Manila Chamber of Commerce Appeals to Congress.

TARIFFS HARSH AND OPPRESSIVE

American Merchants Can Do No Busi ness Until the Old Spanish Customs Are Repealed.

The American Chamber of Commerce of Manila has added its weight to the fight which Pacific Coast commercial bodies are making for the abolition of the duties which are collected on American goods chipped to the Philippine Islands. One of the objects of the return of H. R. Lewis to Portland is to lay the matter before gations throughout the country in the hope of securing relief. Mr. Lewis was former-ly secretary of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. Until January 1 he was pres-ident of the Manila Chamber, and has the honor of being the first president of the first American commercial body to be or-ganized in the Orient.

The American Chamber of Commerce of Manifa counts among its members all the American merchants of the Philippine metropolis, and the foreign merchants who handle American goods. At a meeting several weeks ago, a memorial to Con-gress was adopted. One copy was sent to the President of the Senate, and another to the Speaker of the House. It is probable that these copies have not yet reached Washington. Mr. Lewis, who will manage the fight in this country, will send copies to President McKinley, to Congress and to the leading Chambers of Commerc of the United States. The memorial, which has not heretofore been published in the es or on this side of the Pacific

Harsh and Oppressive Taxes.

"To the Congress of the United States of America: The American Chamber of Commerce of Manila, P. I., respectfully represents to your honorable body: That, although the United States Gov-

ernment has acquired sovereignty over the Philippine Islands, the duties now levied upon all goods imported from the United States, by virtue of the laws now in force in these islands, are harsh and oppressive, and taxation upon commercial interests and ifcenses for the privilege of doing business are excessive and unjust. We therefore respectfully beg to repre-

"That the laws governing the people residing in these islands, are, with a few exceptions, an adoption of 'certain royal decrees' 'upon motion of the Minister of rial Council, in the name of My August Son, the King, Don Alfonso XIII, and as Queen Regent of the Kingdom," etc., and 'His Majesty, the King (whom God pre-gerve), and in the name of the Queen Regent of the Kingdom, has been pleased to order, and thus has been established as the law of the land the most exacting decrees of a most despotic monarchy. "Under these decrees most of the import

duties on product and manufactures from Spain were originally subject only to a tax of 8 per cent ad valorem, and 10 per cent of the specific duty applying to for-eign goods for harbor improvements, while those from foreign ports were and are to 250 per cent. Meat, flour, butter, fruits and most of the necessities of life sustain an enormous tax, while items of luxury sustain little.

"Formerly goods were admitted to the Philippines from Spain practically free, bearing only a small harbor tax. This was gradually raised to provide funds for the construction of a new harbor until there was exacted from articles of Spanish origin an amount equivalent to 10 per cent of the specific duties applying to productions of other countries. At the same period, enormous increases were made in specific duties with the result provide revenue for the suppression of the insurrection, which had in consequence of the diversion of trade to Spain fallen off to a very heavy extent, an 8 per cent ad valorem tax was applied to anish and foreign goods, and an arbitrary table of valuations was prepared upon which this latter tax might be im

America Worse Than Spain,

"We regret that our Government has seen fit to retain not only the excessive specific duties, but also the 10 per cent upon those duties for harbor construction which, by the way, is not being construct ed; the 8 per cent on an arbitrary and excessive valuation, a consumption tax on flour and many other articles, and surtaxes of varying degree, until the cost of imported goods is in many instances en-tirely beyond the means of any but the most prosperous people.
"We unhesitatingly declare that Ameri-

can trade in the Philippines is almost impossible under the present regime, and that it will be utterly destroyed unless immediate relief is had. Many of the laws found too harsh for practical application and winked at by the Spanish authorities, are being enforced under Ameri-can rule, with all the rigor of military exaction, thus stifling the incentive usiness by consuming the results of industry and economy. Spain ruled the Colonies of the Philippines for the evident advantage of the mother country, and with little seeming regard for the inhabit ants here. We earnestly request that your honorable body enact such laws as shall cause the burden of taxation to fall equalwithin the sovereign power of the United States.

"The Internal Revenue Department is but a pawnshop, where men put up their salaries and business profile for the privi-lege of laboring and using their capital, an importing house of the first class pay-ing upwards of \$100 per month license, and we trust your honorable body will cause the enactment of such laws as will relieve the people of the Phidppine Islands from a condition of taxation and oppression which stripped these islands of prosperity, goaded the natives to insurrection, would put to shame the gentleman that took an obligation from the Merchant of Venice, and which dignifies the Stamp Act of 1765, rendering it a compl ment to the taxpayer and just and rightcous in principle

Arbitrary Valuations.

"We desire to call the particular attention of your honorable body to the Book of Arbitrary Valuations, copies of which have been filed with the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate. In scarcely any particular does it correspond to the true or approximate valua tion of the article in question, but it arbi-trarily decides, for instance, that a kilo (2 1-5 pounds) of allmentary conserves is worth \$1, and under this classification an s per cent ad valorem tax is collected, as well as upon a kilo of canned tomatoes, worth about 12 cents as upon a kilo of mushrooms or pate de fole gras, worth \$2.
"It seems unnecessary to go into great detail, but the entire Book of Valuations

presents the same conditions upon all classes of articles, bearing most heavily upon the necessities of life. The evider of the Spanish legislator was to exempt from taxation the luxuries and to make the most difficult the purchase of

the cheap commodities of the world. "While the cost of living has trebled within the jurisdiction of the United States, when rice, the staple food product of the islands, is almost unobtainable by the people, we are sustaining a tax upon flour of 60 per cent, so that a bar-rel of flour purchasable in the United

TO ABOLISH DUTIES States at less than \$3 gold must be sold at \$12 Mexican in Mandia.

