

# The Daily Astorian

Established 1873.

Published Daily Except Monday by THE J. S. DELLINGER CO.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mail, per year .....\$7.00  
By carrier, per month ..... .60

## WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance.....\$1.50

Entered as second-class matter July 30, 1906, a the postoffice at Astoria, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Orders for the delivering of The Morning Astorian to either residence or place of business may be made by postal card or through telephone. Any irregularity in delivery should be immediately reported to the office of publication.

TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

## THE WEATHER

Oregon and Idaho—Fair.  
Washington—Fair and cooler in northeast and warmer in southwest.

## THE PORT FIRST

Without the necessity for spending a million or more of money for its formal establishment, the setting up of the Port of Astoria, by its own people, will be a long step toward the accomplishment of many another good and expedient thing for the city and section. It is a mere matter of popular authority that is wanted to make this a fixed and useful adjunct to our commercial development; a matter of progressive voting and subsequent careful oversight.

As a port, in the legal sense of the term, Astoria will be in a position to do much more for herself than at present, and, as The Oregonian says, we can "advertise" the harbor with direct and definite purpose and to ends amply provided for. As it is, our waters are but a highway, an unregulated haven, a marine station—safe, commodious, accessible, but utterly unadapted to the huge scope of usefulness that might be wrought, not for ourselves entirely, but for the whole Columbia Basin, including Portland and the Willamette Valley.

The port commission may be made the clearing agency for the sea-wall and all other great and small accessories in the way of permanent improvement and commercial expansion; and, as a basis for such development, we know of nothing to compare with this business-like and appropriate action on the part of Astorians, who of all people on the earth are entitled to what benefits appertain to an organic port. We urge it in the best of faith, for the common good, by way of its essentiality, and for the security it will add to our future demands, actions and interests, as they unfold with the immense future of the Northwest.

We do not have to invest a single dollar to put ourselves in the initial attitude; we may take our time at working out the details of establishment and equipment, if we but take over the lawful and composite rights that belong to us.

## LAW FIRST, LAW LAST

The Columbia salmon fisheries are badly hedged in a triangle of law, with two State codes and the federal statutes looming large and at present at wide variance. But we believe in the law, and that it may be made to unravel the snarl for which it is responsible.

The fact that the Constitutions of Oregon and Washington give each State concurrent jurisdiction, for criminal procedure, over the two banks of the Columbia River should have operated to preserve a better and safer condition than now prevails, especially in the matter of the fisheries. But since the legislation of each State has departed widely from that organic footing and conducted to an inextricable mess it is the duty of our people and those of Washington to see to it that these great preserves and the valuable industry they stand for are not sacrificed to false pride and an insensate greed.

There is plenty of law, business acumen and common honesty to save the situation from the extremes of criminal confusion if those at interest will put good citizenship and a great two-State trade above the promptings

## COFFEE

You can buy something called "coffee" at 10c lb with 3000 miles of R R freight from the roaster; don't.

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

## GRAFT-WEARINESS

There is not a metropolis, city, town, hamlet or organic district in all this magnificent land of ours that is not graft-weary. Go where one may, read what one will, listen to what tale is told from the outside, the same story of shame and public debasement is forced upon the consciousness of the American who is in any degree given to thinking out civic problems.

We have got to the pass where we actually laugh at graft. But the laugh does not ring right; there is a note in it that will be heard, minus the laugh, some day; a note of weariness, communal sickness, sheer disgust and of the sense of blind weakness that has permitted the modern scale and scope of public and private theft to pass from the exceptional and extraordinary to a common and accepted rule of the business hour.

From the St. Croix mouth to Astoria, from the lakes to the gulf, with no oasis of freedom, the curse runs rampant and triumphant, dead against the course of a nation's better judgment and undisputed knowledge; in politics, finance, commerce, business, in society, in trade and craft and profession, in every association to which man is amenable, in schools, fraternities, trades, and in the very churches, the intolerable yet tolerated scourge prevails almost unchecked, except when it becomes so shameless that even a hardened public may not stand for it. Then the whitewash and protection and fear-inspired rules are invoked, and the courts themselves are employed, to purge the immediate earth of the evil and of the men committed to it so deeply that human wit may not save them.

