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TERSE TALES OF THE TOWN

County Court—

The county court will convene in regular session today. It is expected that nothing but routine matters will arise.

Filed Declaration—

John Mattson, a native of Finland, filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen in the office of the county clerk yesterday.

Ladies' Aid Society—

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church will be entertained by Mrs. Bringdal at her home, 260 Commercial street, at two o'clock this afternoon.

Form Partnership—

Carl Knobloch has formed a partnership with Charles H. Abercrombie in the real estate and insurance business, and will occupy Mr. Abercrombie's offices with him in the city hall.

Due Here Today—

Manager Ogan, of the Astoria Clay Products Company, is very hopeful that the machinery for that plant will arrive here today; in which event, he and his force will install it instantly, (everything being in perfect readiness for that purpose), and before the week ends he will be turning out the finished product in all its varieties.

Ten Days Voting—

Election Judge Fred Simington, who has charge of the balloting for the queen of the Fourteenth annual regatta here, has put out about two dozen ballot boxes at convenient centers throughout the city, where, at one cent a vote, the social electorate of Astoria, may cast their votes for their pet demoiselle for the autocratic and dainty dignity.

On Official Trip—

Captain A. Crowe, surveyor for the marine underwriters, at Portland, arrived in the city yesterday morning on business for that concern, but was a bit chary about signifying just what he was here for; the presumption being, of course, that his visit had something to do with the negotiations pending as to the steamer Minnie E. Kelton. Captain Crowe made a trip across the river during the day on business matters.

Hurt In The Woods—

Dr. O. B. Estes returned yesterday morning from a hurry-called to Knappa whither he was summoned to treat the badly cut knee of G. A. Snavely, a timber cruiser, who, on Sunday evening, while blazing a tree 10 miles

back from Knappa, made a miss of the tree and struck his right knee-cap, splitting it open and making a bad, deep wound which bled profusely. He will be a cripple for the better part of a couple of months, so far as his business is concerned.

Beware The Bears!

W. F. McGregor, W. T. Scholfield, Clark Loughery, Fred Moores and Thomas Moores made up a party for the Nehalem country yesterday morning, departing hence, early, in a comfortable wagon, with guns, game-bags, lint, bandages, "snake-specific" and all the et ceteras inseparable from such an outing. They have engagements enough out for bear-meat and trout, to keep them out of town for a month; but they're good fellows and are sure to have a good time.

New Home; Happy Man—

About 10 days hence E. P. Noonan will move his family and household gods across his backyard as at present located, into one of the snuggest and prettiest homes in the city at 715 Grand avenue. The new home has just been completed by Contractor Axel Johansen, at a cost of \$3000, and the work is a distinct credit to him as an artisan, and a source of perfect satisfaction to Mr. and Mrs. Noonan. E. P. has threatened several times to inaugurate the new premises with a house-warming and there are those who are hoping he will make good.

Home, And Glad Of It—

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zapf and their children have returned to Astoria from a four months' visit with kinsmen and friends back in old Minnesota, and, despite the fact that they enjoyed their trip and stay to the very limit among the congenial and friendly hosts back there, they are glad to be once again on Clatsop soil and in hourly touch with the cool summer winds of the blue Pacific, where the great funnel formed by the Columbia's mouth, lures people back from whatever of inland pleasure they may realize.

North Shore Forest Fire—

What may prove to be a serious

timber fire is now underway on the southerly slope of the north shore hills, opposite this city. A sharply distinct fire was noticed there yesterday morning, early, and as the day progressed the march of the fire, up the face of the heights, was clearly noted and widely commented on. The smoke hangs low on the face of the hills and is very heavy and dense and at least half a mile in length. Where it started, and how, are still mooted questions, but it is there, and in rather threatening shape, all the same, and should be looked to.

Inadvertent Use Of Names—

In the Morning Astorian's report of the council proceedings yesterday morning, the name and style of Johnson Bros., was used, by inadvertence, as the owners of the smoke-house complained of in a protest filed by those gentlemen against the nuisance and menace. The smoke-house is maintained by Messrs. Werthe, the well known butchers on Twelfth street, and the lapse in names may be accounted for on the score of frequency and prominence with which the names of the protestants was used in the discussion that took place in the council rooms.

No Abatement Here—

The news that came down from Portland yesterday, that the union barber shops of the metropolis, 235 in number, had dropped the price of hair cutting from 35 cents to 25 cents, to hold their trade as against the non-union shops which were charging the lesser sum, will have no effect in Astoria. The president of the local union, Mr. Cadonau, said last evening, that all union towns and shops are quite independent of the action taken at any given center, and set their own scales and adhere to them, or reduce, or advance them, as the exigencies of the local business warrant, without reference to what any other town or union may do. Astoria prices, he said, remains as they are.

