

# COAST SHOULD BE MORE GRATEFUL

## President Ripley, of Santa Fe, Says Shippers Ought Not to Mind Increase.

# DECLARES NEW RATE JUST

## Transcontinental Lines Have Lost Money Building Up Trade, He Declares—Present Change Only to Repay Them for Effort.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Dec. 29.—President E. P. Ripley, of the Santa Fe, who is spending the winter here, gives a signed statement to the Associated Press today relative to the proposed increase in freight rates to the Pacific Coast. President Ripley says that the statement that the total rates will amount annually to \$10,000,000, is "rank nonsense." It will not amount to a quarter of that amount, in his opinion. The present rates between the Pacific Coast and the East, he says, are the lowest rates in the world. He points out that while railroad rates have remained stationary, practically everything that the railroad has to buy has greatly advanced.

All this controversy about rates is foolish, somebody seems to have estimated that the advance proposed will increase the present rates to \$10,000,000, and by inference take that amount out of the shippers of the West.

# GOAL IS SET AT \$3000

## Pacific Hopes to Secure This Sum Toward Gymnasium.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Forest Grove, Or., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—The committee appointed by the Forest Grove Board of Trade and the college faculty will enter their efforts on a vigorous campaign tomorrow in the hope that the \$3000 pledged by the local organization toward a new gymnasium for the university may be secured before evening.

This will mark the beginning of extended movement to secure \$300,000 for new buildings and additional endowment on during the next two or three years. While here several weeks ago Dr. D. K. Pearson, of Chicago, intimated that if such a move was made he could be counted on for his share. He has already given \$50,000 to the college.

# JOINS OREGON LIFE.

## Clayton Wentz, One of the Heavy Business Getters, Joins Oregon Life.

One of the surprises in insurance circles in the resignation of Mr. Clayton Wentz, one of the heavy business getters of the Eastern life insurance company with which he has been connected here for a number of years, to join the producing forces of Oregon Life.

Interviewed, Mr. Wentz admitted having signed a contract with Oregon Life to take effect January 1. He added: "The reason for leaving the wall is so plain that any one, unprejudiced, can see that Oregon Life is the destined leader in life insurance in Oregon. There never has been anything experimental in this company, everything about it was carefully planned before it first opened its doors; it has never resorted to schemes of any kind to obtain business, or offered policies impossible of fulfillment; it has never had to adjust its rates or methods. It started on the very first day of its existence as a full-fledged life insurance company. It is well managed, economically administered, pays splendid dividends to its policy-holders and is fully entitled to the confidence of the insuring public which it enjoys. In 1907 Oregon Life gained more business in Oregon than any other company. In 1908 Oregon Life produced more than one million dollars paid-for business. Considering that the company accepts no risk greater than \$10,000 on one life, this business is marvelous. Yes, I considered this a good time to climb into the band wagon while it is still moving at a comfortable pace."

# COURTROOM COLLAPSES

## Judge, Lawyers and Witnesses Tumble and Break Bones.

# SILVER CITY HIT BY FIRE

## Blaze in Idaho Mining Town Does \$40,000 Damage.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 29.—Eight business buildings in Silver City, the leading mining camp of Southern Idaho, were destroyed by fire and dynamite today, causing a loss of \$40,000, with practically no insurance.

The fire originated in a Chinese restaurant, and quickly spread to the ad-ward Eagle Hotel, the general store of Charles N. Caldwell and two other buildings were dynamited. Three hundred miners did heroic work in fighting the flames.

Children caught looting goods removed from burning buildings were driven away with six-shooters, and an armed guard was placed around the goods.

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# CITY TOY OF FATE

## Messina, Destroyed in Recent Disaster, Abode of Ruin.

# DEVASTATED MANY TIMES

## Earthquake, Plague and War Have Killed Thousands in Sicilian Metropolis Since Ill-Starred Pioneers Founded Town There.

Messina, the most important of the cities razed by the earthquake, has had a history filled with calamity since its founding in 729 B. C. In November, 1894, it was partly destroyed by an earthquake of exceptional violence. In 1884 it was razed by the plague, and 16,000 of its inhabitants died; in 1848 it was greatly damaged by a naval bombardment. It was destroyed by an earlier earthquake, and in 1740 it lost 40,000 souls by the plague.

Its walls have been frequently shaken by minor earthquakes, the reason for their prevalence lying in the fact that the site of the city is located over the point of contact of the geological making it susceptible to seismic disturbances from the cooling of the hearts of both these volcanoes.

# WAR A FREQUENT VISITOR.

Aside from these disasters the civil life of Messina has been as unsettled as its physical existence. The town was sacked by Saracen pirates, and its earliest inhabitants soon commenced a series of wars on neighboring towns that kept it constantly a scene of pillage and tyranny. Its present form was adopted in 493 B. C., when it was overthrown by Messinians flying from the Peloponnese, who named it after their country.

