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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

WEATHER TODAY.

Portland, Nov. 6.—Western Washington, and Western Oregon: Sunday, partly cloudy. Slightly warmer Sunday afternoon in the interior. Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington: Fair.

OPENING A NEW VEIN.

Whenever a community develops a new vein of wealth it is to be congratulated, provided it makes proper and timely use of its acquirement. It is up to the people of Astoria and Clatsop County to follow closely upon the determination of values declared by Doctor David T. Day, the Government mineralogical expert, as inherent to the black sands of this county. Just what those values are and how they are ascertained and released from the raw material, formed the basis of his report on the subject to the Chamber of Commerce last night. The report will be found in these columns.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED.

There is one particular thing to which the attention of the Common Council of this city is respectfully called, and that is the wretchedly dark and unsafe condition of the waterfront streets at night. All the North and South streets abutting upon the docks of the city, as well as the thoroughfares on and across the pier, are too dark for travel, even by a man in his sober senses, and to the man who has over-indulged in liquor they are but a series of traps in any one of which his life may go out on an instant with no one to find a way to him if he should shout for help ever so loudly. The death of Captain Hansen, of the George C. Perkins, on Saturday morning last, is a case in point, and quite enough as a means of suggesting a plain duty entirely ignored to date.

EXPERIMENTAL.

One week from today there will be held in this city the first of its primary elections under the existing statute. It is important that every citizen, and especially, the Republican majority, shall be on record in that event, if only for the value of the experiment, from which a local estimate may be formed of the real merit of the law, if it has any, one of the dubious questions still unanswered and amenable to solution only by direct and personal application. It is hardly fair to prejudice it, but its cumbersome text and idiosyncratic ramifications have set up a general prejudice that is difficult to withhold from expression.

DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY.

The mission of the newspaper is, first, to give the news; secondly, to comment wisely and honestly upon the news it furnishes. Having done this, it is farse to face with its responsibility to maintain its attitude upon all it has said. People differ upon some of its announcements and opinions, and may contend against them in the same public channel, to wit, the other newspaper, but the accounting is renderable only to the law of the land whenever it shall be invoked. Public sentiment is an imperative factor in the control of public expression, and it is a hardy editor who

ignores it, but the fact remains that the paper is far oftener the cause of public sentiment than its offender.

BUSINESS AND THE LAW.

The careful observance of law and the equally careful application of the rules of business, as used in the conduct of municipal affairs, will keep the ordinary city officer pretty well employed, and to the certain advantage of the community he serves, without splitting hairs over finely drawn issues and evolving useless questions for the fomenting of useless quarrels. When the Republicans shall take over the government of this city on January 1st, next, this policy will not lack demonstration.

TIPS EXCEED WAGES.

A negro porter in a New York hotel is supposed to have murdered an aged newspaperman man because he "gave such small tips." Aside from the fact that the average newspaperman should not be expected to give tips at all, this is a unique excuse for homicide. Plunkeyism has bred tipping in certain sections of the country. It is one of the evils the Anglomaniacs have imported. New York servants get about enough in wages to buy sole-leather; and are expected to graft the rest. A bill recently gone into effect in the East makes it a misdemeanor for a servant to conspire with a tradesman to overcharge the buyer and share with the servant; yet no bill has been passed to encourage living wages for servants. There is scarcely a class of service in which small pay has not forced tipping and of course in the end the outlay is the same with a spirit of greed added.

BAD ENOUGH, SOBER.

Sensible automobilists, will applaud that provision of the bill to be proposed by Senator Wood, of Passaic County, N. J., by which any intoxicated person found running an automobile would be rendered liable to arrest and, on conviction, to a fine of \$1000 or a term of not more than three years' imprisonment, or both. A drunken chauffeur is more dangerous to his passengers and the general public than a drunken engineer, for the latter is at least driving his engine on rails which, for the most part, safeguard it from collision with another train. But the automobile guided by a drunken man responds instantly to the vagaries of its driver, and other occupants of a crowded street and his own passengers are at the mercy of his befuddled brain and nerveless arm.

