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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—
Cloudy with probably showers.

OREGON, AND THE FLEET.

Oregon has had all of the American fleet she is going to get, save the visit of the torpedo flotilla to Portland during the coming Rose Festival. Astoria and the lower Columbia towns saw the great armada out on the high and near seas; Yaquina saw the smoke of it on the western horizon; Portland has seen nothing of it. And once again, Portland is to blame for the fizzle. Just as she was to blame for the revocation of the order from Washington directing the Philippine transports to disembark the American troops at Astoria and having it done at San Francisco, simply because the ships were not ordered to Portland.

If Portland had been disposed to compromise upon the untoward conditions besetting the up-river voyage of the fleet from here, and had been willing to have the ships come in here where they could have lain in safety and order and to have sent her thousands of people down, and so have done a clever thing for the whole State and for the second city in the State, she could have saved her face and the people at large would have been pleased and benefited. Her old niggardly policy of "Portland, or to the Devil with it" has once more wrought sore discomfiture for good old town up the second river from here; and it will continue its work of defeat and vexation so long as she adheres to it; and she is not showing any signs of abandoning it. All this, of course, upon the presumption that the fleet could have crossed the Columbia bar with perfect security; a matter that rested absolutely in the hands of the Secretary of the Navy, who may pardon if he has erred on the side of safety for the hundreds of millions of property that might have been endangered had it been deflected to these waters.

Be that as it may, it is time Portland was waking to the proposition that Astoria might be made immensely serviceable to the metropolis if the metropolis could bring itself to realize the advantages of a sub-port such as this. It pays to have a friendly neighbor at a crisis like the one just passed!

COUNTING THE COST.

It is immeasurably to the advantage of man or community to count the cost of public or private act before its commission than after it is performed. It saves money, time, interest and subsequent values of all sorts and strengthens the hands of the doer against surprises and disappointment and false positions of various kinds; and stamps the man or people who take the precaution, at once, as possessed of the real spirit of business. This rule is peculiarly applicable to municipal affairs, and the Common Council of Astoria and its committees, have recently demonstrated their appreciable sense of the quality, in the revision they have made the gas-main franchise.

It is no reflection upon the gentlemen who happen to represent this enterprise that this review and revision of the original ordinance has been taken, but it is decidedly to the credit of the municipal trustees; and will be better appreciated by the people at large, if, in the days to come the property and franchise in question shall pass into hands less regardful of the popular rights than the present holders. Count the cost first, before it accrues at a pace and limit never dreamed of; and the losses inuring may be the easier borne.

On two successive days came the signing of the arbitration treaty with Japan and the reception of the fleet at San Francisco. Peace continues to add to its victorious renown.

EDITORIAL SALAD

Iowa papers say the 2-cent passenger rate in that state has increased railroad profits. It is best to give the balance sheets a chance before opening a confiscation account.

It is proper that the sunshine and prosperity movement should have its headquarters in Astoria. Politically, commercially and socially Astoria is the spotlight of the universe.

The boys on the big fleet have had another rare experience. They know now what it is to pass a river and harbor with thousands of Americans standing on the shores and surrounding hills to share in the welcome as they passed by.

Senator Teller is another of the enemies of government forest reserves. The state he hails from has too few trees, not too many, and the majority of its citizens will stick to this view of the case.

One of the heavier-than-air flying machines has been making a series of successful flights on the coast of North Carolina. Sailors especially will be delighted to hear that stormy old Hatteras has been circumvented at last.

Cuba has three parties, and each prefers government by the United States to the success of the other two. In spite of the most benevolent intentions Uncle Sam appears to have a bear by the tail in his Cuban experiences.

LUSCIOUS LUNCHEON.

National Retail Grocers Association to Meet in Portland.

PORTLAND, May 21—The Oregon delegation to the National Retail Grocers' Association just adjourned at Boston won a signal victory in securing the 1909 convention for Portland. When one considers that the retail grocers are more numerous than any other class of business men, it gives an idea of the immense audience of merchants throughout this country who will be interested in hearing from Oregon during the next 12 months.

The Portland Commercial Club moves today into its magnificent new home, probably the largest building of its kind owned by any popular commercial body anywhere. The first luncheon was made the occasion of honoring Oregon products.

In addition to this the furniture and fixtures are Oregon-made.

The Hood River Commercial Club, through its officers, is asking the co-operation of the commercial bodies of the State in favoring the establishment of Hood River county.

The Los Angeles bureau of the Portland Commercial Club, under the management of Mrs. Frances Headlee, gives a lecture to an average of 200 people every morning at 11:30. In addition to this, Mrs. Headlee has spoken before large gatherings, and especially before social bodies in the evening. She was recently the guest of the Ohio Society of Southern California—her address, of course, tells the glories of Oregon. Her daily reports show a great interest in this State, and that a large percentage of travel back East will return by way of Oregon.

The Oregon Development League is circulating 60,000 copies of a 4-page dairy and stock bulletin. It contains effective illustration and text, a comprehensive story of live stock, dairy and poultry realities as well as some idea of the future possibilities of this greatest of all dairy sections. The Portland Country Club and Live Stock Association and the location of the great packing plants are important features. It is easy to see that almost untold wealth will accrue to the State through the development of this marvelous branch of its growth.

