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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon, Western Washington - Generally fair, warmer, except near the coast. Eastern Oregon, Washington - Fair and warmer.

THE SEASIDE OCEAN-CANAL.

With every desire to accord the last measure of merit to the proposed scheme to connect the Pacific ocean with Young's Bay via Seaside and the Necanicum and Skipanon, we are compelled to declare our disbelief in its efficacy, and our certainty of its inutility.

Primarily, there is no earthly reason for its existence. No conceivable conditions can warrant its construction, unless it be upon the far-fetched predicate that it might operate as an auxiliary entrance to the Columbia river in the event of a prolonged congestion of traffic on the bar of the river itself, a supposition well classified with the dream-stuff of which the projected canal itself is built.

The Columbia river is the main, natural, accessible channel to the "inland empire," and time will render it amenable to every demand that commerce can make upon it. It is the logical, adaptable outlet and inlet to and from the great basin behind it, and it will be duly applied to its tremendous duty just as soon as the will of an honest engineer and the demands of two sovereign states can prevail at Washington against the machinations of the contending transportation concerns at present dominating the northwest.

The day will come when even they must turn to the Columbia river and its bar, jettied, protected, deepened, for the cream of the world's traffic from and to the sea, as this great section measures its interest in it. No scheme, however feasible, can outweigh the supreme and primal efficacy of the magnificent river penetrating the heart of the boundless north and west and any subsidiary program must be deemed inimical to the one and only pregnant, rational and practicable plan, that of clearing and maintaining the bar of the river itself.

There are those that go so far as to believe that the Seaside canal is inspired at Puget Sound for the express purpose of minimizing, retarding and defeating the work of the government on the Columbia jetties, but without conceding so flagrant an initiative, we hold the canal a barren, inopportune, inoperative and valueless proposition, and deprecate its larger discussion, on the ground that the State of Oregon and the State of Washington will prevail, in time, for the completion of the bar jetties, and the acquisition of a channel that shall forever put the river and its great cities and territories in easy and instant touch with the business of the world. We are willing to wait, almost indefinitely, rather than see the stultification and abandonment of this immense and righteous project at the hands of the government of the United States.

AGGREGATE WAGES.

The aggregate wages paid to the employes of manufacturing industries in the United States during the year 1905, was, in round numbers, \$2,661,000,000. As the wage earners numbered 5,492,000 the average, per capita, was \$532. In the year 1900 \$2,005,000,

000 was paid to 4,701,000, an average of about \$500. The increase in the average number of employes was 16.81 per cent and in the aggregate wages paid \$32.71. During the five years, according to the Census Bureau, the increase in the number of factories was 34.2 per cent, in the capital employed 45.73 per cent. Stated in dollars the increase in capital was \$4,121,000,000, in wages \$660,000,000, and in value of products \$3,500,000. The increase was greater in the South than in any other section.

HUSBANDS AND WIVES.

A good husband makes a good wife. Some men can neither do without wives; nor with them; they are wretched alone in what is called single blessedness, and they make their homes miserable when they get married; they are like Tompkins dog which could not bear to be loose and howled when he was tied up. Happy bachelors are happy husbands, and a happy husband is the happiest of men. A well matched couple carry a joyful life between them, as the two spies carried the cluster of Eschol. They multiply their joys by sharing them, and lessen their troubles by dividing them. This is a fine arithmetic. The wagon of care rolls lightly along as they pull together and when it drags a little heavily, or there's a hitch anywhere, they love each other all the more, and so lighten the labor.

BACK STAMPING ABOLISHED.

A new order has been issued by the Postal Department whereby what is known as "back stamping," letters has been abolished in some of the larger Eastern offices, including New York, Chicago and Boston. This means that the stamp on the back of letters, denoting the time received at the distributing office, will not be made, thus making it impossible to tell the exact time a letter is received at the office to which it is directed. It is claimed that the practice of "back stamping" is obsolete and it entails more work than it is worth.

ONLY LIVING.

A living is all that any man can have. One may imagine that by excess he is getting more; but he is really getting less—for ill-health and sacrifice of respect are not gains, but losses.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

Depend not on another, rather lean upon thyself; trust to thine own exertions; subjection to another's will gives pain; true happiness consists in self-reliance.

