

The Daily Astorian.

Established 1873.

Published Daily Except Monday by THE J. S. DELLINGER CO.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mail, per year\$7.00
By carrier, per month60

WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance.....\$1.50

Entered as second-class matter July 30, 1906, at the postoffice at Astoria, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Orders for the delivery of The Morning Astorian to either residence or place of business may be made by postal card or through telephone. Any irregularity in delivery should be immediately reported to the office of publication.

TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon—Occasional snow, colder in southwest portion, continued cold over the remainder of the state.

A PORT, IF YOU PLEASE.

By due course of law and the will of the people at interest, Astoria, Oregon, is an organic, de facto port. She must go to the legal rosters as such, and remain there forever.

This is as it should have been long years ago. Why it was not accomplished two or three decades ago must be left in the limbo of unsolvable problems wrought by the profound stupidity of those whose interests laid next to the advantage.

In law, as in fact, this is a sea-port in the fullest sense of the term; and what of technicality shall be invoked to disparage the fact, legally, that disparagement can but act to fortify and perpetuate the reality. Since time left the formative conditions as they are, it has been a haven, a harbor, a refuge, always an excellent one; else Captain Gray and his good ship would never have entered here and made the place famous.

It is up to our people to make the most of the actuality; not in haste and with improvidence; but quietly, determinedly, successfully. To hold up the hands of the port commission; to study its needs and meet them wisely and promptly; to get understandingly next to the situation and make the most of it; to claim everything that goes with the status and fight for what shall be denied; to prepare the way for its surveying, protection, betterment, completion and maintenance.

Time will be required for all these things, and money; neither should be wasted. Let us start right in a small way, and follow the predicate as means and opportunity present themselves; it is not essential to do the whole thing at once; and yet there are one or two things that must be done to perfect the title, as it were, such as the hydrographic surveying and the establishment of official supervision to safe-guard the concerns of those who use the port, as well as our own rights in the case. These things may be wrought without undue cost, and yet serve a big and long end that will be profoundly appreciated in time. We are "in the saddle" and our marine population can all ride; what we want to guard against is a "runaway."

THE THEATRE EPISODE.

The simple fact that the chimney, or one of them, of the Astoria Theatre was in such a condition as to warrant a still alarm for the fire department during the performance presented by Miss Roberts on Wednesday night, is startling of itself, to every one who enjoyed the play, unconscious of the uglier fact; but the lesson inseparable from the incident is that of the poise and judgment used by those who were next to the situation and who kept it from the audience. It was thoroughly well disposed of; the call being answered by Fire Chief Foster and two or three aides, and the flaming chimney was drenched in a hurry without sign or sound of the call or the work. Mr. Hanlin is to be commended for his command of a threatened situation, as are those who were in his confidence behind the curtain.

The danger, in such cases is not from fire itself; but from the animalistic terror of the people. The mad-dened rush for safety from a danger apparent, however remote; the merciless sacrificing of humanity, by humanity, in the stampede; and the susceptibility of the masses to fright, in which sex, age, everything is forgotten but self. The writer was once in an ordeal of the kind, in the burning of the French theatre, on Fourteenth street in New York City, and speaks by the card in commending the invaluable action of the manager and the troupe in this local incident, and in urging the immediate sweeping of the chimneys of the building against a similar, and less fortunate occurrence.

THE "INTERESTS" DOWN IT.

We, of Astoria, realizing the excellence of the bill drafted and presented by United States Senator C. W. Fulton, as an amendment to the Interstate Commerce law, requiring all transportation companies to give 30 days notice before launching an ad-

vance in their tariffs, regret exceedingly that it was defeated in committee and deplore its probable failure as a statute.

Perhaps nothing was to be expected from the Committee on Interstate Commerce but this sort of action, when one reviews the personnel of that committee; with Elkins as chairman, with Foraker, Newlands, Aldrich, Keene, Crane, Foster and Taylor, and other representatives of the amalgamated "interests" of the country, to review it, meant its prompt and certain death far short of the floor of the Senate.

The measure was logical, sensible, and perfectly just, not only to the carriers themselves, but to the vast patronage that uses the lines and makes them what they are in point of wealth-producing agencies. Its very simplicity and directness, and its straight and strong qualities as a medium for the honest adjustment of rates, would have carried it through Congress with a whirl had it not been subjected to the over-weening scrutiny of a bunch of trust "high-binders" who quickly and flatly refused to allow it to take such a course. We do not know that it can be done, but we wish Senator Fulton may cling hard, and fight sturdily, until justice shall be done the measure at both ends of the capitol.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS.

