PHONE KING WOULD BUY EVERY RIVAL

Theodore N. Vail, President of Western Union and Bell System, Gives Views.

PORTLAND MERGER DENIED

Magnate Declares Public Is Served Best by One Line in Field-He Says Coast Grows Too Fast for Companies.

"If the people don't want competi-tion in telephone service they don't need to have it," declared Theodore N. Vall, president of the American Tele-phone & Telegraph Company, compris-ing the Hell Telephone system, and of the Western Union Telegraph & Cable Company, who arrived in Portland last night.

Company, who arrived in Portland last night.

"Our people stand ready and willing at all times to consolidate, as we believe that the public is best served by a single system. Then if the public believes that it will get better service by removing competition, let the public say so. Let a consolidation be ordered. Let a price be fixed that is not unreasonable and we'll pay for it, consolidate the plants and operate them all as one big system. That's the best and the quickest way out of it.

"A few years ago the public seemed to think that competition was needed in the telephone world. The independent companies came. Now some communities want to get rid of one system or the other. Well, we are in the field to stay.

Merger Here Denied.

Merger Here Denled. "Anyway the independents have done a good service. They have shown that the telephone business can't be carried on successfully at prices below those that we have been getting and that our service was far from un-satisfactory."

Mr. Vall denied that any negotiations are in progress for the consolidation of the two systems in Portland. He was reminded that the City Council here had by resolution instructed a committee to investigate the allegation that the Home Telephone Company of Portland already is owned by the Bell interests.

interests. interests. "I want to say positively that we don't own the independent company here," he declared. "I don't know even that its purchase is contemplated, or that it is for sale. If it is for sale we'll buy it at a reasonable price. If it isn't for sale it is one of the few independent plants that are not for sale. Since the first of the year I believe that nearly every independent lieve that nearly every independent plant in the country has been offered to us. We'll take them all over if a price can be agreed upon. That's the policy that governs all our subsidiary

Coast Found Transformed.

Mr. Vall is making his regular trip over the country for the purpose of keeping in touch with conditions. This is his first visit in several years. He is accompanied by E. C. Bradley, of San Francisco, vice-president and general manager of the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph Company.

The Coast certainly has changed since I was here last, he observed.

"You can't call it mere improvement. It is transformation. The trouble here is that you go so fast it is hard for us to keep up."

they are making efforts to have their pew building in Portland started soon after the first of the year. Plans now are being drawn for a 12-story etecl from the Antipodes. frame structure to be built on the quarter block at the southeast corner of Oak and Park streets, which re-

of Oak and Park streets, which re-cently was acquired by the company.

"We expect to have the finest build-ing in Portland," said Mr. Bradley. "The land, building and equipment will ag-gregate a cost of \$2,000,000. We are figuring on supplying the needs of Pertland for many years to come and will build accordingly."

will build accordingly."

He added that since he came here four years ago the company has spent \$25,000,000 in improvements on the

Coast Mr. Vail does not believe that the telephone and telegraph business ever will pass into control of the Federal

Government.
"The Government never was or-ganised to carry on utility business," he asserted. "If the experience of other he asserted. "If the experience of other countries is taken as a criterion the public revenue would have to pay much of the cost of operation. In my last annual report to the Western Union I showed that in England one-half of the cost of every telegram sent was paid by the general public."

Business Conditions Normal.

Speaking of the business situation in the United States he declared that underlying conditions are first class and that business now is on an exlient normal basis.
The great expansion, progress and

extension that we have been so used to though, is somewhat dead," he said. "It will be quiet until people know what is going to happen to their investments. We read in the papers all the time that the banks are doing the husiness. The banks don't buy securities. It is the little fellow. The bank must find the investor. They don't buy for themselves but for the public. It is the public that is timid at this time. The panic of 1997 was caused by the banks underwriting a lot of securities that they could not turn suickly. Now they are going to find their buyers before they load up with further securities. If they can't find

buyers then business is stagmant. But I believe it is improving now. "Business is not alarmed over the political situation nor over the effects of the Sherman anti-trust law. The Sherman law, if construed technically, would ruin all the business in the light of the Supreme Court decision it

O'Neil, a pioneer special improvement contractor of the city, died yesterday at the family home at 635 Broadway. The funeral will take place at the Cathedral, where high mass will be celebrated at 9 o'clock tomorrow. Mrs. O'Neil is survived by one son, Robert J. O'Neil, and four daughters, Mar-garet, Anna and Catherine, and Mrs. J. E. Hennessy. She was 70 years of HIGH OFFICIALS OF ELKDOM WHO COME TODAY TO ARRANGE BIG REUNION IN PORTLAND NEXT JULY.