In London there are 124,000 paupers and vagrants, 30,000 casual poor in lodging houses, 20,000 pauper lunatics, 6,000 imbeciles, and 50,000 criminal population.

How large the clothe-spin industry really is may be gathered from the fact that no less than 1,250,000 five-gross boxes are manufactured every year in the United States alone.

A Canadian court has ruled that a husband is responsible for what his wife says. This seems to be placing a fearful responsibility upon the shoulders of suffering mankind.

The writer in a fashion magazine who asked, "What should we take on a long railroad trip?" is liable to get all kinds of advertising matter from distilleries throughout the country.

And we have been given plenty of reasons in this country to realize that surplus money is usually most injurious of all to its unworthy possessors, who too often in the first generation are ostentatiously vulgar, in the second idle, and in the third degenerate.

Somebody has figured it out that "if the Christian church in America could be brought to give one postage stamp per capita a week to foreign missions, it would give \$10,000,000 a year. If one car fare a week, \$50,000,000, if one dish of ice cream a week, \$100,000,000."

Wing Ah Fong, a well known Chinese capitalist, who was known to fame chiefly as the father of thirteen beautiful daughters, all of whom became the wives of men of prominence, four having married into the American army and navy, died in China, on Tuesday, September 25.

After suffering for years from what the doctors pronounced consumption, a Massachusetts young lady coughed up a cent and recovered, but the plan will not work in all cases. Thousands of poor sufferers from what the doctors pronounce the same disease, have coughed up thousands of dollars without experiencing the least relief.

INSURANCE COMPANIES STRONG

Majority Not Seriously Affected by Past Bad Year.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 18.—Secretary J. L. Fields of the State Building & Loan Commission, has filed his annual report of the building and loan societies operating and doing business in California with Governor Pardee.

The report shows that in spite of the great fire of last April, which destroyed hundreds of millions of property in San Francisco, not one of those societies was seriously affected and that all will be able to pay their liabilities in full, although some delay is caused by the total destruction of all books accounts and records of the societies located in San Francisco and by the destruction of all records in the offices of the commission.

The volume of real estate held by all associations has been materially decreased while the reserve fund shows a very considerable increase indicative of increased stability and solvency. The 106 associations reporting have aggregate assets of \$19,238,938.

EXPRESS PLAYS SAMARITAN.

Passenger Train Helps Desert Traveler and Burros.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Los Angeles, Cal., says:

Passengers on the Los Angeles limited of the Salt Lake Railroad, who arrived in Los Angeles yesterday told of a prospector who stopped a train running forty miles an hour in the middle of the Major desert by flagging it with his hat to secure water for himself and burros. The train crew supplied them all by the bucketful as quickly as possible and started the limited on its way again. An old Nevada law, which allows desert travelers who are in distress to stop trains and demand water and compels train crews to provide the needed refreshments, still holds. The old prospector knew it, so did the engineer.

SWITCH TENDERS STRIKE.

Possibilities Just Apparent to New Claimants.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—One thousand switch tenders employed in Chicago, about 10 per cent of whom are crippled and incapacitated for other work, completed the organization of a union last night. The men are paid a maximum wage of \$55 a month. They declare that if they refused to remain at their posts the roads would be compelled to hire able bodied men to do the work at much higher wages.

The new union has been granted a charter by the International Switchmen's Union and by the American Federation of Labor.

MISSOURI WANTS ISLAND.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 18.—Attorney General Herbert S. Hadley of Missouri has decided to institute proceedings in the United States Supreme Court to establish title to Island Park, in the Missouri river, between Clay county, Mo., and Wyandotte County, Kans.

Island Park comprises nearly a section of land in the Missouri river. Prize fights and other law breaking have taken place without hindrance on the island, it being outside of all state jurisdiction. After the Joe Wolcott-Billy Rhodes fight last month, Governor Folk took action to have the ownership of the island determined.

RELATIVES GET ESTATE.

Will Showing Other Intentions Not Signed.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 18.—All of the \$300,000 estate of C. E. Schoemaker, the wealthy real estate dealer of this city, who died suddenly on a train last week, will be inherited by a brother in Chicago, and a sister in Wurtemberg, Germany, in spite of the fact that the dead man had planned for more than ten years to leave his vast holdings to charity and religious organizations. An unsigned will showing this intention was found, but a thorough search has failed to discover a valid document disposing of the estate. The estate will be administered by the public administrator.