"We most earnestly beg relief at your hands, as nothing but disaster can result to the mercantile interests of the Islands until these burdens are lifted. "H. R. LEWIS, President.

"E. E. WHEELOCK, Secretary." A Restraint of Trade.

The letter of the Manila Chamber of commerce, which will be sent with the nemorial to the Chambers of Commerce of the United States, follows: "To the Chamber of Commerce—We

hand you herewith an appeal to the Congress of the United States for the amelioration of the exactions practised upon the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands by the Government of the United States, since there is no reason whatever for the perpetuation of the barbarous practices of the Spanish Government, after which we are seemingly patterning our methods.
"Under the present system, thousands of dollars" worth of American products have

been abandoned in the Custom-house, ow-ing to the excessive charges upon the same, and hundreds who have visited the islands with the intention of engaging in business have left dismayed fie soon as prevailing conditions were understood.

"The Chamber of Commerce of Manila was formed for the purpose of protecting American commercial interests in the interest and we are vocumentation and

ands, and we ask your co-operation and support in bringing this matter to the attention of your special representatives "We shall be pleased to have a copy of any recommendations which you may

make on this subject, and we are at your

service always for information of this country, which presents the most inviting field for American enterprise when normal onditions shall prevail.
"We say without reservation that no richer spot naturally in soft, climate and natural products exists upon the globe, and that it will not only not be a burden upon the United States, but that under wise laws it will be more productive in

Last Pall the Portland Chamber of Commerce made a determined effort to have the Philippine duties abolished, but the best it could do was to get a promise from the War Department that the mat-ter would be investigated.

itural wealth than any similar area

HONOLULU'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

in our own country.

Colonel W. A. Thompson Tells of His Experience at Hawatian Capital.

"The people of Honolulu are the most open-hearted, the most kind, hospitable and generous of any I have ever met, and have traveled a great deal," said Colopel William A. Thompson, yesterday, Col-onel Thompson spent eight weeks with his opera company in the Islands, and had bundant opportunity to know the people 'Not only are they kind to the strangers,' continued, "but they are warm-hearted and self-sacrificing, as was shown during the days of the plague, when Cabinet Min-isters and men high in public life went right down into the infected districts, helved to establish a guard, and during the fires that frequently raged in that part of town actually carried victims of the plague out on their backs. I saw Minister Young, of the Interior, do that very thing, and I have heard of others who did it. There was not a moment's There was not a moment's hesitation in raising money when the plague broke out, to suppress it. When a case was reported in a building, that building was appraised, condemned and burned down. Ten thousand dollars was appropriated at first, and this not being sufficient, it was raised to \$50,000 by a nere cabinet meeting. Every one has got noney down there, and is willing to spend t when the need arises.

"The Hawailahs as a rule are looking forward eagerly to the time when they will pass under the regular form of gov-ernment to be prescribed by the United States. Even the extreme royalists were glad when the islands were taken under the flag, only the rather peremptory man-ner of declaring the change being objected The citizens say the islands will ena prosperity never before known, the danger of uprising or oppression will be done away with and that the march of progress will move as it has never moved before. There has been of late some dissatisfaction with President Dole, who, by the way, is an able man, and his appointment as Governor will not be perhaps so well received as that of Minister Young, who is without doubt the most popular man on the Islands. The old radical royalists are not nearly so much in evidence as formerly, but there are enough of them left to make it worth while for this Government to appoint a man who will be satisfactory to them. They all feel that something ought to be done for the Queen, and hope that Conwill vote her an annuity.

They have harvested the biggest sugar crop this year they have ever known, and had it not been for the plague, they would have had a year of unparalleled prosper As it was, everybody made money when the plague is stamped out, as will be very soon, I think, the islands will begin an era of prosperity never be-fore known in their history. When we left but one white person had died of the plague, that a woman, Mrs. Boardman, and the cases among the natives were on White people are not likely the decrease. to get the disease, as it is caught chiefly, it is said, in the feet, the natives, who go unshed, being always exposed to it. Boardman caught it from a rat h died in her house, and which she

"The Hawaiians are a very musical peo ple, delighting to sing and play at all hours of the day and night. They have a eculiar music of their own, which is in-lescribably sweet. They have a pretty custom, when they receive visitors, of throwing wreaths of flowers, which they call lias, over the necks of their guests when the latter take their departure. The wreaths are thrown back as the guests go

own the steps.
"It is a wonderful sight in the auditorium of a theater to see the different races represented. A big fine-looking Hawalian with a brown bust, and a native costumo will sit next to a white woman, elegantly dressed, and next to her will sit a Chinese or Japanese. All of them put on their best 'togs,' and they make a queerly coa-mopolitan mixture in a theater. The na-tives would not stand for the dialogue in an opera, but as long as music was on

NEWSBOYS AT METROPOLITAN They Will See "My Precious Baby" Free Tonight.

