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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon—Cooler except near the coast.

THE JETTY NEWS.

The reports from the new official survey of the Columbia river bar, is, to say the very least of it, cheerful and encouraging. It has the sanction of the Government and is given out on the testimony of Col. W. S. Roessler, an engineering officer in whom both the Government and the people have confidence. It is in direct conformity with the expectations from the jetty work that has been going on for the past score of years and is an item that was looked for, now that the great work is nearing completion and should show some signs of doing the work it was designed and built to do.

At all events it is officially declared that there is 26 feet of water there at mean low water, and such a statement, while susceptible of denial and disparagement, must be so treated that there may be no doubt left in any man's mind, of the correctness claimed for it. And we hope there may never come any authentic disclaimer, since it is vitally essential to Astoria and the whole Columbia valley, including Portland, that the bar shall be cleared to the best commercial depths, and held at them, forever.

CLEVELAND.

Grover Cleveland is no more! With the passing of this man dies all the conflict of opinion that swept the nation during his official career as President. There are thousands to say, even yet, that he was ever a great man; but to that falls the invariable answer that no living man ever twice filled the American presidency who was not great. The quality of greatness varies as does that of the lesser; and to the impartial historian must be left the degree of fame and faith to which Mr. Cleveland aspired and arrived.

There he was an earnest, vigorous, type; a man of substance and courage there are none to question nor forget. That he was a fine type of the home-building and home-loving American has always been conceded to him by those who admired him least. That he was a thinker, a reasoner, a man of ideas and convictions, with the knowledge and power to enforce them upon the sense and conscience of an immense following, has always been admitted, even by his enemies; and that he blundered at some critical moments of his great career has long since been forgiven him because of the political martyrdom wherewith he paid for the mistake of the hour.

The impress of his life and character will remain part and parcel of the national record, and disparagement will never reduce, by the veriest fraction, the honor that is due him as public servant and private citizen.

THE HOLDING COMPANY.

The Morning Astorian is glad of the movement to establish the electrical system of railway that is to connect this city with the coast resorts, and intends to encourage it and aid it in all possible ways; but, speaking for many people, it regrets the fact that the subsidiary company, or holding company, set up to carry the equities of the concern until the fulfillment of certain engagements was not made up of others than those directly interested in the main and original company. It would have given wider satisfaction in the community and would have served the company's interest better to have placed the trust in the hands of the Chamber of Commerce, or some of the leading and responsible citizens, rather than to have assigned it to hands and interests already heavily engaged in the project. This, without disparagement of the gentlemen constituting the holding company; they are unimpeachable, of course; but they are not exactly the ones to take over the responsibility of seeing to it that they themselves shall do the full and faithful thing, however perfectly they may do it. A

quasi public trust of this sort is usually given into hands that are supposedly disinterested.

EVERYTHING FOR ALL.

Social reformers who want society organized on the communal plan start with a most attractive idea. The world is tending toward democracy, the equal rights of everybody in everything there is for human comfort and welfare. But it is certain to occur to many people that the change from private ownership to communal ownership would not make a very radical difference in the distribution of the good things of life, yet it might lessen the production of things, and in the end the mass would not be the gainer. For at least a century democracy has had a fair swing and progress has been made under sharp private competition. Under the reign of competition the distribution has grown wider and wider, and now, when competition is fiercest, the distribution is the most liberal in the history of the modern world. Everybody shares in about everything that is of real importance in life.

Steam power was a wonder worker when applied to commercial activities. Electricity supplements steam as a power and also furnishes illumination. There are few people in this country today who are not benefited by steam or electricity, or both. Yet no community invented these forces. Individuals wrought out the wonders. The nobleman and lord of ancient days had at command no such agents of power as the laboring man has today. A hundred years ago musical instruments were the property of the few. Today almost every cottage has one or more musical instruments. The phonograph gives to the humblest toiler today what a lord of the past could not have had even by pawing his realm. The communal plan would make the phonograph the property of everybody—that is, if there should be a phonograph when the distribution takes place. Perhaps there would be none, and none of the various inventions which contribute so much to the world's progress and comfort. Inventors' royalty is about all that stands in the way of making the phonograph and other like inventions as cheap and common as the advocates of communal ownership think they should be. But if Edison, for instance, were to offer to forego his immense royalties, provided his physical burdens should be shared pro rata by every user of his inventions, would the public take him up? Here is the idea in a nutshell. Things that count in our lives are cheap considering what it has cost somebody to produce them.

