MONEY FOR CITY

Expenses for 1904 Estimated at $762,963.

IS MORE THAN LAST YEAR

But Levy Will Be Only Nine and a Half Mills.

FIGURES OF CITY AUDITOR

Municipal Needs Grow With Population and Prosperity, and $3,000,000 More of Assessable Property Is Listed.

How the City's Money Was Divided Among the Departments in 1903.

General expense	$163,869.59
Fire Department	102,249.79
Police Department	79,087.75
Street cleaning and sprinkling	43,864.31
Light fund	54,134.61
Interest fund	122,575.00
Street repair fund	30,728.01
	$596,449.16

How the Money Is Asked to Be Divided in 1904.

General expense	$286,397.13
Fire Department (estimated for full paid department)	162,320.00
Police Department	106,615.61
Street cleaning and sprinkling	72,183.13
Light fund	71,936.26
Street repair fund	63,511.16
	$762,963.29

Before these estimates become law they must be approved by the Mayor, the Executive Board and the Council.

Nine and one-half mills will undoubtedly be the city tax levy for the year 1904. This year it was 11 mills, including 1½ mills for the fireboat.

An additional $3,000,000, or $46,000,000 altogether, will be assessable for the coming year. Though the above table shows the estimated expenditures to be greater by $166,514.13 than the expenditures of the present year, this does not mean that the amount actually spent will be in excess of the sum expended during the year 1903. Again, the increased assessable property will aid to counterbalance the larger sum asked for by the various departments.

Estimates of the receipts and disbursements for the coming year were prepared yesterday upon the basis of a 9½-mill tax levy. The receipts and disbursements of the present year up to yesterday were likewise prepared.

The official shears will no doubt snip off a few figures from the estimates of several departments. As in every other business, the heads of these departments are in the habit of asking for more money than they expect to receive. Therefore, the table of estimates for the year 1904 shows what is wanted, and not what will actually be spent. Again, there will be receipts not included in the list. For instance, it is a significant fact that in the estimate of the receipts of the Municipal Court, the gamblers' fines are not taken into account. These have averaged over $5,000 a month for the past several months.

Improvements along so many different lines are so earnestly desired, both by the public and the heads of the departments, that heavy additional sums are called for. To make Portland a better city means more money spent. The estimates for street cleaning and for lighting show large increases. But great improvements are planned in both these departments.

A full paid fire department now seems a probability, and the necessary appropriation of $162,320 will very likely be approved by those who hold the blue pencil.

The $65,000 expenditure for the fireboat will not be repeated in 1904. Sveral payments have been made and there yet remains some $50,000 odd in the fund.

It is safe to say that there are few cities in the United States whose municipal bookkeeping is in such perfect order that two men and one stenographer can in one day compile the receipts and disbursements for 12 months and also estimate accurately what will be needed for the next year. The accounts of 1903 were brought up to the evening of December 19 within a fraction of a cent.

City Auditor Thomas C. Devlin, Chief Deputy Segel Grutze and Miss Florence Watkins worked overtime yesterday preparing the estimates. There was no guesswork about the accounts of the present year or in adding together the estimates for the year 1904, and the figures can therefore be regarded as correct.

"It was easier to make up the receipts and disbursements, as well as the estimates, than it has ever been before," said City Auditor Devlin, as at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon he completed an eight hours' continuous stretch on the ledgers. "Everything was in such shape that it could easily be put together."

CITY JAIL IS OVERFLOWING

Police Make Extra Efforts to Clear City of Vagrants.

The City Jail was taxed to its limit yesterday and last night. Prisoners who would gain access to the confines of the city dungeon now must boast of a crime out of the ordinary. Minor offenses, such as vagrancy, begging after hours, did not admit the offender to a night's lodging. He was simply charged against a repetition of the violation of city statutes, and allowed to go.

"There would not have been standing room in the jail," said Captain Moore last night. "If we had made an effort to keep all of the men that were arrested."

This extraordinary tax on the capacity of the City Jail is due to an effort Chief Hunt is making to rid the city of undesirable characters. Sergeant of Police Hogeboom, with Officer Vaughn to assist him, is walking the streets these night with the avowed purpose of bringing in men who have no means of support, are not working and do not want to work.

Of the arrests made since Saturday noon, 33 have been made by Officers Hogeboom and Vaughn, and the only offense has been that they could not give satisfactory answers to the fusillade of questions asked by the policemen in citizens' clothes. Minor charges have been made against these men. Some have been turned loose at once with the promise that they will leave the city. Others will appear before Municipal Judge Hogue this morning to be subjected to a small fine or to have sentence passed upon them, and suspended. This sentence is then held over them as a weapon to force them to leave the city.

"Do you live in the city?" is one of the first questions asked by the officers when they accost a man whom they have picked out as an undesirable character. If he is a man who has any means of support he usually answers with a complete tale of his business and place of residence. If he tries to evade the question he is asked:

"Where do you live?"
"Where do you work?"
"Is your bed paid for?"
"Have you money to buy your meals?"