This evening is gala night for the news boys at the Metropollian Theater. All carriers and boys who sell The Oregonian or Telegram on the streets have been is d free tickets for "My Precious Baby." Kruger's military band of 14 men will serenade The Oregonian building at 7:15 this evening, and after playing several oncert numbers, will head the line boys to the theater. The boys will be seated in the gallery, and while given the free use of their lungs, are expected to

ct as gentlemen. Several specialties have been added for the occasion. Miss Georgie Cooper, in addition to singing 'T've Walted, Honey, Long for You," with which she has won the plaudits of the audience this week, will give "I'd Leave My Happy Home for You." Miss Abbott will respond to the chorus from the gallery. Eddie Holland, who portrays the part of the hairdresser, will introduce a clever Irish turn, which promises to win the greatest applause from the newsboys, a compliment which Mr. Holland says he will be gratified with.

"The best pill I ever used," is the frequent remark of purchasers of Carter's Little Liver Pills. When you try them you will say the same.

"Good luck grows not on bushes," but ood health is assured if you take Hood's

IN THE SEVERAL COURTS

ARE STORE FIXTURES CONSIDERED PART OF A BUILDING!

ew Point Involving the Mechanic's Lien Law Up for Adjudiention-Court Notes.

"Do store fixtures constitute part of a building within the meaning of the me-chanics' lien statute?" was the question raised at the trial yesterday before Judge Cleland, of the suit of C. C. Cline & Co. against Herbert L. Phillips and George L. Vanderhoof, doing business as the Phillips Construction Company, and Meier & Frank Company. The Phillips Construction Phillips Construction mpany made the fixtures for the new some time subsequently falled, owing Cline & Co. a bill of about \$200 for paints. & Co. filed a lien on the fixtures for the ount due, and the question now is other the Meier & Frank Company can e held liable for the debt. Judge Stott and E. E. Merges, attorneys

for the plaintiff, argued that as a matter of law the fixtures were a part of the building, and as a question of fact, called witnesses to prove that the fixtures were constructed especially for the new store and were fitted to its various walls, columbs and so on, securely fastened, and were certainly a part of the building. On the other hand, R. G. Morrow, for the de-fendants, elicited from witnesses on direct and cross-examination, that the fixtures could readily be removed, and could also be used in any other store or stores in this line, with slight alterations, in some Ion Lewis, the architect, who prepared the plans, testified that the fixtures could be readily taken out and used elsewhere, and he did not consider fixtures a part of a building.

Judge Stott broke in with the remark that that was a question of law. It was for the court to say. Mr. Morrow said it was both a question of law and of fact. Judge Stott seemed to think it made a ice where the storekeeper owned the building, and also occupies it, or where

the tenant was a renter.

The witness stated, however, that he onsidered it immaterial to the issue a renter or the owner of a building was the tenant.

William M. Whidden, an architect, was also called as a witness, and Mr. A. S. Frank. The latter testified that the fixtures were carried as an asset separate from the building, and fixtures were generally so considered by storekeepers.

Mr. Stott next made a point that the bond given by the Phillips Construction Company for the faithful performance of the work, also insures Meler & Frank Company against liens, and asked why that provision was put in, if the company was not responsible under the law. The architect explained that this was the usual form of bond used by him, and he did not bother about changing it. The court took the case under advisement.

SUIT OVER A LOG RAFT. Contention That It Interfered With the Working of a Dredge.

A jury of six citizens, has been empan-eled to deliberate on a \$250 damage case in Justice Eraemer's court, and a por-tion of the evidence and arguments were heard vesterday afternoon. The plainting is the Northwestern Wrecking & Dredging Company, and the defendant the Albina Lumber Company. Plaintiffs allege that they were hindered in the work of dredgthe river alongside Montgomery dock No. 2 last fall by the presence of a raft of logs moored on the spot by the dedants. This raft was 400 feet long and the dredging was suspended for a period of five days. Defendant's attor iey argues that the Albina Lumber Company was not at fault, but that the damage was the result of an act of God, as the river rose suddenly, causing the raft to sag and its timbers to get in the way of the dredge. Able attorneys are cross-ing legal swords at every step, and the jury is assisted in their investigations by a water-color painting of Montgomery dock No. 2 hanging on the walls of the irtroom. This picture shows a big raft of logs, containing probably several millon feet of lumber, right square in the way of the people who intended to dredge the river at that point. There are many legal oints involved in the case, and the jurymen are likely to know a good deal more about marine law by the time they get

Mary Ahern's Will.

The will of Mary Ahern, deceased, was admitted to probate by Judge Cake yes-terday. Thomas B. McDevitt and James Muldoon were appointed executors, as provided in the instrument, without bonds. The estate comprises real property val-ued at \$17,500, and personal property con-sisting of money and household goods ap-praised at \$550. The beneficiary is Catherine Theresa Clarke, a niece of the deceased. The will provides that she is to receive all of the real property which has not been previously deeded to her, and all moneys and notes, and the household goods in the residence at 695 Davis street. To Thomas Clarks, a penhew, is devised at San Francisco, Cal., \$5; to Margaret Farley, a niece residing in Nebraska, and Margaret Spain, a niece at Trenton, N. J., \$5 each. Other relatives were not men-tioned. All relatives of Michael Ahern, deceased, who was the husband of the tes-

tator, are to be given \$5 each.

