

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

The Oregonian's Telephone.
OREGON.
 Counting Room Main 661
 Managing Editor Main 661
 City Editor Main 106
 Composing Room Main 106
 East Side Office East 61
 Superintendent Building Red 253
COLUMBIA.
 Counting Room 607
 Editorial Room 106
 Composing Room 111
 Engine Room 206

AMUSEMENTS.
MARQUAN GRAND THEATRE. Matinee today at 2:15 o'clock, evening at 8:15. Mr. Andrew Hobson in "Richard Carvel."
THE BAKER THEATRE. This afternoon at 2:15, and this evening at 8:15, Nellie Stock Company, in "The Charity Ball."
CORDIAT'S THEATRE. This afternoon at 2:15, this evening at 8:15, Willard Sumner in "Pickings From Puck."
Y. M. C. A. AUDITORIUM. Eugene Cowles' Concert Co., tonight.

THIS OLD CLAIM IS TOO LATE.—A few days ago City Engineer E. J. Tait received a note from C. G. Tuttle, who wrote that he had a claim against the City of Portland, which he wished to collect. Mr. Elliott wrote to Mr. Tuttle, who lives in some little town in Washington, to inquire what the claim was for, and received a reply inclosing a statement written on a letterhead of W. S. Chapman, "Superintendent of Streets," and dated January 11, 1881, addressed to Mr. Ferguson, Albin, as follows: "Mr. C. G. Tuttle has a claim against the city for \$18, payable January 15, signed J. D. McKay." The claim was for work on sidewalks, and McKay was Deputy Superintendent of Streets under Chapman a dozen years ago. No one at the City Hall knows Tuttle, or understands why he has waited so long before trying to collect his claim. He need not bother about it now, for, if he is alive, the claim is dead. Looking up the matter has kept the clerk amused for some hours just at this busy season, when the city accounts are being balanced. This, however, is nothing compared to some 312 items of account sent in to be checked up by a dealer who has furnished the city with supplies for street work, and who could not make his accounts balance. Going over the list and comparing the items with the books of the city kept an overworked clerk out of mischief for 1 1/2 days, but he succeeded in getting the matter straightened out.

HOW TO KEEP DUCKS SATISFIED.—When sportsmen buy whistling ducks at a time for feeding wild ducks to induce them to linger longer in this section to be shot, and when on one preserve seven sacks of wheat per day are fed to these ducks, as is the case on Hunterman Bros' preserve, near Scappoose, it is not to be wondered at that there are still plenty of ducks here, and that they are in good condition. On this preserve, a few days ago three guns brought down 107 ducks in 2 1/2 hours, and shooting was then stopped because the shooters had as many ducks as they wanted. The same condition of things exists at the preserve at the Edw. Willows Shooting Club, and ducks are equally plentiful there. This indicates that there is something in the theory of the sportsmen that if the ducks are well fed they will stay here, and in a few years there will be no duck shooting in this region. In considering the changes to be made in the game laws, the Fish and Game Association will take this matter into consideration. There are vast flocks of ducks, but if they are not fed, they will not stay here, and it takes a lot of money to feed them.

FIREMEN BANQUET TONIGHT.—The "Ancient and Honorable" Association of Ex-empt Firemen give a banquet this evening at 8 o'clock at Bath & Sandy's cafe, 145 First street. The association was organized shortly after the great fire of 1872, and the membership has included some 300 firemen. There are now only 35 left, and for several years it has been the custom for them to hold a banquet at this season, at which they can meet and talk over old times—the days when they used to drag the engines to a fire and then man the brakes and pump the water to extinguish it. Covers will be laid for 40, as there will be a few old firemen and members of No. 2 Benevolent Association present as guests. All interested are requested to participate in the affair are requested to meet at the Fifth-street entrance to the City Hall at 7:30 P. M., to march down to the cafe.

HE HAD TO HOLD ON.—There has been something wrong with the electric wires about the Belvedere Hotel for the past day or two, and passengers in the elevator have felt a tingling in their hands when they placed them against the sides of the cage. Yesterday morning an electrician was called in to put things to rights. He got on top of the elevator, and, grasping the cable by which it is suspended, he found a loose hold of a wire on the side of the shaft with the other. He received a rather severe shock, and was not able to release his hold and called for assistance. By striking on his wrist and pulling and hauling at him, he was finally torn loose and found to be uninjured. His shoes being wet and his standing on the iron work forming the top of the elevator made him a good conductor, and the current went through him. He had a lucky escape.

