

TAKES NO ACTION

Executive Board Discusses Sewer Situation.

PROPOSE VARIOUS SOLUTIONS

Members Agree That Tanner-Creek Tunnel Needs Repairs—Disagree as to Who Shall Make Them.

Behind closed and guarded doors the members of the Executive Board of the City of Portland met yesterday afternoon and talked. The while they talked they beat the tables with their fists and indulged in other expressions of earnestness. Though the meeting lasted for over two hours and the sole topic of the gathering was "sewer," no official action was taken and the members went to dinner so near a solution of the problem that when they left the breakfast table.

Mayor Williams presided and listened patiently to the oratory of the gathered dignitaries. George Howell arose in his place, thanked the members for their presence and gave vent to divers statements concerning sewers in general and the notorious Tanner-Creek in particular. After Mr. Howell had exhausted the topic, recommending sundry ways out of the difficulty at present confronting the Executive Board, he successfully regained his seat and gave the floor to Sig Scheel.

Mr. Scheel also exhausted the subject. The table came in for more thumping, the other members cocked their heads in Mr. Scheel's direction, and after that gentlemen had finished, several bounded to their feet demanding that they have the right to express their thoughts and feelings. For two hours thereafter they did so, yet when the members issued once more into the comparatively fresh air of the corridors they one and all stated that every one had been sworn to secrecy and that there wasn't any more to say.

HAY SENDS HIS THANKS.

Writes Letter to the Portland Chamber of Commerce.

The board of trustees of the Portland Chamber of Commerce will meet this morning at 11:30 o'clock for the transaction of the business of the month. Many routine matters will be brought before the meeting.

Yesterday the secretary of the Chamber received a letter from Secretary of State John Hay, in which the receipt of resolutions passed by the Chamber was acknowledged. The resolutions were passed on November 23 and urged the Government to take some action favorable to the ratification of treaties with Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Austria, by which the international arbitration of all differences would be secured.

Mr. Hay, in his note, thanks the Chamber for the interest which is displayed for the good of the country, and states that the department is always thankful to receive notice of such resolutions, inasmuch as they show the interest of the people of the country in seeking for and welcoming any practical means of averting war and bloodshed by arbitration and in extending the way of peace over the world.

DISCUSSED THE GRIEVANCES.

Lumbermen and Loggers Meet in Conference in Seattle.

S. Benson, of the Benson Logging & Lumber Company, Hollis Alger, of the Alger Logging Company, and S. Chapman, of the Chapman Lumber Company, have returned from a trip to Seattle, where they met with representatives of the Columbia Basin loggers on Saturday last, to discuss plans to bring their grievances before the next session of the Legislature.

AT THE THEATERS

What the Press Agents Say.

MELODRAMA AT COLUMBIA.

"Prodigal Daughter" Holds Audience Spellbound With Interest.

Portland has a clear title to the pride it entertains for the Columbia Theater and its talented aggregation of players. Last week fare and comedy held the boards and laughter had full sway. This week melodrama rules supreme and those who stirred to mirth now woo the reality, for it does not violate the possibilities and create giggles. It is legitimate drama of the "Lad Astray," "Celebrated Case" and "Two Orphans," which holds the audience from the first ring of the curtain to the final falling thereof.

"The Little Outcast."

Lovers of melodrama regret that there are so few melodramas and specialties introduced into the play, but probably they have not looked for the reason, which is this: The vaudeville field is a tempting one to any artist who has a specialty to exhibit, as it means high salaries and less outlay work; consequently managers of melodramas find it difficult to compete with the vaudeville houses. "A Little Outcast," which is the attraction at the Empire Theater tonight and tomorrow night, is a marked exception to this rule as the management out-

SLUMS ARE HIS FOES

Jacob A. Riis Tells of His Battles in New York.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF STRIFE

Noted Reformer Tells How Haunts of Vice and Crime Were Transformed into Parks and Playgrounds.

Jacob A. Riis may have come from Denmark, homeless and ragged and poor; he may still talk with the traces of his boyhood tongue upon his utterances; he may lack the polished precision of speech, the balance of sentences and the clarity of diction found in the classics of the old-time orators, but still what he says charms and thrills. There is an earnestness and a ring of conviction and of sincerity which draws his audience to him and makes it see and feel as he does.

Aid Society Benefit.

One of the special features in the benefit entertainment to be given by the "Thaliam Girls" on next Friday evening for the benefit of the Boys and Girls Aid Society is the specialties to be introduced between acts, among which are topical songs by Thomas Dobson, the boy soprano. His beautiful clear soprano voice when once heard is never to be forgotten, and many Portlanders will be glad to avail themselves of again hearing him. The character songs and dance by Eugene and Ernest Nordstrom will be also of great interest.

"Billionaire" Seats Today.

This morning at 10 o'clock in the lobby of the Marquand Grand Theater, the advance sale of seats will open for Thomas G. Slaughter in the big musical comedy, "The Billionaire," which comes to the Columbia Theater next Thursday night and Friday matinee, December 15 and 16. Not more than six seats will be sold to one person.

JUDGE BELLINGER DECISION.

