Mrs. Harry Watkins, formerly of Port-land, but now of Boise, Idaho, is visit-ing at the home of Professor and Mrs. Miller, Woodstock. She will spend Christ-mas with her mother at McMinnville.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.

School Festival Tonight.

Christmas Eve services and celebrations

vill be held this evening and tomorrow in

St. Mary's Cathedral,

As there will be no midnight mass to-night, but instead, on December II, to

usher in the new century, the first mass on Christmas day at St. Mary's Cathedral

will be a solemn high mass. Father Casey will officiate, and Father Straven

will preach an appropriate sermon on the occasion. Masses then will follow at 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10:30. Most Rev. Arch-

St. Mark's.

Christmas at St. Mark's will be ushered

in by a midnight service at 11:45 this evening, with a celebration of the Holy

At 7:30 Christmas day there will be a econd celebration of the Holy Commun-

At 10 o'clock morning prayer will be

said, followed by a full choral celebration at 11 o'clock, with sermon, when the serv-

"Kyrie" Glibert
"Gloria Tibi" Gilbert
"Hymn-"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"
Mendelssohn

Taylor-Street Sunday School.

Recitation—"I Love You Air".

Francis Strowbridge

"Christmas Wishes"

Blaine Smith, Marian Martin, Bessie Mason, Vivian Bretherton, Howard Strowbridge, Werl Short and Jeannettee Miner.

CANTATA.

Chorus—"Calling for Santa Claus".
Arrival of Santa Claus.
Girls' Song—"Hush a Bye".
Chorus—"Sleighbell Song".
Song. Eight little Esquimaux

Closing song-"Good Night, Santa".... Santa Claus, Fred K. McCarver; Mrs.

EAST SIDE CHURCHES

Where Christmas Exercises Will Be

Held This Evening.

East Taylor and East Twelfth streets, a cantata, under the direction of Professor

C. A. Walker, will be given this evening.

It will represent Santa Claus land and will be highly pleasing. The decorations

Forbes Presbyterian Church, Upper Al-

bina, will have exercises this evening,

when a pleasing programme will be ren-dered under the charge of Miss Grace

The decorations will be very elaborate.

At Sellwood Presbyterian Church this

ed with presents for the children. A

rated with evergreen festoons for the ex-

ercises this evening. Wires have been stretched for the illumination of the plat-

form. Two trees will be placed on the

ly by the children of the primary depart-

Elaborate preparations have been made

for Christmas exercises this evening at the Sunnyside Methodist Church. The

church has been wired for a fine electric

display. The star of Bethlehem will be represented by innumerable electric col-

ored jets. Also an interesting programme

has been prepared.

At St. David's Church, East Morriso

street, the auditorium has been beautified

for the exercises this evening by the Sun-

fine. The programme will consist of car-

will have a tree and programme this even-

at the Church of the Good Shepherd (Epis-

night the celebration of the Holy Com-munion will be begun.

cises this evening.

The programme will be main-

short programme will be rendered, Trinity Methodist Church, East Grant and East Tenth streets, has been deco-

are very attractive.

platform.

At Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Santa Claus, Miss Annie Ditchburn.

Communion, the rector celebrant.

tce will be as follows:

this evening at 7:30:

Christie will pontificate at 10:30

will be at 5 o'clock in the morning.

Portland churches as follows:

and preach.

Communion and Sunday

POLICE WORKING ON THE CASE

Description of the Montavilla Thu; Tallies With the Safecracker's Appearance-Prisoner Continues Snikily Silent.

The further indiscretion of A. H. Long arrested for robbing the safe of the Blue Mountain Company, in confiding his secrets and especially his pusiness mat-ters, to a widow, came to light yesterday when the police announced that they had arrested Mrs. Thelba Gage. The charge marked against Mrs. Gage was, suspicion of being connected with the robbery of the company's safe.

Mrs. Gage lived on Market street, near Front, and was a fellow-boarder with

"Mrs. Gage is Long's sweetheart," announced one police official, "and she knows a lot about his doings since he came out of jail the last time. She also appears to have been his private secretary. Evidently Long did not fol-low the advice of Mr. Weller, Sr., 'bevare of vidders.