A democratic organ in Missouri says the Republicans of Missouri "do not know how to build upon a victory, to enlarge upon an opportunity." That is a flattering theory for the old Bourbon gang, but the fact is that they dread the next campaign more than any they ever faced before.

There is a prospect that the Southern people will become, in a very few years, ashamed of the desperate and lawless character given them by ignorant white elements under the lead of politicians and demagogues. The visit of the President may do much to hasten the coming of such a welcome day.—Ex.

Miss Roosevelt is entitled to the sympathies of the country at the persistent manner in which she has been pursued in New York by the representatives of yellow journals, with impertinent inquiries about her private affairs. The President of the country may have no private life while in office, but why should this be true of his family?

PERSONAL MENTION

Theodore Siverson is back from Chinook, where he operates a couple of fish traps.

Tom Erickson was over from Chinook yesterday.

Miss Nelly Munson of Warrenton, has returned from a visit to The Dalles. Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Turner who have been visiting here, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dalgity, left for their home in Ketchikan, Alaska, yesterday morning.

Mrs. John McCue is ill with pneumonia, at the home of her mother, Mrs. A. A. Cook, in Portland. Mr. McCue visited her Sunday.

Bilious Attack Quickly Cured.

A few weeks ago I had a bilious attack that was so severe I was not able to go to the office for two days. Failing to get relief from my family physician's treatment, I took three of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, and the next day I felt like a new man.—H. C. Bailey, Editor of the News Chapin, S. C. These tablets are for sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

PECULIAR DROWNING

William Mather Strangled in Two Inches of Water.

SEIZED WITH EPILEPTIC FIT

Falls on Face and Is Quickly Strangled—Missed by Companion and Is Found Dead—Engaged in Digging a Ditch Near Seaside—Had Commenced Suit.

Wm. Mather, a laborer, was drowned in two inches of water on the farm of John Sundquist, near Seaside, yesterday morning.

With a man named Victor Birch, he was engaged in digging a ditch to drain some tide land. Birch was working where the ditch was quite deep, and was out of view of his companion. Mather was starting a fresh place. Birch called to his companion to bring him a tool, and failing to receive a reply, crawled out of the ditch to investigate. He found Mather lying flat on his face, in a spot where the water was not over two inches deep, and the bottom perfectly hard. He had been dead but a few moments.

Birch and Mather went to work on the ditch shortly after 7 o'clock yesterday morning, and Birch is confident that it was but ten or fifteen minutes after, that he found his companion dead. He at once notified Sundquist, and Coroner Pohl was summoned and went to the scene of the occurrence on the noon train. He ordered the body brought to this city, where it will be prepared for interment.

No other solution to the mystery of Mather's death, other than that he was seized with an epileptic fit can be made. Had he fell so as to have struck on the side of his face, instead of its being turned directly toward the ground, he could not have been strangled in the water.

An examination of the remains revealed the fact that death was due entirely to drowning. His lungs were filled with water, and bore all the other indications of the death of a drowned person. It is stated, that he has been subject to similar fits before, and Coroner Pohl is confident that this was the cause of the tragedy.

Last summer Mather was employed in the plant of the Ilwaco Mill & Lumber Co., at Ilwaco, and sustained a broken leg, by lumber falling on it. He was taken to St. Mary's hospital where he remained for several weeks. Only last week he had commenced a heavy damage suit against that corporation as a result of the injury he sustained. So far as known, Mather had no relatives in this locality. Coroner Pohl last night wired a brother in Illinois.

THREE-HOUR HOLD UP.

The Astoria express on the A. & C. R. railroad left Portland on time last evening and swung along in good shape until it reached a point near Gobel, when, without warning, the axle bearing on one of the trucks under a freight car broke short off letting the car to the ground and swinging it directly athwart the track. Luckily no one was hurt, though the train load of people underwent a monetary scare of goodly proportions. The train was well in hand and was brought to a stop in skillful fashion, and the work of clearing the track proceeded with dispatch and the train was underway again so that she only lost three hours in reaching this terminal.

WATER-PROOFING.

Mrs. A. B. Jewett has pleasure in announcing to her friends and patrons that she is now in possession of a successful system of water-proofing cloth materials. She will demonstrate the interesting process, upon call, at her rooms, No. 154 Ninth street.

