

Abreast of the Times

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TERSE TALES OF THE TOWN

Lenten Service—

Lenten service at Holy Innocents Chapel this evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Decree of Divorce—

A decree of divorce was yesterday granted to the plaintiff in the case of Loretta Broadwell vs. William Broadwell.

Funeral Today—

The funeral of Miss Bertha Fannon will be held this morning with service at the Catholic Church at 9 o'clock. Friends of the family are invited to be present.

Meet This Evening—

The Dorcas Society of the First Lutheran Church will be entertained by Miss Hilma Peterson, at her home No. 1852 Duane street this evening. Members and friends are invited.

Made Big Increase—

According to a dispatch from Salem last night the state board of equalization raised the assessment of Clatsop county from \$8,782,420 to \$14,654,282, a very large increase.

In Probate Court—

In the matter of the guardianship of Gottfried Hansen, an insane person, the guardian, Charles Hansen, yesterday filed his first accounting and report, which were ordered approved and allowed.

Lotteries Closed—

According to the sporting editor of the Astorian, the Chinese lotteries closed up yesterday. Last night's customers were bitterly disappointed when they found the places closed. They are to open after the grand jury adjourns.

Goes To Bridal Veil—

It is said that W. A. Matthews, a valued employee of the Hammond Lumber Company, of this city, will depart for Bridal Veil today or tomorrow, to join his old friend, Mr. Hazen, there in the service of the Bridal Veil Lumber Company.

A Splendid Showing—

Yesterday, shortly after noon, within five days after the sad loss of her husband, Mrs. Ludwig Hartwig of this city, realized the practical and significant reminder of his thoughtfulness on her account, in the receipt of a draft for \$2000, covering his policy in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. The celerity with which the order made this return to the respected widow, was as conducive to this credit as it was to her comfort and aid.

Are Thankful For Assistance—

The members of the Warrenton Ladies' Aid Society desire to thank most cordially, everybody who in any manner contributed to the success of their late theatrical venture there and take this means of manifesting their appreciation.

Off For Centralia—

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. S. McNamara and family will depart this morning for their new home in Centralia, Washington. They leave many good friends in Astoria, who sincerely regret their departure, while wishing them abundant success over in the Evergreen State.

Will Return To Astoria—

It developed yesterday that Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bishop, formerly of this city, but lately of Kent, Wash., will return to Astoria at once. Mr. Bishop resuming his old desk at the Astoria Iron Works. Their furniture has already reached the city and they expect to arrive here today or tomorrow. They will find plenty of friends to welcome them back here.

A Fine Animal—

Arthur Marks, of this city, has just purchased a splendid German coach stallion from A. C. Ruby & Company of Portland, through their agent, H. H. Schmidt. The horse is nearly four years old, weighs 1500 pounds, and is a superb type of a high service animal, a credit to any owner and a prize sire for any foal in his line. He will be maintained in this city for some time.

Insane Cases—

Nels Jonasson, the Ilwaco man who was taken into custody by the police for investigation as to his sanity, is improving rapidly and it is thought he is likely to come out all right in a few days. He is still at the police station. A man by the name of Max Schubert has also been taken into custody by the sheriff for investigation. His mind seems clouded, but he is not badly off. Schubert is not a citizen of this country. He may possibly be let go.

Enters Remonstrance—

Joseph Schamberger of Portland has addressed a communication to the council remonstrating against the proposed improvement of Eighteenth street, Exchange to Grand. Mr. Schamberger averred that the improvement is not necessary and would be a useless expenditure because of the sliding ground; and he thinks that a temporary improvement would be sufficient for the present.

Sunday School Convention—

The fifth annual convention of the Sunday schools of Clatsop county is to be held in this city and at the First Presbyterian church on April 6th and 7th, next, and the largest possible attendance is desired and will, no doubt, be had. These conventions are invariably prolific of genuine good and decided interest.

En Route To Bay City—

Scott Bozorth, of Portland, secretary of the Statesman Publishing Company, and an ex-resident of this city where he used to carry the Morning Astorian, as a lad, arrived here yesterday, en route to Bay City, in Tillamook county, whither he goes to attend the quarterly meeting of the directors of a bank in which he is interested. Mr. Bozorth has a decidedly warm spot for old Astoria and is very frank about it. He will depart on the Elmore today if she gets away.

Newest And Best—

At the Bakerian theatre today there will be presented two of the latest and best of the comedy films of the day, to wit: "Tag Day" and "Wanted, Some Ice," than which nothing better has ever been shown in this city. In addition to these, Miss Hazel Doratha's sweet and sympathetic voice will be heard in a new and lovely song. The bill will prevail today and tomorrow and should draw immense audiences.

