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**TELEPHONE MAIN 661.**  
Official paper of Clatsop County and the City of Astoria.

**WEATHER REPORT.**

- Western Oregon and Washington—Rain; possibly part snow.
- Eastern Oregon, Washington, Idaho—Rain or snow, followed by clearing weather.

**THE PERSONAL STRAIN.**

One of the unescapable misfortunes that beset a city the size of Astoria, is the "personal strain" running through all her civic relations, to the detriment of and interference with her commercial progress and prosperousness. We are too intimately grouped around; we know too much of one another and of the petty things and ideas that militate against popular success. We are too prone to use our knowledge of these little failures and lapses and blunders, and to make more of them than they deserve, and to urge, them in the gratification of the malice that is within us. All of which bars and binds the wheels of local endeavor and obtrudes itself at unpropitious moments in affairs that cannot bear such inopportune pressure.

We must change this practice and forget the man in the interest of the community. We are not all pure patriots, by a long sight; and we have no right to expect our fellows to be overly much better than we are in the long run; and the pace, and the course, of our progress would be infinitely faster and smoother if we begin right now to purge our work of this hindrance. Every man has his faults and it is the better part of citizenship to measure his by our own and strike a balance in favor of the city and her destiny. Astoria is all right, whatever some of us may be; and we are all profoundly interested in seeing her forge ahead; upon this predicate we can unite, and leave the "personal strain" for personal adjustment.

**COSTLY ECONOMY.**

The Congress of this United States has decided that the President and the Secretary of the Navy do not know what they are talking about when they call for four more battleships; and has determined to build but two, the pair to cost within \$10,000,000, and this with a naval budget of over \$100,000,000, for the year.

This is not parsimony; it is a slap at the President. But we are inclined to believe that the slap will prove a boomerang before the country has heard the last of it. "In time of peace, prepare for war!" is as sound a doctrine now as in Revolutionary days; and with all the government of the earth on the feather-edges of aggressive ambition and territorial lust, may prove, by the neglect it has received, to be safest and wisest of all policies.

We hope there will be no punitive reaction; but hope has little to do with the fierce striving of peoples in matters of commerce and national boundaries. And if war should come, to find us unprepared on the seas, the country will know where the blame lies.

**CENT-A-WORD TELEGRAPH.**

For the major part of a century we have enjoyed the blessings of the telegraph, and it is still among the excellent things that go to make the sum of civilization and progress; but man is beginning to realize that the benefice is costing him altogether too much; that the people who have monopolized the facilities are exploiting the masses and have been for years. At least one of them.

The reaction has set in and the day for adjustment is at hand. The Telepost, the newest application of the

SCANDINAVIAN-AMERICAN SAVINGS BANK HAS MONEY TO LOAN ON GOOD SECURITY

science, has instituted a public service that costs but a cent a word, whatever the distance, and is making a liberal profit on that basis; therefore, the other great concerns have got to come to the lower margin and be satisfied with a modified and moderate profit.

This is as it should be. The American people are the most generous on earth in their support of all masterly conveniences and too rarely question the tolls they are paying; they have been "done brown," not only in wire services of all kinds, but in every common utility of the day, and the "kick-back" is at hand. Without deprecating the inestimable value of the great lines of public utility, the people will never rest until they get a normal rate in lieu of the scale that has amounted to something akin to robbery and is only saved from that raw nomenclature by reason of the unreasoning gullibility wherewith the excess has always paid.

**NO MONUMENT NEEDED.**

The two Carlos of Portugal are in their graves; and a child reigns in their stead, under the regency of a stricken Queen.

No monument is needed at their tombs, however grand a one shall be put there to eke out the conventions. The wretched traditions these men stood for and to which they sacrificed their people and through which their own deaths were wrought, is monument enough to mark their memory and make it obnoxious to all generations. Men are turning to the light of freedom the wide world over, hungrily, fiercely and courageously, and will not be denied. Time may pass while barriers are thrown up about the faltering systems of slavery and oppression; but time DOES pass, and "all things come to him whom waits!"

History will set up monument enough to amply tell the story of the Carlos; of these men of modernity who clung to medieval things and gagged and drugged a nation of men into submission and sufferance until its gorge arose and the masters fell in slaughter. The lessons of a day are given to cure the mad blunders of a century, and he who will not learn, must die. This is the edict of the day we live in and it is inviolable because it is adapted from the creed of Nature herself.

**EDITORIAL SALAD**

Crop prospects are promising, and none looks safer for a bountiful supply than that of Republican presidential booms.

An Albany Democratic paper calls a "googoo guerrilla." And this is only the second month of the campaign year!

The Aldrich currency bill has the merit of simplicity. Anybody can understand it, and intelligibility in finance ought to count for several points.

The good Southern man who is wanted by Judge Parker to be the Moses of the Democratic party seems to be about as hard to locate as the grave of Moses.

Other nations may boast as much as they like of the power of their naval arms, but the American fleet is still playing a leading part in the lordship of the sea.

