

Daily Astorian.

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Telephone No. 64.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

DAILY.

Sent by mail, per year, \$10.00
 Sent by mail, per month, \$1.00
 Served by carrier, per month, \$1.00

SEMI-WEEKLY.

Sent by mail, per year, in advance, \$2.00
 Postage free to subscribers.

All communications intended for publication should be directed to the editor. Business communications of all kinds and remittances must be addressed to "The Astorian."

The Astorian guarantees to its advertisers the largest circulation of any newspaper published on the Columbia River.

Advertising rates can be had on application to the business manager.

We are ourselves to blame for our neglect and indifference of our merchant marine in the foreign trade. Had the nation given proper attention to it, its present plight would have been impossible.

If congress will pass the shipping bill that is intended to carry into effect the recommendations of President McKinley in his last annual message to congress, and which bill was introduced in the senate by Mr. Hanna and in the house by Mr. Payne—several hundred thousand tons of merchant ships will be built in American shipyards during the next five years.

When we think of the valor and skill of our seamen, shown in the history of the country from the time of the revolution down to the present time, and we remember that our shipbuilders are the peers of the best anywhere else in the world, it is any wonder that we chafe under the humiliation of the fact that over 90 per cent of our imports and exports are carried in foreign vessels, and less than 10 per cent in American vessels?

It is said that the plans are prepared and the capital all ready for the construction of six ships at San Francisco which will be as large and as swift as our St. Paul and St. Louis. If only the shipping bill introduced in the house by Representative Payne and in the senate by Senator Hanna, is passed, The Great Northern railroad, so it is said, will also put on a half-dozen great freight and passenger carriers to extend and accommodate its trade to the Orient if that bill passes. Meantime arrangements are being swiftly made to establish German steamship lines before the proposed American law can be established. Now or never, so far as the expanding trade of the Pacific is concerned, seems to be the motto to be adopted by Senator Hanna and his colleagues.

We think the freight rate of the O. R. & N. Company on wheat from Walla Walla to Portland is about \$4.00 a ton. The distance is 245 miles and the grade is a true water level. The same rate is charged on the Northern to Tacoma, over which the distance is 221 miles and the grade ridgy and mountainous. If the Northern can haul wheat at that rate over its steep grade, the O. R. & N. Company, with 75 miles less distance and a down grade, should be able to haul it for a fourth less at least. Let the Oregon legislature see to it that this plainly just reduction is made. Then the O. R. & N. Company will have no reason to fight an "open railway" to Astoria, on the prostrate of \$4.00 a ton with the A. C. R. R. Astoria is 345 miles from Walla Walla but the down grade far overbalances the 21 miles of greater distance than Tacoma. The "Push" club and the chamber of commerce should get up the exact freight rates from all wheat points and furnish them to the legislature. Let us have a strong and steady move all along the line. The "enemy" lives in a glass house. A few denials will create a commotion that will help the people. When Silas's pool was stirred the people were healed in ye olden time. The Oregon legislature should inquire what the O. R. & N. Company does with that surplus 25 per cent freight charge on wheat. It will be found that it is used to pay for towage and lighterage of the Columbia river grain ships, as a bonus to hire them to go up to Portland. What? Do our farmers pay \$1.00 a ton to maintain Portland as the seaport. They do exactly this thing. But if our "open railway" to Astoria were forced, that extra dollar would bring their wheat to this port, where it would be worth \$2.50 a ton more than it now brings to the farmers. Let the Oregon legislature get a move on.

AN "OPEN RAILWAY" CONVENTION.
 Special attention of our exchanges is called to the open letter of Mr. Sidney Dell suggesting an "open railway" convention to be held soon at The Dalles. The Astorian heartily second the suggestion, and asks its exchanges to copy Mr. Dell's letter so that all the producers and traders of this basin may read this

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The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and Substitutes are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

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remarkably clear and conclusive demonstration of the vast value to them of Astoria as the chief seaport of the Columbia basin, to be made such by an "open railway." Mr. Dell is a recognized authority on this greatest economic problem of the West. His words should be heeded and his ideas on this subject well weighed.

The Astorian is an admirer of the Oregonian and its great editor. It therefore, with confidence, asks that paper to copy Mr. Dell's fair and temperate letter and indicate wherein its positions may be understood. There are a great many more people just now studying this problem than some of the newspapers of this basin realize. There is no pending subject of greater importance.

We hope to have a general expression from all the press of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana upon Mr. Dell's very able letter and on the call for an "open railway" convention.

Those terrible dandruff troubles which women are subject to are due nine times in ten to some weakness or unhealthy condition of the system. The average doctor in general practice does not half realize this. He prescribes some superficial treatment for headache or dyspepsia or liver trouble without suspecting the real cause of the difficulty.

A woman usually understands what is the trouble but is loath to undergo the mortifying and generally useless "examinations" and "local applications" on which the local practitioner is almost sure to insist. But there is a far more sensible alternative: Any woman afflicted with a delicate weakness of the system should seek the aid of that marvelous "Favorite Prescription" invented by Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y.

