

## WEEKLY PAY DAY IS PROPER THING

WILL BRING BUSINESS TO PRACTICALLY A CASH BASIS, IMPROVING IT.

An editorial in the Astorian recently on the weekly pay day and credit system in vogue in Astoria, wherein the benefits derived from weekly pay days, is deserving of more than passing notice. The credit system has been the ruin of many people. It incites extravagance in the cost of living and is the primary cause of the assertion, that the cost of living is higher in Astoria than any other city. This is true. It costs more to live in Astoria than in the larger cities. The reason is self evident. In all large cities very little credit is extended to anyone, unless it be to merchants, but is generally denied to the laboring classes.

In Portland, nearly all the retail business is done on a cash basis. By this system, merchants are enabled to sell goods at a closer margin than in cities where the credit system prevails. In Astoria nearly two-thirds of the business is done on the credit system. The result is, that merchants lose a certain amount every year. In order to protect themselves against the dead beats, they are compelled to add at least 10 per cent to the cost of goods sold. Those who pay cash at the end of the month, or when they purchase the goods, are compelled to pay for the dead beats. In addition to supporting their own families, they have to pay a certain amount for the support of other families.

Family extravagance to a large extent is due to the credit system. Many women who purchase supplies for the house, on credit, oftentimes buy goods they do not need, or are lux-

of living will be considerably reduced. The merchant can pay cash to the wholesaler and by doing a cash business, can afford to sell goods as cheap as they are sold in Portland or other large cities. A large number of Astorians purchase groceries and other supplies from a certain house in Portland. This firm does a strictly cash business and by reason thereof is enabled to undersell the Astoria merchant. The same rule will apply to Astoria if the same system is adopted. When consumers have money they go to Portland and pay cash, and when they are broke they stand the Astoria merchant off.

There is no reason why every merchant, every manufacturer, every business man in Astoria cannot pay their employees every week. If they pay their employee every week, the employees are enabled to pay cash to the local merchants, and this puts the business of Astoria on a cash basis. There is not a merchant in Astoria but will concede that he can afford to sell cheaper for cash, than for credit. As a matter of fact, cash customers are given an advantage over credit customers. Cash customers are enabled to purchase supplies cheaper than those who pay monthly. Restaurants and hotels are enabled to buy goods at least 25 percent cheaper than families who run monthly bills. If families paid cash they could secure the same consideration. These are indisputable facts. When a strictly cash system is adopted in Astoria, the cost of living will be reduced and there will be more actual cash for conducting business. If merchants can combine to regulate prices, they can also combine to regulate cash payments. It is not the merchant who loses by the credit system, but the people who pay their bills monthly. While this dissertation may not have any effect on the merchants or the consumers, yet the facts are too apparent to require any denial. CASH.

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### U. OF O. NEWS.

**What They Are Doing At The Great School Up The Valley.**

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Sept. 29.—The University will issue in a short time the second number of its bulletin in Correspondence Study Courses. The correspondence work last year met with so encouraging a reception and the demand for it was so great that this department has been greatly strengthened and many new courses are being offered. It is believed that 300

### OUTLAWED GAS BILLS.

**Suit To Collect One After House Has Been In Ruins Four Months.**

NEW YORK, Sept. 29.—According to the evidence brought out in a suit in the Ninth Municipal court, the New Amsterdam Gas Company holds that it can collect for gas alleged to have been consumed in a house more than four months after it has become blackened ruins. At the beginning of last year Jacob and Herman Baum had a music hall in Broom Street. It was totally destroyed by fire in the

