

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

The Oregonian's Telephones. OREGON. Counting Room... Main 957. Editorial Room... Main 958. City Editor... Main 959. Composing Room... Main 960. Ear Side Office... East 61. Superintendent Building... Red 2523.

AMUSEMENTS. MARQUAM GRAND THEATER—Tonight, at 8:15, Primrose & Dockstader's big minstrel company. CORDRAY'S THEATER—This evening at 8:15, George Kline's "James Boys in Missouri." THE BAKER THEATER—Tonight, at 8:15, the Stock Company in "The Tennesseeans."

DEADVANTAGES OF GERMAN PAPERS.—Accused of riding his bicycle without displaying a lighted lamp, F. Platner was before Municipal Judge Hogue yesterday and pleaded that he did not know the offense complained of was against the law. "How long have you been riding a bicycle?" asked Deputy City Attorney Fitzgerald. "Since last May." "Surely you have seen people with lighted lamps on their bicycles at night?" persisted the lawyer. "Yes, but I thought the lamps were only for the safety of the wheelmen," replied Platner. "Do you ever read the newspapers?" "Only the German newspapers. Let me off this time, and I'll carry a lamp in future," remarked Platner. He was fined \$2.

RASPBERRIES IN DECEMBER.—A long branch of a raspberry bush, bearing several dozen berries in every stage, from tiny green ones to large red, ripe ones, fairly well flavored and tempting in appearance, was brought to The Oregonian office yesterday afternoon by G. Matthews, of 8 1/2 East Seventh street, while the snowflakes were gently drifting down and melting on the sidewalks. This sort of thing is nothing new here, but it does not happen often outside of Oregon. Ripe strawberries and raspberries, and roses and many other flowers in bloom in the middle of December astonish strangers visiting Portland, and are scarcely noticed by residents, as this is the general rule nine years out of 10.

POTATOES LOWER IN PRICE.—Those who did not sell their potatoes when dealers were paying 85 cents per sack for them are now sorry, as dealers say they have been paying too much, and offer only 60 to 65 cents per sack. There is little demand for potatoes in the market now, and they have enough there to last till after the holidays. A commission man who has been working around in San Francisco says they have had potatoes there and fewer eggs, and that butter like Albany creamery butter is not to be found there. The best they have comes from dairies up the Coast, and is about the same as Tillamook butter here.

WANTED GOOD MATERIAL.—A young man who sometimes imbibes at a saloon where whisky is handed out in a silver teapot and called "cold tea" recently bought a rather expensive meerschaum pipe. The dealer told him that the coloring of the pipe would be helped if he would pour cold tea into it once in a while. The owner of the pipe only knew of one kind of cold tea. He used this with such frequency that the pipe began to swell, and kept on swelling till it all went to pieces. Now the question is, Who shall stand the loss of the pipe—the buyer or seller? They would both like to make the whisky man with the silver teapot pay the bill.

GERMAN METHODISTS TO MEET.—The pastors and members of the German Methodist and other churches in Portland and vicinity will hold a mass meeting in the German M. E. Church, corner Fifteenth and First streets, at 8 o'clock this evening, with the object of discussing the deaconess cause and the possibility of founding a deaconess home in Portland. H. F. Lange, of Connel, Wash., will present the object of such an institution, and it is hoped that the meeting will take definite steps toward raising money for that purpose. All interested in such a movement are invited to attend.

CONCRETE WALKS ON FIFTH STREET.—The City Engineer force of surveyors were setting stakes at Fifth and Jefferson streets yesterday for the guidance of the contractors who are laying concrete sidewalks on Fifth street. They are coming up to Jefferson street, which is the southern limit of the cement-sidewalk district, to work downhill, and so get along faster. It will not be long till there are cement walks on Fifth street clear up to Jefferson, which will be a great improvement to that thoroughfare.

