

DISSENTS FACTORS IN RULES TEACHERS

Said to Be Ready to Fight for Full 20 Per Cent Increase in Their Salaries.

MAY TRY TO PACK MEETING

Annual Taxpayers' Gathering Monday Night May Be Stormy—Board Thinks 15 Per Cent Raise Given Should Satisfy Them.

Disatisfied with the decision of the Board of Education proposing an average advance of 15 per cent in their wages, the teachers employed in the Portland public schools hereafter to take their case before the annual taxpayers' meeting next Monday night and insist that their position for a 20 per cent increase in salaries be endorsed. While the members of the committee representing the teachers in their negotiations with the board would not admit it last night, the fact developed yesterday that a movement had been started by which the teachers and their friends expect to pack Monday night's meeting. The programme contemplates a rejection of the recommendations of the Board of Education and the endorsement by the meeting of the application of the teachers for their full 20 per cent advance as originally petitioned for.

C. M. Kiggins, president of the Principals' Association, and chairman of the committee that appeared before the Board of Education, declared last night that so far as he knew there was no organized effort on the part of the teachers to take any part in the taxpayers' meeting. He admitted that many of the teachers were not satisfied with the salary adjustment proposed by the directors.

Directors Opposed to Fight. Professor T. T. Davis, of the High School, professed to know of no such intention on the part of the teachers, who, he said, had not held a meeting since the board had formulated its recommendations. The other members of the teachers' committee appearing before the directors were Mrs. Lillie B. Thomas, Miss Verdie K. Fraser and Mrs. Katie E. Liehter.

Rumor of the threatened coup by the teachers reached the ears of members of the Board of Education yesterday. Having recommended an increase of 15 per cent, while the teachers only asked for 20 per cent increase, the directors feel that the teachers are entirely out of their sphere in further prosecuting their demands. Furthermore, even should the teachers be successful in carrying out their programme and secure the endorsement of the taxpayers for a 20 per cent increase in wages, they will not have gained anything. The action of the taxpayers' meeting serves only as a recommendation to the Board of Education, which is the final arbiter and can comply with the suggestions of the annual meeting or not, as it may elect. For that reason further agitation of the salary controversy by the teachers may react against them, for it still holds the power of the directors to maintain the present salary schedule.

Taxpayers Must Go to Meeting. "It is up to the taxpayers of the district as to what action will be taken at the annual meeting," said Herman Wittenberg, chairman of the Board of Education last night. "Of course, if the taxpayers remain at home it will be possible for the teachers and their friends to organize the meeting and control its proceedings. But if any such thing is undertaken, the members of the board will see to it that only those qualified to vote will be permitted to take part in the proceedings. If, however, the taxpayers are entitled to vote at the annual school meeting and any person that so votes is liable to a penalty, including both fine and imprisonment.

My position on the question of teachers' salaries has been misrepresented or at least misunderstood. Although I voted against the tax increase, it is not the Board of Education, I am not opposed to a reasonable advance in these wages. I am in favor of making a reasonable increase amounting probably to \$100 per annum for the heads of departments and \$150 or more to principals of schools. But what I object to in the decision of the board is that teachers in the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades should receive an increase of \$125 per annum, while teachers in the lower grades get an advance of only \$50.

Should Advance All Along. "The cost of living, the issue on which these wages are to be advanced, is the same to the lower grade teachers as it is to those in the upper grades. I would favor an average increase of 10 per cent in the existing schedule all along the line."

I. N. Felschner, another member of the board, expressed considerable surprise when apprised yesterday of the promised action of the teachers. He regarded that in view of the time the board had given to fixing the advances that have been recommended and which are only 5 per cent less than those requested, the teachers should stand by the directors and approve their work. He intimated that in his opinion the teachers were injudiciously antagonizing the board, and should be considered settled. Besides, Mr. Felschner insists that the prosecution by the teachers of their proposed plan can serve only unnecessarily to antagonize the employe with his employer.

New Bills Open at the Vaudeville Houses.

BY ARTHUR A. GREENE. It is a matter of tradition that the act which opens a vaudeville show is inferior to the others which constitute the bill, and there are tales of dimensions among the vaudeville stars because none wants to start the proceedings. Strangely enough this week the Orpheum offering is so well balanced, that the opening act under ordinary circumstances would be featured as a top-line event. A quartet of French girls, assisted and abetted by a young man of some ability, do a singing turn that is calculated to arouse the interest of anyone who is regular in his patronage of the vaudeville and consequently hard to please. The girls execute some difficult steps and introduce some acrobatic novelties that lift their performance away above the average. The costuming of the act is especially attractive, which helps vastly to center the attention.