Nashville, Tenn., wants immigrants, and will circulate a German newspaper in Germany to attract the kind it wishes. It will find that the variety is welcome in any part of the country.

Mr. Bryan's drama at Denver will be cast with one character only. The lone fisherman will have the entire stage, but his party ought to know what sort of a play it likes.

If Thaw objects to the society in which he finds himself, he can blame his counsel for making out too strong a case. Yet the alternative might have been still more unpleasant.

There is a proposition to make ex-presidents high officials in the peace movement. How long will it be before the country can have an ex-chief magistrate who is built that way?

**CEMENT AND STEEL.**

Insufficient Quantities Used—Wood Still the Favorite Material.

Cement and steel and brick and stone are not yet used in sufficient quantities to encourage lumber users to predict the time when the forests will not be called upon to furnish the principal materials used in building operations. Notwithstanding the remarkable increase in the use of cement and other fireproof materials, the last reports of the building operations in forty-nine of the leading cities of the United States for the year, collected by the Geological Survey, show that 59 per cent were of wooden construction.

Even if the remaining forty-one per cent of the buildings were built of brick, stone and concrete, vast quantities of wood are consumed both in the construction and in the finish, though in the latter form, metal is taking the place of wood to a very large extent. The amount of lumber given above does not take into consideration this item at all.

While this percentage is representative of the building industry in the United States, dealers point out that it does not include the large quantities of lumber used in the thousands of small cities and towns scattered over the country and not included in the forty-nine cities on which a reckoning was made. In towns and small cities wood is usually the predominant building materials and it is safe to say that if the statistics had included figures for all places of whatever size, the percentage of wooden construction would have been much greater. These figures, as a rule, are only for the corporate limits, and the suburbs of these cities have each very large amounts to be added. The cost, also, is relatively higher in these cities than in towns nearer the base of the supply.

In wooden buildings, New York City is at the bottom of the list though it leads with \$18,075 as the average cost of building. Except at San Francisco, where abnormal conditions have prevailed since the fire, Boston shows the greatest increase of any of the cities in the total cost of building operations. The average cost of buildings is constantly increasing, having risen over three hundred dollars during the last three years. The average value of a building is given in the report as \$2,035.

Lumber is by far the greatest drain on the forests, and the wonderful development of the country during the past decade has called for the use of nearly forty billion board feet a year. The largest quantity ever reported for a single year was for 1906, when thirty-seven and one-half billion feet, with a mill value of \$621,151,388 was used. Including the value of the lath and shingles used with this amount, the total value of the wood used for buildings is brought up to \$656,796,513.

**Many Sleepless Nights, Owing to a Persistent Cough. Relief Found at Last.**

"For several winters past my wife has been troubled with a most persistent and disagreeable cough, which invariably extended over a period of several weeks and caused her many sleepless nights," writes Will J. Hayner, editor of the *Burley, Colo., Bulletin*.

"Various remedies were tried each year, with no beneficial results. In November last the cough again put in an appearance and my wife, acting on the suggestion of a friend, purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. The result was indeed marvelous. After three doses the cough entirely disappeared and has not manifested itself since." This remedy is for sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

Colonel Watterson announces that he will support Bryan. The Democrat can only bow his head and murmur: "It is kismet."

**Ask Yourself the Question.**

Why not use Chamberlain's Pain Balm when you have rheumatism? We feel sure that the result will be prompt and satisfactory. One application relieves the pain, and many have been permanently cured by its use. 25 and 50 cent sizes. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

**CHINESE DRILLING**

Organizing Her Troops in a Modern Way.

WORK NOW BEING HASTENED

Border Complications and the Success of the Rebels Reason for This Move and Brigade is Now on Way to Organize a Division.

PEKIN, Feb. 11.—Border complications and the successes of the rebels on the French border, due, it is believed, to foreign assistance, have induced the Chinese government to hasten organization of her modern armies that this text is for the purpose of elucidation and now is striving to secure an exact definition of Great Britain's relation with Tibet.

The throne has authorized uniform punishments for Manchu and Chinese offenders.

**BEANS FED TO SWINE.**

Beans can be fed to swine only in the cooked form. The pig seems to be unable to utilize beans which are at all hard or firm, even though they have been boiled for some time; hence it is very essential that they be thoroughly and carefully cooked, says R. S. Shaw, of Michigan. To supply a single feed of half-cooked beans to a pen of hogs robs them of their appetites and relish for their food, if indeed it does not put them off their feed.

**SAFE.**

Mrs. Smith—Yes, my little five-year-old girl is a great help in my housekeeping. Mrs. Randall—Why, what can such a child do to help? Mrs. Smith—She goes down and tells the cook for me whenever we're going to have company.—Harper's Bazar.

**Save Money by Buying Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.**

You will pay just as much for a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as for any of the other cough medicines, but you save money in buying it. The saving is in what you get, not what you pay. The sure-to-cure-you quality is in every bottle of this remedy, and you get good results when you take it. Neglected colds often develop serious conditions, and when you buy a cough medicine you want to be sure you are getting one that will cure your cold. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy always cures. Price 25 and 50 cents a bottle. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

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