#### THE MORNING OREGONIAN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1906.

# CHEAPER GAS FOR SAN FRANCISCO

Present Rate of One Dollar a **Thousand May Be Reduced** to Seventy-Five Cents.

## MADE AN ISSUE IN POLITICS

Board of Supervisors Is Urged by Mayor to Carry Out Pledge to

Citizens to Check Greed of Gas Monopoly.

but one, has brought to the front the gas This at present occupies in the suble mind a place similar to that of nunlcipal street railway ownership in "hicago. The new Board of Supervisors Chicago. was swept into office by the public de-mand for cheaper gas. Every member of the new board is pledged to'a reduction in the rate. At the present time San Francisco householders pay \$1 a thousand feet for gas, but it the programme of the new board is carried through, the rate will be uced to 75 cents as speedily as possi-The demand for the reduction is general throughout the city.

The big gas companies of San Francisco for the past three years have been going through a process of mergers and com-binations bewildering to the mind most adept in the ways of frenzied finance. The multitudinous deals have resulted in the fermation of a great corporation, which has absolute control of the gas sit-

To make the San Francisco situation clear, it is necessary to go back a bit. Three years ago the field was pretty well divided between the San Francisco Gas & Electric and the California Gas & Elec-tric, the latter the property of Claus Spreckels, Spreckels sold to his rival for something like \$6,000,000, taking part payment in cash and part in stock in the purchasing company, which continued unr the name of the San Francisco Gas & Electric Company. About a year ago the Standard Oll Company threatened to enter the local field in opposition to the gas company, but some arrangement was ffected which has never become public, and the danger was avoided.

#### Gigantic Company Formed.

During the last few weeks another gas of gigantic proportions has been The Sar. Francisco Gas & Electric and all its subsidiary companies have passed into the hands of the Pacific Gas & Electric Company. This concern, which is one of the largest in the world of its kind, has absolute control of the gas situstion, not only in San Francisco, but in ities about the buy and in the interior its plant is worth several millions, and includes power stations unsurpassed any-where in the world.

The new company operates in 18 counornia, and covers a territory 25 by 250 miles in extent. It controls a vast water supply and the longest electric ower transmission line in existence. It has power plants in the Sierra Nevadas power to the bay at San Francisco. It makes its gas from oil. The company plans to expend several million dollars in the next few years with the in-

tention of controlling the gas and water

Connected with the gas combine are some of the wealthiest men in Califor-nia. John A. Britton has been made president of the concern. He is one of the best-known financiers on the Coast and is an expert of years standing or all matters pertaining to gas. Associat ed with him in the control of the cor-poration are such men as: W. B. Bourn, Captain Payson, N. W. Halsey, E. J. de Sabla, Jobn Martin, F. S. Drum Garrett, W. McEnerny, Dyrus Pierce, John S. Drown, C. W. Conlisk, Carl Tarlor, F. S. Sringsham Taylor, F. S. Stringham. More than one business man has tried in vain to weather the storm of

by you of such rates is confidently ex-

popular disapproval as manager of the gas company. It is about as thankless a job in this city as that of the man who puts his head through a sheet and stops haseballs with the end of his nose. J. F. Lawless, former manager of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, tried it and after a few months he gave it up. He carried away with him streaks of gray in his hair as memon-toes of his experience.

GAS BILLS SHOW INCREASE

East Side Residents Complain at **Rapid** Rate the Charges Climb.

Nearly all gas bills for East Side residents for the past month, which are now being paid, show a consider-SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 12-(Special)-The sweeping change in the city govern-ment of San Francisco marked by the entry of the Union Labor party into the control of every office of the municipality "I second that his gas bill for November in 1994 was \$5.49.

