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NO. 130

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A twister in twisting May twist him a twist, For in twisting a twist Three twists make a twist But if one of the twists Untwists from the twist, The twist untwisting Untwists the twist.

That is, when it's twisted with any other twist than MARSHALL'S.

Beneath a steamer's berth there's just room enough for one of our Ellis telescope matches and not near enough for the ordinary trunk. Hence, a match is a necessity if you're going on a sea voyage.

THE ARCADE.

For the best of commercial job printing call at the Astorian job office.

THEY WANT TO SEE THE CIRCUS

Aldermen Parker and Bergman Make Touching Appeals for a Reduction of License.

VERY INTERESTING MEETING

Water Commission Wants \$2,500 per Month for Rental of Fire Hydrants - Several Streets are Ordered Improved.

Alderman Young's smiling countenance was missed last night, but despite this fact, the meeting of the common council was quite interesting.

Petitions for liquor licenses from Cole & Wright and John Hendrickson were referred to the committee on health and police.

A petition from Bond Bros., the circus men, was read, asking that the license be reduced for their appearance here, in conformity with the general depression and the fact that they are to show in Alderbrook.

The present license for each performance is \$75. Welch moved that the petition be not granted, as every circus that ever came to Astoria asked the same reduction.

Parker evidently wanted to see the show, and thought it advisable, if possible, to grant the request.

Mr. Bergman also wished to see the show, and made a touching appeal for the granting of the prayer.

He told the audience that the circus would be for children and servant girls, and begged the council to be easy on the poor circus men.

At the conclusion of his speech the other councilmen were in tears. McGregor said he had all the circus he wanted the past few days, and didn't care a lick whether the petition was granted or not.

Welch's motion prevailed and the council will allow the sum of \$125 for two performances in Astoria.

Parker made Welch guarantee that the circus would show and be in the city by the first of the month, which proved conclusively that he wanted to see the show the worst kind.

A petition from Albert Hook and Laddie Clark, asking for an increase in the monthly allowance was referred to the fire and water committee.

The water commission gave notice that ninety fire hydrants were ready for use, and asked that \$250 be paid in monthly installments by the city for the use of the same to December 31, 1896.

This communication went to the fire and water committee.

A communication from J. A. Eakin, asking that some action be taken to reduce the county from liability for the purchase of property on tax sale, was referred to the ways and means committee.

The public library presented a statement showing the use made of the monthly allowance in the regular monthly committee recommended that the petition of Noland & Thomson, relating to corrections in the city lien docket, be filed.

A petition from J. K. Wainwright, asking that money paid by him on erroneous assessments be refunded.

The same committee recommended granting the petition of W. G. Kelsa, who applied for a refund of a tax deed.

Alex. Campbell and John Kopp were granted liquor licenses. The health and police committee recommended the payment of the salary of the city engineer's payroll, and the bill of M. C. Cross for \$12.66 was ordered paid.

The street committee explained the attitude of the city toward K. Wainwright in regard to street work, and recommended that no street grades be established along the line of railroad, as has been prayed for, because such action would be an injustice to the railroad people.

This elicited the remark from Mr. Welch that it seemed strange the town could be run by one man.

The street committee recommended payment of the city surveyor's payroll of \$100, and the bill of the West Shore Mills Co. for \$28 in the sum of \$37.25.

The claim of C. S. Gunderson, Jr., and the payroll of the street superintendent, \$127.50, were ordered paid.

The proposition of the owners of Block 145, Adams Astoria, street, to dedicate a portion of the property for a street if said street work was constructed without cost to them, was accepted.

Formal acceptance of Tenth street occurred on the 23rd inst. The street was shown to be \$179.82. Reporting on a resolution for the establishment of a grade on Columbia avenue, West Astoria, the street committee recommended its adoption.

A petition from property owners for the improvement of 28th street from Duane to Kensington avenue, was granted.

The street committee recommended the street committee.

The public property committee reported favorably on the surveyor's claim of \$25.

A. P. Green, asking for nine new nozzles, was referred to the fire and water committee, and this committee was granted the sum of \$500 for improvement purposes.

The following ordinances were read first and second times: Appropriating \$30 for the benefit of J. S. Dellinger; authorizing the auditing and police judge and mayor to issue bonds in the sum of \$1500 for the improvement of Tenth street; authorizing the issuance of warrants for the collection of assessments remaining unpaid on the 15th street assessment.

