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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop County and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

- Western Oregon and Washington—Occasional rain.
Eastern Oregon—Fair and cooler.
Eastern Washington and Idaho—Fair.

TRAGEDY OF THE "KIDS."

All California is torn up over the tragic revelations from the famous University town of Berkeley, wherein the three principals are students, and none of them barely past their legal majority of years.

The details as furnished by the young woman are about as bad as they can well be, and indicate such abnormal tendencies in so young a group as to make one shudder with dread lest other unsuspected children are possessed of the same wretched ideas and impulses; and beget the fear that college life on the "co-ed" basis is not to be trusted any longer.

The dreadful story cannot but operate adversely on the University of California. It is a noble institution, with a magnificent history of achievement and a host of living examples to prove its abounding power and spirit in the rounding out of admirable citizens and splendid scholars; but such a story as this of young Klienschmidt, Blanche Kerfoot and Frank Bellows is too profound a reproach to pass human society without resultant strictures that will be widely heeded; for it strikes at the very core of the co-educational system, and comes as near negating the idea as anything probably ever will.

It carries another tremendous lesson to the thoughtful American that should sink deep and rankle until it inspires a social upheaval of amendment, and that is, that we are becoming far too negligent of our young people in the matter of personal license and accountability; we are too indulgent, for their good, and our own, in the matter of their habit of time, association, pursuits, pastime, and all the governing features of daily life; the child of today is practically independent of the family, and has recourse to its faculty of oversight only at moments of peril, of illness, of discomfiture, and disgrace. This is radically wrong, but it is essentially a phase of the times in which we live, and a typical expression of that national heedlessness that marks our career in a hundred ways just as startling as this. We are gradually forsaking the best of the ordinary standards that prevailed but a short generation ago, and we are going to get our full measure of payment for the abandonment, unless we placate destiny by showing a profounder love and interest for the heirs of country, home, and dear traditions, than we are manifesting now, and re-awaken in them the homelier, safer and deeper instincts of the home and family, and invoke, once more the gentle rule of subjection that was once the guiding principle of American life and the best grace among its best influences. We owe the young of today far more than we are granting, and it will be worse for us if we do not take over our universal duty and win them back to simpler and sweeter things.

A POPULAR "GYM."

There is every reason in the world for the immediate establishment of a popular gymnasium in the city of Astoria,

and no reason at all for not going at it. It is needed imperatively, and should have the countenance and material aid of every parent and friend of the young people in the city.

There must be nothing exclusive nor limited about it; it is the curse of most affairs of the kind that they are dominated by cliques and factions and restricted by unwritten rules that govern to the point of misgovernment; athletics stand for health and there cannot be real health without the healthful spirit of tolerance and fellow-interest; one is as essential as the other. We say this in the broadest possible sense and without direct application of any sort, and only because we desire to see the effort made permanently successful.

It should be open to the last boy and youth in the city with a code of rules operating for all without distinction, and upon such terms as will make it what it is proposed, a popular institution; anything else must rely for establishment, and maintenance, upon the particular group responsible for its founding. It is time this public took some steps to provide a creditable resort for the lads of Astoria, and once the project is happily started there need be no doubt as to its adequate patronage, provided always it is launched upon wide and wholesome basis.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

With Senator Watterson to back up Senator Bob Taylor the Congressional Record might refute the idea that it is a publication without piquancy.

Work on the Panama Canal is progressing satisfactorily. A complete federation of woman's clubs has just been organized down there.

A medical journal announces that color photography has been found useful in the study of disease. Experts on the witness stand will be more formidable than ever.

On reaching England the kaiser ran into a regular British pea soup fog, but he will feel there are compensations when he sees his royal uncle's new \$750,000 diamond.

According to a census bulletin the population of the United States in 1906, including insular possessions, was 93,182,240. The prospect of passing 100,000,000 by 1910 is good.

TWO MONTHS IN JAIL.

Woman Suffragist Took Part in Riot in Parliament.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—Among the arrivals from Europe on the steamer Philadelphia yesterday were Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, who comes to America to lecture on the suffragist movement in England.

Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, who spent two months in jail for the part she took in an attack of the suffragists on the House of Commons stated that the reports of the riots attending political meetings in England, where women demanding the right to vote, break up meetings being addressed by cabinet members are very much exaggerated. The only thing the women do, she said, is to go into the political meetings and ask questions. They are ignored and according to Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, are finally ejected. She will address a meeting at Cooper Union December 12 and will tell of the campaign of the women of England to obtain the right to vote.

NAVY PERSONNEL BILL.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—The controversy over the effect of the navy personnel bill, which abolished the distinction between deck and engineer officers and provide for the assignment of officers to either duty indiscriminately, will be settled in the United States Court.

An amended answer in the suit of Charles T. Wade against the International Magazine Company, publishers of the Cosmopolitan Magazine for \$100,000 damages for alleged libel, just filed, brings out this point in the controversy.

The suit has its foundation in an article in the magazine dealing with the explosion on the gunboat Bennington, in San Diego, California, harbor, July 21, 1905, in which 62 officers and men were killed and 40 injured. The article, it is claimed, lays the blame for the accident on the incompetency of the engine room force. Ensign Wade was chief engineer of the gunboat at the time of the accident.

COFFEE

You can buy something called "coffee" at 10c lb with 3000 miles of R R freight from the roaster; don't.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like Schilling's Best; we pay him.

MANY ARE CURIOUS

Washington on Edge as to Context of Message.

PRESIDENT SILENT AS SPHYNX

Has no Confidants Regarding Legislation That May be Suggested in Message to Congress—Many Men Trying to Gain Hint of Context.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25.—With the approach of the meeting of the new Congress interest in the Roosevelt trust-policy increases. Curiosity is being whetted to razor edge by the strange silence of the President upon the question. Old-Washingtonians declare that no President has been as frank, outspoken and less mysterious as Mr. Roosevelt concerning the topics and their treatment in his annual and special messages to Congress. Heretofore he has taken into his confidence on these important matters everybody who has had a claim upon his time or attention. His messages, therefore, have been largely discounted by the interests, general and special, involved days and weeks before their delivery and publication. But in the present instance President Roosevelt is as silent as the Sphinx, and quite as cryptic. All sorts and conditions of men have tried in vain to get from him some hint, be it ever so vague, as to what new legislation dealing with the trust question in its relation to interstate commerce in his forthcoming message to Congress. But thus far he has favored nobody, as far as known, with the desired information. When asked for an expression that may indicate the drift of his mind of the goal of his purpose he shuts up like a clam, to the infinite embarrassment of his inquisitor or abruptly changes the subject.

Presumably it is understood that it is the privilege of the President of the United States to lead in conversation. This is particularly true of Mr. Roosevelt. He has reduced it to a fine art. Verily is he the head of the table wherever he may sit. He sets the pace of discussion, and while he does not show the utmost pleasure when a visitor disagrees with him, at the same time he displays keener irritation whenever a caller agrees supinely with his every suggestion. He is a man of pugnacious character. Nobody likes a fight better than he. He would as lief quarrel with a clergyman on theology as with a politician on some public question of the moment or a disputatious economic theorist on a pet hobby. Representatives of all shades of opinion on every question of public interest have tackled him within the past fortnight on his forthcoming message to Congress, but to none of them has he spoken a single word which may be fairly interpreted as indicating either his matured purpose as to anti-trust, railroads or tariff legislation or the drift of his thoughts on these subjects. Wherefore, all Washington is wondering what has come over the spirit of his dreams. One can hear all kinds of reports here as to what the President proposes to urge upon Congress touching the trusts, the railroads and the tariff. As to this "you pays your money and you takes your choice." The wise citizen is he who can patiently await the actual delivery of the message, and then govern himself accordingly. By this is meant that what the President may recommend will have a powerful, if not a determining, influence upon Congress. The new body of law-makers is a more distinctively Roosevelt Congress than any that has assembled under the dome of the Capitol. It is conservatively estimated that quite two-thirds of the House were elected as Roosevelt men, irrespective of their nominal party affiliations. Nobody understands the tremendous import of this condition better than the President. Whether this understanding is having what, for lack of a better term, may be called a sobering effect upon him, is, of course, merely a matter of conjecture. The consensus of opinion here, however, is that this condition has increased his sense of responsibility and that this in turn has tinged his thoughts with a firmer conservatism than ever before he has felt. It follows, therefore, that, in the judgment of Washington, the President will not appear so radical in his dealings with Congress this winter as he heretofore has apparently been. In point of fact, Washington is almost convinced that if things political are to Mr. Roosevelt's liking he will put the breaks on his forthcoming message. In other words, it is generally expected here that, in the language of Shakespeare, he "will coo as gently as a suckling dove" on the trust, the railroad and the tariff

