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**ROSS, HIGGINS & CO.**

**Local Brevities.**

Sherman & Thing moved into new quarters, on the corner of Tenth and Bond streets, yesterday.

William H. Ross has been succeeded as fireman of the customs tug Patrol by Edward H. Thompson, formerly of the Eclipse. Mr. Ross resigned his position.

Tien Tsin, July 18.—The steamer Fuping, just arrived here from Niu Chwang, reports that on July 16, the Japanese army was within 15 miles of that city. The officers of the Russian gunboat Sivouch have saddled horses alongside ready to make their escape upon the approach of the Japanese.

Councilman Morton last night introduced an ordinance increasing the yearly license of auctioneers from \$100 to \$350. The measure is calculated to keep out itinerants. Mr. Morton asked unanimous consent for suspension of the rules and final passage of the measure, but Mr. Belland voted in the negative and the bill went over. It will doubtless be passed at the next meeting.

The grand lodge of Workmen of Oregon convenes in Portland today. The meeting will be one of the most important ever held, as the mooted question of assessments is to be brought up for discussion and settlement. The delegates from Seaside lodge, No. 12, are: Charles H. Stockton, Thomas Dealey, William Kelly, W. C. A. Pohl and N. Jones. A. R. Cyrus will represent Warrenton lodge, No. 52, and Mrs. A. R. Cyrus will be the delegate from Pacific lodge, Degree of Honor. The convention will be in session for three days.

An ordinance authorizing the public property committee of the council to sell lot 4, block 44 McClure's Astoria, for \$14,000, was introduced at last night's meeting of the council. When Mayor Surprenant asked whether or not the committee wanted the measure passed under suspension of the rules, Mr. Hansen said that he did not, as he understood the proposal to buy the property was off. The lot in question is that upon which the Olney school building stands. Mr. Hansen said he understood an offer had been made for the lot and building, but he could not—at all events, would not—state who

had made the offer for it. An ordinance authorizing Mr. Hansen's committee to buy the north 60 feet of lot 2 block 117, Shively's Astoria, for \$1650, was laid over.

City Physician Pilkington stated last evening that there were no new cases of diphtheria in the west end, where a case was reported last Friday. The patient is still seriously ill, and Sunday night it was feared she would die. However, some improvement was noted in the case yesterday, and the child now has a chance of recovery. The varioloid patient is getting along nicely and will soon be well.

The water of the Columbia river was much clearer yesterday than has been the case for two weeks. In the lower river the stream was muddy, but above it was reported the mud was disappearing. It is believed now that the river will resume its normal condition within a few days, and that salmon will begin entering the river in large numbers. Catches at lower harbor points were slightly better yesterday than on Saturday.

Mat Korpula and his boatpuller returned to Astoria Sunday morning after a trying experience near the mouth of the river. The men were fishing near the Heads when the gale struck their boat and carried them dangerously near the bar. For a time it seemed both men would be drowned, but they took refuge behind the jetty and remained there until the gale subsided. It was reported Saturday evening that they had been lost, but they showed up Sunday morning. Several other narrow escapes from accident were reported Saturday, but it is believed all of the boats rode out the gale in safety.

County Judge Trenchard yesterday received word from Salem that Martin Olsen, who was committed to the insane asylum from this county April 16, 1898, had died there of tuberculosis June 8.

An act of vandalism that was probably intended as a joke was perpetrated Saturday night, when the words "Hotel Linville" were painted on the side of the county jail, so that they could be seen for blocks. Coal tar was used to do the painting, and it can be said for the jokers that the lettering is almost perfect. Sunday morning passersby saw the big sign, but the humor of the situation did not appeal to Sheriff Linville. An effort was made

to remove the letters, but proved unsuccessful, and the blurred sign still appears on the jail. The defacing of public property is a very serious offense, and if the jokers become known to the sheriff, prosecutions will follow.

Members of the Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union have collected evidence against several California fishermen, and will confer with District Attorney Allen relative to prosecution under the law which requires residence in Oregon before a man can engage in gillnet fishing operations. The case is to be in the nature of a test of the law, and it is expected the suits will be filed some time during the present week.

A Greek named Alexander Maveokafalos was arrested yesterday for an unnatural crime. The complaining witness is Alfred Nielson, who charges that the attempted crime was committed some days ago. The prisoner was arraigned before Justice Goodman yesterday afternoon and bound over in \$50 bonds for preliminary examination this afternoon. In default of bail, he was sent to jail. The man is 60 years of age.

Miss Harriet Rafter is still in the lead in the contest for regatta queen. The count of votes yesterday afternoon showed the following results: Miss Rafter, 1651; Mrs. F. D. Keuttner, 1633; Miss Harriet Tallant, 847; Miss Grace Stokes, 612; Miss Lillie Lidwell, 606; Miss Frances Norberg, 491. The majority of the votes counted yesterday were cast for Mrs. Keuttner, who is only 18 behind Miss Rafter. The committee has appointed Mrs. George H. George as chairman of the woman's committee of the regatta, and she will have charge of everything pertaining to the queen and her court. Mrs. George has been empowered to name the other members of the committee.

