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great change in the population of Astoria can only be realized by one who has been away from the city for some months," said Mr. Cleveland yesterday. "It used to be the case that I was personally acquainted with most of the people of Astoria, but now I am almost without acquaintances. About two of three persons whom I see on the streets are newcomers. The city looks much more prosperous, and I am very much pleased to observe the general advancement of the community."

Lieutenant General Count Keller's Headquarters, in the Mountains West of Hoi Yan, July 8, via Liao Yang, July 10.—Lieutenant General Count Keller, commander of the Second Siberian army division, though a strict disciplinarian, is a kind and cheerful officer and is popular with his men. He has made many changes in his offices since he took command and has his force in excellent condition. He is 55 years old, but as active as his youngest lieutenant. He wears a short gray beard, has keen blue eyes and dresses in Khaki. His only decoration is the Cross of the Military Order of St. George, which he wears on the breast of his tunic. He works all day at a small table under a tree in the corner of the camp with a single orderly and no guard.

The coast defense vessel Wyoming and the torpedo-boat destroyer Paul Jones, which had been at Portland for about two weeks, arrived down the river yesterday afternoon. The coming of the boats was the signal for a general rush to the waterfront, and hundreds of people were on the docks to view these two unique engines of warfare. Both vessels stopped for a short time near the foot of Eleventh street and the crowd was afforded an excellent opportunity of viewing them from a distance. The Wyoming is a strange-looking vessel that would attract attention almost anywhere, and the Paul Jones likewise held the attention of the crowd. About 4:30 the war vessels proceeded to the mouth of the river, but they were not reported as having crossed out last night. They are on their way to the Bremerton navy yard. The Wyoming and the Paul Jones were great attractions at Portland, where thousands visited them.

Sunday evening the steamer Francis H. Leggett crossed out for San Francisco, having in tow the latest monster log raft to be constructed at Stella, Wash. The raft was brought down the river by two of the sternwheelers and arrived here at noon. The Leggett at once took the great boom in tow and started out. Weather conditions being favorable, the steamer started at once on her trip south. When she got off the river a friendly northwest wind was encountered and the Leggett got an excellent start. The last time a raft was towed to San Francisco from Astoria the trip required six days' time, but it is believed here the Leggett will make better time. The raft contains 7,000,000 feet of logs. The Leggett is laden with lumber and lath, having aboard 1,050,000 feet of lumber and 1,000,000 lath. There is little probability of a storm arising while the raft is being towed south and waterfronters are confident it will reach the Bay city in safety.

The Multnomah Club bowlers are "organizing" to make another try for the Feldenhimer trophy. Ever since the trophy has been at the Commercial Club the Portland bowlers have been discontented. The Portland Commercial team tried for it and went down to crushing defeat. The Portland Commercial expressed the belief that Multnomah ought to do the trying, because Multnomah lost the trophy to Astoria Commercial, but Multnomah has not yet challenged. However, the bowlers are making preparations to take a chance with the locals during regatta week. Commencing with last night, a 40-game try-out was started, 10 games to be bowled on each alley, for the purpose of selecting a team. The 10 men finishing highest will be available for the team, and of these six will be selected by the captain to come to Astoria. The Astorians have not been bowling for some weeks, but will probably start practice immediately in anticipation of the visit. Not the slightest doubt is entertained here of the ability of the Astoria Commercial team to defend the famous old pin.

Professor H. S. Lyman returned yesterday from the St. Louis fair, where he has charge of the Oregon educational exhibit. Professor Lyman is now on a leave of absence and expects to remain in the state until about September 1, when he will return to St. Louis. Speaking of the Oregon exhibit yesterday, Professor Lyman said he regarded it as a good one. "Most of the criticism of the Oregon building comes from Oregonians," said Mr. Lyman. "I have talked with some thousands of

persons at the fair and all seemed to regard the building as quite an attraction. It may not accomplish the advertising which it was hoped to secure, but to my mind the building is not lacking to the extent that some of the Oregonians have said. The fair itself is an enormous exhibit, and I find that considerable complaint is registered by visitors because of the very great distances. To visit the different parts of the grounds taxes one's energy and many of the sightseers become tired. The scheme of payment is not at all satisfactory and the fair streets are often very, very muddy, on which account there has been much complaint. All in all, however, the fair is a magnificent array of exhibits from all parts of the world, and while it was opened before it was really ready, visitors generally are pleased with it."

