

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1887

CHICAGO Knights of Labor are excited over the discovery that a number of members are in the pay of detective agencies.

According to Bradstreet's, the whole value of fish imported from Canada in 1884 was \$3,873,799, of which \$2,300,000 would be dutiable, now that the Washington treaty has expired. We import more value in hens' eggs than in fish from Canada, three and a half times as much in lumber and the same ratio in barley. Fish is less than 6 per cent. of our Canadian importation. On the other hand, we export some fish to Canada.

THE New York World thinks it foolish to anticipate a war on the United States, because few if any nations could be induced to fight us. The fact is, however, there hasn't been a war for fifty years the prospect of which was not ridiculed. It was said that least of any need Americans—a people bound together by so many ties and among whom so much intelligence was diffused—fear a civil war. Yet we had one that was a corker.

DURING his speech at the Lincoln dinner, senator-elect Hiscock, of New York, said: "And I deny that taxation here is a burden upon the people. Exclusive of taxes collected from tobacco, beer, sugar and luxuries of wealth, the government raises, not to exceed forty millions of dollars from what may be characterized as the necessities, conveniences and comforts of life, from those articles that enter into daily use, with all classes of people—the rich and poor alike."

JAMES CHADBURN, Trinity Parsonage, Poplar, London, E., writes as follows to the editor of the London Times: "In Poplar, where we depend upon the docks so largely, and where we have so vast a number of dock laborers, the distress is appalling. If the docks do not flourish we starve, and this year for the first time in their history, the East and West India dock company will pay no dividend. That fact speaks volumes. But, apart from this special depression, careful inquiry has convinced me that when a dock laborer's family numbers six (and often it numbers eight) it is simply impossible for him to feed and clothe them. The following figures are official and trustworthy: A laborer's pay is 51 per hour; his working time in winter seven hours daily, the docks opening at 9 A. M. and closing at 4 P. M.; a full week, therefore, brings in 17s 6d. The lowest rent for three rooms is 4s 6d, so that out of 13s all necessities have to be provided—i. e., less than 3d per day per head. Now, in London, where every bit of vegetable has to be paid for, how can 3d cover the cost of food, beside providing boots, clothing and fire? And this calculation assumes full work every day, a piece of luck that rarely—almost never—happens."

A LABOR convention is in session at Cincinnati. A platform has been formulated and a portion of the preamble says: "We appeal to the people of this whole country to come out of the old party organizations, whose indifference to the public welfare is responsible for this distress, and help us to organize a new political party, not sectional, but national, whose members shall be called commoners, whose object shall be to repeal all class laws in favor of the rich, and relieve the distress of our industries." The platform names the party the "United Labor party," demands a graduated land tax, urges the reclamation of unearned land grants, the passage of laws preventing corporations from acquiring real estate beyond the requirements of their actual business; the prevention of ownership

of land by aliens; the purchase of unoccupied Indian lands; the operation of railroad and telegraph lines by the government; the establishment of postal savings banks; the prompt payment of the National debt; the abolition of convict labor; arbitration instead of strikes; equal pay for equal work to both sexes; regulation of hours of labor; the enforcement of proper sanitary measures; graduated income; the election of United States senators by the people and the exclusion of Chinese.

THE prison labor reform commission of New York has reported to the legislature in favor of the adoption of the state account system of employment in the prisons of that state—that is, that the state employ the prisoners at manufactures on its own account, supplying the stock and selling the product or using it in state institutions. They propose to limit the number employed to 800 upon clothing, 500 upon saddlery hardware, 1,000 upon boots and shoes and 200 in any other trade. And this, it is supposable, is to in some way avoid competition with free labor. New York has over 13,000 convicts in its prisons. The contract system in that state was abolished some years ago, and since that time the prisoners have been idle, except as to the necessary work about the prisons in doing their own housekeeping. It will be seen that it is now proposed to make the state a manufacturing concern, employing variously these 13,000 men and going upon the market with the wares thus produced. Where this is better than leasing the prison labor to established manufacturing firms it will be difficult to discern. It is a confession that idleness in prisons and a support of penitentiaries by a tax upon the people is a failure, as it must necessarily be. It is a confession that to abolish the contract system by constitutional amendment is no remedy for the evils of competition to free labor. If anything, it is making matters worse, for that state must now furnish the plant and machinery, establish salesrooms, put salesmen on the road, and do what government has no right to do—engage in business speculations in competition with the people.