The will was executed April 22, 1897, and was witnessed by T. B. McDevitt, Jr., and Margaret Muldoon, Dominick Cavanauch M. Dougherty and T. B. McDevitt, Jr. were appointed appraisers. Mrs. Abern. t the time she signed the will, deed ed a large amount of property to Cath T. Clarke. She was long a residen by thrift and judicious investments.

Filed Amended Complaint,

In the suit of Henry Gallet vs. Ainsworth National Bank, to recover \$2500, Henry E. McG'nn, plaintiff's attorney, yesterday filed an amended complaint which differs somewhat from the original complaint in that it specifically charged the defendant with negligence. It sets forth that Gallet had eight rolls of \$500 each in his safety deposit box on October 1899, and that it was the duty of the defendant securely to keep in the box all goods deposited therein, and that in allowing the substitution of silver dollars to be made for \$20 gold pieces, the bank did not exercise the care and attention it contractexercise the care and a set of the care and registere. At the trial recently had negligence was eventually ruled by the court to be the point in the case, and the original complaint was not

explicit on that issue. Probate Matters.

The final report of Wm. M. Gregory, administrator of the estate of John Mc-Cleary, deceased, was filed. The estate imprises real property, and there were

D. J. Moore, administrator of the estate of H. B. Borthwick, deceased, was author-ized to pay the claim of Aiken Copeland on a Government wood contract. U. S. G. Marquam, for Katten Bros. was authorized to draw \$33 deposited with the County Treasurer by the administrator of the estate of R. Gerdes, deceased.

Petition for Habens Corpus,

A petition for a writ of habeas corpus was filed in the State Circuit Court yester day afternoon by Maggie Riley, by her attorney, John F. Logan. Mrs. Riley was adjudged guilty by Judge Hennessy of lareny by ballee of \$5, and sentenced to one year in the County Jall. She was given \$5 by a man to purchase some drugs for him, and falled to do so, or to return

the money. The petition recites that lar-ceny by ballee is a felony over which the Municipal Court has no jurisdiction, save to hold a preliminary examination to hold the defendant to answer, discharge the defendant, and that the Circuit Court only has authority to pronounce sentence. Larceny by bailee is a Penitentiary offense. The petition will be called up for hearing this morning.

Third Day of Muse Trial. It developed at the trial of James F Muse, yesterday, that Muse used the \$63 which he took from the Title Guarante & Trust Company, March 1, 1839, to embark in a theatrical enterprise. The combark in a theatrical enterprise. pany traveled through Colorado and else where, but the public was not responsiv nor appreciative of the abilities of Muse as a comedian or in "heavies," and the venture was a financial failure, so he had to send his note to the Title Guarantee & Trust Company in payment of what he chooses to call a loan of the money. From the evidence it was not shown that Muse's wife had a longing to shine behind the footlights, but it is otherwise stated that she was so imbued, and made up one of she was so imbued, and made up one of the company. The case will be sub-mitted to the jury this morning. The trial has already been on three days. Muse took the witness-stand and told his story of the taking of the money, which he considered an overdraft, and said other employes did the same thing. putting their tags in the drawer. The de-fendant denied that any employe was allowed to draw more than to the extent of his accrued wages. Muse said he ob-tained \$300 at one time, and owed the company \$130 of it still, besides the \$630. This was loaned to him, Mr. Ross said, in a special emergency, Mr. Muse representing that his wife was ill and in need of medical attendance. Mr. Ross testified that advances were occasionally made to employes, but neither Mr. Muse nor any one else had authority to make over-

McDaniel Appents.

Henry St. Rayner, attorney for Frank E. McDaniel, yesterday filed notice of appeal to the Supreme Court, Briefly stated, McDaniel appeals to the Supreme Court from the order whereby the motion for a new trial was overruled, and from the order whereby the supplemental motion for a new trial and affidavits in supporof the motion were stricken from the files; also from the judgment whereby Mc-Daniel was gentenced to 15 years in the pentientiary, and that he pay a fine of

Court Notes.

The final report of the referee in the case of Charles O, Jones et al. was confirmed by Judge Cleland yesterday. Judge Cleland yesterday rendered a decree in favor of P. A. Lindstrom in his suit against his former wife, Minnie Cas-siday, and H. E. Cross, to recover 25 acres of land, and the defendants gave office of an appeal to the Supreme Court. Josephine Bousquet has sued Emile Bousquet in the state circuit court for a divorce, and asks to be restored to her malden name, De Mol. She avers that

In the suit of the Esberg-Gunst Company vs. the City of Portland, the de-fendant was allowed by Judge Sears yesterday until April 20 to prepare and serve a bill of exceptions on an appeal to the Supreme Court. The plaintiffs sued for damages on account of injury to their goods resulting from a burst water main. The case has already been to the Supreme Court, and has been tried several times. The city won last time.

they were married in Portland; November, 1894, and that he abandoned her in Jan-

uary, 1897. He is now in the Hawaiiar

NEW CAPITAL AND ENERGY Willamette Iron Works Incorporated -Increased Facilities.

