CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

The Oregonian's Telephones.

Counting Room	Main 667
Managing Editor	Main 636
Sunday Editor	Main 636
City Editor	Main 166
Composing Room	Main 685
Superintendent Building	Red 2823
East Side Office	East 61

AMUSEMENTS.

MARQUAM GRAND THEATER, Morrison st., bet. Sixth and Seventh—The Stanford University Mandolin and Glee Clubs, tonight at 8:30 o'clock.

THE BAKER THEATER, Third and Yamhill Sts.—Evening, 8:15, the Baker company in "School for Scandal."

ARCADE THEATER, Seventh and Washington—Continuous vaudeville daily, 2:30, 8:30, 7:30, 8:30 and 9:30.

CORDRAY'S THEATER, Washington St.—Evening, 8:15, "In Convict Stripes."

EMPIRE THEATER—Twelfth and Morrison, 8:15, "Trip to Chinatown."

WAPATOS AND CANVASBACK DUCKS.—Any one who lived in Portland a dozen to a score of years ago is not likely to forget the wapato, or the flocks of canvasback ducks which used to swarm in the shallow lakes on Sauvie's Island during the Winter to feed and fatten on them. This accounts for the fact of M. H. Strout, an old-time Portland printer, but for the past 20 years a resident of California, writing from Chico, where he is now publishing a paper, to a friend here, to put him in the way of procuring a lot of wapatos for seed. He probably hopes by planting lakes near Chico with wapatos to induce the canvasbacks, which come down from the Arctic regions every Winter, to tarry a while near Chico, so as to furnish sportsmen with a finer species of wild duck than they have been accustomed to. It is a pity that he put off this scheme so long, as the wapato has been almost exterminated here since the useless carp was introduced into the waters of the Columbia and Willamette some ten or a dozen years ago, and for many years the canvasbacks have failed to put in an appearance in any large numbers. The wapato is, however, still plentiful in Wapato Lake, Yamhill County, where carp have not been introduced, and in a few ponds and sloughs in this section so situated that they are not affected by the high water in the river and so have not been reached by the carp. From these a small supply of wapatos is procured for the Chinese markets in this city at certain seasons. The Chinese, like the Indians which once inhabited the Northwest, are very fond of them. Canvasback ducks have been more plentiful here this Winter than for many years, which leads many to imagine that the wapato is regaining a foothold in the lakes where they used to be so abundant, but this is doubtful, as most of the ducks seen to come from Wapato Lake. For the information of those who have not been long in Oregon it may be said that the wapato is an aquatic plant, a species of Sagittaria, so called from the leaf being shaped like an arrowhead, having a tuberous root about the size of a walnut. It is wholesome and nutritious and one species is cultivated for food in China. The fatness and flavor of the canvasback duck are attributed to its feeding extensively on these tubers.

OREGON "FAIRY TALES."—The man from the East mentioned on Saturday as complaining that his letters to friends in his old home in regard to Christmas weather here were styled by them "fairy tales" has the sympathy of City Auditor Devlin, who says his letters to friends in New York in regard to roses being in bloom here at Christmas are received in the same way. It is probably very difficult for people who have to dig paths through snow banks to get to the sidewalks at Christmas time, with the thermometer below zero, to realize that at the same time in a higher latitude on the Pacific Coast roses are blooming in the open air. Mr. Devlin in order to convince them of this on Christmas day plucked a dozen roses of three varieties, all in very fair condition, and, wrapping them in waxed paper, packed them in cotton and mailed them to New York. He thinks that this will convince his friends that roses were really in bloom in the gardens here on Christmas day. In connection with this it may be stated that a man was seen Saturday carrying several young trees, the buds on which were almost ready to expand. When asked if he were not pressing the season a little he said they were young lilacs and snowballs, which he had taken up from his garden, as he wished to transplant them, and was afraid if he left them any longer they would be so far advanced as to make it unsafe to move them.