Long continued in his sulky mood all day yesterday, and would not utter a word. Even when his meals were brought to him he did not speak. After supper he was manacled, and more care was taken of him than is given orlinary pris-

The similarity of appearance between Long and the mysterious unknown man who, on the 10th inst., fired the shot which killed Earkin C. Fortner, at Montavilla, again puzzled the police experts yesterday, again puzzied the poince experis resteraly, and they were busy at work on what are said to be new clews. No information could be obtained, however, as to what new evidence the police had unearthed. To all questions the answer yesterday

To learn of any possible clew to the whereabouts of Fortner's murderer among the residents of Montavilla, a reporter visited that suburb last night. He found that the murder has had a terrifying ef-fect on the population thereabout. One

"We think it's a shame that the highwayman is not caught, and people here are so scared in the evenings that they won't open their doors until they see who the man is. We are not going to take any more risks in the dark. I wonder why a bloodhound was not secured to trace the murderer from the spot where he shot Fortner? It will be a difficult job to find the villain now."

Mrs. Fortner, widow of the murdered man, was next seen, and she said: "My husband told me that the man who shot him was a fairly tall man of slim build, between 25 and 30 years old, wore shabby clothes, and looked as if he wore

neither beard nor mustache." "And papa said the man wore a cam-paign hat," interposed Mrs. Fortner's lit-

reporter then told Mrs. Fortner about Long being arrested for robbery, and of the resemblance the prisoner posseased to the man who shot her husband "I do not think my husband knew Long," replied the widow. "And I feel certain that the man who fired the shot is one who knew all about my husband being paid on the leth of the month. The man also knew Montavilla well and the lonellest spot on the road to proceed with his work without fear of interruption. The last man we know of who saw my husband before the shooting was Robert Welch, a respected friend of ours. My husband came home by the Mount Tabor car, as he could have the benefit of the plank walk, and avoid the mud. He met the man who shot him about a quarter of a mile from here, near a bridge. The man was walking on ahead, and then he whirled around, presented a revolver, and said: "Throw up your hands.' My husband said: "Why?" And the highway-man repeated his request. Just then he fired, and my husband struck him with his flaner nall, at the same instant. My man was walking on ahead, and then he husband ran and was found by Rev. Mr. Stephens and Mr. Willard, and brought home. I hope the man who shot my Willard, and brought husband will be caught and punished, be cause he may bring sorrow to other families as well. I leave the man, whoever he is, to God. There is a judg-

In reply to other questions, Mrs. Fortner said that the only near relative she has living is one sister. The Fortners came to Portland from Missouri, four

BRILLIANT PRODUCTION.

Frawleys Outdo Themselves in "The Great Ruby."

The Frawley Company commenced its holiday engagement at Cordray's Theater last evening with a very elaborate pro-duction of "The Great Ruby." More than usual interest was occasioned by the an-nouncement of this production, as it was the piece in which Blanche Bates made her great triumph when it was given in New York by the Augustin Daiy Com-pany, when she carried off the honors of the evening with no less a star than Ada Rehan in the same cast. The house was crowded to the doors with an enthu stattic audience, and recalls were numer

et simple, but of a high class. The leading roles are quite powerfully drawn, and there are a number of minor character

The cast was well chosen, and the different scenes and general stage effects very artistically and carefully handled, ong the scones that were particularly were Catland's Park Hotel, Lord's Cricket Grounds and the famous balloon ascension with the fight in midcentered in the peregrinations of the ruby. around which the whole plot centered, and it was ceally a relief, after all its wanderings when in the final act it was restored to its rightful owner. The play

Johnson was a very effective Lady Gar-nett. Mr. Frawley had a very small part as Kassim Wolei, his only opportunity being in the fight in midair with Morris

Longman, which was splendidly portrayed by Harringtor Heynolds. Fearl Landers was a very pleasing Louisa Jopp, and her scenes with Frank Mathieu as James Brett were very amus-ing. Minette Barrett had little to do but

'The Great Ruby" tonight and at the

Vendetta in Union County.

For some time past there has been trouble brewing between the families of Lee and Titus, of High Valley, and the feud had become so bitter that it had

almost divided the community of that neighborhood into two factions, says the Union Scout. Personal encounters have been narrowly avoided in several instances, and on Wednesday the war clouds thickened when Titus and his two sons and the Lee boys met on the Birdsell place. As to how the row started, or what lines of attack and de-fense were adopted, we are uninformed, but the encounter seems to have been a lively one. The weapons used were pitchforks, clubs and rocks, and it is pitchforks, clubs and rocks, and it is said they were used in a very reckless manner. In the wind-up it was discover-ed that the younger Titus had received a painful injury in the hand from a pitch-fork, and the elder Titus had received a dislocated shoulder from a rock huried from the hand of one of the Lees.

