

READY TO ME

Exhibitors Instructed to Avoid Delays.

DISPLAYS NOT TO BE LATE

Fair Will Be Complete on Day of Opening.

MANY EXHIBITS NOW HERE

Exposition Management Will Strive for Early Completion of Every Detail—East Indian Commissioner Arrives.

With the Exposition more than two months away, exhibits from all parts of the world are daily reaching the Exposition grounds. There are now a number of cars or more of exhibits from the various buildings and word has been received that many more shipments are en route from Eastern points and ports. The significance of this is that the various displays can be arranged more effectively than has ever before been recorded at an exposition. Since the exhibit palaces are nearly all completed and the others will soon be done, there can be no delay in getting the Exposition ready, and it is announced as the intention of the Exposition management to have the Fair in a state of readiness even to the slightest detail on June 1.

In order to insure the early shipment of all displays, the various countries are being urged to have their exhibits ready for shipment as early as possible. The various countries are being urged to have their exhibits ready for shipment as early as possible. The various countries are being urged to have their exhibits ready for shipment as early as possible.

Arrival of Foreign Displays. Three foreign countries now have their exhibits on the grounds in charge of special commissioners. These countries are Hungary, Belgium and China. A car containing the Chinese exhibit reached the grounds yesterday and the contents, which include a large number of articles, are being unpacked and stored in the Oriental building by Exhibits Custodian Frank J. Smith. The idea in storage is to place the exhibits at the point they have been assigned to, so that no time will be lost in assortment later on. The exhibits which have arrived thus far are as follows:

California, three cars containing horticultural, mining and educational displays. Alaska, five cars containing Government exhibit. Washington, D. C., two cars of the fisheries exhibit.

Idaho, four cars containing mining, agricultural and agricultural products. Montana, four cars of ore, agricultural products and educational exhibits.

Massachusetts, two cars of furniture, wood materials, agricultural products and educational display.

Belgium, one car containing the national exhibit. Hungary, two cars of home manufactured wares.

China, one car of fine manufactured goods, curios and parchments. Thirty cars additional are expected before the end of the week, conveying the Japanese, German, East Indian, Argentine, Persian and other exhibits, the sources of which are not known at this time. The Commissioner Hamilton states that in his country the Exposition is widely known of, and there is a general desire among the merchants, producers and traders to have their exhibits on display. The exhibit from the East Indies will be here in a few days, having recently been shipped from New York. It will be most complete exhibit from that country ever collected, so the commissioner states. It consists of many kinds of carved wood, brass and metal handiwork, rugs, and wood designs, ivory, silverware in gold and silver, and expensive Indian shawls. Some of these shawls, which are hand-made and embroidered, represent a value of \$1000 or more. The entire exhibit has a total value of \$100,000.

CITIZENS WILL MAKE EXHIBIT

Governor of North Dakota Leads Movement for the Fair.

HISBARK, N. D., March 15.—(Special.)—The State of North Dakota today held a meeting to discuss the possibility of making an exhibit at Portland, notwithstanding the failure of the appropriation bill. Governor Searles will request total voluntary contributions of \$5000 from citizens of the state, with which the state's St. Louis display can be transported and installed, believing the most Legislature will contribute those who contribute. W. N. Steele, of Rolla, has consented to act as manager of the exhibit.

The Governor believes that one man can be found in each county and ten at large in the state, making \$5 in all, who will contribute \$100 each for this purpose. Many offers of contributions have been received already, and it is believed that the state will be able to make a creditable exhibit.

It was a great disappointment to the advocates of the Lewis and Clark Exposition when the Legislature found it impossible to make an appropriation. The appropriation was pared to what was thought the lowest possible figure, but Governor Searles found a way to veto \$250,000 of this appropriation, which he did today.

IN FAVOR OF SUNDAY OPENING

Religious Publication Indorses Portland Fair's Plans in Editorial.

Opposition to the plans of the Exposition for keeping open on Sunday appears to be dying out, and a sentiment seems general that the series of conferences, congresses and musical carnivals which have been planned are vastly to be preferred to closed gates.

Speaking editorially of this question, the "Modern View," a well-known religious paper published at St. Louis, has this to say of the matter under the heading "Progressive Portland":

"It is with some satisfaction that we note that the Exposition soon to open at Portland, Or., will not make the ungrateful and unforgettable blunder that was committed in St. Louis by not keeping the Louisiana Purchase Exposition open on Sunday."

"Instead, Portland's progressive people will make Sunday a special day of enjoyment, pleasure and splendid recreation within the borders of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition, which opens June 1."

Clark Centennial Exposition, which opens June 1.

