

TO ASTORIANS.

The DAILY ASTORIAN will be found on sale in Portland at the well-known stationery house of J. F. Handley & Co., 391 Washington Street. Orders for advertising left with this firm will receive prompt attention.

TODAY'S WEATHER.

PORTLAND, Dec. 22.—Western Oregon and Western Washington, fair, except rain along coast; decreasing temperatures.

AROUND TOWN.

Crawfish, cooked in wine, at the National Cafe.

The Columbia arrived in yesterday and went up to Portland.

Strictly pure home-made nut candy of all kinds at the Bonbonniere.

Buy your Xmas tree ornaments at the Parlor. Cheaper than in Portland.

The British steamer Abregedde cleared at the custom house yesterday.

The German ship Margretha, from Antwerp, arrived in yesterday evening.

Go to the great store of A. Dunbar & Company for all kinds of holiday goods.

Herman Wise offers all Overcoats and mackintoshes at a reduction of 20 per cent.

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C. H. Cooper's for Fine Lace Curtains and Bed Spreads.

Twenty per cent reduction on all mackintoshes and overcoats at Herman Wise's store.

C. H. Cooper's for Fine Quality Silks.

Fresh Columbia river smelt; the first of the season, are now on sale at the "PAT" market.

C. H. Cooper's for Useful Xmas Presents. Twenty per cent reduction on all mackintoshes and overcoats at Herman Wise's store.

Ross, Higgins & Co. have for sale a quantity of choice mackintosh and holly, just received.

C. H. Cooper's for good values in Men's Clothing.

Merchants are busy these days. If all who looked, bought, local dealers would retire as capitalists.

C. H. Cooper's for Nobby Dress Patterns.

The Star combination game board just received at Griffin & Reed's, on which 26 games can be played.

C. H. Cooper's for Ladies, Men's and Boy's Sweaters.

The steam schooner Homer arrived in from San Francisco yesterday. She will take on lumber at Knappton.

C. H. Cooper's for Ladies' Centimeter Kid gloves.

Pure whisky Harper Perfect whisky Harper every bottle guaranteed Harper. Sold by Ford & Stokes Company, Astoria, Oregon.

C. H. Cooper's for Nobby Made up Pillows.

Mr. Hoffer directs attention to the large, choice line of Lowney's chocolates just received at the Bonbonniere.

Useful Christmas presents: Umbrellas and Valises at Phil Stokes'.

The A. Dunbar Company store will be closed all day on Monday. No goods of any character will be sold on that day.

Our line of holiday goods is now in. Remember we have the only line of its kind in the city. Portland prices, B. F. Allen & Son.

C. H. Cooper's for Sensible and Useful Xmas Presents.

Your gentleman friend, father or brother would enjoy a fountain pen. The Waterman is the best, only at Griffin & Reed's.

Roslyn coal lasts longer, is cleaner and makes less trouble with stoves and chimney flues than any other. George W. Sanborn, Agent. Telephone 1311.

C. H. Cooper's for Novelty Bags, Purse, etc.

Roslyn coal is the best and most economical coal for household use in Astoria. Try it once and you will have no other. George W. Sanborn, Agent. Telephone 1311.

Griffin & Reed invite you to call in the morning to avoid the rush in the afternoon. They have a large and beautiful assortment of goods and you can surely find something to suit you.

C. H. Cooper's for Fine Hosiery and Underwear.

Our prize \$125 organ will be drawn New Year's eve. Chances given on every \$1.00 purchase of holiday goods. B. F. ALLEN & SON.

Work has been temporarily suspended on the 17th street improvement. The continued rains and consequent heavy condition of the ground makes progress difficult and slow.

C. H. Cooper's for Fine Silk and Moreen Petticoats.

With the view of closing out my entire stock of latest improved air-tight heaters, I am now offering them for sale at a discount of 15 per cent. W. J. FULLY, 41 Bond Street.

C. H. Cooper's for Ladies' Golf Capes.

The A. Dunbar Company requests all its customers who can do so to visit the store during the forenoon of holiday week in order to avoid the afternoon rush.

L. H. Cowing, formerly with the association here, and now on the Sound as selling agent of the Rosario Straits Packing Company, was in the city yesterday. He is on his way to attend a family reunion at Oregon City.

Useful Christmas presents: Kid Gloves. The famous Dent mackintosh at Phil Stokes'.

FOR SALE—A full-pedigreed, Poll-Angus bull. This animal is only three years old, weighs fully 2,900 pounds, and is one of the finest ever brought to Oregon. He is valued at \$300, but can be now bought for \$199. Apply to M. SUSMAN.

