CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

Amusements Tonight.

MARQUAM GRAND—Mme. Scalchi.
CORDRAY'S THEATER (Washington street)—Tonight, "In Paradise."
METROPOLITAN THEATER—"All Mixed."

FISHERMEN'S LUCK.—A Skamokawa man, who was in the city a day or two ago, tells a hard-luck story about a dozen Portland fishermen who went down there on Sunday, the 4th, to fish for trout. They scattered out up various favorite streams, but found them all rather high and very much discolored from backwater from the Columbia. About the time they began to fish it began to rain hard, and every man Jack of them got thoroughly soaked. John Williams caught 15 trout and the others caught nary a one. An enthusiastic fisherman, who is a doctor, but not a physician, during the week, went up Crooked Creek with a friend in a boat. Failing to catch anything and getting thoroughly drenched, they rowed back several miles in the rain and tried another creek, and only succeeded in getting, if possible, wetter than they were before. It is said that the crowd which took the boat for home at Skamokawa that evening was the most disgusted company of sportsmen seen there for years. No one has yet furnished information as to the cause of the unusually dirty condition of the Columbia for the past week or more. The discoloration was of too dark a color to be called muddy. It must be understood that the reason why Portland fishermen have to go to Washington to try for trout is that the law does not permit of trout being caught in Oregon from November to April.

SNEAK THIEF STILL AT WORK.—The residence of Dr. Norris R. Cox, on the northwest corner of Tenth and Washington streets, was entered last night during the absence of the family by a sneak thief, who secured a gold watch and a considerable sum of money for his pains. He first tried to raise one of the windows with an iron bar, but finding this a difficult enterprise, borrowed an ax from the woodshed and dealt the back door a blow that shattered it so that he had no trouble in entering. On returning the family found that he had screened himself from the view of passers-by by pulling down the shades on the street side of the house, an operation which enabled him to pursue his quest unobserved. He was evidently frightened away before he had finished, however, as he left a number of pieces of valuable jewelry. This thief is undoubtedly the same who has looted several houses of late while the families were abroad, as his methods are similar. He is likely to grow rich in the business unless the police happen on to him or some householder mistakes him for a real burglar and uses him as a target for a large caliber six-shooter.

JEWISH FAIR OPENS TONIGHT.—All necessary preparations have been completed for the grand opening of the Jewish Fair this evening. There are a score of booths, which are under the supervision of Mrs. M. Gilbert and Mrs. S. H. Abrams, and contain an immense quantity of beautiful and useful articles of all descriptions. Flowers, candies, cigars and numerous other good things will be lavishly dispensed by dozens of fair young women. The decorations are simply beautiful, and were arranged under the skillful direction of George L. Baker. One of the popular features will be the sideshows, with their freaks, curiosities and wonders, with managers and "spielers." The cigar booth has a smoking-room attachment, which is sure to become popular. Many new, interesting and novel features will be introduced each evening, and pleasant surprises for the visitors will be in store, constantly. The Fair will continue four nights and will conclude Thursday night with a grand masquerade ball. The whole affair will no doubt be a brilliant success, and coming as it does in the dull Lenten season is sure to meet with popular approval.

WORK AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS.—Since last Monday, 14 children have been admitted into the Home of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society and 11 placed. Of those received, one was from Columbia County, being the little 12-year-old child Emma Bittner, spoken of in The Oregonian. She is now placed with a very respectable private family to be cared for. One girl was received from Wasco County, and yesterday Attorney John M. Williams, of Eugene, brought up three girls committed from Lane County—Josephine Hanson, aged 14; Christine Hanson, aged 11, and Laura Hanson, aged 8 years. These children were taken from their father for neglect and abuse. While proceedings were pending, the father was arrested and committed to the Insane Asylum from an adjoining county. The remaining nine children were committed from Multnomah County. There are now 40 children at the Home, besides a 2-months-old boy baby, who is placed out to nurse, so that any person wishing a child, reference being satisfactory, can be accommodated by applying to Superintendent Gardner or calling up telephone, East 5.

