

C. H. COOPER'S
Annual Sale
 Commences on
Tuesday Morning
JANUARY 2.

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, Jan. 23.—Western Oregon and Western Washington, rain today.

AROUND TOWN.
 Crawford, cooked in wine, at the National Cafe.
 J. J. Darymple of Salem is in the city on a visit.
 A. B. Haines of Clifton spent Sunday in Astoria.
 C. H. Callendar was over from Knappahton Sunday.
 Geo. Myers and wife were in town from Portland Sunday.
 Miss Ada Jordan has returned from a brief visit with friends in Portland.
 The Warrenton lodge of A. O. U. W. will give a masked ball this evening.
 Mrs. Herman Wise is in Portland on a short visit. She is accompanied by her children.
 Mrs. P. O. Petersen died at Skamokawa on Sunday, the funeral taking place in that town.
 Mrs. Anna Rose of Portland and Miss Emma Maryn of Corvallis are visiting Rev. and Mrs. Peart.
 Mr. and Mrs. Guy T. Wallace of Portland spent Sunday as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Herring.
 For Rent—5-room house; hard finish; unfurnished. Rent low to right party. Apply at premises, 422 Irving avenue.
 The German ship Asterkamp, loaded with wheat for Europe, is in the harbor, awaiting a favorable moment to go to sea.
 Roslyn coal lasts longer, is cleaner and makes less trouble with stoves and chimney flues than any other. George W. Sanborn, Agent. Telephone 1311.
 The George W. Elder cleared for San Francisco yesterday forenoon, carrying a cargo of tin cans, wool, lute, sugar and hemp. The usual quota of passengers were on board.
 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.
 The steamer Signal, chartered by the Pacific Coast Company, of Seattle, arrived in port Sunday with 900 tons of coal from the Sound, which was discharged in the company's bunkers here.
 Old Continental is a standard high grade Kentucky whiskey. Absolutely pure, and can be recommended to those seeking a stimulant for medical and social use. Sold by Aug. Danielson, Astoria, Oregon.
 The A. F. C. bowling team will go to Portland tomorrow morning, and from there they will go to Salem and The Dalles, in which towns they will play the final games in the Big Four series.
 Letters for the following persons remain unclaimed for at the postoffice: Miss Florence Edds, Samuel Pitt, Lawrence Jonson, Mrs. Matherson, P. H. Nelson, D. M. Partoris, Foreign, Klamo, Abraham Erickson, Alec. McCause.
 Invitations are out for a Twentieth Century party to be given by many prominent young ladies of Astoria on the evening of January 25. The patronesses are: Mrs. Samuel Elmore, Mrs. Flavel, Mrs. J. G. Megler and Mrs. J. T. Lighter.
 The Monmouthshire proudly plowed her way up the river Sunday afternoon, carrying a cargo of silk and tea for American and Canadian wholesalers. It is learned that one of the ship's crew, a native of Scotland, was drowned while enroute from Hong Kong.

The following fully explains itself: A mistake was made in each of the evening papers of yesterday's issues about the hour the Eclipse is to leave Fisher's dock for the ball at Warrenton. The Eclipse will leave Fisher's dock this (Tuesday) evening, at the hour of 8 p. m. sharp. COMMITTEE.

The Bible enjoins a spirit of forgiveness and there is no hope for a person who refuses to exercise this spirit. Therefore Rev. Isaac Peart will graciously forgive that gentleman who stole his veal loaf, mincepie and roll of butter on Saturday evening if he will return, in person, the plates.

The final builder's trial of the torpedo-boat Goldsborough took place on the Willamette river Sunday afternoon the run being made from Portland to Oak Point and return. The engines worked well and there is every reason to believe that her final trial trip will be everything her builders hope for her.

E. W. Wright, commercial editor of the Oregonian, was in Astoria Sunday, "taking a trip for his health." As Mr. Scott could imagine nothing in Astoria worthy of the distinction of commercial importance it is most likely that Mr. Wright's visit was due purely to a desire for pure air and innocent recreation.

A fine audience greeted Rev. Mr. Peart Sunday evening to hear his sermon on "Evolution." The representative character of the congregation and the splendid attention of the same gave the speaker great inspiration and the discourse was an eloquent, instructive and powerful presentation of the facts concerning the important subject. The effort of the evening was warmly commended.

