TODAY'S WEATHER.

Probably rain.

AROUND TOWN.

Fresh strawberries today at the Parlor.

The tug Samson arrived in from Gray's harbor yesterday.

Fresh smoked Columbia river smelt at the Pat Market.

The British ship Yarana left in tow for Portland yesterday.

Best 15-cent meal, Rising Sun restaurant, 612 Commercial street.

Found—Two keys, attached to a steel chain. Apply at Astorian office.

Those who have tried the ice cream served at the Parlor say it is the best in the city.

Best California wine 30 cents per gallon. Alex Gilbert, sole agent for Astoria. Telephone 52.

The funeral of Marion Hawkins was held yesterday from Pohl's undertaking parlors. The interment was at Greenwood.

The steamer Fulton arrived in yesterday from Eureka with a cargo of redwood lumber. She left up for Portland at once.

The dredger W. S. Ladd yesterday arrived from points up the river where she has been engaged in dredging the channel and docked at the O. R. & N. dock.

Rambler and Ideal bicycles for sale or rent. Repairs and sundries at lowest rates. Call at cyclery, 543 Bond street, Columbia Electric and Repair Company.

The steamer Signal went to the Knappton mills yesterday, where she will take on board a part cargo of lumber for San Francisco. She will finish her cargo en route at Gray's harbor.

After May 5 the Astoria Wood Yard Company will deliver Knappton Mills slab wood at your door, sawed, for $2.50 per cord. Leave orders with F. L. Parker or at the Astoria Wood Yard.

The New Creamery Restaurant, Bond street, near the alley between 11th and 12th streets, serves the best 25-cent meal ever set out in Astoria. Everything is new, neat and clean, and absolute satisfaction is guaranteed all patrons.

W. A. Gaines' private stock whisky, handled exclusively in Astoria by John L. Carlson, is one of the most popular beverages sold. Its purity and quality are guaranteed, and it is especially recommended for family use. It is sold in any quantity at the corner of Twelfth and Bond streets.

Strawberries and cream at the Parlor.

If you wish to hear the latest song, call at the Fashion, 230 Astor street. Kopp's best always on tap.

Water consumers should remember the penalty of 25 cents which will have to be paid on all water rates delinquent after today.

The bar pilots office was closed yesterday and crepe hung on the door out of respect to the memory of the late Alex Malcolm.

It's a doctor's business to study health. Doctors confidently recommend Harper whisky, sold by Foard & Stokes Co., Astoria, Oregon.

The funeral of the late Alex Malcolm will take place this afternoon at 1:30 from Redmen's hall. The interment will be in Greenwood.

Kelly's transfer wagons deliver box wood to any part of the city on short notice. All orders left at Zapf's furniture store, 630 Commercial street, will receive prompt attention. Telephone 2144.

The board of equalization met yesterday to equalize the assessment for the Astor street improvement. No objections were filed to the original assessment, which will be submitted to the council at its next meeting.

In the finals at the A. F. C. last night Charles Castner won one of the buttons, with a score of 179, thus making it necessary for W. A. Stine, with seven handicap, and M. F. Hardesty, scratch, to bowl off their tie game for the fourth button.

Fredericksburg Music Hall, corner of Seventh and Alder streets, Portland, Or. High class entertainments every evening. The only family resort in that city. All kinds of refreshments. All delicacies in season. Admission free. Louis Dammasch, proprietor.

Wanted—Man with little money in every county in Oregon and Washington, to sell the "Best" Incandescent Lamps; makes own gas; 100 candle. Cheapest light known. The "Best" Incandescent Lamp Co., 188 Third street, Portland, Or. Huggins & Squier, Managers.

Reports from the lower Willamette valley are to the effect that the loss to that section and the whole state of Oregon on account of the backwardness of the spring will be enormous. It is estimated that not more than one-half the usual acreage has been seeded this year, and the shortage in crops will be the most serious known for many years.

A truck loaded with lumber belonging to the Clastop Mill Company broke down yesterday at the corner of Bond and Eleventh. In turning the corner the wheel got against the side of the street car track, breaking the spokes at the hub. The lumber was for the British ship Wallacetown and was loaded on another truck and taken to the Kinney dock, where the vessel lies.

Much interest is being taken by music lovers in the concerts given nightly by the Ammo sisters ladies' orchestra at the Louvre. A very attractive program is presented this week and is rendered in a manner that cannot be excelled, and should be heard to be appreciated. The concerts are pronounced to be the best ever given in this city. Astorians should not fail to visit this popular resort where a most enjoyable evening can be spent.

A good deal of work is being done on the bicycle path around Smith's Point, and before the summer is far advanced it will be one of the best paths to be found anywhere. A portion of it is planked to a distance well around the point, after which brick dust is used on the remaining portion. The brick dust makes an excellent surface, being the best of any that could be made after its use for a short time.