Articles of incorporation were filed in the County Clerk's office yesterday of the Willamette Iron Works. The incorpora-tors are: H. W. Corbett, James Lotan and William H. Corbett; capital stock, \$20,000. The objects announced are to manufacture engines, boilers, machinery and other metal work, and to operate a brass works,

emelting and refining works, etc.

The new incorporation means the reorganization of the company, the introduc-tion of new blood and capital into the concern. William H. Corbett is a cousin of H. W. Corbett, a practical engineer and ironworker, who received a thorough technical education for the business and is up to date on everything connected with iron working. On ris associating himself with the Willamette Iron Works he at once saw that additions to the plant and build-ing were necessary to bring the works up the most modern requirements. An extensive addition to the work was com-menced, the foundations for which are completed, and work on the superstructure will be commenced today. A number of machines, lathes, etc., have been ordered, and when these have arrived and are installed in the new building, the company will have one of the most modern and omplete machine shors and foundries on

PERSONAL MENTION.

L. A. Loomis, of liwaco, is registered at the Perkins. C. H. Poole, of Boston, is registered at the Portland.

Mrs. W. Stine, of Astoria, is a guest of G. T. Fulton, of Astoria, is registered at the Imperial.

I. N. Peyton, of Spokane, is registered William Mackay, of Scattle, is registered at the Imperial.

A. E. Bowers, of Boston, is registered at the St. Charles. J. W. Rogers, of Salt Lake, is regisered at the Portland. N. D. Fox, of Silver City, Idaho, is

registered at the Perkins. A. A. Nicol, of South Bend, Wash, is registered at the Perkins, P. J. McGowan, of Chinook, Wash., is registered at the Perkins.

A. H. Beemer, of Lyons, Neb., is regstered at the St. Charles W. F. Boardman, of San Francisco, in registered at the Imperial. G. R. Shaw, a well-known farmer of

one, is registered at the St. Charles. A. J. Mitchen and wife, of Harrington, Wash., are registered at the St. Charles. R. E. Nelson, of Cottage Grove, was a risitor at the Mineowners' Club yesterday.

The Rev. C. H. Lake, of St. Stephen's, Baker City, has accepted a call to be as sistant minister of Trinity Church. WASHINGTON, March 29 .- J. C. Friend-

of Portland, is visiting friends in shington. T. Waterhouse, of Scattle, is at the Arlington

NEW YORK, March 29.-J. L. Woodridge, of Seattle, registered at the Grand Union today.

"A State of Insurrection." Wardner News.

Governor Stuenenberg hit the nail or he head when he stated before the in vestigation committees on last Thursday that the Cocur d'Alene country has been in a state of insurrection since 1892. With the exception of Wardner, the mining camps in this region have been contin-uously under the control of the dyna-mite element who "donned their masks and shouldered their guns" (see official organ February 25) in defiance of the aw whenever they deemed it necessary And the same authority states further that their "orders were never disobeyed," so greatly did the general public stand in awe of them. Does not this constitute "a state of insurrection?"

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take Laxative Bromo Quinfne Tablets. All drug gists refund the money if it falls to cure. E. V Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

PREPAID ORDER AGENCIES

RATLROADS WILL ABOLISH THEM NEXT MONTH.

Ill Lines Are So Instructed-Time Card Meeting at Salt Lake-Railroad Notes.

Another evidence of the perfect sincer-ity of the railroad presidents subscribing to the New York resolutions, relating to the abolition of commissions, etc., has come to light. The transcentinental lines

here are in receipt of emphatic instruc-tions from their several headquarters to the effect that they are to discor prepaid order agencies in their territory, effective April 1. The Southern Pacific ook similar action about a month ago. There have not been wanting some who prophesied that because many agreement had been made and broken in the pashe New York agreement would soon meet a similar fate. Whether such will be the case it is impossible to say at pres-ent. One thing is pretty evident, though, and that is that history shows that the agreements heretofore made and then shivered into fragments were the work of general agents or traffic men. Presidents' agreements have generally remained in-violate. Even to this, however, there is at least one notable exception, well re-membered—the so-called "gentlemen's agreement"—made some years ago by railroad presidents. Even the brand

"gentlemen's" did not save it.

Heretofore it has been the custom to allow a commission to these prepaid-order agents of \$3 on each first-class through ticket, say from some interior point to Chicago via Portland. On second-class tickets for such business the commissi has been \$2. It was an easy matter for such agents often to sell to a family or party of people traveling together, and net \$16 to \$25 in one day. All this will be abrogated on April 1. To those who have had olument, the loss will prove considerable. Travelers will in no wise be affected

by the order. TESTIMONY IN REBUTTAL

Interstate Commerce Commission Concludes Hearing in First Case. LOS ANGELES, March 29 .- The hear ing of evidence in this city by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the pe-tition of the St. Louis jobbers for the amendment of differentials on rates from the Middle West to the Pacific Coast was concluded today. Today's testimony

in rebuttal of that introduced by the coast

J. R. Newberry, a retail and jobbin grocer of Los Angeles, testified that the freight differentials have been disastrous to retailers. He stated that the differentials have made possible a combine among the jobbers in groceries, whereby they raised prices from 5 to 20 per cent above former prices. He conforms his jobbing rates to those set forth in the printed price list issued by the jobbers, and illus-trated the effect of the combine by saying that he retailed canned corn at 90 cents per dozen and jobbed it at \$1. The prices of many varieties of goods, he stated, are hased by adding the differentials to the selling price of Eastern jobbers. He stat-ed that when the present rates were established in June, 1898, prices of groceries were advanced by the jobbers 5 to 20 per ent, and he was informed by them that unless he conformed to the rates estab-lished by them they would not sell to him. The witness agreed to furnish the Commissioners with a copy of the printed price list issued by the jobbers.