An ordinance providing for the issuance of bonds to pay for the improvement of Exchange street from Tenth to Thirteenth was read the third time and passed, as also were the following measures: Creating a fund for the improvement of Grand avenue from Tenth to Thirteenth; creating a fund for the improvement of Franklin avenue street fund; creating a fund for the improvement of Exchange street from 15th to 12th; providing for the issuance of \$200 bonds to pay for the improvement of Franklin avenue from 17th to 15th; providing for the issuance of \$200 bonds to pay for the improvement of 14th street; appropriating \$42.75 for J. S. Hittman.

The following resolutions were adopted: Ordering the assessors to make an assessment on 10th street; instructing the auditor to make a demand on the county court for the balance of the road fund remaining to the credit of Astoria district; instructing the chief engineer of the fire department to procure the necessary tools for the use of the fire hydrants; and instructing him to make a request

TO THE WATER COMMISSION FOR THE SAME: authorizing the auditor to advertise for the return of warrants for the improvement of Irving avenue and 14th street; authorizing the auditor to advertise for the return of warrants for the improvement of the intention to re-establish the grade of 11th street.

A resolution granting the prayer of property owners for a sewer on Second street was re-committed with instructions to extend the sewer two blocks further south.

A resolution for the immediate improvement of 24th street from Duane to Harrison avenue was adopted.

Numerous claims were then read and referred to the proper committees, and the regular monthly payroll allowed.

McGregor called up the resolution for the purchase of the nozzles asked for by the chief engineer, as they would be almost immediately. The resolution was granted.

And then, for the first time since the advent of the new councilmen, someone besides Alderman Young moved to adjourn, which action was taken, much to the relief of all.

RAILROAD AFFAIRS.

How Matters Are Progressing With the Construction Work.

During the excitement over politics during the past few days, railroad affairs have been lost sight of. It is perhaps not generally known that a large amount of work is under way, and in a few days large forces of men will be at work all along the water front.

Plans are rapidly developing and other enterprises will soon be launched.

President Curtis, of the construction company, is now in Portland examining into the bonds offered by the lowest bidders on the big contract for grading to Goldie.

It is hoped that something definite will be done in regard to this contract while Mr. Curtis is in Portland.

The lowest bidders still think that they are getting a very low bid, but there are few others who think they can. If they fail to do so, Corey Brothers are the next lowest bidders, and it is almost a certainty that they will secure the contract.

Architect DeLin reports that he is making good progress on the plans for the depot, and adjacent buildings, which will be started on a very high site. It is anticipated that construction can soon begin on this part of the work.

The contracts have all been signed, and the machinery for the water driving and grading through the city. Contractor George Strickland was working yesterday and Contractor Wakefield, who is in the city, is also working on the water driving.

An extraordinary large pile driver is being used on his part of the work. The exceptionally long piles which are necessary for a certain portion of the water front, compel the use of a very high driver.

Mr. Wakefield thinks that he will have his machine ready within the next few days, and that the piles are already being driven on the water front.

When construction does commence, it can proceed rapidly.

The machinery for the draw bridge will be all in place by the end of the week, and the long bridge will then be ready for the steel rails.

The first two ships loaded with steel are now in place, and it is expected that so that it is more probable that by the fourth of July Astoria can celebrate the arrival in its midst of the first regular train.

Corey Brothers will have four pile drivers at work on the big wharf at Flavel within the next few days, and have already started on the work of building a track leading out to the wharf.

Material is on the way for this piece of work, and visitors to that side of the bay will see the progress of the work.

The board of directors of the Flavel hotel will meet today and start the contractors at work on the new hotel.

Arrangements are being made for building and will have charge of the work as superintendent for the directors.

Contractor Bayles is positive that he can finish the hotel in six days before the time agreed upon in the contract, and thus earn a large bonus.

A great change is already being made along the water front, and soon that part of the city will be a new city.

Clinton Brothers are making rapid headway with the driving of piles for the Flavel Brothers dock, and the work of cutting through the archway between the dock and the water front has commenced as soon as the pile driving is finished.

The right of way west from the Flavel wharf is rapidly being cleared of buildings, and the work of the men reach that part of the line, they will have a clear field.

The merchants of the city feel much encouraged by the progress of affairs, and that there will soon be distributed in the city quite large sums of money in the purchase of supplies and material by railroad contractors.

It is not dull in Astoria, but throughout the state, it is confidently expected that there will be relatively better times here than elsewhere in Oregon during the next year or two.

A NEW METHOD OF SOIL CULTURE.

An interesting movement is in progress that promises great things for agriculture in the sub-irrigated belt of sandy rain.

