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TERSE TALES OF THE TOWN

Water Commission—

The regular monthly meeting of the water commission will be held tonight in the city hall.

Little Child Dies—

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Merve of Gray's River died yesterday. The body will be taken to Rainier on this morning's train for interment there.

Street Needs Fixing—

Complaint has been made of the bad condition of the street immediately north of the city hall. It is said the foundations need repairing. The matter has been reported to the street authorities.

Time Is Extended—

At the meeting of the county court yesterday morning Alex Duncan was granted an extension of time for the work being done on the Elk Creek road to September 1. The sum of \$100 was also appropriated to be used in improving the beach trail to the Tillamook county line.

His Funeral Yesterday—

The funeral of the late Kurti Pekuri, the fisherman who was drowned in the Columbia Friday, was held yesterday afternoon, the interment being in Greenwood cemetery. The burial party went there on the steamer Wenonah. The Finnish Brotherhood attended in a body.

Dead At 72 Years—

John Willoughby, aged 72 years, died at St. Mary's Hospital yesterday and the funeral will be held Sunday afternoon, with interment in Greenwood cemetery. His son is an engineer in the mills at Knappton. It is probable that the funeral will be held from the Pohl chapel.

Strictly An Agriculturist—

Ex-County Commissioner William Larson was in the city yesterday from his fine Lewis & Clark ranch. Mr. Larson is busy haying and says he is absolutely without a complaint of any kind; healthy, happy, hopeful, and determined to make a fine showing from his well-appointed farm when he strikes his yearly balance on New Year's Day.

Competitive Drill On—

Because some of the members of the First Company, Coast Artillery, who wish to take the competitive drill are out of town or were otherwise not able to appear yesterday, the competition will be kept open a time longer. Last night it was announced that the names of the winners

would not be given out before Tuesday. Those who make the best showing in the competition will be appointed either on the list of sergeants or corporals.

To Meet His Colleagues—

Postmaster John Hahn has gone to Portland to meet the other 38 presidential postmasters of Oregon in a two-day annual session, and will return to Astoria on Saturday night or Sunday. U. S. Senator Charles W. Fulton, Congressman Ellis and Tom Richardson are among the prominent speakers billed to address the Association, and a number of postal dignitaries are expected to be present. A fine program has been arranged for the 48 hours covered by the assemblage.

The Cement Sidewalks—

The sidewalks to be placed around the county court house, on Seventh, Eighth and Commercial streets are to be 12 feet in width, according to the specifications stated in the calls for bids. They are to be of cement, and with this width should make a handsome showing quite in keeping with the court house itself. The grounds have been filled up in an excellent manner, with a gentle slope from the court house to the streets, and when covered with growing grass will add much to the attractiveness of the place.

New Athletic Building—

The new Allen building at the corner of Eleventh and Duane streets is already beginning to take shape, and as a result there is a renewed interest in the Athletic Club, which is to occupy a part of the structure. Charles H. Abercrombie, who is the present official head of the Athletic Club, says that already there is a membership of approximately 200, and that new applications are coming in every day. Every care is being taken to secure the right kind of members and all the indications point to a fine success for the organization. The club exists in the form of a private corporation, with the usual officers and board of directors, the latter being virtually the controlling body. The structure will hardly be ready by the

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time first announced, as there is delay in securing timbers required in its construction, but in all likelihood will be ready by September 1.

Benefit Tonight—

A large attendance is anticipated at the Astoria theatre tonight at the benefit of the Women's Relief Corps when the Georgia Harper Company will present the drama entitled "For Her Sister's Sake." Quite a number of the ladies of the relief corps have been hard at work for the past few days selling tickets for the benefit, and have met with considerable success, and it might be well to suggest that any who are desirous of seeing the performance should secure their seats early today, and help along the worthy cause and at the same time get the full value for their money.

Soldiers In Action—

Five soldiers from Fort Stevens came to town Wednesday for an outing and at an early hour yesterday morning several of them were keyed up to a pretty high pitch. In a fracas one of them got a rap on the jaw that was supposed to have broken that useful part of his face, but the city physician who was called announced after examination that the jaw was not broken. The police got their hands on another one of the soldiers. At 2 o'clock yesterday morning one of them was just starting to walk back to the Fort from this city, as he averred that he simply had to be there in time for roll call.