IRRIGATING HOOD RIVER ORCHARDS.—A prospective fruitgrower who has been looking over the Hood River orchards, takes exception to the statement of E. L. Smith, of that place, published a few days ago to the effect that irrigation is used in only three or four places in Hood River Valley. The visitor says water is laid on through pipes in most of the tracts in the valley and the pipes are constantly being extended. This is explained by the fact that the water is used in most cases for irrigating strawberry plats and in very few cases for irrigating orchards. The cultivation of orchards is found to conserve the moisture of the ground, which is all that is necessary as a general thing to produce perfect apples of good keeping quality. As there were no less than 100 carloads of strawberries shipped from Hood River berry patches last season, it was found desirable to irrigate many of these patches in order to produce the best results, and as water is so plentiful and the necessary pressure for distribution so easily obtained, a system of pipes is being gradually laid throughout the valley. A few orchards in Hood River Valley are irrigated to some extent as, for instance, that of Sears & Porter, in which 2½ acres yielded this season 2600 boxes of merchantable apples and 200 boxes of second-grade apples. Trees bearing such a crop may well be excused for being thirsty occasionally.

FOOD NEEDED, NOT WHIP.—An expressman who was whipping a poor old horse Saturday, which had been worn out by overwork during the holiday rush of business, was approached by a mild-mannered but fierce-looking man, who said: "My friend, if you cannot get along with that horse without whipping him so severely you had better take him back to the stable and give him a rest. It is plain that he has been overworked and underfed, though all he gets for all his long years of work is his board, as he furnishes his clothing himself." The driver looked at the man in astonishment, and he added: "I mean what I say. If you were worn out and hungry I would not see you imposed upon by a cruel brute of a fellow, and I shall not see this poor brute abused any longer." The expressman turned his horse and drove off home.

UPS AND DOWNS OF BUSINESS.—Some people acquire wealth rapidly in Oregon. A man said yesterday as another passed in an automobile, "Do you see that fellow? He is worth $50,000 and ten years ago he was not worth 50 cents. He made most of the money in less than three years through the rush to the Alaska gold fields and the war in the Philippines, all in the way of legitimate business, too." A man standing near said, "I have lost over $100,000 in the last ten years, all in the way of legitimate business, too. I bought property and mortgaged other property to hold it, and in the end lost it all." Probably one has to lose, that another may win.

CLEARANCE SALES IN PROSPECT.—The Christmas business came to an end Thursday evening, and thousands of wearied men and women had a little rest on Friday. But on Saturday in the department stores and many other places all hands were hard at work clearning up and getting things in readiness for clearance sales and other sales intended to get goods off the hands of dealers with rapidity in large quantities. One large concern had 600 men and women and 52 horses at work during the rush, and in 4½ days before Christmas sent out 24,000 packages.

GOLD, steel and pink beads. Frohman's, Parlor C, Portland Hotel.

BURNED HIS FALSE TOOTH.—A well-known citizen looking through his paper a few evenings since found an article which attracted his attention particularly and which he was about to read at leisure when a couple of friends called. He laid the paper aside for the time, and engaged in conversation and presently his wife placed a dish of apples on the table, and all began eating them. Now this citizen wears a plate in his mouth on which is one false tooth to fill a vacancy caused by one of his front teeth being knocked out by accident. The plate annoys him when he eats, and he has a habit of laying it aside at such times. On this occasion he removed it and slipped it under the edge of his paper, and when he peeled an apple he threw the peeling on the paper. When the apples were consumed and his friends had departed his wife in clearing the table crumpled up his paper with the apple peelings in it and unfortunately his plate with the tooth in it also, and threw the whole into the stove. When he came back from seeing his friends out he looked for his paper and his tooth, but could find neither, and when he did find out what had become of them he asked his wife to please complete the job by unscrewing his head and throwing it into the stove also. She was insulted and said she wished she could, and it took him an hour to get matters settled and peace restored.