A regulation of the farmer in South Dakota is zealously advocating a theory of special methods of soil-culture, which is attracting a great deal of interest and is being put to practical tests in various localities.

His idea is to make better use of the moisture that falls in showers by storing it, so far as possible, just below the roots of the growing crops and preventing its too rapid evaporation.

To this end he has invented a sort of cultivator that packs the ground a few inches below the surface so that a considerable amount of water will be held above the sub-soil.

Then, acting on the known fact that capillary attraction and consequent evaporation take place much more rapidly when the surface soil is firm and baked by the heat than when it is loose, he stirs up the surface by repeated working with another sort of cultivator.

This second process is easy enough with corn and root crops, but he proposes to employ it with wheat, sowing the grain in rows and tilting the field with a machine specially designed for this purpose.

He illustrates his theory of capillary attraction and evaporation in this manner: surface soil by showing how much more rapidly it will evaporate when it is packed up than when it is loose, and how much more rapidly it will give out water when the two sponges are saturated and placed on a board in the sun to dry.

It would be premature to make any predictions as to the ultimate outcome of this theory of a special method of tillage adapted to regions of inadequate precipitation for successful farming by the old methods, but I refer to it here to show that American enterprise and ingenuity are at work on the problem of the general utilization of agriculture of the great sub-irrigated belt.

VETO PASSED OVERWHELMINGLY

The River and Harbor Bill Made a Law by the Senate Vote of 56 to 5.

CONGRESS IS CLEANING HOUSE

Preparations Being Made for an Early Adjournment - No Absences Will Be Allowed, Except in Case of Sickness.

Special to the Astorian. Washington, June 3.—The senate today passed the river and harbor bill over the president's veto, by a vote of 56 to 5.

The bill is now a law.

Washington, June 3.—The house today began clearing the decks for final adjournment by extending the length of the daily sessions.

The house met at 11 o'clock and sat until 6. In addition to this Dingley, the floor leader of the majority, gave notice that henceforth he should object to all leaves of absence, save such as were required on account of sickness.

The importance of keeping a quorum constantly in attendance, he explained, compelled him to take this step.

The Murray-Elliott contested case from the First South Carolina district was debated for four hours. The vote will be taken tomorrow.

The majority report favors the seating of the contestant, who is a colored man, and who was seated by the Fifty-first house in the place of Elliott.

Ten thousand copies of the president's veto message and the report of the river and harbor committee on the message, were ordered printed.

Washington, June 3.—The bill prohibiting the issue of bonds, which passed the senate yesterday, was considered by the house ways and means committee today.

Wheeler moved to report the bill favorably, but no action was taken. After the meeting of the Republican members of the committee, with the other Republican leaders of the house, had a conference to discuss the question.

The predominant sentiment was that it was desirable to dispose of the resolution without delay, so as to arrest whatever apprehension may exist in business circles.

Chairman Dingley said: "The only question is whether in view of the lateness of the session and the desirability of an early adjournment, it is worth while to take up this matter in the house now. There is no question that the resolution will be reported adversely when action is taken. It is understood that every Republican member of the committee will vote for an adverse report, and Turner, of Georgia, and Cobb, of Missouri, will be with them."

REORGANIZATION LEGISLATION.

The Judiciary Committee of the House Further Postpones Final Consideration of Reorganization Bill.

Washington, June 3.—After the action of the judiciary committee of the house in further postponing the final consideration of the Northern Pacific reorganization legislation, but little hope remains that anything can be accomplished along this line at this session.

A number of the members of the committee seem to be burdened with the idea that an original grant of power and lands is contemplated, instead of a simple extension of the legislative charter to the proposed new company.

They talk about the evils of land grants, as if they expected that the Northern Pacific lands were to be re-vested to the government if the extension is not granted, and no amount of explanation seems sufficient to show them that the conditions which the friends of the reorganization have already agreed to accept are just so much cheer given to the people of the Northwest over the alternative which their action will inevitably force upon the new company of incorporating under state laws.

LET DOWN EASY.

The Union Iron Works Allowed to Replace the Oregon's Plates.

Washington, June 3.—The navy department has finally consented to allow the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, to replace the defective steel deck plates wrought into the protective deck of the battleship Oregon and brought to the attention of the department through one of the employees of the navy yard.

The company has declined the responsibility for the substitution of the two thin plates for one of those required by the contract, and has placed the blame on Superintendent Dickie. The defect of the plates, if indeed the eight complained of are all, were the last of the deck plates to go into the ship, so there was no opportunity for the government naval inspectors to detect the substitution by looking at the edges of the plates, and moreover, bulkheads had been placed over these particular plates for the concealing of their true character.