"The gates are to be open from 12 at noon until evening. The 'Trail' (which corresponds to the 'Midway' or 'Pike') will be closed, however. The machinery will not be in operation, but special attention to music, educational features and religious exercises will be given."

"The workingman and the busy man of the week will find ample and beautiful matter to occupy his mind, his curiosity and his spiritual life. The Exposition at Portland will be a true religious and spiritual benefactor to the thousands who will visit it gratefully every Sunday, and we congratulate the directors and management of the Exposition at Portland upon their far-sighted wisdom in avoiding blunders of others in this direction."

"Incidentally we notice that Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of Congregation Beth Israel is one of the committee on congresses and conferences. His appointment is merited and will redound to the benefit of the Exposition."

Wisconsin Appropriation Killed. MADISON, Wis., March 15.—The Wisconsin Assembly today killed the Senate bill appropriating \$25,000 for an exhibit at the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

MANY ARE COMING.

Eastern People Are Interested in the Exposition

After a visit of two months in the city of New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, H. C. Wortman, of the firm of Olds, Worthington & King, returned last night over the Southern Pacific from California.

Mr. Wortman's trip was upon business, but during the return journey he stopped at the Grand Canyon, of Colorado, and the Garden of the Gods, Los Angeles and San Francisco were visited for a day and in an interview last night Mr. Wortman passed in his description of each place he visited to tell how much the people had to say about the Lewis and Clark Centennial.

"In every city that I visited," says Mr. Wortman, "the business men seemed to be more interested in the Exposition than business and at least a hundred prominent men informed me that they intended to come to the Pacific Coast this year instead of going to Europe for their vacation, as has been their custom for many years."

"I found that the business men of the large Eastern cities have come to consider this coast as the most progressive part of the United States and that they count largely upon the amount of its trade."

"Portland has a great opportunity here, and I shall take hold of my duties with a greater zeal than ever before. This city is in a position to make wonderful strides in the next year, and I think that every citizen should put his shoulder to the wheel of progress. Civic improvement interests are being awakened, no matter what point, would serve the same purpose of delaying installation to the best advantage."

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The case yesterday consisted of the presentation of the testimony, as taken before the examiner, and the arguments. Many new points of law were raised, however, and the decision will be watched by all mining interests.

M. A. Folson of Spokane and R. A. Laiter, attorneys for the plaintiff, and G. G. Ames and John M. Gearin for the defendant.

ADVERTISING MEN FORM CLUB

Meeting at Commercial Club Results in Permanent Organization.

The organization of the Portland Ad Men's League was perfected at a meeting held last night at the Commercial Club. The object of the league as set forth in the constitution is to bring together the members of the advertising profession, to promote the advertising and to promote the fellowship and acquaintance of its members. All those who are writers and managers of advertising or buyers or sellers of advertising space are eligible to membership whether they devote all or only a part of their time to that business.

At the meeting last night speeches were made by A. L. Craig, of the O. R. & N. Co.; Tom Richardson, of the Commercial Club; and H. H. Meritt, secretary-treasurer of the Pacific Coast Advertising Association.

The following officers were elected: R. M. Hall, president; H. C. Whitford, first vice-president; H. L. Powers, second vice-president; C. C. Chapman, secretary, and John F. Daly, treasurer.

An invitation was extended to the National Advertising Association and to the Pacific Coast Advertising Association to hold their conventions in Portland during the Exposition.

An executive committee consisting of C. J. Green, W. J. Hoffmann and D. N. Mesonbahi, was chosen that will have charge of the affairs of the league.

Teachers to Attend Lecture.

In order to accommodate the teachers who may wish to attend the lecture by Marion Craig Wentworth Friday at 3:30 P. M. at the High School, the Board of Education has consented to allow the schools to close at 2:30 P. M. Miss Wentworth's subject is "Word Painting in Poetry." The lecture is also open to the general public.

Wronged Husband Gets Divorce.

Because of drunkenness and desertion, August Neirnick was granted a divorce from Mary Neirnick by Judge Cleland yesterday. He testified that his wife committed adultery to a man in 1892 and left him in September, 1902. They were married November 25, 1892, and have two children.

WRITING IS ALIKE

Branton's Letters Compared With Fletcher Forgery.

SAME WORDS MISPELLED

District Attorney Brown is Securing Strong Evidence Against the Man Charged With Shooting John Fletcher.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., March 15.—(Special.)—Slowly but surely District Attorney George M. Brown, in drawing the meshes of the law around John Branton, charged with the shooting of



John Fletcher.

