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Today's Weather.
 Portland, Jan. 7.—Western Oregon and western Washington: Friday, rain. Eastern Washington and Idaho: Rain or snow. Eastern Oregon: Increasing cloudiness followed by rain or snow

Local Brevities.

Lady's Purse Lost.—A lady's purse, containing a small amount of money, was lost last evening on Commercial Street. Finder please return to this office.

Funeral at Hammond.—The funeral of the late Harvey Thompson was held from the Hammond church yesterday forenoon, Rev. W. S. Short, of Grace church, officiating. The interment was in Ocean View cemetery at Clatsop.

Cost of Burying Poor.—County Coroner Pohl yesterday appeared before the county court for the purpose of conferring with the commissioners as

to the cost of burying the county poor. It was agreed that the amount allowed for each burial be \$20.

Doctors in Session.—The regular meeting of the Clatsop County Medical Society was held last evening, when Dr. Henderson read a paper on "pneumonia." General discussion of the matter followed. The doctors also devoted some time to the consideration of the present epidemic of measles and the methods to stamp out the disease.

Just a Chimney.—At midnight an alarm of fire was turned in from boxes and three companies responded. The fire was on the roof of a Chinese house on Bond street between Seventh and Eighth, and there was the usual wild excitement among the residents of Chinatown. The blaze was extinguished before the department reached the scene.

Insane Finnish Woman.—Sheriff Linville was yesterday called to West Astoria to investigate the case of a Finnish woman living over the branch store of A. V. Allen. The woman is believed to be insane, and today will be examined by the sanity commissioners. She was not taken into custody last evening, but allowed to remain at her home.

Charges Desertion.—Suit for divorce was filed in the circuit court yesterday by Smith Bros., attorneys for Nels. Christianson, who seeks legal separation from his wife, Bertha Christianson. The complaint recites that the couple were married at Astoria in November 1895, and that the defendant deserted the plaintiff about a year ago.

New Astoria Election.—There were 30 votes cast at the election at New Astoria yesterday. The small vote cast was occasioned by the law that allows only property owners to vote. There were two tickets in the field, the citizens electing vry man. The result follows: Mayor, Willis Mudd; councilmen, Chas Ford, John Oman, Robert Falconer, Chas. Pearson and Werner Storm.

Mrs. Campbell Improved.—Word was received by Dr. O. B. Estes last evening that Mrs. R. B. Campbell, who underwent an operation at Good Samaritan hospital for a cancerous growth, was much better at that time and that if she survived the night there was good chance for her recovery. Mrs. Campbell has been a sufferer for some time and was recently taken to Portland for treatment.

Must Provide Safe Crossing.—In the county court yesterday an order was made instructing County Clergy Clinton to notify the Seaside Spruce Lumber Company that it would be required to provide a safe crossing over the county road. Complaint has been filed with the court, which has ordered that the safety of persons using the road must be considered by the company, even if it is necessary to station a man at the point in question. The company is operating a logging road that crosses the county road under permit issued some months ago.

Affairs of the P. P. & N. Co.—An Associated Press dispatch received last night from Trenton, N. J., the home of the Pacific Packing & Navigation Company, gives some information as to the affairs of what was formerly known as the "Onfroy combine." The company is being operated by a receiver appointed by the United States circuit court for the state of New Jersey, and his report was filed yesterday. It shows that the net profits for the year were \$68,312. The company operates a number of sound canneries and some Alaska packing houses.

New City Directory.—The Morning Astorian will shortly issue a new city directory. Canvassers are already in the field and the work will be vigorously prosecuted. It is the intention to make the directory the most complete ever published in the city, and in every essential detail it will be fully up to the requirements of those who find constant use for directories. The canvass will be a thorough one and their work will give an accurate idea of the present population of the city, which has increased very materially in the last three years. The public is assured that nothing will be left undone to make the directory by far the best ever issued in Astoria.

Lodge Flourishing.—At last night's meeting of Beaver Lodge, I. O. O. F., the following officers were formally installed: Noble grand, L. W. Panttaja; vice-grand, L. O. Belland; financial secretary, John Hahn; recording secretary, Olaf Anderson; treasurer, C. S. Wright; trustee and chaplain, James W. Welch. The affairs of the lodge for the year just past were gone over and found to be in a flourishing condition. In fact, the lodge made a better showing in 1903 than for several years previous, as the following figures will show: Paid out for sick benefits to own members, \$427; relief of widows, \$84; special relief and charity, \$200; investment in stock of building, \$200; amount in the treasury, \$200. During the year 11 members were taken in by initiation and two were enrolled by card.