WANT IT UNDERSTOOD

That They Are For God, Although Their Constituents Are For Silver.

Lexington, June 3.—At a meeting of delegates by congressional districts to today two delegates and two alternates from each district for the national convention were selected as state committees, officers and members of the various convention committees.

The silver men control all the districts except the Fifth, in which Louisville is located. In the Fifth district all receiving places were not only instructed for the gold standard, but each candidate was made to pledge himself.

CONSULAR SERVICE REFORM.

Senate Committee Reports Favorably on Lodge's Bill.

Washington, June 3.—The senate committee on foreign relations, through Mr. Lodge, made a favorable report on Mr.

LOGGE'S BILL FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

The bill contemplates a thorough and complete system of examinations for appointments to the consular, both original appointments and promotions.

The report refers to the recent order of the president extending the civil service to this department, but adds that it provides only partially for that service, and does not diminish the need for a comprehensive reorganization, as proposed in the bill reported.

"In fact," the report concludes, "the scheme proposed in the bill is an extension of that established by the executive order and gives not only complete reorganization, but the authority of law to the classification, which now rests solely on a departmental order."

NOW THE AFTERMATH.

Suit to Recover for Preparing Mrs. Carter for the Stage.

New York, June 3.—David Belasco was a witness in the supreme court today in his suit to recover \$50,000 from N. K. Fairbank for services rendered in fitting Mrs. Leslie Carter for the stage.

Belasco testified that he first met Fairbank in the autumn of 1895, in the apartments of Mrs. Carter, in this city.

Belasco also stated that this was his first meeting with Mrs. Carter, and that this meeting was at Fairbank's request.

According to the witness, he told Fairbank the cost of making a dramatic star of Mrs. Carter would be from \$50,000 to \$75,000, which was not more than was paid for preparing Mary Anderson for her career.

To this information the defendant responded, placing his hand on the plaintiff's shoulder: "My boy, you have been very frank and would frighten any other man, but I have plenty of money. I lose \$100,000 in one day and make it back the next."

Belasco further testified that he objected to dealing with backers who withheld their names from the public, in which Fairbank replied that it was for weighty business reasons that he did not wish to be known as the financial sponsor for Mrs. Carter.

Negotiations progressed so far that Belasco retired from his other business engagements to devote his entire time to the development of Mrs. Carter's talents.

DEFEAT OF MATABIELES.

Captain Plumer's Scouts Disperse 2,000 Natives, With Heavy Losses.

Bulawayo, June 3.—Captain Plumer reports that the scouts belonging to his column on Monday afternoon found a force of 2,000 Matabeles encamped upon a stone kopje, having a hollow center, like a fort.

The scouts opened fire on the natives and retired. Captain Plumer, upon hearing the firing, advanced his column at a gallop and poured a heavy fire into the enemy.

The Matabeles stood the fire well for a few minutes, but finally having sustained heavy losses, Captain Plumer pursued them, but abandoned the pursuit at sunset.

One English trooper was killed and two were wounded. The defeat in this party of Matabele warriors has struck the natives in the west with fear.

ALBERT GETS THE RIBBON.

The Prince of Wales' Coat Wins the Derby.

Epiphani, England, June 3.—Persepolis, Prince of Wales' coat, at five to one against, won the derby today.

Persepolis was the best derby time since 1860. The defeat in this party of Matabele warriors has struck the natives in the west with fear.

This is the first time in one hundred and eighty years that a prince of Wales has won the blue ribbon on the turf. In 185 the Prince who subsequently reigned as George IV won a derby with Sir Thomas.

CHOLERA SPREADING IN EGYPT.

Cairo, June 3.—Despite the efforts of the sanitary department, the cholera is spreading in the environs of this city and down the Rosetta branch of the Nile.

Great distress prevails in Alexandria, owing to the almost complete cessation of business in consequence of the flight of the wealthier class of inhabitants.

Yesterday sixteen deaths occurred in Alexandria, thirty-six in Cairo and forty in other cities and towns.

SAN FRANCISCO BOUTS.

San Francisco, June 3.—Tom Sharkey whipped Williams, of Salt Lake, in eight rounds tonight. Sharkey has Williams nearly out in the eighth round, when the latter's seconds threw up the sponge.

Danny Neesham and Billy Gallagher fought a draw. Billy Smith knocked out Corrigan and Walker did the same with Allen.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

New Haven, Conn., June 3.—Various sessions of the Seventh anniversary of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society are now well under way.

Major-General O. O. Howard was elected president.