C. Pixley, retail hardware man of Orange, testified against the differentials, which he claimed to be detrimental to general retail business on the Coast, restricting the purchasing market.

John McFadden, a hardware merchant
of Santa Ana, testified that when the
present rates were established Coast job-

bers advanced prices, Eastern jobbers granting allowances on freight to offset the differentials. Ira Hill, a dealer in hardware in the same town, testified to the same effect, adding that the differentials have caused a restriction of the purchasing market to such an extent that it is difficult to meet

the requirements of his customers.

The commission began a hearing in the case of the United Forwarding Company and the Southern California change against the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe roads, involving the routing of fruit shipments to the East. Attorneys for Armour & Co. and Earle, owners of fruit-car lines, filed petitions in interven-tion, to which objection was raised by the complainants. The Commissioner ruled that the petitions should be granted The commission adjourned for the day to give the attorneys time to examine the documents in the case.

MOHAWK VALLEY ROAD. Tracklaying Will Be Finished by the Middle of June.

John Bays, the well-known contractor, who has been superintending the construc-tion of a railroad up the Mohawk Valley from Springfield to the Boothe-Kelly mills a distance of 1614 miles, is in the city on a short visit. Mr. Bays has been on this work since last Fail, and he looks hearty as a buck, and is as full of pluck and go as ever. His son has the contract for the road, and he is superintending the con-struction. He has the track laid from Springfield to Smith's Bluff, a distance of five miles two miles more graded, and in-tends to have the road completed by the middle of June. In addition to this he has built a county road along the hill-side to take the place of the one destroyed by the construction of the raffroad. The Mohawk Valley road is to be connected with the Southern Pacific at Hanson's Station, which will necessitate the building of a bridge across the Willam ette and some heavy rock cutting on one side and a big fill on the other.

Time-Card Meeting.

General Superintendent O'Brien, of the O. R. & N., attended a time-card meet-ing yesterday at Salt Lake, made up of O. R. & N., Union Pacific and Short Line The meeting was held for purpose of agreeing upon a time-card and train service for the special Chicago-Port-land train, shortly to be put in service.

Railroad Notes. A. P. Stewart, of San Francisco, travel ing passenger agent of the Chicago &

Alton, was here yesterday. Marcus Talbot, of Anaconda, Mont. general agent of the Butte, Anaconda & Pacific, passed through Portland yester day on his way home from a vacation in The Northern Pacific has finished track laying on its Clearwater short-line branch to Stuart, Idaho, a distance of 63 miles

Stuart is 90 miles from Buffalo Hump and 18 miles from Grangeville General Passenger and Freight Agent Markham, of the Southern Pacific, left last night for Newberg, accompanied by Dr. Withycombe, vice-director of the Agultural College at Corvallis. Mr. Markham will address the farmers and merchants at Newberg on the matter of a

At a meeting of passenger agents re-cently held at Fort Wayne, Perry Griffin in a humorous address, "dropped into poetry." Portland railroad men will re-member him as the predecessor here of d. G. Barker, general agent of the Chiengo & Northwestern, and later on general agent of the Union Pacific at Spo kane. Mr. Griffin is now passenger agent of the Rock Island, at Pittsburg.

Shipbuilding and Trusts.

HOOD RIVER, Or., March M.—(To the Editor.)—If the Republican party is eincere in its desire to build up the merchant marine of the United States, why

does it not repeal the law that prohibits the registration of foreign bottoms in American ports, instead of granting sub-sidies? The protection given American iron and steel is without doubt wholly re-sponsible for the decline in our shipbuild sponsible for the decline in our shipbuilding interesta. From 30 to 30 per cent of
American freight to and from foreign
ports is carried in foreign bottoms, and
Carnegie companies, that can annually declare millions of dollars in dividends, are
the result. Iron and steel made into
every conceivable article, from a tack
to a battle-ship, are made here and shipped
away in foreign bottoms and sold in competition with the markets of the world. petition with the markets of the world. The American citizen, however, when he buys, has a tariff to pay. A case in point will illustrate what a protective tar-iff means. Some years ago I, with som-others, contemplated building a steamboat and bids were solicited from various boat building concerns, and among others a certain well-known Ontario, Canada, firm

or British Columbia waters, and \$27,006 if built in American waters. American coasting trade certainly is car-ried in home-made wooden hulls, ranging from a dugout to a four-masted schooner. contrasts they are when compared with the magnificent steel-built foreigners that line our docks. This system of rob-Peter (the American citizen) to pay Paul (the trusts) will come to an end son day. Samson's Delilah-cut hair is grov ing again, and some day he will pul down the pillars that are holding up these down the pillars that are holding up these great protected corporations. The attentive listener, may even now, without the use of an ear trumpet, hear the blind giant's mutterings from almost any spot land. Let those that are in the temple beware or they may hear some-thing drop, ere the year closes.

ent a bid of \$18,000 if built in Cana

PLAYED A THINKING PART.

omedian Roland Reed Tells About Being Carved by Surgeons.

