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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair.

THE A. S. & T. ELECTRIC.

For the good of Clatsop, and therefore of Astoria, we maintain it to be the duty of every citizen hereabout to aid, support and endorse the work and prospect of the new electric railway line routed out of this city to Seaside and beyond and known as the "Astoria, Seaside & Tillamook Electric Railway Company." We insist upon this even in the face of repeated failure of similar projects here, because of the fat certainty that the line must be built and handled successfully some day, in spite of all that has gone before. It is one of the inevitable enterprises of this city and section and is as certain to materialize as Astoria is to grow and be something.

That it has not succeeded in the past is no criterion of its ultimate failure; that it is not being "cast in the particular mould" of every man's desire and business acumen, does not mitigate from its value and importance; that there are deficiencies and faults in the preliminary papers, agreements and conveyances, does not sanction the ignoring of the whole proposition, but rather appeals to the public spirit, since all such laches may be made good at law, one case testing out the list of engagements, and bringing the entire thing to final and honest issue. It is the better part of progress to meet the matter with some concessions rather than see it go to pieces for the want of some iron-clad diction or term of agreement; these concessions being mutually made, by all parties at interest. The general good achieved far surpasses the mere individual concern, and one man's loss, if any there be, can be made good in time and the play of justice.

It is the one essential improvement needed to waken this whole section and is worth a sacrifice, no matter who makes it. These conclusions being, of course, widely general. We honestly hope there will be no hitch at this, the most critical instant, the turning point, of the venture!

LONG-DISTANCE JUDGMENT.

President Theodore Roosevelt has raised a veritable hornet's nest at the seat of Government and is, himself, in the thick and heart of it all. It is seldom we concede that this man makes mistakes, but we frankly confess that, as President, he was abjectly taking the initiative of advising the prosecution of the New York World for criminal libel because of its strictures upon the departmental control of the Panama Canal project, just as

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the Government is above having such recourse at all. Admitting this much, we assume our championship rights and declare that he is absolutely and fundamentally right in standing against every attack and abatement of the splendid faculty of the federal secret service. Here, he has the country behind him; here, he is defending a department that has been of incalculable benefit to the whole nation for long years, and that has a record of immense accomplishment, corrective, preventive and punitive, that is unsurpassed in governmental annals. That he has raised the dander of the Congress by his bold assertion that that body was afraid of the secret service, and is facing to face with a unanimous resolution of Congress demanding of him "WHY?", is indisputable; and it is equally certain that the answer he will make to that peremptory call will be of a sort to place him still higher in the public mind, and likely to leave the Congress holding a very uncleanly "sack."

We are 3000 miles away from the center of these live and burning issues, and our information, excellent as it is, does not compare with that of the people in intimate touch with the situation; but we are backing our long-distance judgment as freely as we form it, and we believe that when this scrapping President goes away to Africa next March, he will have left things wide-open, well understood, and popularly approved, as has been everything else he has ever done in the name of good Government.

DON'T FORGET!

Make up your mind today that you will do a good deed, if you do your holiday shopping early so as to leave the coast clear for those people who are compelled to wait until the last moment to make their purchases, especially those in the surrounding country—and across the river. If you have the money or the credit, use them promptly and you will help to boost Astoria's trade, and at the same time, ease up on the overworked attendants in the stores.

China's new era begins with Uncle Sam as the empire's best international friend, which is a good start for many more centuries of Celestial history. Uncle Sam's strong point in the East is a desire to give all nations a fair deal.

Many Cubans think the second withdrawal of American troops will be the shortest cut to annexation. This may be the reason the annexationists are not running a party of their own, but letting matters drift toward an event they believe to be inevitable.

A reduction is announced in letter postage between the United States and Germany to correspond with the rate between this country and England. Meantime a parcel can be mailed to Europe for a lower rate than is charged between any two American postoffices, though 39,000 rural delivery carriers are running with light loads. The postal deficit is clearly a misfit.

In a body of about 400 members, nearly all orators, the operation of catching the speaker's eye is necessary

Sunday at the Churches

Presbyterian. Christmas services, morning and evening. Sermon theme for morning, "The Image of the Invisible God." Solo and chorus, Miss Reba Hobson. "Birthday of a King" (Neidlinger). Violin solo, Mrs. J. T. Allen. Anthem, "Heavenly Message", Coombs. Christmas praise service in the evening. Anthem, "There Dwelt in Old Judaea", Griggs. Solo, Mrs. H. M. Flavel. Quintette, "That Sweet Story of Old", West. Violin solo, Mrs. J. T. Allen. Solo and chorus, Miss Reba Hobson and choir. Solo, William Gratie. Male chorus, "The Sunday school Christmas exercises will be held on Wednesday evening. All are invited to all services. Wm. S. Gilbert, pastor.