Far out of the ordinary on the vaudeville stage is the series of views of Royal-waltz scenery, commencing with the Bouquet of Colorado and including the

Grand Canyon, the Navajo country and other localities on the deserts of New Mexico and Arizona, and ending with the palm groves and big trees of California. The sketch offered by Miss Emerin Campbell, Aubrey Yates and Jules Ruby is quite an attractive rural comedy in tabloid form. It should be known that the costumes and scenery for the act were sidetracked in some manner in transit and the clever performers of the skit were forced to appear in makeshift clothes and homely scenery. Even so, there was no cause for finding fault with their work.

The Rooney Sisters are famous in more than one country. In fact there are few dancers in the business who can equal these two attractive sisters in the art of tap-dancing. In addition they possess personation magnetism to remarkable degree, which makes their singing a delight, in spite of the fact that neither of them is a vocal genius. They do not pretend to be that's the best part of it, and merely talk the scenes, but when it comes to dancing, the shades of all other merry trippers take their hats off.

It is seldom that even so excellent a presentation as that which controls the destinies of the Orpheum circuit brings us a playlet that is the equal of "What Will Happen Next." The company appear for 15 minutes. If I'm not mistaken Mr. Clarke is a son of John Sleeper Clarke, the distinguished literateur, but whether he is or is not is immaterial. He carries himself a continual delight by his humorous efforts in connection with Eleanor de Mott, Archie Gillies and Janet Bayes, who assist him.

Grand. BY LEONE CARR BAER. ONE might go a long way and not find a better bill than the Grand in running for this Christmas week. The populars are Mr. and Mrs. Edw. Edmond, who present a dramatic playlet, called "A Soldier of Propville," that for genuine pathos would be hard to beat. Fortunately every weep is followed by a laugh, or we'd all be sniffling. Old Jim the soldier of Propville, a paleo-Indian, is most capably sustained by Edmond, while his wife takes the part of Veritas Quill, a newspaper correspondent.

If you've never seen a typical English comedian, with all the frills and trimmings, go at once and throw your papers on Herbert Cyril, the London Johnnie, who is making his debut here. He carries some ditties never heard before in Portland. They are good, too, the one entitled "That's the Worst of Being So Heavily Well Connected," is particularly so.

The Zello troupe, which consists of five men, gives a laughable comedy act. One of the best stunts in the show is given by Alice De Garmo, late of the New York Hippodrome. Her assistant, H. J. Keough, who is mostly abdomen, supports an aerial ladder on the said abdomen. Alice is a very fit and able on the top round, up in the flies, and hangs by her teeth while she disrobes, which is not as bad as it sounds. Then she proceeds to make the atmosphere hum, with the acrobatic feats she performs, and is well worth seeing.

We've had such a run of modern songs, with Indian impossible plots and worse words, that it did my soul good to hear that dear old ballad, "When You and I Were Young, Maggie." It is sung by the Bauer to the accompaniment of Alice De Garmo. Old songs like old friends, old books and old wines, are always the best.

Blockson and Burns, two black-face comedians, recently with Dockstader's minstrels, are laughable. Their burlesque on equilibrium is original and one of the really funny things that we can all see through without seeing labels.

Pantages. BY LEONE CARR BAER. PANTAGES Theater has an interesting bill to offer its patrons during the holiday week. One of the best things on the cast are the four Johnson Students, billed as "Club Maniacs," who present one of the best juggling acts ever seen on the Coast. Besides being adepts at straight and legitimate juggling, they have a lot of clever, original stuff that interests.

Another act that pleases the audience is the World's Comedy Four, who wear dress suits and are billed as singers and comedians. Well, they sing, when they do it in a bunch—but they are not strong at "comedy." One of them, a great big man with a very little tenor voice, ought never to sing by himself, but the others are great, the basso especially so.

A team of clever youngsters are the Bernsteins, who give a clean singing and dancing act. They work hard and their act is full of new steps.

Martelli and Rossi are Italian operettists who operate on "Oh, Joy! He is saved!" from "Il Trovatore." At least that is what an obliging man in front of me told me. Personally I didn't know what it was all about, and I think about 99 of every 100 in the audience who seemed so absorbed were with me in ignorant bliss. My idea of a hypocrite is one who pretends he understands and appreciates Italian grand opera, when he can't even spell spaghetti. The lady in this act wears a beautiful gown and sings well, and the man shows his buxom figure to advantage in a white doublet and hose and wears a plumed lid.

Silent Tait is an interesting individual, who, assisted by a damsel in a kimono, gives a ludicrous performance with burlesque music and comedy juggling that is very good.

A playlet called "The Doings of Dr. Louder" is presented by a trio, Conn, Downey and Willard. The play revolves itself around McGuire, from the Klondike. Dr. Louder, a deaf physican, and a stammering office maid. It's a clean little comedy and pleases everybody.

Jean Wilson never sang better than he does this week, "With You in Eternity." The girl behind me said they had it at home on the phonograph.