In all the early wars waged on the Mediterranean Messina had a hand, ally and sometimes with one side and then another, and sometimes when things were dull, starting wars of her own. Through most of its early history the town and commune maintained an uncertain independence.

# WOOD AND COAL HEATERS IN THE BASEMENT

## TULL & GIBBS COMPLETE HOUSEFURNISHERS

### WINDOW SHADES The Best Materials and Workmanship at Lowest Prices.

### WILLING THAT FOURNIER SHOULD PLAY, AND AS HARKNESS BELONGED TO THE BUTTE CLUB, THERE IS NO ONE TO OBJECT TO HIM.

### THE TWO-TEAM PROPOSITION IN PORTLAND SEEMED TO WORRY THE N. W. MANAGERS.

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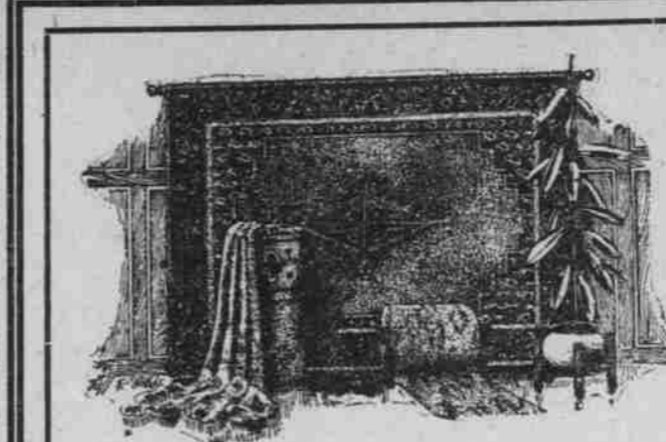
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## New Spring Line Body Brussels Rugs

### Our Carpet Department invites inspection of the new Spring line—these rugs in standard room sizes—purchased in advance with a view of securing better selection and meeting the increased demand

### for rugs as floor coverings—showing entirely new and attractive patterns and colorings—the most exquisite combinations ever displayed in this serviceable fabric, especially designed for bedroom and dining-room furnishing. The critical buyer of artistic floor covering will recognize excellent variety offered in our line for pleasing selection.

# Sale of Lace Curtains

## ceptional curtain values in Arabian and white nets, also in muslin curtains. You should take advantage for selecting inexpensive and attractive window hangings:

\$3.00 and \$3.25 values in white and eoru Nottingham and Cable Net Curtains, pair \$1.80  
\$3.75 and \$4.00 values in Tambour Muslin Curtains, dainty patterns, at pair \$2.25  
\$4.25 values in French Net Curtains, with dainty Cluny Edge; white and Arabian tints; at the pair \$2.60

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# Holiday Excursion Tickets

## WILL BE SOLD AT

## One and One-Third Fare For the Round Trip

### BY THE

# O. R. & N.

### Between points not over 200 miles apart

### BY THE

# Southern Pacific Co.

### (LINES IN OREGON)

### Between stations in Oregon.

### SALE DATES, DEC. 23, 24, 25, 31; JAN. 1. RETURN LIMIT, JAN. 4.

### Ask at City Ticket Office, Third and Washington Sts., Portland, or any local agent elsewhere.

### W. M. MURRAY, General Passenger Agent, Portland, Or.

# HOSPITABLE HILARITY

## Entertain your friends at Seaside New Year's Eve. The last A. C. R. R. train of the year leaves Union Depot 6 P. M., Dec. 31st, and runs through to Clatsop Beach.

# SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S DINNER

## AT MOORE HOTEL

### Tickets and Parlor Car Reservations

### At 122 Third St., and at Third and Morrison Streets.

# PORTLAND, MAINE, CHILD Ill, Weak and Emaciated, Restored to Health by Vinol

## "Our little daughter, six years of age, after a severe attack of the measles, which developed into pneumonia, was left pitifully thin, weak and emaciated. She had no appetite, and her stomach was so weak it could not retain food. She lay in this condition for weeks, and nothing the doctor prescribed did a bit of good, and we were beginning to think she would never recover."

## "At this time we commenced to give her Vinol, and the effect was marvelous. The doctor was amazed at her progress, and when we told him we were giving her Vinol, he replied, 'It is a fine remedy, keep it up.' We did so, and she recovered her health and strength months before the doctor thought she could."

## "Vinol cures conditions like this because in a natural manner it increases the appetite, tones up the digestive organs, makes rich, red blood, and strengthens every organ in the body. Woodard, Clarke & Co., Druggists, Portland."

# Fandom at Random

## COLONEL "BUCK" KEITH, who yesterday celebrated the fourth anniversary of his arrival in Portland, based loquacious on his favorite topic, baseball. The former Omaha magnate picks New York to win the National League pennant and, at present, figures San Francisco or Portland to hook the story in the Coast League.

