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ROSS, HIGGINS & CO.

Local Brevities.
 The Astoria Public Library Association was to have met in special session this afternoon, but the meeting has been deferred until Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Hager's new theater is now almost completed. It is being very conveniently arranged, will have a seating capacity of more than 500, and Mr. Hager will endeavor to make it the prettiest showhouse in the city.

Robert Johnson was yesterday removed from the county jail to St. Mary's hospital. The man's mental condition has not improved and it was felt he would get along much better at the hospital than at the jail. If he does not show improvement soon, he will be sent to the asylum.

Bids will be opened by the public property committee of the council on Monday afternoon for the construction of the new city hall. The bids will be submitted to the council at the adjourned meeting to be held Monday night. Work on the building will be rushed to completion.

Those who have friends in the regatta queen contest must do their voting today. Tonight at 9 o'clock Chairman McBride and Secretary Halderman will gather the ballot boxes and as soon as possible announce the result of the balloting at regatta headquarters. After 9 o'clock there can be no voting.

J. M. Applegate, the Portland photographer who was injured by jumping from the window of his room at the old Grimes hotel, recently destroyed by fire, is reported to be getting along as well as could be expected. His injuries are very painful, but his early recovery is expected. As yet the authorities of Seaside have found nothing that might lead to identification of the person who started the fire.

A. L. Clark and W. P. O'Brien have finished the work of experting the books of the city officials. The report has been filed and will be presented to the council at its next meeting. According to the report, the books have been carefully kept and the city's business judiciously attended to. Both Auditor Anderson and Treasurer Dealey are highly complimented. The report points out that the auditor does

not include in his statement of the resources such assets as real estate, fire apparatus, etc., but this can not be done under the charter, which specifies that only cash and such accounts as are collectible can be figured as resources.

The foundation for the new soap factory at Rainier is now completed and the work of construction of the buildings will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The promoters of the business hope to have it in operation this fall. The buildings are large enough so that more machinery may be installed and the work of the factory increased, making the output nearly double what is will be on the start.

Extensive improvements are being made at the store of the A. Dunbar Company. Mr. Dunbar's dressmaking department has become an important adjunct to the business, and it has been found necessary to secure new and more commodious quarters for it. Mr. Dunbar has rented large rooms over his store and removed his dressmaking department there. The change will make it possible for him to enlarge the main store, which has been rather too small for the extensive business of the firm.

The recent destruction of the old Grimes hotel at Seaside caused many Seasideers to return to their homes. The morning train out of Astoria took a large crowd, of whom many said they would not remain at the beach, which they declared, was without fire protection sufficient to insure the safety of guests at the hotels. Whether or not the statements of the frightened ones were correct, the incident demonstrates that the people of Seaside should observe precaution to obliterate the seeming fear.

"The salmon packer who wants to make his business pay is now required to make his pack at the closing weeks of the season," said a prominent canner yesterday. "The fish are coming in late, and we must handle them when they come. Forces must be greater and seasons shorter." With reference to the proposal for extension of the season, S. S. Gordon, one of the best posted men in Astoria on salmon propagation, said he favored extension, stating that the run of fish was late now and that the quality would undoubtedly be found good after August 15. Mr. Gordon is of the opinion that fishing operations should not be com-

menced until May 15 or, perhaps, June 1. He believes that if the season is commenced at a later date the hatcheries will be afforded an opportunity of replenishing the early runs of salmon. Packers are also in favor of such change, and, as catches prior to June 1 are always small, fishermen will probably agree with the suggestion. The matter, it is stated, will be brought to the attention of the legislature at the next session.

According to the New York Commercial, salmon packers of the Columbia river are sold ahead of their pack, and the more important interests have announced the withdrawal of opening prices from the market. Deliveries of Columbia river salmon to date as compared with last season's deliveries are figured at about one-third. The Pacific Selling Company has announced the withdrawal of opening prices on sockeyes. There is practically no fish in first hands.

Gus Wood returned last night from Portland, Vancouver, Wash., and Oregon City, where he had been advertising the regatta. "If all the people who say they are coming to the regatta this year should visit Astoria, we shall have the record crowd," said Mr. Wood. "Everywhere the greatest interest is taken in the carnival, and I look for an unprecedented attendance." At Portland Mr. Wood placed an advertising yacht on display at Eugene Hamble's store on Washington street. The yacht is covered with blue lights and will prove a valuable advertisement.

Notwithstanding the generally admitted fact that salaries of school teachers are too low, the Oregon records show that the average compensation of teachers has increased 25 per cent in the last five years. In 1899 the average salary of male teachers was \$42.96 per month and of female teachers \$34.81 per month. The reports of county superintendents show that the average salary of male teachers throughout the state is now \$54.22 per month, and of female teachers \$42.05. The report of Superintendent Ackerman will show very material decrease in the average salaries of Clatsop county teachers in the past year. In 1903 the average for male teachers was \$76.25 and for female teachers \$48, while this year the average for male teachers is \$55.50 and for females \$42.10.

As was expected, there was little balloting yesterday for regatta queen candidates, and the eight ladies hold relatively the same positions that they held on the previous day. The count showed the following results: Miss Tallant, 4888; Mrs. Keuttner, 4753; Mrs. Ridehalgh, 4346; Mrs. Houston, 2591; Miss Rafter, 2274; Miss Stokes, 2092; Miss Lidwell, 1891; Miss Norberg, 1357. The decisive balloting will be done today. It is understood that the four leading candidates are to be generously supported. Mrs. Houston and Mrs. Ridehalgh have many ardent supporters, as also have Miss Tallant and Mrs. Keuttner. Miss Stokes has gone to California and therefore will not figure seriously in the contest, while the vote for the other ladies is regarded as purely complimentary. The ballot boxes will be collected at 9 this evening and it is expected the result will be made known at 10.

"Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Their Resources" is the title of an 85-page booklet just issued by the O. R. & N. Co. and the Southern Pacific Company. The book is handsomely illustrated and will prove of immense value as an advertising medium. Of Astoria the book says: "Astoria, the county seat of Clatsop county, situated at the mouth of the great Columbia river, with a population of over 10,000. It was first settled in 1811 by John Jacob Astor, then a fur trader, and is the first American settlement on the Pacific coast. It is the second city in size and importance in the state, metropolitan in its usages, prosperous at all times and a healthful place to live. The city is well lighted by gas and electricity, has a splendid street car service, paid fire department, free public library, unexcelled transportation facilities both by water and rail, excellent schools, fourteen churches, a gravity water system, costing the city \$300,000, and a fresh water harbor ten miles from the ocean adequate to accommodate the largest steam and sailing vessels in the world. No troed or barnacles can exist in the waters of the Columbia, thus making it a desirable place for shipping and wharves, and docks remain uninjured. Astoria is the center of the great salmon industry of the state. This industry alone disburses over \$600,000 monthly to those engaged in the business during the fishing season, and gives employment to about 6000 persons. This is the home of the famous Royal Chinook salmon. Astoria as a milling center is

fast attracting the attention of the prominent lumbermen of the east and west, one of which is the largest and most modern constructed mill in the world. These mills have a daily cutting capacity of 400,000 feet. Astoria is destined to become the lumber center of the west, because it has more merchantable timber tributary to it than any other city in the world, together with rail and water shipping facilities not equaled on the coast. Dairymen also are attracted to Clatsop county, where over 200,000 acres of rich grass land is available to the stockmen. Dairying is already extensively engaged in with splendid success. Creameries and cheese factories are in constant operation. Astoria has everything a prosperous city requires."

Fog yesterday interfered with the catches of the gillnet fishermen, and some of the seiners also suffered on this account. The fog had settled down the previous day and continued yesterday, although not so noticeably above as below the city. On Wednesday the up-river seiners made excellent hauls, but on Thursday the receipts of seine fish fell off very materially. Yesterday the hauls were greater than on Thursday, but not so large as on Wednesday. The gillnetters who fished near the bar made good hauls Thursday night, but above the city the catches were small. Experienced fishermen state that the salmon seem to be remaining in the lower harbor. This is not surprising, in view of the fact that the fish are not nearly as fully developed as is usually the case at this time of the year. Indeed, fish experts express surprise that the salmon have come into the river. Fish of their state of development would ordinarily remain at sea, and the presence of the undeveloped run in the river is mystifying to those who have carefully followed the progress of artificial propagation. Yesterday there was no further change in the price, 5 cents being paid for all sizes of fish. The Co-operative cannery made a 500-pound limit during the day, but other packing houses and cold storages accepted the surplus fish of the Co-op fishermen. The quality of the fish continues excellent and the output of the cold storage plants will be better this season than ever before.

Do you know MADAME?
PERSONAL MENTION.

Jack Grant came down from Portland last night.
 Mrs. Nelson Troyer, of Portland, is in the city visiting friends.
 George W. Warren returned last night from the metropolis.
 Nelson Troyer was a passenger on last night's train from Portland.
 George Brown returned last night from a few days' stay in Portland.
 Peter Grant is down from Portland, looking after his packing interests.
 Bishop Morris and Mrs. Morris were among the arrivals on last night's express.
 Prof. J. W. McCormac and Mrs. McCormac returned last night from Portland.
 Mrs. William Kelley, accompanied by Miss Ella Lucey, are visiting friends at Nehalem.
 V. Cook, the well known canneryman of Portland, is down enjoying the splendid run of fish.
 R. Langer, of the Syracuse smelting works of Seattle, is spending a few days in the city.
 Rev. W. G. Elliot, pastor of the Unitarian church of Portland, was calling on friends here yesterday.
 H. L. Sister, general agent of the Northwestern lines into Chicago via Omaha, was in the city yesterday on business.
 Mrs. Horace Thing and Miss Dorothy Dunbar are spending a few weeks in The Dalles, guests of Mrs. Captain Fred Sherman.
 J. A. Young, of Seattle, passed through the city yesterday on his way to Long Beach, where he is going to spend his vacation.
 E. G. Rice, of the American Type Founders Company, with headquarters in Portland, is making a short stay here, en route to Ilwaco on business.
 Miss Binney, of California, who has been the guest of Miss Grace Stokes in this city for some time past, left yesterday for her home, accompanied by her hostess.

NOTICE.
 The voting contest for Regatta Queen will close Saturday, the 6th instant, at 9 p. m., instead of Thursday, the 4th instant, as previously announced.
 G. M. McBRIDE,
 Chairman.

Do you want a visit from MADAME?
FISHERMEN TAKE NOTICE.
 You can dispose of your surplus salmon at Bay View Cannery.
SEABORG PACKING CO.

Great Reductions

in Ladies' Shirt Waists. Waists that in the height of the summer season sold for \$5.00, \$4.75, \$4.00 etc. now reduced to cost.
 Ladies' Pongee Suits, fashionable and cool for summer wear at a taking price—\$3.98.
 The latest from Gage Bros.—Ladies outing caps at 50c.

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The Chinook Salmon

Is here which means peace, prosperity and plenty for all

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

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 Made in cane and rattan

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 Large and comfortable


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 For summer comfort

A splendid assortment and Not high in price either

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 Astoria's Leading House-furnishers

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