

### HOWELL TO REPLY

#### Is Preparing to Answer F. M. Butler.

### WILL AGAIN EXAMINE BRIDGE

#### Member of Executive Board Declares Profits Are Even Larger Than His First Investigation Showed.

George H. Howell, member of the Executive Board, has taken a firm stand in the matter of his charges against the Pacific Construction Company, and is preparing not only to refute Mr. Butler's statement, but to prove conclusively that the gross profits made on the extras for the Morrison-street bridge are even more than he at first inferred.

Today, Mr. Howell will go over the bridge, accompanied by an expert to make general measurements. He has in preparation a written reply to Mr. Butler, of a text more explicit than his communication to the Executive Board. In an interview last night, Mr. Howell said:

"Mr. Butler required four days in which to answer the claims of Mr. Hilber and myself, and I am preparing this second statement with much deliberation. I do not wish to hurry it to press, but when it is complete, the letter will be so thorough in its details that Mr. Butler will be squelched. I have not the slightest intention of giving him an opportunity to make a rejoinder. My next letter will show the falsity of Mr. Butler's position and prove that the proceeds to the Pacific Construction Company from the extras on the Morrison-street bridge are more outrageous than I at first claimed.

"I shall go over the bridge with an expert and make a few measurements for my own satisfaction, and not because I have the slightest doubt as to whether or not I am right. I wish my letter to delve into the most minute details of the transaction, and for that reason I deem the figures necessary.

Charles S. Hilber, the constructing engineer, who, in his report to the Council, charged that the Pacific Construction Company made a clean \$15,000 on the substitution of steel for wood stringers, is at present in Tacoma, where when he will return to Portland cannot be definitely stated, but he will resume his work of investigation for the Council in the very near future.

It is believed to make an examination of the South Front-street bridge across Marquam Gulch, and the bridge across Bluff's Gulch, near Willamette Heights, are not of the same type. The Pacific Construction Company holds the contracts for their construction, but has sublet them to J. B. Stuesner and J. B. Lockwood respectively.

Mr. Hilber, it is said, may, in his investigation, discover mismanagement in the construction of these bridges, and the public is apparently expectant of another sensation in Portland's bridge contracts.

The city has \$75,000 due to the Pacific Construction Company on the Morrison-street bridge. It is evident that the Council has no intention of liquidating the Pacific Construction Company's account, and Mr. Hilber's investigation is complete. The alleged unjust profits made by the Pacific Construction Company will, it is said, be deducted from the amount due. This sum is to be the only possible profit that Mr. Hilber will get out of it, and Mr. Howell's letters will probably be taken under careful consideration at the next Council meeting.

### New Vaudeville Bills

Welch's illuminated nose, one of the features in the team work of Welch and Maitland, is the beacon-light of the show, and the audience is so powerful that it haunts one's memory afterward. Welch is also a double-joined man, and both he and his partner sing songs and do stunts on the stage which is investigated one and one with a broom-handle and a whip of hay. Miss Maitland exhibits a stunning wardrobe and makes the most of her good stage appearance. It is to Graham, colored, presents funny Southern witticisms and gives a clever imitation of a genuine colored man dancing at a prize competition to win a panache. The Bijou's first show this week is most entertaining and relates the odd adventures of an auto party who are ultimately pursued by police in another auto and arrested. The Grand, colored, presents funny Southern witticisms and gives a clever imitation of a genuine colored man dancing at a prize competition to win a panache. The Bijou's first show this week is most entertaining and relates the odd adventures of an auto party who are ultimately pursued by police in another auto and arrested.

### Star.

Without doubt one of the greatest comedians and vaudeville singers in the business is Daisy Harcourt, who, in deference to a popular demand, has been engaged for another week at the Star. It is because she is so well equipped in her art that she differs from so many other performers. She is good-looking, wears a fine wardrobe, speaks so distinctly that she is heard all over the theater, and makes the biggest kind of a hit with her song, "Do That Again." The Taggart family of acrobats with sensational feats is another big feature act. Ellis and Palma present a high-class singing act.

### THE MAN HAVING AN EXCELLENT BARTON VOICE, AND THE YOUNG WOMAN A FAIR SOPRANO.

Lucia di Lammermoor is worth seeing. The production of pictures, illustrating the writing of the Russian tales, was a subsequent execution of the Japs, are very interesting. Arthur Lane makes good with his illustrated ballad, "My Rose from Tennessee." The two young men, Williams, juggler, and the two Delken, sketch artists. The latter do an amusing Bowery dance.