Council Meets Tonight.—In accordance with a resolution adopted at the first meeting held this year, the city council will meet tonight to take up the matters that went over from Monday's session. Two important ordinances are to be acted upon. One provides for fire escapes on all public buildings and exts of sufficient width and number to insure the safety of people who congregate at such places, while the other provides for the purchase of the Joseph Schamberger property. Mr. Schamberger offers to the city the north 60 feet of lot 3, block 117, in Shively's Astoria, for \$1500. The council intends purchasing the property for an engine house site and also to make a connection that will

open up Duane street from Thirteenth to Fourteenth. It is likely that some definite announcement will be made with reference to the city hall proposal. The meeting promises to be an interesting one.

Burglar at Library.—Some time during Wednesday night a burglar entered the Astoria public library, but failed to secure anything of value. The burglar was discovered yesterday morning when Miss Geary, the librarian opened the library for the day. Every thing connected with the matter indicates that the burglar was well acquainted with the premises, and that he did not secure the money he was after was due entirely to the foresight of Miss Geary, who took the sum home with her. During the afternoon Miss Geary had collected some money from several persons, and it is believed the thief was present when the payments were made. The money was placed in the desk of the librarian. The thief used a skeleton key and got in by way of the front door, which he neglected to lock after leaving the building. He went to the desk and broke the lock but found that the money had been taken away. Nothing else was disturbed. Burglars also paid a visit to the Lurline wharf, in which, it is believed, they hid themselves away before the dock was closed. They ransacked the office and warehouse, but Agent Pomeroy had taken precautions against theft and the burglars got nothing.

Examining Chinese.—George W. Larner and Chinese Interpreter Seld Gain, attaches of the department of commerce and labor, arrived in the city yesterday to look after the interests of the government in the matter of the admission of four Chinese who are seeking to be landed at Portland. The men arrived on the oriental liner Indrapura. All are laborers, and in order that they may be landed it is necessary that they shall have families in this country, property here or debts owing them by Chinese residing in America. To determine whether or not the four men are entitled to admission Messrs. Larner and Gain came to Astoria, and have examined several Chinese residing in this city. The qualifications stated above are included in a treaty negotiated between the United States and China. Mr. Larner was yesterday asked by a reporter whether or not there was any truth in the statement recently appearing in a Portland paper that the Japanese cook of the Indrapura, who escaped from the vessel at Portland, had been seen ashore. "If he is in the country, we would be delighted to get hold of him," said Mr. Larner, "for he is wanted to answer serious charges."

Work Not Concluded.—The county court spent the greater portion of its time yesterday in considering the matter of relocation of road districts, but at 5 o'clock adjourned without having completed its task. Under the new law the several road districts are allowed to make their own levies for roads, and this feature of the law has created endless trouble for Judge Trenchard and the commissioners. In almost every district there is a difference of opinion as to the land that should be included in the improvement districts, the idea of the settlers being, of course, to have the districts so adjusted as to insure them good roads at the least possible cost. The people of just one district—No. 6—proved the exception. This district is east of the Lewis and Clark river and extends as far as Youngs river. The people there want roads, but they are willing to pay for them, and, in order that they might have access to the Lewis and Clark road, yesterday agreed that a narrow strip of property between two Lewis and Clark districts be included in their district. They offered no complaint when the court suggested the advisability of cutting out of No. 6 some 12 or 14 sections of land in the southern part of the district. John Vollmer, residing at Push, has been before the court for the past two days, trying to get a road to his part of the country. There are several roads there and as many surveys, but the roads and surveys do not jibe at all. Mr. Vollmer was informed yesterday that a petition would be necessary before any action could be taken by the court. The court denied the petition of J. R. Wherry and others for a change in road district No. 12, and during the day made an order to pay the Jeffers Dairy Company \$100 for an acre of land on which to construct the house for the keeper of the Lewis and Clark bridge. The session will be resumed at 9 this morning.

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