Next Saturday evening a new drama entitled "London Life" will be produced at Fisher's Opera House. It will have quite an elaborate staging. A happy inspiration was manifested in the choosing of the title of "London Life." It prepares an audience for an atmosphere at once new, strange and fascinating. The company plays at the Marquam Grand in Portland tomorrow, Thursday and Friday nights. The sale of seats opens at Griffin & Reed's on Friday morning.

TRANSVAAL LOSS IN LIFE.
 Moralists are discussing the terrible loss of life brought about by the Transvaal war. Yet here life is sacrificed for a purpose—for an honest principle. It were better to preach against the needless sacrifice of life. Thousands of people succumb to ailments which might easily have been checked in the beginning. Dyspepsia carries off more people than are killed in war. The use of Homettar's Stomach Bitters would save many lives. Constipation may seem a little thing, but it invariably develops into something worse, and the longer it is allowed to run, the harder it is to cure. The Bitters cures indigestion, constipation, dyspepsia and biliousness, naturally and permanently, good for everybody.

NOTICE:
 Notice is hereby given that all of the assets of the Astoria Football and Athletic Club have been transferred to the undersigned as trustee for the benefit of all of the creditors of said club, and that all claims against the said club should be presented to the undersigned within 30 days from this date.
 C. J. TRENCHARD,
 Trustee.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.
 The following deeds were filed in Recorder Clinton's office yesterday: Hans. Rasmussen to Andrew Lager, 17 1/2 acres of land in township 7, north, range 8 west; \$1.
 W. C. Cassell and wife to Sander Peterson lot 13, block 23, New Astoria; \$250.

NOTICE!
 Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Charles Richel, has this day retired from the firm known as the Astoria Meat Company. All outstanding obligations of said firm will be assumed by the remaining partners, and all accounts of said firm will be payable solely to them.
 CHARLES RICHEL,
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 Astoria, Or., Jan. 23, 1900.

Don't fail to try BEECHAM'S PILLS
 when suffering from any bad condition of the stomach or liver.
 10 cents and 25 cents at drug stores.

IS HILSTROM A LUNATIC?

Many Who Declare He Is Perfectly Sane.

WILL BE EXAMINED TODAY

Mrs. Mooers Talks of Her Husband's Death—Mooers and Hilstrom Were Always Friendly.

The wife and children of Matt Hilstrom, the slayer of Lake Mooers, were brought into the city yesterday by Sheriff Linville, and they are now comfortably quartered at the Astor House, as guests of the county.

Mrs. Hilstrom and her eldest son and daughter will appear as witnesses today at the examination of Hilstrom. Mrs. Hilstrom was interviewed by an Astorian reporter yesterday and pleaded with questions relating to the mental condition of her husband. Mrs. Hilstrom is a simple little woman of the most common type. Reports that she, as well as Hilstrom, is insane, are absurd, for the woman appears just as clear as any ordinary individual. However, she is simple in the extreme.

In the interview she related the incidents surrounding the killing of Lake Mooers. Said she:

"My husband repeatedly told me that certain men in the neighborhood were intent upon doing all of us harm. At first I endeavored to argue him out of this idea because I did not believe anyone could be illy-disposed toward him. But he continued relating his statements so much that I finally grew to think that possibly he had some just grounds for the charges.

"I believe now that he was not right mentally but I had no particular reason to suspect this prior to the shooting."

Sheriff Linville tells a most interesting story in connection with his trip to the Hilstrom homestead in quest of the family yesterday.

Mrs. Hilstrom began raving as soon as she saw him, exclaiming: "They've hung him; oh, they've hung him!"

Sheriff Linville at once persuaded Mrs. Hilstrom that her husband had not been hanged; that to the contrary, he was alive and well and wanted to see her and the children. With this she at once agreed to accompany him to town.

Relative to his trip to the Hilstrom house Sheriff Linville said to an Astorian reporter:

"I was much surprised to find that the eldest boy and girl, aged respectively 15 and 12, were exceedingly bright children. I had quite a long conversation with the girl, and during our conversation I asked her if her father did not know better than to believe anyone intended to do him harm. To this she replied:

"Papa told us that some men were coming to take us away; that they would cut my throat and my brother's and kill him, too. He repeated it so often that I believed what he said. I could not but wonder what the world was coming to. But, anyway, we believed that what papa told us was true."