"I cannot understand how such an "I cannot understand how such an increase was brought about," he said, "as I am not using any more gas. I got a circular also today which shows that there has been a reduction from \$1.25 per thousand to \$1.15 per thou-sand feet, and yet the bill is increased. Besides the gas is not so good. It leaves the mantles discolored. The cir-

#### RE-ELECTED ASSISTANT SECRE-TARY OF PORTLAND CHAM-BER OF COMMERCE.

M. Mosessohr

M. Moscssohn was yesterday re

elected assistant secretary of the

Portland Chamber of Commerce, and

will start on his third term in this

mented for his efficient work in the

\*

report wright. Mr. Mosessohn was compli-

of retiring President Wheel-

Caldwell, a clothing salesman; O. Larson a merchant on lower Third street; Dr. S Slocum, who attended the dead

ured the murderer, and Lee Yum, of 147 Second street, who identified the mur-iered man as Lee Yeck Yce.

Wednesday night. The man captured and booked at police headquarters as Yon Hong has been positively identified as the assassin. He is a highbinder, who passes his time in San Francisco and Portland, as his business demands. He refuses to give his true name. The murdered man was also a highbinder, and was armed with a heavy caliber revolver on the



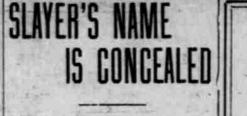
## FRANCHISE GOES OVER.

of Way Not Considered.

Company and

D.

James Lyons, another East Side ident, found that his gas bill Applications for Front-Street Right \$4 for



Murderer of Lee Yeck Yee **Passes Under the Alias** of Yon Hong.

## CHINESE FEAR TO TESTIFY

Coroner's Jury Brings in a Verdict Accusing the Slayer of Murder, Adding That His True

Name Is Unknown.

Charles F. Lord, counsel for a Chinese ow under arrest for the murder of Lee Yeck Yee, was called to the witness stand at the Coroner's inquest yesterday after. roon and asked by Deputy District Attor-ney Haney to give the name of his client. He swore he did not know it. Ju Guy, member of the muderer's tong, was called, and swore he did not know the assassin's name. After a long attempt to establish the name of the prisoner, the jury had to bring in a verdict of "death from gun-shot wounds inflicted by a Chinese whose

rue name is unknown, but who is comnonly alluded to as Yon Hong." The murderer, who belongs to the Jue Tong society, will be given every assist-ance possible by his associates. Mr. Lord has been engaged to defend him, and

was present in this capacity at the in-quest. Deputy District Attorney Haney Deputy Coroner Arthur L. Finley and Alex Sweek, the latter private prosecutor for the friends of the murdered man conducted the case for the prosecution. After placing eye-witnesses to the shooting on the stand, establishing the death of the victim and lacking only the name of the massin, an effort was made to secur

The chapel was filled with Chinese, nembers of the Hop Sing tong and of the Jue Tong society, and from all of these the officials were unable to pick one who dared take the stand and testify. Each feared to run the risk of exposing him-self, even by so simple a thing as going on the stand and giving the name of th assassin. At last, Mr. Lord was called, and next Ju Guy, both of whom swore they did not know the name of the

Among the witnesses called were F. B nese: J. P. Stromberg, who picked up the nurderer's revolver and handed it to the efficers: Staff Detective Resing, who cap-

The murder took place on Third street, etween Pine and Ash, about 11 o'clock

night of the shooting. Both wea are now in the hands of Clerk Hennes Both weapon

climbed from a little over

# WATCH FOR OUR NEW CARTONS



## What Is a Carton?

It is an air-tight, germ-proof package, same as shown in illustration, and used only by this creamery to protect its celebrated WHITE CLOVER BUTTER from all odors and foreign substances of every kind. This is why our butter always retains its sweetness and purity. Butter unprotected by a carton will absorb all odors, such as decayed vegetation, fried onions, etc. ,Why not secure the best butter? Its purity is absolutely protected from contamination.

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR WHITE CLOVER BUTTER



Decides to Take Up Work in New York City.

SO INFORMS BETH ISRAEL

In September Popular Rabbi Will Go to the Metropolis to Lead an Independent Jewish Movement in That City.

Br. Stephen S. Wise is lost to Port land. Next September, upon the expira-tion of his term of service with the congregation of the Temple Beth Israel, he will go forth from Portland to New York. where he will lead an independent religent in the largest Jewish comnunity in the world.