He Wears a Button—

The big regatta buttons evidently haven't become the fashion, for there are very few of them seen on the streets. F. L. Evans is one man who wears one, proudly, too. "Everyone in Astoria ought to have one," he said yesterday. "There is no need waiting for the regatta to come. Now is the time to wear them and thus let people know that the regatta is coming and that Astorians are proud of it. They look handsome, too," he concluded, looking complacently at the one he had in his coat lapel. Mr. Evans believes buttons count for something. Just to advertise the new electric line he has ordered 4000 buttons which will be distributed gratuitously during regatta week, each button carrying the words, "Astoria, Seaside & Tillamook Railway," and a picture of an electric car.

Had No License—

C. E. Clark was fined \$5 in police court yesterday afternoon on a charge of peddling without a license. Clark dropped into town several days ago and began selling coat and trouser hangers, made out of wire, which he alleges he makes himself. In police court the defendant said that he had sold his wares all over Oregon and had never been arrested before, inasmuch as the authorities were satisfied to let him dispose of wares that he himself manufactured. Police Judge Anderson, however, read the Astoria ordinance, which provides that none but farmers are permitted to sell goods, of their own production or not, in the city of Astoria. This extraordinarily extreme municipal law seemed to feaze Clark. "I say, judge," he said, "if you give me a chance to leave town, I'll go."

Refused To Pay—

At an early hour yesterday morning a tall, young man was seen to dash madly out of one of the Japanese restaurants not far from the waterfront. Behind him came two little Japs. The tall chap, a white man, of course, ran like a white head with the two little men following on his trial like dogs after a rabbit. The escaping man dashed madly against a door,

which he evidently expected to find open. But it was locked. The little brown men grabbed him and started to lead him back to the restaurant. Police Officer Houghton, who had been watching the race and the capture, then took a hand in the game. The fleeing man had ordered a big meal in the restaurant and had refused to pay and then had run away. The police officer discovered that he had plenty of money and made him pay for his big meal.

Wade Is Arrested—

R. A. Wade, the attorney who acted as the promotor of the oil findings across the river, gave himself up to the police at Portland late Monday afternoon, after learning that he was about to be arrested. Wade is charged with two cases of embezzlement. Frank Kubik being the complainant in each case. William H. Shea is also suing Wade, charging that the latter mulcted him out of \$1500. Wade may also be charged with forgery. It is said that Wade was also a party to a timber land deal which has heretofore not been brought to light, and which was made in one of the banks of this city.

May Repair Pest House—

The suggestion made in the common council Monday night that a tent might be the best plan of solving the pest-house problem apparently does not meet with the entire favor of those directly interested in the matter. It is pointed out that in the winter time a tent would probably prove a pretty damp and cold place for a sick man in the Astoria climate. With a tent it is thought that a good floor would prove indispensable. It is deemed probable that the present pest-house will be fixed up, and perhaps portable windows and a portable door may be made, so that they could be removed when the building is not in use. Bad boys cause most of the trouble.

Boyhood Friends Appear—

George W. Lounsberry, clerk of the water commission, was pleasantly surprised yesterday afternoon when two friends of his boyhood days back east called in his office to see him. They were George W. Poore and H. H. Poore, of Boston, and Mr. Lounsberry, had not seen either of them for 28 years. They had been boys together in Massachusetts and had gone to school together. It was during Mr. Lounsberry's busiest hour yesterday afternoon when the two visitors stepped into the water commission's office and Mr. Lounsberry glanced at them and then began to wonder if he hadn't seen them somewhere before, but he couldn't place them. Then they stepped forward and introduced themselves. It was a pleasant meeting all around, and the only drawback to it was that the two Easterners could not stay. They had come down from Portland on the Spencer especially to see Mr. Lounsberry and had only a few minutes, as they wished to go back on the steamer. Mr. Lounsberry wore a smile all afternoon after his old time friends had gone, and again he renewed his determination to go back east and visit his childhood home in Charleston, under the shadow of Bunker Hill. Twenty-eight years is a long time.

Articles of Incorporation—

Articles of incorporation were filed in the office of the county clerk yesterday of the Astoria Automatic Telephone Company, this being the organization that is to handle the franchise granted by the common council to the Northwestern Long Distance Telephone Company. Evidently the franchise is to be assigned to the incorporation. The Astoria Automatic Telephone Company is capitalized at \$100,000, divided into 1000 shares of \$100 each and the three incorporators are George E. Waggoner, G. C. Fulton and John H. Whyte. The law requires that there shall be at least three incorporators, and the plan now is to go ahead and interest as much local capital in the concern as is possible, according to Mr. Waggoner. The principal office of the incorporation will be in this city. The franchise granted to the telephone company was drawn by City Attorney Abercrombie and as far as can be now seen is in most excellent shape, and apparently is quite fair to both the company and the city. It is understood that work is to be commenced on the new system very soon. The company has 30 days in which to accept the franchise. Unless all signs are without meaning in this case, it looks as if Astoria is to witness a merry telephone war in which the city ought to come out ahead.