WILL PUT WIRES UNDERGROUND.—The erection of a central station building by the Oregon Telephone Company will necessitate a lot of underground work in connection with it, and the company intends to continue the placing of their wires underground as rapidly as practicable. The cost of placing wires underground is considerably more than the usual style of stringing them on poles along the streets, but when once underground a large amount is saved in the cost of maintenance, as wires underground are not so likely to get out of order. Beside, the day is not far off when all wires now strung along the streets must go underground, and companies deem it advisable to take time by the forelock and do this work at their leisure.

THREE RIBS REMOVED.—It is a fortunate thing for a patient at the Good Samaritan Hospital that ribs taken from one's side do not turn to women these days, or he would have three wives on his hands, "and him still an invalid." The young man in question suffered from an abscess of the liver, or something of that sort, which caused a pleural cavity. This cavity would not heal or fill up, and it was decided that the ribs over it kept any pressure from the vicinity of the cavity. It was, therefore, decided to remove three ribs, which was done by the attendant surgeon with neatness and dispatch. The young man's condition is rapidly improving since the operation was performed, and his early recovery is looked for.

MANY VISITED THE PARK.—When the gloomy clouds that hung like a pall over Portland yesterday morning were dispelled by the bright sunshine at noon, dozens and scores of citizens hastened to the City Park. That place had more visitors yesterday afternoon than perhaps in one half-day since the beginning of winter. Besides the moving throng of gay visitors, many signs of approaching spring were in evidence at the city's pleasure grounds. The new color taken on by the verdure, the balmy air and the festive capers of the imprisoned animals, united in proclaiming that spring "has arrove."

FIRE IN PACKING-HOUSE.—Fire broke out in the smokehouse of the Union Meat Company's building, at Fourth and Glisan streets, yesterday morning, at 7:10, and an alarm was turned in from box 62. The flames were extinguished by the department after some $500 damage had been done to the building and contents by fire and smoke.

MUSHROOM CLUB WILL MEET.—The regular monthly meeting of the Portland Mushroom Club will be held this evening at room 516, Chamber of Commerce. A full attendance of the members is desired.

ALASKA GOLD FIELDS.—Joaquin Miller will give an instructive lecture on his Alaska trip tonight, at the First Baptist Church. Admission, 25 cents. *

JOAQUIN MILLER.—"Our Arctic Empire" and "Lessons Not Found in Books," is his subject tonight, at the First Baptist Church. Admission, 25 cents. *

JOAQUIN MILLER.—Hear his description of Alaska tonight, at the First Baptist Church. *

FINEST TURKISH BATHS in the Northwest, third floor Oregonian Building. *

FIRST-CLASS noon lunch at Morris', 15c.*

VOTE FOR Finley for School Director. *

IS A CANDIDATE FOR AUDITOR.—In the list of candidates for county and city offices published by The Oregonian yesterday, one often spoken of was omitted through mistake. This is the name of General William Kapus, for the office of City Auditor. General Kapus' friends have announced that he would be willing to accept nomination for this position, and accordingly his name is frequently mentioned as one of the possibles. General Kapus is now a deputy in the office of City Engineer Chase, where he has served to the eminent satisfaction of his chief and the public with whom his duties have brought him in contact. He is a man whose long party service and wide acquaintance will undoubtedly make him a formidable candidate.

SURVEYING THE RIVER.—The work of making a survey of the rivers from Portland to the sea is progressing favorably, notwithstanding that there have been many days during the past two or three months when it was impossible to carry on such work. The party working from Portland down has reached Kalama, and the party working up has reached Cathlamet, 30 miles below Kalama. Between these two points, 12 miles has been surveyed, so that there remains only 18 miles for the two parties to cover. It is quite probable that the chart of the whole river from Portland to the sea will be done by July 1.

VOTE FOR Finley for School Director. *

SCALCHI TONIGHT.

Great Singer Will Give a Recital at the Marquam.

Judging from the advance sale of seats, Mme. Sofia Scalchi and her associates will be received by a large and fashionable audience at the Marquam Grand tonight.