OFFICERS OF MASONIC BUILDING ASSOCIATION.—The Masonic Building Association held its annual meeting and election of officers at the rooms of the association in the Marquam building yesterday morning at 11 o'clock. After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, the reports of the officers for the past year had been read, the following board of directors was elected: H. W. Corbett, Thomas Grey, Henry Eversding, and the vacancy caused by the resignation of Theodore Wyrant, Jacob Meyer and I. W. Pratt. After the association meeting, the newly elected board elected the following officers: Jacob Meyer, president; Thomas Grey, vice-president; H. W. Corbett, treasurer, and I. W. Pratt, secretary.

OFFICERS OF CAMELIA CHAPTER.—The election of officers of Camelia Chapter, No. 27, Order of Eastern Star, resulted as follows: Amelia F. Cutler, W. M.; A. H. Trego, W. P.; Lennie Wiegand, A. M.; Nellie McKinley, secretary; Barbara Wiegand, treasurer; Flora G. Whipple, conductress; Sarah E. Trego, associate conductress.

T. F. A. MEETING.—The annual meeting and election of officers of the Oregon and Washington Division, T. F. A., will be held this afternoon at the Portland Hotel, at 2 o'clock. Much important business will be taken up, and every member is urged to be present. A. N. Smith, president.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO KANSAS CITY to the meeting of the National Livestock Association, see that your ticket reads via the Northern Pacific-Burlington route direct. Tickets on sale January 8 and 9 at the Northern Pacific ticket office, 255 Morrison street, corner of Third, Portland, Or.

PORTLAND LODGE, No. 416, B'NAI B'RITH.—Members will assemble at the lodgeroom Sunday, December 28, at 9:30 A. M., for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late brother, Isaac Steinbecker. All B'NAI B'RITH invited to attend. Louis Rau, Secretary.

JUST TWO HANDFULS LEFT. Any toy, doll, buggy or games one-half off regular price. Ladies' heavy fleeced underwear, 15c; children's wool hose, 8c. Clara's Toy Fair, 325 Washington street, near Sixth.

CHEAP excursion tickets to Kansas City and return January 8 and 9. Full particulars at the Northern Pacific ticket office, 255 Morrison street, corner of Third.

EUGENE COWLES, America's greatest basso, with his concert company, at the Y. M. C. A. Saturday night. A few reserved seats left. Price 50 cents.

JOHN BURROUGHS SOCIETY. Tonight at 8 o'clock the John Burroughs Society will meet in the City Hall. The public is invited to hear the programme.

FOURTH WAY DOWN. Wooster's 4th-Mor. Great Slipper bargains. Mark's Shoe Co. Wise Bros., dentists, The Failing.

AT THE THEATERS

BAKER CITY'S MARCH OF PROGRESS.—The authorities of Baker City are about to establish a system of sewers to drain the most thickly settled part of the city. As they have had no experience in building sewers, dealing with sewer contractors and in assessing the property-owners to pay for such necessities, Messrs. C. H. Stuller, Clerk, and J. J. Hellner, City Attorney, of Baker City, have come here to look over Auditor Devlin's books and obtain all required information in regard to sewer assessments and accounts. They have been here several days, and expect to finish their investigations by the end of the week. They say that they have received every possible courtesy from Auditor Devlin and his deputies and clerks, and that they find the books of his office in fine condition; in fact, nothing could be better. The first sewer system to be built in Baker City will cost about \$40,000, and will be about \$100,000 in all expended in sewer there before long.

WOMEN'S CLUB MUSICAL.—The Women's Club musical yesterday afternoon was an altogether delightful affair, and was attended by a large number of club-women and their friends. The names upon the programme were those of some of the best known Portland singers and pianists, and Mrs. Warren E. Thomas, who arranged the musical, and who played the accompaniments, was warmly complimented on the success of her charming entertainment. At the close of the programme tea was served by Mrs. George C. Flanders and the social committee. The soloists of the afternoon were: Mrs. Bushong, Mrs. Schwab, Miss Greer, Miss Monroe and Mr. Zan, whose number, "Ring Out, Wild Bells" (Gounod), was encored. As an encore Mr. Zan sang "Israel." Besides the local numbers, there was a piano solo, "Le Regina Venetiana," by Mrs. Knight.

