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Today's Weather.

Portland, Dec. 19.—Western Oregon and Western Washington—Tuesday probably occasional light rain.

Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington—Generally fair.

ACTUATED BY MALICE.

The animosity of the Oregonian to various sections of the state will not be conducive to the success of the Lewis and Clark fair, so far as different counties making exhibits.

Salmon fisheries of the lower Columbia river want longer time for catching fish. They caught so many fish last season that few were left for hatcheries; still they are hungry for more than the present open season brings them.

The laws now ordain that fishing shall cease August 15, until September 10. Lower river interests refused to obey those laws and kept up their work of extermination in defiance of them.

The fisheries have demonstrated that they lack wisdom to guide the salmon industry aright and to propose laws for its protection. Much as they profess to desire the ultimate security of the industry, their immediate selfishness twists their vision and they find this year's needs forgetting next year's promise.

It is a well-known fact, that there were practically no fish caught last year until nearly the end of the season, owing in part, to muddy conditions of the river, produced to a great extent by cloudbursts in Eastern Oregon, and that the Oregonian even advocated an extension of the season, in order that the pack might come up to nearly its normal output.

DEMORALIZING VICE.

Gambling is the most pernicious of all forms of vice. Public sentiment is being awakened for its suppression and it seems to be only a matter of time when all forms of gambling will be eliminated.

Gambling in Portland has been carried on for many years, until it has grown to such proportions, and its pernicious effects so glaring, that an almost united effort is being made to stamp it out.

The projectoscope pictures are new, original and interesting. At yesterday's performances the house was full, and it is a fair venture to say they will be so all week, as the acts are of so high an order of merit that they will receive the patronage they demand.

ing, are inveigled into these rooms, and not being able to cope with those who are in charge, and who are not conducting pool rooms for their health, contribute large sums of money toward paying the expenses of what is considered the most demoralizing form of gambling.

In a case now pending before Judge George he has decided that pool room gambling comes within the purview of the law, and this decision is important, as it is the last chance of the gamblers to carry on their business. No respectable newspaper will encourage gambling. There are certain duties enjoined upon officers of the law, and one is the enforcement of the gambling laws.

The claims made by the gambling fraternity that to suppress gambling will be injurious to the Lewis and Clark fair and keep thousands of people away is all tommy rot. It will keep away a large number of petty larceny thieves, hold-up artists and highwaymen, who make their headquarters at the gambling dens and are protected by them, as a highway robber, or a hold-up criminal, who kills when necessary to enforce his demands, is so closely allied with gambling as to be scarcely distinguishable.

Gamblers have their friends, but as a rule they are a class of men who live without work. In some cities police are friends of the gamblers and keep them under their protecting care. This is why a policeman can save \$10,000 a year on a salary of \$75 a month. Gambling, prostitution, highway robbery, hold-ups, burglary and nearly all the petty crimes, are supported by the same class of people. It is a sort of fraternity where hard work is not so much of an object as a big graft. They are leeches, living off the labor of the more industrially inclined. There is not one word that can be said in favor of gambling, while libraries can be written on its demoralizing effects on communities where it is allowed to exist.

"Shore Acres."

"Shore Acres," which will be seen tonight at Fishers' for the first time in Astoria, and which all discerning critics account the best of the American home plays, was first produced by James A. Hearne in Chicago in 1892, and since then it has won innumerable triumphs throughout the United States and Canada. The scenes of this charming comedy-drama are all taken from life and the incidents portrayed are the homely happenings of the people of a small fishing village on the coast of Maine.

At the Star.

The best vaudeville show that has ever been given in the city is on at the Star this week. Its prime feature is a novelty musical turn bearing "Bimm, Bomm, Berr" for its title, but this is non-descriptive and musical lovers, as well as those appreciating the spectacular in electrical effect should see this by all means.

The Fielding comedy four appear in an exceedingly funny skit, and yesterday kept the houses in an uproar.

The Marvellous Aumann has a bag-punching act that is the infinite development of dexterity. This act was brought direct from Chicago for the Star. Bob Kenyon will sing in his usual good voice "My Rose from Tennessee," a song that has reached great popularity.

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HAD A LOVE FEAST

Meeting of the Common Council Held Last Evening.

RAISED THE AUDITORS SALARY

Majority of the Council is in Favor of a Police Commission Because None of the Members Reside in the City of Astoria.

The common council met in regular session last evening, the mayor and all members being present.

Petitions from John D. Manclet and Frank Lindstrom for a liquor license was referred to the committee.

Petition from John W. Welch, asking for the five-year installment plan in payment of assessments on Grand avenue, was granted.

Petition from J. Q. A. Bowlby and a number of other property owners, asking the council to widen Commercial and Exchange streets to 80 feet and take 40 feet off Duane street, was filed for future reference.

Petition from property owners to establish the grade of Columbia avenue, in Uniontown, the property owners agreeing to improve the street, was filed for future reference.

Petition from property owners for the improvement of Columbia and Alameda avenues, was read and laid over.

Remonstrance by property owners against the acceptance of the improvement of North street was read. Hon. G. C. Fulton appeared on behalf of the property owners and stated that they wanted the improvement, but it should be completed before it was accepted. The remonstrance was referred to the street committee.

Communication from F. C. Reed accompanied with bills for house rent, moving, necessitated on account of the improvement of Grand avenue, was referred to the committee on ways and means.

A bill of C. C. Utzinger for 30 days' work at \$3 a day for registering voters, was allowed.

