# Washington Letter

the Capital's present system of gov- change ernment by commision who have, for the past six months, been clamoring loudly for "government by the people. always been the storm center of varthat he frowned on suffrage for the known that he would recommend days when Washington elected its owner of the Cincinnati Inquirer, preown governing powers. This led to sident of the Washington Gaslight some of the expectant ones sounding Company and a director in several Mr. Taft for his present views and large banks and corporations, immedprobable intentions, as Mr. Roose- lately set about to demonstrate that

advocate suffrage for the Capital interviews with leading citizens setmight better profit now by directing ting forth reasons why changes should their energies to another municipal be made were served by the Post subject. The President-elect's plain to its readers. This agitation was statement that he "does not now ad- viewed by the people, according to vocate government by the people in their personal opinions regarding the the District of Columbia, nor am I sincerity of the Post's crusade on the likely to in the future," would appear commissioners, with approval or disto put a permanent quietus on the dain. Those who disapproved, as rehopes of those who clung to the becitizens association, seemed in the lief that he would.

While there are many citizens of

legislative shoals, the proposal to ef-, others who, not doubting an ulterior fect a change has become so repug- motive on the part of the gas magmant to a large class of influential nate, nevertheless desired a change of Washingtonians that their opposition government.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 .- Presi- promises to take the form of a mighty dent-elect Taft's recent statement that protest to Congress. This opposition he would oppose a return of suffrage becomes clear to outsiders when they to the District of Columbia seems to understand the character of some of

President Roosevelt's recent recom- ious form of agitation. There have mendation in a message to Congress been intermittent rumblings of disthat the existing triumvirate govern- content against the local commission ment be abolished in favor of rule by since it supplanted back in 1872 a long one man, based on suggestions of rule by mayors and governors. This James Bronson Reynolds, served to latest discontent began to manifest stimulate the activities of the friends itself last summer soon after the Presi of so-called popular government, dent, when asked by a representative While the President made it plain of the Washington Post, made it District of Columbia, when the sub- James Bronson Reynolds' suggestion INTERESTING LETTER FROM ject matter of his message became for a change of the form of District known there was an immediate revi- government to Congress. The Post, val of the agitation for a return of the whose owner is John R. McLean, also Washington needed a change of gov-Those who believe Mr. Taft would ernment, and without delay. Daily

the District of Columbia who would Out of the din of controversary welcome most anything in the form over the proposed change came the of a change from their existing gov- charge of two of the Post's local newsernment, it is extremely doubtful if peper contemporaries that Mr. Mcanything approaching a majority Lean's organ, in its fight on the Diswould agree to manhood suffrage, trict Commissioners, was exploiting with all that it implies in a commun- a personal spite because those gentleity of 326,000 persons, one third of men had, at the last session of Conwhom are negroes. The very weight gress, strongly advocated cheaper gas of this opposition to the suffrage mo- for Washington. This charge was vement, therefore, augurs well for the supplemented by the assertion that permanency of the present commis- what Mr. McLean really aimed at was aion system, despite the seemingly not so much a change of government urgent recommendation of President as it was a desire to overshadow the Roosevelt that the form be changed. gas question, which came nearer to It it doubtful, too, if the President's hitting his pocketbook, with agitation plan of substituting one man power, seemingly in the people's interests. were it framed into a bill and intro- There are those citizens who accepted duced in Congress, would enjoy that version as gospel, and there are

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32 C. P. Ordinary electric lamp consumes ....... 110 watts per hour 32 C. P. "Tungsten" electric lamp consumes . ..... 40 watts per hour 

By using "Tungsten" lamps you can get 275 per cent increase in light for matches and other causes the opinion perform his duty, when the woman the same cost or in other words can have the same quantity of illumination is expressed that it would be wise to for 35 per cent of the cost of lighting with ordinary electric lamps.