CHARGES AGAINST WIT STARRING.—His clothes cut into rags and his arms and face cut and bleeding, Ole Offerson appeared at the police station yesterday and charged Bernhard Schwartz with an assault with a dangerous weapon. Schwartz was at once brought before the Judge and entered a plea of not guilty, stating that he was ready for a trial at any time. He was under the influence of liquor, however, and the complaining witness was not in a much better condition, so the case was continued until Monday.

FROM THE STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE TWO MEN, they seem to have been in a drunken quarrel, when Schwartz drew a knife and stabbed his opponent. The injuries are serious.

FINE REID-BILL MAN.—James McDonald, the veteran bad-bill collector, was before a jury of six in Justice of the Peace Reid's Court yesterday, charged with trespassing on the ancient sows of James Gardner, of the East Side. The hearing was a protracted one, and the opposing lawyers fought every point. McDonald was found guilty, and the Justice disposed of fine him \$5, but McDonald's lawyer hinted that he had hoped a larger fine would have been imposed, in order that his client might appeal against the decision. "Certainly." Your client is fined \$30," said the Justice.

DREMENTED MAN JAILED.—Police Officer Devlin, Hooberoom and King heard yesterday morning that a demented man, partially clad in rags, was roaming around the City Park, and when they approached him, he was found to be clad in his undershirt. After a furious struggle, he was overpowered and taken to the County Jail for medical examination.

INQUEST OVER OTTO ERDMAN.—The inquest over the death of Otto Erdman, who shot himself in the head a few days ago, was held yesterday morning by Coroner Finley. The decision of the jury was that the man had shot himself in a fit of temporary insanity, caused by extreme nervousness. No motive could be found for the rash deed. In the afternoon the funeral services were held in Finley's undertaking chapel, and the remains were buried at the Lone Fir cemetery. Rev. Mr. Hoffer officiated at the services.

THE LADIES' AUXILIARY of the Congregation Abnath Shalom will give its Hanukkah entertainment and ball for the benefit of its Sunday school, at Arion Hall, Sunday, December 28, 1892, when a performance for about two hours will be given. After that a programme of 12 dances will be given. A fine orchestra has been engaged for the occasion. Refreshments will be served. Admission, 25 cents; reserved seats, 50 cents.

W. F. CAPLANO HELD UP.—A daring hold-up was committed at 11:45 Wednesday night. W. F. Caplano was on his road home, and was held up by two highwaymen and relieved of his watch, money and gun. He says that there was one large man, with black mustache, who held a revolver in his face while a small, smooth-shaven man went through his pockets.

DETECTIVES CAPTURE AN TWING.—Ah Twing, who robbed a Japanese store about two weeks ago, was yesterday captured by Detectives Snow and Kerrigan. They say that he is a Chinaman with a bad record, and that it is a good thing they have a charge with which they can keep him in confinement.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Services at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. The Rev. John S. Macintosh, D. D., of Philadelphia, one of the most widely known Presbyterian clergymen of the United States, will preach morning and evening.

ORIENTAL RUGS.—Great reductions on large rugs before packing up. Sale closes December 30. The King Collection, 345 Washington. Open evenings.

Now for Values and Bargains in Broken Lines

Dress Goods
 Thousands of remnants of dress goods of all description, in plain and fancy weaves and bright Scotch plaids, for children's dresses.

Silks at Half Price
 Thousands of yards of plain and fancy silks, in black and colors, at half-price.

Imported Table Linens
 Thousands of yards of fine imported Irish table linens, bleached and half-bleached.

Towelings, Etc.
 Remnants of towelings, crashes and odd towels, napkins and dollies.

Popular Dry Goods Store

Graves & Co.
 Leading Music Dealers,
 Sixth Street Near Washington.
 Open Evenings.

PORTLAND IN THE DARK
 But we burn gas. Our annual sale begins today. Note reduced prices. Regal and Washburn, Stewart and Stella stand for par excellence. We have them all. Open tonight. "Wright's," 345 Washington street.

High-Grade Pianos for Rent.
 Sold on easy installments. Pianos tuned and repaired. H. Sinaheimer, 12 Third st.

For a Social Game of Billiards,
 Parlors, 127 6th, adjoining Oregonian Bldg.

The 1884 Year Grows Old
 Before the New Year dawns let us ease those weary, harassed eyes with solacing Glasses fitted to their needs. If you were overlooked Christmas, treat yourself and save your vision.