Eight Are Handed Down in Federal Circuit Court.

Judge Bellinger yesterday handed down eight decisions in the Federal Circuit Court. In the case of John J. Chambers vs. the First National Bank of Butte, he sustained the demurrer to the complaint. It was an action to recover \$10,000 deposited by the plaintiff as indemnity for Andrew J. Davis and George A. Andrews against Thomas G. Slaughter in the big musical comedy, "The Billionaire," which comes to the Columbia Theater next Thursday night and Friday matinee, December 15 and 16. Not more than six seats will be sold to one person.

POINTS SENTENCES FROM JACOB A. RIIS' LECTURE

The slum is where all the influences tend to unrighteousness and the corruption of the young.

You can fight fire from behind, but the way to conquer it is to get in front with the hose.

When we have established the juvenile court, provided the free playground and given the children of the poor a chance, then we will have battled successfully with the slum.

There may be race suicide on Fifth avenue, but there is none in Mulberry Bend.

I have known twice as much drunkenness due to poverty as I have poverty due to drunkenness.

When you make the home bright and pleasant as the saloon, then you do much to cure drunkenness.

I have said the worst side of human nature for the last 25 years, and yet my conviction, deep and abiding, is that the boy is not naturally bad.

We make the schoolhouses as beautiful as possible in the slums. It does not make so much difference where the rich people live.

When you grow an ideal in the slum you destroy the slum.

There is a thing which you will yet run up against in your town and that is the deadly inertia of the good people of the town.

I have lived in the darkness and have laid in the slough; and I have seen the sunlight come in and know that God lives in the human mind and heart and will not allow the good that has been gained to be lost again.

With the sunlight comes decency every time.

The world owes no man a living. It is like a big bank from which we may all draw in that proportion in which we deposit to our account.

Holes of Darkness Described.

It was a devious path that the lecturer took his listeners along; one that ran in plank places and in holes of darkness and sin and crime. He threw upon the canvas against the great old-time pictures of 25 years and more ago—those places in which no light ever shone or no gladness ever came. He pointed out the basement halls and corridors through the darkness of which the children of the poor crawled amid the filth and waste of the common sinks, and told of the fact that only one out of four of these children ever lived to be full grown. He pictured the light shafts, five and many stories deep, from which thousands secured their light and air. He led his cringing companions into Bandit's Roost and Dottle Alley, those two old-time festers on the bow of Mulberry Bend, and showed them the fountainhead of the murders and crimes of old New York.

Paints a Brighter Picture.

Then turning to brighter things he pictured upon the canvas the gardens that today mark the spot where these holes of darkness flourished by an acre of the sites of the old tenements in many places, the playgrounds that have been provided and the results that have been attained by 25 years of unrelenting warfare against the greed and selfishness of the rich at the expense and death of the poor. The new tenements that have been built, into every room of which the sunlight comes; the schools erected and made beauty spots in the poorest districts of the town; the new environment, were all depicted in a graphic manner, while the humanity of the man won burst after burst of applause. He exhibited his heart by the words he uttered on "Tony's Hardships," at the Temple Beth Israel. Everyone would be welcome and there would be room made for all that the temple could accommodate. Dr. Wise was formerly a co-worker with Mr. Riis in his efforts in New York and is an old friend and companion of the lecturer.

Mr. Riis to Lecture Friday.

Before the opening of the lecture Dr. Stephen S. Wise was introduced by W. M. Ladd. Dr. Wise announced that Mr. Riis had consented to return to Portland on Friday next and would on that evening deliver his lecture on "Tony's Hardships," at the Temple Beth Israel. Everyone would be welcome and there would be room made for all that the temple could accommodate. Dr. Wise was formerly a co-worker with Mr. Riis in his efforts in New York and is an old friend and companion of the lecturer.

Mr. Ladd in introducing the speaker said that he felt that Oregon had one claim upon the speaker. He did not think that Mr. Riis would want to come to a state that had not given President Roosevelt a roomy and comfortable berth in the last election. Therefore knowing that the state had done its best, he was sure that the traveler would feel at home among its people.

Mr. Riis in speaking uses no notes

IT WAS NO DREAM

Even Though Nearly Incredible.

"For 20 years I suffered with piles, sometimes being confined to my bed for days at a time. The relief received from doctors, both in the United States and Mexico was temporary and more frequently I received no relief; other medicines had no effect; it was a continual drag. I was fit for nothing. I finally tried Pyramid Pile Cure; my application was magical; I could not believe I was awake next morning. I experienced a relief I had not known for 20 years. The cure was complete. I bought two more and they are still in my trunk. I first used this remedy in July, 1902; HAVE HAD NO OCCASION TO USE IT SINCE. The world should know of Pyramid Pile Cure. I have no words to express its merits." E. A. Leonard, Nueva Calle de San Antonio de las Huertas No. 5, City of Mexico.

UNSETTLED ELECTION BET.

Two Easterners Waiting Result of the Presidential Count.

