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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon and Washington—Fair tonight and Saturday; northwesterly winds.

MR. TAFT, HIS WAY.

William Howard Taft has been too long in the limelight to have need for spectacular processes in the walk-over to the Presidency. He is highly trained, and wholly used, to the front rank of exalted place and utilities and has nothing to learn of the disposing of supremely great issues and policies. He will be all there when he arrives.

Mr. Bryan is occupying the center of the American stage; just at present, but by the 3rd of November he will be in the second file of the "pop-places" and shouting with the chorus, but not very loudly. On the contrary, one hears comparatively little of the big Ohioan, and that little is of a qualified sort. He, nor his friends, nor his party, take high or assumptive views of the campaign nor its outcome; they are trusting to the real and powerful influences attaching to the situation for the final endorsement the people must give to the continuance of the Rooseveltian program; this is all there is to the Republican attitude this year; and that does not mean that Mr. Taft will take orders from anyone nor ape his predecessor in a single thing. It will be found that he has his own way of doing things, and while he may adhere with devotion to the high principles that actuated his friend and chief, he will be his own master and dispense his great functions according to the light, and faith, and faculty, peculiarly his own; the people, knowing him to be in full harmony with what has gone before and that he has had intimate part in the formulation and operation of the best and greatest of it all, are not likely to forget for a moment where safety lies, paralleled by strength, and profound experience.

THE UP-LIFT IN SIGHT.

Out here on the coast tangent there is a lively spirit of anticipation for the business of fall and winter; all hands conceding that while things are a bit hemmed in for the moment there are bright prospects for the whole country when the key-string of the situation is loosened, the Presidential election.

With a magnificent wheat crop in plain sight and a smashing big fleet coming after it; with the lumber interests looking up sharply all over the Northwest; with the election of Mr. Taft almost a foregone conclusion; the bankers growing optimistic and the ordinary citizen still busy and without cause for apprehending a cessation of employment; with all our industries in full operation and some of them on double time and no hint of abatement; the coast markets looking up, everybody at work who wants work, money rationally easy for all current businesses, and no failures anywhere (and the best Regatta ever, looming along to consummation), we, of Astoria, are easy and eager and earnest as to the present and future of the country and our particular section of it.

It don't pay to be in any other frame of mind. This letting one's self down to the "demnition how-wows" because a floating shadow lingers a day too long in its passage over us, is folly; the thing to do is to take a comparative survey of the field daily and measure it by the worst conditions and standards "our oldest citizen" ever knew; then we get the hunch that things are immensely bet-

ter than we supposed and the consciousness that we are still on the very surface of things, and swimming easily, comes with a rush and brings a glow of satisfaction. It is a poor day, indeed, when things could not be worse!

OUR MARINE FESTIVAL.

The Regatta spirit must never be permitted to languish in this city and port. The marine festival has become one of the institutions of the north-west, and must be perpetuated, seasonably, and with advancing ardor, for all time. The one now in course of preparation will be the best ever, and so they must range year by year. The whole community is committed to the policy now by the long, consecutive list of happy entertainments already to its credit.

There is nothing lacking. We have one of the most beautiful water courses on the continent, seasonable winds, superb summer weather always, lovely scenic attractions, clever and hospitable citizens; all the requisites for such an "annual"; we will, by degrees, take our place in the roster of great athletic events, and to this end we must put up greater prizes and bill the more alluring and sportful issues of the day. This will all come in time, and following the pace already set, it will not be many moons until we find ourselves on the best records of the world in such behalf.

Mr. Gompers is not denying that he jumped into Bryan's support without waiting for speeches of acceptance or any other particulars. Sometimes the early bird, in a dim light, tackles a caterpillar.

Hard times, according to a writer of the day, have an optimistic lining. Plain living is declared to be a preventive of sunstroke and a lack of funds promotes a desire to substitute arbitration for litigation.

The proposed disruption of the Harriman system of railroads will keep the lawyers and the courts busy for the next quarter of a century. Mr. Harriman will be found to be a tough customer.

Mr. Taft's speech accepting the presidential nomination gives the plain indication that the matter of filing the office has had his serious consideration. There is not a word of uncertainty in the entire speech.

The selection of Theodore Roosevelt to be first honorary president of the peace and arbitration league is a strong endorsement of the policy of constructing bigger and better battle ships, and more of them.

VETERANS TO AMALGAMATE.

MANILA, Aug. 14.—The veterans of the army of the Philippines, now assembled in convention in this city have unanimously endorsed a proposal to amalgamate the island organization with the United Spanish War Veterans of America in compliance with an agreement recently entered into at Washington, D. C.

Colonel Harbord of the Philippines constabulary, was elected department commander by the convention. Resolutions adopted by the convention endorse the administration of President Roosevelt and also that of Governor General Smith.

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MORE HUMMELLS WANTED.

If Brooklyn Had Six More Like Him Team Would Be a Good One.

While several members of the Brooklyn Nationals have been playing ragged ball since the season opened, there is one who has played a consistent game wherever he has been assigned. He is "Silent John" Hummell, the Superbas' star all around man. Hummell has held down six different positions on the Brooklyn team this



"SILENT JOHN" HUMMELL OF THE BROOKLYN NATIONALS.

year and has played a splendid game in each. He is a fast fielder, a good batter and a clever base runner. If the team had a few more Hummells it would now be well up in the first division in place of fighting for the cellar championship with St. Louis. Any way, it would be a good thing if several of the so called stars on the team would try to emulate "Silent John"

AFTER PATENT "DOPES."