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ANOTHER VICTIM OF THE COLUMBIA SECURE MONEY FOR DAIRY PLANS

HIR AMATSU, A JAPANESE FISHERMAN, FALLS FROM A SCOW AT THE SANBORN-CUTTING CANNERY.

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, while loading a salmon-head scow beneath the fish platform of the Sanborn-Cutting cannery in this city, Hjr Amatsu, a Japanese engaged in hauling this commodity to the De Force oil plant, lost his footing on the scow and fell into the Columbia and was drowned.

Amatsu was a married man, his wife living in Japan, and is said to have been a faithful worker and temperate man. He was 36 years of age, and had many friends among his countrymen here. He was evidently alone when the accident happened, but as soon as he was missed, some Japanese began poling for the body and found it about an hour after he is supposed to have gone overboard.

Coroner J. A. Gilbaugh was notified about 7 o'clock and at once took official charge of the body. The coroner made careful search of the body for any wounds or contusions that might point to foul play, but did not discover the slightest trace of anything of the sort. An inquest is not likely to be held unless a physician's scrutiny of the remains, today, shall develop some good reason for such an investigation.

Amatsu has a brother in business in Portland and he has been telegraphed for and will be down on the Hassalo early this morning, or on the noon express.

The Week in Realty

Fannie G. Ford and husband to Jacob Edison, lot 3, block 132, McClure's Astoria; \$10.

Thomas Withers and wife to Rebecca Morrison, the west 35 feet of lot 10, block 1, Long Branch.

Northern Pacific Ry. Co. to Charles M. Lanning, SE. 1-4 of SE. 1-4 of S. 9 and W. 1-2 of NW. 1-4 of S. 11, T. 4, R. 9, comprising 120 acres; \$960.

Charles M. Lanning to Grand Rapids Oregon Timber Co., same lands as above; \$1600.

Frank Bohnart to N. D. Bain, lots 1 and 2, block 7, Grime's Annex, Ocean Grove.

United States patent to Alfred M. Brunick, NW. 1-4 of S. 27, T. 4 N., R. 10 W., containing 160 acres.

Alfred N. Brunick and wife to Gladstone Oregon Timber Co., some lands as above; \$1000.

SUM OF \$3000 ALREADY SECURED AND BIG MEETING OF FARMERS CALLED FOR NEXT SATURDAY.

In the office of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday it was announced that plans are progressing rapidly to organize the dairy interests of this locality, on both sides of the Columbia river. The sum of \$3000 was raised yesterday. This will be used as a nucleus to start a condensory in Astoria, and as this sum was raised with out any effort at all it is presumed that \$7000 more can be secured without much trouble. It is desired to have \$10,000 back of the condensory enterprise.

A meeting has been called for next Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock in the Chamber of Commerce of all the farmers in this community who are interested in the dairy or condensory matters, and a big meeting is expected. John H. Whyte of the Chamber of Commerce has worked hard for several weeks in thoroughly analyzing the situation, and has compiled a wide field of information, and at the meeting on Saturday the whole matter will be gone over in detail. There are several well known gentlemen who believe that the dairy and condensory matter is the most important question now before the residents of this community, barring none other, and there seems no doubt that realization of the plans now on foot will mean much for Clatsop county. The most important fact seems to be that the plan includes the bringing here of a large number of Germans as settlers on the lands throughout the county. Yesterday Dr. Barr and Mr. Wieser, the German who is here, went over to the Gray's River region on the dairy matter.

Somebody Started Fire—

An old building, the property of Captain Charles Hobson, located at Fifth and Astor streets, was last night, a little before midnight, the scene of a small fire, that had undoubtedly been started by some unknown person or persons. The building was formally, years ago, used as a sash and door factory but for the last number of years has been empty and unoccupied. When the firemen arrived they found that the place where the fire started had been saturated with coal oil. Fortunately, however, the fire-fighters arrived before the fire had gained much headway, and a stream from No. 1 soon extinguished the flames.

Mrs. Charles H. Abercrombie, who has been spending the past month at Seaside, returned yesterday.

Mrs. H. Beckwith and daughters, of Portland, arrived in Astoria last night to visit for a month at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Evans. Mrs. Evans is Mrs. Beckwith's mother.

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