To an assemblage that filled the Temple Beth Israel last night Dr. Wise stated that his duty i out to him, and that in September he would have reluctantly and sadly to say farewell to Portland. His voice choked with emotion and his face was expressive of that sentiment which all but made him decide to remain in this city, as he told of the great love he bore for his Portland friends, and what a great sacrifice it would be for him to tear away from them

movement, for Beth Israel is independent. It is Jewish, and it still moves. The movement of which I speak is to be free within and without. Outwardly free in that no pew system shall obtain therein with the best pews for the largest contributors and the poorest and rear seats for those un-able to give in large amounts. Membership therein will be conditioned by the payment of no stinctard area. To this idea of a free no atiputated sum. To this idea of a free synagogue supported by voluntary contribu-tions we of Beth Israel have measurably approached. In the next place, the pulpit of the ement I plan shall be free-free and un muniled, free to deal with living questions, free to show the relation of religion to the problems of our age; free to express the mes-sage of larged touching the needs and dirour day and insofar true to

genius of Judates Speaks From Unmuzzled Pulpit. If this pulpit has commanded re-spect in the past years, it has been spect in the past years, it has need because we have known that its pulpit has been free and unmuzzied. I do not be-lieve that there has been an hour in the last six years in which you, my people, could have muzzied me or muzzied this pulpit, even

had it been possible for you to do so. It is true that in a congregation whose pulpit I free prace does not always obtain, but it I mafe to may that in a congregation whose pul pit is not free the peace it does obtain in peace which Milton characterizes as peac the peace which Milton characterizes as peace-ful sloth and ignoble case, the peace of death. If we have not always had peace we have always had live and mutual respect between pulpit and pew, and the freedom which has been mine, which I declared to be mine when I came to you and upon which I have never found it necessary again to insist, has been issues of November 29, print the speeches exchanged between President Reyes and Minister Barrett, and comment favorably non them, in their editorial coalready honoring to you. In the last place the Both papers express the opinion that a better feeling toward the United States will result in Bogota and throughout the pulpit of the free Jewish movement in New York to be organized shall stand for a living. growing, vital, progressive Judaism, not in chains to the traditions of the past nor in bondage to aught save truth and righteous-ness. It will be my purpose from that pulpit to preach the religion of Israel as it is, as it has grown to be and continues to grow, proving that Judaism is not a Palestinian sectary, not an Asiatic creed, but a religion with a and the endearing associations to take vital message still

to the words of the Minister, desires to perate with the President of Colombi the welfare of both republics in the

free country that a foreign Minister representing a great nation has spoken such glowing terms to the whom he delivered his crede with such clearness and exactness as to our riches and our prosperous future which we owe to our exceptional proxim ity to the great productive centers, to our rivers, our mines, our mountains, valleys, etc., all given to us by a munificen

"And this is not simply diplomatic tesy, because Mr. Barrett knows nearly all America and is an illustrious man and one of broad views. This is not neant to deceive us by false appearance His reputation in the press of the United States and the righ positions which he has filled to the complete satisfaction the great nation are proof positive We ought to rejoice in the words this. of the Minister that the question of the annihiler that the questions pending relating to Panama, in which our Minister at Washington is oc-cupying himself with activity and intelli-gence, will soon be arranged in a manner consistent with equity and justice, beause President Roosevelt will take into our rights as a weak nation. thereby giving to the world a high exam ple of Christian charity."

#### Correo Nacional Optimistic.

The Correo Nacional takes a similar position, speaking in very complimentary terms of Mr. Barrett and commenting in detail upon his speech and that of President Reves. A portion of the translated

"The answer of His Excellency the Pres

ditorial follows



United States of Colombia and United States of America Have Friendly Diplomatic Relations Fol-

lowing Panama Incident. Papers from Colombia give a very ap preciative account of the official reception of John Barrett as United States Minister to that republic. The Correo Na cional and the Nuevo Tiempo, the two leading journals of the country, in their

plant, as it stands, according to the best estimates available, is worth \$25,000,000.

