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### THE WEATHER

Oregon and Washington—Fair and warmer, except along the coast.

### THE COAST PAYING FOR IT.

It is very evident, from the course steadily pursued by the fire insurance people, that the enormous losses caused by the San Francisco fire are to be made good by the business masses of the whole Pacific Slope. There is no longer any doubt as to this policy, which is confirmed from every direction and from all sources of importance west of the Rocky Mountains. And what is more, the specific town or city or newspaper that rebels will be made to carry its own rod of punishment.

It is high time the people should merge in self-defence and take such steps as will demonstrate to the huge trusts their unwillingness to longer stand as the catspaw in the issue. Portland was threatened with her share of the new exaction, but she put up an instant and indomitable fight against the outrage and spared herself the recouping imposition; every city and town in the State is now contending against the incursion of new robber-tariffs, Astoria included, but are making indifferent headway for the reason that they are too small, acting singly, to resist successfully. The hour for coalition is at hand, and what may not be done in a segregated way, must be done by the Oregon Legislature this winter to mitigate the plundering practices that are now the vogue in this business.

One of the readiest roads to relief, instant, and thorough, is the repeal of the law requiring the primary deposit of \$50,000 from the companies entering the State; the free admission of every concern that wants to write insurance, board, and non-board, and the imperative legal enactment of a maximum rate sheet. There is no more necessity for the \$50,000 deposit in the case of an insurance company than there is for such a demand from a dry goods house or an ice factory desiring to do business in Oregon; and it only serves as a pretext for an advance in rates because of the withdrawal of that sum from the activities of the business charged with it.

Competition is what is needed to reduce the scales that are paralyzing the premium-paying masses of Oregon; the entry of non-board companies and the free play of underwriting that shall have no hampering strings to it; the vast sums on deposit in the Oregon treasury in this behalf, are of no avail to the State; the companies are, generally speaking, sound enough to meet their last engagement, and they draw down the interest accumulating upon the bonds and other securities so deposited; hence the practice now prevailing, aside from a good stiff license, may be safely dispensed with, and the field broadened to a pass where the people may choose the company and rate that suits them best.

We pretend to despise and dread the trusts, yet we are nursing one of the rankest, most arbitrary, closest-knit and piratical combines known to man, when we suffer the exactions of the Pacific Coast Board of Fire Underwriters; and if ever the people needed an inspiration to employ their supreme franchises, known as the Initiative and Referendum, they have it in this case, and it should be done forthwith, compelling the Legislature to intervene.

### THEY HAVE OBJECTIONS.

There are about 1000 men in this city who eke out an arduous livelihood by salvaging timbers from the river and bay and sawing them into saleable conditions, or into home-equipment, thus making practical and important use of the product, to whom the barrier of an impenetrable

seawall will not appeal with any particular allurements; and while this may not figure as an admissible plea against the great improvement, it will certainly operate to the negating of the proposition so long as it will be effective. And again there are other thousands of men who use the open treasting as a highway to boat-berths and net racks who will disparage the idea of the barrier so long as they may do so decently. They are talking it freely, and he who doubts it has but to go to Alderbrook or Uniontown for quick and specific proof of the sentiment prevailing.

We admit that there is nothing logical in such an idea as weighed against the splendid accomplishment of the seawall, but that it exists in definite shape, is of importance enough to warrant its recognition, especially by those who would force the measure during this year of unpreparedness and with a bill that does not even give consideration to the imperative and elemental pre-requisites of advanced street grades and new and adequate sewer provisions.

### BIG FELLOWS AT IT.

Roosevelt and Bryan are at it. They are scrappers worth watching, even from such an interminable distance as little old Astoria.

Of course, we are betting on Theodore, and he carries all the odds we can stand for. Mr. Bryan has made a mistake, just as Hitchcock made a blunder; Haskell is not one whit better than Foraker. And as Mr. Taft promptly dealt with an ugly situation, so the Nebraskan will have to deal with his mess. Theodore Roosevelt never yet went after a public man without reason and justification, and Mr. Bryan cannot afford to be less clean and emphatic in his dealings with questionable people.

It is an interesting phase of an otherwise desultory campaign; desultory because of the foregone of Bryan's defeat.

### A SURPRISED MINISTER.

Hyomei Cured Bronchial Catarrh After he Had Given up in Despair.