"Farmer Jones and his pigs" drew the biggest crowds at Hedrick's last night that have yet blocked the street in front of Astoria's new place of amusement. The excellence of his performance was quite well advertised, and there were three crowded houses last night, Manager Hedrick being compelled to turn away more people than gained admission. The work of the pigs is simply wonderful, and the crowd last night was completely mystified by the performance. The pigs are musicians of ability and played many popular airs last night. Manager Hedrick says there is a \$20 note at the box office for anyone who can demonstrate that the pigs are not musicians. Fannie Donovan, "the eastern star;" Harry DeLain, and Chenowith and Frank, the latter a comedy sketch team, round out the week's bill. "A Trip to the Arctic" is shown in the moving pictures, while "You're as Welcome as the Flowers in May" is the illustrated song. Watch for the matinee parade at 12:30 today.

Because of the fact that Architect Schacht has not quite finished the plans for the new city hall, the council did not pass the ordinance that was ready for passage last night, and adjournment was taken until Saturday evening, at which time the measure will be put through under suspension of the rules. Section 1 of the bill approves the plans, and section 2 authorizes the committee to advertise for bids for a period of 12 days. Section 3 concerns the manner in which the contract shall be awarded, while section 4 provides that the building shall be completed by May 1, 1905, adding a penalty of \$20 for every day over the time specified that the contractor shall require to complete the building. Bonds in the sum of \$15,000 must be given by the contractor. The architect is allowed 5 per cent of the cost of the building and traveling expenses. Two months after work is begun the successful contractor shall receive 75 per cent of the amount of work done in the 60 days, and the balance shall be paid him when the building is finished.

Cecil Lewis, son of ex-County Commissioner Howell Lewis, had an exciting struggle with a ferocious black bear at the Lewis logging camp, on the John Day river, Sunday evening. The bear was walking through the brush near the camp when Mr. Lewis discovered it, and, with the fireman at the camp, the logger started after the animal, taking a rifle. The fireman armed himself with an ax. After a short chase the men came unexpectedly upon the bear, which sprang upon Lewis and knocked him down. As the bear came at him Lewis fired, but the bullet went wild. The bear jumped onto the prostrate man and imbedded his teeth in the left leg below the knee, badly lacerating the flesh. The fireman undertook to kill the bear with the ax, but the handle of the ax was broken at the first blow. Then the bear turned his attention to the fireman, knocking him down, but before

the man was injured Lewis had laid out bruin with a well-directed blow across the head. The animal was then killed. Lewis was brought to the city on the night train and Dr. Fulton dressed the wound, which is very painful, but not dangerous.

The matter of the ownership of the strip of land between the Shively and McClure additions of the city was brought up again at last evening's meeting of the council. It seems there is a strip of land between the two additions varying in width from two to five feet. The strip was set aside for street purposes, and afterward the city purchased an additional 50 feet, for what is Thirteenth street. Mrs. W. S. Kinney has built on this property and claims title to it. Captain Babbidge and other persons are very anxious to erect flats there and have requested the council to settle the matter of ownership, that they may take steps to buy portions of the strip. City Attorney Smith said last night he believed arrangements could be entered into with Mrs. Kinney before the next meeting of the council whereby the question of ownership could be definitely settled. Councilman Lebeck said he thought the council should not be required to delay matters on this account, and wanted to notify Mrs. Kinney to move off the land. However, the matter went over.

**PERSONAL MENTION.**

Miss Hansen of Warrenton came up last evening.

Captain Gregory of the Heather was in the city Sunday.

Charles A. Payne of Chinook was one of the city's guests yesterday.

Ex-County Commissioner Lewis is visiting old friends in the city.

Otto Mikkelsen and sister are spending a few days at the seaside.

Mrs. Winnie McCustand of Portland is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. McAfee, in this city.

George McCracken, a well-known insurance man of Portland, was in Astoria a few hours yesterday.

Dr. August C. Kinney was among the passengers on last evening's train for Portland.

George Capen, well known in the wholesale district of Portland, is in the city on business.

William Ballis of the firm of Beno & Ballis, coffee and spice merchants of Portland, was in the city yesterday.

Dr. Bell, U. S. N. surgeon of the Marblehead, is spending his vacation in the city as guest of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson.

Charles Humphries, manager of the Postal Telegraph Company's local office, spent Sunday with his parents in Oregon City.

Professor Clark, superintendent of the city schools, went up to the metropolis last evening for a short visit.

J. T. Ross and J. E. Higgins of the firm of Ross, Higgins & Co. of this city are over in the Sound country on a business trip.

Mrs. E. A. Clay of San Francisco, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. C. M. Celler of this city, returns to her home tomorrow.

August Fricke, one of the most popular letter carriers, is now out of danger. Mr. Fricke was taken seriously ill last Saturday.

C. R. Morse, the head of Morse's department store, just returned from Spokane, where he has been for the past few days on business.

L. E. Lytle, president of the Columbia Southern railway, with headquarters in Portland, was in the city yesterday en route home from the beach.

C. H. Cooper, the well-known merchant, returned last evening from his summer residence at Cleveland, where he spent the Sabbath with his family. County Coroner William C. A. Pohl left last evening for Portland, where he will attend the grand lodge meeting as a delegate from Seaside lodge of Workmen.