STREET HOLES FILLED.—The large and deep holes in the pavement on Morrison street, at the intersection of Third, where women used to get their feet wet in crossing, will offend no more. They were filled with asphalt yesterday. One of the advantages of an asphalt pavement is that when holes are worn in it they can be repaired and the pavement made as good as new without much trouble. The wonder is that such repairs are so seldom made.

NO TROUBLE TO FIND A SALOON.—There is but little probability that any liquor drinker who can raise the money to pay for a drink will need to go thirsty in Portland. There are 34 liquor licenses out. About half a dozen of these are for wholesalers, and a few more for restaurants, five for groceries, five for colored men and 11 for Chinese; so that all classes are provided for, and no one need go dry.

ORIENTAL RUGS AND KILLERS.—There is now on exhibition in Portland the largest assortment of high-class antique Persian rugs in the West. Connoisseurs and all interested in these wonderful fabrics will have an opportunity for only a few days more to inspect and make selections from this valuable collection. 35 Washington street, near Seventh.

TO TAKE PRISONER TO SACRAMENTO.—Policeman Jasper Williams, of Sacramento, Cal., is expected to arrive here tomorrow to take with him George Strang, who was recently arrested by Detectives Kerrigan and Snow, charged with robbing a safe in a Sacramento restaurant about 800 one year ago.

THE LADIES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN Church will hold a dime social this evening in the home of Mrs. Frank Hachney, 580 Corbett street. The young ladies will have both useful and ornamental articles for sale. Burnt wood and leather are specialties. Your patronage kindly solicited.

STRAY HORSES PICKED UP.—The police are trying to find the owner of two horses, one white and one bay, and express wagon No. 361, found at East Twelfth and Fourth streets, which they picked up. The horses are being cared for in an East Side stable.

HAD CHICKENS FOR SALE.—Following is an extract from a letter sent by a poultry-raiser to a man in this city a day or two ago: "I like to send a few Pekin China pullets to the show for us to sell if you think we could sell them, or wood you and what wood be the charge. They are good. I think I like to send in a 12. Please let here from me at wonts." The writer is not perfect in his spelling, but he gets there all the same, and his meaning cannot be mistaken.

SATISFIED WITH THE JAIL.—James McDonald, the veteran bad bill collector, who was arrested charged with trespass on the complaint of James Garner, the owner of the East Side scow, did not offer to raise the necessary \$100 bail yesterday, and he remained in the County Jail. His case will be heard Friday, before Justice of the Peace Reid.

CITY PRESS CLUB MEETING.—A special meeting of the City Press Club, of Portland, has been called for this (Tuesday) afternoon at 5 o'clock at the rooms of the club, 794 and 795 Marquam building. Business of importance is to come up, and a full attendance of the membership is desired.

RELEASED ON \$1000 BOND.—L. Hickey, charged with robbery at E. I. Larson's saloon, Sixteenth and Washington streets, was released yesterday on \$1000 bail being deposited for his appearance at the Municipal Court Friday. His father was his bondsman.

CHARGED WITH VAGRANCY.—As Douglas Wingham jumped off a freight train in the Union Terminal freight-yard yesterday, he was arrested by Policeman Hogueboom, charged with vagrancy. Wingham had sat on a brakebeam all the way from Tacoma.

COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN.—Owing to the death of Mr. Solomon Hirsch, the meeting of the Bible class of the Council of Jewish Women will be postponed until Wednesday afternoon, December 31.

THE BEST PLACE in the city for popular-priced holiday goods, toys, games and dolls, do business at Clary's, The Fair, 22 Washington, near Sixth.

PROF. STREILING, the palist, is ill at the Good Samaritan Hospital. Will be at office, 283 1/2 Morrison, December 21.

CHARITATIONS, floral pieces, holy and violent at Burkhardt's, 224 and Gilman.

F. W. SCHIMMER's hydrophatic treatment rooms, 650-519 McKay building.

COLLIE puppies for presents. See C. D. Nairn's collection at Poultry Show.

