

AN END OF TOLLS

National Government May Buy Locks.

QUESTION IS REVIVED

Ownership of Willamette Falls, the Crucial Point.

LEGAL OPINION IS GIVEN

Portland General Electric Asks Price for Property, Which Can Be Cut if War Department Proves Right to Water.

Can the United States Government draw water from Willamette Falls in order to operate locks for navigation, or does the Portland General Electric Company, which owns the present locks, possess exclusive right to the water of the falls, and the land on which new locks would be built?

The outcome of these questions will determine whether the National Government shall acquire the present locks and abolish the tolls now levied on river traffic. The electric company has demanded a sum for the locks far in excess of what the War Department is willing to pay and the Government can force down the price only if it has the right to build and to operate new and additional locks. Engineers of the War Department have estimated that new locks can be built on the Oregon City side of the river for less than half the sum demanded by the electric company.

To determine whether the United States has the right to draw water from the falls for new locks, Congress has directed the Attorney-General to investigate. The matter has been sidetracked for two years owing to inactivity in Washington, but several weeks ago it came to light again and instructions were sent out here to United States Attorney John Hall to look into the subject. It is understood that Mr. Hall has presented an opinion stating that the United States can operate new locks provided the land which it occupies is below ordinary high-water mark. The opinion will doubtless be approved by the Attorney-General and forwarded to Congress this winter.

Senator Mitchell said yesterday that the Oregon delegation will endeavor to have Congress proceed toward acquiring the present locks. How the matter would be taken up he did not then know but he said it would be a little delay as possible.

"I favor purchase of the present locks at a reasonable price," said he. "The electric company should not expect a fancy sum." The Senator added that if the company should fail to be "reasonable" he would advocate the building of a new waterway over the falls.

Five years ago Mr. Hall, in an opinion rendered to Captain Langditt, United States Engineer, said that the Government has the right to construct other canals and locks, although it may impair the usefulness of those already constructed. It is understood that the electric company has constructed them over ground that is either covered at all times by the flow of the water or that lies below ordinary high-water mark. Within these limits the authority of the general Government for purposes of commerce and navigation is supreme and cannot be divested either by the state or by individual proprietors, and that the right to construct them over ground that is either covered at all times by the flow of the water or that lies below ordinary high-water mark.

These tolls are felt on all shipments up and down the Willamette Valley to and from points above and below the falls, whether they be by water or rail. Shippers know that abolition of the tolls would not only lead to a rate but reduce rail rates by the same margin.

In 1889 the electric company offered to sell the locks for \$1,200,000. This price was deemed excessive by a special board of Government engineers which reported that new locks could be built according to one project for \$429,000 and according to another project for \$456,000. The actual value of the present locks at that time, based on their earning power, was estimated at \$421,000, or based on cost of construction and right of way, \$310,500.

The electric company holds that it derives exclusive right to the water at below and above the falls by virtue of its ownership of the banks on each side of the stream; therefore that its rights extend from each bank to the thread of the stream. The company, consequently, avers that the Government would have to purchase land for new locks or to condemn in the courts and pay, not only what the lands are worth but also what the use of the water is worth, to the company as sole owner of the land and water rights.

Conference of Unitarians.

SALEM, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—The annual session of the North Pacific Unitarian Conference will be held in this city Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. It is expected that about 20 delegates will be present from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. The officers of the conference are W. F. Woodward, Portland, president; W. G. Elliot, Portland, corresponding secretary; R. W. Wilbur, Portland, recording secretary. One of the principal speakers at the conference will be Rev. Earl Morse Wilbur, dean of the Unitarian Divinity School at Oak-

land, Cal. The sessions, which will be held forenoon, afternoon and evening, will be open to the public.

AT THE THEATERS

What the Press Agents Say.

Clever Comedy at the Marquam.

The attraction at the Marquam Grand Theater tonight will be the clever farce-comedy, "A Friend of the Family," which begins an engagement of three performances. This is without a doubt one of the greatest laugh-producers Portland will have this season, judging from the criticism the Puget Sound papers have given this excellent company of players. The late farceful episode has a theme entirely different from anything yet seen here on that order, was written for the sole purpose of amusing the theater-going public, and the amusement is created in a logical and reasonable manner.

"A Friend of the Family," however, is built on infinitely more original lines than the farces of recent productions. It contains more consistent complications, a good story that is quaintly told, and from the rise to the fall of the curtain it is full of interest.

