

THE DAILY ASTORIAN is the biggest and best paper on the Columbia River

The Daily Astorian

THE ASTORIAN has the largest circulation of any paper on the Columbia River

FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

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NO. 44.

A new way over the old route

To Klondike

This route leads you via our stores in Astoria, Skagway and Dyea.

Where we are prepared to furnish you with everything in the way of an outfit that will protect you from cold, and you in

Prospecting for Gold

and at the same time nourish the inner man for a long time. Our stoves, picks, shovels, gold pans, cooking utensils, and provisions of all kinds, in fact a complete hardware and cooking outfit for Alaska we will sell you at a reasonable price.

Foard & Stokes Co. ASTORIA, Oregon.



Stokes Bros. Skagway and Dyea, Alaska.

Get a new face...

MASKS

and DOMINOES

Of all descriptions, The largest stock in the city.

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W. F. SCHEIBE, Manufacturer and Dealer in

FINE CIGARS!

A full line of Pipes, Tobacco, and Smokers' Articles.

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J. M. THE SISTERS OF THE Convent of the ... Holy Names

ASTORIA, OREGON.

HAVE OPENED THEIR BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL. For rates, etc., address the Superiors

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC, PAINTING AND VOICE CULTURE FORM A SPECIAL DEPARTMENT

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A DELICIOUS DRINK... AND ABSOLUTELY PURE

The North Pacific Brewery, of which Mr. John Kopp is proprietor, makes beer for domestic and export trade.

Bottled beer for family use, or keg beer supplied at any time, delivery in the city free.

NORTH PACIFIC BREWERY

SHIELD BRAND

UNION MEAT COMPANY

Hams, Bacon and Strictly Pure Lard

ALL KINDS OF CANNED MEATS

Guaranteed The Best in the Market

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The Best, Absolutely Pure Rye

"Keystone Monogram" Whiskey

For Sale at The Occident Hotel Bar, The Office Saloon, And all the leading bars in Astoria.

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This is just the place for your boys. Delightful location, large buildings and grounds, good meals, plenty of healthy exercise, excellent teachers and careful training—this is what they all say of MOUNT ANGEL COLLEGE. Send for Catalogue and special terms.

P. F. PLACIDUS, Director.

THE MAINE'S FLAG AT HALF MAST

Concurrent Investigation to Be Made by Spain and United States.

SOME SPANISH OPINIONS

The All Absorbing Topic in Havana—Activity in Coast Defenses Nothing to do with Maine Disaster.

Havana, Feb. 19.—The United States flag is at half mast from the poop of the Maine today and two divers with assistants are at work about the wreck under the direction of Captain Sigbee.

THE INVESTIGATION

Washington, Feb. 19.—An interesting feature of today's news at the navy department was the decision of the government to allow concurrent investigations of the cause of the Maine disaster and for its own part in making independent inquiry through a naval court of inquiry already appointed.

While permitting the Spanish authorities to make such investigation as they desire, this arrangement recommended itself to naval men alike as fair to all and at the same time calculated to develop the exact facts in a manner that could not be questioned.

SPANISH ADMIRAL'S OPINION

Madrid, Feb. 19.—A dispatch from Rear Admiral Materola, naval commander at Havana, says the proofs are that no dead fish came to the surface after the explosion that wrecked the Maine, and that when the disaster occurred there was not the slightest upwelling of water such as would follow a marine explosion.

ANOTHER SPANISH OPINION

New York, Feb. 19.—The World says: Lieutenant J. J. Sobria, naval attaché at the Spanish legation at Washington, was in this city yesterday, co-operating with the authorities in preparing for the safety of the Vizcaya during her stay in this port. Lieutenant Sobria was asked for his opinion as to the explosion on the Maine. His reply was:

"I know the cause of the explosion; it was the result of an explosion inside the ship which took place in one of the forward magazines. The fact of the matter is that the discipline and watch observed on the ship were very lax."

When Lieutenant Sobria was spoken to as to the possibility of serious trouble over the Maine affair he said: "I do not think there will be war between the United States and Spain, but should such an unfortunate condition arise, I shall of course be in a condition to be of much aid to my government as a result of such information as come to my knowledge as naval attaché at the Spanish legation."