## The Astoria Electric Co. ing discussion is expected. The Na- It is the spirit of the only living God

Iron and Brass Founders, Land and Marine Engineers. Up-to-Date Sawmill Machinery Prompt attention given to all repair 18th and Franklin Ave. work. Tel. Main 2461

### IANUARY TIDE TABLE.

Tuesday 5 0.38 7.1	JANUARY 1909.				JANUARY 1909.					
Saturday         2         9:25         8.7 10:50         6.6         Saturday         2         3:20         2.9         4:35           SUNDAY         310:16         9.011:47         6.8         SUNDAY         3         4:22         3.1         5:30           Monday         4         5:17         3.3         6:15           Tuesday         5         0:38         7.1         Monday         4         5:17         3.3         6:15           Wednesday         6         1:22         7.1         12:28         9.1         Thursday         7         7:35         3.6         8:14           Tharsday         7         2:00         7.1         1:05         8.8         Friday         8         8:15         3.5         8:45           Friday         8         2:35         7.3         1:42         8.5         Saturday         9         8:54         3.6         9:16           Sunday         9         3:08         7.3         2:20         8.1         SUNDAY         10         9:32         3.5         9:48           Sunday         9         3:08         7.3         2:20         8.7         7         Tuesday         12:0:55<	High Water.	A.M	.   P. ]	M.	Low Water.	A.M.		P.	P.M.	
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112.45	Saturday 2 SUNDAY 3 Monday 4 Tuesday 5 Tuesday 5 Tuesday 5 Tuesday 6 Thursday 7 Friday 8 Saturday 9 SUNDAY 11 Monday 1 Tuesday 1 Tuesday 1 Tuesday 1 Tuesday 1 Sunday 1 Tuesday 1 Thursday 1 Friday 1 Saturday 1 Saturday 1 Saturday 1 Saturday 1 Sunday 1 Tuesday 1 Tuesday 1 Saturday 1 Sunday 1 Tuesday 1 Tuesday 1 Sunday 1 Tuesday 1 Sunday 1 Tuesday 2 Sunday 2 Sunday 2 Saturday 2 Sunday 3 Monday 2 Monday 2	9:25 8 10:16 9 11:05 9 0:38 7 11:46 9 11:22 7 2:00 6 2:35 3:08 7 3:46 9 3:520 4 4:10 6 4:45 3 5:20 4 6:647 7 7:43 8 38 8 9:34 9 10:25 1 0:50 1 1:35 1 2:58 1 3:40	8,7 10:50 9,0 11:47  1,1	6.68 9.1888.55 9.888.55 9.6628.665 9.772.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.76.	Saturday SUNDAY Monday Monday Monday Wednesday Friday Saturday SuNDAY I Monday I Tuesday I Tuesday I Thursday Friday I Tuesday I Thursday I Thursday I Thursday I Thursday I SuNDAY I Monday I Tuesday I Sunday I Tuesday I Tuesda	3:20 3:20 3:4:22 5:17 3:5:17 3:5:17 3:8:5:17 7:3:3 8:5:4 9:3:2 10:16 2:10:55 3:11:40 2:10:5 3:11:40 4:25 0:5:26 10:20 7:20 8:3:17 9:4:25 0:5:26 10:3:3	2.9 3.1 3.3 3.3 3.5 3.6 3.5 3.6 3.5 3.6 3.5 3.8 3.7 3.8 3.8 3.7 3.8 3.8 3.8 3.8 3.8 3.8 3.8 3.8	4 355 30 6:15 6:15 7:36 6:15 7:36 6:15 7:36 6:15 10:45 11:22 12:40 11:42 2:50 3:48 3:48 5:35 4:45 10:22 10:46 10:22 10:46 11:42 10:46 11:42 10:46 11:48 10:22 10:46 11:48 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 10:42 10:46 11:38 11:38 11:3	0. -0. -1. -1. -1. -0. -0. 0. 0. 1. 2. 2. 2. 1. -1. -1. -1. -1. -1. -1. -1. -1. -1.	
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SUNDAY ....31 8:55 8.4 10:46 6.4

To begin, the American Capital has seem that the commission system held the whip hand.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ABOUT CRACK MARKSMEN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan 11 .tion of Rifle Practice will hold its an- ever before. nual meeting ir the office of Assis-Oliver, President of the Board. On Friday the National Militia Board A Bucksport Legend of Colonial Days meets at its rooms on G Street where the Militia Division of the War Department. There will be many distinguished National Guardsmen from all parts of the country will be present with them will cooperate the army it their name and a legend. officers who are, by inclination or duty, particularly interested in the matters which will come up for dis-