### LYRIC.

Of strenuous and exciting interest is the boxing exhibition, which will be between Dave Barry and his sparring partner, Greggins, at the Lyric. Both men and women appeared to enjoy the shifty, rapid-fire work of the two young men, and boys who have never seen anything of the kind before, but had read about it, watched the act with breathless eagerness. There is nothing like slugging in a fight, and the exhibition can be well worth a visit. Both boxers are fine specimens of young, strong, muscular manhood. Robert Athan, for easy-going, calm, Joseph Billings sort of talk, deserves a medal, a good story teller and a singer. Last night he told a hard-luck story, and then another about a loaded gun, that almost brought down the house. His song, "The Opening of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," won applause. Harrison Brothers, one attired as a fat woman, were welcomed with a roar of laughter. One of their songs is "I'm a Sailor." Thomas W. Ray shines in his new in his effective singing of the illustrated song, "Day by Day." The other acts are: Hudson Labell, magician; Lamb and Jenkins, marionettes; Ed Russell, juggler; and the virtuoso in amusing pictures.

### ARCADÉ.

All the excitement and interest of a real horse race can be found in the contest between an auto and a racehorse, pictured by Lewis and Clark Exposition, won applause. Harrison Brothers, one attired as a fat woman, were welcomed with a roar of laughter. One of their songs is "I'm a Sailor." Thomas W. Ray shines in his new in his effective singing of the illustrated song, "Day by Day." The other acts are: Hudson Labell, magician; Lamb and Jenkins, marionettes; Ed Russell, juggler; and the virtuoso in amusing pictures.

### BAKER.

The Kober Brothers are great laugh-makers at the Baker club. They present an aerial-ladder act that might ordinarily pass for a gymnastic stunt, but not so with the Kobers. One performer bounded on the stage last night dressed as an acrobat, and turned the ladder into a Rob Roy tartan and has a good joke about the relation of war to pancakes. The Waldron Brothers are two of the best comedy singers who have been heard here for months. One performer being stout and the other thin. Their fun is of the infectious, happy kind.

### SANTA VISITS THE ARMY.

Salvation Barracks Scene of Christmas Frolics.

After making 2000 needy people comfortable and happy Christmas Day by sending them baskets of food and serving a hot Christmas dinner, the Salvation Army children and hundreds of little tots who had no Christmas tree at home nor any presents were delighted with an invitation to the Salvation Army Christmas party. There were two trees at No. 4 Hall, 205 First street, and one at No. 1 Hall, 128 First, and both were surrounded by happy children.

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Room for 1000 Dancing Couples

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Rooms, \$1.00 to \$2.00 Per Day, According to Location.

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### HOTEL SCOTT CO.

Portland's Newest and Best Equipped Hotel

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Engagement Extraordinary. SHAK-HADJI-TAHR'S ARABS

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Pupils prepared for stage, pupil, platform or parlor.

### CLASSIFIED AD. RATES.

"Rooms," "Rooms and Board," "House-keeping Rooms," "Situations Wanted," 15 cents per line, first insertion; 10 cents per line for each additional insertion.

### AMUSEMENTS.

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### "YON YONSON"

### "FOR MOTHER'S SAKE"

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### THE GRAND THEATER

### BAKER THEATER

### LYRIC THEATER

### ROSE EYTINGE

### BIJOU THEATER

### ROSE EYTINGE

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### FOR SALE-REAL ESTATE.

### FOR SALE-VERY CHEAP-HOTEL AND

### FOR SALE-VERY CHEAP-HOTEL AND

### WEST SIDE 25x100, FOR \$1500.

### ACRE TRACTS-WE HAVE SEVERAL

### FOR SALE-4 BEAUTIFUL NEW FOUR-

### FOR SALE-200 FARMS, SMALL TRACTS AND

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### HOME CORNER LOT, 9 ROOMS, \$675 CASH.

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### WANTED-REAL ESTATE.

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### SEWING MACHINES-A FEW SLIGHTLY

### FOR SALE-TWO DROPPED SINGERS,

### DOES YOUR ROOF LEAK?

### FOR SALE-50 PAIRS OF GOLDEN SILVER,

### FOR SALE-NEW AND SECOND-HAND

### FOR SALE-FRESH MILCH COWS AND

### HELP WANTED-MALE.

### YOUNG MAN AS PERMANENT PORTLAND

### WANTED FOR U. S. ARMY-ABLE-BODIED,

### THE ORIGINAL JOHN A. MOYER HAS

### LOGGERS, MILL AND YARDMEN, LABOR-