John Fletcher, prosecutor Brown, as soon as he gained possession of the letter which was received by Marshal Underwood, found that the word "expense" was spelled "expenze." The word "Marshall" was spelled "Marshall," and there were several other misspelled words and peculiar characteristics shown in the words attempted to disguise the handwriting. Without giving his reasons, Mr. Brown visited the banks of Cottage Grove, the stores and from these places he was able to obtain specimens of Branton's handwriting.

These specimens were compared with the handwriting on the note which was received by the Marshal. The "C" in Cottage and the "G" in Grove, were alike, but at first glance it was plain that one man had written both and that man was Branton. Attorney Brown, however, was not satisfied.

In order to trap Branton, he began hunting around for a letter in which Branton had used the word "expenze." Here Mr. Brown was able to obtain several orders issued by John Branton on a number of local business men wherein he used the name of John Fletcher. These orders read: "Please let John Fletcher have— and the way John Branton signed the name of John Fletcher, was identical to that on the note which Branton alleges that Fletcher wrote giving information about his suicide."

With this information and damaging

evidence, prosecutor Brown began a still hunt for a letter in which Branton used the word "expenze." Tuesday he went to Eugene and while there found that Branton had written a letter to Judge Cleland, in which the word "expenze" was spelled "expenze." The "C" in Cottage and the "G" in Grove were also alike.

These two letters were taken to Miss S. Dorris of Eugene and facsimiles made for The Oregonian. The letter which was sent through the mails to Marshal Underwood is printed in full. Branton in attempting to disguise his handwriting forgot there were such persons as experts. When the question of the writing of the letter, which is signed John Fletcher, which Fletcher denies emphatically that he wrote, was brought to Branton's attention, Branton declared that, experts or experts, it would be impossible for a man to write the same way twice. Since he found that Attorney Brown had obtained possession of a number of his letters, he was convinced that Branton was not in full. Branton makes inquiry as to the necessary steps he would have to take in order to be appointed administrator of his late wife's estate.

In this letter he wishes to know about the expense and it will be noted that he spells it "expenze" just as the word is spelled in the first letter. It will also be noted that the small "c" in the word "stirring" an upward turn and is larger in both instances than any of the rest of the letters.

Here in Cottage Grove and in Eugene there is an opinion that Branton will confess. A number of his friends who were first convinced that Branton was a wronged man until the similarity in the handwriting of the note and that of Branton's own characteristic handwriting today came out, have now changed their minds. They believe him to be guilty and may try to get him to confess, so as to save what little wealth and property he has left for his three little motherless children.

APPEAR AT CIRCUIT COURT John Branton is Bound Over by District Attorney Brown.

EUGENE, Or., March 15.—(Special.)—Instead of giving John Branton a hearing before the Justice of the Peace, as is customary, District Attorney Brown today made an information against him in the Circuit Court, and he was bound over in \$5000 bonds to appear at the adjourned term of court on April 11. It is not believed he will furnish bonds, but he will probably remain in jail pending trial for assault with intent to kill.

The County Court is not decided on the question of having the body of Branton's first wife exhumed for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not she was poisoned. The matter is being considered by Judge Chapman, and if sufficient evidence is presented to show a probability of making a case, it is probable the body will be exhumed. There is strong sentiment in favor of having the matter investigated to ascertain the cause of the death of Branton's wife.

Attorneys who were interested in the divorce case of Foster Grace Price against her husband are inclined to doubt the rumor that it was for the purpose of securing a divorce that Branton was secured. While there might be such a possibility, yet there were circumstances which would seem to argue against such an alliance.

Acrobat Has Narrow Escape. A feat that was not upon the program at the Grand Theater last night caused every one of the large audience to hold their breath and shudder with horror with what might have been. Sam Kien, a Japanese acrobat, does an act known as the "Slide for Life." He walks upon a rope stretched from the stage to the ceiling and then turns and slides with lightning-like rapidity to the stage. He was just starting upon the dangerous slide when he lost his balance, but managed to catch the rope with one hand and thus save a fall of over 40 feet to the chairs occupied by the audience, where he would doubtless have met instant death.

HANDWRITING OF JOHN BRANTON IS COMPARED WITH THE FORGED FLETCHER LETTER

Letter of John Branton to Judge Cleland, dated March 15, 1905. The letter is signed John Branton and is addressed to Judge Cleland, Eugene, Ore. The letter discusses the matter of the shooting of John Fletcher and the possibility of Branton being the shooter.

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Facsimiles showing the letter of Branton and the forgery.

ASK FOR NEW DEAL

Anti-Machine People Will Meet to Organize.

WILL FORM POLITICAL CLUB

Those Interested Declare They Are Backing No Particular Candidate, and Have No Motive Save to Exterminate the Bosses.