## Buck condescendingly added that he could not see where there was any question as to the winner in the Northwestern League. He says his bank roll floats on P. Casey et al., who are to represent Portland and the McCredies in the Northwestern organization. "Casey's bunch and New York" are to be Keith's slogan for the coming season.

## J. Cal Ewing seems to have picked up something good in the contest over the admission of the California State League into the fold of organized baseball. Cal is again whizzing across the continent to tell Ben B. Johnson and Harry Pulliam something he forgot about while these worthies were in S. P. Co. It, Cal, you'll be a globe-trotter next.

## George Milford Schroeder, the genial manager in control of the Tacoma club, seems well satisfied with the amount of speculation the fans are indulging in over who will manage his team next season. George does not seem to mind it in the least whether Tacoma ever gets a manager or not. But then, why should he care? He hooked a grab bag full of ball tossers, and perhaps doesn't need any manager.

## When Mike Lynch was handling the destinies of the Tacoma club during the two seasons past, the Seattle scribes took a keen delight in roasting the energetic ex-Tiger to a frazzle. But now that he is chief helmsman for the tribe of Dug, the attitude has noticeably changed. Mike is now Mr. M. A. Lynch, which, if anything, is worse. Casey says Mike ought to fight when he is called mired.

## "Judge McCredie is too much of a true sport and gentleman to take any advantage of the draft laws to save his players, and he has the confidence of the Northwestern League presidents and managers."

## This is what Joseph Cohn, president of the Spokane club, thinks about the situation in Portland.

## Continuing further, Cohn adds: "Pearl Casey certainly would not stand for his doing it, even if the judge wanted to. For instance, if Casey had a strong man he would not let him go to the other team and break up his defense."

## Fournier and Harkness are likely to be the only Northwestern players now Portland's roster who will be members of Pearl Casey's team. Aberdeen

# Piano Tuning and Repairing

## Our tuning and repairing department has for years been considered the finest on the Coast, but realizing that our best was none too good for our patrons, we engaged the services of Mr. W. A. Shaw, a piano and player piano expert of wide experience in Eastern factories.

## Mr. Shaw has surrounded himself with a corps of trained tuners and repair men and the quality of their work has met with our entire approval.

## Last year—under our 25.00 per year contract—Gibbs Piano House tuned over 7300 pianos of various makes and styles. This season, with our doubly efficient corps of tuners, we expect to add greatly to this number.

## Let us explain to you how our yearly contract will save you money: We tune your piano always being in tune, and best of all, we prevent your piano from depreciating in value.

## Telephone or mail orders will receive prompt attention.

## 353 Washington Street.

# ELMHURST

## AMERICAN TRUST CO. 100 CHURCH ST. PORTLAND, ORE.

# RATE CASES ARE SIMPLIFIED

## Railroads Agree to Abide by Few Test Decisions.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—Much time was occupied at the Missouri rate hearing today in simplifying the docket in order to expedite the hearing in the case of the various railroad companies involved. It was agreed that the Wabash and the Chicago & Alton Railroad would abide by the decision in the Burlington case; the St. Joseph & Grand Island by the decision in the Chicago Great Western and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul by the decision in the St. Louis & San Francisco case.

# INTERESTED IN HIGH TARIFF

## Committee Members Scored by Science Convention Speaker.

BAITIMORE, Dec. 29.—Following today's meeting of the various sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, there was a general meeting at Johns Hopkins University devoted to a tariff symposium. Dr. J. J. Orton, of the Tariff Reform Club of New York, the first speaker, charged that members of the ways and means committee are peculiarly interested in the tariff schedule which they have to adjust. Dr. Orton was absent, but his paper was read by another. He said: "If we had a high and honest standard of public morals in Congress," he said, "it would be much easier to get an honest tariff and the consumer would not be plundered as he is now. I venture to say that the moral code in Congress is lower than in most city councils. In Washington it is common to hear that out of 19 members of the ways and means committee, which will frame a new tariff, various ones are peculiarly interested in this or that schedule."

# SCHOOL FUND INCREASED

## Washington Gets Refund on Sale of Public Lands.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Governor Mead today turned over to the State Treasurer \$37,800, received by him from the National Government. This represents the 5 per cent refund from the sale of public lands in Washington for the year ending June 30, last, and goes into the state permanent school fund. During Governor Mead's administration \$38,450.00 has been received from this source.

# UNIONS TO DEFY COURTS

## Spokane Laborers Urge Radical Action by Gompers and Mitchell.

SPOKANE, Dec. 29.—In scathing resolutions the Spokane sectional central labor union last night went on record as urging the head officers of the American Federation of Labor to defy the United States Court of the District of Columbia, and if the higher courts concurs in the decision, to defy this court and keep on publishing in the Federationist the list of employers unfair to organized labor.

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