GLOVE SALE. Best \$5.00 French kid gloves, all colors, two-clasp style, \$6 a pair. Best \$2.75 quality, \$1.25 a pair. \$3.50 long kid gloves, \$2.50 a pair. Gloves bearing our stamp, like everything else that comes from this store, is sufficient guarantee of merit. Glove orders issued. McAllen & McDonnell, Third and Morrison.

TOBACCO JARS. Newest designs in Cut Glass, Colonial Brass, Royal Doulton. 81c Sichel & Co., 22 Third street and two branches.

Christmas handbags and purses at Eyssell's, 229 Morrison, between Fourth and Fifth streets.

A par excellent table d'hote dinner served at the Perkins Grill Christmas, 5 to 5:30. Reserve your tables.

WATER RATES NOT TO BE REDUCED

Council Will Go Against Proposed Action of Water Board for Next Year.

CHARTER REVISION SOUGHT

If Plan of Laying Mains Is Changed Council Committee Fears Water Board Would Be Without Funds if Reduction Made.

There will be no reduction of water rates in Portland for 1909, notwithstanding the previous announcement of the Water Board that the prevailing rates can be cut one-half and still bring in sufficient revenue to maintain the department and pay all expenses. This unexpected development came as a complete surprise when the matter was considered yesterday afternoon by the Ways and Means Committee of the City Council. The Council has power to increase, but not to lower the schedule, and intends to exercise its authority over the Water Board to the extent of continuing in force the same schedule that is now in effect. This is because, as stated, there is very likely to be an amendment to the charter, materially changing the present law relative to the laying of new mains, so that, if the price is lowered, there will be a shortage of finances with which to carry on the important business of the municipality. The whole affair was referred to Councilman Rushlight, chairman of the committee, for a report.

Board Recommended Reduction.

The Water Board, at its last session, adopted a new schedule, making a reduction of 50 per cent in the rates for 1909. This was done because the existing laws are such that the Board is relieved of the great burden formerly laid upon it of paying for new mains out of the funds paid in during the year. An amendment to the charter makes it the duty of abutting property-owners to bear the expense of these extensions, and also makes it obligatory upon the Council to pay the Water Board \$50,000 a year for the use of water by the municipality. It was therefore the decision of the rates, which the Board that the best action would be to reduce the rates one-half, as this would yield ample revenue to carry on the operations of the department during the year.

Every member of the Ways and Means Committee yesterday, however, strongly favored maintaining the present rates, and several members of the Council not on the committee expressed themselves likewise. After long discussion, in which R. B. Lamson, representing the Board, participated, the whole matter was turned over to Chairman Rushlight for a report. He announced that he will not recommend any decrease in the rates.

Rushlight Wants Charter Changed.

Mr. Rushlight is active in a movement to submit a charter amendment to the people at the next election, changing the present law which levies upon abutting property-owners the assessment for new mains. He says it throws upon the residents of the suburbs the burden, for most of the large mains in the down-town districts were laid during the long period when the water was paid out of the receipts for the water fund. City Attorney Kavanagh took a deep interest in the proceedings of the committee, and declared that it is very important that the water rates be made sufficiently low to enable the city to carry on the maintenance of the department and the continuation of improvements. In case the charter should be amended so as to lay upon the water payers the burden of payment for extensions, it would be a very bad error, he said, to reduce the rates and leave the department open to the danger of being out of funds to carry on its work. That there must be some change from the present manner of laying mains, he said, is apparent, for he said he sees nothing ahead but interminable litigation under this system. Councilman Wallace expressed the belief that it would be well if some ordinance could be passed which would make it obligatory upon owners of vacant property to pay into the water fund a certain sum for the maintenance of the department, the same amount which they were using water and had their property all covered with hoses. This idea was approved by several members of the committee, and Mr. Lamson, of the Water Board, also said he believed it would be well if some such law were to be enacted.

Hindus for Cotton-Fields.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 21.—D. C.

THE AMERICAN GENTLEMAN'S WHISKEY IS THE TITLE BY WHICH HINTER BALTIMORE IS MOST FAVORABLY KNOWN

RELIABLE GOODS AND RIGHT PRICES

Makes ours the most satisfactory in the city for Christmas Shopping.

Special for Today 25 per cent off on all sterling silver Manicure and Desk Pieces and Sets.

VINCENT'S 142 Fifth Street Between Alder and Morrison Streets.

Crawford, a capitalist of 2928 Summit avenue, Pasadena, Cal., arrived in Seattle this morning from Vancouver, B. C., where he conferred with Tejah Singh, Hindu leader, to bring 10,000 Sikh laborers to work on the cotton plantations in Louisiana. Crawford intends to begin his invasion of the United States with Hindus about May 1.