### Gas Monopoly Profitable.

Naturally, the company looks to San Francisco for its chief source of income. Of course it derives an immense revenue from the sale of power to the mining companies in the Slerra Nevadas, but nevertheless it derives from San Francisco more in money probably than from all other sources combined. The monop-

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the gas rate has been steadily declining in this city, as it has in every other large city in the United States. vas not a great many years ago that the people of San Francisco paid at the rate people of San Francisco paid at the rate of \$1.20. While the legal rate remained at this figure, the company some five years ago, through pemping some five years ago, through pemping company and the set of graft. Some houses like years ago, through popular clamor, cut mine, which is for permanent lodgers, the figure to \$1. It stands at that figure are fitted with these slot meters in at present.

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2.18.1

The service rendered by the gas com-pany here has for years been condemned by the people. people. There was an inflated on which the stockholders de-big dividends. The pressure was capital manded big dividends.

Complaints Are Numerous. The gas often falls below standard in quality, deaths by asphyxiation are fre-quent, and it has been repeatedly charged that air has been pumped through the that air has been pumped through the pipes to make the meters show a greater quantity used than was actually con-"Tell your troubles to the gas company," has become a pet phrase. When a householder, incensed at an excompany," has become a pet phrase. When a householder, incensed at an ex-orbitant gas bill, refuses to pay it, the company simply shuts off his supply of gas. As it cannot be procured anywhere else in the city the unhappy household.

The rate, and each candidate for the Board of Supervisors on the Labor ticket pledged himself to bring the gas company to time. Shortly afterwards gas became the issue of the campaign. The Supervisors who at the previous session had voted for \$1 gas, tried in vain to explain. The over-whelming victory for the Labor candi-dates represented the popular approval of the declaration for cheaper gas.

#### Feature of Mayor's Message.

That the promises of the Union La bor candidates were not mere sops to popular clamor is attested by the mes-sage of the Mayor sent yesterday to the new Board of Supervisors in which he reminded them of their promises to the people. In this connection the Mayor said:

'It will be your duty next month to fix the maximum rates which may be charged for artificial light in this city by those engaged in supplying the same. The reduction of the present high rates charged for gas was one of the leading issues of the campaign which resulted in our election. We must, of course, keep our pledges to the people, and a substantial reduction charged for artificial light in this

vember to \$7.25 for December. He thought his bill for November was pretty steep, but when he saw his bill for December he was somewhat amazed. While there is a general in-Consideration of the Front-street

franchises had the effect of attracting taxpayers to the City Hall yesterday crease in the size of the bills for the East Side, the principal complaint is about the quality of the gas that is supplied, and many say it leaves a bad odor when burned in the heaters, and also an oily substance. All custo-mers have received or will received. were afraid to face the issue, hence the street committee of the Council remers have received, or will receive, a oly enjoyed in the sale of gas is one of the headlest income-producing items. The company naturally is opposing the pro-posed reduction in the rate. In this connection, it is interesting to note that the sale of gas is one of who had just visited to one consumer. Who had just visited to one consumer. other corporations seeking to enter Portland by the Front-street route

who had just visited the office, "I hope they won't make any more reductions were out in full force, while W. Fenton, resident chief counsel for the Southern Pacific, was also on hand to of the same kind. They reduce the rates, but increase the cost of gas." "The slot-machine-meter system of

"POTTER" IN SERVICE. Oncen of River Boats Is Now on the Astoria

Enjoy a trip to Astoria on the Potter. You will always remember it. Leaves As...street dock every night at 8 o'clock, except Sunday. (Baturday night, 19 P. M.) Round trip E. Particulars at Third and Washington stweets. Portland.

BRUNSWICK-BALKE REDIVIVUS.

look out for his company's interests; but after a whispered consultation among members of the committee, the each room, The guests are in this way required to pay for their gas in adcrowd forthwith.

The improvement of Grand avenue, from Belmoni to East Everett, was the medium of a long wrangle between representatives of the rival paving Dr. W required to pay for their gas in ad-vance, which of itself is a decided injustice, but in addition they are given short measure, and actually receive about 15 cents' worth of gas for every companies, each of whom appeared upon the scene with long petitions from adjoining property-owners. It was manded big dividends. The pressure was put on full force and the public at large suffered. The company soon had to en-large its "complaint department," and this today is the most conspicuous feature of the corporation's establishment on Post etreet.

The same course was also taken with reference to the improvement of Park streat, between Salmon and Washington, over which there is considerabl contention between the Barber people and the Warren Construction Company.