BOYS ARE PLEASED

Australians View Meat Packing Methods Here.

LUMBER MILLS TO BE SEEN

Visitors Assert That They Expect to Discover That Facilities on Coast for Handling Timber Surpass Own Country,

keep up. boys were excerted through the Union select.
Mr. Vail and Mr. Bradley said that Stockyards and were entertained at a joyee

Australian Lumber Mills Lag. When they visit the lumber mills to-day they say they expect to find that Australia is entirely left behind. De-spite the large timber output of West Australia the manufacturing is done far inland while the by-products are



Western Union and of Bell Telephone Company, Who De-nies Merger of Phone Companies

merely burned. Owing to the fact that the output of an Australian mill is not by board measure, they expect to find it difficult to compare the relative amount of lumber handled. Their impressions of the hospitality they have received are more than

they have received are more than favorable. "Not since we arrived in America have we ever felt that we were not at home," they said. Simons' Illness Severe.

United States. If interpreted in the light of the Supreme Court decision it will protect the people's interest and not hurt business. If the law is bad and confined to his bed and fears are and confined to his bed and fear

has convinced them that Americans have a better time at school. In Australia, they say, there are no free schools beyond the grades; college and university being beyond the boy without means. Thus, a large percentage of the school life ends at the age of 15.

"Until we visited the school are the school of the school life ends at the age of 15.

age of 15.

"Until we visited the plant of the Union Meat Company we imagined that every American meat works was on the line Sinclair depicted in The Jungle, said one of the party yesterday. "So our first favorable impression was the cleanliness everywhere

sion was the cleanliness everywhere, shown.
"It is true, as many of our boys have told you, that the works of the Geer Meat Company in Petone, N. Z., which we visited, are larger, but the Geer managers told us they did everything on the American plan. I cannot imagine a finer educational feature for young Australians than an exhibition such as we received today."

young Australians than an exhibition such as we received today."

The Geer concern packs about 30,000 pounds of meat a day. When a large drive of stock was made and they desired to kill ahead, they handled 700 cattle and 3000 sheep in a day, the lads declared.

Including the famous bush "coose"

That Australia has much to teach America in the handling, killing and packing of sheep and cattle is the opinion of the Australian boys, who visited the plant of the Union Meat Company at Kenton yesterday. The boys were excerted through the Union Stockyards and were entertained at a loyed. The performance will be related to the party over the city.

Including the famous bush "coose" gon and Portland. Monroe Goldstein, a member of the Portland lodge, has tendered the free use of all the Winton automobiles required to conduct the party over the city.

Hiberians Welcome Suilivan.

Members of the Ancient Order of Hiberians will tender Mr. Suilivan a respect tonically and the party over the city. peated tonight at the Washington High School auditorium.

\$190,000 NECESSARY IS

President Homan Says This Will Complete \$500,000 Endowment.

Fletcher Homan, of Willamette University, and R. A. Booth, of Eugene, were visitors at the official board meeting and quarterly conference of Taylor Street Methodist Church last night. President Homan told of the efort being being made to raise to \$500,000 endow ment for the university; \$199,000 being needed. "We hope Portland will round out \$82,000 of this." he said.

The quarterly conference indorsed a suggestion made at the Portland General Ministerial Association meeting yesterday morning by Dr. Benjamin Young that Gipsy Smith be brought again to Portland two years hence. Numerous comments were made on the

The deaconesses reported they found more destitution this Thanksgiving than at any time since they have been working for the poor of the city.

It is probable the Junior League will be renewed at the next years! conplanned that it shall cover the

It is planned that it shall cover the same ground as the Junior League. Dr. Young's salary has been increased from \$3500 to \$3600.

