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GOOD GOODS OUR SPECIALTY

**Local Brevities.**

Walter Berry has been appointed janitor of the court house. His salary will be \$30 monthly and he will act after February 1.

Latest reports from Portland are to the effect that Henry Sherman is getting along nicely and that he is able to sit up. His speedy recovery is regarded as certain.

Yesterday's storm was accompanied by a heavy fall of rain and all day long the streets were deserted. The weather was extremely disagreeable and the effect was plainly noted in the stores of the merchants.

Repairs to the power house of the Astoria Electric Company were not completed last night and only the street lights were burning. Manager Coolidge hopes to have the work finished so as to supply patrons with lights tonight. The absence of lights has worked

Club alleys. The feature of the bowling was the fine score of 199 made by Jack Bay. The last half of the team bowled one game of 174 pins, or an average of 88. It is hoped the entire team will be got together during the week for practice.

The board of directors of the Commercial Club held an extended meeting last night and attended to many matters of importance to the club. It was decided to hang up several medals for a handball tournament and to encourage this feature of the amateur sport in every way.

The electric light at the corner of Commercial and Twelfth streets swayed from its fastenings and fell with a crash to the street. The accident happened at 10:30. The loose wires swayed over the sidewalks, but fortunately no one came along whose curiosity prompted him to test the voltage of the system.

The county court at its session yesterday completed the work of drawing the circuit court jury list. One hundred and thirty-two names were selected yesterday. This morning the court will take up the matter of selecting judges and clerks of election. In all, 154 are to be named. The courts will occupy the time of almost the entire day.

At last night's meeting of the Chamber of Commerce the annual report of President Welch was presented. It deals briefly with many matters and contains reference to the passing of the hostile feeling which formerly existed between the people of Astoria and the people of Portland. The report will appear in full in The Astorian tomorrow.

The Astoria branch of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association has elected the following officers for the year: President, F. H. Newhall; vice-president, E. L. Babbidge; secretary and treasurer, C. T. Smith; trustees, F. S. Munson, George Goodell and E. L. Babbidge; business manager, C. T. Smith. There are 37 members of the local branch, the affairs of which are in a satisfactory condition.

The Columbia theater opened last night with a big attendance. The vaudeville company played to an appreciative audience and the management is to be congratulated upon the good fortune in securing such an aggregation of stars. Today the ticket office will be open at 3 o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of avoiding the rush that would otherwise be bound to take place at the door in the evening.

At yesterday's session of the county court Road Master Frye was instructed to furnish to the road supervisor of district No. 8 10,000 feet of lumber to repair a road on the Walluski, while 10,000 feet of lumber will be furnished to the supervisor of the Olney district for repairs to the road leading from Olney to Youngs river falls. The court yesterday formally entered into agreement with the Budget and Herald for publication of the proceedings.

J. H. Hansen, chairman of the committee on public property of the city council, yesterday received another offer for the present city hall site. The man tendering the proposal offers to make a cash payment of \$500 and yearly payments of \$1200 for a period of 12 years, with interest at the rate of 5 per cent on the deferred payments. While the offer is regarded as a reasonable one, it is highly improbable, according to councilmen, the council will sell on these terms, as a cash payment is required before work can be begun on a new building.

A fire in Chinatown Sunday night caused great excitement among the natives and for a short time promised to do much damage to property. The blaze originated in a defective flue and the sparks set fire to a pile of rubbish in the rear of the store on the south side of Bond street between Eighth and Ninth. There was the usual intense excitement among the Chinese, who gathered their effects together preparatory to flight. The chemical arrived on the scene and extinguished the blaze in short order. This was the third fire to occur in a week within the block.

The steamer Aberdeen, arriving Sunday from San Francisco and way points, had a narrow escape from destruction soon after leaving Coos bay Pasing Heceta Head at night the Aberdeen came upon a vessel lying hove to in the storm, and the coaster's wheel was put over just in time to avoid a collision. When the Aberdeen came about a huge wave struck her stern, and a moment later another sea came over her. Captain Daniels thought the decks would be swept clean, but the steamer came through

in safety. The identity of the vessel lying to off Heceta was not made out.

