

BANK'S INTERESTS WITH DEPOSITORS

Must Sign Time Certificates or Merchants Will Go Into Receivership.

WILSON SOUNDS WARNING

Prompt Action Will Save Institution, but Otherwise It Will Be Impossible to Pay Accounts in Full, Says the Examiner.

The appointment of a receiver to liquidate the assets of the Merchants National Bank is probable. Depositors are notified to sign time certificates of deposit, which bear interest, in exchange for their demand balances and unless they show a better spirit in this regard within the next few days, a receiver will be asked for the institution and the assets will be disposed of for what they will bring. It is hoped that such a course will not be necessary but it is practically settled that unless the depositors show a willingness to help the bank pay dollar for dollar, the institution will be forced into a receivership.

Bank Examiner Wilson is confident, however, that if depositors show a disposition to aid in the work of reopening the bank, every cent of the assets will be paid in full. Unless they do, there is little hope, he says, of their realizing anywhere near the face value of their claims. Mr. Wilson said:

"Every true friend of Portland regrets the existence of a condition which now seems to make it probable that a receiver will be appointed for the Merchants National Bank. The bank owes its depositors about \$2,000,000 and, after careful scrutiny, have decided that its assets are sufficient to pay dollar for dollar under normal conditions. By this it is meant that as a going bank the Merchants National is perfectly solvent, but should it be necessary to liquidate its liabilities through a receiver, a different result is almost certain. To avoid the time and trouble the Currency has consented to allow the bank to reopen when it has its required reserve intact and sufficient other funds to meet its demand liabilities. To comply with these requirements it is necessary not only to collect large amounts owing to the bank, but to reduce the demand claims against it by having its depositors agree to extend the time of payment beyond the proposed reopening. Many have agreed to do this, but many others are holding off, either for a higher rate of interest than the bank is offering, or with the intention of demanding the whole of their money immediately when its doors are opened.

"This unpatriotic course will compel the appointment of a receiver and it is a well known fact that the assets of a failed bank depreciate fully 50 per cent when it becomes necessary to dispose of them by a receiver. Comparatively few banks have ever paid their depositors in full under such circumstances, and it is a matter of record that the average life of a failed National bank is about five years.

"If the depositors of the Merchants National could but understand this, they surely would not delay signing the agreements sent out by its officers. A receivership for the Merchants is inevitable unless this is done, and with it will come suits and foreclosures for the collection of claims held by the bank, and the moralization of business in general. The depositors have been given their chance to prevent this. If a receiver is appointed they will have only themselves to blame."

Stockholders of the bank met last night at 7:30 o'clock for the annual meeting.

William Reardon, a wealthy manufacturer of Millard, Mich., a stockholder in the Merchants National, attended and made a short talk, heartily approving the fight made by the bank against such overwhelming odds, and said that the plans for reorganization are being carried out to succeed, provided the debtors of the bank will be prompt in settling their obligations and the creditors will act in reason for the exchange of demand deposits for time certificates. The talk was interesting, as it showed the views of an outside stockholder on the management of the bank, and instead of there being any censure for the officers, Mr. Reardon praised them for withstanding the run on the institution as long as they did. The meeting was adjourned to meet one week from last night, as Attorney Muir, who acts for the bank, was absent from the city and it was desired that he frame resolutions to be adopted by the stockholders. He was called away from the city and had not prepared the resolutions before leaving town. Other matters that would properly come up at a meeting of stockholders will be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the present reorganization movement.

BANKS HOLD ELECTIONS

All Officers and Directors of Three Institutions Retained.

Portland National banks held their annual elections yesterday, the entire official list being re-elected for the coming year. The First National Bank held its annual meeting at 11 o'clock in the offices of President Mills in the rear of the banking rooms. All old officers and directors were continued for another year, as follows: President, A. L. Mills; cashier, J. W. Newkirk. These men, with James F. Fallig, Henry Connor, Jacob Kann and H. L. Corbett, form the directory.

