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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Eastern Oregon, Washington, and Idaho—Fair.

Western Washington—Fair, except near coast.

A BLITHERING FARCE.

The report of the Special Committee of Five appointed by the Mayor of Astoria, upon the order of the Common Council, to investigate the gambling status of this city and to report thereon, has been compiled, submitted, read and ordered filed in the archives of the municipality, where, for the credit of the city all men hope it will remain buried for all time to come.

It is flimsiest, most immaterial, indirect, and candidly prejudiced document that was ever sent to the civic records of Astoria. There are but two palpable, acceptable, rational statements in the 2000 words that were wasted in its compilation; and we quote them simply to emphasize the raw vacuity of the whole thing. They are as follows: The Committee says:

"We find that so far as the prohibition or suppression of gambling in the City of Astoria is concerned, that at the present time there is fully as much gambling in progress in the City, excepting slot machines and banking games, as at any previous time in its history. The order of the District Attorney and the laws governing the same, being flagrantly violated. That whereas formerly the major part of the gambling done in Astoria was confined to the classic precinct of Astor Street, it is now diffused through Commercial and Bond Streets, the retail and shopping streets of the City. The business men on Astor Street, seem to have implicitly obeyed the mandate of the District Attorney, not only in so far as the suppression of gambling is concerned, but also in the matter of Sunday closing of saloons. The abject failure of the proper officials to carry out the orders of the District Attorney and the provisions of the laws of the State of Oregon, has resulted in a decided lowering of the moral tone of the community, as well as preventing the City from obtaining a revenue from these non-taxpaying gentry, thus increasing the burdens of the legitimate taxpayers to the amount approximately, of \$15,000.00 per annum."

Here is candor of a sublime order; the candor of the "hammer," than which none is more meanly aggressive.

But the pith of the matter lies in the following query and answer; in which the question is asked with an avid hope that it may damn certain men and officers, in the answering of it; and the answer that took the "wind out of the sails" of the committee and negatives the political animus of the "Specials." The Committee asks, and Judge Thomas A. McBride answers, as follows:

"Question 4. Is it the duty of a Sheriff, to inquire into and investigate rumored violations of law, search out witnesses, and file complaints or informations before the District Attorney?"

"Answer. It is not the duty of the Sheriff to police the County nor town. It is the duty of the Sheriff to do as much of this as his other duties will permit, but no more so than Constable, Police officers and other peace officers. It is the duty of all peace and police officers to use such means as in their judgement is reasonable, to detect criminals and bring them to justice."

The entire work of this committee is a bungling piece of political claptrap, directed boldly and pointedly at the offices of Sheriff and Assistant District Attorney, with the sole view of shielding the police of the city at the expense of another department.

SCANDINAVIAN-AMERICAN SAV. BANK

Courteous and Accommodating

Liberal Methods...Conservative Management

As long as the gamblers and games were worth \$15,000 a year to the city, the police knew every man, game, house, room, and peculiar detail of the business, as it transpired in Astoria, and could put their hands on any sport that was wanted; but the instant the revenue end of the business drops out of sight, police interest falls to the ground and stays there, despite the fact that this special committee solemnly declares that minor gambling is flourishing here just as it always has done; and despite the unequivocal statement of the ablest jurist in the Northwest, that it is the bounden duty of the police to "use such means, as in their judgment is reasonable, to detect criminals and bring them to justice."

We would not go into this shallow thing so largely, were it not for the fact that the committee had gone broadly out of its way and duty, to raise a political issue in the course of a given civic assignment; a course of procedure that transcended their instructions and was wholly voluntary, as well as uncalled for and unjust.

This farce of casting the responsibility for the arresting and prosecuting gamblers back and forth between the police department and the shrievalty and district attorney's office, is an old game; the people are sick and tired of it. The correction of these evils is as much the duty of one as the other. The police chief and police force are either officers of the law and the legal prosecutors of its offenders, or they are not. If they do NOT come within this category, then the disbandment of the department is in order as the revenues of the city will not warrant any ornamental luxuries just at present. We believe Chief Gammal wants to do his whole duty, but like many others in this man's town, he is working under orders, and the men who have the ordering are to blame for what of inaction the force is chargeable; the District Attorney should know just where, when, and to what extent, his orders are obeyed and disobeyed and do his duty in the premise; and as far as the Sheriff is concerned, he seems to have done his share of executive work in the closing of the dance halls and bank games that made the city notorious.

