

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

The Oregonian's Telephone.
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POSTAGE ON NEW YEAR'S EDITION.
Five cents is the postage on the Annual Oregonian to all points in the United States, Canada and Mexico. An originally designed the weight of the paper would require a postage of 4 cents a copy. At the hour of publication, however, it was found necessary to increase the size of the paper. A number of papers addressed to outside parties are held at the Portland Postoffice for lack of sufficient postage. The Postmaster says that they will be dispatched if parties mailing them will supply the stamps which, in each case, are wanting.

AMUSEMENTS.
MARQUAN GRAND THEATRE. (Morrison st., between Sixth and Seventh)—"Way Down East."
ARCADE THEATRE, Seventh and Washington—Continuation vaudeville, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30.
DORDEYAT'S THEATRE, Washington street—Evening 8.15, "A Modern Magdalen."
THE BAKER THEATRE, Third and Yamhill streets—Evening, 8.15, The Baker Company in "The Ironmaster."

READY TO SUPPLY WARRING ARMIES.—Many persons in this city came at once to the decision that there was to be war between the Japs and the Russians and sending the dispatches yesterday morning, and when during the afternoon a report that fighting had begun was circulated it was not doubted in the least. Very many appear rather anxious for the trouble to begin and many are figuring on what they can supply either side during the struggle. In the matter of flour there are already in stock at T. H. Whook, but there will be many other things needed if the war goes on. A groceryman was yesterday counting on a demand for hard in Japan after a battle, and a farmer who had called to sell hay was certain that all the cheap hay in the Willamette Valley before long. A commission man who has been busy supplying both armies with dried and canned fruits and delicacies. He figured on a large demand for potatoes and onions. The Japs raise some onions and the Chinese some potatoes, but their style of cultivation and fertilization does not suit foreigners, who prefer imported vegetables of all kinds to those raised in the Orient. No one seemed to distrust the probability of war and slaughter, but all were willing to supply provisions or ammunition to both sides, and if the trouble ends with a flash in the pan, many will be disappointed.

CATS EAT BRAVURA.—Nearly every commission-house on Front street keeps a cat, some of them very fine ones. Several of these cats have for some reason changed the nature of their diet and live principally on nuts or other things. They will pull the nuts out of holes in the sacks and eat them if they can do no better, but they prefer to have one of the boys or porters about the store shuck them for them. They will eat the kernels about as fast as one can shuck them. One of these cats used to belong to a peanut seller, who had a stand on the street and who taught her to eat peanuts, and various kinds of candy as well. In one of these stores yesterday a half-grown chicken, which escaped from a coop and has become a sort of pet, was seen yesterday pecking at the carcass of a pig, choosing the lean meat. The wheat which had been scattered on the floor for this carnivorous fowl, was left untouched, while it pecked away at the pork. Just what the change of diet on the part of the animals mentioned is going to produce in their characters remains to be seen.

RAFFIA CRAZE STILL ALIVE.—The arrival of a large shipment of raffia fiber from Madagascar direct a day or two ago shows that the raffia craze has not entirely died out, as many have supposed. The weaving of hats of raffia fiber has been abandoned, owing to the season, which is not adapted to such airy headgear, but many still amuse themselves in making baskets of all shapes, sizes and colors from raffia, which are much better liked by most people than antique Indian baskets. There is and has for many years been a large consumption of uncolored raffia fiber by nurserymen, who have never found anything so good for bandaging grafted trees, or young trees, or for tying plants to stakes, and for many other uses in the nursery and orchard. The fiber is soft and flat, and does not irritate what it is applied to, and is strong, rain nor sunshine having any perceptible effect on it. The chief part of the raffia brought here is from a species of palm native to Madagascar, while another kind imported so good comes from South America.

NEWSBOY ROBBED OF HIS PAPERS.—Eddie Nuffka, a boy of 14, who carries the Oregonian to the south route, was held up and robbed by two men at the corner of Third and Morrison streets at 5:30 o'clock yesterday morning. He had no money, and had distributed all his papers but two, one for Dan McAllen and the other his own. The robbers, one of whom was a heavy-set man in a long overcoat and slouch hat, and the other without an overcoat, took both papers and let the boy go. He arrived at the Oregonian office a few minutes later with the papers, and as he said Mr. McAllen would not think of stampeding a band of Texas steers as to start the day without his Oregonian. He was badly scared and very pale. When asked if either of the men had shown a pistol he said, "No; but one of them had his hand in his hip pocket, as if he intended to draw one unless the papers were given up." Hold-up men must be getting hard up themselves when two combine to rob a newsboy of two papers.

