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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.
Western Oregon—Cloudy with possibly rain.

ASTORIA'S RATING.

In point of population Astoria already rates as the second city in the state, as she does commercially; but there is a similarity in the numerical ratios claimed by Salem, that cannot be altogether ignored. Indeed, there is but small margin between the two cities on this score; but with the lines of commercial development marked out for Astoria in the future months lying nearest her, the variation is likely to increase so rapidly and in such pronounced fashion, as to widen the differences in both directions to the obliteration of all equalities.

Just when the sign is to be given by the people and concerns that are to launch the new conditions at the mouth of the Columbia cannot be fixed at the present moment; but the most dubious forecaster in this section does not put it beyond the first of February, 1908, and there are those who feel justified in naming an earlier period. At all events there are none to dispute nor gain say the certainty of the realities to come and every access of importance that shall be noted must contribute instantly to the forging of Astoria's rightful claim to the distinction of second place.

And as the second city in the commonwealth it is her bounden duty to grow measurably to new standards and greater responsibilities, not only as the second city, but as the first, and only, seaport of consequence, in that domain. For it will be her new marine prestige that will give her all else of value and importance. Her new destiny is not to be altogether in her own hands; there are others coming in here whose wealth and experience will have tremendous weight in the casting of her future lines of progress. We have got to assimilate these factors and adapt ourselves largely to the spirit that animates them; we cannot have things all our own way forever; all genuine expansion follows practically new departures as well as new people, and we cannot expect to operate successfully as an exception to an invariable and accepted rule. There are things for us all to learn and the lessons will do us good because we shall broaden and gradually relinquish what of "moss-backism" that now afflicts us, to our wider freedom and surer profit, financially, and ethically.

Astoria will be alright, for all time to come, when she takes her place as the great grain-port of the northwest, lays her cables in up-to-date holdings, and schools herself to the ampler, and somewhat peculiar, exigencies of the new citizenship and interests that are to share her solid advance along all lines.

THE WIZARD'S LATEST.

Thomas A. Edison has declared that he has discovered a process in the use of cement, whereby he can construct a three-story house ready for use and occupancy in a given 12 hours of time costing not to exceed \$1000. Coming from such a source, this means much to the poor man of the world today, who sadly needs such specific relief and who will hail the boon as a direct dispensation of divine good-will if it shall be permitted to reach him without the intervention of the money-trust in some combination to take over the process and limit the output so as to command eight or ten-fold the alleged cost, as has been the case with every really great invention of the past 100 years or more.

We have all seen these benefices pass into the hands of the money-hog and have paid our share of their subsequent exploitation; and without the shadow of a doubt as to the certainty and reasonableness of Mr. Edison's claim, we look for nothing else than its early absorp-

tion by some great company which will see to it that none of its original benefits reach the class of people it was intended for.

"ALL UP IN THE AIR!"

The interest of the aeronautic world is centered just now at St. Louis, where the second international long-distance race of the International Aeronautic Federation is now underway, along with all other absorbing elements of aerial test, display, technical invention and suggestive possibility, are going forward in alluring profession.

We are up-to-date enough to wish the great convention such success in any and all lines of its especial pursuit, as shall surprise its most sanguine members and votaries, because we believe that, far sooner than is held at present, the working solution of the great science is to be reached and the myriad channels of space filled with dirigible vehicles of all kinds and the new phase of transportation for passengers and freight, opened to a longing world. We have taken off all old limitations we used to get up in matters of scientific development and stand ready to hail achievement of any sort from all sources. It is the more comfortable doctrine and gives zest to our final "We told you so!" besides leaving nothing for us to take back, or qualify.

WE CONGRATULATE HIM!

The Morning Astorian is glad to see Dr. Henry L. Henderson in the councilmanic semi-circle; his appointment is creditable to his constituents there, and an assurance of far, wise and business-like dispatch of civic affairs to those most concerned, the citizens of Astoria.

