

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

The Oregonian's Telephone.
Counting Room Main 687
Managing Editor Main 685
Sunday Editor Main 625
City Editor Main 625
Society Editor Main 625
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East Side Office East 61

AMUSEMENTS

MARQUAM GRAND THEATER (Morrison st., bet. 1st and 2nd)—Tonight at 8:15 o'clock, "Zaza."
EMPIRE THEATER (11th and Morrison)—Tonight at 8:15, "The Prodigal Daughter."
COLUMBIA THEATER (14th and Washington)—Tonight at 8:15, "The Prodigal Daughter."
GRAND THEATER (Park and Washington)—Continuous vaudeville, 2 to 10:30 P. M.
ETAR THEATER (Park and Washington)—Continuous vaudeville, 2 to 10:30 P. M.
BAKER THEATER (3rd and Yamhill)—Continuous vaudeville, 2 to 10:30 P. M.
ARCADE THEATER (5th and Washington)—Continuous vaudeville, 2 to 10:30 P. M.
ELIJAH THEATER (6th and Alder)—Continuous vaudeville from 2:30 to 10:30 P. M.
LYRIC THEATER (for Alder and 7th)—Continuous vaudeville from 2:30 to 10:30 P. M.

INTERESTING PAPERS WERE READ—At the meeting of the St. Johns Civic Improvement League, at the home of Mrs. J. Henry Smith, Mrs. Allen Blackburn's section of the literary committee had charge of the programme. Mrs. Etta Adams read an instructive paper on the cultivation of flowers about the home. She gave in detail the way to raise flowers and showed the proper time for planting in order to obtain the best results. Mrs. Allen Blackburn read a paper on horticulture. Mrs. Manning read a paper on "Our Snow-Capped Hills." After the programme Mrs. Allen Blackburn, Mrs. J. Henry Smith, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. Manning and Mrs. Sheppard were appointed a committee to confer with the Commercial Club with regard to saving the Park Block, recently purchased by M. L. Hobrook. An effort will be made to devise means for purchasing this block and making a permanent city block of it. The block is the one recently owned by the City of Spuytenwyck, New York, and where the company has its barn.

WANT SALOON LICENSE—A petition was circulated the past week in St. Johns by some parties who want to open a liquor store, with bar attachment. The petition received quite a number of signatures, but it has not yet been presented to the Council. So far the St. Johns Council has turned down every attempt to get a license to open a saloon in that city, although there have been many applications. At the November election the precinct voted strongly against prohibition. Several months ago a Portland attorney went to the Council and argued for a saloon license and urged that it would be better for the people of St. Johns to spend their money at home than in Portland, but the Councilman refused to sign the license application and turned down the application.

MILWAUKEE COUNCIL TO ORGANIZE—The new Council elected at Milwaukee will hold its first meeting and organize this evening at Woodmen of the World Hall. Mayor William Schindler will announce his committees for the ensuing year. The new Council is composed of Philip Strick, J. O. Roberts, Arthur Weber and George M. Hively. Ex-Marshall John Kelso will be missed and in his place will be Arthur Downing, and F. H. Lechner will occupy the place of the late Councilman. It is expected that Mayor Schindler will make some announcements as to the action of the city government during the coming year at this meeting. A vigorous effort will be made to have the road-tax money collected inside Milwaukee spent in the interests of the corporation.

WILL CONTINUE THE MONEY CONTEST.—The Mississippi Avenue Congregational Church will continue the money contest, which ended on December 1 through to the first of February. It is desired to raise \$500 to pay off all debts and make certain needed improvements to the church property. In the recent contest \$117 was raised. The money will be divided equally between the blues and reds, which represent the two sides, and an even start will be made. Frank Tomlinson and Mrs. Freborough are captains of the blues and Mrs. Jennie Preston and W. C. Cole are captains of the reds. A warm contest is expected.

STOLE RELATIVE'S CLOTHES.—Henry Stippelhauf, a Russian, long and cadaverous, was arrested yesterday for stealing a suit of clothes from his brother-in-law, Jacob Kithan, at Union avenue and Felling street, and wearing it. He was brought before Chief Hunt yesterday afternoon, when he piteously confessed. There were present at the confession two long-legged boys, with light-colored eyes and sad eyes, to listen to the review of their father's crime.

