole system of fraud and greed that inspired the "Port of Columbia" bill, is charged with just such contemptible elements as this, and that it went to the ash-heap upon the clean and simple pretext of its flagrant "unconstitutionality" was a handy road to salvation for the men who framed it; for, had it succeeded, it would have aroused a crusade of bitterness on this river that would have ended only in something quite beyond the purview of those responsible for it.

THE WARRENTON AFFAIR.

The Astorian, along with every other citizen of Clatsop county, deeply regrets the occasion, and issue, of the recent disorderly affair at Warrenton, which, beginning as a simple friendly expression toward a departing citizen, closed in a series of pitched-battles between individuals and took on its somber phase from the pitiful suicide of one of the young guests. Without placing specific blame upon specific people, it is enough to say that such affairs had best not be indulged in at all if there is not

enough of dignified poise in the group at interest to hold down such manifestations as were made in this instance. It were infinitely better to permit the favored citizen to go his way without special mark of honor and cheer, than to hail him forth as a principal in so wretched an up-roar as was this.

The leading citizens of Warrenton are profoundly stirred by the untoward event and are very frank in their utterances about it, the threads of shame and sorrow predominating all through their expressions. The whole thing reflects disastrously upon the civic tone of the town, since many of the representatives of its best families were inseparably connected with the affair and so involved those whose best efforts are directed to the social, as well as the business, uplift of the place.

It is most earnestly hoped that this is the last record of its kind that will be sent up from this lively and interesting Clatsop town, and that even this may be passed over with a silence that will prove as curative for those responsible for the trouble, as it will be beneficial to Warrenton itself.

MURDERED NEAR HOME.

Mother of woman Finds Her in Yard With Throat Cut.

IOLA, Kansas, Oct. 1.—Miss May Seipp, the 25-year-old daughter of John N. Seipp, a well-to-do farmer, was found murdered in the back yard of the Seipp home at Moran, 10 miles from here, last night. Her throat had been cut, evidently with a razor that was found close by. A motive for the murder has not been found. There is no clue to the murderer. The body was brought to Iola today and a postmortem examination held.

Miss Seipp after dinner last night, stepped out into the yard. She had been gone but a few minutes when she screamed for her mother. Mrs. Seipp rushed into the yard and found her daughter unconscious, lying in a pool of blood. She died within a few moments from a deep gash in her throat. Her clothes had been torn and her hands cut, indicating that she had made a struggle for her life. No trace of the murderer has been found up to late today.

RAID ON OPIUM DEN.

Gather in 46 Celestials— In Three-story Building.

ABERDEEN, Oct. 1.—The Hoquiam police, under the direction of Chief McKinney, accompanied by Captain Dorn of this city, made an important capture at Hoquiam at a late hour last night. For some time Chief McKinney and Captain Dorn have had their suspicions as to something out of the ordinary in a three-story building near the cannery, and after taking due precautions and getting everything in readiness, they made the raid with results far beyond their expectations. When they had hrawn in the official dragnet, they found that they had captured 45 Chinamen and one Jap, with a quantity of opium, silk goods and whiskey, and other foreign stuff which had not gone through the formality of being stamped by the revenue officers. Chief McKinney said there were at least 16 distinct "dope rooms" where the celestials and any others who so desired and were in the confidence of the keepers, could indulge in the dreamy pastime of an opium pipe. The keeping of a dope den is a crime against the state law, and this is the fourth time that Hoquiam police have raided such places.

In all former captures there has been no evidence that the revenue laws have been violated, but in this case there is ample evidence to make a case if the government desires to take it up. Captain Dorn stated that in all probability the prisoners will be taken in charge by the federal authorities, and Chief McKinney says the government certainly has a case.

The state case will not come up today as Justice Ogden is sick, and probably if the federal authorities desire to take charge of the offenders the state will step aside.

The parties arrested were up in the attic of the building, lying all over the floor, and were certainly in pretty thick. They had guarded their secret closely and the local authorities are to be congratulated on their ability to ferret out the criminals. It is not known just how much of the plunder found will come under the ban of the federal government and will not be known until a revenue officer arrives and checks it over.

GET DYNAMITERS IN CUBA.

Rebel Indulged in Big Talk But He is Safe Now.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—Official word of the arrest of conspirators in Havana reached the War Department today, in the following cablegram addressed by Governor Magoon to Acting Secretary Oliver.

"Information more specific and certain than heretofore received was secured late tonight that Marro Parra, angered by failure to bring about an uprising, threatened to dynamite some buildings in Havana, and then escape. The local police arrested him and two of his gang, named Lira Miret and Dacase, and they are now in jail."

ASTORIA ALL AGOG

This Promises to be the Event of the Season

Only once in a long while does the local public have such an opportunity presented to them in the way of Bona Fide Reductions and Genuine Bargains as are found at the Forced Sale now on at the National Shoe & Clothing Store. In conversation with the manager in charge of the Sale last night it was learned the Forced Sale has proven a brilliant success and he is in receipt of flattering encomiums from the general manager of the National System of Stores, and praise for the purchasing public of this city and section for the real interest they have so substantially taken in the Forced Sale and the National's earnest, honest efforts to tide over a rough stretch on its road to success. And the National will continue to merit, as it has in the past, the patronage of every careful, conservative buyer in this neck of the woods, during the entire course of this Great Forced Sale by virtue of the really wonderful bargains offered in everything to wear for men, women and children. With a long pull and a strong pull altogether the National hopes to pull out on top at the close of this sale and the public's inducement to help will be Genuine Bargains on every hand at 684 Commercial street, the home of the National Store and the Great Forced Sale.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

Admiral Dewey is still enamoured of the Philippines. They must be his affinity.