The best way to shape the careers of some young men is with a club.

Son Lost Mother.

"Consumption runs in our family, and through it I lost my mother," writes E. B. Reid, of Harmony, Me. "For the past five years however, on the slightest sign of a cough of cold I have taken Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption which has saved me from serious lung trouble." His mother's death was a sad loss to Mr. Reid, but he learned that lung trouble must not be neglected, and how to cure it. Quickest relief and cure for coughs and colds. Price 50c and \$1.00; guaranteed at Charles Rogers' drug store. Trial bottle free.

BRIEF TALES OF THE TOWN

The Hon. County Court in and for Clatsop County, State of Oregon will meet in adjourned session at 9 o'clock this morning.

Miss Fastabend is serving the city school department as teacher in the Alderbrook school, pending inquiry into the matter of the accusations made against Miss Grace E. Smith.

County Clerk Clinton reports the total of hunter's licenses, to date at 444. What the per centage of ducks killed is to this number, he is not in a position to say.

For the sum of \$700, H. G. Van Dusen, yesterday transferred his title to the east half of Lot No. 9 in Block No. 91, McClure's addition to Astoria, to Andrew Young.

Repairs to the Methodist church are about completed, and the re-dedicating service will be held Sunday. Dr. Daniel L. Rader, an eminent divine of Portland will conduct the service.

Dick Davies, the real estate man has associated himself with the Astoria Abstract Title & Trust Company, where he takes full charge of the city branch of its real estate business.

A famous and popular character of the Capital City, is sojourning in Astoria just now, old "Uncle Billy Wright," the horse-radish man. His Salem friends here are delighted to see him and partake again of his pungent and biting wares.

Funeral services over the remains of Cornelius Rasmussen, who died Sunday evening of pneumonia, will be held from Pohl's undertaking parlors, at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon. The services will be conducted by Rev. C. E. Peterson, of the Uppertown Methodist church, and the interment will be in Greenwood.

Dell Scully's attractive souvenir card showing him in the act of catching tomcod through a hole in the sidewalk in front of his place of business, is at hand in lordly quantities and his friends have only to call and get one. It is a realistic picture and the photograph won a prize for Woodfield, the artist, from Collier's Magazine contest.

Chas. H. Heilborn & Company are about to take possession of their new and magnificent store on the south side of Commercial street. They will take their time about moving their immense stock and both stores will be doing business for some time. They are in possession of the handsomest quarters in the city.

The West Astoria Packing Company has filed its articles of incorporation with the county clerk. They show a capital stock of \$25,000, with Charles Pernu, Henry Olsen, E. M. Baker, Peter J. Shistad, K. A. Thorgenson and John Pentilla as incorporators, with headquarters at Astoria.

The rumor is again current that the option alleged to be held by the Harri-man lines, on the A. & C. R. R., property, is soon to expire, and the transfer will shortly be made. The rumors are somewhat periodical, and as Mr. Hammond has emphatically denied the existence of the option, little credence is placed in the report.

The city park commission will hold their regular meeting this evening, when it is probable that the matter of improving the park will be taken up. A number of citizens are anxious to see the work commenced at the earliest possible moment, and it is probable a delegation of these, will be on hand at the meeting tonight.

Miss Grace Smith, the Alderbrook school teacher accused of shoplifting, was temporarily suspended by City Superintendent Clark yesterday, and her case will come up for hearing at the meeting of the school board this evening. Miss Smith will then undoubtedly be given an opportunity to reply to her accusers, and it is also probable that the accusations against her will be presented in some form. The report that the school board met and took action is erroneous, as the matter has been entirely in the hands of City Superintendent Clark.

Neuralgia Pains. Rheumatism, lumbago and sciatic pains yield to the penetrating influence of Ballard's Snow Liniment. It penetrates to the nerves and bone and being absorbed into the blood, its healing properties are conveyed to every part of the body, and effect some wonderful cures. 25c, 50c, and \$1.00. Sold by Hart's drug store.

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The Morning Astorian 10th and Commercial

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