#### Semler Makes Accusations.

For every quarter dropped in the slot for every quarter dropped in the slot of the company meter a patron is sup-posed to receive 165 cubic feet of gas; thus for \$1.56, patrons of this system There will be a special meeting of the health and police committee of the City Council at 11 o'clock this morning to concompany simply shuts off his supply of gas. As it cannot be procured anywhere else in the city the unhappy household-er is forced to make the best of a bad situation, pay whatever is asked and be happy it is not more. All these petty annoyances had collected until the gas guestion was ripe to be made a political issue. Abe Ruef saw the company of the Union Labor parts in the selection last November. The Mayor in bis speeches promised a reduction in the rate, and each candidate for the Board of Supervisors on the Labor ticket pledged himself to bring the gas company to time. Shortly afterwards gas become the issue of the campaign. The Supervisors

range, and was exceedingly provoked a short time ago over the failure of the range to give any satisfaction whatever, and is talking very strongly of discontinuing the use of gas en-tirely. The quality furnished is ex-ceedingly poor, but I suppose this de-fect will be remedied when the com-pany installs its much-talked-of new manufacturing plant."

Articles of incorporation of the Tonseth Company were filed in the County Clerk's office yesterday by Berger Tonseth, Cor-nelius Tonseth and F. A. Rasch; capital

stock, \$25,000. The purposes of the corpo-ration are to carry on the business of florists, construct and maintain hothouses, growing and cultivation of plants, etc.

## BUSINESS ITEMS.

If Baby Is Cuiting Treth Be sure and use that ald and well-tried rem-edy, Mrs. Withalow's Socialing Syrup, for thil-edy, Mrs. Withalow's Socialing Syrup, for thil-Twelve of their beautiful new tables will be in the Winter Garden.

up the work in the great metropolis. Will Go to New York. .

Many of those present last night were Gentiles who admire Dr. Wise as a man of convictions, for his strength of char-acter and for his devotion to his religion. The announcement that he would leave was as keenly felt by them as the mem bers of his congregation. The announce ment that Dr. Wise would go to New York was not unexpected, but neverthe less came as a blow to those present. chairman stated that they were not yet and many of them had cherished a secret ready to proceed, an announcement hope that his final decision would be that had the effect of dissipating the favorable to Portland. After the services the friends of Dr. Wise crowded around im to express their regret over his de-

#### Dr. Wise's Address.

Dr. Wise said:

Last Friday night, when, without any com-sent whatsoever. I read to you an official communication from the excretary of the board of trustees of Temple Emanu-El and my open letter addressed to the members of the Temple. dealing with the question of free-dom of the pulpit. I was still in doubt whether I ought to seek to carry out the plan which I had long cherished of undertaking to organ-ize an independent Jewish religious movement in New York.

in New York. In the light of what has happened in the last few days my duty is unmistakably clear. I have come to the final decision, though it occasions me more regret than I can put into words, to leave you in September. I am under the irrestatible computation of an inner call which bids me undertake the organization and leadership of a free Jewish movement in New York.

New York. At some other time I will dwell at greater length upon some of the thoughts which are uppermost in your own hearts and in mine. This only let me say now, that if I followed my own inclination and somulted my own happinese, I would remain with you as your minister. I have been strongly tempted to stay by thought of the work which is here to be done with you and for you, and by the endearing associations which have been the endearing associations which have been formed between us, and by reason of my attachment, not merely to my congrega

attachment, not merely to my congrega-tional family, but because of the love which i have come to feel for our city, our state and my neighbore of every faith. At last night's meeting of the board of trustees my fellow trusiees, with whom I have always been in the happiest of relations, were kind enough to urgs me to remain, and even spoke of holding out inducements to me which they thought might prevail upon me to stay with you. If I feit the right to remain, it duty did not call me elsewhere, no inducement would be needed other than my own stigch-ment to my congregation and the knowledge ment to my congregation and the knowledg of its good will and loyalty to me. The worl which I have tried to do another man will b found to do and to do well, and when th day of our parting comes, as it will after some months, I shall have but one request some months, I shall have but one request to make to you, that you continue to my successor, wheever he may be the friendship and the good will which you have ever manilested for me.