The company is composed of some capable players and funmakers, among whom are: William Friend, Harry Crandall, Eugene Farling, William Wood, Thelma Magrane, Theodora Dudley, Helen Travers, Violette Billers, Lucille Villiers, Carroll Hamilton and others.

"Glittering Gloria."

Much interest is centered in the coming of Fisher & Ryley's new production, "Glittering Gloria," which will serve to introduce Miss Isidore Rush in a comedy role. The book was written by Hugh Morton, who wrote "The Belle of New York" and other famous pieces, and in this, his latest work, he has given us an up-to-date American comedy with scenes laid in London. The stage settings are on a magnificent scale, especially the last act, which is a duplicate of the interior of Euston station, showing the great train shed and a regular English railroad coach, which will enable one to see the mode of travel there, in contrast to what we enjoy. The piece throughout contains witty lines and complicated situations, which cause laughter from the rise of the curtain on the first act to the finale of the piece. Miss Rush has been surrounded with a remarkably strong cast. Only two performances will be given at the Marquam Grand Theater, next Friday night and Saturday matinee. The advance sale will open next Wednesday morning.

At the Vaudeville Theaters

New Bill at the Star.

Whenever the Star Theater puts out a new programme the public has something to see. At 3 o'clock this afternoon as great a list of attractions as has ever been listed in Portland will present their first performance. The Alpine family, the most sensational wire-pedestrians in the world, will present their most famous comedy sketch ever written, and the three Renos are classed among the funniest acrobats who ever went on a stage.

Baker Opening Tonight.

The New Baker will throw wide its doors tonight for its premier performance as a vaudeville theater, the largest and most pretentious in the Northwest. This old relic of amusement has been remodeled and renovated from top to bottom and will enter upon its new career under the management of Keating & Flood with the largest vaudeville bill ever seen in the City of Portland. There will be two performances tonight, and hereafter there will be three each day, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. The regular bill will consist of ten acts.

At the Lyric Today.

The grand new show at the Lyric will open a week's run this afternoon. It is one of the best bills ever offered by Portland's most popular amusement places and includes: The Malcoms, world-famous globe-trotters, who perform miraculous feats with reckless abandon on rolling globes, defying all the laws of gravitation. They are the greatest gymnasts and contortionists of the age. Falarado, known as the "human orchestra," in imitations of bands, orchestras and all manner of musical instruments; the Drews, Irish and German comedians, in their laughable act; Beatrice Daily, the delightful soubrette, whose songs and dances have captivated America; and by special request the wit-scopic melodrama, "The Moonshiners," will be shown for another week.

Extra Bijou Attraction.

As a special leading feature for the new bill beginning this afternoon the Bijou has secured the Quo Vadis gladiators, Lane and Susinetta. They come directly from the San Francisco Orpheum. Clad in armor they fight one of the most sensational Roman sword combats seen on any stage. In reality two acts combined are presented, for a great exhibition of cannon-ball juggling is given. Miss Susinetta is said to be the only woman cannon-ball juggler in the world.

YOUR LAST CHANCE

For reduced rate Chicago-St. Louis round-trip tickets. Sale dates October 23, 24 and 25 only. Any route going and he same or any other route returning. Call on or address B. H. TRUMBULL, Commercial Agent, Illinois Central Railroad Company, Portland, Or.

Burnett's Extract of Vanilla

Has taken gold medals against all other brands.

Burnett's
231 WASHINGTON ST. OF PORTLAND OREGON.
MAKER OF MENS CLOTHES.

We have never shown a big line in exclusive novelties as this Fall, and shall be pleased to have you see them before selecting your winter outfit.

The Oriental Sale Continues Through the Week

The "Oriental Sale" offers exceptional values in Oriental and European merchandise of every description—That the idea has met with great favor is proven by the immense store attendance all day and evening Saturday—From 7:30 to 9:30 P. M. store service was taxed to its utmost—The splendid bargains in foreign merchandise, useful and ornamental household effects, wearing apparel, etc., interested throngs of buyers—Scores of money-saving chances at every turn—The handsome decorations are alone worth a store visit—Come!