At the meeting of the Board of Diciation the officers of the Association 1795." for the coming year will be elected. It is not expected there will be any change in the roster with the possible to be considered is the International The people who say that it is a foot Rifle meeting undr the auspices of the believe in the legend which has oft Association to be held in September next. Nineteen nations hav been inheld either immediately before or immediately after the National Rifle seperate the two meetings. Others into the permanent possession of the to dust. winners at the meeting at Camp Per-

ry, Ohio, in August last. Board for Promotion of Rifle Prac- you murdered a woman." tice, the latter will be largely influenc- and another act franspired to make a ed by the action of the former in re- part of American colonial history. The gard to the date and place for the "witch curse" had been almost fergotnext meeting. For the National ten until the monument was erected to Match, Camp Perry is again without the founder of Bucksport. an active competitor. It is by far the month when a faint outline was discovlargest range in the country and fifty ered on it. It grew more and more disteams can shoot at one time and at tinet, until some person made the disthe same distance on this range. The covery that it was the outline of a limit of teams enlisted to enter the foot. The old legend was revived. National Match is fifty six, and fifty is the largest number participating to date. The National Board acts in an effort only tended to make it plainer. advisory capacity to the Secretary of The imprint of the foot is there today War and will consider changes in the as plain as ever. Amateur photograrules as well as the time and place for phers have taken pictures of it, and a holding the matches. Among other visit to the Buck cemetery to see the suggestions advanced is that the Ar- "witch's foot" is one of the pastimes of my should be limited to one team instead of being allowed one for the Infantry and for the Cavalry as at present. It is also suggested that the six service teams be placed in a class by themselves, and that the National do not let it drag along until it be-

use of the national weapons is daily have won for it this wide reputation becoming more obvious. It is es-timated that under ordinary condi-

Meantime, something like quiet has tions it would be impossible to place come over the municipal situation in the field as many as two hundred here. The Post has ceased printing thousand men reasonably familar he statements of those urging a gov- with the use of the modern rifle and ernmental change, ceased even to edi- as this country has but comparatively torialize on the inefficiency of the few ranges, and those widely scatterpresent form of government and the ed and most of them poorly equipped, beauties of some other form in pros- the impossibility of training any large blast the hopes of those opponents of the forces behind the agitation for a gas for the Capital, and unless there prehension. President Roosevelt has are unforseen pitfalls ahead, it would transmitted to Congress with his endorsement the draft of two bills ineducational institutions. They were both will be endorsed by the Nationadditional for the issuing of supplies ting bids: to educational institutions where army officers are detailed to act as insets aside \$100,000 "for the promotion 1908. of rifle practice in public schools, col-

The National Militia Board, which meets last, is a new board created under the act amending the Dick act. It During the present week there will be also acts in an advisory capacity to three meetings in Washington of the Secretary of War, and takes cogimportance to the National nizance of all questions affecting the Guard throughout the country, and relations between the National Guard especially to those interested in rifle of the several States and the general shooting. The first will be the an- government. By the latest legislanual meeting of the Board of Direct- ture of Congress the National Guard ors of the National Rifle Association, was made the second line of defense which takes place on Wednesday eve- and as such will receive greater conning January 13. On the following sideration at the hands of the War day the National Board for Promo- Department and of Congress than

## THE WITCH'S CURSE.

Close by the road on the outskirts of he old senport town of Bucksport, on the Penobscot river, is a small family cometery. Within its inclosure sleep the Bucks, the blue blooded folk who in attendance of these meetings and first settled the town and bequenthed

The largest and most conspicuous monument in the cemetery is a tall granite shaft, which is in plain sight of the highway. On one side is the inscription: "Col. John Buck, the Founder of Bucksport, A. D. 1762. Born in rectors of the National Rifle Asso- Haverhill, Mass., 1718. Died March 18.

On the other side is the single word "Buck," and also something not wrought by the marble worker. On the smooth surface of the pedestal is exception of the executive committee. a curious outline, which can be easily me of the most important subjects lunagined to be a foot of normal size. been told in Bucksport.

The story is that Colonel Jonathan Buck was a very harsh man and the vited to participate and it is hoped the leading spirit in his day and generameeting will be the most successful tion. He was the highest in civil auever held. From ten to twenty thou- thority, and his word was law in the sand dollars will be necessary to han- community in which he resided. He dle this match properly; this money him witchcraft was the incarnation of must be raised by popular subscription. Another question of importance when a certain woman was accused of is the time and place of holding the witcheraft, at the first clamorings of next annual meeting of the Associa- the populace Colonel Buck ordered that sentenced to be executed as a witch.