C. H. Cooper's for Men's Nobby Neckwear.

Astorian are convinced that the 46-foot channel project will receive no consideration in congress this session since the announcement that there will be no river and harbor bill. It might come up specially but would probably be defeated.

C. H. Cooper, Headquarters for Reliable Goods.

For a few days only, cream-mixed candy 15 cents a pound, plain American candy 10 cents a pound. Chocolate creams 30 cents a pound, and everything else in proportion, at the Parlor. These goods are made fresh for Christmas.

C. H. Cooper, for Latest Novelties in Neckwear.

One question incidentally discussed at the council last night was the use of fire department horses for other than strictly fire purposes. It would be very doubtful policy to run the risk such action would involve and certainly the chief engineer would not assume the responsibility.

Useful Christmas presents: Hats and Suits. Best selected stock in the city at Phil Stokes'.

Having a large invoice of shoes arriving January 1, and in order to make room for same, we will commence Monday, December 11, to close out our entire stock of fine men's boys' and children's shoes at and below factory costs. We have a splendid line of children's shoes. Men's shoes almost given away. Fred Walters, corner 13th and Bond streets.

C. H. Cooper's for Men's and Boys' Topcoats.

Iwaco and Astoria play football on Christmas day at the A. F. C. grounds. Those who saw the last game say it was exciting and sensational from the first kick-off till the end of the second half and they look for an interesting exhibition Monday. Wilkomette university of Salem plays Multnomah at Portland on Christmas. New Year's day Stanford will play the Multnomah team on the latter's grounds.

C. H. Cooper's for Ladies' and Gents' Umbrellas.

Next Monday is Christmas day. One is reminded of the approaching holiday by every shop window and by the hundreds of shoppers with their arms full of packages. In homes needles and brushes are busy upon work that is hastily hidden when the intended recipient approaches. The Christmas dinner is being planned and the kitchen already is all of the savory odors that are the harbingers of feasts.

Family reunions, visits of long unseen friends, joyful surprises—these are some of the products of Christmas time. The child has another side but the contemplation is not so pleasant.

C. H. Cooper's for Ladies' and Gents' Mackintoshes.

An interesting Christmas entertainment will be given Saturday evening, December 23rd, in the Alderbrook school building. The school has very little reading matter for the use of the pupils, and the entertainment is given primarily for the purpose of raising funds with which to begin a school library. An interesting program has been prepared, consisting of recitations, music, tableaux, etc., and a very pretty Christmas piece entitled, "The offering of the year," will conclude the program. The entertainment deserves just recognition and it is to be hoped that the library fund may prove ample in every way. The admission will be 15 cents and the program will begin at 7:20 p. m.

Useful Christmas presents: Night-shirts and Pajamas. Especially attractive lines in Tennis Flannel at Phil Stokes'.

Next Wednesday evening Astoria theater goes will have a chance to see one of the most beautiful plays ever written, entitled, "Human Events," the companion piece to "Share Acre." Do not miss your opportunity to witness a play that never fails to hold an audience. Everywhere it is spoken of as possessing rare power to move and entertain. The varied characters chosen by the author reveal his intention as woven into action that in itself has artistic variety, and is alive with such elements as rivet the attention. The play is clean, clear and clever, and the fact that it is in its fourth season of success, warrants the statement that it has lasting power, which can be said of very few dramas. The secret of this lies in the simplicity, truthfulness and varied human interests. The company carry all their own scenery. Seat sale opens Tuesday morning next at Griffin & Reed's.

WILL HIDE A WEE.

Astorian Awaiting Developments in the Paul Mohr Scheme.

Mr. Paul Mohr's project has not created an uproar of enthusiasm in Astoria for while some of our citizens put the utmost faith in the enterprise the majority are inclined to be skeptical.

One reason for the unbelief is the apparent mystery concerning the Central Construction & Navigation Company which is to operate the two boats, barges and package railway. The public has been given no hint as to its financial standing and if it has been with capital behind it, their names are kept a profound secret.

No one here doubts the practicability of the scheme as outlined by Mr. Mohr if money were put into execution, but it cannot be made a success without capital and the capitalists with whom Mr. Mohr has heretofore been associated are railroad men who would be interested in NOT seeing the system inaugurated.

If Mr. Mohr is in earnest and has the proper backing, it will not be difficult to arouse the Astorians and secure their active co-operation. Local men of affairs do not oppose Mr. Mohr, nor will they throw a straw in his way. They do not criticize him or his aims, for he has asked nothing of them as yet and has done nothing to call forth criticisms.

Astoria simply will not go into hysterics over a proposition that would benefit her if carried out but the success of which is, to say the least, not assured.

THE MODERN MOTHER.