We are a great and masterful people, so we are!

of local jealousies and prejudices. There is no necessity for another fish war on the Columbia, and as the canners and packers are the biggest beneficiaries at last it becomes their duty to lead, with every strong influence at their command, for a concerted and final adjustment that shall include every lesser interest at stake. It is an expedient moment for the revision of the codes so that the relative interest of every set of men engaged shall be determined with exactitude and honest proportion all along the line, and for the elimination of those things at present known and complained of as incongruous. The salmon fisheries of the Columbia are worth infinitely more than the mere advantages baldly claimed or held by any man or group of men.

## SIDELIGHTS ON SEAWALL PROJECT

### Interesting Facts and Figures Adduced at Meeting Last Night—Mr. Harris Resigns

At the joint meeting of the charter amendment committee with the bulkhead commission in the council chamber last night the resignation of S. E. Harris from the commission of nine was formally announced. Mr. Kaboth, of the charter amendment committee, stated that Mr. Harris found it necessary to positively decline his services, not because he did not favor the project, but because of reasons of business and health. There were no other resignations. Dr. Logan, as chairman, later in the session called for suggestions of names to fill Mr. Harris' place. Mr. Kankinen suggested the name of Tom Nelson, but no action was taken on the matter.

The meeting last night was an interesting one, and though very little actual business arose for settlement there were many interesting and perhaps valuable sidelights thrown upon the entire project.

The only change made in the bulkhead amendment was one suggested by Captain Flavel, of the commission. The bill provided that property owners whose properties would be filled in as an incident to the project would have 20 years in which to pay therefor. This was changed to 30 years.

Of the charter amendment committee, Councilmen Logan, Kaboth and Leinenweber were present, and of the commission Messrs. Flavel, Mauke, Kankinen, Birch, Goddard and Dr. Kinney. A. M. Smith, as attorney for the committee, was also present, as was the city attorney, Mr. Abercrombie. There were no citizens present, though Councilman Stangeland came in late and remained an interested auditor.

Mr. Smith, at the request of Dr. Logan, explained in concise manner the purposes and scope of the whole project, and as he covered the matter briefly for their edification it became evident that at least the bill is drawn with much care and in its minor points is evidently a comparatively perfect instrument. It shows the months of work put on it by the committee and the attorneys. Mr. Smith explained that it would not be necessary for the commission to sell all of the \$300,000 bonds at once; small portions of this sum may be expended as the work proceeds, if the matter should become a law. The commission may reject any or all bids. There may be remonstrances. He explained the effect of remonstrances also. If owners of three-fifths of the property involved remonstrate, it would appear from Mr. Smith's interpretation of the instru-

ment that he drew, this protest would be availing, and would prevent action; provided, however, that any such remonstrance made by owners of at least three-fifths of the property involved may be rendered of no effect by a two-thirds vote of the commission of nine. That is, by a two-thirds vote of the commission any remonstrance may be overcome. According to Mr. Smith's statement, this two-thirds vote must be of the entire commission and not of the members present and voting. It was also explained that the commissioners now appointed will hold office until 1915, when their elective successors are to succeed them.

Mr. Kankinen asked in relation to the manner of taxation for the bulkhead proper. It was explained that for this the entire city must pay. It is to be by general taxation, just as the entire city paid for the city hall. All of the filling in of lots, however, and the cost of new sewerage systems, etc., must be paid for by the property owners benefited. Mr. Smith also endeavored to emphasize the fact that while the entire city is to pay for the bulkhead (always providing that the matter becomes a law), that bonds will be sold which will run for many years—for 40 or 50 years—and thus the real payment is "postponed." He showed clearly that it is contemplated that the city's posterity must really foot the bills, and this course he justified by the assumption that the city will have been so greatly benefited by the project that posterity should naturally be called upon to pay for the benefits received. We are to pay merely the interest. (This familiar argument of course implies that the present citizens are not to be benefited so greatly as the future ones are to be, and it further presumes that the benefits are certain, and not assumed. The argument naturally fails the moment that the project becomes a losing venture instead of a paying venture. In some of the States of the Union the Constitutions, seeing great evils from this course, forbid the present from "saddling" debts on the future beyond a certain point.)