BOOKS AND BOYS.

Bishop Morris Addresses a Request to the Public.

zines and illustrated papers of the better class-for reading-books, magaline three different localities of our city. These are the All Saints' Library and Free Reading-Room at Twenty-second and Reed streets, in North Portland; at St. Mark's Kindergarten and Free Reading.

Room, Twelfth and Kearner at the Reading. Room, Twelfth and Kearney streets, and at the Rubbli Club, South Portland, Sec-ond and Arthur streets. In each of these places an excellent

and encouraging work is being carried on for the entertainment, instruction and elevation of the boys of the several neighborhoods every working day and evening of the week. They all are in need of good literature for those boys, and a call is being here made for gifts of books, magazines and papers from the overflowing abundance that have served their day and are lying about, useless, neglected and forgotten in hundreds of the homes of the lovers of books in our city. What we want is to have these books, magazines, etc., gathered up and sent to these reading-rooms for the use of the boys and young men who gather there night after night for entertainment and instruction. To make this the easier, an outdoor receptacle has been provided for them at the corner of Twentieth and Everett streets, from which they will be carefully gathered and taken to these several libraries for immediate use. They may also be left at the book store of James R. Ewing, 169 Fourth street, near

Morrison, where they will be properly cared for and sent to their destination. Now, this holiday season, when new cooks for boys and girls, for father and mother, are coming in, crowding out the old favorites, it seems to us, is a most opportune time to ask for this contribution for such a good purpose. If I had the time and you the space, I would like to say something further abo of the press these days, and the impor-tance of good and proper reading for our boys and girls, so soon to make the men and women of society, the church and the Government. Maybe you will let me do so at some future time, without further trespassing upon your kind-ness at present, B. WISTAR MORRIS,

PLEASED WITH OREGON.

Illinois Stockbreeder May Locate Here.

C. J. Joliffe, of Cranston, Ill., arrived in Portland Saturday to take a look over the stockraising sections of Oregon with view to engaging in the breeding of high-grade stock here. He came by way of the Canadian Pacific and the Sound cities, and says the Northwest, and especially Portland, surpasses his most sanguine expectations. He had some preconceived ideas in regard to the "wild and woolly West." but says the train in which he came from Tacoma to Portland com-pletely dissipated them and convinced him that this was a civilized region. A finer equipped, more modern or luxurious train he says, it would be hard to find any-where in the East. Mr. Joliffe is very anxious to see the ocean, and left for the coast Saturday evening in order to get a view of the Pacific before the effects of the late gale have passed and the ocean has become what its name inci-

sold for \$1.50 per pound on the hoof. The animal had taken the first prize at the International Livestock Exposition in hicago, winning the championship and a cup given for the best beef steer in the show. Mr. Pierce put him up for sale at auction on the condition that he be slaughtered for Christmas beef so that he might not compete again. There was lively competition in bidding between Chicago, Kansas City and New York buyers. A New York man started the bidding at 15 cents and finally wore out all other bidders and secured the steer which was named "Advance," for \$1.50 per pound, the highest price ever paid in the world for a beef animal—in fact it may be called an advanced price. The steer weighed 1430 pounds, but in the New York market will be cut up into several tons of prime rib roasts, porter-house steaks, etc. On his return from the seaside Mr. Joliffe will proceed to visit parts of ranges in Eastern Oregon and other parts of the state, but is not likely to find one where he can raise beef steers which will sell for \$1.50 per pound.

SEVENTH STREET EXTENSION

It Now Seems About to Be Accomplished.

A large number of interested propertyowners have called at the City Audi-tor's office to look over the report of the viewers in the matter of the exparts of considerable importance The cast embraces 33 speaking parts, and requires it different sets of scenery.

