

The Morning Astorian

ESTABLISHED 1873

PUBLISHED BY

ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

RATES.

By mail, per year \$6 00
 By mail, per month 50
 By carriers, per month 60

THE SEMI-WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance \$1 00



DISINFECTION WITH OZONE.

An experiment is soon to be tried in Philadelphia which may be of value to communities that are in need of purer water supplies than they now enjoy, says the New York Tribune. A private corporation in that city is erecting a plant on the banks of the Schuylkill for the purpose of showing, if possible, the superiority of disinfection with ozone over the system of sand filtration adopted by the municipality and already in service along the Delaware. The method about to be tried has been introduced on a small scale in two or three, foreign cities, but is practically unknown in America. It differs from that employed by Albert E. Wolf, of this city, 10 or 12 years ago, and by M. Hermite in France. Those men treated salt water with electricity, and thus liberated both ozone and chlorine. The new process produces only the former, and obtains it from the air. By means of suitable electrical apparatus the oxygen is separated from the other gases with which it is associated, and is so modified as to acquire powerful germicidal properties. These are exercised upon contaminated water if the ozone is permitted to bubble up through the fluid, and at the same time the latter is clarified and deodorized.

Up to the present time filtration has done more for the purification of water in which the bacteria of typhoid fever and other diseases are present than any other mode of treatment. Its benefits are not uniform. Through mistakes of administration it occasionally fails to yield the expected results. At best it only reduces the number of microbes. It does not completely eliminate them. Still, it has materially lowered the death rate in many localities which formerly suffered a heavy mortality. To convince disinterested sanitary engineers that the use of ozone will prove more satisfactory in the long run will be by no means easy. A system which works admirably in the laboratory does not always behave equally well on a large scale. It is easy to believe that if a globule of ozone comes in contact with a mischievous bacillus the latter will be instantly killed. Whether a sufficiently thorough commingling of the gas with the water can be insured to reach all the germs in the fluid is another question. A second essential to efficiency is continuity of operation. If the machinery gets out of order, there must be an interruption either of the water supply or of the disinfection, and instances of the latter kind appear to have occurred at Wiesbaden. It is to be hoped that the apparatus which is about to be installed in Philadelphia will have an endurance test, to clear up uncertainty on this point. If the men under whose auspices the venture is made can also demonstrate the economy of the process, they will overcome doubts which have been entertained by experts who apparently have none regarding its excellence.

Cities which cannot supervise and control the territory from which their water supply comes are exposed to peculiar danger. Practically all of the typhoid epidemics which occur in this country and Europe result from such inability to prevent contamination. The only resource left, in cases of that kind, is to purify the water before it is distributed for consumption. The number of communities which have neglected to adopt one safeguard or another is astonishingly large. In the near future the scope of their choice may be considerably widened. In a dozen or more places the copper sulphate system is undergoing a trial this year, and before many more months have elapsed a correct judgment of its value should be possible. If the regeneration of water from the filthy and poisonous Schuylkill should prove effective and cheap, an additional instrument for much needed sanitation will be available.

MOVING THE COTTON CROP.

President Gannon of the Hibernia Bank and Trust Company of New Orleans is reported as saying—alluding to the new cotton crop—that "this season the banks of the south are strong enough and ready to move the biggest cotton crop on record and worth, possibly, \$200,000,000 more than any previous crop." He adds that the reason for this—in addition to the great increase in wealth at the south of late—is the fact that, whereas "10 years ago there were 1481 banks of all kinds in the cottongrowing states, there

are today 3040, most of them amply supplied with lendable resources.

The statement of President Gannon—and no one is in a position to understand better the financial situation at the south than he is—explains, in considerable measure, the present existence of so large an amount of idle money in this city, says the New York Commercial. A large part of this money consists of deposits that have been made temporarily by southern banks—a fact that is borne out by the low rates that obtain for time loans. If the south were in expectation that it would be compelled to borrow a large amount of money to move the new cotton crop, it would have made engagements to that end long before this time, and the fact would have been manifest in higher rates for money. It may be premature to say that the south may not be compelled to apply to this city and to other financial centers for loans to some extent for crop-moving purposes later on, but all indications go to show that it is amply equipped with funds for this object and that such loans as it may require are likely to be comparatively small in the aggregate.