Mr. Smith made his address interesting. Mr. Kaboth arose to aver that the additional tax from the sale of the bonds would be "merely nominal," that is, that all this generation would have to pay would be the interest, never amounting to more than "\$15,000 a year." This, he said, might mean as much as \$2.50 for a lot up on the hillside. All seemed to agree that

# A Card of Thanks

WE desire to return our sincere thanks to the music-loving public of Astoria for its hearty and kindly co-operation with us in our successful endeavors to market high class pianos at lowest possible prices.

During the extraordinary demonstration sale we have conducted at 424 Commercial Street, there have been sold three carloads of high grade instruments in just fifteen working days. These include the superb and justly celebrated Chickering, magnificent Grands, the genuine Pianola Pianos, the glorious Weber, the piano of the opera—Paderewski's choice; the famous Kimball, also the wonderful Eiler's Orchestral Grand, besides other well known old establishments. In fact, nothing that was not strictly choice and in every way desirable has been offered at this great sale.

We have never been identified with the sale of cheap or medium grade pianos, AND NEVER WILL. The name of Eiler's Piano House has always been "HIGHEST QUALITY FOR LOWEST PRICES."

That the Eiler's Piano House is attractive is attested by the fact that we are the largest retail piano concern in America. We have built up this great business from Alaska to the Gulf of Mexico by never misrepresenting and sparing no pains to see that every patron of our house is absolutely satisfied.

We are the originators of selling high class pianos and organs under price. Purchasing for FORTY well organized central Eilers stores enables us to secure advantages in buying and handling that cannot be obtained in any other way. These advantages we are always glad to share with our patrons.

AGAIN we desire to express our high appreciation of the co-operation of our many hundreds of Astoria patrons who have bought their pianos from us in past years and to those who so quickly responded to our splendid offers in this "great sale" which ends tomorrow night. A sale that unquestionably has been one of the fairest and biggest reduced price ever held on the Coast.

We have just a few splendid bargains for today and Saturday in slightly used pianos and organs taken as part payment on new goods during this sale. Come in and pick them up. \$38.50 will buy a fine organ worth \$125; \$100 will buy a splendid Upright Piano and two or three other snaps of a like character; pay as best suits you. Don't miss this for Saturday night ends this wonderful opportunity.



LOCAL BRANCH  
424 Commercial St.  
ASTORIA

WHOLESALE WAREHOUSE  
Cor. 13th and Northrup Sts.  
PORTLAND

the additional taxation from the bonds would be comparatively light.

It was then suggested that the people would have twenty years in which to pay for the filling in of their individual lots, etc. The fact that the great cost of the whole project will not be from the bonds, but will be upon the property owners whose lands are affected, was not emphasized, but apparently not purposely kept in the background. Captain Flavel suggested that the twenty years might be lengthened to thirty years, so as to lighten the burden upon the property owners, and this amendment was made.

Dr. Logan, who has made a wide study of the matter, then stated that estimates had been made of the cost of filling in the lots. It was stated that to fill in the adjacent streets and the lots would cost approximately from \$400 to \$600 per lot.

No estimate was made of the extra cost involved in raising grades, creating new sewerage systems, new drainage, etc., and in handling buildings now on the properties.

At this point Dr. Logan made an address covering the entire matter, and in it the speaker made many telling points against Astoria's lethargy in business matters and in favor of active, progressive, up-to-date plans. "We figure that it will cost about \$15 a foot to drive the piles for the bulkhead," he said. "We saw no need for hiring expensive engineers to tell us how to drive piles."