Roland Reed, the comedian, who is still at St. Luke's Hospital, New York, has written to the companion of his boyhood, D. Solls Cohen, asking to be remembered o various Portland friends and acquaint ances. He enclosed his own recital of his experience at the hands of the surgeons, published recently in the New York Jour nal. It follows:

Reed's Own Story.

I have spent three months in St. Luke's Hospital, have undergone two operations been given up by the doctors for dead, and have read the notice of my death in the

newspapers.

After passing through these three most critical months of my life, I feel that I am now on the high road to recovery. My fight for life was won by surgical skill on one hand and a determination on my part that I would not die. But not for all the money ever coined or all the glory ever enloyed by an actor would I voluntarily en-dure again the pain of those three months or take a similar chance for my life. You know that the surgeons, after they

had performed the first operation on me, decided that I had just about 12 hours more of life. Well, I fooled them that time, and when after the second opera-tion, the odds against me seemed almost e great, I fooled them once more.

I am still weak. I feel like a man freed from a long imprisonment. The relief at getting back to my family, of course, goes a long way toward compensating me the painful experience in St. Luke's Hos-pital, and the exhibitanting feeling of free-dom which I now enjoy makes the world ook very bright, after having been constrained by the strict regulations of the hospital. Were it not for the feeling of weakness.

the prospect of even a season of the ordi-narily despised "one night stands" would fill me with pleasure. As it is, I shall not play again this Spring, but will rest until I open my fourteenth annual season at the Boston Museum in the Fall. A new play is being prepared for me, which as yet I have not read.

Of my treatment in the bospital, I can speak only with praise. I had a dismal time, to be sure, and do not quite understand yet why I did not die.

stand yet why I did not die.

Fortunately, when I entered the ward
my condition physically was excellent.
When it was found that it was no longer
possible to avoid an operation, I was led
into the operating-room. It is like a minlature theater, and I felt at home at once,
but I manufacture that the smallest out I must say that it was the smalles louse I ever played to. The seats were

all empty, and not even an usher in sight, We had the place to ourselves. I played a heavy thinking part that time. They put me on the operating table and administered an anesthetic. After that they had things all their own way. They cut me open most thoroughly and scien-tifically, and now those surgeons know more about me than I do myself. They have what you might call an interior knowledge. The operation was so dangerous that they decided that it would be inwise to keep me longer under the influence of the anesthetic, and so they sewed me up with an overhand stitch and sent me down stairs to die. Later, another operation was tried, this

me successfully. I did not have a cance of the stomach or appendicitis, as reported. I had something intricate and with a medical name as long as your arm, the matter with my intestines. Much of the time in the hospital I was

inconscious or bordering upon un sciousness, and so I was not worried with thought as to my chances, although as a matter of fact I decided when I went in that I would pull through

The papers were kept from me so that I would not read the reports of my death and like cheerful erroneous information about me that was printed from time to When resting, the plays that I appeared in rose before my mental vision with remarkable vividness and I wondered vaguely if I would again see the

APRIL WEATHER.

The following data for April, covering a period of 29 years, have been compiled from the Weather Buread records at Portand, Or .: Temperature-Mean or normal tempera-

ture, 52 deg.; the warmest months were those of 1881 and 1897, with an average of 55 deg.; the coldest month was that of 1893, with an average of 45 deg.; the highest temperature was 89 deg., on the 17th, 1897; the lowest temperature was 26 deg., on the 7th, 1875; average date on which first "killing" frost occured in Autumn, November average date on which last rost occurred in Spring, April 11. Precipitation (rain and melted snow)-Average for the month, 3.30 inches; aver-age number of days with .01 of an inch or more, 15; the greatest monthly precipi-tation was 7.88 inches, in 1883; the least nonthly precipitation was 1.12 inches in 1885: the greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any 20 consecutive hours was 1.34 inches, on the 2d, 1883; the greatest amount of snowfall recorded in any 24 consecutive hours (record extending to Winter of 1884-85 only) was .1 inch, on the 4th, 1896, Clouds and weather-Average number of

clear days, 6; partly cloudy days, 10; cloudy days, 14. Wind-The prevailing winds have been from the south; the highest velocity of the wind was 46 miles, from the southeast, on

EDWARD A. BEALS, Forecast Official. A Gentle Rebuke.

Argonaut. When Otis Skinner, the actor, played an

ngagement in Memphis recently, his mati-see performance of "The Liars" was graced

by the patronage of a bevy of the season's st attractive debutantes. After the cur ain went down the manager escorted the debutantes back of the stage, where they met and conversed with the actor. "We enjoyed everything very much," said one of them: "but, do you know, Mr. Skinner, we could scarcely hear a word you said?" "Now, that's certainty strange," replied the actor: "I could hear everything you ladies said."

SCHEME OF MIDDLE WEST

NTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMIS-SION WORK IN PORTLAND.