The citizens of Astoria want to respect their officers, from top to bottom, and there is nothing that will beget that respect and hold it so firmly, minus all partisan bias, as the honest, unprejudiced, prompt fulfillment of the statutory, and ordained, duties of every officer of the law; without regard to the lesser orders, and inspired mandates, of commissions, committees or cliques, be they partisan, or organic.

And while were are about it, we want to say that this office is besieged daily with complaints, sardonic, critical, and otherwise, of the fact that the majority of the saloons in this city are maintaining open back doors every Sunday, without let or hindrance from the authorities, while the minor number of them are trying to comply with the law that bids them close. This may be a small matter, yet it is very essential, in the light of the wonderful report under discussion; but perhaps this too is beyond the jurisdiction of the police, and amenable only to the shrievalty and constabulary. At all events it is flagrant and open, and up to some of the "guardians" of the people and the peoples' law.

EDITORIAL SALAD

This must be a lucky year for the Republican party. It picks up a senator in Kentucky in the most unexpected fashion.

The compliments of Senator-Elect Bradley of Kentucky to Mr Bryan of Nebraska. As usual, the Bryan advice was a boomerang.

A new silent firearm may work changes in methods of warfare. Its effect in the field is described, but what can 't do in the forum?

South Dakota has realized \$5,000, 000 from its divorce mill, but it would be hard to find a state willing to take the money along with the reputation.

One of the Maxims has invented a noiseless gun. It was found that the

Before the People

Cards of Candidates in the Coming Campaign.

For Congress,

T. T. GEER

Candidate for Republican Congressional Nomination in the Second District. Liberal Appropriations for Waterways, Equal Opportunities and Privileges for Labor and Capital, an Governmental Control of Corporations.

To The People.

In submitting my name to the electors of the Fifth Judicial District for their consideration for the office of District Attorney of said District, I desire to say that if I am nominated and elected, I will, during my term of office, honestly, vigorously and impartially perform all the official duties pertaining to said office, without fear or favor, endeavoring always to accord to every individual, irrespective of party, politics or personalities, a square deal under the law, keeping always uppermost in my mind the interests of the tax payers of said District and State.

E. B. TONGUE.

old kind was making the citizens of Kentucky deaf.

Col. Bryan has the courage that is born of frequent repetition of the same coscutating platforms. What the colonel needs is some new stage thunder.

The new Republican senator from Kentucky is some offset for the Republican governor who was driven from the state by the Goebel conspiracy against the ballot.

The humor of the pending campaign will be furnished by the Democrats. Some of the delegates to the Denver Convention want to punish Kentucky by indorsing prohibition.

A bad season of the year was selected for the New York-to-Paris automobile race. The machines should have been equipped with runners, like a sled; or fins, like a fish.

Mr. Burbank is working on a banana which he thinks will grow as far north as Massachusetts. The paw-paw may have been started for a banana, but somehow the job went wrong.

With 175 military and semi-military schools in the United States, and nearly 60,000 cadet soldiers in training, there is no danger that the American martial spirit will soon die out.

The Republican party is so rich in material that Secretary Root is not introduced at the banquets he attends as the "next President of the United States." Happy the country that has more good Presidential timber than it can use.

NOT A SOLOIST.

The late Theodore Thomas was rehearsing the Chicago Orchestra on the stage of the Auditorium Theater. He was disturbed by the whistling of Albert Burridge, the well-known scene painter, who was at work in the loft above the stage. A few minutes later Mr. Thomas' librarian appeared on the "bridge" where Mr. Burridge merrily whistling, was at work.

"Mr. Thomas's compliments," said the librarian, "and he requests me to state that if Mr. Burridge wishes to whistle he will be glad to discontinue his rehearsal."

To which Mr. Burridge replied, suavely: "Mr. Burridge's compliments to Mr. Thomas; and please inform Mr. Thomas that, if Mr. Burridge cannot whistle with the orchestra he won't whistle at all."