An Awful Cough Cured.

"Two years ago our little girl had a touch of pneumonia, which left her with an awful cough. She had spells of coughing, just like one with the whooping cough, and some thought she would not get well at all. We got a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which acted like a charm. She stopped coughing and got stout and fat," writes Mrs. Ora Brussard, Brubaker, Ill. This remedy is for sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

IN THE CITY THEATERS.

DON'T MAKE A MISTAKE.

"The College Widow" Sunday Night Will Be Season's Great Event.

It seems certain that all the adjectives justified by English authority have been utilized in application to George Ade's best of American comedies, "The College Widow." Mr. Ade's masterpiece appears not to be merely a pleasant pastime once seen and then dismissed from the mind, but is evidently possessed of such permanent qualities as almost, if not quite qualify it for a place among the classics. It is infrequently true that a great popular success meets with a practically unanimous word of approval from professional critics but public and press, in the matter of Mr. Ade's play, seem in perfect accord.

"The College Widow" comes to Astoria Sunday night, with a strong cast, a new production and the perfection of detail that characterizes all the efforts of Henry W. Savage. Chronic disinclination to be amused is the one excuse possible to the man who sees this play and fails to wax enthusiastic. It is asserted and probably is fullest truth, that "The College Widow" has been witnessed by more people than any other play of equal age, and one who has seen it does not usually rest content until he has marshalled his friends for a return visit. Mr. Ade's play will have the benefit of every accessory that liberal management may provide.

"A PHILOSOPHIC TRAMP."

Webster says the definition of the word "tramp," as applied to a human being is a "foot traveler; stroller, vagrant, vagabond." Any one of the above terms would apply to "Weary Willie," the tramp in "The Convict's Daughter," one of the most powerful dramatic plays by an American author ever produced in this country. But the author has departed from the old conventional lines, and made the character a noble one, and on a higher grade than the usual stage tramp. The hero, or "philosophic tramp," as the author calls him, is skilled, determined, cool and rational. His very presence on the stage intensifies the dramatic scenes, and its brilliancy of dialogue and wealth of beautiful scenery has made the play one of the successes of the season. "The Convict's Daughter" will be the attraction at the new Astoria Theater on Saturday night next, and is counted one of the solid melodramatic successes of last season. The secret of its success is that it touches the heart-strings of its auditors. It is also filled with comedy of the higher order and does not depend upon buffoonery or vulgarity to amuse the public. It comes to us this year with entirely new scenery and altogether brighter and better than ever.

AT THE STAR.

The Mack Swain Company. At the Star Theater last night was presented "Felicia or Her Attonement,"—truly a powerful play, one of surpassing interest, a vivid picture of human passions and emotions—a story that compels attention from first to last, a theme that causes one to think and reflect. Cora King Swain was simply superb, as "Madame DuBois," a woman with a past, known to the gay world of Paris as "Felicia," and displayed a force of tragic power, a depth of emotion that came as a surprise even to her most ardent admirers. At all times, in pleading for mercy to the man who threatens to betray the secret of her past life, in battling for the welfare of her son, in fierce denunciation of her enemy, in pitiful protest against her unhappy fate, to her final renunciation of the ties of this world and her great attonement, she was perfect, and proved herself an artist of the greatest merit. Jas. Miller as "Captain Daniel," is deserving of all praise. It was an excellent characterization. Alf Lane was very good as "MontJoe," and the same must be said of Mr. Frank as "Beauchamp" and Mr. Berrell as "Godefroy." Anna Jordan as "Edith" was all that the character called for, and Daisy D'Arva as "Cesarine," though she had but little to do, did that little well. The same bill tonight. Reserved seats can be secured at the box office from 2 to 4 p. m., either in person or by phone.

Sick Headache Cured.

Sick headache is caused by derangement of the stomach and by indigestion. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets correct these disorders and effect a cure. By taking these tablets as soon as the first indication of the disease appears, the attack may be warded off. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

AMUSEMENTS.

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or "HER ATONEMENT" SPECIAL SCENERY

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