FIGURE ON STREET WORK.—The pile of plans and specifications for various street improvements on the whole in the Auditor's office grows larger daily, and Contractors for street work are on hand every morning looking over them and figuring out bills to submit. Bills are kept for every alternate Friday, and the prospects seem fair for enough work to keep most of the contractors busy. There is a vast amount of street improvement work blocked up at present, among which are some large jobs. The weather has been so favorable for such work that it has been going on almost continuously since winter, and there will be a large amount completed before Spring fairly opens.

PETER GERRY CONVICTS.—Peter Gerry, member of the Hartman party, and a son of Commodore Elbridge T. Gerry, of New York, who has been confined at St. Vincent's Hospital, was removed yesterday to the Portland Hotel. He is said to have regained his strength enough to start home within a few days. It is the plan at present to stay at the Portland Hotel until Monday and then start on the journey across the continent.

PIANO SALESMEN WANTED.—Wright's Music-Store, 26 Washington.
Writers to Portland.—Should not miss the delightful trips up and down the Columbia River. Particulars at O. R. E. city ticket office, Third and Washington.

POUNDMASTER IS SUSTAINED.—A great many people are partial to a glass of "hot Scotch" in cold weather, but too much is not good. This is what Poundmaster F. Reed said when he was before the Judiciary committee to explain his conduct in connection with the sale of an impounded horse. The owner of the horse had him killed before a Justice Court on the East Side on a charge of improperly selling the animal, which had been running at large and was considered an enemy. The Justice decided against him on the ground that the horse was branded with an M. on the shoulder, though the mark was so dim that the owner had had the horse in his possession for four months before he had seen it, and since the horse's coat had become roughened while running at large it is invisible. Poundmaster Reed was somewhat disgusted when the Justice decided against him, and he was indignant in costs, etc., to the tune of \$71. He laid the matter before the Judiciary committee and explained it by saying that his obtaining justice in the Justice Court was hopeless, as the complainant, the lawyer and the Judge were all Scotchmen, and he was "up agin' hot Scotch hard." The committee considered the matter and accepted the explanation, and concluded that it was his right and proper to support their officer, and so made the loss good to him. They say that Mr. Reed is the most energetic and efficient of Poundmasters and must be sustained in his work.

MAST INQUIRIES TO ANSWER.—A large number of persons write to the permanent exhibit in this city for information on many subjects, and the secretary sometimes finds it difficult to answer all the questions asked. One wrote from Newberg a day or two ago to say that he had lately come to this state and had bought a small orchard of mixed fruits, and he wanted to know how to care for it. As the best and fullest information on this subject available, he was sent a copy of the last annual report of the Horticultural Society. It is probable that the secretary will find it difficult to answer all the questions asked. One wrote from Newberg a day or two ago to say that he had lately come to this state and had bought a small orchard of mixed fruits, and he wanted to know how to care for it. As the best and fullest information on this subject available, he was sent a copy of the last annual report of the Horticultural Society. It is probable that the secretary will find it difficult to answer all the questions asked.

EXPERIMENTAL BLOCKS TRUCKS.—A string of heavily loaded trucks, some going north and some south, was stopped and the street blocked for some time yesterday by a single express wagon, to the great disgust of the teamsters and merchants in front of whose places the blockade occurred. A heavy truck loaded with iron was backed up in front of Corbett, Felling & Robertson's discharging its load, and the number of trucks was coming in both directions, when a single express wagon loaded with a light load of boxes of gum boots backed up at a shoe store on the opposite side of the street, blocking the position as completely as the truck throughfare. A long string of teamsters had to wait till this wagon was unloaded, which seemed to them a long time. Remarks were made about the matter, and quite a number of them were pleasant to him to listen to, among others that he was in the habit of doing this sort of thing. Narrow streets are a source of inconvenience when there is much heavy traffic on them, and drivers of vehicles usually try not to block the way of heavily loaded ones.

WATER METERS FOR ELEVATORS.—Owners of buildings in which there are elevators which have been operated by city water at a flat rate per month were ordered by the water board some time ago to have indicators attached to them by January 1, in order that they might hereafter be metered. The board has now completed this the problem of perpetual motion will have been practically solved.

LARGE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.—The number of pupils in attendance at the reopening of the public schools on Monday City Superintendent Higler says was unusually large for this time of year. Of course no increase in the number is expected at this season and there is usually a considerable falling off, but this year there appears to be practically no sickness among the pupils, while usually there is some measles, scarlet fever and occasionally diphtheria and smallpox, but there is an entire absence of anything in the nature of an epidemic this season. There are a number of cases of pneumonia among grown people about the city, but the school children have so far escaped and appear to be unusually healthy, robust and jolly.