Money doesn't stay with the individual now as it once did, perhaps. The reason is that money will purchase so much that is worth having for the work it will do. Formerly all kinds of machines, all kinds of books, of pictures, of works of art, were rare and expensive. Only the fortunate few could have them. Now these things are common, they are cheap, and almost everybody has all they need and can use. J. P. Morgan gets no more delight looking at a picture which costs him a fortune than does the man who buys a reproduction of it for a dollar or two, maybe less. Morgan owns it, of course—owns its fictitious value—but may never see it more than half a dozen times in his life, for he doesn't live in his picture galleries. The other owner sees his copy every day, if he wants to, and is the possessor of whatever real value there is in the picture.

After all, there may be a fallacy in this idea that a distribution of ownership will increase happiness. The wider distribution of things, the infinite multiplication of rare and good things, bringing them within the reach of the purses of the mass, has already revolutionized life within a century. The end of this process of multiplication and distribution is not in sight, and it may reasonably be questioned whether the competitive system is, as some contend, inadequate to give everybody a square deal in everything necessary to human happiness.

FIGHT NEARLY WON

To Put Bucket Shops Out of Business

POSTAL AUTHORITIES WORK

Every State in the Union is Opening Batteries Against the Bogus Concerns—Especially by Governor Folk of Missouri.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The Postoffice Department, which in 1896 took a hand in the efforts of local and state authorities to put the bucketshops out of business, has now an accumulated batch of information that indicates that the fight is nearly won. These concerns are being put out of business in one way and another this year very rapidly.

Right under the nose of the Department one audacious individual, Percy Wade, continued business until this Spring, when his doors were shut by the District authorities and he went to jail for 30 days.

In a message to Congress by President Roosevelt, he referred to the importance of the bucketshop evil. "The great bulk of business," he said, "transacted on the exchanges is not only legitimate, but is necessary to the working of our modern industrial system, and extreme care would have to be taken not to interfere with this business in doing away with the bucketshop type of operations." Because of the discredit to legitimate business from the counterfeit concerns, those which deal only in differences and fluctuations in quotations which they steal from the exchanges by wire tapping, the exchanges have been zealous in the fight against them, the Chicago Board of Trade having expended hundreds of thousands of dollars in assisting the postal and other authorities in fighting the bucketshops in the courts. The great asset of the fraudulent concerns is in their semblance of a real brokerage business—in telegraphic apparatus, kept clicking busily, in blackboards, handsome furniture and rugs. By shamming the transactions that are vital to the farmers and business men of any time and lured them into ventures that have no more to do with real grain and real stocks than a mirage has to do with a real oasis in the desert. Most of the defaulters and others have been found to have lost their money in bucketshops, although they have used the phrase "lost on the board of trade," being unwilling to be classed as bucketshop patrons.

The cashier of a national bank at Aurora, Ill., short \$60,000, lost his money in a bucketshop in Hammond, Ind., which had been driven out of Chicago, but asserted the money went "on the board of trade." Such cases as this give point to President Roosevelt's words quoted above. Point is given to his words also by the fact that an anti-bucketshop law recently passed in Oklahoma has driven out of the state the legitimate brokers as well as the bucketshops, for lack of discriminating provisions in the law, such as President Roosevelt called attention to as being necessary in wise legislation on the subject.

In Cincinnati recently, thirty-four indictments against bucketshops were returned at one time. One of these was against a firm that controlled 170 branches, located in various states, and reported to have an annual income of \$2,000,000. Another firm was doing a business estimated at \$1,500,000 annually, with its wires from Florida to Salt Lake City, and boasted that before the next snow it would have wires to the Pacific coast. Morehead & Company, a firm with its manification of wires in Chicago and elsewhere, and an extended wire service, have been forced to quit. These great leaders of the fraternity practically controlled the entire business of the United States.

The fight is now fairly on, and every State in the Union is opening its batteries against these bogus concerns. One of the heaviest blows yet dealt them was that of Governor Folk of Missouri, when he demanded the enforcement of the State law that fixes the penalty of five years in the penitentiary. Recently, during a single twelve months, seven States, Montana, Nebraska, Minnesota, Connecticut, Missouri and Alabama passed stringent prohibitory laws against them.

These court decisions, far-reaching as they are and valuable as they have



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Mrs. S. A. Williams, of Gardiner, Maine, writes:

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proven, have in nowise closed the contest; they have only cleared away the rubbish, and exposed the ghouls in the light of their true character. Such decisions cannot drive them from the commercial field, but they have torn off the disguise. When the bucketshop form of thievery is annihilated, as it now seems likely to be, it is claimed that the people of this country will make an annual saving of \$200,000,000.

A Lesson in Health

Healthy kidneys filter the impurities from the blood, and unless they do this good health is impossible. Foley's Kidney Cure makes sound kidneys and will positively cure all forms of kidney and bladder disease. It strengthens the whole system. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

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