Will Bemain in the Mini Will Bermain in the Ministry. Let me make very clear in order to correct certain misspprehensions, that it is my pur-pose to remain in the ministry as long as 1 live. My place, I feel, is in the ministry and in the ministry I will remain as long as there he a single free pupit open to me. In the next place, I would make clear that the movement which I, with the aid of like-minded friends, will organize, will be Jewish truly and thoroughly Jewish. Finally, I plan this work net to innovate but to conserve. If

When we do part I know that I will have your Godspeed as you will ever have my riendship and my prayers that God's blessing be ever with you.

#### Will Meet in Gresham.

GRESHAM, Or., Jan. 12-(Special.)-The Multnomah County Agricultural and Horticultural Society will meet in W. O. W. Hall, Gresham, on January 20. Gus Richey, president of the association, and E. P. Smith, secretary, are working hard to make the meeting a success. Since the organization of the society there has been some good work done by L's officers, and the coming meeting is for the purpose of enlarging the membership and widening the scope of operations.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

600

500

500 500

500

500

250

400

200

300

entire country from the cordial expres-sions of Mr. Barrett. What the Nuevo Tiempo Says. Following are excerpts from the edient in the Nuevo Tiempo upon Mr. Barrett's speech: "The discourses are certainly of undeniable importance. They do not treat, as is general in this class of receptions,

of vain formulas nor are they simply an expression of courtesy of the Minister to the President. Here there is something His Excellency the President more. Back of the frank, open and sin-cers words of the American Envoy we do not see a shadow of the 'big stick' which have always characterized him. some fear for the republics that do not care to fulfill their debts as independent governments and exist in perpetual anarchy owing to their revolutions and their riots.

phrases is seen only cordiality. He asks for co-operation of all Colombians in whatever may lead to the development locution of a certain class of diplomacy. and cementing of friendly relations be-tween Colombia and the United States; and that co-operation will not be lacking.

ident of the Republic to the Hon, Mr. Barrett, new Minister of the United States, is a model of fine discretion and true dignity. He answers the beautiful and cloquent words of the American dip-lomat, very complimentary to the chief of the Colombian nation, in phrases of sin-cere gratitude. It was impossible for the President of Colombia upon receiving the Hon. Mr. Barrett to fail to make delicate allusion to the grave questions which w have pending with the great country which has sent him to our government.

"The address of the Hon. Mr. Barrett will cause a very deep and favorable impression when it is read throughout Colombia. Never has a foreign representa-

> Bottle 75¢

65¢

60¢

60¢

60¢

60¢

"In the Minister's high and noble self in terms more explicit and satisfaclends special value to the statements o Mr. Barrett. If love of country has not died in Colombian hearts, they will not A GUARANTEED CURE FOR FILES. Resigned to the inevitable, our patriotism our druggist will refund money if Pass Otnt-our fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. Soc now that President Roosevelt, according dressed to the President."

# Retiring From the Retail Liquor Business

We have only a few weeks left to close out our stock of liquors, and to do so we shall quote still lower figures than heretofore. Commencing today, January 13, we shall offer as follows:

Dottie	
bottles Port Wine at	200 bottles of \$1.50 Apricot Brandy at
bottles Sherry Wine at15¢	400 bottles of \$1.25 full qt. Whiskies at
) bottles Muscat Wine at 15¢	500 gallons of Port Wine, regular price, \$1.25; at
) bottles Angelica Wine at15¢	
) bottles Madeira Wine at	
bottles Malaga Wine at	500 gallons of Sherry Wine, regular
bottles California Grape Brandy at 55¢	price, \$1.25; at
bottles Old Kentucky Whisky at 50¢	300 gallons of Angelica Wine, regular
bottles Blackberry Brandy at	price, \$1.25; at
bottles of \$1.50 Rye and Bourbon	250 gallons of Museat Wine, regular
bottled Whiskies at	price, \$1.25; at,

All of our bulk Whiskies, Brandies, Gins, White Rye, Matt Rye, Apricot Brandy, Kummel at 50c on the dollar. It will pay you to lay in a good supply.