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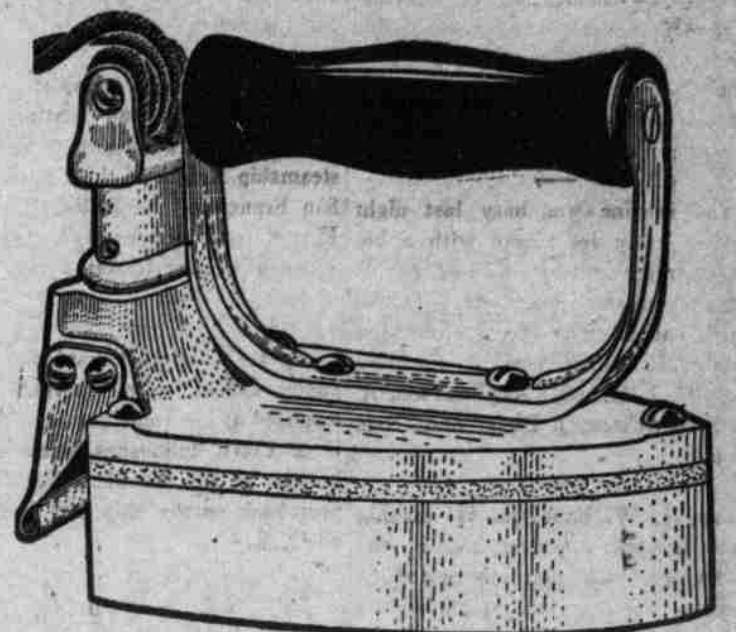
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SCENE FROM THE "ISLE OF SPICE" AT THE ASTORIA OPERA HOUSE FRIDAY EVENING.

uries, which poor people cannot afford, simply because they are buying on credit, whereas, if they were paying cash, they would not purchase everything that appealed to their fancy. The result is, that when the monthly bill comes around and has to be paid, they are surprised at its enormity and wonder how they could have consumed so much in provisions. They enter a protest with the merchant at the prices charged, and claim they can buy cheaper in Portland. The merchant can give them no explanation or satisfaction, except that is the price and they cannot afford to sell cheaper. This is due to the credit system, although the merchant does not admit it.

We are confronted with the statement, that the grocers and butchers have formed a trust. That they regulate the prices to be charged, and there is no question but the prices are considerable higher than in Portland, where the credit system has been almost entirely eliminated. Grocers and butchers are compelled to form a trust in order to protect themselves against a certain class of people who never pay their bills. As stated, the loss of these bills does not fall altogether upon the merchant, but upon the class that pay cash or pay their monthly bills on presentation.

In order to obviate this condition of affairs, a weekly pay day should be established. This will enable purchasers to pay cash for their household necessities, and when they pay cash, it will be found that the cost

of living will be considerably reduced. The merchant can pay cash to the wholesaler and by doing a cash business, can afford to sell goods as cheap as they are sold in Portland or other large cities. A large number of Astorians purchase groceries and other supplies from a certain house in Portland. This firm does a strictly cash business and by reason thereof is enabled to undersell the Astoria merchant. The same rule will apply to Astoria if the same system is adopted. When consumers have money they go to Portland and pay cash, and when they are broke they stand the Astoria merchant off.

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students will enroll for this work between now and the first of February.

The first two days' registration at the University of Oregon has been the greatest in the history of the institution. Already nearly 475 students have enrolled, which is greater than the total enrollment for the whole of last year. A large number of old students will return within the next two weeks and the total enrollment for the year will reach 550, or an increase of 30 per cent over last year.

Coach Robert L. Forbes, the famous Yale end, who was hired by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon to coach their football team, is making a great hit with his men. Fifty men are turning out for practice daily.

The Freshman class at the University of Oregon numbers nearly 250 members.

### For a Sprained Ankle.

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early hours of Feb. 25 and by nine o'clock in the morning the blaze was out. Consequently the partners were surprised when they received some months later a notification from the New Amsterdam Company that they owed it \$71.30 for the consumption of 71,300 cubic feet of gas between Feb. 20, 1907, and July 5, of the same year. Jacob Baum testified that the gas meter was destroyed with the building and judgement was ordered for the defendant.

### DIED OF PNEUMONIA.

CHICAGO, Sept. 29.—J. P. Smith, president of the Hecla Mine Company, Wallace, Ida., and for 30 years a resident of Chicago died Saturday aged 55 after an illness of three months from pneumonia. Formerly a bookkeeper, he amassed a fortune estimated to be \$400,000.

During the world's fair, Mr. Smith and Frank Upham of Chicago were at the head of the "Checking" department of the Exposition. He made money while the fair was in progress and went west again and invested in the Hecla mine.

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THE ORIGINAL LAXATIVE HONEY AND TAR in the YELLOW PACKAGE