Mme. Scalchi has been repeatedly acknowledged the Queen of Contraltos—she has held the scepter of power ever since she first appeared before the footlights, in 1866. Not one has aspired to her lofty position in the musical world; her claims are undisputed. She sang for years with Patti, who, in fact, would not sing unless Scalchi was in the cast. She has conquered the world, and is in reality the most brilliant star in the firmament.

She has an extensive repertoire of more than 50 grand operas, and has appeared as contralto with every prima donna of note. Her success as Arsace in "Semiramide" was most phenomenal. Her Azucena in "Il Trovatore" is known the world over. The "Lost Chord," by Sullivan, was made world-renowned by her, and she added much to her laurels by her charming rendition of the beautiful and melodious song. The following artists accompany Mme. Scalchi this season:

Mme. Bernice De Pasquali, prima donna soprano; Sig. M. De Pasquali, tenor; Sig. A. Franceschetti, baritone; Chev. Lo Verde, pianist.

The programme for tonight will be as follows:

PART I.

(a) Berceuse.....Grieg
(b) "Polka de la Reine, Caprice Brilliant".....Raff
Chev. Lo Verde.
"Dio Possente" ("Faust").....Gounod
Signor Franceschetti.
Polonaise ("Mignon").....Thoma
Mme. de Pasquali.
Aria ("Lombardi").....Verdi
Signor de Pasquali.
"Che Faro Senza Euridice" ("Orpheus").....Gluck
Mme. Scalchi.
Quartet ("Rigoletto").....Verdi
Mme. Scalchi, Mme. de Pasquali, Sig. de Pasquali, Sig. Franceschetti.
"Reverie".....Lo Verde
Chev. Lo Verde.

Intermission 15 minutes.

PART II.

The fourth act of Verdi's grand opera, "Il Trovatore," with full scenery, costumes, paraphernalia, etc., and the following cast:

Leonora.....Mme. de Pasquali
Manrico.....Signor de Pasquali
Count di Luna.....Signor Franceschetti
Azucena.....Mme. Scalchi

Scene I—Dungeon Tower, exterior.
Scene II—Dungeon, interior.

"A Contented Woman."

"A Contented Woman" will be the attraction at the Marquam Grand Friday and Saturday nights of this week, with a special matinee Saturday. The play is from the pen of Charles Hoyt, and the production here will be identical with that given at Hoyt's Theater in every respect. Every piece of scenery, which the New York critics declared to be the best ever seen in farce-comedy, will be used during the engagement here, as well as all the original mountings and accessories. The company comprises 30 talented people, and is heralded as the strongest and most versatile ever seen in a Hoyt comedy. It is headed by Miss Belle Archer, who has played the leading role for the past two seasons, and is noted for her wondrous beauty, which has been the subject of both song and story. She will be supported by such artists as Arthur F. Buchanan, Augusta De Forest, Henrietta Lee, Bonnie Lottie, Belle Chippendale, John L. Kearney, C. P. Morrison, Will Granger and others. The piece is brim full of bright dialogue, funny scenes, catchy music, novel specialties, dainty dances, and the prettiest lot of girls ever assembled upon one stage.

SPRING FLOWERS.

A Number of Varieties Are Already Blooming.

To show that spring is unusually early this year, Martin W. Gorman, the well-known botanist, furnishes the following list of plants and shrubs which were in bloom in this section when the little cold snap arrived February 14: Red flowering currant, wake robin, lamb's tongue, bird's bill, hazel, willows (four or five varieties).

There was also a pretty little flower blooming in our woods which has no common name, but the scientific name of which is Wulferia rotundifolia. One introduced plant, the chickweed, was also in bloom.

The cold snap February 14 and two or three succeeding days gave the flowers a temporary setback, but they are coming out again in increased numbers, and yesterday the following species of plants and shrubs were in bloom in this city and vicinity:

Wulferia rotundifolia, red flowering currant, wake robin, lamb's tongue, yellow violet, Western skunk cabbage, bird's bill, hazel, red alder, willows (several species) and chickweed and dandelion, both introduced plants. Among fruit trees, peaches and apricots are already in bloom, and a great many of the cherry trees have bloomed within the last three days; in fact, vegetation has made greater progress in the last three days than in the previous two weeks.