The Standard Oil Company is not likely to plead that the \$29,000,000 fine is confiscatory.

American farmers seem to have learned the important art of raising good crops after the late spring's bad start.

The reporter who went through the Lusitania's machinery room says it is a cave. This new vein is worth the attention of the novelists.

Persons who expect a panic because dishonest methods are exposed have an unreasonably poor opinion of the basis on which business rests.

The sea water injection cure is making a sensation in Paris. One of the merits of the new remedy is that no trust can corner the supply.

The number of democratic votes cast in Oklahoma at the recent election indicates beyond a doubt that the new state has the requisite population.

A Standard Oil dividend was accompanied by larger dividends in subsidiary companies. That is the sort of chaser to keep investors in good humor.

Some diet reformers who advise the people to be vegetarians show a lack of current information when they mention economy as one of the inducements.

The \$1,000,000 branch of Standard Oil in Indiana made a profit in one year of over \$10,500,000. Such figures might induce even an Indiana man to abandon literature and its midnight oil.

Some democratic papers are wondering who will be named by Bryan, if he decides not to run himself. This is a desperate extremely Mr. Bryan may not consider for twelve or sixteen years more.

Within a year the number of stockholders in one prominent railroad company has increased from 9000 to 15,000. Confidence in dividends and honest management is good backing for popular uses.

A great-grandson of Robert Burns is a police judge in Louisville. If his justice is not tempered with mercy the sympathetic warmth of the famous plowman must have been lost in the descent.

Coal enough to load 24,105 railroad cars was locked down the Monongahela River in August. This is the one river in the United States that has been thoroughly improved, and its steady traffic is immense.

The new turbine steamers put on between New York and Boston easily make the run in fourteen hours, and one has developed a speed of twenty-seven knots in a favoring tide, which is ahead of the Deutschland's time.

A biographical sketch of Senator Tillman states that his friends consider him a poet and a dreamer fighting for his dreams. Poets who fail to make the business pay are inclined to think the pitchfork is mightier than the pen.

The antics should keep their eyes on the new island Uecl Sam proposes to build at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay. Such a position, commanding the water approaches to Washington, and surrounded by battleships, would be a formidable imperial stronghold.

Great Britain's importation of apples has reached 9,000,000 barrels a year, of which half is from the United States. The favorite apples in the British market are certain kinds from this country. Other European countries want American apples in large quantities. Why

are any ever allowed to rot under the trees?

Bob Fitzsimmons is to leave the stage. To elevate it?

This sort of weather is bad enough for a Ben Davis apple crop.

There is little question that the Pennsylvania grafters deserve capitol punishment.

Egypt reports a fine corn crop. Strikes us as sort of familiar, that famine-releving corn crop in Egypt.

With snow flying on the Great Lakes, the last week of September seems to be sampling an early Winter.

Jack Frost on Wednesday struck the west in the corn belt; the only question is did it strike below the belt.

Wall Street may be going to the devil as Hetty Green asserts, but we wager it's only for a tip and on a return ticket.

It is announced that Senator Tillman is going to San Francisco to deliver a lecture on the Japanese question. We trust nobody sees any connection between this announcement and the sending of the battleships to the Pacific.

Ex-Senator James K. Jones, of Arkansas has reappeared at the front to say that "I have talked with Mr. Bryan lately, and it is by no means certain that he will be a candidate." Mr. Jones will not even say that he believes a democrat will be elected in 1908. How changed is this once sanguine Bryan leader, but the public may rest assured that it is the same Jones.

Since the pure food law went into effect a certain kind of raspberry jam has borne this inscription: "This jam is made of glucose, with artificial seeds, and is colored with harmless aniline dyes." Hayseed seems to be too valuable to some preserves, and artificial seeds, made by machinery, are substituted. People who object to jam in which there is no fruit should read the labels.

SAY JAPAN BROKE TREATY.

Vancouver Citizens Demand Exclusion of Immigrants From Orient.

OTTAWA, Oct. 1.—W. D. Scott, Dominion immigration agent, sent to Vancouver by Sir Wilfred Laurier, is having a strenuous time there. The Asiatic Exclusion League waited on Mr. Scott, who asked the speakers how they would remedy the surplus immigration of Japanese. The league men answered promptly: "by the abrogation of the treaty with Japan on the ground that Japan has broken faith with Canada."

It was pointed out by the exclusion league that the evils complained of were investigated by the royal commission and remedies suggested. Mr. Scott said he was there to deal with the question of future immigration.

A monster petition signed by hundreds of British Columbians is on its way to the premier. It prays that regardless of foreign countries and all sentimental and political considerations, the government immediately pass such legislation as may be requisite to secure absolute exclusion of orientals from the Dominion of Canada.

So far the Japanese Government has made no claim on the Dominion government for damage on account of the Vancouver troubles.

A Most Worthy Article.

When an article has been on the market for years and gains friends every year, it is safe to call this medicine a worthy one. Such is Ballard's Horehound Syrup. It positively cures coughs and all Pulmonary diseases. One of the best known merchants in Mobile, Ala., says:

"For five years my family has not been troubled with the winter coughs. We owe this to Ballard's Horehound Syrup. I know it has saved my children from many sick spells." Sold by Hart's Drug Store.

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