"We figured that to drive the piles for a bulkhead from Smith's Point to a point near Tongue Point the total cost would be about \$300,000."

"An addition of one-half mill upon last year's valuations would more than pay the interest for the first year upon the proposed bond issue."

Dr. Logan had mentioned the bulkhead along the Uniontown waterfront.

"But we don't want a sea wall there," said Mr. Kankinen, "as we want it open so that the boats can get in and out."

It was explained that Uniontown need not have a bulkhead if it doesn't want one, that it is "up to" the commission to decide just when the wall would be built.

At this point an interesting discussion arose upon the right of the city to enter upon private property to fill it in and otherwise improve it.

Mr. Smith explained that, generally speaking, the city had no such right; that the only cases wherein it has such a right are where the property is condemned under the privilege of eminent domain for public purposes, and under the very wide powers granted municipalities under the designation of "police powers." Under its police powers Astoria may have the right to enter upon these private properties for sanitary purposes; and if not for purely sanitary purposes, the speaker intimated, perhaps it has no right at all.

"While Mr. Abercrombie and I would not want to stake our full reputations as lawyers upon this matter," he said, "we are disposed to think the bill will be legal—that it will hold water." Mr. Smith's attitude and words seemed to denote that while there may be some room for doubt upon this subject, nevertheless he is satisfied the courts would surely uphold the validity of the bill.

At the conclusion of the discussion of the bulkhead matter Dr. Logan stated that the committee had other amendments to propose, and he asked for opinions on the advisability of doing away with the street superintendency and city surveyorship as elective offices and making them appointive. It is expected that such an amendment will be offered, though nothing has been publicly said in these meetings—lately, at least—about making the police commission appointive, instead of elective as now. In some quarters there is a strong demand for this latter change, and if the amendment committee doesn't propose the change it is known that others will.

"What do you think of having an amendment limiting the number of saloons?" asked Dr. Logan. "That is, having only a certain number of saloons in proportion to the population?"

There are said to be two sides to this question. While, generally speaking, many would favor the limitation on general grounds, nevertheless it might work in an unexpected way. It might be worded or "worked" so as to prevent agitation for doing away with saloons in certain districts that have a tendency to go "dry."

At present there are 50 saloons. That means that there is a saloon for about every 250 or 275 residents. A limitation seems required, many seem

to think, if it at the same time can be operated so as not to prevent the activities of those who are endeavoring to extend the dry districts. It is said that some of the leading saloonkeepers would also favor the plan, as having a tendency to uplift and better their business.

## OPEN-SHOP PRINCIPLE.

Latest Phase Of Policy Announced By The United Typothetae.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—The United Typothetae of America, has adopted a declaration of policy confirming the open shop plan. Among other planks it contains the following: "The United Typothetae of America are opposed to any agreement between the local typothetae or individual members thereof and employes unions for the control of trade or membership."

A number of the New York members are in favor of permitting individual members who believe their business requires it, to make contracts with local unions, provided such contracts conform to the spirit of the open shop policy, subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee.

The Typothetae has also re-elected the principal officers to serve for another year. They are: E. Lawrence Fell, Philadelphia, president; Wilson H. Lee, New Haven, vice-president; John MacIntyre, New York, secretary.

A. M. Glasbrenner, of Indianapolis, was re-elected treasurer, and an executive committee of nineteen members, most of them being re-elected, was elected.

Boys wanted to carry papers. Apply Circulation Department, Astorian Office. 9-17-14

## Y. P. S. C. E. Meeting.

The members of the Y. P. S. C. E. of the First Presbyterian Church will entertain their friends on Thursday evening, September 17, 1908, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Van Tuyl, 268 Tenth street. 9-16-2t

## Millinery Opening.

You are invited to the opening display of fall and winter millinery at the La Mode, 682 Commercial street, Saturday, September 19th. 9-16-4t