In any case so obstinate as not to be promptly cured by this great "Prescription" special advice for inexpensive home-treatment adapted to the individual case. Cases entrusted to his care are in the hands of one who has a lifetime's experience and who stands among the most eminent of living specialists in this particular field of practice.

Every woman should possess a copy of Dr. Pierce's famous thousand-page illustrated volume, the Common Sense Medical Adviser which has had a larger sale than any medical book in any language. A paper-bound copy will be sent absolutely free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay the cost of mailing only. Address: World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., or send 31 stamps for cloth-bound copy. A whole medical library is one 100-page volume.

We are reminded of the care with which a fisherman examines his net every time we hear a girl of sixteen declare that she never intends to marry.

General Wheeler says that in the past war he used the same spurs he used in the civil war.

Probably nothing causes more dissatisfaction in a family than the question of the proper hour for going to bed. The parents think nine and ten late enough, but the young people stand out for the right to stay up later. It is a subject fussed over at supper and grumbled over at breakfast, and probably will continue to be a subject of dissension as long as the tastes of the old and young differ.

Luxuriant hair, of uniform color, is a beautiful head covering for either sex, and may be secured by using Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer.

We refuse to be impressed by rustling skirts. Reform says that they are in bad form. Wear silk skirts, if you can afford them, but it is vulgar to wear the rustling kind.

Acker's English remedy will stop a cough at any time, and will cure the worst cold in twelve hours, or money refunded. 25 cents and 50 cents. For sale by Estes-Conn Drug Co.

A hot lemonade at night is good for almost every ill, from cold, headache and grip to rheumatism. The people should quit trotting after doctors and devote more time to lemons.

Acker's Dyspepsia Tablets are sold on a positive guarantee. Cures heartburn, raising of food, distress after eating, any form of dyspepsia. One little tablet gives immediate relief. 25 and 50 cents. For sale by Estes-Conn Drug Co.

John Hare rarely requires more than a month to study a new part. He always makes a point of wearing the same clothes in which he is to appear on the stage in a new character for a couple of weeks before the first performance, as otherwise, he declares, he would not feel perfectly at home in the part.

Parents should learn to enjoy their children more while they are the of the spankable age, and depend less upon pleasure in them when they are grown.

No healthy person need fear any dangerous consequences from an attack of la grippe if properly treated. It is much the same as a severe cold and requires precisely the same treatment. Remain quietly at home and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as directed for a severe cold and complete recovery is sure to follow. For sale by Charles Rogers, druggist.

The mission of some teachers is to make fools of fairly sensible people. The mission of a teacher should be to make sensible people out of fools.

Sick headache absolutely and permanently cured by using Moki Tea. A potent herb drink. Cures constipation and indigestion, makes you eat, sleep, work and happy. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. 25 and 50 cents. For sale by Estes-Conn Drug Co.

It is very distressing to the doctors to have so many people down with the grip, a disease in which nothing can possibly be out of or amputated.

That the blood should perform its vital functions, it is absolutely necessary it should not only be pure but rich in life-giving elements. These results are best effected by the use of that well-known standard blood purifier, Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

Representative Bennett, of Brooklyn, is the fashion plate of the house. The latest style of cravats, shirts and clothes may always be found in his possession.

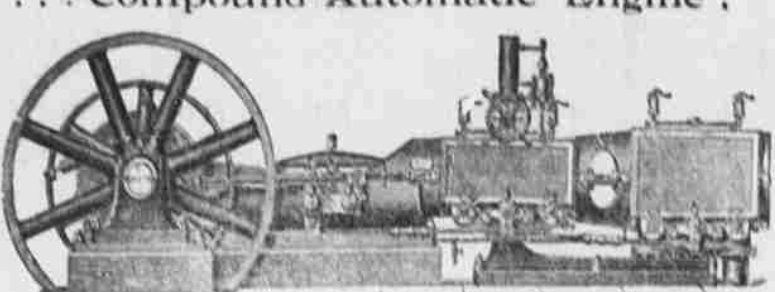
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 We are authorized to guarantee every bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be as represented and if not satisfactory after two-thirds of the contents have been used, will refund the money to the purchaser. There is no better medicine made for la grippe, colds and whooping cough. Price 25 and 50 cents per bottle. Try it.

Miss Maria Jefferys who died in London recently at the age of 81, was a granddaughter of Charles Wesley, the hymn-writer.

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Wu Ting Fung, Chinese minister at Washington, is recovering from his first experience of Caucasian grip, and will soon be able to resume his regular duties.

LA GRIPPE SUCCESSFULLY TREATED.
 "I have recovered from the second attack of la grippe this year," says Mr. James A. Jones, publisher of the Leader, Manila, Texas. In the latter case I used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and I think with considerable success, only being in bed a little over two days against ten days for the former attack. The second attack I am satisfied would have been equally as bad as the first but for the use of this remedy, as I had to go to bed in about six hours after being 'struck' with it, while in the first case I was able to attend to business for about two days before getting 'down.' For sale by Charles Rogers, druggist.

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