Plaintiff Loses Suit—

In the case of C. T. Hubbard vs. T. A. Davis, tried before Judge McBride and a jury in circuit court, a verdict was returned for the defendant, who was represented by Attorney Eakin. Attorney Curtis appeared for the plaintiff. The case was an interesting one and was finally won by the defendant upon points of law. Hubbard and Davis are residents of Seaside, where they are well known. Davis had been in partnership with J. R. Wilkinson, and when they broke up their partnership he took over the business and assumed all liabilities, giving his partner, Wilkinson, a note for \$400 to insure him against being called upon to pay any of the outstanding debts; and later Wilkinson assigned the note to a relative, C. T. Hubbard, who brought suit. Hubbard's case was defeated by the showing that he had given no consideration for the note; while the note itself was finally defeated by the showing that it had been given as a security against liability on Wilkinson's part, and by the proof that Davis had paid all the outstanding liabilities of the firm, and the existence of the note was conditioned on the continued existence of the liabilities.

State Tax Raised—

The state board of equalization has announced its apportionment of state taxes in accordance with its completed equalizations. Many changes were made, and among other things Clatsop county state taxes were made about \$4000 higher. This means that the state board evidently did not think the assessment in this county had been high enough. An interesting question arises, as to the possibility of this extra \$4000 being raised. The Clatsop county authorities have in accordance with the law made their annual levy and commenced the collection of taxes. How can they, then, get this extra \$4000 in this year's levy? To secure the \$4000 it would be necessary to make a new assessment of the county, and to make a new levy and a new collection of taxes, while a goodly number of people already hold receipts for the taxes for this year. It looks as if the state won't get the \$4000 from Clatsop county this year, unless it suggests some plan to raise the money.

Rautio Goes Free—

August Rautio, the saloonkeeper who seemed to want to pass 10 days in the county jail, rather than pay his fine of \$20 for violation of the Sunday laws, has been disappointed in his desire. Yesterday Judge McBride issued execution against a debt owing to Rautio, and out of it was collected the \$20 fine. Then Rautio was told that his presence in the county jail was no longer desired and he was politely ushered out. The county collected the total sum of about \$1100 in fines against the 34 saloonkeepers who pleaded guilty of the Sunday closing violations. All this goes into the school funds. Nearly all of the saloonkeepers were fined twice, \$20 on each of two indictments.

New Boys' Suits—

Herman Wise has just received the first installment of Spring suits for boys, age 3 to 16, which he selected while East.

Warrants Called—

Warrants have been called by the city treasurer to date in the sum of \$9016.04, on both special and general funds. All of this money has ceased to draw interest and naturally it would behoove the holders of the warrants to secure their money and place it elsewhere, and besides the city treasurer, Mr. Dealey, could thus keep things "cleaned up."

Awaiting Examination—

Sappho Craine, the French woman taken from this city to Portland by Immigration Inspector R. P. Bonham on Wednesday last for examination by the federal authorities as to her legal deportation to France, as an obnoxious character, is now in the hands of the good sister of the Good Shepherd at Portland pending that examination, which will take place in a few weeks. Mr. Bonham goes to the metropolis in the morning to attend the examination of Lum, the Chinaman arrested here a few days ago, owing to irregularities in his admission papers.

Sad Message Received—

A telegram reached this city yesterday morning, from a mountain resort near Boston, Mass., announcing the death of Mrs. W. E. Simpson, of Boston, an elder sister of Eugene Bussing of this city, and who will be happily remembered here by many who met her when she visited here three years ago. Mrs. Simpson was 49 years of age, and the oldest of six children, all the rest being still alive. She died from a complication of maladies, chief of which was a nervous affection superinduced by the loss of her husband and her only child. The family has the sympathy of their many friends in this city.

Wedded Last Night—

At 8 o'clock last evening, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ecklund, on Third street, the destinies of Mr. Charles Lager and Miss Olga Johnson were united according to the beautiful ritual of the Lutheran church in the bonds of wedlock. Rev. G. E. Rydquist, of the Memorial Lutheran church officiated. The house was daintily decorated for the happy event and there was a goodly number of the friends of the young principals present. A delicious wedding supper was served and a delightful evening spent by all whose good fortune it was to be there. Mr. and Mrs. Lager will make Astoria their future home.

Will Improve The Road—

Confirmation reached this city yesterday of the long mooted rumor that the authorities of the Astoria & Columbia River Railway would distinctly improve the right-of-way of the line and add new cars and amplify the service between this city and the coast and between here and Portland. The extent of the improvements are up to the mark of \$160,000, and will be of the very best when completed. It is proposed to rock the line from Goble to Astoria and thence to Seaside, and place 75-pound steel rails wherever they may be lacking at present, notably on the line south of Carnahan, the rest of the route having them. It is said that the train service is to be embellished with a number of new coaches of modern type and finish, and that a fast schedule is to be put on for the whole system for both freight and passenger traffic.