FAIR.

Congregation Ahavai Sholom — Tonight's Programme (Opening Night) at 7 P. M.

1. March.
2. Address by Mayor W. A. Storey.
3. Address by D. Solis Cohen.
4. "Star-Spangled Banner."
5. Overture.
6. Recitation by Miss Ida Jennings.
7. Waltz (for dancing).
8. Medley (Boetger).
9. Caprice, "Bohemia" (Czibulka).
10. Mazourka (Strauss).
11. Vocal solo by Miss Sadie Asher.
12. Deux Temps (for dancing).
13. "Mariana" Chilean dance (Missud).
14. Waltz (Waldteufel).
15. March, "Carnival of the Golden Gate."
16. Deux Temps (for dancing).
17. Medley (Mackay).
18. Waltz (Morse).
19. Rag Time (Stone).
20. Waltz quadrille (Bailey) for dancing

WHERE TO DINE.

For substantial meals or lunches, everything clean and nice, try the Portland restaurant, 305 Washington st., near 5th.

"Little strokes fell great oaks." You may escape winter colds by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

POLITICS ON EAST SIDE

MULTNOMAH REPUBLICAN CLUB OPENS NEW QUARTERS.

Great Accumulation of Slab Wood —Condition of Miss Julia Stroeder.

The Multnomah Republican Club opened its handsome new quarters in the Holman building, corner East Washington street and Grand avenue, Saturday night. When President Rowe called the gathering to order, he was greeted by a large audience of leading Republicans from all over the city. The hall had been furnished comfortably, a fine piano having been placed on the platform, and the hall was lighted with an electric light. It was also the first regular meeting since the consolidation of the two clubs, and was largely along social lines. Music was furnished by the Albee brothers and Ralph W. Hoyt. Judge Hennessy was present, and sang several times. S. C. Beach gave a short address, and then Thomas C. Devlin delivered a very fine talk of about half an hour. It was pronounced the most comprehensive and ablest review of the situation from local and national standpoints yet heard before any of the clubs on the East Side. Mr. Devlin has an incisive and effective way of handling public questions that always arrests close attention. He will certainly be in demand as a speaker during the campaign. He was warmly congratulated by many in the audience. At the close of the meeting a great many came forward and signed the membership roll. The club is now the strongest on the East Side and among the most aggressive in the city, and the wisdom of uniting the Multnomah and Union Clubs into one is clearly demonstrated. Now that the organization has secured permanent quarters, public meetings will be arranged for.

The Roosevelt Republican Club, of the Eighth Ward, will have a public meeting at Gruner's Hall, corner East Seventh and Stephens streets, next Thursday evening. On that occasion, Wallace McCamant will deliver an address, and the Clow family will furnish music. A good time is expected. Mr. McCamant will receive a warm welcome in the Eighth Ward.

Great Future for Alaska.

L. A. Patterson, who lives at 614 East Oak street, a prominent citizen and close observer, has just returned from a two months' trip to Alaska. While there he was able to make a thorough inspection of the quartz mines along Lynn canal and other industries, and he has come to the conclusion that the development of Alaska has hardly begun. "I traveled about on the steamers," he said, in speaking of his experiences, "and both saw and talked with others about the mines along Lynn canal, and I have concluded that only the beginning has been made in the development of the mines, and that these quartz mines are practically inexhaustible. I am confident that mills of the extent of the famous Treadwell, with its 800 stamps, pounding out millions of gold from the low-grade ores taken from a great mountain, may be duplicated many times over in the Lynn district. I know of English capital going in there. Many of the smaller mills will be increased as gold is taken out. I have a friend interested in a small quartz mill who says that the plant will be enlarged with the money taken out, although he should not put in any more outside capital.