As soon as the prisoner commences to tell his hard luck story of how he has tried and tried to find work and failed, the officers march him directly to the station.

If it is found upon farther questioning that he has no money with which to pay his way, has no work, or no hope of getting work, does not live in the city, and is simply eking out a living by bleeding the habitues of North-End resorts, he is given a chance to leave the city. If he promises he is allowed his liberty. If he does not promise he is taken before Judge Hogue charged with vagrancy or with being out after hours. The Judge then passes sentence and tells the man that his sentence will be suspended, giving him a chance to get out of the city.

"If you return to this court for any reason," concludes the Judge, "you will have to serve the sentence I have already passed."

This sentence is usually a term on the rock pile and the prisoner does not venture a second appearance.

Of the 33 prisoners brought in since Saturday noon by Officers Hogeboom and Vaughn six were men recognized by the police officers as ex-convicts.

CHARIOT RACE IN A BANK.

Clerks Wager on Merits of Novel Mechanical Toys.

The numerous ingenious mechanical toys so common at this time as bicycles, express wagons, locomotives with trains, etc., which are all operated by concealed machinery, are purchased by many, grown-up persons for their own amusement. The opportunity they offer for leading men to indulge in gambling, is not readily apparent, but they are as attractive to some as are the nickel-in-the-slot machines.

A man who called at one of the leading banks of this city Saturday afternoon was astonished to find that the official he wished to see and the heads of some of the departments had gone duck shooting, and that some 15 or 20 bookkeepers and clerks, were having a regular circus in the largest open space to be found in the room. A number of them had purchased specimens of the mechanical toys mentioned, and were showing them off and comparing their performances with much mirth and jollification, creating a great uproar. The interest of the crowd finally settled in two vehicles, express wagons, or something of the sort, the performances of which were really wonderful. When wound up and started they ran straight ahead for a time, then turned and after awhile made another turn so as to finally arrive at or about the place from which they started. The crowd determined to have a representation of the chariot race in "Ben Hur." It was agreed that there should be five heats, and three laps to each heat. The machines were wound up and a starter appointed, and, when he yelled go, they went, and the betting and excitement commenced.

Money in 10 and 15-cent bets began to pile up and the excitement increased till by the time two laps had been run it had reached fever heat, and there was $40 in the purse. Then the attention of the crowd was called to the work which had to be done. All hands flew at their books and scratched away as fast as possible, it being agreed that as soon as the books were made up the race should be resumed and the other three heats run. It was about 5 P. M. before the books were closed and placed in the vault.

As soon as possible the chariots were wound up and started, and, amid great and increasing excitement, the race was brought to a close. Then the squabbling began over the stakes. It is deemed inadvisable to state the exact amount the purse contained, as it might alarm the patrons of the bank, but it was finally decided to divide the money among the most vociferous claimants, subject to the protest of the protestor. Then the crowd dispersed in a hurry, most of them arriving home late for dinner.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Dr. Jay Tuttle, of Astoria, is stopping at the Imperial.

Edward Currin, a merchant of Heppner, is a Perkins guest.

Mayor J. S. Cooper, of Independence, is stopping at the Imperial.

E. H. Moreck, a Seattle hotel man, is among the arrivals at the Imperial.

William O'Donnell, a mining expert from Baker City, is a guest at the Portland.

Senator and Mrs. John L. Rand were at the Portland yesterday on their way to the Legislative session at Salem.

N. Pickard, of Eugene who owns the Sunset group of mines in Southern Oregon, was at the Perkins yesterday.

Representative W. F. Butcher and Sheriff H. K. Brown, of Baker City, were registered at the Imperial yesterday.

Dr. Hugh I. Cumming, of the Marine Hospital Service, with headquarters at Angel Island, California, is at the Portland.

Robert L. Gerry, the young Newport millionaire who came to Portland a week ago on account of the illness of his brother, left last night over the Southern Pacific for San Francisco.

N. Poston, of Seattle, representing the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, is in the city in consultation with local representatives of the line. Mr. Poston says that his company has extensive plans now under consideration for enlarging its carrying capacity. These plans contemplate building or purchasing a number of additional steamers and lumber schooners for the coastwise trade and an increase in their California lumber mills.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Northwestern people registered at New York hotels today as follows:

From Portland—J. H. Amos, at the Ashland; H. N. Burpee, at the Imperial.

From Seattle—E. Brainerd, at the Astor.

From Spokane—L. Ellison and wife, at the Herald-Square.

From Tacoma—J. Jacoby, at the Imperial.

LEPROSY NOT INHERITED.

Nun Tells of Experience in Care of Infants From Molokai.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—After having spent the past 11 years caring for the children of the lepers of the Hawaiian Islands, Sister Albina, of the Franciscan Order, who formerly was Miss Myriam Sluder, of St. Louis, has arrived here on a visit to her parents.