Mayor Signed Warrants—

Mayor Wise signed all of the warrants yesterday that had been passed upon by the city council at its recent meeting, and also signed all of the ordinances passed upon except the one granting a franchise to the automatic telephone company. The mayor has no objection to the ordinance, but will refrain from signing it until the Chamber of Commerce has an opportunity to express itself on the proposition. The delay in signing arises only as a matter of courtesy on the part of the mayor, and that the Chamber of Commerce will express itself as well satisfied with the terms of the grant is virtually a certain conclusion.

Mr. Keezel Resigns—

At the session of the county court yesterday morning E. L. Keezel, who was elected county superintendent of schools at the recent election, tendered his resignation. It was accepted, and the court thereupon appointed Miss Emma C. Warren to the position. It will be a source of gratification to many throughout the county who are interested in the welfare of the Clatsop schools that so efficient and pleasant a person as Miss Warren now takes the place. Mr. Keezel is principal of the Seaside schools and the good wishes of many will be extended to him, though he is not to continue in the county office. For many years Miss Warren has been a leading figure in educational matters in this part of the state, and, of course, from her experience in the office of county superintendent, is thoroughly familiar with its needs and its workings.

Bids Opened Yesterday—

At 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the office of Judge Charles H. Page, bids were opened in the matter of the purchase of the stock and fixtures of the furniture business heretofore conducted in this city by Charles Heilborn & Company, as advertised for by Trustee in Bankruptcy G. O. Moen. They were as follows: Frank Patton, \$6046.50; H. H. Zapf, \$5207; Hilderbrand & Gor, \$4890.17; and J. T. Wilson, of Portland, \$4559.06. These bids were for the stock and fixtures, upon an appraisal of \$8266.56. Bids for the real estate, (which was appraised at \$405, were as follows, and were, severally, accepted; for lot in Seaside, \$3.50, by D. H. Wilson; lot at Silver Point Cliffs, \$5.50, Frank Spittle; for lot in Highland Park, \$5; Dr. P. S. Knowles bid of \$15 for 12 pieces of furniture, was accepted also. The result was fully and finally approved by Judge Page as referee in bankruptcy.

ASTORIANS BUNCOED CLEVERLY

SCAMP OPERATES WITH FORGED MONEY ORDERS AND SECURES QUITE A HANDFUL OF READY CASH

It developed here yesterday that several of Astoria's merchants have been done out of various sums of money, lately, by a scamp whose cleverness has baffled the Seattle police and the government secret service men to date.

He operated with a bunch of forged postal notes stolen from one of the Seattle sub-stations and which have been advertised for some months by the authorities by way of warning against their negotiation and for the apprehension of the thief.

Those who suffered at the hands of the original rascal, or the man working in the second, or third instance, are Herman Wise, \$22.50 in cash, garnered by the bunco-man through the purchase of a \$7.50 suit of clothes, in payment for which he tendered a \$30 money-order signed by J. J. Morgan as remitter with one E. Williams, as payee, the mayor yielding up the difference; Herman Ekstrom, the jeweler, being mulcted in the sum of \$7.00 in change, and a \$25 chain, for which he received a \$32 postal note; Nathan Schlüssel, the clothier, a small sum, given in change for a \$32 order; and Judd Bros., \$18 in cash, through a deal in which a \$40 order and a \$22 suit figured.

With the exception of the chain "bought" from Mr. Ekstrom, the smooth operator left the other goods for subsequent call, which he never made. Some of the orders were drawn on the Seaside post-office and one of them on the office here. The attempt to cash the local note at this office and its rejection for the want of proper advice, led to the discovery of the whole fraudulent action, and the losers, here, have no recourse, save the ultimate satisfaction of knowing the scoundrel has been "brought to book," and even that may be denied them if he is allowed to get far enough away before he is caught and tried.

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., same lands as above; \$1000.
M. J. Kinney to D. A. Miller, lots 1 and 2, block 2, Gearhart Park; \$500.