The delegates who have been attending the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran conference in Astoria have all departed for their homes. Yesterday Professor Brandt, Professor Laur Larsen, Professor Sperati, Rev. Hellekson, Rev. Pederson, Rev. Tjernangel, Rev. Stub and Rev. Bjerke, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Holden, pastor of the Astoria church, visited the forts at the mouth of the Columbia and went for a sightseeing trip over the bay. Professor Brandt, who saw the Pacific yesterday for the first time, is greatly pleased with the far west, and he said yesterday there was a magnificent future in store for this section of the country. He regards Astoria as one of the most progressive of the western cities and intends returning here. Professor Larsen is also an enthusiastic admirer of the west, and said he had never before seen an American city which resembled the cities of Europe so much as Astoria. The eight gentlemen named above left last night for their homes.

**HOW COMMERCIAL BATS.**

Harry Graham is the Star Stealer, With Chop Stockton Second. Leo Wise, who keeps the official score for the Commercial Club baseball team, has prepared a statement showing the batting averages of the club team. Harry Graham is shown to be the best sticker, while Chop Stockton is close second, Ferguson third and Ross Trullinger fourth. Tommy Ross seems able to land on visiting twirlers in good style, for he holds fifth place. The following statement shows the number of times each player has been at bat, the number of hits made by each and the percentage:

Player—	A.	B.	H.	P. C.
H. Graham	41	15	.366	
C. Stockton	44	14	.318	
Ferguson	27	10	.304	
Trullinger	33	10	.303	
T. Ross	20	6	.300	
Flannigan	39	11	.283	
Morton	29	6	.207	
O'Toole	31	6	.194	
Halderman	38	5	.131	
R. Graham	39	5	.128	

O'Toole has had hard luck at the bat. He has walked oftener than any other man and has frequently been hit. Morton was one of the heaviest hitters last season, but this year has not been connecting so well, although he always comes to the front with a two-bagger when the team is in the hole. He has earned the name of being the pinch hitter of the team. Roxy Graham used to be a good batter, but this season is the tall-ender.

Stockton and Ferguson are the only members of the team who have not got a hit in every game. Harry Graham played one game in which he failed to hit safely, Flannigan played two such games, Trullinger, Tom Ross and Morton played three, O'Toole and Roxy Graham played four, and Halderman played five.

**Somebody Loves Him.**  
Somebody is in love with Tommy Ross, the giant pitcher of the Commercial Club baseball team. The Sunday game aroused the sentiment of the poets and poetesses, and some young lady who neglects to attach her name sends in the following:  
Who is Tommy? What is he,  
That all the boys commend him?  
He's the pitcher of our baseball team,  
And wins where'er we send him!  
This little jingle comes in the dainty handwriting of some fair dame. As to the question raised by the poetess as to what Tommy is, his own statement will best throw light on the subject. When Homer Fletcher returned from California he left several grips at Harry Twilight's cigar store while he looked around for apartments. When he found a room he went down to get his grips and took Tommy with him. For the benefit of those few who have never seen Tommy, it may be explained that he stands 6 feet 3 and weighs about 240 pounds, while Mr. Fletcher is about one-half Tommy's size. As the two walked up the street, Tommy lugging a couple of grips, he called out to a friend who happened along:

"Hey, there! What sort of a valet do you think I'd make? Or don't you think I'd make a better mountain?"  
This information is published for the benefit of Tommy's fair admirer, who asks the question, "What is he?"

**PERSONAL MENTION.**

Harry Hamblet is down from Portland.  
C. H. Callender returned last night from the metropolis.  
A. A. Cook, a Portland traveling man, is in the city for a few days.  
George Duncan, a prominent resident of Portland, came down last night.  
Henry Fleckenstein, a Portland liquor dealer, was in Astoria, yesterday.  
W. H. Souls, representing the Portland Telegram, was in the city yesterday.  
United States Senator Fulton is in Portland attending a session of the federal court.  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ryrle returned last night from a short visit with friends in Portland.  
Rutherford M. Rau, representing

Rothschild Bros., and Fred K. Bowen, representing Northrop & Sturgis, came down yesterday from Portland. They will leave this morning for South Bend and other southwestern Washington towns, going home by way of the sound.

