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Local Brevities.

The Astoria Grocery will open today at its new place of business, 523 Commercial street, next to Peterson & Brown's, where the proprietors will be prepared to supply the needs of their patrons.

The visit of Major Mills and Senator Foster of Washington state has been deferred. The gentlemen will arrive here by rail at some time in the future. They were expected on the revenue cutter Grant.

Colonial oysters, the choicest shellfish product of the waters of the Pacific coast, are kept exclusively at the Imperial Oyster House, where they are served in any style. The Colonial is of Blue Point size and of delicious flavor.

The revenue cutter Perry returned to port yesterday from Alaska. She took her accustomed position off the foot of Eleventh street and gave a natural appearance to that part of the waterfront that had been lacking for some months. The Perry will winter here.

Ex-Councilman Amos Brix and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Brix of Grays river, have returned from Germany, where they have been visiting since last April. They had very enjoyable trips both ways and spent the summer delightfully at the old home and other places of interest in Europe, besides taking in the sights en route.

The defeat of George Hanigan for the republican nomination for clerk of Kalkiakum county, Wash., was the big surprise of the recent convention. Mr. Hanigan had identified himself with a contesting delegation to the convention, and when the delegation was turned down his defeat was brought

about. He is now clerk of the county. Mr. Hanigan's business associate in the conduct of the Cathlamet Sun is Link C. Burton, for whom some of the politicians entertained an old grudge. Mr. Hanigan was made the "fall guy" for this play.

Fire at Chinook yesterday destroyed the building occupied by J. A. Moller, a saloon man. The loss is \$2000; insurance, \$1500. The building was the property of the estate of Eli Anderson, of which Moller is administrator. The blaze is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

At a meeting of the Commercial Club last evening several important amendments to the constitution were adopted. The new constitution vests an executive board with much power and broadens the scope of the club's conduct. The members are determined to make the club attractive and the start was made last night.

Presbyterian ministers of Portland held their first meeting of the fall Monday morning, at the First Presbyterian church, there being a large attendance. The annual election of officers resulted in Rev. Henry Marcotte of Westminster church being chosen president, and Rev. L. M. Boxer, in charge of work at Arbor Lodge and Piedmont, secretary and treasurer.

A special dispatch received last night by The Astorian from Marshfield, Ore., tells of the narrow escape of Cross Timmons and son, Frank, from drowning. The dispatch follows: "Marshfield, Ore., Sept. 12.-C. Timmons, an Astoria canneryman, and son, Frank, had a close call from a watery grave yesterday. They left Coos bay early in the morning in the gasoline launch Dixie. The last breaker struck the frail little craft as she was crossing the Coquille bar. This so veered the course that she struck the jetty rocks

with great force, the rocks crushing holes in her bottom. Timmons and son managed to escape with difficulty and later the life-saving crew extricated the boat from the rocks and towed her remains into the inner harbor."

The Star theater has the strongest bill this week that has been offered at the fashionable playhouse. The theater was packed to suffocation last night at all three shows and hundreds were turned away at the first and second shows. The Italian band of 15 pieces is playing at the Star this week, under the leadership of Mr. L. D'Urbona. The numbers are all first class and the show is all that could be desired.

At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce last evening several letters were received from eastern residents making inquiry about Oregon and Clatsop county. J. T. Ross called attention to the need of advertising the possibilities of this county, and the suggestion was favorably entertained. In future literature on the hop industry will doubtless be given the space to which it is entitled. The meeting was brief, but interesting.

Prof. A. L. Clark, city superintendent of schools, will be at the McClure school house at 9 a. m. tomorrow for the purpose of meeting any pupils who may desire to take an examination for grades. Those who failed to pass in the last examinations were invited to study up during vacation with that object in view, and they with others who intend entering school for the coming year will find it advantageous to meet the professor tomorrow.

A man who gave his name as George Willickson fell overboard at the foot of Ninth street about 11 o'clock last night. He went overboard inside the railroad track and as the water was shallow struck on the rocks. A young man who happened by rescued him and he was taken to the police station, where it was found he had suffered a fracture of the arm. Willickson was intoxicated when he fell overboard. The fracture was reduced.

"Lighthouse" Nelson was arrested by the police Sunday night for disorderly conduct. The crime of which the old man was convicted in the police court yesterday was perhaps more the fault of persons with a decidedly peculiar sense of humor than Nelson himself, and Judge Anderson expressed regret that the evidence would not warrant extending the punishment meted out to the prisoner. Nelson is well along toward the 70th milestone of his life and a most troublesome character. He was fined \$300 by Judge Anderson, and will spend 100 days in the city jail.

Mr. Henry Headley and Miss Rosa M. Houchen of Chinook were married last evening at the Occident hotel by Rev. A. T. Hyland. The bride is the daughter of A. E. Houchen, ex-deputy fish commissioner of the state of Washington. The groom is well known on the lower Columbia and is now in the engineers' department on the dredge Chinook. The ceremony was private, those present being Mr. and Mrs. Houchen, Mrs. T. Headley, sister-in-law of the groom; Miss Headley, his niece, who acted as bridesmaid; Charles A. Payne, who was the best man, and Charles R. Wright, clerk of the Occident.