Mrs. McKean will hold a closing-out sale of White Wash Suits at greatly reduced prices all this week, at Woman's Exchange, n Tenth street.

**To the Ladies of Astoria and Vicinity.**

Several inquiries having been made with reference to the lady's world's fair ticket, I will say that every lady whose husband, father, son, brother or acquaintance buys a man's or young man's suit or overcoat at Herman Wise's big store will receive an extra number for sending the gentleman to my store. Such number entitles the lady holding it to participate in the distribution of a separate ticket to and from the St. Louis world's fair. This lady's ticket is separate and independent of the four men's world's fair tickets, the men folks receiving for themselves one number with each \$10 sale. The dance and free ticket distribution will take place on August 29. Invitations will be issued in due time. HERMAN WISE, The Reliable Clothier and Hatter.

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**Beautiful Moquette Rugs**

\$5.00 values for \$3.75

\$3.75 values for \$2.50

Others for \$1.40 and \$1.10

**THE LATEST THING IN CUSHION TOPS**

cross-stitch patterns for 25 cents

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just what you want to make your hammock or cosy corner comfortable 50c up

We are sole agents for McCalls Patterns

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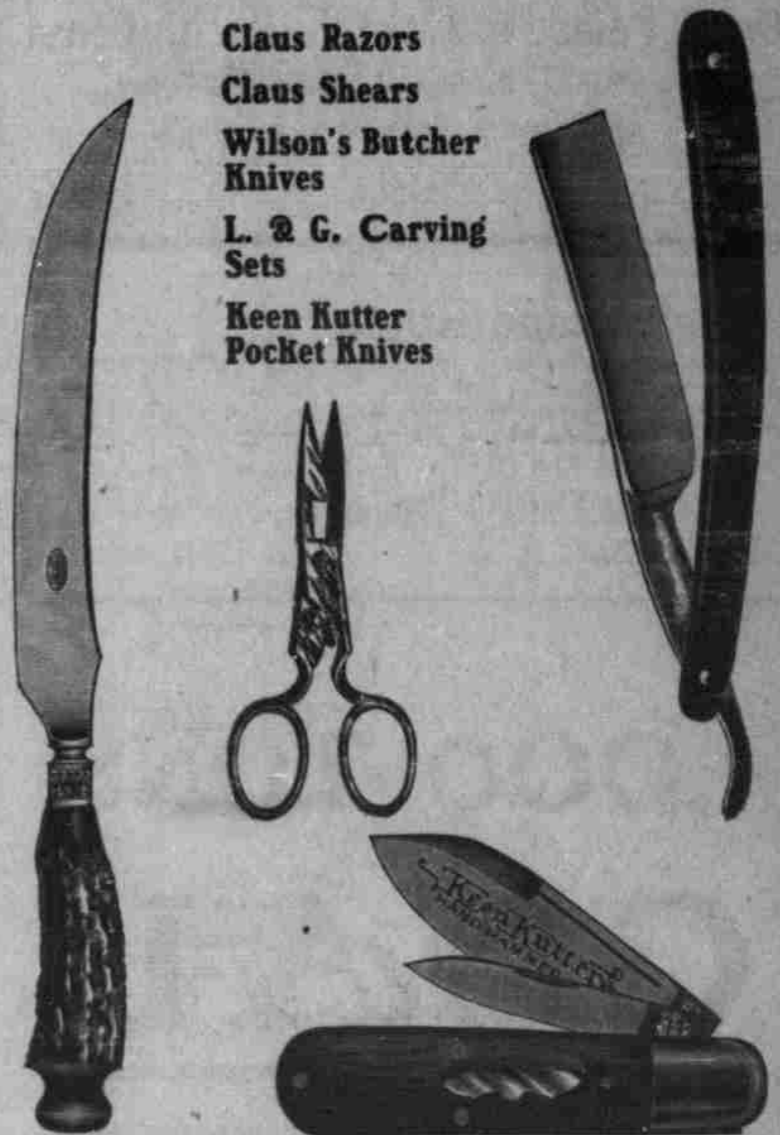
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- Claus Shears
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That comes from our stock is sufficient to show to you that our goods are well made. We do not believe in carrying a cheap article. It would not pay us to sell it—it would not pay you to buy it. Let us sell you a pair of our

**Utz & Dunn Line \$2.50**

**THEY NEED NO BREAKING IN**

**Wherity, Ralston & Company THE LEADING SHOE DEALERS.**

**There Are Engines**

**That Run well part of the time Run poorly all of the time Won't work any time**

**The STANDARD GAS ENGINE**

**RUNS WELL ALL THE TIME**

C. H. Carlson, Agents G. M. McBride

**HAVE YOU GOT YOURS?**

We have sold more REFRIGERATORS during the past few weeks than all the stores in Astoria combined. The reason for this is that we handle the best REFRIGERATORS in the city.

**THE HERRICK ODORLESS THE LEONARD CLEANABLE THE WILKIE OPAL GLASS**

Be sure that you get one of these and you are right. We have them as low as \$9. :: ::

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