Gradually the civic organism of the City of Astoria is shaping itself and getting down to business; its officers, council, commissions and departments are lining out for the work of the year and very soon the new records will be formed and the new reports coming in to the people who are responsible for their creation and existence. Right at this propitious moment the Morning Astorian desires to say a word to city and staff, that may be of use and comfort in time to come.

This paper, by right of its age influence, and inspiration, intends to give instant and honest credit to every man in public life here who does and says anything commendable; it will be the quickest to give frank acknowledgment to each man and department for the best service they exemplify and see to it that such work is not forgotten; these things it will do gladly, without regard to partisanship, person, or prompting; it does not always expect to agree with, nor understand exactly, the causes, and actions that ensue, but it will try to fathom everything closely and clearly and then do justice.

Primarily, this is the people's paper. As such it has its duties; the doing of them may not always be exactly to the liking of those whom it is called upon to criticize. But if the occasion for criticisms presents itself, the duty will not be gainsaid nor neglected; and what it shall do in this relation will be done more for the common good of the city, than as against the person or persons responsible for the structure. Like the paper, the servants of the public must remember they are in the open; they have not the same rights as the private citizen when it comes to published censure; that is one of the exigencies of official life, and it is made a bit more digestible by the fact that their justification may be had in the same columns that raise the issue; these columns will never be closed against any man needing justice at our hands nor anyone else.

We are expecting much, the people are expecting even more; and this paper proposes to contribute, in every way, to the foregathering of that good, even if it has to scrap to get it. A word to the wise, etc., etc., etc.

AMUSEMENTS

"THE GREAT DIVIDE."

Discriminating playgoers will welcome the announcement that Manager Hanlin has secured "The Great Divide" for tonight at the Astoria Theatre. Henry Miller, America's foremost actor-manager, has presented the play for two seasons in New York, where it won instant recognition as the greatest American play ever written. Aside from the unanimously extravagant praise of the critical reviewers of the metropolis, the box office stamp of emphatic approval

DELL SCULLY FIGURES IN BIG SENSATION

WAS IN THE RECENT FIRE IN HERALD SQUARE THEATRE NEW YORK.

The following interesting bit of history of the recent fire in the Herald Square Theatre, in New York, on the night of December 22nd, indicates that "our" Dell Scully was there, well to the front, and contains his estimate of a very ugly situation, and will be read with real concern by his many friends in Astoria: "Women in the balcony of the theatre were among the first to discover the fire, and though some of them, those in the rear rows, left their seats and went down the stairs to leave the house the alarm did not spread. The unexpected appearance of those who did leave and their hurry, as they passed through the lobby was the first intimation those in the box office had that there was trouble.

Instantly, when the danger was known H.M. Hymes, manager of the house, went to the ushers and others and told them what to do. R. W. Long the treasurer, went back of the curtains. The result was a most orderly departure of the entire audience, which had filled the house.

"Dell B. Scully of Portland, Or., W. C. Ely and W. K. Bonfield of this city, officers of the Barber Asphalt Company, occupied seats in the second row of the orchestra.

"It was the best managed thing I ever saw in my life," said Mr. Scully, as he stood near the Herald Building and watched a sea of flames rolling over the place he had occupied only a few minutes previously. "We did not know there was any fire in the theatre until we got out on the street, and we took our time. The house was crowded, but I did not see any one frightened. They closed the show and let down the curtain, just as if it were over. They did not scare anybody by making an announcement from the stage. They simply let the people think it was time to go home, and the people did the rest. They started home. Even when the boys came along the aisles saying, 'Don't crowd, take it easy, keep cool,' we, and I guess everybody else, thought it was the usual thing when the house was crowded and was being emptied. It was the best managed thing of the kind I ever heard of, and I am sure the way that house was emptied saved a whole lot of lives."

is undeniable, as this masterpiece of American playwrighting has broken all records in point of financial returns, having played over 500 nights to capacity business. Two hundred and fifty-eight presentations were given at Henry Miller's Princess Theatre to standing room only last season. Last season Mr. Miller secured Daly's Theatre, a considerably larger house, and inaugurated the second year of "The Great Divide" on Broadway with the result that the receipts were limited only by the seating capacity of this historic playhouse, which is one of the largest theatres in New York. The entire production, with the superb scenic effects and accessories, will be given here precisely as presented during the phenomenal metropolitan run of Mr. William Vaughn Moody's really great American play.

"BABES IN TOYLAND."