The presentation here was by far the most ambilious in the Frawley repertoire, and it was most successful in suc of the report was filed by R. W. Mon-tague, attorney for the widow and heirs of Benjamin Tucker. These persons were awarded damages in the sum of \$7500, as the extension will cut quite a siice on their property. They allege that white the damages allowed on their buildings was all right, the valuation of their real course the main interest was estate was placed too low, and the dam-in the peregrinations of the ruhy, ages are not enough. It may be reason-which the whole plot centered, ably supposed that they are prejudiced in this matter, as for years the extension of Seventh street has been blocked by the estimate placed by the owners was superbly contumed, the toilets of the property which must be purchased to extend the street. This property can never be of great value until the street holf was very charming, and enacted a is extended, and if the street is extended community to be with must be of great value until the street holf was very charming, and enacted a is extended, and if the street is extended. difficult role with much ability. Alice a large portion of the property will be Johnson was a very effective Lady Garcovered by it, but the owners appear nett. Mr. Frawley had a very small part to think that they should have as much for it as if it still fronted on the street.

as extended. Much time has been wasted in trying to get this extension through, as is also the case in regard to the extension of Main street through the Gaston property This opening of Main street has been persistently opposed, and finally an ap-peal from the report of the viewers was taken to the State Circuit Court, and Mr. Gaston was awarded \$50 more than the viewers had allowed as damages. This amount was at once put up by three of the interested property-owners, and tendered to Mr. Gaston, who refused to ac-

SUBURBAN RESIDENTS EAGER TO COME INTO CITY.

Stone-Throwing Hoodlums Fright ened by Police - East Side Affairs.

William Davidson, who has been circu lating a petition for the annexation of Woodstock and Ivanhoe, says that the people of that district are very much favor of being annexed to the city At first some were opposed to coming in, but when the advantages were explained to them they quickly signed the petition. They want Bull Run water, and as long as they are outside the city they can PORTLAND, Dec. 22.—(To the Editor.)

—You have so often shown your interest in the boys of the rising generation and your estimate of the value of right training and instruction for them that I feel sure you will willingly aid in a matter to which I wish to call the attention of your city readers. I refer to an effort that is being made to provide attractive to the present boundary line in the cast of the present location of the cast side of the Milwaukie road to the your city readers. I refer to an effort that is being made to provide attractive.

> will not fight the project. The boundary will not fight the project. The boundary is extended to the Milwaukie road so a pipeline may be extended from one of the Mount Tabor reservoirs along the road to supply Ivanhoe and Woodstock. There is no agitation this year at Mount Tabor on the annexation question. The people there are satisfied with present conditions.

Oak-Street Sewer System

There is agitation again for the con truction of the East Oak-street sewer system, plans for which were prepared over a year ago. The system is a large one. The pipe is 24-inch, and begins at East Oak and East Sixteenth streets, and terminates at East Twenty-fourth and East Couch streets. It passes over sev-eral ravines, and, when built, 70 feet of trestle will be required to carry the con-duit over these ravines. There will be a number of deep cuts, the deepest being 21 feet, and the length of the tresties ranges from 200 to about 10 feet. The territory covered by this system is extensive. It practically reaches from East Washington to the Sandy road, and takes in a portion of the Ladd field. This is a district in which fully \$100,000 has been ex-pended in the erection of handsome dwellings within the past two years, and it needs sewerage badly. Many other dwellings are now being built in the district, which still further increases the call for the early construction of the system, if the property-owners see their way to un-

dertake the work.

There has yet been no estimate of the probable cost of the system; but, owing to the large territory it covers, the cost to the individual owners will not be excessive. The plans were prepared in the City Engineer's office after the first agitation, but the estimates were made for such improvements after a petition had been circulated and filed. It is thought a movement will be made to get this sewer system built before very long, so that its construction may be undertaken next year. Full details may be seen by those interested in the office of the City

Cross-Country Outling Car.

T. G. Ray, a well-known resident of Portland, is having completed of the East Side a cross-country outing car, provid-ed with every possible convenience for comfort. No expense has been spared in building the car. In a short time it will be ready to start on any journey Mr. Ray may wish to make. The car is really a four-wheel spring wagon, strongly built and drawn by a single horse. The body is a little over four feet high, and about eight feet long, and tightly inclosed, light being admitted through windows. At the front end is a large window taking up the upper half of the room. Two small holes through the panel under the win-dow are for the lines. Another hole will be bored for the whip, which will be constantly suspended above the horse, and when he lags the driver moves a lit-tle crank and the whip stirs the animal up. On the inside is a seat which un-folds backward and becomes an ample bed. In one corner at the front end is a stove, securely fastened, with a pipe passing up through the roof. Underneath the car is a large box for coal or dry wood. There is also a rack for rifles and fishing tackle, and a place for a camera, A detachable oven is also provided. Nothing has been omitted that would provide convenience. At night it may be closed, the door locked and the occupants be as snug as at home. Two men can occu-

Seems to Be Subdued.

