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THE ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.,

CONSULAR SERVICE REFORM

As soon as the Fifty-eighth congress has buckled down to business, Senator Lodge's bill providing for sweeping reform in our consular service will doubtless be re-submitted for consideration. It failed of passage in the last session of the Fifty-seventh congress, but has since been so strongly endorsed by the National Business League, an organization comprising hundreds of prominent manufacturers, exporters, importers and merchants in general, that its chances for passage in the congress are considered decidedly promising.

There is every reason why it should become a law. The bill appears to be well drawn, it is in consonance with the requirements of the times, and should if passed, prove an efficient factor in promoting the growth of our foreign trade. Our present consular system is absolutely and glaringly deficient. It is obsolete and unbusinesslike. It is not representative of the energy and intelligence of the American business community. What we need is a trained corps of well-qualified consular officials. Applicants for this important foreign service should have preliminary training and knowledge. They should be conversant with at least one foreign language—the French, Russian, German, Italian or Spanish.

They should be adaptable, and willing patiently to study the habits, customs and political and economic institutions of the country where they are sent. Most of our consular officials of the present day are inexperienced and, therefore, inefficient. They regard their posts as merely political jobs. They refuse to make special effort to ascertain and meet the particular wants of merchants abroad. They look at foreign conditions and requirements from an American standpoint exclusively. Unlike the consular representatives of the leading European nations, they act on the singular theory that foreign buyers should accommodate themselves to American goods.

If we had a more capable class of consuls our trade with South American countries (to cite only one instance) would be a great deal larger than it is. The British, German, and French consuls in the Latin republics are men appointed on personal merit alone. They are good "mixers." They are anxious to please merchants. They gratify whims. They explain and point out special advantages. In fine, they act more like commercial drummers of proven ability, tact and courtesy. At the same time they are highly educated and qualified to enter the best circles of society.

It is by appointing men of this kind and of this kind only, that the United States can hope to promote its commercial interests abroad to the extent that it desires. American consuls should be well educated business men, with a comprehensive grasp of broad political, economic and legal principles, rather than untutored and bumptious politicians.

SPRUCE UP.

The improvements which are now going on in street repair are commendable. What is being done in a public way, should be supplemented by each individual property owner in the city. We are approaching the date of the great annual event known as the regatta. The forthcoming demonstration promises to surpass any hitherto held. The local regatta committee is leaving no stone unturned in its effort to make this the greatest of all Oregon events. Messrs. Brown and West are proving the right men in the right places. The interest which they are creating by enlisting the Woodmen of the World and other great agencies, is bound to cram the city with people from all over the northwest. This fact should be appreciated and every property holder should consider himself a committee of one, especially selected to see to it that his buildings and grounds make the best appearance possible. Let the impression that Astorians are wide awake progressive people be carried by the visitors back to their homes. It will mean much in the future. Again, we say, "spruce up."

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LEAVE	PORTLAND	ARRIVE
8:30 a.m.	Portland Union De-	11:10 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	Portland for Astoria and	9:40 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	way points.	
ASTORIA		
7:45 a.m.	For Portland and	11:30 a.m.
6:10 p.m.	way points.	10:30 p.m.
		10:50 p.m.
SEASIDE DIVISION		
8:15 a.m.	Astoria for War-	7:40 a.m.
11:30 a.m.	renton, Flavel, Ft.	10:30 a.m.
11:35 a.m.	Stevens, Hammond,	4:00 p.m.
5:50 p.m.	Seaside.	5:50 p.m.
10:55 p.m.		
6:15 p.m.	Seaside for War-	9:25 a.m.
9:40 a.m.	renton, Flavel,	12:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	Hammond, Ft.	1:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	Stevens and As-	7:20 p.m.
	toria	10:50 p.m.

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WONDERFUL WORK.

Lots Like It Being Done Right Here in Astoria.

Astoria people are surprised at the work being done by "The Little Conqueror." Public expression on the subject brings the matter frequently before the public. At first there were many doubters and why not? So many claims of a similar nature have been made with little or no backing, excepting the word of some stranger in a far away place; this evidence was accepted for lack of better. Not necessary to accept it any longer. All sufferers from any kidney ail can find plenty of local endorsement for a remedy that will cure them. Surely the wonderful work of Doan's Kidney Pills right here at home is proof sufficient to satisfy any skeptic. Read the expression of a Portland man on the subject:

J. Carson, employed at the Portland Lumber Co., foot of Lincoln street, and who resides at 366 First street, says: "I was feeling miserable with a depressing lameness around the small of my back all last summer. At first I did not pay much attention to it but it continued to grow worse and finally became so bad that I thought I would have to lay off work. To bend or move quickly caused severe twinges. I was often attacked with dizzy specks appearing before my eyes and I had no ambition or energy. In the morning I arose as tired as when I went to bed. In fact I had all the symptoms of a very severe case of kidney trouble. When I was suffering the worst I read about Doan's Kidney Pills and procured a box. I soon noticed an improvement in my condition and the pain and aching around my back soon disappeared. About six weeks ago I was laid up with a siege of the grip for about two weeks. Symptoms of kidney complaint made their appearance again and I resorted to Doan's Kidney Pills a second time. They just as thoroughly freed me of the trouble as in the former case. I cannot express what a change they have made in me. I simply feel like a different person."

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