AN ABSORBING TOPIC

New York, Feb. 19.—A dispatch to the Herald from Key West says:

Public interest in the destruction of the Maine continues the all-absorbing topic of discussion in the city. On the arrival of the mail steamer from Havana were displayed four photographs taken from different points of view, each admirably showing the wrecked battleship in all its hideousness. The gnarled and twisted iron beams, the heavy steel plates, bent like pieces of cardboard, together with the chaotic condition of the massive turrets and other heavy iron work, made an impressive picture. The forward part of the ship, which on the shock of the explosion had first lifted the bow out of the water, then thrown it back as if to break the vessel in two and dropped it into the water a wrecked mass, was reproduced by the photograph in all its horror.

These photographs fully confirm the description given of the explosion by the survivors who are now being cared for by the authorities in this city. These photographs will prove of material assistance to the board of inquiry during its investigation.

One thing which tends to keep up the interest in the Maine disaster is the constant movement of the vessels of the fleet, their frequent arrival and departure from this port being in obedience to instructions from Washington. The arrival or departure of a torpedo boat to or from the flagship New York, which still rides at anchor outside the bar, never fails to attract a crowd of idlers, who are convinced that in some manner it is connected with the deplorable accident.

The presence on the street of a survivor with bandaged head or injured body never fails to draw a crowd. If the injured bluejacket possesses a garrulous tongue, he is never without an attentive audience.

Reports from the barracks and marine hospitals show the wounded are rapidly convalescing and the majority whose injuries were slight will shortly be discharged from the institution as cured.

TROOPS START FOR SKAGWAY

Law and Order Must Be Maintained at All Cost.

THEORY OF NEVADA ACCIDENT

The Unfortunate Vessel Was Carrying Dynamite—Big Syndicate Forming in Alaska—The Rush Continues.

RUMORS DENIED

Washington, Feb. 19.—Officials of the war department are annoyed at the circulation of rumors that seem to connect the activity now observed at the sea coast defenses with the Maine incident.

The attention of Acting Secretary Meikeljohn was this morning called to several stories coming from widely separated parts of the country. He promptly declared that this movement had no connection with the Maine affair. There had been increases of garrisons of the sea-board posts, but this had been going on for six months and is the only marked step in the development of the scheme of coast defense planned by the fortification board some time ago. Said Mr. Meikeljohn:

"It is following out the policy of the department which has been pursued since the ordnance department turned over to the engineers the modern guns which they had manufactured. Where these are placed in coast fortifications it will be necessary to have them carefully protected, and this work has been going on for six months. Congress has been aware of this and the department has called its attention to the need of at least two additional regiments of artillery to man these posts and take care of these guns as fast as they are installed."

IN MOURNING

Sacramento, Feb. 19.—In view of the disaster to the Maine Governor Hild has requested all citizens and directed the officers in charge of state buildings and armories to place the flag at half-mast on Monday, February 21, out of respect to the officers and men who lost their lives.

RUMORED SALE

Washington and Columbia River Railroad Sold to Northern Pacific.

Walla Walla, Feb. 19.—From what is considered a reliable source it is ascertained that the Washington and Columbia River Railway Company's line from Pendleton to Hunt's Junction, from Dayton to Hunt's, and all the branches, rolling stock, depots and grounds were transferred to the Northern Pacific Railway Company.

The board of directors of the Washington and Columbia River Railway Company have been in session since Wednesday. They closed up business today. Soon after a rumor was circulated that the Northern Pacific had purchased the road and was soon the topic of conversation around the city. At a meeting of the board this morning President D. W. Tyler and Secretary A. R. Burford tendered their resignations, which were accepted.

BANKRUPTCY BILL

Washington, Feb. 19.—After four days of consideration the house today passed the bankruptcy bill, reported by the committee on judiciary, a substitute for the Nelson bill passed by the senate at an extra session last summer. The bill is known as the Henderson bill and contains both voluntary and involuntary features. It is considered less drastic than the measure passed by the last house by a vote of 137 to 87. The voluntary feature, however, had been sixteen articles.