Very few people appreciate the importance of American farming interests. Every orator who talks about the splendors of this country refers in the most glowing language to our workshops, and mills, and looms, and forges, and trip hammers. But the farmer is seldom heard of. He sits quietly in the background by the side of his plough and threshing machine, as though he were of little account. Of our entire exports eighty-four per cent. comes from the ground and from mines, forests and fisheries, while only sixteen per cent. is the product of machinery. The cotton of the South and the grain of the West hold a dual control over our national prosperity. The one keeps the spindles of England busy, and the other feeds the world. Europe has, therefore, almost as much interest in the products of American soil as we have ourselves. A loss of these two crops for a single season would create a panic throughout the civilized globe. There are in America over four million farms, large and small. They cover nearly three hundred million acres of improved land, and their total value is something like ten thousand million dollars. These figures are not, of course, comprehensible. They simply convey the idea of vastness of area and equal vastness of importance. The estimated value of the yearly product of these farms is between two and three thousand millions of dollars. What America takes out of the ground, therefore, has much to do with the prosperity and happiness of the nation. What helps the farmer helps us all, and what hurts him hurts us all. His well tilled acres are the heart of the republic, and each

pulse drives the products of the country into every market on the planet.

Wild Cherry and Tar.
Everybody knows the virtues of Wild Cherry and Tar as a relief and cure for any affections of the Throat and Lungs, combined with these two ingredients are a few simple healing remedies in the composition of Dr. Bosanko's Cough and Lung Syrup making it just the article you should always have in the house for Cough, Croup and Bronchitis. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Samples free. Sold by J. W. Conn.

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Best Beds in town. Rooms per night 50 and 25 cts., per week \$1.50. New and clean. Private entrance.

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Annual School Meeting Dist. No. 9.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE legal voters of School District No. 9, Upper Astoria, Clatsop county, Oregon, that the annual school meeting of said district will be held at the school house in said district, at the hour of 7:30 P. M., on the first Monday, being the 7th day of March, A. D. 1887.

The above meeting is called for the purpose of electing one director to serve for three years, one clerk to serve for one year, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.
W. M. ADAIR, Clerk Dist. No. 9.
Astoria, Feb. 23, 1887.

Annual School Meeting.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE legal voters of School District No. 1, Astoria, Clatsop county, Oregon, that the annual school meeting of said district will be held at the school house of said district, to begin at the hour of 7:30 P. M., on the first Monday, being the 7th day of March, A. D. 1887.

The meeting is called for the purpose of electing one director to serve for three years, and one clerk to serve for one year, and the transaction of the business usual at such meeting.
J. G. HUSTLER, Clerk District No. 1.
Astoria, Feb. 24, 1887.

Challenge.
FRANK BAORICH HAVING BEATEN Peter Brown at a knitting match and as the said Peter Brown thought he was the champion knitter I hereby challenge any one who thinks he can knit for from twenty to two hundred dollars, preliminaries to be arranged at time of deposit.
FRANK BAORICH.

Notice.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT under and by virtue of a resolution duly passed by the board of directors of the White Star Pkg. Co., we have appointed and constituted Elmore, Sanborn & Co., of Astoria, Oregon, our sole and exclusive agents for the sale of the salmon packed by the White Star Pkg. Co., and under the "White Star Brand" packed by said company during the year 1887.

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MRS. J. W. MUNSON,
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