"And I learned that this is the situation with other plants. They will be enlarged as the mines are developed. I am convinced that this is the greatest quartz district in the world, and that it will steadily undergo development. Those who think that Alaska is losing ground are not informed, for it is not. Coal and copper are receiving attention, and the fisheries are immense. The skeptical man should watch the hundreds of tons of freight that are unloaded at Skagway every day. He will see from 100 to 500 tons left there every day. And I want to say that Portland should have a considerable share of this trade. While I was there, the merchants and business men were loudly complaining of their treatment by Seattle, and they have about come to the conclusion that they are being unfairly dealt with. I do not know on what grounds. I do think that Portland ought to do something to secure its portion of the trade of that growing territory. With the introduction of mining laws and other necessary regulations, the development of Alaska is bound to go forward faster than ever. From my observations, I have concluded that there is a greater future in store for Alaska than any one has yet thought possible."

Accumulation of Slab Wood.

The accumulation of slab wood from the two East Side sawmills is something extraordinary. The vast output from Inman, Poulsen & Co.'s mill is something over 125 cords per day, and the greater portion is being stacked in the Ladd field, east of the mill. Here already several thousands of cords have been stored, and the long ricks of wood eight feet high are being extended every night at a rate that will soon fill up that field. The stacking of this wood is done mostly at night by the light of huge fires. It looks to an outsider as if there were not less than 10,000 cords already accumulated in this field and near the mill, but there may not be so much. The East Side mill is storing wood on the Hawthorne tract, on East Eighth street and Hawthorne avenue. There never has been so much slab wood accumulated in the city from these sawmills. Last winter not near so much slab wood was used as in former years, owing to the mildness of the weather, and then the mills are running on full time and at night.

Condition of the Injured.

Miss Julia Stroeder, who was seriously injured on the West Side Saturday in a runaway accident, is at her home, on the corner of East Twentieth and Belmont streets. Her physician stated that she was improving, but yesterday had considerable fever, which was expected, from the nature of her injuries.

John H. McBride, who was badly injured by a fall at J. H. Johnston's boatyard Saturday morning, was resting comfortably yesterday. Late Saturday he was seized with a nervous chill, which finally yielded to treatment. No serious complications are apprehended, and he is expected to recover in a short time.

Minor Political Items.

There will be a meeting of the Albina Republican Club Wednesday evening for the election of officers for the ensuing two years, in Linder Hall, corner Russell and Borthwick streets. The club is in good condition, and, after the election, will hold a series of public meetings.

Tomorrow evening there will be a Republican meeting held at Peninsula station, on the St. Johns motor line. Good speakers and music will be provided for that occasion. The hall is but a few steps from the railway.

East Side Notes.

There will be an open meeting this evening at the hall of Camp Gilbert, No. 4, Ross building, Union avenue, to complete the organization of a woman's auxiliary. All who are interested will be welcome.

Rev. Ray Palmer, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, East Seventh street, has been elected one of the editors of the New Liberator, the official organ of the Young People's Christian Temperance Union, published at Chicago. Miss Eva Shontz is the other editor.

The Third Presbyterian Church has established a mission at East Twenty-eighth and East Burnside streets, under the charge of Rev. Dr. McLean. The building that had stood on Hoyt street was moved to East Burnside for the mission, where it would be more central and convenient. It is now a flourishing mission.

"IN PARADISE" A HIT.

The Frawleys Delight a Big House at Cordray's.

Another success of the comedy order, in which Miss Van Buren added another laurel to her wreath of victories, was presented by the Frawleys at Cordray's last night. The play was called "In Paradise." It is a comedy adapted from the French, which fact alone seems sufficient to tell the whole story. The comedy is Frenchy, but handled by such skillful artists as Miss Van Buren and Mr. Amory, the comedy features predominate over the actual plot to such an extent that the playing is applauded rather than the play.

Applause and laughter were frequent and profuse. The audience, which, as usual, crowded the house to the doors, was kept in a jolly good humor from the rise of the curtain until the finale.

In the first act the burden of the work falls upon Mr. Amory as the stay-at-home provincial, M. Pontbicot, with a marriageable daughter (Minnette Barrett). His visit to Paris and his desire to find a son-in-law with a past, always under the supervision of a watchful spouse (Phosa McAllister), led to many mirth-provoking scenes.