There is an unsettled election bet of \$5 between John L. Sperry, a well-known Democrat, and Mich Oiler, a Republican. Mr. Sperry demonstrated his confidence in the success of Parker over Roosevelt by betting that the former would receive two-fifths of the total vote cast at the November election, and Mr. Oiler bet that Roosevelt would receive over three-fifths of the total vote cast. According to the figures given in yesterday morning's Oregonian, Mr. Sperry may win the bet by a small margin. The total vote at the total vote at 2,534,125 of this Roosevelt received 1,640,580, or 2,540,189 more than Parker. Mr. Sperry figures out that Parker receives 600 votes more than two-fifths of the total, and hence wins the bet. But some returns may wipe out this margin and make Oiler the winner yet.

LOSE THEIR MONEY

Chinese Assert They Were Robbed During Fire.

POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING

During Blaze in Chinese Rooming-House Tin Box Containing Jewelry and Over Three Hundred Dollars in Gold is Taken.

Two hundred dollars in gold coin, a check for \$500 and jewelry valued at about \$300, included in a small tin box, is missing from the rooms of Ju Sheng, in the Chinese lodging-house on the third floor of the building at Second and Oak streets, where a fierce fire raged for 20 minutes yesterday afternoon. It is believed the money and jewelry were stolen. The police were immediately notified and an investigation is in progress.

TO RECEIVE BIDS SOON.

Portage Road Contracts Are to Be Awarded.

Bids for building the Portage Road will be received by the Open-River Association one week from next Saturday, at 12 o'clock noon, and the contract will probably be awarded immediately thereafter. But to safeguard against any such fiasco as developed out of the McCabe Construction Company's effort to get the contract, all bidders are put up a forfeit of the amount of 5 per cent of their bid, as a guarantee that the successful competitor will meet the preliminary terms of the contract, chiefly in regard to the \$60,000 bond, which will be required five days after the signing of the contract.

NEW PLACE FOR CONGER.

Chinese Minister Can Go to Mexico—Rockhill Will Succeed Him.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Unofficial announcement has been made that Mr. Conger, United States minister to China, will be offered the ambassadorship to Mexico. In any event, W. W. Rockhill, chief of the Bureau of American Republics, it is said, will succeed Mr. Conger at Peking.

WILL ASK FOR LOWER RATES

Travelers' Protective Association is Preparing a Bill.

The officers of the Travelers' Protective Association are busy preparing for the annual banquet to be held at the Hotel Portland, December 30, and the annual meeting and election of officers, which will be held December 31. Other matters are also before the officers of the society.

THE BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD.

Special Announcement.

Effective November 27, 1904, and thereafter, a new daily train will be inaugurated, leaving Grand Central Passenger Station, Chicago, at 10:30 P. M., for Akron, Cleveland, Youngstown, Pittsburg and intermediate points, connecting at Pittsburg with "Duquesne Limited" for Philadelphia, and New York and with train No. 39 for Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, Md.

THE OVERWORKED EYE.

The faded Eye, the red and inflamed Eye, the Eye that needs care, relieved by Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

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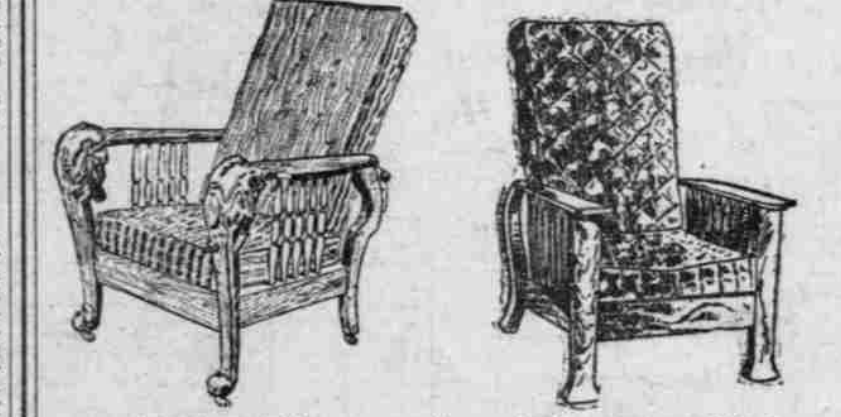
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NO REST, no sleep, Itch, itch, itchy, scratching until the tender skin becomes inflamed, sore and bleeding. Harfina Soap. Admired by the highest medical authorities, it will give the suffering little one instant relief and sleep, and result in complete cure. Harfina Soap, in its complete form, is a perfect skin medicine, free from any irritating or poisonous ingredients. It is the only soap that is safe for the delicate skin of infants. It is the only soap that is safe for the delicate skin of infants. It is the only soap that is safe for the delicate skin of infants.

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A great special in a MORRIS CHAIR. Like cut, in quartered golden or weathered oak or mahogany, upholstered in silk velours. \$18. Another great special in a MORRIS CHAIR. Just like cut, weathered or golden oak, mahogany, or mahogany, upholstered in silk velours. \$12. 100 STYLES TO SELECT FROM IN MORRIS CHAIRS. SELECT IT NOW. You may select now. We deliver when you request. Payment as best pleases you. Look out for our Thursday night special.

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