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ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.

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

BRITAIN'S PERILOUS POSITION.

To what an enormous extent Great Britain is dependent on the rest of the world for supplies is indicated by the British foreign trade returns for 1903.

Although her population is only a little over 48,000,000, her food and drink bill to other countries was nearly \$1,200,000,000.

It was much the same with raw material used in manufacturing. Great Britain expended nearly \$125,000,000 for foreign wool, nearly \$150,000,000 for foreign wood and timber, nearly \$250,000,000 for raw cotton, \$60,000,000 for textile materials other than those already mentioned.

More significant still, Great Britain, in spite of her supposed advantages in manufacturing, imported articles wholly or mainly manufactured in the United States to the value of over \$650,000,000.

OUTLOOK IS WARLIKE.

Notwithstanding all the contrary disclaimers, which have recently been sent out from St. Petersburg, London, Paris and Tokio, it is becoming more evident that war can not be avoided in the far east.

The Japanese are perhaps not able to cope alone with the Russians, their naval strength being much less, but they have encouragement that fully compensates for any difference there may be in the actual number of vessels and men available.

merce we learn of the reason for England's deep interest in the matter. The Journal of Commerce reports exhaustively an address delivered before the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce by Mr. H. Fulford Bush, of Newchang, entitled, "The Russian Occupation of Manchuria, in Its Relations to British Commerce."

Manchuria is wonderfully productive. Its mineral wealth is fabulous, and, even in the infancy of its development, it is eagerly sought as a field for investment by the capitalists of the British empire.

The port of Newchwang was ceded to England by China and Britain has built it up to its present importance. Russian influence there has been felt since 1898, and eventually the port was taken over entirely by the czar, who has maintained an armed force there, while promising periodically to evacuate.

In this connection it is interesting to note that Russia is not nearly so well prepared for hostilities as is generally believed, if Mr. Bush can be accepted as authority. The trans-Siberian railway is said to be wholly inadequate to the service which war would necessitate, and it is asserted by the Newchwang capitalist that Japanese, disguised as coolies, are stationed conveniently near the line to blow it up when the war proclamation is issued.

While it is possible an actual armed clash may be avoided, the opinion is gaining ground in government circles at home and abroad that Japan will force the issue. Our own government will probably be drawn into the controversy, having important interests at stake.

THE PURE FOOD BILL.

The bill relative to the adulteration and misbranding of food which, under the leadership of Mr. Hepburn, passed the house last week complements valuable legislation on the same subject which was secured last winter. The earlier enactment, forming a feature of the agricultural appropriation bill, applied only to imports, while the later one deals with domestic productions, which are impure, unwholesome or falsely labelled.

With eminent good sense the house struck out of the Hepburn bill before its passage the amendment which made it necessary for the prosecution to prove that violations of the law were wilful. The introduction of that provision was a grave mistake. It is a fair presumption that any wholesome producer of food or drink who puts a deceptive label on his packages or permits the admixture of even harmless adulterants with pure goods knows what he is doing.

the vast majority of cases which would arise under the proposed law, though design, not accident, will furnish the only rational explanation.

Any candidate who does not wish his "democratic principles" to be questioned by the peerless leader must have voted for Bryan in '96 and 1900, and must subscribe for the Commoner.

After Leader Murphy of Tammany Hall makes up his mind, the democrats will be better able to tell who is to be their candidate.

Transfers of Realty.

Twelve deeds were filed for record yesterday, the total consideration involved being \$3482.71, as follows:
Walter C. Smith to B. F. Clarke—Lots 1, 2, 3, block 7; lots 9, 10 and 11, block 13, First Extension to Warrenton \$ 920 00
Walter C. Smith to Ethel B. Clarke—Lots 12 and 13, block 13, First Extension to Warrenton 280 00
Walter C. Smith to R. L. Rigdon—Lots 14, 15 and 16, block 14, First Extension to Warrenton 460 00
Charles C. Phillips to M. J. Kinney—Undivided one-fourth interest in 40 acres in section 10, township 6 north of range 6 west 280 00
Chris F. Osmera to M. J. Kinney—Quitclaim deed to undivided one-fourth interest in 160 acres in section 10, township 6 north of range 6 west 280 00
Chris F. Osmera to M. J. Kinney—Undivided one-fourth interest in 160 acres in section 10, township 6 north of range 6 west 280 00
John T. Ray to M. J. Kinney—Undivided one-fourth interest in 160 acres in section 10, township 6 north of range 6 west 280 00
Alfred A. Smith to M. J. Kinney—283.11 acres in section 10, township 6 north of range 10 west 500 00
R. Livingstone to M. J. Kinney—150 acres in section 36, township 7 north of range 6 west 1 00
M. J. Kinney to Narcissa Ball—Lot 3, block 4, Gearhart Park 1 00
State of Oregon to George W. Sanborn—41.87 acres tideland in sections 19 and 20, township 9 north of range 6 west 83 74
State of Oregon to George W. Sanborn—58.79 acres tideland in sections 19 and 20, township 9 north of range 6 west 146 97
Total \$3482 71

Body not identified. Kalamia, Jan. 28.—(Special.)—The body of a man has been found in the river near Martin's Bluff. An investigation by the coroner failed to reveal the identity of the corpse, which was that of a man apparently between the ages of 30 and 35 years, and about five feet eight inches in height.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

Ayer's Hair Vigor advertisement. Falling hair means weak hair. Then strengthen your hair; feed it with the only hair food, Ayer's Hair Vigor. It checks falling hair, makes the hair grow, completely cures dandruff. And it always restores color to gray hair, all the rich, dark color of early life.

Cremo Cigar advertisement. First Made to Supply a Need. Cremo Cigar. Now Made to Supply a Demand—5c. More than a Million Sold every Day.

Prices Talk advertisement. I have but few expenses and can sell lower than the lowest. See These Prices: Overcoats now only \$15.00, Suits \$12.50, Young Men's Suits \$7.25, Boy's Suits for \$3 to \$2.00. Charles Larson, Corner Fifteenth and Commercial Streets.

Dr. T. L. Ball, Dr. Oswald H. Beckman, W. C. Logan, Jay Tuttle, M. D., Osteopathy Dr. Rhoda C. Hicks, C. J. Trenchard, Prael & Cook Transfer Company, Draying and Expressing, Reliance Electrical Works, H. W. Cyrus, Mgr.

Astoria and Columbia River Railroad. Leave Portland, Arrive Astoria, Seaside Division. Sunday only.

The Scenic Line. To the East and South. Through Salt Lake City, Leadville, Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver.

3-FAST TRAINS DAILY-3. Perfect Dining Car Service and Personally Conducted Tourist Excursions to All Points East. STOP OVERS ALLOWED.

Helvetia Milk Condensing Co. Economy Brand Evaporated Cream. Produced and Guaranteed by the Helvetia Milk Condensing Co. Originalators of Evaporated Cream.

Where do you get shaved now? On the face, of course. What for? 15c. Where? At the Occident Barber Shop. THE BOSS TONSORAL ARTISTS.

Central Meat Market. 642 Commercial St. Your orders for meats, both FRESH AND SALT. Will be promptly and satisfactorily attended to. Telephone No. 321.

Pennyroyal Pills. Original and Only Genuine. CHESTER'S ENGLISH. Beware of cheap imitations.