The second act is all Miss Van Buren's. A magnetic personality, coupled with a keen artistic appreciation of her work last night, raised her to a higher standard than ever in the hearts of Portland's theatergoers. Her decided success as Mme. Sans Gene was more than duplicated, for in "In Paradise" the coarseness is removed and a higher scope is given for her talents, which is fully taken advantage of and made the most of.

In the third act Mr. Amory has a difficult task to explain his bringing home in a wardrobe in his pajamas, and around those explanations are weaved several sidesplitting situations, coupled with the usual all-end-happy love scene.

Francis Byrne as Raphael, the artist; Clarence Montaine as M. Gumilon, the guardian of Claire Taupin (Miss Van Buren), and Wallace Shaw as Baron Fletchard, had the brunt of the story-telling part of the play, and did it well.

Phosa McAllister as the watchful spouse, Mme. Pontbicot, won much applause in the last act, while Marion Barney was beautiful and acceptable in the part she portrayed. Minnette Barrett has a better opportunity in this play to display her histrionic abilities, and her part, while not trying, gives her a very good chance to display careful study of detail and a promise of a successful career in her well-chosen profession. Her work last night was bright and winning, and well fitted into the character she portrayed. Her sister, Margaret Smith, was a motine that was almost too imposing and striking for a soubrette part.

Tonight "In Paradise" will be repeated; tomorrow and Wednesday night, "The Dancing-Girl."

HERE TO BUY SHEEP.

Wyoming Grazer Talks of Sheep Quarantine Laws.

Dr. J. M. Wilson, of Douglas, Wyo., who is in Oregon to purchase sheep this spring, is sojourning in Portland. When seen at the Perkins yesterday he had just returned from the convention of Northwest Pacific Woolgrowers which was held at Boise City last week. He says he met quite a number of prominent sheepmen from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah, but no sales were made, although Eastern buyers were on hand, and a good many sheep were for sale. The reason buyer and seller could not get together, Dr. Wilson thinks, is because sheepraisers hold their stock too high. "They will not say exactly what they do want for yearlings after shearing, but they intimate $2 50 to $2 80, which is away above what we can pay, and sheep can now be bought in Wyoming for less than they can be bought in Oregon and freighted to Rock Springs, allowing 50 cents a head for freight." In regard to the Wyoming quarantine laws, he says these have been modified, and are therefore not so sweeping as when first enacted. All sheep will be subjected to an inspection at the state line, and if a band comes from an infected district or shows symptoms of scab, it will be dipped twice and kept at the state line for 60 days. He does not think this law can be dodged or defeated, and says the state authorities of Wyoming are determined to enforce it.

WAS IN THE WASHINGTON PEN

"Business Snap" Man Has Been Previously Imprisoned.

G. W. Crowell and C. A. Linn still occupy cells at the City Jail, awaiting examination on charges of obtaining money by false pretenses. Their cases will come up in the Municipal Court Monday. Crowell, the police say, has recently served a five-year term in the Washington State Penitentiary for defrauding a man out of $500 on a "business snap." He had stocked up a paint store and advertised it for sale for $4500, representing that he had a contract to paint 50 houses. A buyer came along and paid him $500 down, which Crowell put into a safe. In a few minutes the prospective merchant became suspicious and demanded his money back. On opening the safe, a hole was found communicating with an adjoining room, and the money had passed on out of sight. Both Crowell and Linn were photographed yesterday, and their pictures will henceforth adorn the rogues' gallery at the station. J. Logan, the discharged soldier, is out $85 on the pair, through a "business snap," in which the "snap" appears to have been on the wrong end. He is patiently awaiting the results of the judicial investigation, in hopes of getting his money back.

MR. J. P. FINLEY'S REPLY.

PORTLAND, March 12.—(To the Editor.)—Inasmuch as the question of my eligibility to the office of school director was raised in yesterday's issue of your paper, I desire to say over my own signature that I am and have been for many years a taxpayer of this city. I am not, to be sure, as large a taxpayer as my opponent. Never having engaged in the business of banking, I have not had his opportunities to accumulate a large fortune, out of which I could buy a $300 library for a school named in my honor. What property I have, however, is duly taxed. I do not desire to pose as a public benefactor, either in banking or education. If elected, my duties will be performed in accordance with the principles announced in my letter of acceptance.