ROBBED BY HIGHWAYMEN.—Charles B. Frazier Held Up at Seventh and Columbia.
Two highwaymen last night held up Charles B. Frazier, salesman for the Oriental American Company, and robbed him of \$15.10. Frazier was going from his rooms at 30 Seventh street toward the heart of the city at 8:30 o'clock. At Seventh and Columbia he was met by two men who pointed a gun at his head and demanded his money. They quickly searched his pockets, taking that money they could find, but did not take a silver watch that he carried.

WHERE TO DINE.
All the delicacies of the season at the Portland Restaurant; fine private apartments for parties, 26 Wash. near 5th.
Imperial Hotel Restaurant, 24 floor, six-course dinner, 50c; first-class service, a la carte, 6:30 A. M. to 9 P. M.

Will Lay Concrete Walks.
At a meeting of the Improvement Hall Association, which owns the northeast quarter block on East Morrison street and Grand avenues, the following officers were elected: Directors, O. W. Hosford, L. R. Fields, D. A. Groat, F. S. Dunham and H. R. Adams; president, H. R. Adams; vice-president, F. S. Dunham; secretary, D. A. Groat; treasurer, O. W. Hosford. It was

A YOUNG PORTLAND ACTRESS



MISS MIGNON OXER.
Another Oregon girl is winning success in the theatrical world—Miss Mignon Oxer, daughter of Henry A. Oxer, 244 1/2 Seventh street, this city, for 22 years librarian of the Portland Library Association. Miss Oxer, who was born in Portland, is now leading woman with Clay Clement's company, playing "A New Dominion" throughout the South and East. She was educated at the Stephens School and at the High School, and began her business experience as a stenographer in this city. While residing here, she appeared in amateur theatricals in the Oddfellows' Hall, and showed that she had talent for acting. Two years ago she determined to go on the stage, and after studying for six months at a San Francisco dramatic school, she went to Chicago, where she secured her opening engagement as ingenue with "Reapers of the Harvest" company. Then she appeared as leading woman with a company playing at Orchard Beach, on the shores of Lake Michigan. Naturally, her Portland friends are very glad and proud to hear of her success, and they wish her good luck. Miss Oxer, who is a niece of Henry T. Finck, the well-known dramatic critic of the New York Evening Post, hopes before long to appear in a Portland theatre.

CARS TO SOUTH MT. TABOR.

New Line Will Soon Be Completed and Further Extension Planned.

Cars on the South Mount Tabor branch of the Hawthorne-avenue line of the Oregon Water, Power & Railway Company will be run to the Lower Mount Tabor reservoir within the next two weeks. The last poles for the trolley were planted yesterday at the corner of West avenue and the section-line road, and a crew of men will complete the work of stretching the wire today. Steel has been laid from the corner of Hawthorne avenue and Patterson lane through to the section-line road, and it only remains to ballast the track to get the branch ready for the cars. It is estimated that it will take about ten days to finish the ballasting. It is announced that the Mount Tabor cars, which now run to the end of Hawthorne avenue, will be operated to the end of the West avenue extension at the reservoir, which will give residents of South Mount Tabor railway connection with Portland.

Completing East Burnside Railway.
A large force of men is at work on the East Burnside-branch of the Portland Railway Company. Track has been laid on East Tenth to Pine and on Pine to Eleventh street and the roadbed is graded to Thirteenth street. Flat cars are hauling gravel from Woodlawn and the track is being ballasted as the steel is laid. This line will end for the present at the intersection of East Twentieth and Pine streets, but will be eventually built to Sunnyside by way of East Salmon street.

Building Sawmill and Dock.
Work on Cone Bros' new sawmill at St. Johns is progressing rapidly, and the piles for the public wharf which they are building for St. Johns have been driven. Lumber for the floor of the dock will be sawed by the mill. Cone Bros are busying this dock as compensation for vacation of streets for the use of the sawmill.

East Side Notes.
George Best, an oil expert, from San Francisco, has finished installing oil plants in three river suits. Cone Bros have gone to Oregon City to install them in the two paper mills there.

