

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

THE OREGONIAN TELEPHONES.
Managing Editor: Main 2970
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Composing Room: Main 2970
Superintendent Building: Main 2970
East Side Office: East

AMUSEMENTS

THE HELIG THEATER (14th and Washington sts.)—Tonight at 8:15 o'clock, the musical-comedy extravaganza, "Babes in Toyland."
BAKER THEATER (3d and Yamhill)—"Cherry Blossoms" Burlesque Company; tonight at 8:15.
EMPIRE THEATER (12th and Morrison)—"A Fala Wedding"; tonight at 8:15.
GRAND THEATER (Grand and Washington)—Continuous vaudeville, 2:30, 7:30 and 9 P. M.
PACIFIC THEATER (4th and Stark)—Continuous vaudeville, 2:30, 7:30 and 9 P. M.
STAR THEATER (Park and Washington)—Continuous vaudeville, 2:30, 7:30, 9 P. M.

HELL BONDS NEXT—At the recent election the voters of St. Johns voted bonds to the amount of \$10,000 for erection of a City Hall, and already Recorder Thomas Dyke has received inquiries for these bonds. They run ten years and bear 5 per cent interest. It is thought that there will be no difficulty in selling the bonds, as they bear a high rate of interest, besides the fact that the city has issued. The bond of City Treasurer G. M. Hall was fixed at \$2000, and he was given a salary of \$15 a month. E. O. Maggon and Samuel Cochran have made application for licenses to operate saloons. It is also thought a license will be asked to sell liquor at Cedar Park this year. The license fee is \$1000 a year. Various opinions are expressed as to the effect of the failure of the former Council to approve its last minutes. Some street improvements are affected, and it is thought some action will be necessary to prevent future complications. The matter of closing up the old business the matter of reading and approving the minutes before adjournment was overlooked. Of course, they cannot now be approved. DRAGED BY A CAR—A. B. Burger, a hardware dealer at 44 Third street, was slightly injured by being dragged by a street-car at Third and Washington streets yesterday morning. His car was caught between the car and a great wooden receptacle for earth which is being taken from excavations, and was dragged several yards. His clothing was almost torn from his body and his right leg was badly bruised. He saved his life by clinging to a hand-grip at the rear end of the car.

GIVE SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT—The entertainment given in Woodward's Hall, Monday and Tuesday evenings, under the auspices of the Montavilla Improvement League, was a success. There were large audiences at both evenings. W. C. Aylward was the director; Miss Alice Sweeney, pianist; Mrs. Groves, violinist. "Trial by Jury" was the title of the comedy presented, in addition to a fine musical program.

COMMERCIAL CLUB GETS OPTIONS ON STREETS—Options on several quarter-blocks have been secured by the building committee of the Portland Commercial Club. The boundaries of the locality in which a quarter-block is to be selected are Second to Seventh and Alder to Burnside streets. The options vary in value from \$60,000 to \$200,000, according to E. J. Thompson, a member of the building committee.

PROHIBITION PARTY CONVENTION—The state convention of the Prohibition party of Oregon will meet at the Y. M. C. A. Auditorium at 11 A. M. today. During the afternoon session, which will open at 2 o'clock, John G. Woolley will address the convention. Mr. Woolley will also address a mass meeting at the White Temple this evening at 8 o'clock. There will be no charge for admission.

WOOLLEY WILL SPEAK—John G. Woolley, who has been campaigning in the Valley for several days past, will speak to the workers of the White Temple at 11 o'clock today. He will also speak at 2 o'clock at the White Temple. Mr. Woolley is on his way home from New Zealand, where for the past six months or more he has been taking a leading part in a great local option campaign.

DEATH OF MRS. KELLY—Mrs. Hannah Kelly, an old resident of Oregon, died in San Francisco last Saturday, where she had gone eight months before to be treated for cancer. She was a native of Ireland, 69 years of age. She leaves a husband, Bartholomew Kelly, and five children, most of whom live in Oregon.

"MADE IN OREGON" EXPOSITION—The joint committees which are in charge of the "Made in Oregon" movement will meet in the auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce tonight at 8 o'clock. All of the various committees which are at work will report what progress has been made and further plans will be discussed.

LAYING HEAVY STEEL RAILS—The Southern Pacific Railway Company has distributed heavy steel rails between the East Clay-street crossing and the car shops, which is in line with the programme of replacing all the light rails south through the Willamette valley.

AT THE THEATERS

"Babes in Toyland" at The Helig.
Alan Ignacio Martinetti
Jane Katherine Bell
Uncle Barnaby John P. Ward
The Widow Piper Ida Ward
Contrary Mary Gene Lusaka
Tom Tom Albertine Benson
Bill Maugh Campbell
Ho-Pop Katherine Murray
Red Riding Hood Beatie Merrill
Sally Waters Lucile De Monte
Miss Muffet Irene Cromwell
Simple Simon Daisy Carson
Boy Blue Margaret Moffatt
Tommy Ida George
Jack Jeanette Nelson
Bobby Shatto Queenie Stewart
Roderigo Robert Burns
Gonsorgo James Wilson
Hilda Louise Rushton
Master Toy-maker Edward P. Sullivan
Grumio Walter Schrode
Inspector Marmaduke Gus Pixley
The Brown Bear E. S. Markins
The Sun Queen Lillian Gillette
The Spirit of Fire Debra Deale
The Spirit of Willow Beatrice Lynn
The Moth Queen Katherine Murray
The Volcano Queen Minnie Murray
The Giant Spider Robert Burns