PERSONAL MENTION

M. Bredemier of Portland who has been in the city for several days left up last evening on the 6:10 express.
Percival Tagg departs this morning at 8:20 o'clock for Berkeley, where, at the University of California, he will pursue his studies in dentistry.
The Harper troupe will leave out on Sunday morning next, via the steamer Alliance, for Coos Bay, where they will fill an engagement at Marshfield.
Hon. and Mrs. Mrs. J. G. Megler were in the city yesterday, spending the day with friends.
Dr. A. A. Finch returned last evening. Mrs. McConnell, of Woodland, Cal., mother of Mrs. Finch, also arrived here last evening, and will make quite a lengthy visit.
Victor Lindbeck leaves this morning for Raymond, Wash., on a business trip.

Notice.

Gateway Rebekah Lodge will meet this evening at the usual hour in I. O. O. F. hall. Installation of officers. Mamie Clinton, secretary.

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Demand It

HERE FOR BUSINESS AND DOING IT

SPECIAL AGENT M. J. DILLMAN OF PACIFIC STATES COMPANY, IN ASTORIA TO ACCELERATE IMPROVEMENTS NOW PROJECTED.

Special Agent M. J. Dillman, of the Pacific States Telephone Company, with headquarters in San Francisco, arrived in the city yesterday and immediately associated himself with Manager A. J. Brunold of the company's local office, in the task of preparing the way for the introduction of all the projected improvements due for installation here, and will remain for several days bringing the details to a focus, so that they will be carried out successfully and completely after he has left.

Mr. Dillman, in conversation with an Astorian reporter said, yesterday, the people of Astoria would have no more room for doubt as to the extent and thoroughness of his company's purposes and that his orders in this behalf were ample and mandatory; that they covered the erection of the new telephone building, the cabling of the system and the installation of the latest, most modern switchboard; that the central service would be equal to anything in any city of Astoria's size and importance on the coast, and that his visit here was an initial phase of the orders and plans of his people in this relation. He talked straight and pleasantly and confined his remarks strictly to the interests he represents, having nothing to say in reference to the invasion of the Northwestern Long Distance Company here, being satisfied, apparently, to declare his own errand and its bearing on the future and better service the people of Astoria would enjoy at the hands of the Pacific States people, when the last of their projects for amendment are carried out.

Special meeting of United Artisans at A. O. U. W. Hall this (Friday) evening. Very important.

Time, Place and Price.

The time is now, the place is C. V. Brown's shoe store. The price is fair and away the best ever put before a purchaser of shoes in Astoria. Mr. Brown has made a sweeping reduction of practically 50 per cent on his entire line of ladies' and gentlemen's Oxfords, and the lines are incomparably the best on this market.

HEAVY BOND ISSUE.

Atchinson, Topeka & Santa Fe Behind a \$20,000,000 Deal.

NEW YORK, Aug. 6.—It was announced yesterday that arrangements had been completed by the Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad with J. P. Morgan & Co. for an issue of \$17,000,000 bonds of a subsidiary company of the Atchinson system, the bonds being part of an authorized issue of \$30,000,000. It is understood that the issue will be secured by a first mortgage on the Belen cut off, which is a part of the mail line of the Atchinson and other properties, and by a first mortgage on the Pecos valley and Northwestern railroad.

The bonds, which will be guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe, will, it is understood be put out in the neighborhood of 94 or 94 1-2 and will have preference over the Atchinson convertible issues.

PRIZE WINNING DOG DEAD.

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—The loss of little Anna, a seven year old Boston terrier, which had been the winner of many first prizes in dog shows in various parts of the country, has so affected Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thomas, the owners of the animal that they have been unable to sleep or eat regularly since the death of the canine July 26. Mr. Thomas placed the following advertisement in a morning newspaper this morning: "Little Anna, one of the most beautiful Boston Terriers in the country died of heart failure Sunday evening July 26, 1908. She was a sweet mannered and lovely companion. Her master is deeply grieved at his loss. Many offers were made for her. She was priceless and not for sale."

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