J. P. FINLEY.

WRESTLER ARRIVED.

Louis Cannon, the champion Graeco-Roman wrestler, of Chicago, Ill., arrived in Portland yesterday, and will go in training at once for his contest with McMillan at the Exposition building next Saturday night, March 17. These two men met before at Butte, Mont., in a wrestling match, catch-as-catch-can, and the match was won by McMillan by a narrow margin, as Cannon was hurt in the fourth bout. This will be his first opportunity of meeting McMillan in two Graeco-Roman bouts, and he is satisfied that he will turn the tables on the heavy-weight Scotchman. The public will have an opportunity of seeing two of the best wrestlers in the world in the heavy-weight class at the extremely low admission of 25 and 50 cents.

Portland's Leading Music Store.

Knabe, Hardman, Fischer, Ludwig pianos. Musical instruments, talking machines. Estey organs, sheet music, harp-o-chords. Wholesale & retail. The Wiley B. Allen Co.

FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT

CITIZENS' MOVEMENT IS ORGANIZED IN PORTLAND.

Will Request Regular Parties to Put Up Good Men—Some of the Organizers.

During the past week a number of Portland citizens inaugurated what is known as "the good government movement," which is expected to play a part in the naming of candidates for city and county offices to be filled at the June election. At the present time it is said that a large number of pledges are being circulated for the signature of voters, particularly business men, with the object of securing in one compact organization a voting strength sufficient to command some attention from one or other of the two leading political parties. Just how many signatures have been obtained up to the present time could not be ascertained last evening, as those having the pledges for circulation were not easily found on Sunday, but one, in the possession of O. H. Ballou had 45. He stated that there were 99 others out besides his, some of which, however, had not been so widely circulated.

Where the movement originated and its immediate cause are explained by those interested as being the outgrowth of the considerable agitation done during the past few months by various church societies. A report that the movement comes from the Ministerial Association is denied by members of that Association, who state that they were simply asked to indorse or rather approve what had been commenced by a body of citizens not connected with the Ministerial Association. There are some differences of opinion as to the lines along which the movement will be conducted, but the larger number spoken to say that there is no present purpose to put in the field an independent ticket election day unless the desires of the new association as to reputable candidates shall be disregarded. A few members are for opposing anything that is associated with or colored by either of the two old political parties, but this appears to be more radical than is anticipated by the stronger elements. The pledge in the possession of Mr. Ballou, and the signatures thereon so far, are as follows:

"Realizing that in the selection of city and county officials the pre-eminent qualifications are efficiency, honesty and a high sense of duty, and that the great National issues which separate citizens into opposing political camps have little to do with the administration of the affairs of a city, we, the undersigned voters of Portland, in order to concentrate the power of those who are interested in promoting the true welfare of our city, herein enroll ourselves as members of the 'Good Government Movement,' pledging ourselves to vote for those upon whom we may unite as candidates for the various city and county officers, seeking by all honorable methods to have their names placed on the party tickets, the understanding being that every member of this movement shall be free to vote for all other candidates as his party affiliation may direct." The signatures to this one petition are:

A. Christie, Archbishop Catholic diocese of Oregon; Edgar P. Hill, pastor First Presbyterian Church; Judge George H. Williams, William M. Ladd, J. Bloch, rabbi of Beth Israel Temple; T. L. Eliot, pastor emeritus Unitarian Church; O. H. Ballou, J. H. Baylor, William H. Jordan, William Reed, John A. Henckle, W. B. Buell, T. H. Smith, Thomas M. Richardson, J. W. Casey, Theodore H. Eckerson, Elstor Camp, R. F. Ayres, Newton McCoy, I. D. Boyer, Edwin A. Saxton, George W. H. Miller, J. C. Campbell, William H. Jackson, John Stuart, Isaac Lawler, W. F. Edwards, R. W. Miller, W. F. Feur, A. J. Hamlin, I. G. Davidson, James January, Milo P. Ward, L. M. Cox, D. Miller, William MacMaster, J. W. Simmons, C. R. Templeton, J. W. Hill, Bernard O'Hara, Edward D. Casey, T. J. Geisler, Allen E. Reily, J. H. Cunningham, E. R. Hatch, J. F. Compton.