Sister Albina said that the common belief that children of lepers inherit the disease is erroneous.

"We take the children when they are two days old," she said, "and we have never had a case where leprosy has developed in after years. The children mostly all come from the Island of Molokai, where the leper colony is located."

B. B. RICH CIGAR-HOLDERS.

Gold mounted cigar holders make a good present. Any B. B. Rich cigar store.

GRANULATED EYELIDS.

Murine Eye Remedy cures this and other Eye troubles, makes weak eyes strong.

ROAD IN FAR NORTH

Earnings of White Pass & Yukon Fall Off.

OFFICIALS ARE NOT WORRIED

President Tells How Pleased Ladies Were With the Trip, and Expresses Confidence in the Klondike's Future.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The annual report of the White Pass & Yukon, the most northerly railroad, is extremely interesting as affording the first official sketch of the troubles that afflict this unique and very peculiar railroad. It is noteworthy that trouble seems to sit lightly upon the men that are running the road. In 1902 they paid a regular dividend of 5 per cent and a special stock dividend of 25 per cent. In 1903 earnings had fallen off to such an extent that the total amount available for dividends was reduced to $354,876.

This total is not the total of the railroad company, whose year ends June 30, but of the entire local and mail and other services, and the year is made to end December, 1902. The report is peculiar in this respect, containing two distinct sets of figures, one for The Company, and the other for the so-called local companies.

The income account for the railway company, whose year ends June 30, 1903, shows as follows, with comparisons:

	1903	1902	Dec.
Net income Ry.	$233,500	$665,005	$471,505
Net income Riv div.	126,786	139,835	13,069
Mail	90,045	......	*90,045
Total Net	$353,530	$769,434	$415,904

*Increase.

Net income for river division in 1902 was for fourteen months and mail income in 1903 was for eight months only.

The profit and loss of the senior company shows as follows:

	1903	1902	Dec.
Surplus after charges	$60,410	$136,967	$58,312
Dividends	68,750	68,750	
Deficit	$ 8,440		
Surplus		$68,217	$76,557

Even in the face of this truly disappointing showing the president and directors appear cheerful. The former dwells upon the bright features of the year and sketches in the causes that led to the big decrease in earnings, concluding with the remark that things might easily have been worse and will probably be better next year. The report is very naive in its language, the president, for instance, assuring his stockholders that ladies who have told him about their trip via the Winter mail service from White Horse to Dawson have talked to him about it and assured him that they considered it a delightful experience.

The line is narrow guage and seems to be largely built on trestles. The total number of bridges in the 312 miles of railroad has been 101, but this number is being cut to 28. During the year several curves were taken out of the road and the roadbed was widened in places. The rail division carried 16,059 passengers and 28,095 tons of freight. The average load per car was 9.77 tons and the average haul per ton was 108.09 miles. The river division carried 7006 passengers and 21,847 tons of freight. The fleet steamed 112,269 miles during the year and served 175,539 meals aboard the boats. Only 1001 passengers took the trip by sleigh and coach over the trail from Dawson to White Horse during the Winter, though 140 trips were made. The trip takes five days.

Considering the small tonnage the earnings are something immense, looking at the matter from the standpoint of the American railroad. Nothing is said to hint at the rates charged, but they must be something startling. Expenses of "conducting transportation" show something less than 20 per cent of total gross, which may be taken to prove that the best way to operate a railroad is to charge the freight all it will pay.

The president explains at some length that certain large merchants in Dawson City, who thought they were paying too much freight, tried during the year to cripple the White Pass Railroad by selling goods that they imported themselves by river very cheap in Dawson City, even going so far as to sell some stuff at a loss. Toward the end of the season, however, amicable relationships were again established, and the end of the season saw a rush of goods and freight, of which the railroad got its share.

President Graves' remarks about the development of the Yukon country are exceedingly interesting. He explains why the gold shipments fell off so badly in 1902 as follows:

"In previous years the output was largely from ground of such marvelous richness that the gold could almost be picked out by hand without the aid of mechanical appliances, while in 1902 it was necessary to wash more gravel and the machinery was not available except in a few cases."

The president is a great believer in the future of the Klondike region.

RECENT ACCESSIONS.

The following new books have been added to the Public Library:

MIND AND BODY.

Hudson, T. J. Law of mental medicine 131 H886

RELIGION.

Peloubet, F. N., & Peloubet, M. A. Select notes; a commentary on the international lessons for 1904 .... R220.6 P392

SOCIOLOGY.

Colburn, B. L. Graded physical exercises 371.7 C665
Hart, A. B. Actual government as applied under American conditions 353 H325
Irving, Washington. Fur traders of the Columbia river and the Rocky mountains 338.1 I72
Marx, Karl. Capital 331 M392c
Quick, R. H. Essays on educational reformers 370.9 Q6

SCIENCE.

Thompson, S. P. Elementary lessons in eletricity & magnetism 537 T476

USEFUL ARTS.