The measures taken by the police the past week, together with the anno past week, together with the announcement that residents had armed themselves, seems to have had the effect to subdue the "S. S. S." in East Portland for the present, at least. A large number of boys were taken to the police station and interviewed as to what in-formation they had that would lead to ringing the guilty ones to justice. From nformation gathered in this way it has appeared that only a few were engaged in smashing windows, and the police have the names of those to whom sunpicion strongly points. All this has had a good effect in the community. The police have the names of a large number of boys and young men who are known to have been out late at night in that district, gathering on street corners and in barns, and they will be watched in fu-ture. For two years the residents have submitted quietly to outrages and an-noyances, but the defacing of property and smashing of wadows was a step too

Double Truck on Williams Avenue. A double track will be built by the City & Suburban Company on Williams avenue north from Cherty street through to Killingsworth avenue and thence west to Maryland avenue. North nue to Sellwood there is already a single track. It will be moved to one elde and another track put down. It is under-stood that the work on this branch will ommence as soon as the weather will permit. Piedmont people are very anxious for the construction of the line, as it will be a great convenience to them. Many new houses have been built along Williams avenue and the line will likely

New Propeller.

The keel for a new propeller has just been laid in the Johnson boatyard for the Alaska Packer's Association. It will be 85 feet long, 18 feet beam and depth of hold will be 8 feet. She will be fitted with fore and aft compound engines, 19 by 12, with a 14-inch stroke, and is to be finished by April 1. Many of the tim-bers have already been framed and the work can go forward rapidly.

Arm Broken.

William Wills, of Willsburg, while driv-ng on Wilwaukie street, near Beacon Saturday, was thrown from the wagon and his right arm was broken. The hind axie gave way suddenly, throwing him off the load. Mr. Wills, several years ago, lost his left arm at the shoulder.

E. C. Minor, station-master of the Sun-

Robert Rue, Fred Stover and Kirk Shel-ton, attending the State University, are at home to spend vacation. They have If days in which to visit friends. CHRISTMAS SERMON BY REV. W. S. Mrs. Durrette, wife of Professor C. W. Durrette, will leave this week for Olympia, where her husband has entered on his duties as principal of the High GILBERT.

Rev. W. S. Wright, at Sellwood, of Presbyterian Church, on the Old Days and the New.

Rev. William S. Gilbert, pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church, preached yea-erday morning from the text Hebrews i:1, "God who at sundry times and in

Work on the big 10-inch gas main north on Grand avenue is progressing rapidly. It begins at East Third and East Ankeny street and will terminate at Hassalo street, Holladay addition. The timbers on divers manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets hath in these the west side of Grand avenue for the pipe are very rotten, and fall to pieces with their own weight. It will not be an easy matter to get them back into place. ast days spoken unto us by his son." He said in part:
"The birth of Christ has proven to be the most remarkable event in the history Xmas candles, McKinney's, The Tent, Grand avenue and East Morrison. Free mistletoe with every sale.

of the race. The Christ has been the central truth of the world's thought for these centries. His influence has wrought changes in every part of the world's life. And today, notwithstanding that we boast of science and learning, and marvelous achievement, still the greatest theme oc-cupying the attention of men is Jesus Christ. Philosophy and art ever turn const. Philosophy and art ever turn to this greatest truth. Government and law have not ceased to embody Christ's principles of right within their institutions and statutes. The controlling power in the affairs of the world is sure to be more and more the Christ life. The coming of that babe of Bethlehem marked an epoch—founded an enduring and world-wide kingdom-half life. wide kingdom-has lifted and will redeem

the world. "Compare other events with it. The battle of Marathon one of the truly great events, greatest perhaps of its kind, was a contest between two nations, perhaps between two civilizations, determining perhaps whether the Orient or the West should dominate the world. The influ-ence of Christ in the centuries is far greater, for it determined the character of the world. The development of the Roman Empire, greatest event of its kind. was the amaigamating of nations by phys-ical force, which kingdom, in turn, gave place to mightler physical power. "Christ's empire rules by love, and for centuries has endured, and today belts the world. The birth of Christ among

events stands first. It is an event alo of its kind. It is the touching of God upon human life in a way that had not been before nor has been since Christ came. It is God maniresting himself not in law only, not by some word of prophet mly, nor by some unusual event merely, but in a human life. Men agree that was the best man that has lived; that Anthem—Behold I Bring You Good
Simper he was the perfect man, a man without sin. And all agree that his coming into the world has been the great event of time. It is the linking of our life with God. His coming has marked the des-tiny of the world. His kingdom is the kingdom of God and shall endure.