"For many years I have been a sufferer from bronchial catarrh, and had despaired of anything like a cure. Judge of my pleasant surprise when I first used Hyomei, which brought complete relief. Hyomei has been a veritable godsend."—Rev. Charles Hartley, Sardinia, Ohio.

There are many readers of the Astorian who are suffering from catarrh, either nasal or bronchial. Many of these despair of ever being cured. They have soaked their stomachs with nostrums until they are disgusted with all medicines, and are now traveling their miserable way, allowing the devilish germs of catarrh to sap them of their health, energy and vitality.

But let us reason together. T. F. Laurin, the druggist, has a guaranteed remedy for catarrh, and all inflammatory diseases of the nose, throat and bronchial tubes. The name of this remarkable remedy is Hyomei, and if it doesn't cure T. F. Laurin will give you your money back.

Hyomei (pronounced High-o-me) is medicated air; you just breathe it through the inhaler over the inflamed and germ ridden membrane, and its soothing antiseptic properties will allay the inflammation, destroy the germs, and restore the entire respiratory tract to its normal conditions.

A complete Hyomei outfit, including a hard rubber inhaler, costs, but \$1.00, and an extra bottle of Hyomei, if afterwards needed, costs but 50 cents. See T. F. Laurin about it today.

Don't be afraid to give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to your children. It contains no opium or other harmful drug. It always cures. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

## FORM SOCIETY TO WIPE OUT BLACK HAND

### CHICAGO TAKES DETERMINED STEPS TO BLOCK TACTICS.

### KNOWN AS THE WHITE HANDS

Kidnapping Cases in the Illinois Town Grow to Such a Large Extent That the Police Are Unable to Handle Them Successfully.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—The campaign of the White Hand Society against the blackmailing and kidnaping of persons of the "black hand" was renewed yesterday at a meeting of the organization at the Italian consulate in the Masonic Temple.

Stirred by the recent kidnaping of Giuseppe Giunta, whose father Antonio Giunta, received several threatening letters demanding \$500, the White Hand Society adopted resolutions demanding increased police protection for Italian residents of Chicago.

The resolutions allege that the ordinary policeman is powerless to cope with Black Hand criminals and the peculiar crimes they commit because of a lack of knowledge of the Italian language and customs.

That the campaign for the suppression of the Black Hand bids fair to become an international question was revealed by an announcement made by Attorney Malata, who returned recently from a visit to Italy, that the question had been taken up by Thomas Tittoni, Italian minister of foreign affairs. Foreign Minister Tittoni has given his official approval of the Chicago White Hand Society and promised active cooperation in its work.

The problem of suppressing Black Hand crimes will be taken up internationally at a congress of delegates from all Italian colonies in the world, to be held in Rome beginning October 8. The object of the congress is to discuss and devise ways and means for the welfare of Italian emigrants in all parts of the world.

### ALABAMA REPUBLICANS.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 23.—At the meeting yesterday of the executive committee of the Davidson, or anti-administration wing of the republican party in Alabama it was decided to withdraw all candidates from the field for state offices. Followers of this faction of the party were urged to support the nominees of the Thompson or regular wing in the coming election. This apparently removes all strife within the party in the state, although the organization will be maintained with an advisory committee of which W. F. Aldrich is chairman.

### NEW LAND AGENT.

Representing the Entire Associated Southern Pacific Interests.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 24.—Following a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern Pacific, the Central Pacific and the Oregon and California Railroads yesterday, it was announced that B. A. McAllister has been elected land agent of the three corporations. His appointment became effective last Monday. This is the first time that the three railways have been represented by a single land agent. The Southern Pacific has had no permanent land agent for several years, the office having been temporarily filled during that time. The Central Pacific has been similarly situated since the death of W. H. Mills. McAllister was until recently land commissioner of the Union Pacific with headquarters in Omaha, and with his appointment it is expected there will be considerable activity in land held by the three companies.

### CURTAIN CATCHES FIRE.

One Dead And Two Injured In San Francisco Blaze.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 24.—A lace curtain caught by a draft from an open window and blown onto a gas jet, caused a fire in a Gough-street lodging house, which resulted in the death of Frederick Kirk, a carpenter, and the injury of J. H. Spinetti and

H. Butz, both firemen, and three other persons, one of them a young woman whose identity has not been learned. Kirk was evidently asleep on the second floor of the building and did not wake when two coroners deputies who saw the flames, rushed through the house and knocked at the doors. Later Kirk was found lying on the floor dead, evidently overcome by the smoke or heart failure.