MAT BUILD LARGER CHURCH.—With the coming of the Rev. D. A. Waters, D. D., as pastor of the University Methodist Episcopal Church it has been found that the present church is too small, the community having outgrown the building. At the meeting of the trustees last evening a special committee was appointed to get estimates of the cost of enlarging the present building, with the view of starting work at an early date.

TO IMPROVE UNIVERSITY SECTION.—The University Board of Trustees has appointed the following committee on civic improvements in that neighborhood: Mrs. Ather, chairman; Mrs. Rhodes, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Faulk, Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Van Tyne, Mrs. Bagley, Mrs. McGregor, Mrs. McKen, Mrs. H. I. Davis and Mrs. G. Cone. The object is to clean up the whole district and encourage the beautifying of homes.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION.—The United States Civil Service Commission announces that an examination will be held during the early part of January to secure eligibles to fill vacancies in the position of stenographer and typewriter on the isthmus of Panama, at salaries from \$120 to \$180 per annum. Persons desiring to compete should call on Z. A. Leigh, Postoffice Department, city.

WILL DECIDE CASES.—Judge C. B. Bellinger will render decisions this morning in the five cases of the United States against the Oregon & California Railroad Company, in the case of the Columbia River Packing Company vs. Tallant, the case of John J. Cambra vs. The First National Bank of Butte and the case of William Rea and others vs. S. B. Barker.

SEALS LIQUOR TO MINORS.—Stephen Eitz, an Albina saloon-keeper, was arrested yesterday on the charge of selling liquor to minors and is out on \$50 bail awaiting the convening of Judge Hogue's court this morning. The police have been making quite a number of arrests on this charge lately, and those convicted find it very hard with them.

THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF December 12 and 14 the ladies of the Third Presbyterian Church, corner East Thirtieth and Pine, will hold a sale of fancy articles suitable for Christmas. Among the pretty things are curios from Porto Rico and a full line of Mexican drawn work. Dinner will be served at 5:30 Tuesday evening.

BOOKS BY JACOB A. RISS.—"Theodore Roosevelt, the Citizen".....\$2.00
"The Making of an American".....1.50
"The Battle With the Slum".....2.00
"The Children of the Poor".....1.50
"Is There a Santa Claus?"......75
For sale at G.H.S.

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THE CALUMET, 149 7th, Lunch 5c, 11:30 A. M. to 2 P. M. Dinner 5c, 4:30 to 5 P. M. Service a la carte, 7 A. M. to 8 P. M.

"THE BATTLE WITH THE SLUM," Monday, Dec. 12, by Jacob A. Riss, at Y. M. C. A. auditorium.

A CHOICE business property for sale on Third street. Particulars, 21 North Front.

DR. BROWN, eye and ear. The Marquam. DR. C. W. BARR, Dentist, 217 Dekum. B. R. HICHS Curio Store is selling out. Write Jacob A. Riss tonight.

CONDUCTORS COMING

To prepare for the twenty-ninth biennial session of the Railway Conductors of America, E. E. Clark, grand chief conductor, and W. J. Maxwell, grand secretary and treasurer, are expected to arrive here from the East tomorrow to make the necessary arrangements for meetings and entertainment. A local committee consisting of Samuel P. Veatch, J. W. Crocker and E. E. Chenwell will entertain the visitors during their short stay here. It is expected that the convention will bring about 12,000 visitors to this city, and among the cities that will send special trains are: St. Paul, Atlantic City, Macon, Pittsburg and Cleveland.

WILL HAVE SMOKERS.—Portland Lodge, No. 34, Knights of the Royal Arch, will give the first of a series of smokers on Wednesday, December 14, at Elks' Hall. Elaborate preparations have been made by the committee in charge and the event will be distinctly worth while. Local artists of the highest standing have volunteered to entertain and, in addition, those who know have promised several surprises. All members look forward to Wednesday night with pleasurable anticipation and the big hall promises to be thronged with merry-makers.

REMOVED ELECT OFFICERS.—Williamette Tribe, No. 8, I. O. R. M., has elected the following officers for the coming term: M. Gardner, sachem; Leo Hays, S. S.; R. Kaaborn, J. S.; A. E. Buttner, C. of R.; A. E. Koessel, K. of W.; Charles Krauter, phopet, and F. Armbruster, scribe. The water committee also is expected. H. W. Hodges, of the charter committee, said last evening:

"We have completed our work on the Mount Tabor charter. There will be four wards, with the East Line road as the dividing line between the four. We put in the Bancroft bonding provision for the improvements of streets and laying of sewers."