Jones, A. R. Classified gymnasium exercises of system of R. J. Roberts 613.7 J76
Knight, James. Food and its functions 643 K69
Thompson, W. G. Practical dietetics 613.2 T478

FINE ARTS; INCLUDING SPORTS.

Robinson, C. M. Modern civic art; or, the City made beautiful 710 R658
White, S. E. Forest 799 W588

LITERATURE.

Hale, E. E., & others. New England history in ballads 811.08 H161
Kipling, Rudyard. Five nations. 821 K57f
Landor, W. S. Poems, dialogues in verse and epigrams; ed. by Charles G. Crump. 2 v 821 L261
Niebelungenlied. Fall of the Nibelungers; tr. by William Nanson Lettsom 831 N579L
Norris, Frank. Responsibilities of the novelist and other literary essays 808.3 N855

DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL.

Austin, Mary. Land of little rain 917.94 A937
Church, A. J. Roman life in the days of Cicero 913.37 C561
Clement, E. W. Handbook of modern Japan 915.2 C626

HISTORY.

Dawson, T. C. South American republics 980 D272
Drake, S. A. Making of New England, 1580-1643 .... 974 D763m
Dye, Mrs. E. (E.) Stories of Oregon 979.5 D996s
Gordon, J. B. Reminiscences of the civil war 973.7 G663
Ladd, H. O. History of the war with Mexico 973.6 L154
Parker, Sir Gilbert, & Bryan, C. G. Old Quebec 971.4 P239
Tighe, Ambrose. Development of the Roman constitution 937 T566

BIOGRAPHY.

Gladstone, W. E. Life of William Ewart Gladstone, by John Morley. 3 v .... B G543 Mo
Hawthorne, Nathaniel. Hawthorne and his circle, by Julian Hawthorne .... B H399 H
Hoar, G. F. Autobiography of seventy years. 2 v .... B H679
Putnam, Israel. Israel Putnam, by William Farrand Livingston..B P991 L
Who's who in America, 1903...R920.07 W628

FICTION.

Couch, A. T. Quiller—Hetty Wesley C853h
Deland, Mrs. M. W. (L.). Dr. Lavendar's people D337d
Duncan, Norman. Way of the sea..D912w
Garland, Hamlin. Hesper G233he
Holland, J. G. Sevenoaks H735s
Howells, W. D. Letters home H859le
Merriman, H. S., pseud. of Hugh Stowell Scott. Barlasch of the guard M571b
Norris, Frank. Deal in wheat and other stories of the new and old West N855d
Payne, Will. Mr. Salt P346mi
Riis, J. A. Children of the tenements R572c
Reed, Myrtle. Shadow of victory; a romance of Fort Dearborn R326s
Tarkington, N. B. Cherry T187c
Wharton, Mrs. E. (J.). Sanctuary..W553s
Whiteing, Richard. Yellow van....W593y

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

Cilman, Arthur, Discovery & exploration of America j973.1 G487
Johonnot, James, comp. Stories of our country j973 J73
Johonnot, James, comp. Stories of the olden time j904 J73s
Perry, W. C. Boy's Iliad j883 P465
Thompson, E. E. Seton—Two little savages jT4686tw
Wells, Carolyn. Folly in the forest jFaW453f

A BOY'S CHRISTMAS.

Will last all the year if a Y. M. C. A. membership ticket is found in his stocking. He will have the use of the boys' clubrooms, games, reading-room, baths, swimming pool, gymnasium, can attend the Manual Training School or join the Printers, or 20 other boy educational and "good-time" clubs. Cost of tickets $2 to $6 a year.

A B. B. RICH CIGAR.

B. B. Rich cigar stores only sell first selections and full factory sizes.

Aberdeen Laborers' Wages Cut.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The wages of laborers on the street railway were cut Saturday from $2 to $1.75 a day. A strike followed. The company claims the smaller sum is what the mill men are paying.

USE FUNDS WHERE RAISED

George H. Maxwell Says Separate States Should Have Benefit of Sales for Irrigation Purposes Within Their Own Borders

St. Paul Globe.

On invitation of Benjamin F. Beardsley, general secretary of the National Irrigation Association, 25 business men were entertained at luncheon yesterday at the Commercial Club, to meet George H. Maxwell, executive chairman of the association. In the course of an address Mr. Maxwell said in part:

"I am glad to comply with a request to interest the business men of this city in irrigation efforts, to tell them what will be done and to show them how deeply their own interests are involved. Great projects, as you all know, are now under way. The irrigation fund already amounts to $16,000,000, enough to carry out the plans under way for perhaps two years to come.

"By far the greatest contributors to this fund, derived from the proceeds of public land sales, are the states of North Dakota and Oregon. The big enterprises contemplated are outside of the limits of those states, and the people of North Dakota are in favor of a practice that will permit the funds accumulating under the irrigation law to be expended where they are raised.