The project of building a two-stoff addition at the rear of the church, 14 by 28 feet, at a cost of from \$3000 to \$3500, was referred to the finance committee.

VICTOR RECORDS

Make pleasing presents. Our Victor parlors are open evenings for the convenience of our many customers. Sherman, Clay & Co., Morrison at Sixth.

Soloman Leads in Pool Contest. Henry Soloman, holder of the pool and three-cushion billiard champion-ship of the Northwest, led in his first night's play against Challenger Draper in the 600-point continuous pool mara-thon last night at the Acma billiard

ELK CHIEFTAINS TO ARRIVE TODAY

Grand Exalted Ruler Sullivan and Aides Come to Make Convention Plans.

HOTEL TO BE SELECTED

Round of Entertainment Is Arranged for Big Lodgemen-Party Will Be Dined Tonight-Hibernians to Greet Herd Leader.

Four of the highest officials of Elkdom will be in Portland today to make preliminary arrangements grand lodge reunion to be held in Portland next July at which 50,000 members of the order from all parts of the country will be the guests of the Port-

land lodge.

Colonel John P. Sullivan, of New Orleans, grand exalted ruler, accompanied by Mrs. Sullivan and Fred C. Robinson, of Dubuque, Ia., grand secretary, will arrive on the Shasta Limited this afternoon. They will be preceded by ternoon. They will be preceded by Thomas B. Mills, of Superior, Wis., and Carey L. Applegate, of Salt Lake City, grand trustees, who will arrive this morning. The entire party will be quartered at the Portland Hotel.

Dozen to Greet Them. K. K. Kubil, exalted ruler of Portland odge, with the members of the convenlodge, with the members of the convention commission, consisting of Ralph E. Moody, D. Solis Cohen, Dr. Harry F. McKay, Gus C. Moser, David M. Dunne, Sol Blumauer, Joseph H. Deitz, John Burgard, George L. Baker and W. O. Van Schuyver and Harry C. McAllister, secretary, will meet Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Robinson at the Union Depot. Mr. Mills and Mr. Applegate spent yesterday at Spokane. They will hold a conference with Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Robinson at the Portland Hotel this afternoon. tel this afternoon.

The programme for tonight calls for a dinner party at the Imperial Hotel, attended by the visiting officials, officers of the Portland lodge and the members of the convention commission. The visitors will attend the regular meeting of the convention of the convent meeting of the commission, after which an informal reception and entertain-ment will be given at the Elks clubrooms. The house committee has pre-pared an excellent programme for the

Press Club Invited.

Exalted Ruler Kubli yesterday ex-tended an invitation to all the members of the Press Club, whether they are members of the lodge or not, to share in the festivities tonight and to meet the visiting officers. The Press Club had wanted to entertain them, but their had wanted to entertain them, but their time was too well taken up. Joe Tinker, noted member of the Chicago Cubs and a member of the Portland lodge, who is appearing at the Empress Theater this week, also will be present. Part of Wednesday will be devoted to an inspection of the four Portland hotels that are candidates for grand lodge headquarters during convention week—the Imperial, Multnomah, Oregon and Portland. Monroe Goldstein, a member of the Portland lodge, has tendered the free use of all the Winton automobiles required to conduct

o'clock Wednesday evening the p...
ber:
emaciation, and excentric steps, while Alice helps
centric steps, while Alice helps
centric steps, while Alice helps
centric steps, while Alice helps
derably.
Owen Wright has a hodge-podge of
imitations, not of people, or George M.
Cohan, but of whistles, saws, phonographs, etc. He makes his offering
more than novel and certainly it is interesting.

New Bills Open at the Vaudeville Houses

Orpheum.

