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THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair.

THE NEED OF CAUTION.

The practical value of the proposed Astoria seawall is undisputed. It will serve a number of important interests and create a wide range of public and private conveniences; enhance the appearance of the city; set up substantial conditions, broaden the territory of the municipality, and give newer values to it all.

But there is much to consider. One of the chief things to arrange is the share of the A. & C. Railway in this project. That concern is to be an equal beneficiary in the enterprise, and the proposition to assess it but one-fifth the cost is unfair to the city and the citizen. If the idea of the seawall had not assumed the dimensions it has in the popular mind, the railway people must, in time, have gone about the work of rocking their line from Tongue Point to Smith's Point, in which event, the city would, without doubt, have gladly assumed one-half the expense; but since the question is raised on our side, the company will take due advantage of our spirited ambition and pay as little as possible for the inestimable improvement. Common justice demands that they bear their exact proportion of the cost of solidifying the splendid right-of-way that cost them absolutely NOTHING in the first instance.

Again, the issue of the normal, permanent grade to which this fine line of improvement is to rise, as a datum for the rest of the city, is one of the cardinal points of popular consideration. The proposition to carry it to a point ten feet above existing levels is an element in its forecast that will entail extraordinary opposition from every property owner on the north of Exchange street. It is inequitable to them and to the railway company, and will operate to retard, if not defeat, the whole scheme. Everybody at interest admits that the grades are not high enough as at present established; that two or three feet, or five, at most, must be added to the working levels as they stand.

This could be done with safety and to no man's particular hurt, and would, to that extent, minimize the work of reducing the hill levels; but the proposal to arbitrarily set a new standard involving the raising of the waterfront properties ten feet, is of a confiscatory character that will be bitterly, and successfully fought. The railway grade as now constituted will serve admirably for years to come, as a base, and hold the cost of revamping the present improvements throughout the business section within a range of cost that might be tolerated for the sake of the immense improvement to follow.

And, again, the scope of the work is worth deep consideration. The question is becoming vital and widespread, as to whether it would not be well to district the improvement, and accomplish it by sections, starting the project, for instance, at the foot of Sixth street and carrying it eastward to the line of Sixteenth, throwing a tangent wall back to the land line from there, and then beginning the fill; accomplishing the rest of the work, every few years, as the success of the initial improvement shall inspire its extension. This might be done by district assessment as well as by district progression; and would put the cost upon the property receiving the largest and most direct benefit and absolving the remote property from the burden that yields it but infinitesimal, if not altogether visionary, benefit.

This whole question is one of far-reaching importance and its gravity is not to be glossed over at any stage of its treatment. It is too huge and costly to be undertaken upon any hypo-

thesis short of universal understanding and appreciation. It is too large with significant results to be jumped along at any old gait, and before it passes the gamut of popular approval, it will be exactly and honestly weighed and warranted in the public mind of Astoria; to launch such an enterprise under any other conditions, would be suicidal. We want it, but we want it right!

DEEP-SEA FISHING.

The recent stress and strife over the processes and equities of the the salmon fishing industries of Oregon lends keen and appreciable interest to the development of the deep-sea fishing that is underway here. It is opportune and, perhaps, significant.

If the inshore industry is to lapse and fail for want of proper protection, then the thousands of men trained to the craft may find substitute engagement for their time and talent in the pursuit of not only the salmon but of every marketable fish in the ocean waters; and the fishing industry of Astoria take a stride in scope and market that will vastly repay the departure.

The proposition is worth the watching and encouragement of our people. They must have something to turn to in the event of disaster; and if disaster never comes, then it were well to have the auxiliary benefit of the new trade and traffic along congenial and familiar lines.

EDITORIAL SALAD

Speaker Cannon made a better shot than any of the big guns in the monitor practice.

The motto on the coins is applicable to vice-presidential nominations, which nobody seems to want and nobody can guess in advance.

Taft and Bryan are of the same mind in regard to publicity of campaign contributions. Maybe they are seeking this means to humiliate Watson and Debs.

The mule is an important animal in the cotton fields. John Sharp Williams is a keen observer of the balky variety. He has mastered all its tricks to perfection.

The Northwestern States report that their crop prospects are better than ever before, and this is a sort of sunshine talk that comes from all sections of the country.

Mr. Fairbanks advises the public that he does not want another term as vice-president. He is tired of laying corner stones and ornamenting old settlers' conventions.

A party of Japanese visitors to London praise it as "a quiet, settled city." The roar of London seems to have been lost on these critics, but such treatment will increase it.

Badly Sprained Ankle Cured.

Three years ago our daughter sprained her ankle and had been suffering terribly for two days and nights—had not slept a minute. Mr. Stallings, of Butler Tenn., told us of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. We went to the store that night and got a bottle of it and bathed her ankle two or three times and she went to sleep and had a good night's rest. The next morning she was much better and in a short time could walk around and had no more trouble with her ankle.—E. M. Brumitt, Hampton, Tenn. 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

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MEAT PRICES HIGH

Owing to Cattle Shortage at Slaughter Centers

BEEF DEMAND FALLEN OFF

Consumption of Meat in New York City Decrease 30 Per Cent Below Normal Decrease, While the High Prices Exceed Maximum of Years.