NOT PLEASED AT FINE WEATHER.—Probably the only people who were not delighted with the bright sunshine yesterday were those who went off on duck hunting trips Saturday afternoon. The fine, cloudless and calm day was very unfavorable for that sport, and it is not likely that many ducks were shot. A large number of sportsmen went down to various preserves, many of whom took along fishing tackle, with the idea of having a try for salmon trout in case there was no shooting. As the day was a favorable one for fishing and there are many salmon trout in the rivers, the precaution was a wise one, and some may have enjoyed a fair day's fishing. Ducks are so numerous and such fine bags have been made every time the wind and weather has been favorable for shooting that it is a grievous disappointment to the sportsmen to have so many fine and calm days when they go out. Some have become quite disheartened, and say the shooting is over for this season, but as long as the ducks swarm in the lakes in thousands as they do at present some will keep going after them, in hope of striking a favorable day sooner or later.

TEAMSTER COULD ARGUE.—Wood for fuel is unusually scarce and high priced at present, but there is no improvement visible in the quality, in fact much of that supplied is of inferior quality. A dealer in second-hand books was seen critically examining a lot being unloaded before his store Saturday and when he found it was second-growth wood, which had been scorched by fire and was soggy some distance in, and beginning to decay beneath the bark, he protested. The teamster said: "What are you growling about? Second-growth wood is as good as second-hand books, and the scorched bark is no worse than disfigured covers. We are both trying to make a living in the same way, and you ought to be the last one to complain." The bookman tried to explain that a dilapidated outside did not affect the contents of a book, as wit and wisdom never decay, but the woodsman could not see the point and drove off growling.

TESTING CEMENT WALKS.—Persons engaged in the business of laying concrete sidewalks these days find it advisable not to slight their work in any way, as if they do they are bound to get into trouble. Every square laid is carefully examined by an inspector and every imperfection noted. An inspector on Saturday went over the recently constructed walks on Union avenue, from Weidler to Russell street and tested every square by tapping it with an iron rod made up as a cane, to see if the upper layer was firmly united with the lower, so that there was no danger of it shelling or peeling off. This he could at once tell by the sound. In the whole distance of some nine blocks he found only six squares which gave a hollow sound when tapped on. These will have to be put to rights at once. The concussion from so much tapping on a hard substance makes an inspector's arm quite numb.

EXPERT ON CODLING MOTHS.—Professor Woodworth, of the University of California, who was invited to deliver an address on "Control of the Codling Moth" before the meeting of the Northwestern Fruitgrowers' Association, which will be in session here January 11-13, has written to say that he will be here if possible, and that his address has been prepared and will be here whether he is or not. This is a matter of interest to fruitgrowers, as Professor Woodworth is a great authority on Codling moth, being the expert who was sent to examine into the ravages of this pest in Pajaro Valley, California, where for years apple-growers had been losing 50 per cent of their crop by its ravages. Under his instructions, for the carrying out of which a fund of $10,000 was raised, the loss has been reduced till now 90 per cent of the crop is saved in this valley.

DINNER TO SALESMEN.—The salesmen of the grocery house of Wadhams & Kerr Bros. were given a unique dinner at the Commercial Club by their employers Saturday night. Ten courses were served, and as many as possible of these consisted of delicate dishes concocted from the goods the guests had been selling. Those present were: William Wadhams, Samuel C. Kerr, Alexander H. Kerr, Frank R. Kerr, A. Thomas Warwick Kerr, J. D. Kenworthy, James Thompson, C. C. Tripp, W. Frank Fisher, O. E. Baird, F. S. McMahon, T. G. Coleman, E. A. Thamer, D. D. Sweet, T. E. Oates, C. R. Watson, J. D. Buell, C. D. Frazer, Harry Fritchman, G. L. Lacy, M. L. Mourfield, T. A. Scheller, R. S. Hudson.

CHINESE SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.—The Baptist Chinese Sunday School will give its annual Christmas entertainment in the Y. M. C. A., auditorium at 8 o'clock this evening. A musical and literary programme has been arranged which promises to be of unusual interest. The entertainment will be given under the direction of Superintendent W. L. Bartlett, and will undoubtedly be up to the usual standard of excellence maintained by the Chinese Sunday School. A cordial invitation is extended to the friends of the school.