We know of no Democrat in Astoria whom we would rather see in the seat of Councilman Morton; and as the succession had to be, primarily, Democratic, we are glad the honor fell where it did, nor shall we care to see it disturbed until the time arrives to replace the doctor, and all others, with a strictly Republican representation from this municipality. This, of course, will not leave him, nor them, more than a single year of official life, as the local electorate is getting notably restless for a change.

NEW GAS ENGINE FUEL.

Since the passage of the measure providing for the removal of the internal revenue tax on denatural alcohol little has been done toward bring this fuel into the market as a competitor of gasoline. So writes Howard Greene in The Technical World Magazine for November. As matters stand at present, alcohol is not in a position to compete with gasoline as a fuel for internal combustion engines.

Chief among the engineering reasons for this state of affairs is the fact that alcohol, vaporized and mixed with air, burns slowly, as compared with the combustion of gasoline vapor. To use alcohol advantageously the engine speed must be low and the compression high. Stationary motors for burning alcohol running at three hundred revolutions a minute or less and highly compressing the charge, have given excellent results; but this only goes to indicate the unsuitability of alcohol for automobile motors as now built. But a new method of using alcohol, developed from the idea of altering the characteristics of alcohol without impairing its fuel value, has been devised and letters patent issued to F. W. Barker and Thomas L. White, of New York, on December 25, 1906.

Briefly, the Barker-White system consists in vaporizing alcohol in a carburetor of the ordinary gasoline type and passing the vapor of alcohol, mixed with the proper volume of air, through calcium carbide. Commercial alcohol always contains water, usually to the extent of about ten per cent, and this water is absorbed by the carbide, whereupon acetylene gas is liberated by the carbide, mixes with the alcohol vapor and air and is carried into the cylinder.

Detailed account of the exact methods employed and the excellent results obtained are given by the writer in an excellent article.

MUSELSHELL STAGE HELD UP.

HELENA, Mont., Oct. 22.—A special from Lewiston, Mont., says the Muselshell stage was held up by two robbers but that the driver, named Launceford, put up such a fight with one of robbers that the second man was obliged to leave the horse heads to assist his comrade. While the fight was in progress the team ran away, thus permitting the mail and other matter to escape the hands of the robbers. The driver was robbed and brutally beaten. A posse is in pursuit.

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CRAWFISH SENT TO NEVADA

MASTER FISH WARDEN FORWARDS MANY DOZENS OF CRUSTACEANS TO COMMISSIONER OF OUR SISTER STATE.

Astoria has taken unto herself another industry, and one which is more than usual out of the ordinary. Lumber and grain and various cargoes of general merchandise have in the days gone by been shipped from our city, but it has remained for Master Fish Warden H. G. Van Dusen to develop the industry of sending crawfish to other states, and said crawfish are not for the purpose of reposing in the gastronomic receptacles of gourmets in the locality to which they are being exported.

Several weeks ago the Warden was the recipient of a letter from the State Fish Commissioner of Nevada requesting that he would forward to them some 20 dozen crawfish, which, the letter stated, they wished to release in waters provided for that purpose. Mr. Van Dusen procured the crawfish and forwarded them, and a communication of recent date informs him that the fish arrived in good order. A request was also embodied in the communication for an additional 20 dozen. These the Fish Warden obtained of Perry Titus of Fern Hill and they were forwarded yesterday evening.

Instructions were also sent informing the Nevada commission as to the best method of propagating the crawfish and it is expected that the State of Nevada will sometime be vying with our genial warden in passing on to other states the delicious crustacea.

His Dear Old Mother.

"My dear old mother, who is now 83 years old, thrives on Electric Bitters," writes W. B. Brunson, of Dublin, Ga. "She has taken them for about two years and enjoys an excellent appetite, feels strong and sleeps well." That's the way Electric Bitters affect the aged, and the same happy results follow in all cases of female weakness and general debility. Weak, puny children too, are greatly strengthened by them. Guaranteed also for stomach, liver and kidney troubles, by Charles Rogers, druggist, 502.

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