The mustering out of the engineer corps recently arrived at San Francisco from Honolulu was commenced yesterday. Richard Carruthers, of this city, is a member of the corps. As soon as he is free he will visit friends in the Bay City for a few days, after which he will return to Astoria. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carruthers, his parents, were anxious that he should arrive yesterday, the day being his birthday, but the work of mustering out was delayed longer than was anticipated when the corps arrived from Honolulu.

The society of the M. E. church at Seaside is reported to be developing rapidly into a large congregation. A number of liberal subscriptions have been made toward a church building, the plans for which have already been drawn, and its construction will be commenced very shortly. The Epworth League branch of the church has had a healthy growth, and the young ladies and gentlemen composing it will give an entertainment, to attend which a general invitation is extended, on Friday evening of this week. It is a source of much congratulation at Seaside that the recent work commenced there by the M. E. and other churches has been so abundantly crowned with success.

The I. R. & N. Company's new steamer Nahcotta is waiting at Portland, the Telegram says, for some new engines which are now being built in New York, and will be installed in her as soon they arrive. The engines will be of the Wells balance-valve description, and will take the place of compound engines put in at first, which were found to be inadequate. The boiler is already provided with a condenser, and when the new engines are installed it is expected that the boat will make sufficient time to answer all requirements.

C. J. Smith, of this county, who recently pleaded guilty in the federal court at Portland to the offense of mailing an obscene letter, was yesterday given his liberty under a suspension of sentence by Judge Bellinger. Smith's excuse for mailing the letter was his ignorance that it was any crime. His actions have been such since he was taken to Portland as to raise a doubt as to his sanity, and there was some talk of a legal inquiry into his mental condition. On his appearance for sentence yesterday, however, he was permitted to go without any further detention.

A serious and probably fatal accident occurred at the Clatsop mill yesterday which will probably result in the death of a young lad named Otto Oen. Oen was engaged in branding the lumber being shipped on the British ship Wallacetown and was accompanying a heavy truck load of lumber from the schute to the yard. The wheel of the truck broke through a plank and the lumber tumbled off, falling on Oen and breaking his back. He was removed to his home as quickly as possible and a physician summoned. An examination showed that the spine was fractured, but the displacement is not great and there is a chance for his recovery. Oen, who is only 11 years of age, was later removed to St. Mary's hospital, where he now lies.

For the purpose of making the school work in the state more uniform, Professor J. H. Ackerman, state superintendent of public instruction, is preparing a course of study that must be adopted in all the schools of the state. Power to make such regulations is conferred upon the state board of education by the legislature, and upon Professor Ackerman, as head of the schools, devolves this work. While the laws have always prescribed the text-books that shall be used in the schools there has been nothing done in the past to require uniformity in the courses of study. Only city schools have had the benefit of systematic work in this direction, and this by reason of the fact that special powers have been conferred upon city boards of education. Professor Ackerman hopes to complete his system in time for the opening of the fall term of school.

The hearing of the habeas corpus proceedings for the release of the sailors of the British ship Howard D. Troop was resumed before County Judge Gray at 1:30 yesterday afternoon at the court house. Counsel for both sides were not prepared to proceed with the case and asked for a further adjournment. Judge Gray accordingly adjourned court until 2 o'clock. At 2 o'clock the hearing was again postponed until 10 o'clock this morning. An effort is being made to settle the disputes between Captain Corning and the sailors' boarding house people, and it was said yesterday that an agreement would be reached today. What the nature of the settlement is, or whether the men will be put on board without further controversy cannot be learned. It is believed, though, that a peaceful settlement will be made. Captain Corning ordered his stores on board yesterday, which would indicate that an agreement of some sort is in sight.

Another letter has been received by the Astorian from Mr. Bradbury, of Seaside, relating to the death of the Heikman surveying party. Mr. Brandbury wishes, for the benefit of those contemplating expenditions of the same sort, to utter a warning as to the necessity for providing such partys with proper food. He does not believe the Heikman party suffered from actual lack of food, but thinks the kind of provisions they carried unsuited to the hardships and exposures of their situation. Mr. Bradbury states that Mr. Volmer, at whose house the men last stopped, informed him that they had not more than two days' supply of coffee, a very essential article of food to have on a trip of that kind. At various points where the party stopped to eat, as shown by the tracing of their route, they made no coffee, but ate raw onions and sausage plentifully. This diet, Mr. Bradbury says, with copious drinks of cold water, would break down the strongest man within a few days on a campaign of that kind. In the case of Doty, it was shown by the abandoned provisions and the distance afterwards traveled, that the unfortusate man must have gone at least 24 hours without food of any kind. Mr. Bradbury thinks that bacon and flour, out of which pancakes could be made, with plenty of coffee to drink, would keep a company of men indefinitely in the best of health. He says he has been out with parties several months at a time without food of the kind described without the slightest sign of dysentery or complainty of any sort on the part of any of the men. It would be a great misfortune, in Mr. Bradbury's opinion, if, in addition to the unhappy fate of Heikman and his associates, the important lesson taught by the true cause of their death were lost sight of in the abstruse theories of technical medical men.