MAYOR IS HIMSELF AGAIN.—Mayor Williams will probably be able to appear at his office this morning. For the past two days he has been confined to the house with a severe cold, but last evening was so much improved that it was thought he could be about again today, for half a day at least. There were no evidences of fever last evening, and all danger of the cold terminating in anything more serious seems to be at an end.

CLOTHES HUNG TOO NEAR STOVE.—Clothes hung to dry too close to a hot stove caused a fire yesterday afternoon in the residence of Mrs. Lee, 29 North Fifth street. First there was a smell of scorching cloth, then a burst of flame which enveloped the clothes and the window curtains as well, and then a fire alarm from box 17. A little water put out the fire, but the clothes were ruined.

REGULATOR LINE steamers for The Dalles and way points daily (except Sunday) 7 A. M. Alder-street dock. 'Phone Main 914.

WHERE TO DINE.

All the delicacies of the season at the Portland Restaurant; fine private apartments for parties. 305 Wash., near 5th.

Imperial Hotel Restaurant, 2d floor, six-course dinner, 50c; first-class service, a la carte, 6:30 A. M. to 8 P. M.

Visitors to Portland

Should not miss the delightful trips up and down the Columbia River. Particulars at O. R. & N. city ticket office, Third and Washington.

Trunks and Bags.

The largest variety at Harris Trunk Co.

MARSHAL OVERHEARD HIM

ROBERT CATLIN WILL APPEAR ON UNKNOWN CHARGE.

City Police Officer of St. Johns Is Wrathy Because the Attorney Fired Off Revolver.

Robert Catlin, a well-known attorney and the administrator of the estate of James Johns, will be arraigned before Recorder A. L. Miner, of St. Johns, this forenoon at 11 o'clock, but the nature of the charges have not been settled. He was arrested by Marshal C. R. Organ Thursday for shooting at the Marshal while on the way home from the school meeting held Wednesday evening. Marshal Organ is quite sure Mr. Catlin fired at him with intent to kill, and the Marshal also discharged his pistol.

The trouble grew out of the school meeting, where Mr. Catlin was inclined to be somewhat aggressive. Chairman Ogden called him to order, and as he did not sit down at once Marshal Organ moved back near him. Catlin resented this action as unwarranted on the part of the Marshal, and made some caustic remarks concerning the latter while on the way home with a friend. It happened that Marshal Organ was walking close behind Mr. Catlin and overheard his talk, and took Catlin to task. It was then the shooting occurred. Marshal Organ said Mr. Catlin was liable to several charges under the ordinances of the town, but did not say whether or not he would be charged with an attempt to kill.

PENINSULA RAILWAY ASSURED.

Subsidy Deeds and Rights of Way Have Been Placed on Record.

Deeds for rights of way and for property to secure the subsidy for the proposed new electric railway from North Albina to Macrum avenue, down the Peninsula, have been made in behalf of the Pacific States Trust Company, and were placed on record last week. This practically insures the building of this branch railway next year. Francis I. McKenna said yesterday:

"The subsidy required has been all promised, but not all subscribed, and the long list of deeds to property and rights of way on the Peninsula noticed in the real estate transfers on Saturday last are steps to securing the subsidy and rights of way. It only remains now to secure right of way through a few pieces of ground. It may be considered certain that the road will be built, although all the subsidy has not been subscribed. I cannot announce that the banquet promised subscribers on condition that the whole amount be subscribed by the first of the year will take place, but there is time yet for those who have promised to subscribe to come in before January 1. I think that it will be done."

That part of the Portland Railway Company which will connect with this new Peninsula line is practically completed between Union avenue and Russell street to Maryland avenue and Shaver street. Cars may be operated over this branch by the first of February, if the company desires. This branch will have to be extended on Maryland avenue to North Albina to a point near the public school to make the connection with the proposed new line down the Peninsula, but the company has a franchise on the street and can build the line at any time. Work on the new branch will probably commence early in the Spring.

SECURE RIGHTS OF WAY.

Brooklyn Sewer Committee to Commence Its Work in January.