"You may suppose that, as one interested in the whole great irrigation scheme, I would look upon this with disfavor. On the contrary, it meets with my hearty approval. The irrigation projects to which the country is wisely committed are of enormous magnitude. In the valleys of the Columbia, the Yellowstone, the Snake, the Sacramento and the Colorado there are tens of millions of acres that may be reclaimed by projects that will cost from $10,000,000 to $30,000,000 each. An underestimate of the population which these reclaimed lands will support is 50,000,000 people. And the land so prepared for cultivation will be worth immediately from $100 to $500 per acre.

"These great works will be carried through eventually by a larger policy on the part of the general Government. The proceeds of public land sales would never be adequate. The Government will prosecute them by the aid of direct appropriations, charged up against the irrigation fund, and repair by charges upon the land so made available. We are scarcely yet at the beginning of the great irrigation idea and its accomplishment.

"The first effort of every friend of irrigation should be to secure the repeal of the existing desert land and stone acts. The irrigation fund will not suffer. Its receipts from these sources are not worth considering. But the opportunity which they afford for fraudulent appropriation of the very lands that we are seeking to recover must be taken away. These are the areas that irrigation will make most valuable, and their alienation must be prevented.

"There is another phase of irrigation that is too little understood. Men think of it generally as the reclaiming of actually desert and unproductive land. But an absolute control of the water supply will enhance the productiveness and increase the value of other lands. Tako North Dakota, for example. All that she contributes to the fund could be expended most profitably within her boundaries. It land can be what is called "winter-flooded;" that is, if it can be saturated with water before it freezes in the Fall, then the moisture is there when the seed is planted in the Spring, and there can be no fear of drought. With ditches to carry off the excess and irrigation canals to supply a deficiency, the productiveness and the value of North Dakota lands would be increased at least five-fold."

In answer to a question relating to the direct interest of St. Paul business men in these projects, Mr. Maxwell referred to the experiences of Los Angeles and Omaha. In the former city, though the areas to be irrigated are not directly tributary to it, the business men stated that the making of the surveys had so increased their trade by the demand for supplies that they had derived great benefit, and that they, therefore, saw that the actual construction work would add millions to their commerce. Omaha also expected that her population would double in ten years and her business grow correspondingly through the completion of irrigation projects on the North Platte. "What," asked Mr. Maxwell, "may not the merchants of St. Paul reasonably expect, not only from the carrying out of these gigantic plans, but from the settlement of tens of millions of new people in the country tributary to it commercially?"

ARE THEY ALL EVIL?

Rev. Mr. Small Discusses Three Amusements.

ARE NOT BAD IN THEMSELVES

Card-Playing, Dancing and Theater-Going—Their Abuse, Not Their Use, That Is Objectionable.

Rev. W. F. Small, pastor of the First Universalist Church, East Tenth and Couch streets, preached yesterday morning on the topic, "Our Attitude Toward Card-Playing, Dancing and Theater-Going." Mr. Small said:

"There are three means of amusement that have always been resorted to, are now and doubtless will be, so long as man stays on this earth. They are card-playing, dancing and theater-going. These three forms of amusement are vigorously denounced by some churches, and it is freely asserted that no consistent Christian will indulge in any of them. I confine my remarks to these three.

First, Card-playing: It does not seem necessary greatly to discriminate the kind of cards; because, at bottom, when viewed broadly, the issue is the same, whether the cards be the ordinary playing-cards or the cards used for many other games. There is an element of chance in most card games, except those which consist merely of questions and answers. The objection to the common playing-cards is partly due to the fact that they are so generally used in gambling. But this does not weigh against the thing in itself, any more than it would weigh against the game of pool or billiards. Those same playing-cards are also used as the means of genuine social fellowship. The fact is, if a man wants to gamble, if he is so lost to honor and decency that he will try to get something for nothing, he will find a way. He uses cards because they are easy to use; and if all the playing-cards were destroyed, he would invent others, or else resort to other means. The gambler is a moral fungus, a parasite; and he means to get his living without honest work, if he can.

"Another objection to cards is that so many become fascinated, and waste valuable hours in merely chattering and shuffling the cards. There is force in this objection. Too many people do act foolishly over this. They do not want to visit anywhere, and they bore everyone except their fellow-fiends with their prattle about the cards. Here is an argument against absurd, almost criminal waste of time, not against proper use of this form of amusement. Put sentimentalism and prejudice aside—card-playing as an amusement is an accomplished fact; and noisy denunciation will not alter the fact. Our churches and ministers must keep at work trying to lead men to love high ideals of honor and truthfulness and right; but for churches to legislate against this amusement is sheer folly. Under the unreasoning prejudice that card-playing is a sin, parents have forbidden their boys to play. The boys have sneaked away and learned; and thus has many a gambler been made. And the policy of a church's legislation against this amusement is responsible for a peculiarly anomalous situation. Some church's members play cards, and some of them sell the cards.