Formal Enquiry To Be Made Into Certain Medicines.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Foods of every description, especially prepared for infants and invalids will be scientifically investigated by the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture to determine whether or not they are injurious to health. While there is no specific authorization to make the proposed inquiry, the work will be undertaken under the general authority given for the enforcement of the food and drug act. The first step will be the collection of data from physicians, especially specialists in child's diseases, authors, manufacturers and others.

The next step will be the collection of samples of infants and invalid's foods that enter into interstate trade and imported from abroad. These foods will undergo a careful chemical analysis with a view to determining whether they comply with the pure food and drug act.

ON RUNAWAY TRAIN.

Passengers Didn't Know Engineer Had Fallen From Cab.

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Aug. 14.—With Engineer Charles Strang lying injured alongside the track and the fireman busy on the back of the tender, the Grand Trunk Flyer, east bound, ran for miles yesterday afternoon with no guiding hand at the throttle and with the 300 passengers in the coaches calmly gazing out the windows ignorant of the fact that they were riding on a runaway train. Finishing his work on the tender the fireman returned to the cab to find the engineer's seat vacant. The fireman brought the train to a stop and backed it up until the engineer was found lying beside the track with his left arm and left leg broken, one shoulder crushed and his skull fractured. It is supposed the engineer lost his balance in leaning from the window or got out to look for a hot box. He was taken to Nicholas Hospital here where it was said there is a chance he might recover.

EPIDEMIC OF DESERTIONS.

Hard Times Cause Many Husbands To Leave Wives.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—Hard times are the cause of a wide spread epidemic of wife desertion in the poorer districts of the city, according to reports turned in by the visitors of the Children's Aid Society. In the instance cited by Mrs. Edith McArthur, the visitor of the East 88th St. station, the primeval instinct of the survival of the fittest is responsible for the epidemic.

"Conditions in my district are really so terrible," said Mrs. McArthur, "that I believe that if work is not forthcoming immediately for the men the whole neighborhood will degenerate into a condition which will shock New York. The sufferings the people have been through and which

many are still experiencing are having a bad emotional effect. The instinct of self preservation is becoming stronger with the men than love for the wife and children.

A WATERLESS CAFE.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—The old Saranac Hotel, on Broadway near 42nd Street, it is said, will be converted into a restaurant, with many novel features.

One authority says that the new building will have eight floors the first three for dining rooms the next four floors for private dining rooms and banquet halls which will accommodate any number of persons from a party of four to 1200, the eighth floor being used as the kitchen. The waiters will all be invisible. The guests will write what they want on a pad, put it on the table, which will then sink down to a space between the floors where the waiters will fill the orders. A further tale is that in time there will be a chain of such places from New York to the Pacific coast.

HE MAY BE INSANE.

PARIS, Aug. 14.—Dr. John Miller Moore, an ex-surgeon in the United States navy, is detained at the Ville-ward Asylum, whither the police conveyed him on account of his peculiar behavior in certain Paris hotels and which led them to believe he is suffering from hallucinations. Mr. Mason, the American consul general here, is investigating the matter. Dr. Moore is said to have served aboard the battleship Kansas on the trip of the Atlantic battleship fleet from Hampton Roads to California. He is said to have left the vessel at San Francisco.

HIDING HIS BLUNDER.

Automobilist Injures Man And Secretely Cares For The Victim.

CHICAGO, Aug. 14.—A mysterious letter telling of an automobile accident in which John L. Pittman an auditor who disappeared Tuesday evening, was probably fatally injured, was received yesterday by the man's cousin, Miss Edna Stilley, it was signed "A citizen in sorrow."

According to the unknown writer Pittman was struck by a machine on the south side of the street and was taken to the residence of the writer where he was being cared for by him. He also said that he had discovered Miss Stilley's address among papers found in Pittman's pockets Miss Stilley took the letter to the police, saying she believed it was true.

Detectives found that Pittman's wife and children are now visiting in Virginia. No one could be found who had seen Pittman since Tuesday evening.

The letter was written on a plain sheet of paper of good quality. There had been an evident attempt to disguise the handwriting, as the letter was written in a forced backhand style.

The police believe, with Miss Stanley that Pittman has been hurt by an automobile owned and operated by a wealthy man who has taken him to his home in order to avoid notoriety. Today all physicians on the South Side will be asked if they have been called on to attend a man injured in an auto accident.

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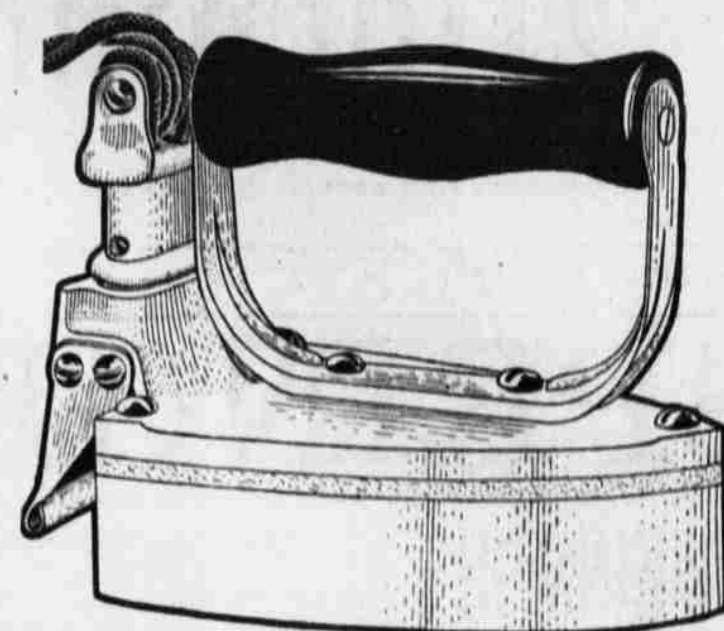
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