Pacific Lodge, No. 58, D. of H., had an installation of officers at last night's meeting. Following are the new officers: Past chief of honor, Mrs. Lottie M. Coe; chief of honor, Mrs. Mary Herman; lady of honor, Mrs. Anna F. Reed; chief of ceremonies, Mrs. Mary Speilmire; recorder, Mrs. Emma E. Cyrus; financier, A. R. Cyrus; receiver, Mrs. Elvira Piscioneri; usher, Mrs. Annie Birch; I. W., Miss Dora B. Hansen; O. W., H. N. Nyman. After the installation ceremonies a banquet was served and the large number of members present enjoyed themselves to a reasonably late hour.

One of the most daring and dastardly holdups ever reported as having been perpetrated by Portland thugs is said to have occurred just after dark, Saturday night, when Isaac Smith, collector for a local weekly paper, was held up by two masked and armed men, robbed of every cent he possessed thrown from the deck of the Madison street bridge into the murky waters of the Willamette river, and left alone in a battle for life against the current. After a desperate struggle, during which he sank twice, the victim of the murderous criminals declare he managed to reach the east shore of the stream.

The Columbia River Packers' Association has awarded to Ferguson & Houston the contract for erecting the new building at the old Hanthorn cold-storage plant. The association is to build a sharp freezing addition to the present plant, and the enlarged concern will be the largest on the river with the single exception of the Blue Mountain plant at Portland. The capacity of the fish-freezing plant will be 25 tons daily, and the output of ice will be from six to seven tons. A new engine and a compressor are to be installed and the plant put in first-class shape for the coming season's work.

Representative B. F. Jones, of Lincoln county, while in Albany on his way home from Portland, said that he had evolved a scheme for extracting precious metals from the sands of the sea coast that he thinks will prove successful. It is a system of placer mining. The sands of the coast are rich in platinum and gold, Mr. Jones asserts, and the man who can separate the metal from the sands can make money. Mr. Jones recently sent a quantity of the sand to New York and received pay for it at the rate of \$750 per ounce, which shows that there are riches in the Oregon sea coast. Mr. Jones says he owns a mile and a half of ocean beach near Otter rock, just northwest of Newport.

An election of officers was held last night by the Chamber of Commerce which resulted as follows: President, James W. Welch; vice president, J. W. Suprenant; secretary, C. R. Higgins; treasurer, G. W. Lounsbury. The report of the secretary and treasurer showed that the chamber has now on hand \$110, or thereabouts. A general discussion took place relative to the proposed improvement of the harbor line and the dredging operations at the mouth of the river, and the committee on navigation and commerce was instructed to look up the matter of the harbor line and make a full report at the next meeting of the body. A committee was appointed to draw up resolutions of condolence on the death of C. R. Thomson, a highly esteemed member of the chamber.

News was received in this city yesterday that the sale of the property of the North American Fisheries Company had been deferred until February 6. The company went into the hands of a receiver last year, Thomas Gorman being appointed. The courts recently ordered the property of the concern sold at auction, specifying that the opening bid be not less than \$30,000. According to a telegraphic message received yesterday, there were no bids above this figure, and the sale was postponed. Local parties have been figuring on purchasing this property. The company owned the big cannery at Anacortes, Wash., and a plant at Grays harbor. It also owned several valuable sound fish traps, three of which were bought by it for \$125,000. The company represented an investment of fully \$400,000 and was originally organized by Porter Bros., of Chicago. This latter firm lost some \$800,000 in Chicago and its affairs went into the hands of a receiver.

It is a beautiful thing for a grocer to do, to sell Schilling's Best; for the goods are good and the dealing is high; there's nothing higher in business.

**January Clearance**

AND

**Mark Down Sale**

AND

**These Are Sample Prices**

Regular \$1.25 and \$1.50 Wrappers your choice this week for only **69c**

One lot Children's dresses that sold for 75c, 98c and \$1.25 your choice this week for **48c**

Men's suits that have been selling at \$12.50, \$15 and \$17.50 your choice this week **\$9.85**

Boy's Suits that have been selling, at \$2.50, \$2.75, \$3, and \$3.25, your choice for this week **\$1.95**

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