E. G. Emerson, one of the best baseball pitchers on the coast, is in the city. He will leave on the next California steamer for his home in San Jose. Mr. Emerson is now under contract to Mique Fisher of the Tigers, but has not been pitching. He has lost but two games this season and has pitched some hair-raising contests in California. Mr. Emerson is attending the state normal school at San Jose, and lately has been visiting with Homer Fletcher at Hoquiam. Mr. Fletcher came to Astoria with him, but returned home last night. With Harry Graham, Mr. Fletcher is in business in Hoquiam. He states that the business has proved an excellent one and that trade has more than doubled since the young Astorians bought the store.

The bill at Hedrick's last night was the best yet presented at that popular place of amusement, despite the fact that the program was one number short, Baby Ruth having missed connections, in consequence of which she will not appear until tonight. Samson's exhibition of strength was remarkable indeed. He successfully withstood the strain of one of the largest teams of horses in the city, and, standing with his arms folded, the horses were unable to budge him. Bellevau and Roberts, a musical-comedy sketch team, opened last night and were well received. Their singing and dancing delighted the crowds which packed the house at all three shows. Trends and Whaller got away from the regular

routine of vaudeville in a clever sketch that elicited warm applause. John Downey's rendition of "I'm Wearing My Heart Away for You" was greatly enjoyed. Zaccho closed the show with an exhibition of strength. He held up the large piano used at the theater, with the pianist and platform, the weight being 1500 pounds. Samson broke chains on his muscles and juggled 100-pound balls as the ordinary man might handle Indian clubs. The moving pictures depicted Prof. Anderson swimming the rapids. Manager Hedrick promises an entire change on Thursday, with new moving pictures, new illustrated song and a general good show.

Secretary Souden of the local carpenters' union takes exception to the statement of Manager Gevurtz of the Star theater that the building was renovated by union men. Secretary Souden declares that union men did not do the work, and is anxious that the public should know it. Said he last night: "Contractor Gordon, who did the work, is notoriously anti-union. During the Portland strike of carpenters he hired men to go about town pretending to be working, in an effort to demonstrate that the union was making no progress. But one union man worked on the Star job, and he remained only three or four days. A New York carpenter came to me, saying he was stranded and asking for a few days' work. He said he could find work at the Star, but refused it because it was a scab job. If the owner of the Star was anxious to do the right thing by union laborers, why did not he award the contract to an Astoria firm, that would have found union men. He expects to do business here, and it would seem that he should have given local contractors a chance. Manager Gevurtz says an effort was made to get local carpenters to do the work, but that none could be found. This is bosh, for the reason that union men would not go to work where scabs were employed. He also claims that the Portland men engaged were union men. This is likewise nonsense. What Portland men would leave an eight-hour town and come here to work 10 hours? I am not now referring to that time before the theater was opened, when it was necessary to work 16 hours, but I refer to the work since done on the building. If Mr. Cohn wanted his playhouse built by union men, he could have found plenty of union carpenters. I want the public to understand that the theater is a non-union product." Mr. Souden also commented on the statement of Manager Gevurtz that Mr. Gordon was awarded the contract for the reason that he builds all of Mr. Cohn's theaters. "If this is true, then why did Mr. Cohn have local contractors figure on plans which were prepared for the new building?" asked the secretary. "Why did he not ask local contractors to submit estimates and then award the contract to the lowest bidder? The plea is flimsy."

PERSONAL MENTION.

Will A. Martin of Portland is in the city. Charles W. Halderman has returned from a seaside outing. Mr. and Mrs. W. P. O'Brien are visiting at Seattle with Mr. and Mrs. S. Normile. Dr. Jay Tuttle and O. I. Peterson went to Salem yesterday to attend the state fair. S. M. Gallagher and Owen Mulligan left last night for St. Martin's springs, to remain for a week or 10 days. Mrs. C. R. Thomson and children left yesterday for Independence, Mo., Mrs. Thomson's former home, for a visit of several months. Captain John Haggblom and wife will leave this morning for Hot Lake, where they will spend a few weeks for the benefit of Mrs. Haggblom's health. Dr. Albert W. and Augustus M. Kinney leave this morning for Portland, where they are attending college. The former is a senior of North Pacific Dental college and the latter a sophomore in the medical college.

Expert Chiropodist.

Mrs. O. O. Fletcher is again at the Occident for one week only. Corns, bunions, warts, moles and ingrowing nails removed without pain or soreness. Satisfaction guaranteed. Room 6.

Notice to Taxpayers.

The county board of equalization will convene at the county clerk's office on September 26, 1904, and continue in session daily thereafter for a period of one week, for the purpose of publicly examining the assessment roll for the year 1904 and correcting all errors in valuation, description or quality of land, lots or other property, and all interests are notified to appear at the above time and place for the purpose of lodging objections, if any there be, to said assessment.

T. S. CORNELIUS,
 Assessor of Clatsop County, Oregon.
 Dated Astoria, August 29, 1904.

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