WALTER REED
 The Optician
 133 Sixth Street Oregonian Building

WEATHER FOR JANUARY.
 Records for Portland Covering Period of 31 Years.

The following data, covering a period of 31 years, have been compiled from the Weather Bureau records at Portland, Or. Month of January for 31 years:

Temperature.—Mean or normal temperature, 39 degrees. The warmest month was that of 1900, with an average of 44 degrees. The coldest month was that of 1888, with an average of 29 degrees. The highest temperature was 62 degrees, on the 25th, 1888. The lowest temperature was 2 degrees, on the 15th, 1888. Average date on which first "killing" frost occurred in Autumn, November 15. Average date on which last "killing" frost occurred in Spring, March 17.

Precipitation (rain and melted snow).—Average for the month, 6.70 inches. Average number of days with .01 of an inch or more, 19. The greatest monthly precipitation was 13.1 inches, in 1882. The least monthly precipitation was 2.12 inches, in 1892. The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any 24 consecutive hours was 6.56 inches on the 6th and 6th, 1882. The greatest amount of snowfall recorded in any 24 consecutive hours (record extending to Winter of 1884-85) only was 9.0 inches on the 24, 1880.

Clouds and weather.—Average number of clear days, 8; partly cloudy days, 7; cloudy days, 15.

Wind.—The prevailing winds have been from the south. The highest velocity of the wind was 32 miles, from the south on the 9th, 1880. A. B. WOLLABER, Observer Temporarily in Charge.

Phonographs and Musical Instruments for Christmas.

Absolutely the Largest Stock in the Northwest to select from.

Graves & Co.
 Leading Music Dealers,
 Sixth Street Near Washington.
 Open Evenings.

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 But we burn gas. Our annual sale begins today. Note reduced prices. Regal and Washburn, Stewart and Stella stand for par excellence. We have them all. Open tonight. "Wright's," 345 Washington street.

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A. B. Steinbach & Co.

LARGEST CLOTHIERS IN NORTHWEST. CORNER FOURTH AND MORRISON STREETS.

Persons wishing to remember friends with

New Year's Gifts

Will find immense varieties of

Clothing, Furnishings and Hats

left from our enormous Christmas trade and certainly excellent varieties of

Smoking Jackets, Bath Robes, Lounging Robes

Fedora, Derby and Silk Hat Styles

Dress Suit Cases, Traveling Bags, Toilet Sets, Umbrellas, Canes, etc.

Neckwear, Suspenders, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Shirts, Night Robes, Full Dress Protectors, Hose, etc.

We Are Offering Until January 1st

3 SPECIALS

1000 Pairs of \$6 Trousers, \$4.35 Received too late for Christmas trade.

Men's Suits and Overcoats, \$11.00 Fully worth \$15.00.

Men's Hats, \$1.35 Usually sold at \$2.00 and \$2.50.

SEE FOURTH-STREET WINDOW

W. L. DOUGLAS SHOES
 FOR MEN \$3.50
 "Queen Quality" SHOES
 FOR WOMEN \$3.00
 Goddard-Kelly Shoe Company
 SIXTH AND WASHINGTON STS.

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HOT SPRINGS, ARK.
 The Park Hotel High-Class
 FINEST CAFES WEST OF NEW YORK.
 Open Jan. 2d to May 15. J. R. HAYES, Under New Management. C. A. BRANT, Lessee.

FAINLESS DENTISTRY
 Dr. Fred Frith, Dekum bide
 Full set teeth, \$5
 Bridge work, 22K
 Philadelphia graduate.
 All the latest appliances for doing perfect work. Fred Frith, The Yakum, cor. 5d and Washington, Portland, Or.

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 California's foremost health and pleasure resort. The hot mineral and mud baths are a certain cure for rheumatism, gout and eczema. For full particulars and illustrated booklet address L. R. MEAD, Byron Hot Springs, Cal.

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 THE FISH as a sign has a history. This is told in an interesting booklet which is yours for the asking. A. J. TOWER CO. BOSTON, MASS. WET WEATHER CLOTHING. OUR GOODS ARE ON SALE EVERYWHERE.

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 THE GREATEST SALE OF
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 PORTLAND HAS EVER SEEN
Suits and Overcoats
 READY-TO-WEAR
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 Dr. E. C. BROWN EYE AND EAR DISEASES, Marquam bldg., rooms 426-7.
 Hadway's Ready Relief is a cure for every pain, (rheumatism, headache, neuralgia, rheumatism).