The execution day came, and the woman went to the gallows cursing Matches, which are under the quasi- her Judge with such terrible words supervision of the National Board that the people shuddered, but the for Promotion of Rifle Practice. Ow- magistrate stood unmoved. All was ing to the growth of the national ready, and the hangman was about to turned to Colonel Buck, and, raising one hand toward heaven, she said:

"Jonathan Buck, listen to these sold opposite views and an interest- words, the last my tongue shall utter. tional Rifle Association will also be which blds me speak to you. You will called upon this year to replace sev- soon die, and over your grave they will eral valuable trophies which passed erect a stone, that all may know the spot where your bones lie and crumble

"Upon that stone the imprint of my foot shall appear, and for all time, aft-As the Board of Directors of the er your accursed race has vanished National Rifle Association has a from the face of the earth, will the arge representation on the National people from far and near know that

She then turned to her executioners,

every summer visitor to the pretty lit-

### Dont Take the Risk.

When you have a bad cough or cold Guard teams be classified into three divisions so as to give the weaker States a better chance than they now it the attention it deserves and get rid of it. Take Chamberlain's cough have.

Both bodies will again consider the subject of rifle practice in educational attitutions. The necessity of instructing the youth of the country in

# CITIZENS SPENT OVER \$135,000 ON **IMPROVEMENTS**

The annual report of the city surveyor, A. S. Tee, is herewith given, and is a record that is well worth while the study of all taxpayers. In this tended to encourage rifle practice in tabulated statement are shown the total cost of all street improvements for the year 1908, the miles of street work done, and other kindred facts. prepared in the War Department and It shows that citizens have expended the great total of over \$135,000 in street improvements during the past year, and the recommendations made al Board and the National Rifle As- by Mr. Tee at the close of his report seem to be of much value. Followsociation. The first proposed bill ing is the report in full, and the Astorian would wish to call especial atgives the Secretary of War \$75,000 tention to the final recommendation made in relation to the manner of let-

I, your city surveyor, herewith submit my annual statement of the structors. The second proposed bill work performed by my department during the year ending December 31,

The individual improvements which have been completed or for which leges, universities, and civilian rifle contracts have been let during the present year, and the cost of which are

Melbourne avenue	\$ 1,308.45
Columbia avenue, Melbourne to Lincoln	
Fourth street sewer	212.00
Fourth street, Commercial to Bond	1,061.24
Ninth street sewer, Commercial to Astor	738.90
Commercial street, 17th to 20th	2,596.50
Ninth street, Harrison to Jerome sewet	1,091.60
Exchange street 11th to 12th	1,030.00
Lincoln avenue, Columbia to Duane street	1,210.40
Exchange street, 9th to 10th	672.00
Eighth street sewer, Harrison to Lexington	1,607.75
Eighth street Harrison to Lexington	
Eleventh street, Commercial to Duane	1,982.25
Exchange street walk	
Eleventh street, Exchange to Franklin	571.25
Twelfth street, Commercial to Duane	1,890.25
Seventh street Grand to Harrison in interest	
Irving avenue, 11th to 15th	
Grand avenue, 6th to 7th	
Twenty-third street Commercial to Exchange	3,534.65
Irving avenue, 18th to Adair line	19,386.37
Tenth street, Irving to Kensington	
Fourteenth street, Franklin to Exchange	
Twelfth street, Exchange to Grand	1,814.50
Exchange street, 10th to 11th	
Sixth street, Franklin to Harrison	3,147.70
Eighth street, Harrison to Irving	1,134.00
Grand avenue, 5th to 6th	2,531.50
Third street, Astor to Commercial	1,293.50
Ninth street, Jerome to Kensington	1,453.00
Astor street, 6th to 8th	5,529.25
Harrison avenue, 10th and Irving avenue	16,731.20
Kensington avenue, 8th to 11th	3,505.75
Irving avenue, 8th to 9th	585.75
Seventeenth street sewer	802.00
Jerome avenue, 14th to 17th	5,840.00
Irving avenue, Shively's to 40th	15,739.52
Commercial street west	5.673.00
Fifty-first street sewer	525.00
Irving avenue sewer	325.00
Alleyway, 38th to 42nd	2,825.00
Total	35,402.66
The above work is segregated under the following subdivision:	

Alleyway, 38th to 42nd	2,8	25.00
Total  The above work is segregated under the following subdivision		)2.66
Wooden sidewalks		feet
Wooden decked and trestle street 6,175	lineal	feet
	lineal	
Cement sidewalks, curbs and gutters	lineal	feet
Graded street only	lineal	feet
Vitrified sewers	lineal	feet
The total expense of the office, including salary and street	inspec	tors

tion. Several years past it has been she be imprisoned, and later she was has been \$3,403, which amount is equal to 24 per cent of the cost of the

I would respectfully suggest that provisions be made for the housing of the steam and horse roller in the unoccuiped portion of the brick engineouse on Astor street, this would amount to but a slight expense. These ollers are at present left upon the streets, exposed to the weather.