City Auditor T. C. Devlin will furnish the Brooklyn sewer committee, consisting of Councilman D. Sherritt, James Rudiman, Frank Blanck, J. A. Strowbridge, Jr., and Sylvester D. White, with a list of the owners of property through which it must pass, so the work of securing rights of way may proceed. It is desired to start proceedings for this sewer in the Council early in January, and the right-of-way committee can go ahead at once. Their work is important as upon the success of the committee in securing voluntary rights of way will depend the time of letting the contract, for if it is necessary to go into court with condemnation proceedings for each piece of property the sewer passes through, there will be a long delay.

Some of the property-owners affected were at first inclined to think it would injure their property to have the big sewer laid through it, but after individual members of the committee explained that there can be no damage, as the sewer will be from 12 to 20 feet under ground, they said they would give the right of way. The committee will call on each property-owner during January, and if possible arrange for the right of way, and then the proceedings in the Council can go forward. It seems to be the sentiment in the district that the sewer must precede all general improvements there.

MUST BUILD SIDEWALKS.

Recorder Keck Notifies Milwaukie Property-Owners to Start Work.

The old town of Milwaukie is about to take on new life. Main street, which is 80 feet wide, is to be improved by the property-owners laying six-foot sidewalks its entire length. Recorder Jesse Keck has sent out notices to all property-owners to start work on the sidewalks in five days. It is thought there will be no opposition, as most of the property-owners have expressed themselves as favorable to the improvement. The school district, which owns 200 feet on the street, has already made provisions for laying walks in front of the school grounds. The cost of this improvement will run up toward $600, which is the largest sum ever spent for such improvements in Milwaukie.

It is proposed also to place three arc lights in prominent places on masts. Three arcs placed high up will light the whole of the town. These lights, however, are dependent on what the property-owners have to say. A canvass is to be made to ascertain whether they are willing to be taxed to pay for them. The General Electric Company has offered to put in the arcs for $150 per annum, and also to lay wires to Milwaukie for lighting private dwellings.

WHO PAYS THE TUITION?

Milwaukie Has Twenty-Eight Pupils From Outside Districts.

Milwaukie District is agitated over the proposition to levy 30 mills to wipe out the $3000 bonded indebtedness. The levy will probably be made, judging from expressions of property-owners, who say, "Get rid of the debt and stop paying interest."

Another question also to be considered is how Milwaukie District is to obtain compensation for 28 pupils who are attending from the Willsburg, Harmony, Concord and Oak Grove Districts. A teacher and an extra room were provided because of these outside pupils, who prefer the Milwaukie school to their own. While this makes the Milwaukie school an important one, it costs money, and the taxpayers want to know where the tuition for the outsiders is to come from. Mrs. Maggie L. Johnson, the clerk, says that Milwaukie District will hold the parents responsible, but that may be easier said than done. It will require careful management to avoid a row. Clerk Johnson has received a very caustic letter from the Clerk of Harmony District on the subject, and the directors of the Willsburg District won't pay for the 15 pupils who attend Milwaukie School from that place, for they have provided a good school at home. Doubt is expressed whether Milwaukie District can collect from the outside districts or from the parents except under an agreement on their part to pay. Where a few pupils from one district attend another little attention is paid to the matter, but in the case at Milwaukie nearly a whole room is filled from the outside. Some light may be thrown on the subject at the meeting tomorrow evening.

Mount Tabor School Meetings.

The Mount Tabor school districts will hold their meeting for levying taxes this week. District No. 5, the larger district, will hold its meeting December 31. Besides levying a special tax, provision will be made for refunding $4000 in bonds, which fall due soon. These bonds will doubtless go to the State School Board at 5 per cent. Before the law requiring districts to borrow from the state fund, this district sold its bonds at home for 4 per cent.

Montavilla taxpayers meet on December 30 to levy a tax to pay interest on bonds and meeting current expenses. The question of providing another classroom will also be considered. The eight rooms of the building are filled, besides one room in the basement.

South Mount Tabor taxpayers meet Tuesday evening simply to levy a special tax for current expenses. The district is out of debt and proposes to keep out.

Pioneer Carried Coin 52 Years.