With more than 1000 Republicans invited to attend the christening of the anti-machine infant, boomers of the new regime expect to celebrate a demise of the Matthews and the Simon factions alike and to start the regenerated product on its career with soul-stirring pomp and auspicious portent.

The ceremonies will be held in room 400 of Albee's building, Third and Morrison streets. Republicans of all factions creeds have received invitations. The watchword of the new movement is "No bossism" and its battery is "new deal."

The professed purpose of its promoters is to supplant one-man power and machine rule by a system of government on an equal footing, secrecy abolished, special privileges to none.

All of which sounds very good to machine men, independent agents and those who have unhinged the infant into the world say that when it shall have grown to the proud estate of an adult it will not forget its parents and other machines have done.

The gentlemen who shall attend the ceremonies will organize themselves into a club so much as they shall to make a program of the committee will proceed from the spontaneity of the occasion and their performers will not be controlled by strings leading behind the scenes. Not even have the gentlemen chosen the name of the infant, so they say.

The child was born last Friday night and nearly a score of patriots attended the arrival of the newcomer. Since that time rumors have been floating about that it was brought into the world in the interest of the reform movement which was trying to capture the organization of the party. This was denied last night by one of the fathers of the "new deal," who said:

"There's not a word of truth in it." Nor was the new movement prompted by desire to further the political ambition of any candidate nor political sect according to his statement. "At the preliminary meeting last week not one of the men who attended is desirous of attaining office, except perhaps one."

"Who are candidates talked of by promoters of the new deal?" was asked. "We haven't any. What we're really after is the capture of the next city central committee."

AT THE THEATERS What the Press Agents Say.

"THE VIRGINIAN" TONIGHT. Famous Western Drama, With Oriental Cast, at Marquand Theater.

Tonight at the Marquand Grand Theater the much-talked-of Western drama "The Virginian" will be staged. The play is a two-act drama, with a special matinee Saturday at 2:15 o'clock. In a play of the type of "The Virginian," which Kirk Kerkira will be a great success. The play is a two-act drama, with a special matinee Saturday at 2:15 o'clock. In a play of the type of "The Virginian," which Kirk Kerkira will be a great success.

"Joan of Arc." "Joan of Arc" this week is one of the series of unusually large and heavy productions that are becoming a feature at the Columbia Theater. Great praise is due Manager Ballou and the Columbia over which he presides. The efficient Columbia Stock Company, the stage manager and the scenic artist!

Such a series of expensive copyright plays as "The Holy City," "Quo Vadis," "Old Heidelberg" and "Joan of Arc" has never been presented in a single season at any other stage or in the United States. It wipes all previous records of the state.

And "Joan of Arc" as staged and played this week is just up to the standard set by the historic Columbia. Do not fail to see the grand, heroic drama of old France, a play, a poem and a page of history combined. Matinee Saturday and Sunday.

"Ole Olson" at Saturday Matinee. Ben Hendricks can be seen at the Empire Theater tonight and at the regular matinee Saturday in the romantic play "Ole Olson," a tale of the City of New York and the Lake Superior region. The engagement, which has been exceptionally successful, will end Saturday night.

COMING ATTRACTIONS. New Play at the Empire. "The Moonshiner's Daughter" will be the attraction at the Empire Theater all next week, starting with the usual Sunday matinee. The play is a charming love story of the hills of Kentucky, and deals with the lives of those sturdy specimens of mankind for whom the Government has officers constantly on the lookout—the moonshiners. "The Moonshiner's Daughter" has never been seen in Portland. A play by the name of "The Moonshiner" was presented at the Empire several weeks ago.

"Thelma" Next Monday. Columbia patrons are already expressing their pleasure that Marie Corelli's famous love story, "Thelma," is to be given by the popular stock company next week. It will open Monday night, and seats for the opening are now on sale. The well-known story is a tale of Norway and England, and deals with the beautiful daughter of one of the great old Vikings and a handsome English Earl. It is romantic and beautiful, one of the sweetest of love stories.

Creation Clarke Coming. The distinguished actor, Creation Clarke, whose starring ventures in the legitimate field of dramatic art have been so eminently successful, has been booked to appear at the Marquand Grand Theater next Tuesday night, March 21, on which occasion he will offer "Monster Souvenirs," that beautiful romantic play that added considerably to Richard Mansfield's reputation and which has excited the profound admiration of lovers of the higher ideals in stage presentation. The advance sale of seats will open next Saturday morning.

AT THE VAUDEVILLE THEATERS At the Star Today. No one should miss seeing the two Brothers Bunts at the Star Theater. They

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