The sheriff continued by saying that the girl's statement throughout was most rational and reasonable. "She was undoubtedly impressed with the absurdity of her father's statements," said he, "but, girl like, she finally gave in to the conviction that her father was right and that his best friends were really seeking his life."

"The mother expressed herself in something of a similar vein," said the sheriff. "I asked her if she did not know better than to believe that men who had befriended her husband as Lake Mooers had done would wilfully seek his life?"

"Yes," she said, "I looked at it in that way myself but he held out that they intended to kill us and I was finally persuaded to believe what he told me. I can see now that he must have been crazy."

It was with the utmost difficulty that Sheriff Linville could at first convince Mrs. Hilstrom that her husband had not been hanged. Convinced of the truth, however, she readily consented to accompany him to Astoria.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

The coroner's inquest, which was held Sunday forenoon, resulted in a verdict to the effect that Lake Mooers met his death from a bullet wound at the hands of Matt Hilstrom.

Through some misunderstanding of law the jury undertook to find Hilstrom guilty of murder in the first degree. As a matter of fact, a coroner's jury is impaneled solely for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of death. This was probably reported in accordance with the facts; but whether Hilstrom will be finally adjudged guilty of murder in any degree whatever will remain to be determined by a trial jury, to be selected in the event that the case is referred to the grand jury. Should the grand jury be convinced that Hilstrom should stand trial for murder all will then rest with the trial jury, which body will decide upon his punishment.

But proceedings will be held before Judge Gray today at 10 o'clock which may settle the matter in an entirely different manner. These proceedings will be in the nature of an examination before a lunacy commission, composed of Doctors Kinney and J. A. Fulton. If it is proved to the satisfaction of the commission that Hilstrom is insane, the death of Lewis and Clark will be duly committed to the state insane asylum and the matter will be brought to an end, at least temporarily.

But whether or not Hilstrom is insane is a matter upon which many well-founded—although antagonistic—opinions are expressed.

Members of the sheriff's office declare that Hilstrom's actions, aside from the killing of Lake Mooers and the attempts to shoot Abercrombie and Beachy have been perfectly rational in every respect. His conversation at all times supports this conclusion and it is only when Hilstrom begins talking of the murder that he appears to be the engine. The engineer performed unbalanced.

It has been reported by those who have known him best that Hilstrom is addicted to drink and that while under the influence of liquor he is brutal in the extreme. The further statement is made that Hilstrom has, as a rule, been keeping heavy supplies of whisky in his house. Upon the strength of this statement it has been concluded that Hilstrom was temporarily out of his mind at the time he shot Lake Mooers. Sheriff Linville states, however, that he is convinced that Hilstrom was not under the influence of liquor at the time and believes that none had been in the house for several days preceding the murder. Sheriff Linville, however, together with many others, expresses the opinion that Hilstrom was crazy at the time he shot Mooers. This conclusion is purely opinion, based principally that such a cold-blooded deed could not have been committed by a man possessing the full powers of his mental faculties.

This much can be said: No one ever raised a question as to Hilstrom's sanity prior to his confinement to the hospital with a broken leg.

A gentleman who had been a mutual friend of both Mooers and Hilstrom said to an Astorian reporter yesterday that he had visited Hilstrom at the county jail and had had a conversation with him.

"Before I went to see him," said he, "I held the conviction that the man must be insane. I am now of an entirely different opinion. If ever a man were guilty of deliberate murder, I believe Hilstrom to be. He talked perfectly sane and rational when I saw him at the jail today and seems to have no regret for the deed whatever. It is quite natural for one to conclude that a man must be out of his mind to do as Hilstrom has done, but were I on a trial jury I should certainly insist upon giving this man the full extent of the law—which is hanging. And I was among those who would have at first staked my life upon the opinion that he was thoroughly crazy before my interview with him."

Mrs. Mooers, wife of the dead man, was seen by an Astorian reporter last evening.

"The first information I received of my husband's death was through the newspapers, as I was visiting friends in Portland at the time," said she. "The report in the Oregonian was rather vague and for a time I was in doubt as to whether it was my husband or his brother who was killed. But a personal telegram, received later on, made clear the awful news.