ROOSEVELT CLUB FORMED.
Preliminary Organization in Powell Street District.
At a conference of Republicans, held at the home of M. G. Griffin, 82 Clinton street, Tuesday evening, plans were adopted for the organization of the "President Roosevelt Club," to be carried out at a public meeting which will be held in Blanks' Hall, Powell street, Friday evening, January 9, at 8 o'clock. The club will be held and at the last the following were present: M. G. Griffin, Edward Gundersen, Waldemar Seton, Penumbra Kelly, George J. Cameron, F. E. White, F. G. Urfer, Sylvester White, L. H. Wells, H. C. Smith, W. P. Kealy, M. J. Morse, W. A. Ogilvie, Mr. Clark, William H. Gordon and some others. The special committee appointed at the former conference to submit plan of organization of the club, reported. The name of the organization was fixed as the "President Roosevelt Club," and its objects are to promote the nomination and election of President Roosevelt to the Presidency by the advocacy and promulgation of such principles as will tend to that end. The committee sought in a concise manner to frame the rules so that Democrats who favor the nomination and election of President Roosevelt can become members. At the same time making it a National Republican club. W. P. Kealy, Waldemar Seton, W. H. Gordon, H. C. Smith and others endorsed the plan in short talks. The club will elect a president, two vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer, and an executive committee of five members. Membership fee was fixed at 25 cents and monthly dues at 10 cents.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.
"The Ironmaster."
The production of "The Ironmaster" by the Baker Company this week is causing a great deal of favorable comment.
Sale for Florence Roberts.
The advance sale for the Florence Roberts engagement at the Marquam Grand Theatre next week commences at the box office tomorrow (Friday) morning. The

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plays in their order are: "The Frisky Mrs. Johnson" Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; "Sapho" Thursday, "Glionda" Friday, and "Zaza" for Saturday matinee and night.
"A Deacon's Daughter."
Next week at Cordray's, beginning Sunday matinee, Jessie Shirley and her excellent company will present Anna Pixley's play, "A Deacon's Daughter."
"Way Down East."
"Way Down East," the beautiful rural drama of New England life, is the attraction at the Marquam Grand Theatre this week.
At the Baker Next Week.
"At the White Horse Tavern" at the Baker Theatre next week promises to eclipse all former successes.
At the Arcade.
Five shows and seven acts at the Arcade Theatre today.
At Cordray's.
At Cordray's tonight, Jessie Shirley in "A Modern Magdalen."

TONIGHT'S MUSICALS.

An Unusually Delightful Programme at Eilers Piano House This Evening.
A very excellent programme will be given this evening at the weekly recital of Eilers Piano House. This being the opening evening since the concert was postponed for the holidays, effort has been made to have it an especially attractive one, and every number has been selected with a view to giving the utmost pleasure. Miss Kathleen Lawler, one of Portland's most popular sopranos, is to be the soloist.
To Build Logging Railroad.
E. W. Kling, president of the Oregon Timber & Logging Company, has closed a contract for the construction of a logging railroad into the timber districts near Parson's Switch, on the line of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad. One mile of road has been constructed and a mile and a half more is to be built. The road will be done by J. R. McMillan, and is to be commenced immediately. The road will tap a good timber district, and logging is to begin about February. This timber will be sent to the Portland mills.

JAPANESE AND CHINESE CURIO SALE

On account of having no place to move, we are compelled to close out our entire stock, at sacrifice prices. We have a large stock of Nuts, regular price, \$5.00, now \$2.50. Fine embroidered silk, regular price, \$25.00, now \$12.50. Ladies and gents' embroidered gowns, regular \$12.00, now \$5.00. Jackets, regular \$5.00, now \$2.50. Five lots of decorated china cups and saucers from 10 cents up; also closing out entire line of toys at half price.

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Finest coffee and cuisine served. New York Marble bathhouse. Complete gymnasium. Open Dec. 15. H. B. Walker, General Manager to May 15. J. C. Walker, Associate Manager

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A. B. Steinbach & Co. LARGEST CLOTHIERS IN THE NORTHWEST. SOUTHWEST CORNER FOURTH AND MORRISON STS.



Special Today Men's extra fine Sweaters, \$2.50 and \$2.00 grades at \$1.25. A few have smaller collars and the others the turtle neck. See vestible window. Today only \$1.25.

IN AN AGE OF SCIENCE It seems strange that anyone should trust their vision to ignorant charlatans claiming to be opticians. Yet we are frequently called upon to undo the work of these pretenders. 20 years of successful optical work entitles us to the confidence and patronage of all those whose eyes need attention.

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Dr. T. Felix Goursaud's Oriental Cream, or Magical Beautifier. Removes Tan, Pimples, Freckles, etc. and gives the skin a beautiful complexion. It is the best skin cream in the world. It has stood the test of 25 years, and is still the same. It is made by a French chemist, Dr. T. Felix Goursaud, in Paris. It is the best skin cream in the world. It has stood the test of 25 years, and is still the same. It is made by a French chemist, Dr. T. Felix Goursaud, in Paris.

A Superb Talking Machine. Outfit, complete with records, may be had on EAST WEEKLY PAYMENTS. Hard molded records for Phonographs, 25 cents each.

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