First Methodist. Program of Christmas services: At 11 a. m., voluntary; anthem, "Come and Worship," hymn "O Come All Ye Faithful, Triumphantly Sing." Apostle's Creed. Anthem, "Thee We Adore." Responsive reading, Gloria. Scripture reading, Anthem, "Little Town of Bethlehem." Hymn, "Joy to the World." Sermon, "Precious Gifts." Hymn, "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning." Choir—Sopranos: Miss Ella Thomson, Miss Estella Thomson; altos: Mrs. Overmire, Mrs. Lester; tenors: A. R. Cyrus, A. J. Schroeder, Carl Badcock; basses: Donald Snell, J. M. Anderson; organist: Miss Annie Larson. At 7:30 p. m., voluntary. Quartette, "Silent Night, Hallowed Night," Miss Finch, Miss McCann, S. L. Nanthrup, E. C. Judd. Hymn, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear." Prayer. Anthem, "Come Near, Ye Nations." Responsive reading, Gloria. Scripture reading, Solo, Miss McCann. Hymn, "Angels from the Realms of Glory." Sermon, "The Birthday of Joy." Anthem, "The Hush of Night Hath Fallen." Hymn, "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Choir—Sopranos: Mrs. Abercrombie, Miss Elsie Elmore, Miss Clara Barker, Mrs. Finch; altos: Miss McCann, Miss Busby, Mrs. Judd; tenors: S. L. Nanthrup, V. A. Beharrell, Nello Johnson; basses: E. C. Judd, Samuel Elmore; organist: Miss Floretta Elmore. C. C. Rarick, pastor.

Christian Science. Services in rooms 5 and 6, I. O. O. F. building, corner Tenth and Commercial streets, 11 o'clock. Subject of the lesson sermon, "Is the Universe, Including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?" Sunday school immediately after the close of the service. The first Wednesday evening in the month at 7:30. Reading rooms same address, hours from 2 to 5, daily except Sunday.

First Norwegian Lutheran. Sunday school, 9:30 a. m.; morning service, 10:45; English Bible class, 6:30 p. m.; evening service, 7:30 p. m. The church choir assists at all evening services. You are respectfully invited to attend. Theo. Neste, pastor.

Norwegian-Danish M. E. Morning worship, 11 a. m. and evening, 7:30 p. m.; Sunday school, 10 a. m. The choir will sing at the evening service. Scandinavians are cordially invited. O. T. Field, pastor.

Memorial Lutheran. Sunday school, 10 a. m. Funeral service at 11 a. m., over the late Mr. Brunstrom. Regular evening service, 7:30 p. m. All are cordially invited. Gustaf E. Rydquist, pastor.

First Baptist. Morning service, 11 a. m., theme, "Awake, O North Wind and Come,



"IN WYOMING"

sarily limited unless the idea of transacting business is to be given up.

In every Southern state the Republican vote showed an increase this year, and in some the gain was heavy. The Solid South will be surprised when its total Republican vote in 1908 is footed up.

Mr. Taft has the physique and the opportunity to make a good Santa Claus, a fact which appointment-seekers do not overlook.

A COMMON ERROR.

The Same Mistake is Made by Many Astoria People.

It's a common error To plaster the aching back, To rub with liniments rheumatic joints.

When the trouble comes from the kidneys, Doan's Kidney Pills cure all kidney ills.

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Plenty more proof like this from Astoria people. Call at Charles Rogers & Son's drug store and ask what customers report.

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NEW RAILWAY DEAL.

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 18.—It is reported by railroad men here that the Northern Pacific Railroad Company has entered into an agreement with the Chicago and Northwestern and Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha roads that will enable it to run through trains from Chicago to the Pacific Coast. This agreement is understood to be for the purpose of enabling the contracting roads to meet the competition of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, which has constructed a new line to the Pacific Coast. Employees of the Chicago and Northwestern road say that they have been ordered to be prepared to handle 27 additional trains daily through Madison.

Subscribe to the Morning Astorian 60 cents per month by carrier.

BRITT VS. FRENCHMAN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Jimmy Britt, the California lightweight, has been matched to fight a 20-round battle with Adolphe, the French champion in Paris on January 9. They will fight for a purse of 30,000 francs, 75 per cent to go to the winner.

A WALL STREET RUMOR.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—In connection with a rumor that was current in Wall street to the effect that negotiations were under way looking to the sale of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation to the United Steel Steel Corporation, Charles M. Schwab, president of the former concern, makes the following statement: "The reports that control of the Bethlehem Steel Company, or any other of my properties has been offered to the Steel Corporation, to Mr. Morgan, or to anyone else, are absolutely incorrect. The Bethlehem Company is not, has not been, and will not be for sale, nor are any of my other interests. With all the talk current about steel, the tariff and other things, I presume we must expect such reports, this being the silly season in the street."

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appeal to the Well-Informed in every walk of life and are essential to permanent success and creditable standing. Accordingly, it is not claimed that Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is the only remedy of known value, but one of many reasons why it is the best of personal and family laxatives is the fact that it cleanses, sweetens and relieves the internal organs on which it acts without any debilitating after effects and without having to increase the quantity from time to time.

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AMUSEMENTS.

Astoria Theatre Dec. 20

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CHRISTMAS MATINEE

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