"Sanctus" Glibert
"Benedictus" Glibert
"Agnus Dei" Cooper
"Gioria in Excelsis" (old chant)
"Nunc Dimitis" Gregorian
Recessional hymn—"Angels From the
Realms of Giory" Smart "Christ's coming is like the noontide of a day The light that men of old had seen from afar dawned more and more till that light came, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. God had spoken in times past as if from distant The Christmas committee of the Taylor-Street Sunday School, consisting of Mrs. C. N. Rankin, Miss Jessie Farrell and hills; by prophet or priest, or king, by vision or dream, by burning bush or quak-ing mountain; by whirlwind or by still small voice, by slavery in Egypt, by cap-Miss Edith Blasdel, has prepared the following programme, which will be ren-dered in the auditorium of the church tivity in Babylon, by sacrifices foreshad-owing that which was to come, by the law of nature or commandment; but in this evening at 7:30:

Recitation—"A Christmas Greeting".

Ruth Farrell
Recitation—"Mother Hubbard's Christmas" Josephine Miller
Solo—"Christmas Twice a Year".

Vera Vanschoonhoven
Recitation—"The Loving Little Girl"

Katharine Smith
Recitation—"What the Stocking Said"

Roda Rumelin
Solo—"When Santa Claus Comes
Around"
Recitation—"Santa Claus Home"..... the fullness of time that same word of God came near and spoke to men by the lips of a man, that man who came from above. Christ is the perfect utterance of all that had before been spoken, and besides he told men all that the Father had made known unto him. God speaks

to us in these last days by his Son.
"At the Christmastide we would rejoice
in Christ as the gift of God-gift unspeakable. We would rejoice also in that Solo—"When Santa Ciaus Edith Olds Around" Edith Olds Recitation—"Santa Ciaus Home" Solo—"Tis the Merry Christmas Time" Ruth Rollins Dialogue—Where to Hang Stockings" Howard and Francis Strowbridge Recitation—"A Christmas Boy" John Ditchburn, Jr. Solo—"A Christmas Fairy" Delberta Stuart peace on earth and good-will to mer that he hath brought; that broad brotherhood that has come to be, and in all that Christ bath brought to the world. would rejoice in him as the fulfillment of prophesy and of our hopes. Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our rrows. And thou, Bethlehem, art not be least of the Princes of Judah, for out of thee hath come a governor indeed. And b millions of followers who would die for him, he is called 'Wonderful Coun-seilor,' 'Mighty God,' 'Everiasting Father,' 'Prince of Peace.

Santa Claus and the Christmas Dolls.
Selo—"While the Time Is Flying"...
Mr. Santa Claus
Dialogue....Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus
Selo—"Singing Doll"....Ramona Rellins
Muste-National Air. Drummer Boy Dolls
Song—"There is a Little Maiden"...
Edison Dolls. of men, as teacher, as friend. of men, as teacher, as friend. We would bringgold, frankincense, myrrh, and would worship our King. We would gather again about his manger. Heaven and irth meet in the Christlongs to both. But let us remember the Christ and rejoice in him today as the Word of God to us. Sit down by the well; he would speak with you. The water that I give you shall be in you a well of water, springing up into everlasting life." It is God's word through him to you; it is a voice from above. Sit down in the boat's prow and let him look into the depths of thy soul. 'Follow me, I'll make you fisher of men.' Listen, weary one, 'Come unto me, I will give you rest.' Oh, says one, 'If God would come to me as to Moses in a burning bush and would speak, then I'd obey; I'd follow and serve.' He speaks to us in a far better way—by his Son. And he sends us into even a greater mission. How could God speak more plainly or more directly to us than he hath spoken in his Son. Not only by Christ's words, but by his life, by the cross by the resurrection. The very life of Christ is like a clarion call to every man. After all, men, the world, will be saved, not by word, but by life; not by truth abstract, but by truth incarnate. God's word was made flesh that we might with our ears hear. He dwelt among us that we might behold his giory. speaks to us by his Son. Our part is to hear and live the life of which Christ speaks."

WERE FORMER DAYS THE BEST?