Dr. Edgar P. Hill, who is very much interested in the success of the movement, said regarding it last evening:

"The 'Good Government Movement' seems to be the very thing for which we have been waiting. That four such men as a Catholic archbishop, a Jewish rabbi, a Unitarian and a Presbyterian minister can come together in such a movement is a very striking indication that something should be done, and that the plan suggested is feasible.

"As I understand the purpose, this movement is not seeking to bring out an independent ticket. On the contrary, there is a strong desire not to do so. I recognize that there is the necessity for a certain amount of party machinery in organizing political work, and we would not displace it. All we want is to see that good men are selected for the offices that directly affect the moral conditions of our city. We have found it expedient to solidify to some extent those multitudes of voters who want good officials, but find themselves without voice in selecting, if not possessed of something of an organization. The movement must be nonpartisan, with reference to the two old parties, as all of those interested have relations with members of both parties that forbid partisan action. There is no danger of the movement taking independent form, with the object of putting forth a ticket, unless it is compelled to by the rebuffs of those it seeks to aid in purifying nominating work."

The movement came before the Ministerial Association at its last meeting, and, after deliberation of the various city clergymen, was indorsed. It had its origin at a meeting in the Chamber of Commerce building, where the pledge was formulated and arrangements made for having it printed and circulated. The sanction of the Ministerial Association was immediately sought and obtained, a committee being appointed from that body to consider the purpose outlined. This committee met the committee sent by the "Good Government Movement," and there was a common agreement as to methods to be pursued in future work.

FORMER DISORDER GONE.

Toughness in North End a Thing of the Past.

The improvement in morals and order in that part of Portland known in everyday parlance as "the North End" has of late been so marked and so patent that it is a subject of frequent comment. The reformation that the down-town districts have undergone in the last six months, and, in fact, since the inauguration of the present municipal administration, has been wide and sweeping. This change for the better includes the saloons, the low-class lodging-houses and the "cribs." These places still exist; they probably will until the millennium, but they are less flagrant than formerly. The authorities have compelled the occupants of these places to keep inside their houses. They have been ordered to keep their windows closed, the blinds down and a curtain drawn, and this order has been strictly enforced. The abandoned women of the town have been forced to congregate on three or four unfrequented streets. These streets are not general thoroughfares and are streets through which no person is compelled to go to reach any public place or residence section of the city; and so quiet and orderly have these places become that it is possible to pass by these houses at any time during the day or night without knowing anything of their character.

It has been suggested that the fallen women should be driven out of the "cribs" and be made to occupy the upper stories of a few large buildings, such as has been done in one or two Northwestern cities. This plan, however, is not practicable, as it is evident that in all occurrences of disorder, the women would protect one another and the authorities would be forced to station a patrolman at each building. On the whole, most thinking people are inclined to believe this evil is at present in its best possible shape.

In the past, the complaints that were made of disorder in the cheap lodging-houses were frequent. These have practically ceased, and really seem to be conducted as quietly as is possible, when the class of guests entertained is considered.

As for the saloons, drunken men are always a sequel to the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors. But the statement is perhaps true that there is no more drunkenness in the North End than in any other part of the city, in proportion to the number of saloons.

Little remains of old-time North End toughness but a memory. Time was when the Whitechapel district did fair to rival its London prototype, or the far-famed Barbary Coast, of San Francisco, but these things are now forgotten by all except the oldest inhabitant.

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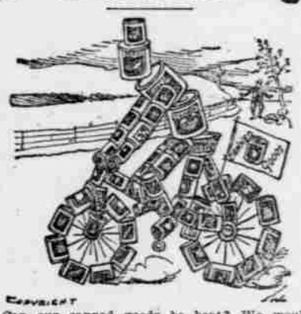

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