Portland Agents The Meier & Frank Store

Portland's Largest and Best Store

Custom Shade and Drapery Work Our Specialty—Best Materials and Workmanship—Lowest Prices Guaranteed—Agents for "Ostermoor" Mattresses The Largest and Best Trunk and Bag Store on the Pacific Coast, 3d Floor—Trunks, Bags, Suit Cases, Telescopes, Etc., in Every Good Style and Size "Willamette" Sewing Machines Sold on the Easy-Payment Plan, \$5.00 Down and \$1.00 Weekly—Every One Guaranteed for 10 Years—Second Floor

300 New Raincoats \$20--Blouse Cravenettes \$22.50--New Cravenet's \$25 60---Huge Express Parcels Came Yesterday---60

Our assistant cloak chief put in eight hours' hard work yesterday so you could select from the greatest assortment of Raincoats in the city today—Saturday night's 7:45 Northern Pacific Overland and yesterday morning's Northern Pacific Overland brought us 60 immense parcels of Raincoats which, in addition to the 300 garments which arrived Saturday morning, makes an assortment today unequalled by any display the length and breadth of the land—These garments, the personal selection of our Mr. Ludwig Hirsch, is a sufficient guarantee that they are correct in style and the greatest values obtainable for the money—Included in the immense lots are the \$20 and \$22.50 coats hundreds of friends of Portland's leading cloak and suit store have been waiting for—Extra salespeople for today and tomorrow

- \$20.00 CRAVENETTES**
150 tan and Oxford Raincoats, slit seams, belt all around, velvet collar, beautiful tailored "Cravenet" of splendid style and fit—Equal style coats you \$25 at other stores.
New & Covert Coats by express. Beautiful models at \$18.00 and \$22.50 each.
- BLOUSE CRAVENETTES \$22.50**
Handsome blouse Cravenettes in tans, Ox-fords and olives, collarless and fancy button trimmed—An immense line of new styles for you to choose from. Styles marked \$25.00 at other stores \$22.50 here.
- CRAVENETTES \$25.00 to \$40.00**
320 new Cravenettes received past two days from New York's leading manufacturers. Tans, olives and Ox-fords in exclusive styles and all sizes. Greatest showing in the city at \$25.00, \$28.00, \$30.00, \$35.00, \$40.00, \$45.00, \$50.00, \$55.00.

Thanksgiving Linens, China, Cutlery

Dependable Table Linens and Tableware at greatly reduced prices for this Annual Thanksgiving Sale—Pricing we know every housewife must be interested in—We have gone through the departments with the greatest care and selected articles that would make the table the most presentable—Articles that would help the housewife prepare better than ever and with less worry—The Thanksgiving Sale will continue until all your wants are supplied

Thanksgiving Linens--Matchless Bargains

- Hemstitched Satin Damask Table Cloths, beautiful styles, all the best grades at Thanksgiving Sale prices—
\$4.50 Cloths for \$3.80 **\$5.00 Cloths for \$4.20**
\$6.00 Cloths for \$4.90 **\$7.00 Cloths for \$5.80**
\$9.00 Cloths for \$7.30 **\$10 Cloths for \$8.20**
- Hand-embroidered Afternoon Tea Cloths and Center Pieces, beautiful designs and qualities, great bargains at the following special prices:
\$2.25 Pieces, \$1.87 ea. **\$4.50 Pieces, \$3.85 ea.**
\$2.50 Pieces, \$2.10 ea. **\$5.00 Pieces, \$4.35 ea.**
\$3.00 Pieces, \$2.60 ea. **\$6.00 Pieces, \$5.20 ea.**
- All our finest pieces up to \$15 greatly reduced
- Our entire stock of Dinner Napkins, all grades, best patterns' immense variety, all at Thanksgiving Sale prices. The grandest Napkin bargains ever offered—
\$2.00 Napkins \$1.72 dz **\$3.25 Napkins \$2.68 dz**
\$2.50 Napkins \$2.05 dz **\$4.00 Napkins \$3.25 dz**
\$5.00 Napkins for \$4.20 Dozen
- All Napkins up to \$12.50 doz. at reduced prices
- 72-inch Satin Damask Table Linens, all the best patterns; regular \$1.00 grade, at—yard..... **89c**
- 72-inch Satin Damask Table Linen, handsome designs, regular \$1.25 grade, at the low price of—yd..... **94c**
- 72-inch Satin Damask Table Linens, all the regular \$1.50 values, for, the yard..... **\$1.29**
- 72-inch Satin Damask Table Linens, the \$2.25 grades, for this sale at the low price of, yard..... **\$1.76**
- Hemstitched Damask Tray Cloths, 17x23 inches; value extraordinary at this low price—each..... **21c**
- Hemstitched Damask Tray Cloths, 20x28 inches, marvelous values at—each..... **28c**
- Hemstitched Damask Tea Cloths—all the best sizes and patterns—great bargains. \$1.00 grades, **83c** each; \$1.50 grades, **\$1.21** each; \$2.00 grades, **\$1.52** each; all \$3.00 Tray Cloths for, each **\$2.55.**
- See the new French Table Linens being offered at Thanksgiving Sale Prices.
- All our high-class Satin Damask and Double Satin Damask Table Cloths, in all sizes from two yds. long to 5 1/2 yds. long; magnificent styles; values ranging from \$3.50 set up to \$75.00 set, will be offered at exceptionally low prices during the great Annual Thanksgiving Linen Sale. Entire stock of John S. Brown & Sons' fine Linens at special sale prices.