Sermon by Rev. W. S. Wright at Sellwood Presbyterian Church. At the Sellwood Presbyterian Church

yesterday morning Rev. W. S. Wright, the pastor, delivered an interesting and scholarly sermon on the subject, "Were the Former Days Better Than These! His text was from Ecclesiastes, vii:10, "Say not thou, what is the cause that former days were better than these, for thou does not inquire wisely concerning The sermon and music were a Christmas reflections, Mr. propriate to Christmas Wright said in substance 'We are apt to reflect that our youth

ful days are the best, brightest and hap-plest of our lives, and so we come to re-gard the whole past. But even then it ols by the children and classes and an appropriate address by the rector, Rev. George B. Van Waters. was written by the wisest of men, 'Van-ity of vanities, saith the preacher; van-ity of vanities, all is vanity.' So the other days had their sorrows and vices, A special programme will be rendered by the Sunday school of Centenary Meth-odist Church this evening. Central Meth-odist, of Albina; Hassalo Congregationaltoo, but distance has spread a glamour over these and magnified the best. When we compare the past with the present, with its crime, its grinding cares, its poverty and its ceaseless demand, the ist, United Presbyterian, Wasco and Grand Avenue, also will have their exer-At the Second Baptist Church, East past looms up as a time far better. How often we revert back to our childhood, when in innocence we lived a life of su-Seventh and East Ankeny, Christmas exercises will be Christmas evening, and preme enchantment. We are transported will have much of interest. Also exerback to those good old times, and live over the scenes. We were then ignorant of crime and the world's great wrongs. clses at the Third Presbyterian Church will be tomorrow evening.

The Mount Tabor Methodist Church We saw then not the shadows, the crimes We saw then not the shadows, the crimes and the sadness. Everything was tinged with beauty and enchantment, and the only shadow that crossed our pathway was when denied some trifle. That was childish ignorance, and is it not folly to be wise, to learn of the crimes and wrongs in life, and its sadness? Why learn all these things? These are the reflections that ness through the wise. copal), corner Sellwood and Vancouver avenues, Albina, tonight. Services will begin at II:30 P. M., and promptly at midflections that pass through the mine when we have reached maturity, and when we are led to think that childhood is better than the now, with its grind and demands, its colossal wrongs. With Pain in the side nearly always comes from a disordered liver, and is promptly relieved by Carter's Little Liver Pills. Don't forget this.

the coming of mature years also comes the wider visio, and the wider responsi-bility. There is the endless panorama or life's pursuits. There is now no longer the enchantment of youth that spreads a glamour over all objects, but we are face to face with stern realities, without even the thinnest veneering. We are now in a domain of the real, and there is nonof the enchantment with which child-hood surrounds every object.
"With this view, and stopping here, we might conclude that the former days

were the best. Indeed, were it not the employment and the wider vision, human reason would be dethroned. In the pursuit of happiness a great mistake is made. It is not found in riches, in fine houses and possessions. Some one has written, is life worth living? and the question is pertinent at this time. It is answered that that life is worth living that is consecrated to God and to hu-manity; that life is not worth living that is contracted and selfish. With maturity comes opportunity for doing good to others that childhood did not dream to others that childhood did not dream of, and that is the true measure of hap-piness, and that is what makes life worth the living. To do some one else a service, to make two blades of grass grow where there was but the one be-fore, to live self-denial lives, to scatter sunshine over the pathway of others, is the highest happiness. It is the only real, the only pure happiness, that life can afford. If we measure life by this stand-ard, then, indeed, are the present days better than the former ones. So with the approach of Christmas these thoughts should find a lodgment in the heart, and also a resolution to miss no opportunity of making our surroundings better for our having lived in the world."

> Better Protection for Trains. New York Tribune.

The boldness of trainrobbers in som parts of the South and West has become so extreme that railway directors may wisely consider the adoption of more effective precautions. When an important limited express is plundered, within the city limits of New Orleans, managers should bestir themselves. Would it not be advisable to arm the engineers and all train hands with quick-action revolvers of the latest pattern and to instruct them eir eyes against ambushes of every kind?

Flood Damaged Light Plant. GRANT'S PASS, Or., Dec. 22.—The heavy rains of the week raised Rogue River suddenly and caused considerable damage to the Grant's Pass Water, Light & Power Company's plant, About 300 feet of the wing dam close to the power-house were washed out. The head of water for the water-wheel was reduced to a small fraction, necessitating the use of the steam plant for some time. Work repairing the break has already begun. Work on

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