George Griffith, an Oregon pioneer of 1849, who has lived in East Portland ever since the first house was built there, has a $5 gold piece that he has carried in his pocket for 53 years. It was coined in San Francisco in 1849 by a private firm, and was marked "M & N," but being of pure gold and without alloy, the piece has worn perfectly smooth, so that scarcely any trace of the inscription can be seen. Mr. Griffith is now over 80 years old. He is an interesting character. He went to California during the mining excitement of 1851, where he spent about 15 years, when he came back to Oregon. He made his home with "Aunty" Frush, on East Third street. While digging in the garden at her home he found a half dollar made in 1834. At the spot where he found the money there had been an old blacksmit shop, where pioneers had their work done, and he thinks the half dollar was brought across the plains by some pioneer. He prizes it almost as much as he does the gold coin, and when he dies both are to be buried with him.

To Burn Church Note.

The Mispah Presbyterian Church, East Thirteenth and Powell streets, will burn a promissory note, which represents some unpaid subscriptions to the church building fund, at the watch night meeting, which will be held New Year's eve. All Presbyterian churches hold special watch night services that night, but to Mizpah Church it will have a special interest. Rev. Jerome R. McGlade, the pastor, announced yesterday morning that it was desired to burn this note at that time, and requested that the balance required be made up during the next few days, so the incineration of the note may take place.

East Side Notes.

Rev. N. S. Holcroft, of Shelton, Wash., occupied the pulpit of the Second Baptist Church yesterday morning. Mr. Holcroft had charge of the Baptist churches at Mount Tabor and Montavilla for seven years. Recently he accepted a call to the Baptist Church at Shelton, Wash.

The funeral of Harrington Frank was held from his late home, 496 East Thirty-first street, Thursday afternoon. Mr. Frank was an old soldier, although he did not affiliate with any of the G. A. R. posts of this city. Among a large number he was well liked and held in high esteem. His sickness extended over four years. He was 64 years old. A wife and several children survive him.

MR. CLEVELAND'S HUNT.

Ex-President Tells of His Recent Virginia Trip.

A rather interesting sketch of a "Duck Hunting Trip," written by Grover Cleveland, appears in a late Eastern paper, accompanied by a full-length picture of himself. In a canvas shooting-jacket sweater, slouch hat and long hunting-boots, with his gun under his arm, he is a fine, sturdy-appearing sportsman, notwithstanding his gray mustache. Mr. Cleveland's story is about his late ducking trip to Virginia, and he says there was no truth in the statement of some mendacious correspondent that he was arrested for violation of the game laws, or for shooting without a license, nor was any complaint made against him.

"Equally false," he says, "though not involving a violation of the law, is the charge that our party killed 500 ducks. The party consisted of five gunners of various grades, including one who had not fired a gun in 20 years." They were shooting four days, but on only one of these days was the entire force engaged. There was not one of the party who would not have been ashamed of any complicity in the killing of 500 ducks in the time spent; nor is there one of the party who does not believe in stringent and intelligent laws for the preservation of this game, and deem those who kill ducks to boast of a big bag or for the mere sake of killing, duck slaughterers, who merit the contempt of the present generation and the curses of generations to come."

Mr. Cleveland says: "Our party killed about 125 ducks. We ate as many as we cared to during our stay in the marshes and brought enough home to eat on our own tables and distribute among our friends, and gunners who kill enough for this ought to be satisfied." He suggests that in households where the difference between cooking a wild duck and a tame properly is not known, it is not worth while to present ducks to friends.

In his account of the actual shooting, Mr. Cleveland says: "They have a very good law in Virginia, prohibiting duck-shooting on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and of course on Sundays, these being called rest days." He tells how the wind blew and of his protest at being expected to kill ducks with decoys to windward, and how he killed more than twice as many the next day with decoys to the leeward, and recalls the unpleasantness of having his "eye wiped" once or twice that day; that is, having a duck which he had missed one fair shot at, knocked down by his companion on a long, hard shot. He thought the sensation ought to be styled gouging the eye.