"There has been some opposition to incorporation from those who fear there may be a big debt incurred, but that comes mainly from a misunderstanding. According to the proposed charter, not a dollar of bonded indebtedness can be incurred without the taxpayers authorize it. No salaries are provided, except the necessary expenses of the officers, and compensation for what they do. The people of Mount Tabor are invited to attend the meeting and examine the charter."

MT. TABOR CHARTER COMPLETED

Will Be Submitted to Improvement Association This Evening.

The Mount Tabor charter is completed and will be submitted by the committee to the Improvement Association this evening at the regular meeting, which will be held in Woodmen of the World Hall, on Base Line road. An interesting meeting is anticipated. A report from the water committee also is expected. H. W. Hodges, of the charter committee, said last evening:

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MAY LEASE ELECTRIC PLANT

Another Big Ship-Building Plant is Promised for St. Johns.

It is announced that the electric sawmill plant in St. Johns, built by M. B. Rankin, and which proved a failure and was never operated, has been leased for a long term of years by a concern which is planning to build a big shipyard. The electric sawmill company has over a block of water front, besides a street vacated by the St. Johns Council several months ago. There was some talk of repealing the vacation of the street on the grounds that it had not been used as represented it would be, but now that the ground is to be used for an industry giving employment to 200 men there will be no more talk of repealing the vacation. There is ample means back of the new enterprise, although the parties to the deal are not yet made known to the public. The electric sawmill has had varied experience. When first erected it was expected to cut logs that could not be handled at other mills, but the experiment proved a failure, as was predicted by all sawmill men who examined the plant.

COMPLETING FERRY LANDING

Albina Approach at Foot of Randolph Street Will Soon Be Finished.

The Albina landing for the new ferry will be completed in a few days, except the projecting piles in the river, which are yet to be driven. The grade of the incline is very moderate, so that loaded teams can get up to River street without trouble, and is about 40 feet wide.

It will be more convenient for the public than the landing at the foot of Albina avenue for the present ferry. The incline is planked from the river up to River street, a distance of something over 100 feet.

River street is not yet improved, but it is to be improved from the end of the landing to Randolph street, and Randolph will be improved to the connection with Goldsmith street. The ferry landing will be completed a long time in advance of the improvement of these two streets, which will probably not be started for several months, but the Albina approach cannot be used until the streets are paved. It is hardly probable that the new ferry can be operated before Spring.

MRS. ANNA M. FISHER DEAD

Had Lived in Portland and Vicinity Since 1856.

Mrs. Anna M. Fisher, widow of the late John A. Fisher, passed away at her home near East Forty-first street and East Stark at 2:30 P. M., December 9. She was born June 2, 1825, in Switzerland, and descended from the Huguenots. In 1841 she, with her mother, four sisters and three brothers, came to America, settling in St. Louis, Mo. There she was married in 1854, and two years later came to Portland, where Mr. Fisher engaged in the confectionery business, retiring in 1872 and removing to the late home near Mount Tabor. Four children survive her: J. A. of Stevenson, Wash., Treasurer of Skamania County; Charles L. Salem, Or.; Mrs. George Suttle and George W. Fisher, of this city. Interment in Lone Fir cemetery from the late residence at 2 P. M. today.

JACOB A. RISS

The Great Author Lectures Tonight at the Y. M. C. A.

Tonight Mr. Riss will give his greatest lecture, "The Battle With the Slum," in number on the subject of lectures and entertainments. The lecture will be illustrated with stereopticon, showing the work he did in the metropolis which made him famous. He is the man of whom Roosevelt said: "He is the most useful citizen in New York."

Every admirer of great men should hear him. He has a strong, forceful style, which impresses his audience with his personality and the story he has to tell. Mr. Riss was once a tramp, sleeping under sidewalks and like places, but now is one of the best-known men in the world. Lecture begins at 8:15 P. M.

WHERE TO DINE

All the delicacies of the season at the Portland restaurant, fine private apartments for parties. 23 Wash. near 5th.