It is fortunate that this is the case, for the federal treasury is in no position at present to help out any stringency in the money market. Heretofore, when the treasury has possessed an ample supply of funds and there was a prospect of a heavy demand for money for crop-moving purposes, the federal authorities have deposited a liberal portion of them with national bank depositories so that they might be available for general use. At the present moment the actual working cash balance in the treasury is down to the low water mark of \$26,000,000, while the government's expenditures continue to exceed its receipts, the outlook being that the government may be soon forced to draw on the national bank depositories in order to meet current obligations.

So long as money is as abundant as it now is, however, there is no occasion to call on the federal treasury for aid, and undoubtedly there will be a plentiful supply of money to move both the cotton and the wheat and other crops.

ENGLAND'S NEW WARSHIPS.

In view of the naval situation in the far east the shipbuilding program of Great Britain for the present year becomes of increasing interest. It was given in detail in the house of commons the other day—briefly, as follows:

The two new battleships of the Lord Nelson class will be fully worthy of their glorious name. Their battery is such as has never before been put into any fighting ship. On a displacement of 16,500 tons, or 150 tons larger than England's previous largest, the "King Edward," they will carry 14 big armor-piercing guns. A comparison of the two types gives the following results:

"King Edward"—Guns, four 12-inch, four 9.2-inch, 10 6-inch; tonnage, 16,350; speed, 18½ knots.

"Lord Nelson"—Guns, four 12-inch, 10 9.2-inch; tonnage, 16,500; speed, 18 knots.

The advantage in the new ships lies in their greater number of 9.2-inch guns. This weapon is one of the most powerful in existence, firing a 380-pound shell twice or thrice in a minute and driving it through 35 inches of iron. It is more powerful than any gun of similar type mounted in foreign battleships. The four big 12-inch weapons fire an 850-pound shell through some four feet of iron. In exchange for this overwhelming superiority in heavy gun-fire the 6-inch gun, which is carried in the "King Edward" disappears.

The four new armored cruisers are also to be of remarkable pattern and great size, being the largest cruisers yet built for the British or for any navy. They are to be known as the "Minotaur" class, will steam 23 knots, displace 14,600 tons, or 400 more than the "Drake" class, and will carry four 9.2-inch guns, of the same type as those in the "Lord Nelson," and 10 of the new 7.5-inch guns, which fire four 200-pound shells a minute through more than two feet of iron.

Both cruisers and battleships have been designed by Mr. Watts, and exhibited to the full his power to get the heaviest possible armament on a given tonnage. They will be beyond comparison the best vessels of their class afloat.

The cost of the new battleships will be about 1,500,000 pounds, and of the new armored cruisers 1,250,000, so that these six new ships will represent a capital of 8,000,000 pounds.

The czar has issued a decree for the officers on duty in Port Arthur declaring that every month's service shall be reckoned as a year till the end of the siege. Well, it must feel like that.

An exchange announces that the news from Port Arthur does not come in dribbles but in "junks." If it came in "schooners" it might be more satisfactory to some.

The Philadelphia woman who inherited \$50,000,000 has an opportunity to do more good in her day and generation than ever was given to Napoleon or Caesar.

If Kuropatkin would load his Cossacks into racing automobiles and make a dash into the enemy there might be something doing.

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Advertised Letter List.

The following is a list of letters remaining unclaimed for 30 days at Astoria postoffice, September 6:

- Benitz, A. R.
- Brunbelt, Anton.
- Brown, Mr. Chas. E.
- Burns, Mrs. Chas. R.
- Cain, Miss Bertha.
- Elskamp, Miss Josie.
- Furis, Mr. Franchi.
- Hackman, Mr. Theo.
- Haulenbeck, Mr. Ed.
- Harvey, Mr. J. P.
- Huller, Mr. G.
- Johnson, Mr. Felix.
- Johnson, John.
- Johnson, Mr. Mikal.
- Lawrence, George.
- Lockwood, Mr. W. F.
- Laundy, Mr. Joseph.
- Martin, Mr. James C.
- Nicholson, J. W.
- Norton, Mr. M.
- Norton, Thos. F.
- Robinson, Mr. D. E.
- Slaughter, W. F.
- Terleck, Mr. J.
- Wilson, Mr. William.
- Woodside, Will.
- Skoj, Mr. S. D.
- Stover, Mrs. Fred.

The balloonists who started from St. Louis for Washington are now returning by rail from points in Kansas and Nebraska.



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Young Men! Why waste the winter months paying \$4 or \$5 per week for your board and lodging while you are earning little or nothing? Why not attend the **PACIFIC LUTHERAN ACADEMY** where you can get good schooling, board and room for less money than your board, lodging and incidental expenses will cost you here? If you are interested in finding out how this can be done write for the school catalogue.

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