He is not able to explain why hunters eagerly leave a warm bed morning after morning long before light and go shivering out in the darkness for the sake of reaching their blinds before daylight, to sit for hours chilled to the bone, waiting for the infrequent shot, except on the ground that the duck hunter is born, not made.

He is of opinion that if the discomforts willingly endured by duck hunters were required of employes in an industrial establishment a condition of strike would be constant and chronic. If it is said that the gratification of bringing down ducks pays for all the suffering of their pursuit the question obtrudes itself: How is this compensation had in case of bad luck or no luck, and how is it that the duck-hunting propensities survives all conditions and fortunes?

It is evident from Mr. Cleveland's story that he is a duck hunter worthy of being invited out here and given a taste of good sport, which would be easy, as he does not hunt on Sundays.

Death of Carl Johanson.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Carl Johanson, aged 82 years, died of dropsy this morning at the home of his son, John Carlson, at Mulino. The deceased was a native of Sweden, and came to the United States 22 years ago, locating in the State of Nebraska. For the last 11 years he has been a resident of this county. He is survived by three sons, as follows: John Carlson, of Mulino; Carl F. Carlson, Chicago, and Gustav Carlson, of Sweden.

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SAYS IT IS SPITE WORK.

John Ditchburn Not Afraid of Disbarment Action.

John Ditchburn has little fear of the outcome of the disbarment proceedings filed on Saturday by John M. A. Forbusch with H. H. Northup, chairman of the Oregon State Bar Association. In fact, Mr. Ditchburn says that he is not surprised at the action against him, which he alleges, is nothing but an attempt at retaliation by Richard Nixon, an attorney, because of a sensational fist fight of short duration between the two attorneys, in which Mr. Nixon received the worst of the encounter.

The trouble originated over the settlement of money matters between Ditchburn and Forbusch. The latter was a depositor in the Portland Savings Bank to the amount of $4000, and turned his certificate over to Ditchburn for collection, as he intended making a trip to Austria. While Forbusch was away, he alleges, Ditchburn drew dividends to the amount of about $500, an accounting of which Forbusch alleges Ditchburn refused to make. Ditchburn is accused of refusing to make an accounting of the money to Forbusch, as well as having failed to turn over to Forbusch about $200 said to be due the latter after Ditchburn settled some personal accounts of Forbusch.

Mr. Ditchburn called at The Oregonian office yesterday afternoon and stated that he regretted in the extreme that he was unable to be found on Saturday when the accusations made against him were made public, as he learned for the first time of the charges when he read the paper yesterday morning.

"I know nothing of the charges except as conveyed through the columns of The Oregonian," said Mr. Ditchburn yesterday afternoon, "I am not surprised at the action taken by Mr. Nixon, as something of that description was intimated to me after our meeting at District Attorney John Manning's office some time ago, at which time I severely criticised the management of the Portland Savings Bank under the administration of Nixon, and I am confident that Nixon, on account of his personal animosity to myself is the instigator of the charges, and not Forbusch. The charges are absolutely false and untrue and I have an abundance of evidence to prove my statement."

Mr. Ditchburn states that Forbusch, at the time Nixon was receiver of the defunct bank, intended making a trip to Austria and turned his $4000 certificate over to him for collection, Ditchburn to retain his collection fees and to forward the balance to Forbusch. Forbusch was broke at the time but expected to get the money for the trip from A. Petros, a Vancouver restaurant man, who owed him several hundred dollars. Petros was unable to furnish the money, so Forbusch asked Ditchburn to secure $110 for him with which to defray the expenses of his trip. Nixon, it is stated, had promised a 5 per cent dividend within 60 days to Forbusch. With this assurance Forbusch instructed Ditchburn to secure the money from C. W. Pallette at a rate of 5 per cent per month. This Ditchburn did, but the promised dividend was not paid until 16 months later and then only 2 per cent was paid, which was not sufficient to cancel the note.

Ditchburn's name was signed to the note and the $421.36 in dividends paid in two years was insufficient to cancel the obligation.