Oregon's advertising has reached every quarter of the civilized world. Late letters have been received by the Oregon Development League from Austria and New South Wales, Australia.

Would you give twenty-five cents to stop your cough? Then get a bottle of Kemp's Balsam and you will have enough for the whole family. It costs druggists 25c.

COFFEE

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

GENERAL WORTH.

Nia Monument in New York and Why It Is There.

"Everybody who lives in New York knows or ought to know by this time where the Worth monument is, but how many know what it's all about," said a New Yorker to a group of friends who were standing in front of the monument in Madison square.

"I should say," he went on, "that more persons pass by here every day than by any other spot in Manhattan, excepting Nassau and Frankfort streets, yet I'll wager that most of you do not know who Worth was."

"Pooh!" remarked the only non-New Yorker in the group, who had just come down from Albany and hadn't been in Madison square but once before in his life. "Worth was with Pope in the Army of the Potomac and was killed when he was with Sherman in the march through Georgia."

"Oh, you're way off there, John," interrupted another. "I can see near the base in big bronze letters:

"By the Corporation of the City of New York, 1857. Honor the Brave."

The year 1857 settled the Army of the Potomac and marching through Georgia guess.

One of the onlookers has been a guest of a nearby hotel for several years. He knew it all—at least he thought he did. "That monument," he said, "was erected to the memory of General Worth, who won great fame with Scott during our war with Mexico. Am I right?"

"Right you are," said the onlooker who had started the talk, "but," he continued, "why did the city of New York take such a special interest in his memory as to build that monument in his honor?"

"That's easy," was the reply of the ancient guest of the nearby hotel. "It was because Worth was born in this city and the city was proud of him as one of her distinguished sons."

About this time along strolled a tall man who was apparently acquainted with the onlookers and had heard the last question and the answer. There was a broad grin on his face. He was a former inspector of police.

He put in a question or two, and in answering not one of the group could tell whether Worth was killed in battle or where he was buried. But all agreed that he was born in New York city.

"Just come over to the monument and take a look at the north side slab and get posted," said the ex-inspector. And the group went with him. This is what they read on the slab, and they all afterward acknowledged that then and there they had read it for the first time in their lives:

Under this Monument Lies the Body of WILLIAM JENKINS WORTH, Born in Hudson, N. Y., March 1, 1794. Died in Texas May 7, 1842.

The fact is that not one person in ten thousand in crossing to or from Fifth avenue to Broadway takes the Twenty-fifth street crossing on the monument side, and therefore few persons other than tourists ever stop to read what is on the slab. It so happens, too, that the sunlight seldom touches that side of the monument. Moreover as the slab and bronze let-

ters on it are very dark, passersby seldom give it any notice.

"If out of a dozen New Yorkers who have lived nearly all their lives within a stone's throw of this monument only one knew that General Worth fought in the Mexican war and none knew that his body lies under the monument, how few of the millions who pass by it every year ever heard of the general's name?"

That was the remark the ex-inspector made to the group of New Yorkers after they had read the slab.—New York Sun.

THE MASTERPIECE.

It is Produced on the Average at the Age of Fifty.

The "sumnum bonum" of a man's life—who shall say when or what it is in any given case? It becomes almost a work of supererogation to attempt to designate any single act or performance as the one most valuable in any man's career. Reduced to the ultimate, it becomes, after all, only the expression of an individual opinion, save in those striking instances in which by general consent a certain achievement is recognized as the man's greatest work. No one would deny that in "Paradise Lost" Milton attained the highest expression of his mentality, that Wellington achieved his greatest fame when he won the field of Waterloo, that Bacon's "Novum Organum" is his greatest accomplishment and that "Don Quixote" exceeds anything else that Cervantes ever did. In other life records one act may appear equal to another at different stages in the man's development, or to one observer the influence of one deed may far outweigh that of another, and contrariwise. This difficulty has been exceedingly hard to overcome and without any attempt at dogmatism, but with the earnest desire to ascertain the truth as far as may be possible, has the decision been made in the disputable records.

Having been arranged in this manner, the records give an average age of fifty for the performance of the masterwork. For the workers the average age is forty-seven and for the thinkers fifty-two. Chemists and physicists average the youngest at forty-one; dramatists and playwrights, poets and inventors follow at forty-four; novelists give an average of forty-six, explorers and warriors forty-seven, musical composers and actors forty-eight, artists and divines occupy the position of equilibrium at fifty, essayists and reformers stand at fifty-one, physicians and surgeons line up with the statesmen at fifty-two, philosophers give an average of fifty-four, astronomers and mathematicians, satirists and humorists reach fifty-six, historians fifty-seven and naturalists and jurists fifty-eight. As may be noted, there is a rearrangement of the order at this time, but the thinkers, as before and as would naturally be expected, attain their full maturity at a later period than the workers.

The corollary is evident. Provided health and optimism remain, the man of fifty can command success as readily as the man of thirty. Health plus optimism read the secret of success; the one God given, the other inborn also, but capable of cultivation to the point of enthusiasm.—W. A. Newman Doeland in Century.

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