Second, Dancing: Man has always danced, and doubtless will for a long time to come. And there will be those who will continue to say that who dances, dances himself straight to hell. Dancing was very generally employed in certain religious exercises up to the Midle Ages. But it was not the dance as we now see it. It is the modern dance that is objectionable; that is destructive of piety, of spirituality. Of a certain type of spirituality, no doubt it is. But that dancing, properly and resonably indulged, is destructive of high-mindedness, honor, cleanness or reverence, is utterly false.

"Dancing is objectionable when it involves a promiscuous mingling of the sexes. It leads to a familiarity which breeds a deadly contempt on the part of each sex for the other. For the ordinary public dance, at which any one is admitted, there is very little good to be said; and the men and women who respect themselves will remain away. But when practiced under proper conditions, this form of amusement may be and is healthful. The objection so often raised nowadays, that Christ didn't dance, and so his followers ought not, is pitifully absurd. Jesus didn't dance, so far as we know; but there is a story of his attending a wedding feast at which dancing was one of the diversions.

"Third, Theater-going: It is regarded as a heinous sin by many. The trouble with the average philippic against the theater is its lack of discrimination, and hence its superficiality. Occasionally, grudging concessions will be made that some plays and players are good. But today the general tone of the theater is said to be bad, and that the characters of too many of the players are by no means above reproach. The theater of today is charged with corrupting the tastes of the players and the audiences, with being an enemy of the Christian Sunday, with developing artificiality of life among the dramatic profession, with catering to the sensual tastes of the masses. There is some truth in these charges; but, as ordinarily, they are not qualified and, balanced by other facts, are little better than patent untruths. It is too true that the tone of the stage today is low, generally speaking. But there is one hopeful fact, recently mentioned by The Oregonian—that many members of the profession are sick of the atmosphere in which they are obliged to live and work, and long for the time when the conditions will be different and better. The responsibility for this situation cannot be put upon the 'theater,' or the players alone. It must be shared by the managers, by playwrights, by the public, and by those churches that have so bitterly denounced the theater as the 'vestibule of hell,' raising a barrier between themselves and the players that has conduced much to moral carelessness on the part of many actors and actresses.

"The allegation that the theater subverts the Christian Sunday, while hinting at the truth, is not the truth. It is commercialism, greed, using the theater as a means, that is the real enemy of the Christian Sunday—the same greed that uses the trolley lines for a Sunday excursion to Canemah Park or Columbia Beach, or St. Johns. Sunday theatrical performances are bad, they are vicious in their influence on the moral life of a community, and those concerned cannot escape their responsibility for the effects.

"The fundamental question is, Is the theater in itself an evil? No! But, if it is so low as is often asserted today, what then? Shall we denounce it, and keep utterly away? The first is absurd and ineffective. It is observable that great numbers of church people attend the theaters; and in the production of such plays as 'Ben Hur,' 'The Christian,' 'The Old Homestead,' 'Our New Minister,' find an atmosphere much more stimulating, morally, than the unsparing and unqualified denunciation of theaters and players that come from some pulpits. And the way to elevate the theater is not by denouncing it as a hideous enemy of good. The theater will be elevated as the church gives sympathy to the high-minded members of the dramatic profession, who shall labor to uplift the moral tone of the stage, and by practical co-operation whenever possible. Some Episcopal churches and clergymen are doing a noble work in this direction.

"I do not offer these considerations as the teachings of the Universalist church. Our church does not legislate concerning these matters, but leaves them with the judgment and conscience of the individual, who, it holds, can be trusted to decide the issues in the light of his privileges and responsibilities. And this is finally where all churches will see the matter placed; since the individual church member will assert his right to determine such questions for himself."

PREACH CHRISTMAS SERMONS.

Many Churches Take Cognizance of Approaching Festivities.

Christmas sermons were delivered at several churches yesterday and many beautifully decorated chancels were noted. At the First Congregational Church the greens were used with a lavish hand about the altar, and a large star which hung above the organ was turned into a blaze of light by electrical appliances after the congregation had assembled. Professor Boyer had prepared several special musical numbers which were beautifully rendered by the choir. At the evening services Miss Vesta Townsend recited "Sandolphon" with feeling and effect.

Dr. E. L. House spoke on "The Pre-Eminent Christ." He said in part:

Nature has pre-eminent things. There is the highest peak, the largest river, the greatest waterfall. And in humanity there is one pre-eminent, and Paul declares that Christ is that personage. According to Paul this pre-eminence begins in creatorship. "All things are created by Him."

The Scriptures give the pre-eminence to Christ. Not to Paul or to Moses is the honor given. Whoever is the speaker or the writer, each vies with the other to give Christ the pre-eminence. He is the foundation stone of the building; he is the captain of our salvation; he is the advocate; the counselor; the true vine; the lily of the valley; the rose of Sharon; the lion of the tribe of Judah; the lamb of God; the bright and morning star.