Pacific Coast Terminal Points United in Defense of Their Commercial

Rights. Owing to uncertainty as to the line of estimony to which the Interstate Com-nerce Commission will devote itself when

t visits Portland, April 9, George Tayor, Jr., president of the Chamber of Com-nerce, sent the following telegram to the ommission, at Los Angeles:
"The Portland Chamber of Commerce requests you to visit Portland, where you may receive additional information about local conditions deserving consideration in

our transcontinental freight investiga The following answer was received vesterday:

mission will hear testimony in the case of the Business Men's League of St. Louis, at the United States Courtouse, at Portland, April 2. "N. S. BECKER,

"Assistant Secretary." Mr. Becker's telegram indicates that all the commission will do will be to take testimony relative to the petition of the St. Louis Business Men's League, which is commonly known as the movement of Middle West jobbers to abolish the freight lifferentials created by ocean competition and which have existed since the trans-continental railroads were built. In fact, there are no local questions to present. Henry Hahn, of Wadhams & Co.; E. J. DeHart, of Honeyman, DeHart & Co., and L. A. Lewis, of Allen & Lewis, who have been active in defending Portland's ing interests, say the only issue is jobbing interests, say the only issue is the St. Louis petition. The demands which the St. Louis Business Men's League, representing the Middle West job-bers, has made upon the Interstate Com-

merce Commission are: First—That the railroads revise their tariffs so as practically to do away with the differentials between carload and less than carload shipments. Second—That the rates be graded from

St. Louis and Chicago cast. St. Louis and Chicago cast.

Third—That every point in California and on the Pacific Coast receive the same or even a less terminal rate than San Francisco, Sacramento, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Los Angeles, San Diego and other terminal points do at present.

As has been said, favorable action by the commission upon lines suggested by the Middle West would be denial of the ommercial rights which belong to the Pacific Coast by reason of its geographical position and consequent water competition. On this basis, all the commer-cial cities of the Pacific Coast have organized to resist the demands of the Middle West

Deer Cause an Avalanche

Chicago News.

A remarkable happening is that which is reported from one of the Grampian is reported from one of the Grampian. peaks with an unpronounceable name, Craigmagachidt, where a vast avalanche tore down from a height of 1500 feet, carrying with it all it met in its course, in-cluding certain red deer. It descended with a momentum that took it a quarter of a mile over the level ground at the mountain's foot. Great herds of deer at the head of the peak are said to have loosened the snow, and so caused the ava-lanche, which was fatal to many of their

DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

PORTLAND, March 29.-8 P. M.-Maximum temperature, 50; minimum temperature, 45; river reading at 11 A. M., 8.7 feet; charge in the last 24 hours, 0.3 foot; total precipitation, 3 P. M. to S P. M., 0.63 inch; total precipita-tion from Sept. 1, 1809, 31.38 inches; normal precipitation from Sept. 1, 1899, 37.88 inches; deficiency, 6.60 inches; total sunshine March 28, 3:00; possible sunshine March 28, 12:35.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS. Rain has occurred since tan partial and all stations in Washington, Oregon and at all stations in Washington, Oregon and Northern Idaho. The temperature has fallen east of the Cascades, and has risen west of them. At Portland the rise was 8 deg., and at does not deep. At the former place the temperature is 58 deg., and at the latter 62 deg. Both are above the normal for the censon. The barometric depression will move eastward, and there will be occasional rains Priday from the Cascades eastward. The pressure is rising on the Coast, indicating the approach of a high area, which will cause clear-

ing weather west-of the Cascades Friday after-WEATHER PORECASTS. Forecasts made at Portland for the 28 hours nding at midnight Friday, March 30 the afternoon; westerly winds

Hastern Oregon - Occasional rains warmer;

Western Washington-Occasional rly winds. orly winds.

Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho—
Decasional rain; south to west winds.

Southern Idaho—Occasional rain, except fair in eastern portion; southwest winds. Portland and vicinity-Rain, followed by fair rnoon; westerly winds.

G. N. SALISBURT, Section Director.

NEW TODAY.

Carpets, Curtains Gas range, etc., for eale, at rooms 33-40 Sell-ing-Hirsch building:

proved city and farm property, at lower t rates. Building loans. Installment Macmaster & Birrell, 211 Worcester bik. PARRISH & WATKINS REAL ESTATE, LOAN AND INSURANCE AGENTS

Have Moved to

Mortgage Loans

250 ALDER STREET HOMES ON THE INSTALLMENT PLAN The undersigned is prepared to build residences in Irvington, the most popular suburb of Portland, and sell them at actual cost, with 5 per cent interest, on the installment plan, whereby the purchaser has to pay but a slight divance above the usual amount of rental theorem for similar residences.

C. H. PRESCOTT, 212-213 Chamber of Commerce GILMAN

Auction & Commission Company S. L. N. GILMAN, Auctioneer

Special Auction Sale Of household furniture. We will sell by public suction the neat furniture of cottage at 51 Marshall st, between 14th and 16th, TOMORROW (SATURDAY), MARCH SI, at 10 o'chool A. M. Sale at residence, 10 A. M., Saturday. S. L. N. GHAMAN, Auctioneer.

BY J. C. CURRIE



TODAY (FRIDAY), MARCH 30, I will commones sharp at 2 P. M. and sell the belance of Mrs. Wooley's nice furniture, bedding, etc., a ther residence, 821 West Park et., core Clay.

If you contemplate selling out, come to me