Mr. Ditchburn yesterday exhibited a letter from Nixon, written October 15, in which the latter stated that Ditchburn was indebted to Forbusch to the amount of $208.36. Ditchburn's letter of reply read in part as follows:

"Your proposition to accept $208.36 in settlement is unfair to me and according to your letter would be unjust to your client. If you will call and see me I will explain to you, and at that this must end. I do not court notoriety but my conception of living is 'millions for defense but not one cent for tribute.' I will not listen to any propositions."

At the request of District Attorney John Manning, Mr. Ditchburn went to the District Attorney's office, where Nixon was waiting. Ditchburn explained his action in the matter to which, he states, Mr. Manning signified his approval and said Nixon's claim was groundless. Then Mr. Ditchburn criticised Nixon's actions while receiver of the Portland Savings Bank, stating that he was of the opinion that Nixon had prolonged the settlement of the affairs of the establishment in order to receive more salary and that Nixon "stood in" with the money brokers who made rich rake-offs from the certificates deposited with them as collateral security for borrowed money.

Mr. Nixon stated that Mr. Ditchburn was a prevaricator and the latter responded, which resulted in a mix-up. Before the District Attorney could interfere the fight was well under way with Ditchburn a favorite at prohibitive odds.

"I am particularly anxious that there should be a very early examination of this matter," said Mr. Ditchburn, "as there is no necessity for delay. I may begin a libel suit after the case is heard before the Oregon State Bar Association."

High and Decisive Ground.

Salem Statesman.

In passing The Dalles canal right of way appropriation yesterday, the Legislature took high and decisive ground for the development of the state's best interests. It was really the most important matter to come before that body, and, as the Statesman said Tuesday morning, the occasion presented by the action of the General Government was "extraordinary" enough to warrant calling a special session if there had been no trouble whatever with the tax laws. This step by the Legislature insures an "open river to the sea"—the dream of the pioneers and one of the most important internal improvements ever undertaken by the Government. It will mean more than ever a united state and general development all along the line, but, of course, all this depends on the fulfillment of the Statesman's prediction that the Governor, although having unfortunately placed himself where he could not recommend the appropriation, will nevertheless cheerfully sign the bill providing for it. Our compliments to the great Inland Empire upon this initial step toward an open river, and we trust the time is near when the great waterway between The Dalles and Celilo will have other disturbances than the music of its own dashings.

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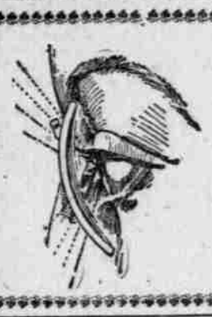

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THERE IS MONEY IN IT.

State University Will Not Abandon Game With Multnomah.

A rumor has been set afloat that the University of Oregon is trying to arrange an annual Thanksgiving football game with the University of Washington, sacrificing the Multnomah game on that date. It looks as if some one were "shaking hands with the devil before he met him." In the disappointment of this year's defeat by Multnomah, it is true that some such talk was set afloat, but several Oregon football men who are in town during the holidays have spread quite a different impression. They say that the notion which exists of a future Oregon-Washington game in Portland on Thanksgiving is entirely out of the question as the Portland audience, though not hostile, is not sufficiently interested in the State University to warrant such an action. As for a Seattle game, the matter has been considered by the student body as a possibility, but no action of any kind has been taken; in fact, whatever was said was mere talk, which no one took very seriously, and has been forgotten.

The Thanksgiving game with Multnomah has acquired such a precedent that both team look forward to it weeks ahead. And, though the Oregon eleven has never won one of these games, it hopes to some day, and for that reason, if for no other, will keep up the custom of the annual game at the regular date. Financially it is a paying institution, and the Oregon team is chronically hard up. Perhaps this is one of the main reasons that the regular Thanksgiving games will be played next year as usual.

But, aside from these reasons, there would be an excuse for such an action, as the rivalry between the State Universities of Oregon and Washington grows annually. However, the Washington game can as well be played on some Saturday in November, and, according to those best informed in Oregon football politics, this is what is likely to happen, and the Multnomah Thanksgiving game will be left undisturbed.

BUSINESS ITEMS.

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