Christ is pre-eminently the universe's greatest personality. I see a man, but at the same time I see a God. As a man he was born of a woman—as a God his advent was sung by angels. As a man he ate and drank—as a God his simple word multiplied five barley loaves into a festival sufficient for the wants of famished thousands. As a man he slept in Peter's boat—as a God he rebuked the winds and the waves, and they were still. As a man he wept at the grave of Lazarus—as a God he snapped the fetters of mortality. As a man he was laid in a tomb—as a God he forsook the tomb, and triumphed over principalities and powers.

Again Christ is pre-eminent in the work he has accomplished for the race. Christ is the summing up of advancement in civilization. Just as there resides in a kernel of wheat the vital force which will organize all the particles of matter necessary to complete that life in a full-grown stack and head of grain, so in Christ is the power that works for perfect human life and society.

At the First Baptist Church special Christmas services were held, Rev. A. S. Coates preaching on "The Child Savior." The music was exceptionally fine. Mr. Barber, of Chicago, was the soloist, and his selections were much admired.

Dr. J. F. Ghormley, of the First Christian Church, was assisted in the Christmas services by Rev. T. F. Brown. The music was especially selected for the occasion. Dr. Ghormley chose for his subject "The Birth of Our King," and said in part:

We hail with joy the return of memorial days. The birthdays of friends and relatives, all seasons of gift-making. The wise men still bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the cradle of royalty and every child, in a sense, is born a king. The memorial days of the church are significant. They have been observed from time immemorial and will continue to be observed. The event in Bethlehem more than 1900 years ago, which gave to the world the King of Destiny, was far more than the ordinary. The place itself, Bethlehem, had been foretold by the Prophet Micha. Being the city of David and the place of many memorable events, it was suited as the birthplace of the King. The journey of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem was to the world in obedience to a decree from Augustus Caesar that every one should go to his own city to be enrolled, but to the Eye that sees all things it was that the King should be born in the divinely-appointed place. His birth was announced by the angels, who sang on the first Christmas morning the blessed story of redemption. The lowly heard it, and, responding to its invitation, found Emmanuel. Philosophy, following its best light, came to Jerusalem seeking the new-born King, and aided by revelation discovered him in the manger at Bethlehem. Hatred was defeated, for it found him not. Great men had lived and wrought. They came into the world on great missions and filled them. However, there was a work to be accomplished which philosophy declared it was unable to do, and it dedicated an altar to the unknown God, and waited the fulfillment of the prophecies in the coming of the Desire of all nations. The prophets had been speaking of him and when the fullness of time was come that for which they were looking came clothed in flesh and the power which makes for righteousness in human personality was named "Jesus."

LIKE ASTOR'S TRAMP.

Stranger Sleeps in Bathtub, Thinking He Is at Home.

Thinking he was at his own home, when he was in a strange part of the city, a man whose identity has not been learned, yesterday entered the bath room at the Ockley lodging house at Tenth and Morrison streets, and finding the water at an agreeable temperature, went to sleep in the tub. He locked the door from the inside, and the proprietor of the house was unable to rouse him from his slumbers. Police Officer Phillips was summoned, and after throwing a few articles of furniture through the transom, awakened the man and persuaded him to leave the house. Considerable excitement was occasioned in the neighborhood by the incident, but the most excited man of the entire proceeding was the visitor, after he had discovered his mistake.

"I do not mind a man taking a bath in my house," said Mr. Crocker, proprietor of the house, "but I do not like to have him monopolize the bathtub for half a day so that my guests cannot use it.

"I saw the man when he entered and knew that he was not one of my lodgers. He walked into the bathroom as if he owned the house and proceeded to prepare for his bath. After he had been there for some time I began to wonder why he did not come out. When I went upstairs and tried to open the door I found it locked from the inside and the key in the keyhole.

"Officer Phillips responded to the call and decided the man must have fallen asleep. Climbing on a chair he peered through the transom and saw the visitor calmly sleeping. The water completely covered his body and part of his head. Little more than his eyes, nose and mouth were above the surface.

"What do you mean by coming into a strange place and alarming the people in this way?" asked the officer after he had aimed a bar of soap straight enough to awaken the sleeper.

"Guess I have a right to take a bath in my own house," said he, angry at such interference.

"You are not in your own house," said the officer. "Dress yourself and get out of here at once."

The man realized his mistake and seemed much confused.

"I was up all night," said he, "and I thought I had gone home. I was very tired and wanted to take a bath before I retired to my room. When I was in the warm water it felt so good that I wanted to lay still and rest for awhile. I fell asleep and knew nothing until I was awakened by the officer.

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CASTE THE GREAT CURSE

INDIA'S MISERIES ELOQUENTLY DEPICTED BY SOAMI RAM.

Missionaries Have Their Hands Tied—Education in America Will Do Good.

In an address that rang with the spirit of Christianity and reform, Soami Ram told the large audience which thronged the Marquam Grand yesterday afternoon of the awful conditions which exist in India, and laid before them his plan of correcting such conditions and introducing Christianity among them. Mayor Williams introduced the Soami to his audience, and commended their closest attention to the matters he had to tell of concerning conditions in his darkened country.