COFFEE

Why doesn't your grocer moneyback everything?

Can't get the goods or the money.

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

WATERFRONT ITEMS

French Bark Eugene Pergelino From Antwerp.

WEATHERWAX REACHES PORT

A jolly party of about 25 were the guests of John L. Carlson, on board the new gasoline boat John L. C., on Monday afternoon. It was on the occasion of the trial trip of the new boat and was enjoyed by all present. The boat left Wilson's boat yard at 2 p. m. and took a spin along the waterfront to Tongue Point then to the jetty below Fort Stevens returning to Fisher Bros. dock at 5 o'clock, where the guests debarked. The trial was a complete success and the boat will probably be accepted today. Cigars and refreshments were served by the genial host who was as happy as a boy with a new pair of boots. The John L. C. is 70 feet long over all, 14 feet beam and 4 inches by 10 inches depth of hold. She is fitted with a 55 horsepower Union engine and will be used in operating the Pacific Cold Storage Canning Company at Tagu Harbor, Alaska.

The fine French bark Eugene Pergelino, 157 days out from Antwerp, with Captain Le Norman in command crossed in over the Columbia bar yesterday afternoon, and is now in the lower harbor awaiting towage to Portland. She is consigned to Girvin & Eyre, and carries a cargo of cement. She had a stormy passage this side of the Horn; but all are well on board, and glad to drop anchor after the long voyage.

The oil tank steamer W. S. Porter came down the river yesterday morning early and went to sea without loss of time.

The steamer Alliance was among the getaways from this port yesterday, leaving out for Coos Bay at noon, with good business on all decks.

The steamer Johan Poulsen will dock at the Columbia mills pier at Knappton today, en route from Portland to San Francisco, and take on her deck load of lumber from that plant.

The steamer F. S. Loop will be here the first of the coming week to load lumber at the Astoria Box Company's pier, finishing at the Columbia mills at Knappton; and thence she will return to the Bay City.

The schooner J. M. Weatherwax came into port yesterday noon, and will go up the Columbia for an outward cargo of lumber.

The Albert Meyer will go up stream as far as Rainier today on the hawsers of the steamer Oklahoma, for a load of lumber, for San Francisco.

The schooner Alice McDonald is due this morning with a load of lumber, outward bound for the Bay City.

The Carlson launch "John L. C." is being trimmed up for her long run to Alaskan waters, and will leave out in the course of a few days.

Movements Light on Bay and River Yesterday—Alice McDonald Due Down—Albert Meyer Loads at Rainier—Other Interesting Notes

Unequaled as a Cure for Croup.

"Besides being an excellent remedy for colds and throat troubles, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is unequalled as a cure for croup," says Harry Wilson of Waynetown, Ind. When given as soon as the croupy cough appears, this remedy will prevent the attack. It is used successfully in many thousands of homes. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

4 C C C C

Silver Aluminum Jelly Moulds Free.

Individually Molded desserts are now considered the proper thing. The moulds are hard to get outside the large cities, but users of JELL-O, The Dainty Dessert, can get them absolutely free. Circular in each package explaining and illustrating the different patterns. JELL-O is sold by all good grocers at 10c. per package. Do not accept a substitute or you will be disappointed.

Fisher Brothers Company

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Oliver Chilled Ploughs
Malthoid Roofing
Sharples Cream Separators
Racolith Flooring
Storrett's Tools

Hardware, Groceries, Ship Chandlery

Tan Bark, Blue Stone, Muratic Acid, Welch Coal, Tar, Ash Oars, Oak Lumber, Pipe and Fittings, Brass Goods, Paints, Oils and Glass
Fishermen's Pure Manila Rope, Cotton Twine and Seine Web

We Want Your Trade

FISHER BROS.

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ALTERATION SALE

\$900.00 Worth of New Fixtures Will be here March 25th. Every counter and showcase in the store must be moved, hence these genuine reductions:

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25c Box Paper now....17c each \$1.25 Popular novels now 1.09 copy
Other Books, one-third to three-fourths off. Sheet Music 25c, now 11c copy; Music Books, one-fourth to one-half regular price; musical instruments, two-thirds off.

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