Councilman Talks—

"Never again," said Councilman Belland yesterday, "will I vote in the council to grant a saloon license to a man who has been convicted of keeping his saloon open on Sunday, or who pleads guilty to the same offense." It is known that at least one or more other councilmen feel the same way about this question. Mr. Belland evidently did not mean that he would necessarily vote to refuse a license for any of the present ones who have pleaded guilty, but that he would in all future cases that may arise. One of the saloonkeepers who pleaded guilty went about town all day yesterday vindictively talking about two leading citizens whom he believed were to have been witnesses against him had the case gone to trial.

The Man Who Eats.

The man who eats does so with the expectation of being satisfied. To this end he seeks the best possible place to gratify his normal appetite at most rational expense. These things account for the steady stream of people to and from the portals of the Palace Restaurant in this city. The reputation of the Palace is founded immovably upon the certainty and amplitude of the service it renders to every purse, and appetite, big and little. Open day and night. Commercial streets, opposite the Page building.

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Details of Franchise—

Activities in preparation for the construction of the electric line to Seaside are going on without interruption, and in all probability the franchise over the city streets will be granted at the meeting of the council next Monday night. The pressure brought to bear to eliminate the proposed \$30 license on each car has apparently succeeded and it is said to be pretty certain that this detail will be dropped. It is also said the men back of the railway project want a provision in the charter permitting them to run their cars in the city limits up to a maximum speed of 20 miles an hour. Already the franchise as written permits a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour. Merely to state the matter would seem sufficient to indicate the extreme undesirability of granting such a provision. Twenty miles per hour might be a recklessly dangerous rate of speed in a city, while 15 miles an hour to many, perhaps, would seem almost as bad. In the case of damage suits against the company for injuries to people such a provision might be used with pernicious effect, as against the rights of citizens. Why any provision of this nature should be desired in the franchise, granted for 30 years, is not plain. Such matters are properly usually left to the succeeding common councils, instead of one council now being asked to tie up succeeding councils for the next 30 years.

Judgeship For Fulton—

A Washington dispatch in yesterday's Oregonian says: "It is reported in Senatorial circles today that if Congress passes the pending bill creating an additional judge in Oregon, Senator Fulton will be given that appointment. Many influential Senators who admire Fulton are concerned over the adverse attitude of the House judiciary committee, which threatens to kill the Oregon amendment to the Washington bill, and in the next few days considerable pressure will be brought to bear to induce the House to accept the Senate amendment. If the amendment is accepted, in view of Fulton's close relations with President Taft, there is no doubt he can have the judgeship if he will accept it. If the judgeship passes the bill authorizing the appointment of two additional Interstate Commerce Commissioners, it is indicated that Fulton can have one of these positions, the other to go to Representative Hepburn."

AN OPEN STATEMENT.

To Whom It May Concern:

During all of yesterday, one or more persons, maliciously inclined and without warrant of truth, circulated a report on the streets of Astoria, that I was, personally, responsible for the finding of certain indictments against certain of the saloonmen of this city for violations of the laws and ordinances, and using my name in other scandalous and dishonorable relations. For the benefit of all to whom these things have been uttered, and by way of warning to those indulging in this sheer defamation and wanton falsehood, I here, and now, declare that I have never been connected with a single case now before the district, or any other, court, with regard to any violation of the saloon or liquor laws of city or state, either as complainant, witness or informer.

I make this open statement not alone on my own account, as a citizen, but with a view to protecting the interests I have the honor to serve in one of the leading institutions of the city of Astoria.

J. E. HIGGINS.

Rev. Owens Will Remain—

The Rev. Conrad Owens, pastor of the Baptist church, stated yesterday that he has decided to remain in Astoria as the minister of his present church. The call extended to him by the Baptist church at St. Johns has been refused. In consideration of Mr. Owens remaining here, the congregation has agreed to build a new church building, and this has now been definitely decided upon. While the details have not yet been worked out, it is planned to construct a building of either brick or stone, and to cost at least \$10,000. The first cost will be at least \$10,000. It is estimated, while a considerable sum in addition may be expended before the structure is completed and fitted out in satisfactory shape. Whether the church will be erected on the present site or not is said not to have been definitely decided. Many will be pleased to learn of Mr. Owens' decision to remain with his congregation in Astoria.

Ball and Social.

A grand ball and basket social will be given in Lower Grange hall at Gray's River, Saturday evening, Feb. 27th. Steamer Wenona will leave Fisher's dock at 7 p. m. Fare 50c round trip. Music will be furnished by the Columbia Orchestra. Everybody invited.

Plenty of smelt, spare ribs and tenderloins every day at Braden-Adams Meat Market. See ad, page 4.

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