NEW YORK, June 9.—With the prevailing advances in the prices of beef products ascribed by the packers to cattle shortages at slaughtering centers, the consumption of this meat in New York City is said by wholesalers and retailers to have fallen from 25 to 30 per cent below the normal decrease. High prices exceeding the maximum of recent years, have been the dominant factor contributing to this result, it is admitted.

Demand for beef, investigation shows, has fallen off throughout the city. Hotels, restaurants and families are reducing their daily orders, often by one-half. Already, the retail prices are one-third higher than the quotations of a year ago. Sirloin steaks have been quoted as high as 32 to 35 cents a pound, while the consumers of "chuck" and other inferior cuts of beef have felt the pinch severely.

In many districts of the East Side the retailers required to meet wholesale price advances, which have aggregated between 3 and 4 cents a pound within the last ten weeks are selling their products at prices which yield little or no profit rather than take chances of further curtailing their trade by raising retail figures.

Representatives of the larger packing companies insist the advance of 1 to 1½ cents a pound within the last week in wholesale quotations is due solely to the shortage of cattle. They assert that had consumption volume held to the normal figures for this season of the year, the increases would have been much larger.

Retail dealers lay the blame upon the packers. Several retailers attributed conditions to price manipulation by a so-called trust, asserting that representatives of the various large slaughtering interests meet each Saturday and agree upon prices for the ensuing week.

Sore Nipples.

Any mother who has had experience with this distressing ailment will be pleased to know that a cure may be effected by applying Chamberlain's Salve as soon as the child is done nursing. Wipe it off with a soft cloth before allowing the babe to nurse. Many trained nurses use this salve with best results. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

SWORN IN OFFICE

WASHINGTON, June 9.—John S. Leach, the newly appointed public printer, arrived in Washington yesterday to be sworn into office to-day. He was appointed as a compositor in the government printing office from Bloomington, Ill., 1889, and has been director of the Philippine office at Manila since 1901. He was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Public Printer Stillings, following an investigation of the government printing office some months ago.

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CALLS MEETING.

To Take Place On June 11th At Plaza Hotel.

WASHINGTON, June 9.—Senator Aldrich, chairman of the senate committee on finance and also of the general currency commission, has called a meeting of the club committee appointed to devise a plan of operation for the commission and also a meeting of the sub committee of the finance committee which will have under special consideration the tariff question both of which meetings will take place at the Plaza hotel in New York on Thursday June 11. The currency commission will probably be in session for several days but the understanding here is that the tariff committee will not be held there for so long a time. The tariff committee is authorized under the law to employ government experts in preparing for its work and this meeting is expected to lay out work for them. It is expected Senator Aldrich will go to the currency meeting with a prepared general outline of action.

YOUNG BRODIE DEAD

Son Of The Famous Steve Brodie of The New York Bowery.

NEW YORK, June 9.—"Young Steve" Brodie is dead. He breathed his last in Bellevue Hospital where he was taken several days ago after being picked up in a comatose condition in a Bowery gutter. Death was due to alcoholism.

He was a son of "Steve" Brodie, for many years a prominent citizen of the East Side who first came into prominence because of a claim that he had jumped from the Brooklyn bridge to the river below. He declared himself "the champion bridge jumper of the world" and opened a saloon on the Bowery. Later he went on the stage as a star and played throughout the country in a melodrama which purported to depict scenes in Brodie's career and of life on the Bowery. He made a fortune before his death three years ago. Young Brodie inherited a large sum of money from his father but did not succeed in business. He spent his inheritance freely and finally, his fortune was gone, he drifted to the Bowery, the last refuge of so many of his kind. The friends who had been attracted to his father by his many good qualities were unable to reclaim the son who was finally reduced to obtaining a living by accepting small tips from Bowery sightseers to whom he was pointed out as a son of the "bridge jumper."

DEATHS AT NEW YORK

Fewer Last Week Than Any Week In History.

NEW YORK, June 9.—There were fewer deaths proportionately in New York last week according to the health department than in any week of the city's history. The death rate record reaching 14.41 per 1,000. The health department though surprised and gratified admits it is unable to account for the drop of more than 3 per cent from the corresponding week last June. Assistant Health Commissioner Hensel speaking of the decrease in deaths, said: "We don't understand it. The various epidemics seem to be holding their own and other conditions are apparently the same but the fact remains that, whereas the death rate for the week ending June 8, 1907, was 17.46; for the week ending June 6, 1908, it was only 14.41 a decrease of 3.05 per cent or 250 deaths."

It was stated at the department that the two weeks which approached nearest this low record were the week ending October 29, 1904, when the death rate was 14.46, and that ending November 11, 1905, when it was 14.61.

No Need of Suffering From Rheumatism.

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