Today the motion to strike out the involuntary features was defeated by a majority of 23, the vote being: Ayes, 138; noes, 115. Eighteen republicans voted against the bill and twelve democrats for it. The populists, with one exception, voted against the bill.

MURDER IN SOUTHERN OREGON

The Leader of the Van Pelt Clan Is Killer From Ambush.

Crescent City, Cal., Feb. 19.—Thomas Van Pelt was shot and killed this morning in the presence of two of his sons near his home near Chasco, Oregon, by a person in ambush as yet unknown. Van Pelt was the leader of his clan in the "Curly" Coolidge feud through which "Curly" Coolidge was killed last October. Van Pelt and his five sons and son-in-law were but recently released on bail from custody at Gold Beach, the county seat of Curry county, where they were under indictment for the murder of Coolidge. More trouble is feared.

DOLE'S RETURN

San Francisco, Feb. 19.—The chamber of commerce has completed its arrangements for the public reception to President Dole of Hawaii on Monday afternoon, the date having been approved by the guest of honor. Invitations have been issued to military and civil organizations and to federal and state and civic officers.

GENERAL MERRIAM

Pays a Visit to Astoria While on an Inspection Trip.

"You may rest assured that it will be a week or more before the result of the investigation as to the cause of the disaster to the Maine can become known," said General Merriam, commanding this division of the army, Vancouver Barracks, Washington, to an Astorian reporter last evening.

The general arrived here yesterday morning in company with Captain Pike, U. S. field engineer, Portland, and Lieutenant Bennett, Vancouver, on the U. S. S. Columbine, and will return to Portland early this morning.

While here the party inspected the new fortifications at the mouth of the Columbia. When asked the condition of the fortifications in case of war in the near future, the general, with a smile, said: "That might not be best for publication. You can say, however, that so far as the difficulties in the way of moving the Klondike relief expedition are concerned, they have been removed and the expedition will move. The trouble over the tug towing the Ludde, now stranded at Nainaimo, will probably be arranged in the morning, and all differences with Canada as to duties, etc., have been arranged.

"Yes, a matter of so much importance as the explosion of the battleship Maine requires time to unravel. The physical difficulties alone are too great to be overcome in a short time. In the meantime all else will be mere speculation."

ON THE ALLEYS

Bowling has taken a great spurt at the A. P. C. alleys, and many games to decide supremacy are being played daily. The pleasant visit of the Multnomah ladies has done much to encourage bowling. They played a beautiful and dashing game that is only seen once in a lifetime. Although the visitors lost on pins, their style is very much admired, as they demonstrated that women can be athletes, and the losing team were athletic to perfection.

The team contests are getting very interesting. The defeat in two straight games the Sardines received from the Trouts places the latter ahead on points, and the Crabs and Halibuts are very anxious to go against the invincible Trouts to lower their colors, as both teams are well up on pins, and when the teams come together there will be a hot time on the alleys.

Mrs. Ingalls, who plays for the Tomcods, has a grand average of 81 for six games, while W. Laws, captain of the Clams, has an average of 81 for four games.

The monthly tournament will take place, ladies Tuesday, February 22, and gentlemen Thursday, February 24, all contestants can enter at the time of bowling, as their classes will not be changed. The high rollers are looking to this contest with more than usual eagerness, to defeat Laws and Miss Gilbert, as both have won the medal twice, and one more win will give them the medals for all time.

The standing of the fish teams is as follows:

CLUB	Games	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points	Pin
Trouts	6	4	0	2	28	1063
Crabs	6	3	2	1	21	843
Sardines	6	2	3	1	15	573
Mackereel	6	2	3	1	15	562
Tomcods	6	1	4	1	8	307
Smelts	6	1	4	1	8	301
Oysters	6	1	4	1	8	296
Halibuts	6	1	4	1	8	295
Flounders	6	1	4	1	8	289
Shads	6	1	4	1	8	271
Salmon	4	0	4	0	0	164
Clams	4	0	4	0	0	128

Hundreds of people are arriving in Skagway on every steamer. For the most part the argonauts are losing no time in getting their outfits to Lake Bennett. It is estimated that there are at least 2000 people scattered along the trail between Skagway and the lakes.