AT THE THEATERS

"The Prodigal Daughter."
Sir John Woodmere.....William Dille
Maurice Deepwater.....Frederick Emelton
Captain Harry Vernon.....William Bernard
The Hon. Julian Bedford.....Edgar Baume
Lord Hanbury.....Donald Bowles
Lord Roper.....Scott Seaton
Tom Blinker.....George Bloomquist
Miserable Jim.....George Berrell
Joseph Gunn.....Roy Bernard
Concierge.....Laurie Allen
James.....Charles York
Major Ormsby.....W. Greenlee
Mr. Wood.....Charles Wilson
Maid servant.....Frances Williamson
Captain Woodstock.....Bertrand Webb
Mrs.....R. Long
Rose.....Cathrine Coustas
Violet.....Marion Barbote
Dorcas.....Louise Board

"A Little Outcast."
Paul Weston.....Walter Harmon
William Harcourt.....Delaney Barclay
George De Vos.....Harry E. Rowe
Teddy Forest.....Charles L. Crane
Hungry Chick Higgins.....Harry Norton
Red Darly.....Roy Meyers
Thomas Quinn.....Walter Harmon
James Bagley.....Clay Morris
William Gallagher.....Harry E. Rowe
Ping Pong.....George Taylor
Ping Pong.....Master W. Riley
Madeline Harcourt.....Millicent Evans
Ethel Byron.....L. Whitecliff
Maggie Foley.....Mabel Shaw
Little Nell.....Little Lillian
Bob.....Dolly Dupree

Those who earn greatest credit from the newest Columbia production are players: George Berrell, who has the direction of it; George Berrell, the stage manager, and Frank King, who painted the scenery.

As a presentation in a single week, the current bill is wonderful, and too high praise cannot be bestowed on the three men named. After them, each member of the company may be commended for the admirable acting of the piece.

"The Prodigal Daughter" is one of the very best efforts of the Columbia players. The best thing in it is the step-dance scene, which aroused the audience last night to the wildest pitch of excitement. Three hours are used, and the effect produced is that of a real running play. There are 13 scenes in the play, and most of them are splendidly staged.

The cast this week is unusually large, and the lines and situations are well portioned out. Miss Countess, as the prodigal, rises at her best, and her work throughout is uniformly good. She has a few seconds at the close of the second act which are positively great.

Mr. Baume has a most thankless role as the contemptibly weak lover, but he takes his medicine like a man and plays the part for all there is in it. Donald Bowles and Louise Brandt, working as a team, supply the comedy. That much-abused word "clever" applies to them as if it had been coined for the purpose. Neither Mr. Bowles nor Miss Brandt have done anything so thoroughly pleasing before.

Mr. Dills was very effective in his impersonation of the heavy villain, and Scott Seaton, who was his First Lieutenant, made himself wicked enough to earn the enmity of the gallery. George Bloomquist was a heavy villain, and his splendid reputation. Miss Barbote deserved the approval she received, and Mrs. Bernard, who had only about nine lines, scored a hit with each of them. Mr. Berrell plays a very nice part, and while Charles York and Laurette Allen acquitted themselves proudly. Each of the three deserves special mention and a blue ribbon.

"The Prodigal Daughter" is an excellent entertainment. It will run all week excepting on Thursday night, when it will give way to "The Billionaire" for one performance.

Of course, a melodrama is impossible, but it seems that a very large element, if not, in fact, a majority of the people, rise to this peculiar form of theatrical bait like trout to a fly during the open season. The Empire presents a representative melodrama this week in "A Little Outcast," and two large and typical audiences saw the opening performances.

It is a Hal Reid thriller, which plays upon emotional melodrama patrons to their complete satisfaction. It has been seen here before, and retains its power to draw. It derives this power from the fact that it is good for its kind. It is above the average in every respect. The cast, scenery and mechanical effects are much better than ordinarily go with the equipment of melodrama.

Dolly Dupree, who claims kinship with Minnie, of the same name, a New York favorite of some years' standing, appears in the leading part. She has played Bob, the marvellously heroic newsboy, for three or four years. Her acting of the part is the sort called for in the book of the play.

Walter Harmon is satisfactory as the principal man, and Harry Norton is sufficiently bad as the plug-ugly pal of Harry E. Roe, in the role of wicked and bewhiskered villain. Millicent Evans, who portrays the leading lady character, is a beautiful woman, who has a beautiful wardrobe and considerable talent. The engagement ends Wednesday night.

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