THE DEADLY REVOLVER

No Doubt the State Has Power to Regulate Carrying of Firearms.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 20.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please allow me the privilege of offering a few suggestions in reference to the measure I proposed concerning the necessity of regulating the carrying of dangerous weapons. The Constitutional provisions you quote, which declare that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed, do not, in my opinion, prevent the regulation thereof by the state. In the first place those provisions had reference to the people as a whole or as a military power, and not to the individual. This is shown by the language used. The provision quoted from the National Constitution says: "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." It implies that the right to bear arms belonged to members of a well-regulated militia and that this right should not be infringed.

The provision of our State Constitution is similar, it says: "The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defense of themselves and the state, but the military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power." That, as I think, expressly provides that the state shall have the right to place any reasonable restrictions upon the right to bear arms, having in view the welfare of the people.

The authors of both provisions seem to have had in mind the people as a whole or as a military power. It should be borne in mind that when these provisions were adopted the deadly pistol as we know it did not exist. It is true that the right to bear arms was not infringed by the carrying of a loaded pistol by its parents on the ground that such prevention would be in violation of his Constitutional right, as one of the people, to bear arms. There is no intention by the provisions of the law I suggested to deprive any peaceable person of his Constitutional right to bear arms, but the aim is to place it out of the power of every thief, burglar and murderer in the state, to carry, own or possess any dangerous weapon in this state who is going about armed to the teeth and murdering anyone who happens to cross his purposes. While some of them might succeed in obtaining a license, yet most of them would be an efficient means of tracing the murderer.

What Shall Your Christmas Gift Be? To Him--To Her--To Them?

SOMETHING that will outlive the day and the season; something useful; something beautiful. What else, indeed, but something from GILL'S—the store that is ready for any test you may give it—the store that offers you a variety of holiday gifts the equal of which cannot be found elsewhere in Portland? A visit to this store means the correct solving of the gift problem. Hundreds of excellent presents are displayed in every department—hints for new, acceptable and appropriate gifts. Every help we can give you, we offer most heartily and cheerfully. Here are just six of thousands of suggestions at PORTLAND'S IDEAL GIFT STORE:

CALENDARS 10c to \$3.00. GIFT BOOKS. PAPS 25c to \$7.00. We have Calendars in hundreds of styles and sizes—the products of the most noted artists. Come in and see the artistic and unique designs we are showing; you'll surely be delighted with the variety we now offer. Among others we suggest: Life, Christy, Gibson and Fisher creations, each \$2. Also, just received the well-known Church Kalendar, 75c.

Pearl Handle Pen Hold'rs. Don't coddle your brains. Give a Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen. The Quality Gift that everybody wants. Call and inspect ours, the largest stock in Portland. Courteous attendants will help you choose an appropriate style. The prices range from \$2.50 to \$30.

THE J. K. GILL CO. Booksellers and Stationers. THIRD AND ALDER STREETS. OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL XMAS.

going about armed to the teeth and murdering anyone who happens to cross his purposes. While some of them might succeed in obtaining a license, yet most of them would be an efficient means of tracing the murderer.

WATCHES FOR CHRISTMAS. SOLID GOLD WATCHES \$20 to \$125. GOLD FILL'D WATCHES \$14 to \$50. Pearl Sunburst Set, with 108 real pearls and one fine 3/4-karat diamond, \$100.00. 70 pearls, with 3/4-karat diamond, \$86.00. Solitaire and Cluster Rings, from \$10 to \$1500. Fine stock of Jewelry, latest designs; new and fresh. Straight from New York. C. CHRISTENSEN ARTISTIC JEWELER. OPEN EVENINGS. FOURTH FLOOR CORBETT BUILDING, FIFTH AND MORRISON—TAKE ELEVATOR.

FOR MEN and WOMEN Crawford Shoe Store 270 WASHINGTON STREET. Exclusive Designs. Fashionable Shoes For Discriminating People. A surprisingly large percentage of our customers begin trading with us because they see displayed in our windows some particular shoe design, which they cannot locate at any other shoe store. This problem of originating fashion is a rocky point on which a multitude of retail shoe dealers have been wrecked. "CRAWFORD" efforts are concentrated in appealing to refined taste; we regard it as a duty we owe our patrons to see that some individual character is expressed in every shoe we offer for sale. It means the constant exercise of expert discrimination and the paying out of more money in style-building than other manufacturers think necessary, but we have built up the enormous "CRAWFORD" business in just that way. You will find more genuine shoe style at the CRAWFORD SHOE STORE at reasonable prices than in any other store in PORTLAND at any price. No matter what your preference is, in shape, in pattern, in material or in weight, you can find it here. We fit shoes carefully and guarantee them as liberally as honest business methods will permit. We have satisfied millions—we can satisfy you. \$3.50 \$4.00 \$5.00