Officers and directors were re-elected also at the United States National. The official list is: President, J. C. Ainsworth; vice-president, R. Lea Barnes; cashier, R. W. Schmoer; assistant cashiers, A. M. Wright and W. A. Holt. Directors are J. C. Ainsworth, J. W. Hellman, Percy T. Morgan, George E. Chamberlain, Rufus Maloney, D. W. Walker, R. L. Macleay and R. Lea Barnes.

At both meetings, it was the generally expressed opinion that in future the banks will carry increased cash reserves, the recent financial flurry having shown the wisdom of having large amounts of cash on hand or immediately available. The Government requirement of 25 per cent of all deposits is thought to be too small should unexpected conditions arise, and reserves of 35 and 40 per cent will be the rule hereafter.

The stockholders of the Bank of Sellwood held their first annual meeting Monday night in their new bank building, corner East Thirteenth and Umotinon avenue, in Sellwood. The business of the bank was shown to be in the shape, and the following directors were elected: J. M. Nickum, A. P. Morse, Peter Hume, Theodore Wolf, J. W. Campbell, D. M. Donough, A. C. Mowrey and Joseph Hume. The board then re-elected the old officers for

BILL TO GUARD BULL RUN

Water Board Will Protect Reserve From Encroachment.

At a secret session yesterday morning the Water Board discussed matters of great importance concerning riparian rights on Bull Run River, which will be held within one week, and, although the members refuse to make any statement, it is known that much importance attaches to these conferences. Mayor Lane admits that water rights were under discussion, but beyond that declines to talk.

In his annual message to the Council, now on file at the City Hall, Mayor Lane stated that he had filed on all of the rights of the Bull Run River, and it was, therefore, thought that the city was fully protected. However, in view of the two secret sessions of the Water Board, it is now believed that a bill is being prepared for presentation in Congress, seeking to secure extended Federal protection for the Bull Run Reserve.

Mayor Lane has in mind a plan to build a municipal lighting plant, and it is the intention to secure operating power from the Bull Run River, so that it is very desirable to keep all



HOMER DAVENPORT, AMERICA'S MOST EMINENT CARTOONIST, WHO LECTURES AT THE WHITE TEMPLE TONIGHT.

PORTLAND THEATERS SAFE

Panic Only Danger in Emergency, Says Spencer.

Portland theaters are safe in every respect, according to City Building Inspector Spencer, and no danger exists, so far as wise precautions and provisions for the people themselves, he says, as to whether there shall ever be a catastrophe, such as occurred Monday night at Boyertown, Pa.

"You can have a panic on a street, on a vacant lot or any place and kill a lot of people," said Mr. Spencer. "It is the panic, not the fire or the collapse of a building, in most instances, that causes the loss of life. Nothing can prevent these panics—no amount of precaution can guarantee against them. It is simply for the people themselves to learn to keep cool and not to stampede under danger comes."

"In Portland, we are strictly enforcing the building ordinances. We have paid much attention to theaters and public meeting-places since the disaster in the Iroquois Theater, at Chicago, and it can be said that insofar as ordinances and precautionary measures go, this city is fully protected. We have secured asbestos curtains at all playhouses and there is an average of one exit for every 25 people in all of the local theaters. This is sufficient to give every one opportunity, in case of any emergency, to escape unharmed, if the people would but keep calm; if they do not, then it depends upon just how they conduct themselves as to the fatalities. Every public meeting-house in this city is as safe, as it can be made by law."

PIANO PRICES

Go Gambling—All New Pianos—One for \$190, Two More for \$210 and \$225.

My ads to sell pianos without reserve brought results yesterday. One party in particular, who made the rounds of the retail stores and had also investigated the special sale work of the men on Front street, found that I could sell him a piano for less money than any of them. I know I can. I can do this.

For today, I have marked three pianos that are even below cost. I want to turn these into cash before the store closes tonight. One may be had for \$190, another one for \$210, and the third one for \$225. I want the cash before night.

Don't make any mistake in the place. There is only one factory piano house in the Northwest, and that is Reed-French's Sixth and Burnside. Bert Reed, secretary.