Has found that her little ones are improved more by the pleasant Syrup of Figs, when in need of the laxative effect of a gentle remedy, than by any other. Children enjoy it and it benefits them. The true remedy, Syrup of Figs, is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only.

THE CITY COUNCIL.

An Interesting Meeting and Matters of Importance Discussed.

The city council met last night and several interesting matters were acted upon.

A communication from Chas. Barber by Fulton Brothers, his attorneys, to the chief of police was read and referred to the ways and means committee.

Mr. Barber owns an undivided interest in a lot against which was levied an assessment for the Young's bay bridge improvement. Payment becoming delinquent warrants were issued against the several undivided interests and costs of publication etc. accrued on each warrant, thus multiplying the costs against the single lot. Mr. Barber tendered the full amount of the assessment with interest but not including any costs.

The majority of property owners interested in the 17th street improvement asked that the contractor be granted such further time to complete the work as weather conditions made necessary. The city attorney stated that this could only be done by ordinance and the matter was referred to the street committee.

A petition of property owners who themselves improved the sunset near the Tigue hotel to have the work accepted was also referred.

The final report of City Attorney Allen was read. In it Mr. Allen referred

to the good feeling existing between mayor, council and other city officers and himself and thanked them for their co-operation.

In the city election bills the claims of the judges and clerks were reduced from \$5 to \$3 and the bills were allowed. The smallest case bills called forth some lively debating. The full committee agreed in recommending the payment of the following bills which were allowed:

S. Andrich, \$24.99; Chas. Rogers, \$11.19; C. H. Cooper, \$38; Hugh McLaughlin, \$54.99; Fisher Bros., \$2.39; Edward & Stokes, \$2.75; Chas. Rogers, \$12.75; Dr. Henderson's bills of \$142.00 was cut down to \$145.00 and allowed. The following bills were objected to by Mr. Parker, a minority of the committee, on the ground that they were not legally incurred, but were allowed by the council: Gas, Wilson, \$19.99; P. W. Ferguson, \$4.00; H. M. Jonesford, \$4.50; W. L. Simmons, \$2.50; C. H. Woodward & Co., \$41; A. P. Fisher (nurse), \$106.99. The following were disallowed: Chas. Lisenweber, \$1.99; Chas. Rogers, \$15.95; Dr. J. A. Fisher, \$19.99.

An ordinance introduced at the request of the water committee was put upon its final passage under suspension of the rules and passed. It makes it a misdemeanor for anyone to injure in any way the property of the company or interfere or make connections with or tap any of the mains without authority. The ordinance is comprehensive and explicit.

The ordinance for the improvement of Astor street was withdrawn. A resolution calling for bids for public printing was introduced and passed.

Councilman Welch introduced a bill, statement and resolution combined authorizing payment of salaries for 1899 to the mayor and councilmen for their services. The mayor to get \$100 and the pay of councilmen ranging from \$50 to \$100 according to regularity of attendance. Mr. Welch moved that the resolution be referred to the ways and means committee to be reported back at once. There was some objection and the council adjourned to meet Thursday, December 28th to take up the question.

Useful Christmas presents: Neckwear, latest patterns and colors. 25c and 50c, at Phil Stokes'.

LUMBER TARIFF REDUCED.

The Southern Pacific Will Return to Old Rates.

For some months the lumbering men of Portland and the Valley immediately tributary have had a grievance against the Southern Pacific railroad. Now, just as the company prepares to begin the new year by making things pleasant for them, the lumber people exclaim, with some irritation, that they don't care whether they ship over the railroad that tries to hold them up by the way the S. P. is alleged to have done. Not a mill site says one.

Water rates are good enough for them, and as the ocean is still open, cargo rates and preferable. From 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 feet of lumber being the lower end of the Willamette valley every month for California points. So it is not a trifling matter.

Monday, say the Oregonian, the Southern Pacific officials at San Francisco headquarters announced that the "old lumber rate" would be placed in effect again from Portland to San Francisco. This "old" rate means the restoration of \$3.50 per ton to Central California points, and \$3.10 per ton to San Francisco bay points. The restoration of this rate is a come-down from what local manufacturers declare was an extortionate rate placed in effect to California a few months ago. The company, it is asserted, made this rate in order that the companies here might work up a good shipping business when the milling industry was not as active as now. Having got a good business in carload lots in California, local shippers say they rushed things along and got a heavy supply of lumber on hand. At this juncture the Southern Pacific could not deliver the goods, owing to a shortage of cars. While there was a demand for cars to haul the lumber, the railroad, it is asserted, took advantage of a strained situation and showed up rates twice as much as they now are. That is to say, \$6 and \$7 per ton was demanded. As a result the shippers then sought for chances to load cargoes for San Francisco at a greatly reduced figure. They did not propose, they say, to pay any such rates, and it is stated that some sizing communications were sent to the headquarters of the road at San Francisco anent this action.