"Lake's good nature led him to his death. He was always more than willing to help a friend. I recall occasions when he would loan money to men who really had no claim upon him, when I would chide him, telling him that he would be laying himself open to want through his generosity.

"Well," he would reply, "the poor fellow needs it and we will never miss it."

"I know that Lake has always treated Mr. Hilstrom most kindly and with great generosity. It is in view of this that the killing of my husband seems so strange to me.

"Of course, if Mr. Hilstrom is not in his right mind he ought not to be made to suffer the penalty for such a heinous crime. But if he was not insane when he killed my husband I hope the law will take its course to the extreme limit."

PETITION HANDED IN.
 The Push Club's Last Move in the Road Matter.

Going to the bad weather last evening and the absence of some of the members from the city, the meeting of the Push Club was not very largely attended. But some interesting business was brought up. A communication was received from J. H. Johansen of Seaside in regard to the prospect of free transportation from Capt. Langfitt, stating that plans were already under way for laying a cable to Tillamook rock, and from Senator McBride, stating that with his colleagues in congress he would lay before the secretary of agriculture the proposition for a United States experimenting station near the mouth of the river.

Mr. Carphan of the road committee reported that about 2,000 signatures had been obtained for the road improvement petition, and that it would be presented to the court at the present term. Fully two-thirds, perhaps three-fourths, of the voters now in the county have signed the petition. This is ahead of expectations and shows again the energy and success of the popular organization.

SOLIFINE.
 Solifine! Solifine!
 If you are sick and tired of rubbers, which protect your feet from wet or cold, and wish to save continual re-sooling of your shoes; if you wish to stop greasing your harness and prolonging the life of same at least fifty per cent. If you wish to save greasing your belts in your manufactory, go to Peterson & Brown, at Astoria, and try a case of Solifine on your shoes and harness. Buy your shoes only of those who have that scientific waterproof leather preparation. Take no other.
 Address, PETERSON & BROWN,
 General Agents, Astoria, Oregon.

NOTICE TO FISHERMEN.
 All fishermen who are fishing now, or who intend to fish the coming season, are requested to send in their applications for licenses, with the required fee, to the fish commissioner without delay.
 409 Commercial St., Astoria, Or., or 407 Oregonian Bld., Portland, Or.
 F. C. REED,
 Fish Commissioner.

SCOW BAY Iron and Brass Works,
 15th St. and Franklin Av.
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 Every variety of Rough and Dressed Lumber, Doors, Windows, Mouldings and Cedar Shingles.
 Common Slab, Bark, Fir, Hemlock, Alder, Pole Oak
 Office Seventh Street Dock

Pears'

Unless you have used Pears' soap you probably do not know what we mean by a soap with no free fat or alkali in it—nothing but soap.
 The more purely negative soap is, the nearer does it approach perfection.

WHAT WE SAY WE'LL DO WE DO DO

THE LIGHTEST STORE TO SEE IN THE LARGE STOCK TO PICK FROM

Highly Satisfactory

OUR CLEARANCE SALE Is satisfactory to our customers and to us,

TO US....

Because we sell lots of goods. Because it pleases our customers.

TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Because our low prices are money savers. Because our stock consists of good honest goods.

Herman Wise

RELIABLE MEN'S AND BOYS' OUTFITTER

..FISHER'S OPERA HOUSE..
 L. E. LELIG, Lessee and Manager.
 Saturday, January 25
 J. Duke Murray and Howard Long present a play for the women and children
 The Triple Success Endorsed by Paris, London, New York

LONDON LIFE
 ORIGINAL DRAMA IN FIVE ACTS.
 Magnificent scenic embellishments—reproducing England's historic thoroughfare: Fleet street, Piccadilly; The Thames embankment; London's famous pawnshop, Crowded houses every night.
 PRICES OF ADMISSION—Reserved seats 75 cents; gallery 50 cents. Reserved seat sale opens Friday morning at Griffin & Reed's.

BLANCARD'S PILLS & SYRUP
 IODIDE OF IRON
 FOR ANEMIA, POORNESS OF THE BLOOD, CONSTITUTIONAL WEAKNESS, SCROFULA, ETC.
 None genuine unless signed "BLANCARD" ALL DRUGGISTS.
 E. FOUGERA & CO., N. Y. Agts. for U. S.

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