Thanksgiving Sale of China, Cutlery, Roasters, Etc.

Tableware and Kitchen Helps at Thanksgiving Sale prices—Things that will make the Thanksgiving preparations less worrisome—Things that will make the table and dinner more inviting than ever before—We've made the prices as low as safe storekeeping permits—The "Oriental Sale" also offers great values in many useful articles—Basement.

- Family Roasters**
Black Iron with roasting rack and ventilator, guaranteed to do the work satisfactorily to the most particular housewife—
9x13 inch, 40c value, for... **28c**
10 1/2 x 15 inch, 50c value, for... **36c**
12 1/2 x 17 1/2 inch, 60c value, for... **42c**
- Famous "Royal" Roasters**
The famous "Royal" Roasters, worth their weight in gold—
10x14 inch, special, each... **82c**
11x16 inch, special, each... **90c**
12x17 inch, special, each... **\$1.00**
- Chafing Dishes, 3-pint size, a handsome nickel-plated dish, wroughtiron stand, regular \$4.00 value, for this sale... **\$3.23**
- Paper Candle Shades in red, pink and green, wild rose design, great value... **12c**
- Fancy Candles, all colors, each... **5c**
- White Metal Salt and Pepper Shakers, values extraordinary at, per pair... **15c**
- 3-Piece Carving Sets, stag handles, sterling silver mounting, in lined case, very best steel; regular \$5.00 set... **\$4.19**
- 3-Piece Beef Carvers, in lined case, very neat, medium size, best \$3.75 value, for the low price of... **\$3.13**
- 50c Bread Knives, warranted best steel... **39c**

Fine Table China at Low Prices

- Haviland, French and German China—handsome patterns—
75c Cups and Saucers, sale price, each... **59c**
90c Cups and Saucers, sale price, each... **68c**
\$1.00 Cups and Saucers, sale price, each... **79c**
\$2.00-\$2.25 Sugar and Creamers, pretty styles, pair... **\$1.69**
\$2.50-\$2.75 Sugar and Creamers, pretty styles, pair... **\$2.13**
\$2.25 Cracker Jars, **\$1.79** each; \$2.75 Cracker Jars, each... **\$2.13**
Handsome Chocolate Pots, \$2.50 values, for, each... **\$1.63**
\$1.35 to \$1.50 Salad Bowls, **99c** ea.; \$3.60-\$3.75 Salad Bowls... **\$2.65**
\$2.50 Celery Trays, **1.84** ea.; \$2.00 Celery Trays... **\$1.59**
\$2.25 Bread Trays, **\$1.77** each; \$2.50 Chop Dishes... **\$1.59**
\$3.00 Bread Trays, each... **\$2.29**
\$2.25 Fruit Saucers, set of six, for... **\$1.79**
\$2.00 Fruit Saucers, set of six, for... **\$1.49**
\$3.00 Fruit Saucers, set of six, for... **\$2.35**
32c Plates, **23c** each 55c Plates, **42c** each 65c Plates, **49c** each
75c Plates, **53c** each 95c Plates, **73c** each \$1.10 Plates, **83c** ea.

Kitchen Utensils at Low Prices

- 9x12-inch Drip Pans, special at, each... **11c**
- 10x12-inch Drip Pans, special at, each... **12c**
- 11x17-inch Drip Pans, special at, each... **16c**
- No. 8 Granite Tea Kettles, \$1.00 values, each... **69c**
- 2-ring Wood Towel Racks, 15c value, each... **9c**
- 15c Wire Toasters for the low price of, each... **11c**
- Asbestos Griddles, 35c value, for... **27c**
- Asbestos Fry Pans, 10c value, for... **7c**



"Peninsular" Cook Stove \$15.00

Full nickel-trimmed Peninsular Cook Stove, 19-inch oven, perfect baker, guaranteed for ten years... **\$15.00**
"Peninsular" Coal or Wood Heater, solid cast iron fire pot, double front door, swing top... **\$8.75**