If Baby Is Cutting Teeth
Be sure and use that local-acted remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children's teething. It soothes the pain, softens the gums, always pain, colic and diarrhoea.

PHOTO CALENDARS HALF PRICE.
10c up. Kiser, 215 Alder st.

RUN CARS IN CITY

United Railways Will Get Revocable Permit.

FAVORED BY COMMITTEE

Proposed Substitute Franchise Is Amended to Require Completion of Line to Hillsboro by January 1, 1910.

Questions asked and replies made during the special session of the streets committee of the Council, at the City Hall, yesterday afternoon, indicate that the United Railways Company will be given a revocable permit to operate its cars within the city limits before its lines are completed to Mount Calvary Cemetery and Hillsboro. There is a clause in

the franchise, as now drawn, prohibiting this, but there is a sentiment among members of the Council that if the officials of the road show good faith, it would be only fair to allow them to operate city cars before the time specified for the completion of the entire interurban line.

As revised by the streets committee at yesterday's session, the franchise asked for by the United Railways calls for complete lines in operation to Hillsboro by January 1, 1910, and to Mount Calvary Cemetery by July 1, 1910. H. Wittenberg, one of the chief promoters of the system, expressed himself as satisfied with this time limit, and said the company will do its best to have the lines to both places in operation even sooner than required.

There was a discussion between Councilmen Wallace and Driscoll, on one side, and Vaughn, Kollaber, Rushlight, Cottel and Conannon, on the other, as to the time in which the Council should compel the company to complete its lines. It was contended by Councilmen Wallace and Driscoll that the road could and should be completed to Hillsboro before January 1, 1910, but they were outnumbered on the final vote.

Speaking for the company, Mr. Wittenberg made an earnest speech, in which he asked the committee to recommend that the Council allow the company to operate cars within the city limits before the interurban roads to Hillsboro and Mount Calvary are completed. He argued that it is not just and right to the company and to the city, and to the people along the lines, for service to be maintained on all of the completed track.

"It is but fair that we be given the privilege of operating cars over that portion of our road that is ready for it," declared Mr. Wittenberg. "In view of the fact that the franchise calls for forfeiture of the franchise, tracks, rolling stock and everything the company possesses should we fail to complete our lines in view of the time, what harm can there be in allowing us to run cars as far as we can and as soon as we get the track in shape?"

In view of the forfeiture clause in the franchise, carrying everything owned by the company with it, in case of failure fully to carry out the conditions, it is hardly expected the Council will demand a bond. Such is the sentiment of the committee. The franchise will be discussed further at the regular meeting of the streets committee, next Friday afternoon.

During yesterday's session, Councilman Rushlight asked City Attorney Kavanaugh if it would be legal to grant a revocable permit to operate cars within the city limits, and at the same time continue the clause in the original franchise, which requires the completion of both lines before operation of cars is to be allowed. Mr. Kavanaugh said this could be done.

CRITICISES JUDGE HANNA

Portland Press Club Takes Side of Medford Editor.

At a well-attended meeting of the Portland Press Club, held in the rooms of the Board of Trade last night, George H. Hutchins, W. H. Galvani and Frank Lee were elected as delegates to the State Press Association to be held in this city next Friday and Saturday.

Much other business was transacted. Among other things, the club passed resolutions in condemnation of Judge Hanna's recent decision in the Putman criminal case.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Julius Pincus, a Salem hospitalier, is at the Belvedere.

J. A. Pattison, a druggist at Heppner, is registered at the Imperial.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker, of La Grande, are registered at the Oregon.

S. M. Moran, a banker at Eugene, was registered at the Imperial yesterday.

Charles T. Early, a prominent fruit-grower from Hood River, is at the Imperial.

John Minto, one of the state's earliest pioneers, is at the Imperial from Salem.

A. J. Lake, County Judge of Wasco County, is registered at the Imperial from The Dalles.

A. M. La Follette, a prominent Marion County farmer, is registered at the Imperial from Pendleton.

Dan P. Campbell, Jr., left Sunday night for Southern California and Mexico, to be gone for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Cohen are registered at the Portland from Pendleton, where Mr. Cohen is a prominent merchant.