Phil Stokes has been making some seasonable Christmas suggestions throughout this column. He hasn't said much about prices. They will speak for themselves, as you will find by visiting his store.

J. A. Fastabend, General Contractor and Builder.

H. F. Prael Transfer Co. Telephone 23. DRAYING AND EXPRESSING. All Goods Shipped to Our Care Will Receive Special Attention.

No. 533 Duane St., Astoria, Or. W. J. COOK, Mgr. Res. Tel. 113.

Merrie Christmas. Hoeffler's Bonbonniere. Is the place to buy your Christmas Candles. Pure Home Made Mixed Candles 15c a pound and up. Lowney's Famous Chocolates. All shapes, sizes and flavors. A profuse display of Fancy Baskets, and boxes. Just the thing for a dainty present.

INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN. ORDERS SOLICITED. Miss Bertha Martin's Decorative Art Room. Full Line of Newest Embroidery Materials. Initials a Specialty. Choice Selection of 5amping Designs. Stamping Neatly Done. Room 820 Dekum Building, 31 and Washington Sts., Portland, Or.

Nice Work. I can wash and iron, but can not do it as nice as the New Columbia Steam Laundry. I am young and they are old hands at the business, you know. Telephone 981 and they will call for your wash and you will be pleased. J. W. DALTON, Proprietor.

C. J. TRENCHARD, Commission, Brokerage, Insurance and Shipping. Custom House Broker. ASTORIA, OREGON. Agent W. F. & Co., and Pacific Express Co's.

C. H. Cooper, for Ladies and Gents Handkerchiefs. NOTICE: J. Anderson, chiroprapist, will remain for a few days only in Astoria, and will remove home for 25 cents. Office, room 18, Page building. Useful Christmas presents: Handkerchiefs in silk and linen, plain and fancy at Phil Stokes'.

TO CURE LAGRIFFE IN TWO DAYS. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists return the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Groves' signature is on each box. 25c. C. H. Cooper's for Latest Blocks in Men's Hats. PORTLAND PHILOSOPHY. Pose-Intelligence: Mark Twain was a pessimist compared with the writer of the following from the Portland Oregonian: "St. Louis and Chicago competition will be the making of our jobbing trade, because it will drive our jobbers together for united and determined action. The rise of Seattle and Tacoma will bring a longer jetty and a deeper channel. The drydock at Port Orchard will bring a drydock to Portland, and the activity of Spokane, Boise and Salt Lake in the inland empire will give us a smelter. "If you want to see a man fight, back him up into a corner; and there is probably no way to see a community like this on the high road to vigorous and permanent achievement but to menace it from without with rivals and from within with decay." If the future growth of Portland is to be measured by the vigor of the competition that she encounters on the Sound, the city on the Willamette can count on unparalleled prosperity. This species of comfort, however, is a trifle dangerous as well as chilly.

THE Palace Cafe. W. W. WHIPPLE, Prop'r. Finest Restaurant North of San Francisco. OPEN DAY AND NIGHT. Attentive Service. First-Class Cuisine. Private Rooms for Ladies. 538 Commercial Street, Astoria.

Scow Bay Iron and Brass Works, 18th St and Franklin Av. Huffschildt & Lovell, Props. SEMI-STEEL, MANGANESE and PHOSPHOR BRONZE a Specialty. IRON and BRASS CASTINGS. Phone 2451, Astoria, Or.

W. C. A. Pohl, COUNTY CORNER. Undertaker, Embalmer and Funeral Director. Caskets and Funeral Supplies constantly on hand. Corner 11th and Duane Sts., Astoria, Ore. THE PROOF of the pudding is in the eating and the proof of liquors IS IN SAMPLING. That's an argument that's conclusive—a demonstration. Ours will stand the test. HUGHES & CO. STORES 105 IN NUMBER. PRICES AWAY UNDER. 571 Commercial St., Astoria.

COME and Pay Us a Visit. If you are in need of anything in the CLOTHING LINE. It will pay you to come to Portland and examine our enormous stock. Besides the advantage of such a large variety to select from, thus enabling you to obtain exactly what you want, we save you from \$2 to \$5 on a Man's Suit or Overcoat, and \$1 to \$3 on Boys' Suits. Men's Suits \$6 to \$25. Men's Overcoats \$8 to \$30. Boys' Suits \$2 to \$15. Child's Reefers \$1.50 to \$8. Money Cheerfully Refunded If Goods are not Satisfactory. MOYER CLOTHING CO., The Popular Price Clothiers. BEN SELLING, Manager. 3rd and Oak Streets, Portland