WISB BROS., dentists, The Falling.

"DRIFTWOOD BLAZE." Flooded with subbeams. The fire blue. In its dissolving lights, is old Yet ever new.

Longfellow. The drawing-rooms of Portland can now in reality bring back the true spirit and semblance of the real old New England Christmas. The "Driftwood Blaze," celebrated in poetic songs by Longfellow, is here and we can all burn it in our hearths. The open fireplace at eventide will now irradiate the many-hued dissolving tints that wrought their charm around every New England fireside on the Massachusetts Coast 50 years ago.

That was the time of many wrecks, and the hearths were replenished by the driftwood from the wrecks of New York City. The driftwood, saturated with the corrosion from the copper sheathing, nails and rivets, and when placed on the fire flamed into all the colors of the rainbow. In the millions of tons of New York City driftwood, there were many a time to get some of this driftwood. Lately Yankee ingenuity has devised a wonderful powder, composed of the same ingredients that produced the beautiful lights of the old driftwood. Put some of this powder in a good-sized pepper box shaker. Sprinkle it over the top of the burning logs. It immediately melts, forms a crust upon the logs, becomes a part of the logs, sending out the loveliest hues and heavenly combinations of color all the while until the fire at length dies down after the logs are consumed. The powder is called "Driftwood Blaze." One sprinkling fixes the log so that it will burn in color until it is entirely consumed. The "Drift" does not hurry the fire at all—it makes it last a little longer. It is the most poetic and beautiful thing that is put on sale this Christmas. The shakers and the "Drift" are on exhibition in our windows. It is a boys' enough for 50 whole evenings of brilliantly stimulating paradise on earth. Anyone who gets "Driftwood Blaze" will be using just what Whitney and Carnegie used in their homes. It was used to make Christmas and home look complete.

THE JOHN BARRETT CO., Established 1888. Sixth and Alder.

AT THE THEATERS "Big American Minstrels."

Primrose and Dockstader at the Marquam last evening bedimmed the recollection of other minstrels of the recent past by the seeming of 30 cents. True to the leading traditions of old-time minstrelsy, they delighted the eye and the ear from beginning to end of the performance with novel scenery and tableaux, new songs by splendid voices, brand-new jokes and surprising specialties.

The show is straight, legitimate, satisfying minstrelsy, all performers black face, no painted wigs, no chestnuts, no questionable jokes, nothing that jars. The stage setting of the opening scene is a beautiful picture, and the tableaux at its conclusion following the fine song by Mr. Hallett, "The Old Flag That Never Touched the Ground," is very effective.

Mozers, George Primrose and Lew Dockstader are so well known to everybody that it is not necessary to describe their entertaining qualities. In his "character and scenic creation," the "Sunny, Sunny South," Mr. Primrose demonstrated the perennial excellence of his dancing, introducing his pupils, a couple of sprightly lads, who are exhibiting an exhibition of double clog dancing that made one willing to accept Mr. Primrose's statement that they are the best in the country.

Mr. Dockstader also had a little specialty wherewith he proceeded to convulse the house all by himself. He introduced the lobster-mobiler, doing stunts on his locomoto-koko-mobiler, "Mount Pelee." Mr. Dockstader's local hits were center stage.

Nell O'Brien and Eddie Leonard were the jesters of the first part of the entertainment, and they are good ones. Leonard's dancing and his recitative song, "I'm Going to Live Anyhow Until I Die," scored with the audience. Mr. O'Brien's creation, "The Doctor's Troubles," was so laughable that one small boy and a fat lady were nearly tickled into a fit.

The Howan brothers, banjoists, are wonders. Their playing of the overture from "William Tell" was a revelation of the possibilities of the banjo; and their feat of both men playing simultaneously on one instrument was astonishing. They also gave a very clever imitation of the photographed music of a band.