L. T. Reynolds, of Salem, is attending the annual meeting of the State Horticultural Society. He is registered at the Imperial.

Colonel H. Haynes, of Forest Grove, is registered at the Perkins. He is attending the annual meeting of the State Horticultural Society.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Taylor, of Pendleton, are registered at the Portland. Mr. Taylor is a former State Senator from Umatilla, and served one term as President of the Oregon Senate.

C. W. Scriber, a banker of La Grande, was registered at the Imperial yesterday, being on his way to Salem, where he was called by the death of his mother, Mrs. C. W. Scriber.

Dr. W. B. Morse, of Salem, is in Portland in attendance at the Portland Land Office, defending a contest that has been brought against both his home district in the Siletz district.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—(Special.)—Northwestern people registered at New York hotels today are as follows: From Portland—T. S. Brooke, at the Oregonian.

From Seattle—M. McLaughlin, at the Imperial; C. A. Martin, at the Breslin.

From Spokane—C. A. Grimborn, at the Breslin; C. Z. Hubbell, at the Churchill.

SEWED SOLES, 75 CENTS

Best oak leather. Jacob Schwind, 267 Stark, near Park. Phone Main 7322.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take EXATYVE BROMO QUINID Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

Custom-made shoes at factory cost at Rosenthal's house-cleaning sale.

GREATEST SALE OF WOMEN'S SUITS

OPERA, LOOSE, SEMI OR TIGHT-FITTING COATS ALSO RAINCOATS AND CARACUL COATS

Your unrestricted choice of any in the store, values up to \$85.00, for **\$25**

Clothes of Finest Broadcloths, Kersey, Serges and Panamas. Workmanship guaranteed. Colors—plain, blues, browns, reds, greens and a few mixtures in the latest shades

MATTHEV GEVURTZ

SUCCESSOR TO GEVURTZ & WORRELL

The New Store With Little Prices 141 SIXTH ST. Corner Alder Opposite Oregonian

A TALK ON THE J. M. ACHESON CO'S. CLEARANCE SALE

During the past days of our clearance sale we have been encouraged to continue our unprecedented offer of our entire stock at such a reduction of prices as to cause our patrons, both old and new, to express their thanks for such remarkable values, and many wonder how it may be done. This is an easy problem when such large assortments are purchased as to exhaust the output of Eastern houses on certain lines, thus making our house an exclusive house on the Coast for garments of quality and style. This also makes the J. M. Acheson Company's patronage sought for by great exclusive bargains being offered. Then, too, the fitting and work are above criticism. The garments to be offered today—Wednesday and tomorrow—Thursday—are such as will at once appeal to those who are looking for values in quality and style. Note following garments and prices.

SPECIALS:

LADIES' COATS	Semi-fitting diagonal serges, browns only; regular price \$32.50, clearance sale price	\$17.50
LADIES' COATS	An assortment in loose, semi-fitted and fitted, \$30.00; clearance sale price	\$6.35
BLACK KERSEY COATS	Sizes 42 to 46; regular price \$16.50, clearance sale price	\$5.75
CRUSHED VELVET JACKETS	Regular price \$20.00; clearance sale price	\$7.50
CHILDREN'S ASTRAKAN COATS	regular price \$7.50,	\$2.00
for Gloves, Waists, Belts, Collars, Handkerchiefs and Muslim Underwear, all at clearance sale prices. Excellent values.		
LADIES' BLACK SUITS	Sizes 36 to 42. Regular prices from \$45 to \$60; clearance sale price	\$37.50

J. M. ACHESON CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FIFTH AND ALDER STREETS

ROSENTHAL'S Extraordinary Values

At our great House-Cleaning Sale. Shoes for the whole family at prices never before approached in this city. Bring your children—we have on sale of 2000 pairs of the celebrated Brennan & White's Steel-Shod Anvil Brand School and Dress Shoes at \$1.60 and \$1.75 a pair.

OTHER VALUES IN PROPORTION

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Portland's Best Shoe Store

Seventh and Washington Streets