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\$1.25 Satin Damask Table Linen, .98
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\$1.50 Satin Damask Table Linen, 1.23
\$1.75 Satin Damask Table Linen, 1.35

- Regular \$1.25 20-inch Napkins, .90
Regular \$1.50 20-inch Napkins, 1.25
Regular \$1.98 20-inch Napkins, 1.67
Regular \$2.50 22-inch Napkins, 2.10
Regular \$3.00 23-inch Napkins, 2.45
Regular \$4.00 24-inch Napkins, 3.25
Regular \$5.00 24-inch Napkins, 3.75
Regular \$7.50 Hemstitched Cloths, \$5

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questions in his annual communication to Congress.

By the way, it seems not to be generally known that the message he will send at the opening of Congress will be written because the Constitution imposes that duty upon him. That instrument directs merely that the President shall, from time to time, acquaint the Congress "with the state of the union." In other words, the framers of the Constitution had in mind only that the Chief Executive should in this sense be only the means by which the law-makers with the actual conditions of the nation, but also to insist upon the enactment of certain legislation remedial of conditions which mak not jibe with his notions of the fitness of things in particular and in general. No President, with the possible exception of Andrew Jackson, has been as profuse in his recommendation of remedies as has Mr. Roosevelt. This statement is based upon the results of a careful study of "The Message and Papers of the Presidents," perhaps the most valuable, because of its information, volumes ever issued by the government. Because of his peculiar distinctness in this regard Washington is puzzled over President Roosevelt's strange and unwonted silence on the subject of what recommendations he proposes to make in his annual message next month.

NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

John Bigelow, Lawyer, Journalist and Diplomat Receives Congratulations.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—In a room filled with beautiful flowers, the gifts of remembering friends, John Bigelow, a lawyer, journalist, author and diplomat, yesterday celebrated his ninetieth birthday. Scores of friends called to pay their respects. Mr. Bigelow has had a varied career. He practiced law after leaving college and for a dozen years was editor of the New York Evening Post. From 1861 to 1864 he was American consul-general at Paris, and for the three succeeding years was minister to France. He was an executor of the will of Samuel J. Tilden and has long been prominent in the affairs of the New York Public Library. He is the author of a score of books.

COAL SHORTAGE IN WEIGHT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 26.—J. J. Moore & Co. yesterday began an action against Mitsui and Company, a Japanese firm, for the recovery of \$4,300 alleged to be due on short coal shipments from Moji, Japan. The plaintiff company says it contracted with the defendant firm to deliver coal from the Japanese port to San Francisco, Portland, Treadwell and Guaymas, and that in six shipments there was a shortage of from 47 to 238 tons. The loss alleged to be due the plaintiff is figured on the price of coal at the ports of delivery.

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PETTY SWINDLER.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 26.—A. C. Weekly, alias T. L. Stevenson, arrested in this city on a charge of petty swindling, last night confessed to the police that he had escaped from an Indiana reformatory and that he was wanted in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Fresno, Goldfield and Riverside. Weekly's plan has generally been to canvass for a magazine that had no existence, or to collect subscriptions for a publishing house that had long since discharged him.

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