"Babes in Toyland," produced at the Helig Theater last night to run the rest of the week, is a big flight of poetic and humorous fancy.
The theater was filled with brilliant coloring, scenic elaboration, catchy music, competent musical-comedy artists, pretty costumes, plenty of good voices and celebrity of execution. In fact, it presents about the wide variety of attractive elements that jaded people crave for stimulation and nontiring entertainment. The theater was filled with Portland's most prosperous inhabitants. You saw there everybody you know, and more besides. The melody, the charm of face and dress and twinkling form, the antics of clever comedians, the flip of topical song, the delicacy of fairyland, childhood dreaming, even the grotesqueness and wonders of grotto and the magic of sprites and supernatural toy-makers, lulled us all as a cradle-song does, while yet we laughed at funny quips as they flew by. It is all light as a feather, yet beautiful as a child-innocent as a maidenhood, yet lovely as the flowers of the field.

If I say that there was pictured in colorful picturesqueness a succession of interlarding impressions, that the eye was pleased successively with a country life, a garden wall adorned with bewitching girls, a grotto with spiders' forest, the moor queen's floral palace, a heavenly Christmas tree in Toyland, a street in Toyland, the master toy-maker's wonderful shop, his magnificent castle, and finally Toyland's courtyard in resplendent magnificence, you might gain the idea that at least it was a series of spectacular episodes. It was. And it was more. Even pictorially the original plan is too large for touring, but the form of its presentation is so successful that it is a success at all. We do not expect them to buy special scenery for us. I think we should be satisfied that they bring here a perfect staging to handle in any theater in town. Nevertheless scenic effects entailing ingenuity and excellent theatrical craftsmanship were presented. And then we had a continuous procession of interesting and skilful artists who beguiled the hours with fine music and facile dancing. Something is radically wrong with anybody who couldn't enjoy "Babes in Toyland."

I think the gem of the show is the music of the "Toy Soldiers' March," which is equal to "Aida." I almost said a passage from Lohengrin. It certainly is better than many strains of grand opera that I recall. Another memorable moment was that which contained Miss Albertine Benson's singing of "Toyland" in the second act. It was a gem of the show. I think that we are always listening for it. For more talent than any one else is the inimitable Martinetti, whose beautiful hit was "Rock-a-Bye-Baby," sung in Cockney fashion. German lyrics, operatic fashion and rapturous fashion. The prize among the girls was Miss Katherine Bell, an experienced, slender, young, lace-appearing girl, who sang topical ditties and gilded around and sparkled like a diamond's rays. Grumio and Jill (Miss Maugh Campbell and Walter Schrode) did a stunning drinking stunt, replete with new and difficult business. Robert Burns and James Wilson, the two ruffian sailors, and Gus Pixley, the detective, contributed some whimsicalities that stick in the memory. There is an amusing contingent of comely girls who know how to shuffle and shake and kick their feet with dash and graceful abandon. As an eye and an ear, "Babes in Toyland" is a decided success. A. H. BALLARD.

FIT FOR FAIRIES.
Easter Exhibit of Flowers That Has Never Been Equalled in Portland.
Oregon is the home of lovely roses and beautiful flowers of nearly every description so that it would seem almost impossible to create a sensation along this line, as some previous displays made in this city second almost perfection, but it remained for Martin & Forbes, at their new store, 347 Washington street, between Seventh and Park, to make the most beautiful and artistic exhibit of cut flowers and potted plants that has ever been shown in Portland or on the Pacific Coast. The immense pyramids of Easter lilies, reaching from the floor to the ceiling, are particularly striking, but it is impossible to select any feature for special mention as the strength of the exhibit is in the artistic effects produced by the material and the manner in which and carried out the general effect. Everybody is cordially invited to call before Sunday next and enjoy a rare treat and one that will repay your trouble.

POLO ON SKATES.
Tomorrow night, at the Exposition rink, occurs the much-talked-of polo match on skates between teams of five men each, composed of the most expert skaters in the city. The game will be called promptly at 9 o'clock and general skating from 9:30 to 10:30 will follow. An exciting match is promised.

EXCURSION TO SEASIDE
Sunday, April 15.
The first excursion to Seaside will leave Union Depot at 8 A. M. next Sunday, via the A. & C. R. R. Fare for the round trip, only \$1.00 a seat for every passenger. Tickets at 28 Alder street or the Union Depot.

NOTICE.
We beg to inform our customers, the trade and all whom it may concern, that Mr. Franz (Frank) Busch is not now nor has he ever been in our employ in any capacity whatever. Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association, St. Louis, Mo.

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For 1904.....17,000
For 1903.....17,000
For 1902.....17,000
For 1901.....17,000
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Total premiums paid.....\$ 288,28
Present cash reserve.....\$ 554,81
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AIDS ITALIAN SUFFERERS
Postal Telegraph Company Will Send Relief Messages Free.
John Annand, manager of the Portland office of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, announced yesterday that the company had agreed to aid in raising funds for the sufferers from the eruption of Vesuvius by sending free over its lines in the United States messages concerning the raising of the relief fund which has now been started. Private messages are not included in this classification, but only those from relief committees, organizations and cities throughout the country.

FATHER KIDNAPS CHILDREN
Mrs. J. E. Penoyer Thinks He Took Them to San Francisco.
J. E. Penoyer, employed by Fleischner-Mayer, is said by his wife to have left the city for San Francisco with their two children. Mrs. Penoyer has put the matter in the hands of the Pinkerton detective agency, and will try to recover her two children.

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