Since the shooting of Andrew McGrath and Deputy Marshal Rowan, by Ed Fay two weeks ago, the disorderly element has kept quiet, owing to the fact that a vigilance committee composed of the best citizens of the town has been formed and the general understanding is that the next man who makes a "gun play" will hang.

The steamer Elder arrived Saturday with the advance guard of the government relief expedition. Cerebro spinal meningitis is epidemic here, and six deaths have resulted in the past few days.

TROUBLES OF KLONDKKERS

Montreal, Feb. 19.—Thirteen young Englishmen under the leadership of Viscount Avonmore left here December 13 last for the Klondike. Since their departure they have had all kinds of bad luck.

From Montreal they proceeded to Edmonton, N. W. T. A few days after arriving there Captain Alline died of pneumonia. Dr. Hoops, another member of the party, badly sprained his ankle a few days later. Then Captain Powell, while on a short trip into the country had his feet frozen. Then a Mr. Bannerman was arrested at the instance of Captain O'Brien on a charge of embezzlement. Captain O'Brien, who had assumed leadership of the party, was arrested on a charge of assault for attempting to stab a man in his employ. The captain has just been bound over to keep the peace and the party is broken up.

LEITERT'S CASE

Chicago, Feb. 19.—A motion for a new trial was made today on behalf of Luertger, the sausage maker, sentenced to life imprisonment for wife murder. Judge Gary denied the motion for a new trial, and formally sentenced Luertger to life imprisonment. An appeal will be made to the state supreme court.

LEITER'S ENORMOUS ACCOUNT

Two Chicago Banks Have Turned Into Cash \$500,000.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—The Journal today says: It is pretty well established in inside circles about the board of trade that within the past 10 days there has been returned into cash by two Chicago banks on Le Salle street about \$500,000 for Joseph Leiter's account. This is confirmation of the sale of his wheat, when in 24 hours the ocean tonnage has been taken at a very low rate for 4,000,000 bushels to the leading English ports. The favored people who had a tip on heavy deposits with banks were getting all the wheat possible on soft spots yesterday.

NORTH PACIFIC IS UNSEAWORTHY

Passengers and Crew Desert Her in Port Townsend.

APPEAL TO THE COLLECTOR

The Company Says the Boat Will Run and No Fares Will Be Returned—New Crew Ordered.

Port Townsend, Feb. 19.—The steamer North Pacific which arrived this morning from Seattle en route to Alaska, is still here and is likely to remain for some time. Owing to rough weather, the vessel did not attempt to cross the straits at Fucus until late yesterday and when half way over was forced to put back on account of heavy seas which caused the steamer to ship large quantities of water. This morning all but three of the steamer's crew deserted her, and also the passengers, who number 120. They decline to proceed further on this steamer, as they say she is not seaworthy.

Fifty of the passengers visited Collector of Customs Huestis at the United States custom house this morning in a body and asked him to allow the North Pacific to go to sea. The managers telegraphed to Seattle for a new crew, which will reach here tonight. Unless prevented by the authorities the managers assert that they will start the North Pacific as soon as the new crew arrives and the weather moderates, and that those passengers who do not want to go can stay behind, but no money will be refunded.

True poets and true women have the native sense of divineness of what the world deems gross material substance.

His States

Uncle—Bobby, I suppose you've been a good little boy.
Bobby—No, I haven't.
Uncle—Wig, I hope you haven't been very bad.
Bobby—Oh, no; just comfortable.—Truth.

An Art Note

DUNGEON

Willie Muggs has been severely punished for drawing a caricature of his teacher in the art class of the Sing Sing Art Students' league.—New York Journal.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure

By the will of the late Mrs. Julia Bedell, wife of the deceased Bishop Bedell, \$50,000 was left to the Ohio diocese of the Protestant Episcopal church.

Representative Pearson, of North Carolina, has decided to accept the extra mileage voted the other day on account of the extra session.

Tritan d'Acunha's yearly mail has been dispatched from St. Helena. It consists of ten letters, three newspapers, and two packages of books.

Browning, in his later years, drew \$10,000 a year from the sale of his works.