Of the foreigners in German universities 628 study philosophy, 616 medicine, 588 mathematics and natural sciences, 351 law, 199 forestry, 146 agriculture, 124 evangelical and Catholic theology, 29 pharmacy and 27 dentistry.

**Brutally Tortured.**

A case came to light that for persistent and unmerciful torture has perhaps never been equaled. Joe Goto-bick, of Colusa, Calif., writes: "For 15 years I endured insufferable pain from rheumatism and nothing relieved me though I tried everything known I came across Electric Bitters and it's the greatest medicine on earth for that trouble. A few bottles of it completely relieved and cured me." Just as good for liver and kidney troubles and general debility. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Chas. Robers, druggist.

**Local Brevities.**

An accident at the A. E. Co.'s power-house early this morning put the city in darkness for some time.

Samuel S. Davies, a native of England, yesterday declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States.

The steamship Chilco, which departed Sunday for San Francisco, took 300 tons of wheat, 200 tons of oats and 200,000 lath.

A marriage license was issued yesterday to Anton Mercovich and Mrs. Anna Banich. The couple were married during the afternoon by Justice of the Peace Goodman.

Next Sunday the Commercial Club baseball team will meet the Rainier team on the local field. It is said of the Rainier aggregation that it is a strong one, and a good game is anticipated.

The circuit court was in session again yesterday and several civil suits were considered. In the \$40,000 damage suit of James Flynn vs. the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Company, the bill of objections as to the costs of the action was argued and submitted.

Pacific lodge, No. 53, Degree of Honor, last night installed the following officers: P. C. of H., Mrs. Lottie M. Coe; C. of H., Mrs. Mary Hermann; C. of C., Mrs. Mary Spellmire; recorder, Mrs. Emma E. Cyrus; financier, A. R. Cyrus; receiver, Mrs. Elvira Piscioneri; lady usher, Miss Bodie Hansen; I. W., Mrs. Lania Wirt; O. W., F. Piscioneri; pianist, Mrs. Wirt. After the installation ceremonies refreshments were enjoyed by the members.

A special meeting of the Commercial Club was held last evening for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee appointed to revise the constitution and by-laws. It seemed to be pretty generally agreed that the age limit should be raised from 18 to 21. The matter was discussed for two hours, but nothing of a definite nature transpired. As some additional amendments were deemed desirable, the committee was given a week in which to prepare a new draft, which will be acted upon three weeks hence. It is

the purpose to make the club rooms more attractive and in other ways to advance its interests.

The members of the Astoria hose team will be banqueted this evening at the Palace restaurant. The gathering will be in the nature of a celebration of the victory of the team at the recent tournament at Portland, and the runners are looking forward with pleasure to the meeting. The team will continue to engage in practice and will prepare for the regatta tournament. The St. Louis trip has not yet been definitely arranged, but will be within a short time.

The deputies in the office of County Clerk Clinton have been busily engaged during the past three or four days in preparing warrants for claims ordered paid at the last session of the county court. In all 400 or more warrants have been drawn. The great number of claims allowed was due in a large measure to the June election. The judges and clerks of election throughout the county received a total of \$720.75. The warrants are now ready for delivery at the office of the county clerk, and persons who presented claim to the county court may receive their money by calling at the office.

The big American steamship Pielades, belonging to the Boston Towboat Company, arrived yesterday from the sound. She comes in ballast and will load supplies at Portland for Manila. The vessel is now under charter to the government. The Pielades registers 3783 gross and 2932 net tons, and she is now here for the first time. She was at Port Arthur during the first bombardment of that port by the Japanese and several of the officers still have pieces of a large shell which fell upon the steamship's deck. Coming across the Pacific on her last trip to Tacoma she met with an accident that put her at the mercy of the elements and she was towed into the sound. The Pielades is in command of Captain F. G. Purington and left up the river yesterday.

Professor A. A. Cleveland has returned to Astoria from Worcester, Mass., where he has been attending college. He will remain in the city during the summer months. Professor Cleveland's studies will occupy another two years of his time, and when he is graduated he will gain the title Ph. D. On his return home Professor Cleveland visited the world's fair. "The

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