"Babes in Toyland" comes to the Astoria Theatre Saturday night. Glen MacDonough and Victor Herbert's beautiful extravaganza is enjoying wonderful success. A splendid company numbering 70 people is carried and the production is more beautiful than that shown last season. "Babes in Toyland" amuses and delights everyone who sees it. The tot of three is held captive by the sight of the children lost and perplexed in the heart of Toyland; the grown person is charged by the contrasting humor and satire of Glen MacDonough. To the lover of music, Victor Herbert's work always appeals and in Toyland it is entrancing. No lesser authority than Hunker declared that "Toyland March" was the equal of Gounod's "March of the Marionettes." The scenic effects are dazzling, as well as amazing, in the originality and effectuality of their design.

DEVIL'S AUCTION.

With each succeeding year Manager Charles H. Yale evolves a new edition for his "Everlasting Devil's Auction," each one of which surpasses its predecessor with the beauties of its ensembles, scenic grandeur and marvelous ballets. The produc-

Cures Biliousness, Sick Headache, Sour Stomach, Torpid Liver and Chronic Constipation. Pleasant to take

Red and Green Tag January Sale!

FURNITURE HEATERS At Less Than Cost RANGES At... Cost

Kitchen Utensils Etc.



ASTORIA FURNITURE CO

559 Commercial Street



tion for this, the 28th continuous year of success, will be far and away ahead of former presentations of this wonderful play. New ballets, new scenery, music and specialties make this season's production of Charles H. Yale's Everlasting, Always to be Remembered, Never Forgotten, Never Excelled, Always Welcome "Devil's Auction" a memorable one. The piece will be seen here Sunday night.

BAKER STOCK CO.

The matinee girl of Astoria will be interested to note the near future appearance here of Portland's incomparable Baker Stock Company which will present the famous farce "Are You a Mason" at Astoria Theatre next Monday night. This is the play that drew standing room houses all New Year's week at the popular Bungalow Theatre and its visit here is made possible by Manager Baker donating his well known place of amusement for the benefit of the earthquake sufferers on Monday night at which time a society entertainment will be given. "Are You a Mason" will be presented in Astoria with exactly the same cast that presented it in Portland including Izzetta Jewel, Louise Kent, Maribel Seymour, Mina Crollis Gleason and Sydney Ayres the handsome leading man, Howard Russell, James Gleason, William Dills and others whose names are familiar to every matinee girl in Portland. This will be a theatrical event in this city.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S

AT THE BAKERONIAN THEATRE.

Commencing Monday, Jan. 11th two weeks engagement of THE DONALD STOCK CO. The Opening Performance "Just Plain Folks" Prices 15, 25 and 35c. Moving Pictures all this week

ORINO Laxative Fruit Syrup

T. F. LAUREN OWL DRUG STORE

Fever Sores. Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but should be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's salve. This salve has no superior for this purpose. It is also most excellent for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

Astoria Theatre

F. M. Hanlin, Lessee and Manager

Friday, Jan. 8

HENRY MILLER, Presents

"The Great Divide"

"The Long Awaited Great American Play"—New York Press.

WM. VAUGHN MOODY

As produced at the Princess and Daly's Theatres and Academy of Music, New York, for more than 500 times.

PRICES 50, 75, \$1.00, 1.50
Box Offices Open January 7

AMUSEMENTS.

ASTORIA THEATRE

Saturday, Jan. 9

The PREMIER MUSICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR
Victor Herbert & Glen MacDonough's
Phenomenal Musical Extravaganza Success

Babes in Toyland

Among the Talented Cast you will find
Eddie Redway as.....Alan Gus Pixley as.....Marmaduke
(The Original Ginger Bread Man) John F. Ward as.....Barnaby
Nellie Lynch as.....Jane Will H. Hatter as.....The Toymaker
(Late with Ginger Bread Man) Helen McLeod as.....Tom Tom
Last Season with Ginger Bread Man Ida Ward as.....Mrs. Piper
Beth Tate as.....Contra Mary All of the Great Original Cast
(Late Prima Donna with H. W. Savage) of
BABES IN TOYLAND

Also
May Burdock, Gertude Lawrence and the best singing Chorus ever on tour
Aided by Their Own Orchestra
BIG BEAUTY CHORUS. Box Office Open Friday, Jan 8

Astoria Theatre Baker Stock Co. COMING

CHAS. H. YALE CO. ...Astoria Theatre...

28th Annual Oblation
The Everlasting

Devil's Auction

Extraordinary Spectacle
Superior Scenic Investiture
4 Baby Elephants in Native Jungle Dance

Large Company Extravagantly Costumed
Grand Transformation Scene, "ARMOR"
"Best Ever"
"Every Feature New This Year"
Prices 50 cents to \$1.50

One Night Only

Monday, Jan. 11

The famous Baker Stock Co. will be seen here in the successful farce comedy

"ARE YOU A MASON"

Same complete production as seen in Portland at the Bungalow to capacity attendance all last week.
Prices 25, 50, 75, \$1
Seat sale opens Sunday