The committee reported on the application of B. Wistar Morris to pay the expenses of constructing drain in Upper Astoria, recommending that the request be granted, was adopted.

The committee reported favorably on petitions from Laxell & Co., Otto Michelson and John Tiberg for liquor license.

Protests from property owners against the improvement of Grand avenue were filed.

The committee on the petition from property owners asking for a light at the foot of Ninth street, reported against the light.

Building permits were granted to Birch & Jacobson, Sherman Transfer Company and O. R. & N. Co.

The committee to whom was referred the communication from the Woman's Club asking the council to purchase property for a park, recommending that it be referred to the park commission, was adopted. This kills the petition.

The charter committee submitted its report, recommending that the charter be amended providing that property may be assessed for 100 per cent of its value, instead of 75 per cent, as at present; that the police commission act be amended so that a commissioner absent from the city three months his office shall be declared vacant; also extending the city limits on the east so as to take in about two more blocks.

Belland stated that he was in favor of changing the time for the city election from December to June, but the majority of the committee was opposed to it. He was also in favor of abolishing the police commission, but other members were in favor of keeping it even if all the members lived outside the state. The report was adopted.

An ordinance increasing the salary of the auditor and police judge to \$150 a month was read a first and second time.

An ordinance confirming the assessment for the improvement of Ninth street was passed.

An ordinance appropriating \$6492.60 for the benefit of S. S. Dill for the improvement of Grand avenue was passed.

An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$2182.40 for the benefit of S. S. Dill was passed.

An ordinance appropriating \$34.80 for the benefit of William Bock was passed.

An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$175 for the benefit of J. C. Barnsbury was passed.

An ordinance accepting the improvement of Ninth street was laid over until the next meeting.

An ordinance appropriating \$5000 out of the city hall fund for the benefit of Ferguson & Houston, in payment on the city hall contract was passed.

An ordinance confirming the assessment of Grand avenue from Shilveys to Seventeenth street was passed.

A resolution providing for the equalization of the assessment of Franklin avenue was adopted.

Councilman Nordstrom arose and in a few well chosen remarks tendered his

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thanks to the common council, mayor, attorney, auditor and police judge and representatives of the press for their kindness and courteous treatment of him during the time he had been in the council. He stated that his associations had been most cordial, and although they disagreed occasionally on matters of legislation, they had always been in good part and resulted to the benefit of the city.

Mayor Surprenant also thanked Councilman Nordstrom for his prompt Councilman Nordstrom for his prompt which he had performed his duties.

On motion of Councilman Robinson, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Nordstrom for his efficient service.

Belland made a motion that the offices of police commissioners Cook and Baker be declared vacant. This did not meet with the approval of the advocates of a one man commission, and the motion was not seconded.

Lienenweber stated that he didn't care so much for the police commission as they did lights in the Third ward. He said the company was getting pay for lights and none of them were burning.

There being no further business the council adjourned until one week from tonight, December 27.

WARRENTON NEWS.

C. C. Cobine and family will return to Portland soon, as he has resigned his position at the mill.

W. A. Williams has returned to Warrenton and is again in charge of the engine and boiler at the Warrenton mill.

Miss Mabel Olsen has accepted a position as stenographer in the new mill. Mrs. Ida Perrin of Portland is visiting her parents in Skipanon and will remain during the holidays.

Mrs. D. K. Warren has returned from Portland, where she has been for several weeks.

Mrs. W. N. May has gone to Southern California for the winter.

REBUILD BREAKERS.

Popular North Beach Hotel to Be Rebuilt Next Spring.

J. M. Arthur, whose palatial hotel, The Breakers, at the beach, was burned last summer, has definitely decided to rebuild. J. H. Lovering of South Bend will be architect and builder of the new structure, which will be about the same size, but much finer than the one destroyed.

It will be 88x112 feet on the ground and will have three stories and a basement. There will be 100 guest rooms with all modern conveniences. It will stand on the old site, which is an admirable one for the purpose, and while the plans are different from the original building, the prospective one will be a better and handsomer one. It will have a mansard roof and both outside and inside walls will be covered with

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wood fiber plaster, which makes an elegant finish. Mr. Lovering will begin work on the building next week and will have it in complete readiness for the coming beach season. The new hotel will maintain its own electric light and water systems and nothing which will contribute to the comfort and convenience of guests will be left undone. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. A Large and Varied Assortment at Ekstrom's. Here are a few articles which will make suitable and handsome Christmas presents for anyone. All popular and stylish, cheap in price, but high in quality. Read: Silver novelties in numerous different patterns, handsome cut glass pieces, sterling silverware, ebony roods in brushes, glasses and toilet sets, fancy umbrellas and canes, match boxes, tableware, fine chains, chafing dishes, carving sets, special watches, diamonds, broches and a thousand other things. It will pay you to consult our prices before going elsewhere. H. EKSTROM, Astoria, Ore. Best meals in town at the New Style Restaurant. Worst of All Experiences. Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newson, Decatur, Ala. "For three years" she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was marvelous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered. For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by Chas. Rogers Druggist. Go to the New Style Restaurant for a square meal. Now is the Time to ORDER CHRISTMAS POULTRY. The best Turkeys, Geese and Chickens in the city, fed on wheat and corn, at the BOND STREET MARKET. We keep our Poultry alive and dress them as needed; do not handle cold storage Poultry. PHONE 2183 Red

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