AN OPEN LETTER.

To Mr. A. B. Hammond, President of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Co., Astoria, Ore.

Sir: I am a resident of Vernonia and a farmer and civil engineer by profession. Twenty years ago I traversed the survey of the Oregon Central Railroad through its magnificent land grant from Corvallis to Astoria, and have ever since held the opinion that no new portion of our coast possessed more valuable resources than are found lying as yet undeveloped between Astoria and Forest Grove. As you perhaps know, the largest part of that territory lines in the large basin or valley drained by the Nehalem river and its tributaries.

This basin is cut off from the Columbia river on the east, and from the ocean on the west, by mountain ranges only traversed by steep and rough wagon roads. Through the coast range on the west the Nehalem river passes through a gap of considerable width, and empties into the ocean about 30 miles south of Astoria, and 10 miles north of Tillamook bay.

Among the productions of this region first available for commerce is its forests of timber and beds of coal. The extent and value of the timbering industry which will soon be established there will only be limited by the transportation facilities created to carry it to distant markets.

The numerous branches of the river make an aggregate of perhaps 200 miles of waterway, down which timber and logs can be floated to the mills near the coast. Such mills, competent men say, would enable them to obtain an abundant supply of logs FOR LESS THAN ONE HALF THE COST OF LOGS ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER. From these mills to docks and lumber yards at Tillamook bay and at Astoria the sawed lumber can be moved with but very little handling until sent by rail and by ships to the markets of the world.

As I showed in an article not long since, published in the Astorian, there is no pass out of the Nehalem basin except down the river towards the ocean; and by prompt effort the largest part if not every ton of the products of this region, and of its future trade, can be drawn to the docks and storage yards of Astoria.

At the western edge of this valley, and ten miles south of the mouth of the river, is situate Tillamook harbor, in which large ships enter in safety at all times, and the work is progressing to carry the deep channel farther inland at government expense. A track of twelve miles of light grading from near the mouth of the Nehalem river to Tillamook will GIVE NEHALEM MILLMEN A ROAD OF THEIR OWN TO THEIR SHIPS AT THAT SEAPORT.

The live men of Tillamook are wide awake to this opportunity, and they stand a good chance to capture from the very gates of Astoria resources which will surely crowd their beautiful Tillamook bay at some future day with shipping from every quarter of the globe.

From my correspondence I conclude that investors prefer availing themselves of a direct outlet to Astoria for many obvious reasons, and I am persuaded that if it is assured that your road at Astoria or Clatsop Beach will be soon extended as far as to the Nehalem river, it will stimulate lumbermen to immediate operations which they are now postponing. And for the same reason the citizens of that country would naturally draw all their supplies from the same center of trade at which their productions are marketed and distributed.

Certainly your railroad and the city at the mouth of the Columbia is preeminently fitted to "fill the bill" and reap this rich harvest, if you will only take advantage of the opportunity.

Very respectfully,

JOHN CAMPBELL.

Vernonia, Columbia County, Ore., April 28, 1899.

THE ILWACO GAME.

Herman Wise and his bowling aggregation came home victorious and well pleased with the splendid treatment accorded them by the Ilwaco Club. As Herman Wise expressed it, "we may be able to beat them bowling, but we can never beat them in hospitality and good fellowship."

The Astorians started out with a rush, winning the first game by 45 pins, making an average of over 40, but after that all hands took it easy, as there seemed to be no necessity for exertion. The A. F. C. boys won all four games by the liberal margin of 91 pins. After the bowling contest it was the Ilwaco's turn to win, and they did win the hearts of their visitors by treating them to a royal dinner, with all accessories, to which the A. F. C.'s did ample justice.

A few days ago Postmaster Howerton, of Ilwaco, one of the leaders in the Ilwaco Club, wrote to Captain Wise, of the A. F. C. team, for instructions as to the best method of preparing the alleys, as they were exceedingly dry on the prvious visit. Mr. Wise advised him to scrape the alleys and then to oil them thoroughly and evenly two or three times during the week, then he added, wipe the balls with gasoline. What was Mr. Wise's surprise to find the alleys rubbed off with gasoline and the balls scraped and oiled, just the reverse. The boys didn't do a thing to the Ilwaco postmaster and it isn't safe to josh him about the matter, as he takes his mistake much to heart. The A. F. C. is under obligations to the Ilwacoites, especially to Messrs. Gosnell, Howerton, Burch, Williams and last, but not least, to whole-souled Jack Wilson, who is as white as they make them.