I would suggest that in calling for bids on street improvements where classifications are specified, that bids should show price for each classification, and bidders should not necessarily be required to bid on the whole work, and the contract on each class be let to the lowest responsible bidder. This would have a tendency to lower the cost of street improvenents and would give all contractors a chance to bid on their respective ines of work.

## NEW YORK'S BOWERY.

Why the Upper Part of It Was Named Fourth Avenue.

In the early forties of the last century there lived in Brooklyn a Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Mr. Smith was a rising civil engineer, and most of his work was in New York. It was necessary that he be nearer his place of business than Brooklyn, for in those days ferries were slow and infrequent, no bridges spanned the river, and horse cars were the speedlest means of transit. Being a man of moderate neans, Mr. Smith went house hunting through the streets of New York, seeking a modest but respectable abode. Near the upper end of the Bowery he found a small house. Elated with his success, he rushed home with the news to his wife. But when he mentioned the name of the street in which this touse stood his wife's face fell. "How could you think of it?" she

ssked. Smith was in despair. Even as far back as 1840 the Bow-

ery had acquired an unenviable reputation. Mr. Smith tried to explain that the upper part of the Bowery was still untarnished; that many very respeciable people lived in that part of town; that it would be many long years before crime and sin would spread that far north.

that she would be living on the Bowery was sufficient for Mrs. Smith.

Smith's custom to overcome obstacles. ance, and he and Mrs. Smith went stituted. house hunting together. Mrs. Smith knew her Brooklyn thoroughly, but had only a slight acquaintance with New York. After driving through many streets without fluding a suitable house the husband quietly turned into the Bowery at Union square and the local and Associated Press re

slowly walked the horse in the direc tion of the house he had found the previous day.

Suddenly Mrs. Smith exclaimed, Why, there's a pretty place to let,

"Where?" listlessly questioned her husband, purposely looking in the opry twinkle in her husband's eyes and uspected something.

she had her husband close the bar- factory prices. galn at once.

All this time no mention was made of the street. How Smith managed to the street is a mystery. But there came a day, and there was a storm. The tear fall was something heretofore unknown in the Smith household.

Once again Mr. Smith's habit of overcoming obstacles stood him in "The House of Welcome" good stead. His wife would not live on the Bowery. Her home was ideal, her neighbors were good people, but they lived on the Bowery. So Smith It was all wasted energy. The fact and one of his neighbors went before the board of aldermen. The neighbor had influence. The street signs from As a civil engineer it was Mr. Union square down to Fourth street were changed. Instead of "Bowery The following day he hired a convey- the words "Fourth avenue" were sub-

And Mrs. Smith was happy ever after .- New York World

The Morning Astorian contains all



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Gold Seal, cream finish, ruled, good value at 25c. Special, 12c.

No. 772 Fine linen, 50c regular. Special, 32c box.

"Comet," white ruled, 15c here, 20c at some dealers. Special, 8c.

Famous Parisian Papier, linen finish lavest style, 35c to 40c. Special, 26c

Princess Louise linen (the latest novelty in paper regular 60c. Spec ial 27c.

Marlborough Pound Paper, regular 15c for 24 sheets; special 102 sheets and 25 envelopes, 39c.

One-third to one-half off on all other box paper. See prices in window.

#### WHITMAN'S BOOK STORE



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posite direction. Had Mrs. Smith not dealer. We deal in Squares and every been so intent upon the house in ques other essential for Carpenter, Stone tion she might have noticed the mer- Mason, Plumber or other handicraftsman. And the Tools we sell are all "Right over there," she replied, on the square, accurate, strongly pointing to the house with the "To made and of the very best and most reliable materials. All trades sup-An examination of the premises con- plied with all necessary Tools. Also, the place, and when she learned that her neighbors were old friends of hers

# move into the house and keep Mrs. Smith in the dark as to the name of

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