Spinetti and Butz were standing on a ladder directing the stream of a hose when the ladder broke, throwing them to the ground. Both were badly bruised and cut and it is feared Spinetti may have received internal injuries of a serious nature.

The damage to the building amounted to about three thousand dollars.

### THE AMERICAN IRISH.

BOSTON, Sept. 24.—The National Convention of the Irish League of America, brought its biennial session to a close in Faneuil Hall yesterday with the election of officers and passing of resolutions approving the work of the League's representatives in the British House of Commons. Officers were elected as follows: National President, Michael J. Ryan of Philadelphia. National treasurer, L. B. Fitzpatrick, Boston. National Secretary, John O'Callaghan, Boston. Chairman National Executive Committee, W. Bourke Cokran, New York.

### OFFICER WOULD RETIRE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 24.—A hot water dam which was evidently all that its name implied, may cost the army one of its officers. In an application for retirement Capt. Edwin G. Davis, commanding the 61st Coast Artillery, declares that he has been disabled by the application of hot water bags to an ankle that was severely bruised in the Philippines. The scalding heat, it is said injured the tissues of his foot. His case has been submitted and will probably soon be decided.

### BANQUET IS GIVEN.

Chicago Suburbanites Celebrate the Completion of Big Conduit.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—A banquet laid in a sewer in Franklin Park, a Chicago suburb on the west bank of the Desplaines River, yesterday was the unique means of the enterprising women of that town to celebrate the opening of the new concrete sewage conduit, the completion of which ends a legal fight of 16 years.

The women only could be induced to enter when Mrs. Dora F. Combes, chosen by lot, dared to descend through the manhole.

Mrs. Combes had no trouble in descending. When she viewed the scene below she sent up a cry of enthusiastic encouragement to her sister above for in either direction for several hundred feet was a long line of coffee cups, grape juice glasses filled to the brim, sandwiches, and other edibles with the candles alight along the tunnelway.

Harry L. Emerson, the engineer who designed the big sewer, led the way for the rest of the women down the ladder to the brilliantly lighted tunnel. It was a tight squeeze for some to get through the manhole, but all the women said they had a good time.

### COINS FOR FILIPINOS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 24.—After several weeks of preparation for first copper work ever undertaken at the local mint, the coining of copper centavo pieces for the Philippines has begun. Within 30 days the circulating medium of the islands will have been increased by four million of the Filipino pennies the output ranging between 100,000 and 150,000 daily. It is anticipated that orders from Washington will soon be received, directing the coining of ten and twenty centavo pieces, fractional silver currency.

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### VORY'S THE MAN.

Judge Taft Discovers Identity Of Letter's Recipient.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—The identity of the man to whom was addressed Judge Taft's letter protesting against the endorsement of himself and Senator Foraker in the same resolution, given out by President Roosevelt Monday evening, was disclosed last night.

Judge Taft said he had written the letter to Arthur I. Vory's, chairman of the Republican state committee of Ohio.

President Roosevelt refused to make the name public and Tuesday, in Cincinnati, Mr. Taft refused either to discuss the letter or to give the name of the man to whom he wrote it.

At his rooms in the Auditorium Annex last night just before he went to Orchestra Hall, Secretary Taft was asked to give the name. Mr. Taft made it plain that he would prefer not to discuss the letter and at first refused to say.

"If President Roosevelt did not want to give out the name I do not see why I should," he said. Then he added: "Arthur I. Vory's is the man. I wrote that letter to him."

### FALLS SHORT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 24.—Registration for the November election closed at midnight with a total of 74,612 names on the rolls. This regis-

tration falls short of the number qualified to vote in November 1904 by nearly seven thousand names. Nearly 4,500 voters registered yesterday.

## Don't Get Stung



By buying alleged bargains in unreliable stores. To claim to give great values is easy, and a very common practice, but to actually give them is rare. We have a reputation for keeping our promises and more. We do more than we claim, hence the steady and natural growth of our business. You will find that by steadily dealing with us you are saving money all the year round.

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