The tenor soloists, Manuel Romain and James B. Bradley, are of the best. Mr. Romain's solo has an exceedingly delicate and sympathetic quality which shone all through his fine song, "When Kate and I Were Comin' Through the Rye." Mr. Bradley's song, "Down in the Valley, Where the Blue Birds Sing," is a beautiful bit of melody.

The baritone solo, "The New-Born King," by Gra F. Weller, was inspiring. Mr. Stanley H. Ford's bass is magnificent in his solo, "The Cellar Is My Lodging Here."

The entertainment winds up with a remarkable specialty. Two young men, Olie Young and brother, show what wonderful things can be done with hoops. Their hoops, which are evidently bicycle rims, are made to perform antics as though endowed with living intelligence. They astonished the audience.

The show concludes in Portland with this evening's performance.

WHERE TO DINE. "What to eat" solved correctly at the Portland Restaurant, 265 Washington.

Special six-course dinner at the Imperial Hotel restaurant today, 50 cents; second floor; take elevator, 12 to 8 P. M.

PEREMPTORY SALE. Our entire line of Japanese crockery and bric-a-brac at half-price for few days only. Empress Bazaar, 123 1/2 Fourth, near Alder.

High-Grade Pianos for Rent. Sold on easy installments. Pianos tuned and repaired. H. Sinsheimer, 72 Third st.

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Oregon SOUVENIR Playing Cards Very appropriate to send East; they are useful, instructive and interesting, as they contain 33 finely-engraved halftone pictures of Oregon scenery. Price, \$1.00 per pack. California Souvenir Playing Cards... \$1.00 Washington Souvenir Playing Cards... \$1.00 American Indian Playing Cards... \$1.00 Forbidden City, China, Playing Cards... \$1.00

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Men's Fine Overcoats Cut medium or extra long. Shown in plain fabrics and the novelty cloths. Your tailor would charge you \$50 or \$60 to equal what we offer you for \$30 and \$25. Finer qualities up to \$55.

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Men's Smoking Jackets and Dressing Gowns, all styles and patterns from \$4.50 to \$22.50. Men's Fine Bath Robes—in Turkish and blanket cloth—all new swell colors—from \$3.50 to \$10.00. Holiday Neckwear—every style and kind 50c to \$5.00. Suspenders—put up one pair in a box 50c to \$5.00. Immense assortments in Gloves, Shirts, Pajamas, Night Robes, Handkerchiefs, Hose, Traveling Bags, etc., etc.

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Presents for Men Fancy Table Covers, Lace Curtains, Chenille Portieres, Couch Covers, Indian Robes, Oregon Wool Blankets, white and colored; Downa-line Comfortables, Stand and Sideboard Cloths, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Sets, Fancy Pillow Tops, Stamped Linens, Fancy Towels and Table Linens.

Presents for Women Everybody admires a well-dressed man. How about the woman? A woman appreciates a dress pattern, a silk waist, kid gloves, Monte Carlo coat, tailor-made suit, silk petticoats, furs, and many other articles in wearing apparel that we carry in stock.

Hand SAPOLIO FOR TOILET AND BATH. Fingers roughened by needlework catch every stain and look hopelessly dirty. Hand Sapolio removes not only the dirt, but also the loosened, injured cuticle, and restores the fingers to their natural beauty.

A Holiday Hint A pair of good Shoes for a Christmas Gift. KNIGHT'S Fifth and Washington.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS CANTO No. 13. Ideal Gifts. The value of a Christmas present is measured by the pleasure it conveys. A pair of handsome gold spectacles or eyeglasses, adjusted to meet requirements later, bring fresh joy to their owners with each dawning day throughout the year. Ours fit better than others.

Presents for Men Gloves for dress and work, Silk and Cashmere Mufflers, Neckties in endless variety, Silk and Linen Handkerchiefs in profusion, Fancy Suspenders, Shirts, Fancy Socks, Umbrellas, and the celebrated Mt. Hood Shirts.

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