"I come to tell you a message," said the quaint little Hindoo in perfect English.

"To young, strong, free America comes a cry from the Orient. From sisters and brothers in diametrically opposite parts of the earth comes the cry, piercing the very center of the heart. Little hands are stretched out for help and infant voices plead plaintively for succor. Young girls, whose doom is forever sealed through enforced widowhood send you a message written in blood."

Caste as existing in India is claimed by this young priest to be the greatest curse that could be visited upon a people. The impossibility of progress in any line or walk of life and its great drawback to commerce or industry through caste were given as examples of the harm it accomplishes.

"In India a man must forever be what he is born. A merchant's son must necessarily be a merchant; a laborer's son a laborer; a Brahmin's son always a Brahmin; the daughter of a public woman must be the same as her mother. When members of one caste come in contact with members of another, they consider themselves defiled. A merchant could never enter the house of the Brahmin, nor touch the hem of his garment. No caste, however low, can come in contact with the foreigner or have aught to do with him, for in so doing he becomes an outcast.

"For this reason the missionaries you send to those darkened people have their hands tied. They cannot mix with them or go among them freely. The few whom they have succeeded in converting to Christianity form a caste to themselves and are ostracised by the Hindoos. They are simply labelled Christians, and they can do no further good for they cannot work among their own people.

"The English government means well, no roubt, but it is claimed by many that it has not tried to break down caste. It provides universities and gives the higher born an education, but they do not teach them knowledge of any practical use. Dead languages, Sanscrit and mythology, are of no use to them when hundreds of millions of people are living in darkness. If such a people are to be reformed it must be through their educated men and thinkers, and these men must have the right kind of training and education.

"All reform comes from within. Show them the light and let them work it out for themselves. Regeneration cannot be forced upon a people.

"What is the obstruction? What keeps them from seeing the light? It is the wall of caste. Break it down, then missionaries will have a field in which to work. The converts now are not really Christians, they yet need the spirit. Caste can only be broken by the people themselves. When this is done and they are unchained from their darkened lairs, they will come out to the missionaries' call, and the true spirit of God can be instilled among them.

"I want to tell of one incident that came under my personal notice. A young graduate of the English University of India came to this country and spent several years in study. He observed the wonderful benefits and privileges of freedom of thought and equality among the people. When he returned to India he called a great meeting of all who belonged to his caste. They came from all parts of that country, and the result of his teachings and pleadings was that they decided to abolish the awful practice of child marriage. With that particular caste helpless children will not be married to men and boys. They will be allowed to reach the age of maturity before they are married. This is only one case among thousands, but it shows what education in a country like this will do for them."

The Soami made an eloquent appeal for his countrymen. He wants them brought to America after the English government has given them all it has to give. He considers the civilizing effects of a few years of study and life in America of greater benefit than anything else could be. He wants them taught the spirit of equality and love, and to be able to observe its benefits. Then, he claims, would they return and teach their own people the same, and in a few years caste would be broken down and many of the horrible practices now prevalent there entirely done away with. Once caste is abolished the missionary will be enabled to accomplish permanent good.

Soami Ram makes the statement that the spirit of Christ existed on earth long before the Christianity was known of. He also says it now exists in many to whom the Bible is a sealed book. The original Hindoo or Vedantic scriptures, he claims, teem with this spirit of Christ and are most beautiful, but they have been hidden away from the masses by the Brahmins and in turn forgotten by them.

Dr. George C. Cressey addressed the audience briefly in partial explanation of the scheme to do missionary work on this new line. He and Judge Webster also explained about the committees who would handle the funds to be raised.

Mr. Edward M. Courtienne gave two beautiful piano numbers which were highly appreciated by the large audience.

DOG FANCIERS PLEASED.

Salem's First Bench Show a Flattering Success.

The Portland dogs that participated in the Salem Kennel Club bench show, in Salem, last week, arrived at the Union Depot on the Albany local at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. All of the local canines were in the pink of condition in spite of the fact that they had been chained in their benching stalls for the past four days. Three of the dogs were chained in the express car, the balance being expressed in crates. With the Portland dogs were several from outside points, among them the famous pointer dog, Minnesota Joe.

Frank Turner, of Victoria, B. C., who judged the dogs, also came in on the morning train and departed shortly afterward for Seattle, en route to his home. Mr. Turner's decisions in Salem met with general satisfaction and to him is due no small share of the credit of making the Salem show the decided success that it was.

The Portland fanciers who attended the show cannot say too much in praise of the management of the club's first bench show. President Frank J. Moore is deserving of the praise that is being given him by the local enthusiasts as well as those of Salem. The bench show was one of the best-managed affairs of the kind ever held on the Coast and every one is highly elated over its success.

The Salem Kennel Club will hold another bench show next year and the success of this year's attempt is evidence enough that the next show will prove even a greater success. The Salem club has been organized only a few weeks, which makes last week's show the more commendable.