Mrs. Hayden and Chief Steward Howerton set a splendid meal for the boys and crow wasn't one of the dishes, either, nor were there goose eggs served; nothing but the best, and plenty of it.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Hinman Tract Land Company to Sarah A. Fastabend, lots 13 and 14, block 4, Hinman tract $920

United States, receiver, to William Greenlund, east half of southwest quarter, section 8, and east half of northwest quarter, section 17, township 4 north, range 9 west 412

H. A. Smith to David Wherry, jr., southwest quarter, section 25, and east half of southeast quarter, section 26, township 8 north, range 7 west, 240 acres 840

PERSONAL MENTION.

A. Sorenson, a logger of Gray's river, was in the city yesterday.

T. G. Hathaway, the Missoula lumberman, is in the city, registered at the Occident.

Robert Wherry, the well known Nehalem farmer, is in town to remain a few days.

Chester V. Dolph, the Portland attorney, was in the city yesterday, en route to Ilwaco.

E. C. Holden, who has been confined to his home the past two weeks with an attack of gout, is now much improved.

James P. Clancy, who has been a resident of Astoria for the past five years, will leave on the train this morning for Vancouver, where he will in future reside.

Mathias Jensen, the well known inventor, left on the train last night for his old home in Hjerring, Denmark. Mr. Jensen is not certain whether he will again return to Astoria or not.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

OCCIDENT.

Dr. Hill Hastings, United States marine hospital service.
M. P. Callender, Knappton.
Chester V. Dolph, Portland.
E. M. Rosenthal, Portland.
F. M. Kercher, Portland.
L. B. Gorham, Portland.
N. Poston, Portland.
J. G. Kelley, Portland.
W. G. Pfiidner, Portland.
A. A. Cook, Portland.
George N. Armsby, San Francisco.
William M. Malcolm, Seattle.
Ben Alexander, Chicago.
S. Enos, Chicago.
T. G. Hathaway, Missoula.
A. Sorenson, Gray's river.
A. F. Meyers, Clatskanie.

PARKER HOUSE.

J. Wherry, Nehalem.
A. D. Hopkins, Morgantown, W. Va.
A. Hehning, Portland.
R. S. Roberts, Portland.
H. Zeigler, Eugene.
George H. Stillwell, Tillamook rock.
R. J. Morrison, Warrenton.
G. P. Brower, Chadwell.
Thomas Stanfield, Lightship 67.
E. Hoover, Quincy.

WHO IS TO BLAME

News from Madrid says that General Martinez Campos has insisted upon the appointment of a commission to investigate the conduct of the war and to place the responsibility. Carelessness and neglect all through the war gave rise to the most disastrous conditions, but no more dangerous than come from neglect of the health. It is every one's duty to guard his health. It is easier to keep it than regain it. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters taken honestly will not only create health, but will preserve it. It is the medicine which for 50 years has made weak stomachs strong, and has overcome that terrible dragon, dyspepsia, and all the evils such as constipation, biliousness, kidneys and liver troubles, malaria and fever and ague, which follow in its train.

The woman who giggles when she enters a business office has no idea of ever being engaged to do any work there. If she has she will soon discover that no one else has.

WHEN NATURE

Needs assistance it may be best to render it promptly, but one should remember to use even the most perfect remedies only when needed. The best and most simple and gentle remedy is the Syrup of Figs, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company.

A man will do a lot of talking in favor of the down-trodden sex, and then be sulky for ten days if his first baby happens to be a girl.

REDMEN, NOTICE.

All members of Concomly tribe No. 7, Improved Order of Redmen, are hereby requested to meet at their wigwam at 12:30 on Wednesday, May 10, to attend the funeral of our late brother, Alex Malcolm. HARRY JONES,

O. ANDERSON, Sachem.

C. of R.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The steamer Electric will leave her dock for Fort Canby Friday, May 12, at 5:30 p. m. for the dance. All persons holding invitations will please take notice. COMMITTEE.

FUNERAL NOTICE.

To the officers and members of Columbia Harbor No 22, A. A. of M. P.: You are requested to meet at Carnahan's hall at 12 m., May 10, 1899, to attend the funeral of our late brother pilot, Alex Malcolm. All masters and pilots are requested to attend.

J. E. CAMPBELL, Captain.

JOHN W. WELCH, C. E.

If the Vanderbilts, Belmonts and Sloanes go on marrying divorcees some one will be apt to get back his original wife, or find that he has married his sister