IKE a hit-and-miss weaving is the Orpheum bill this week. Charles Semon, the narrow fellow, who looks like nothing so much as the skeleton of a shadow, returns with his Scotch be renamed at the next general con-ference, if local delegates' suggestions have weight. The deaconesses have or-ganized what they have termed Knights of Methodism, to take its place so far as Taylor-Street Church is concerned. It is playing that it, whell cover the had saved up on the several things that preceded him. Semon's act has been so good for so

long that naturally he just hates to change any of its funnyisms, therefore he hasn't, but it's one of those rare and ludicrous offerings one can with profit see "over and over again." "Bables a la Carte," reminiscent of

Baby Mine in its stealing of infants in order to fool a doting would-be-grandpa, is one of the big hits, Dorothy Rogers, comedienne, acts cleverly the role of a "lady friend," and later the pseudo wife of the gay bachelor whose losings on the races has forced him to lie to his father, telling that he has a wife and babies and needs coin He gets the coin and pa's arrival makes it necessary to get also the wife and babies. Suily Guard ably portrays the bachelor-husband. Billy Betts is the grandpa, and the real comedy of the whole show is put over by Carl Statzer as a dusky valet, who does very little "valetting" and a very great deal of laugh-making. As a finale a bunch of lively, crowing real babies is brought on and the house shows just how much it loves a baby.

Con Conrad and Jay Whidden are de-lightful entertainers, one busy at the plane and the other running with him neck-and-neck on the violin. Solely by means of their music these two tell stories, carry on conversation and even fling queries at the folk in the balcony. W. B. Patton, helped out by two peo-ple, a man and a maid, are sponsors for a comedy called "Apple Blossoms."

TAN RUSSIA

FEATURES

Overweight soles, special inlaid button stays and broad

pocket strap.

KNIGHT'S

is really of the hirsute raising sort.

A trio of comedian acrobats, Rice,
Sully and Scott, close the programme
with a series of remarkable stunts on WOMAN'S SUIT DEFECTIVE a trampoline and rebounding on ele vated bars.

BLACK VELVET

Empress.

EADING a bill of uniform merit at A the Empress is Joe Tinker, one of Portland's favorite disciples of the great American game. Tinker's entrance was hailed with delight and his monologue devoted entirely to baseball was received with deep interest. He accompanies his chat with the displaying of moving pictures of players beloved by fans, as was attested by the rounds of applause each picture brought forth. Views also of the recent world's series between Philadelphia and New York were shown. Tinker's remarks about former Portland players now in the major leagues brought enthusfastic demonstration, plainly indicative that baseball fans comprised a goodly part of last night's audience, anyway. Tinker appears in the uniform of the Chicago National League team, and has a mighty good stage presence, his enunciation being remarkably distinct. A big feature is Kara, which sounds like a cough syrup, and isn't. He is a juggling wizard, and wizard is correct. A dining-room surrounds Kara, and he plays merry hob with everything in it, balances the furniture on his nose and even juggles his clothes on and off. A the Empress is Joe Tinker, one of

on and off.
Two mirthful magnets are Jack Don-

and time will be allowed Thursday for that purpose. It is probable that the subject of business in addition to the selection of the headquarters hotel will demand considerable of their attention.

The regular session of Portland lodge will be held Thursday evening and the visiting officials, as well as all local and visiting Elks, are expected to be a subject to be subject to be subject to form and the subject

panies him with solo numbers.

Maude and Gill, acrobatic comedi ans, a lad and a lass, open the bill with a turn that is meritoroius.

ALL the acts were received with favor at Pantages yesterday. The bill starts off promisingly with Sandros brothers, who do an acrobatic turn and feats of strength. Swan and Bambard furnish the largest stock of fun with their sketch called "The Raw Recruit." Their patter is amusing. Harry Jenkins and Grace Covert give a witty sketch called "Just Married." It shows two young neonle having their first quaryoung people having their first qual rel, making up only to quarrel again. There are some bright lines in the piece and Jenkins sings one song that wins

the audience.
The Diamond Four, composed of Chris Sorenson, Will Hirst, Eddie Jacobie and

Sorenson, Will Hirst, Eddie Jacobie and Robert Richards, give a sketch called "Fun in the Schoolroom."

The programme is rounded out with Mile. Palmera and her company in a scenic production called "The Garden of Mystery." when a number of feats of magic are given. Many of these have been seen before, but have not been solved and there are others that are new and more mystifying.

are new and more mystifying.

The start of the moving pictures is sually the signal for a large propor tion of the audience to leave, but this week's offering kept these people in their seats. The film showed a troop of Portuguese cavalry going through a riders' test. They were called "cen-tauers" and the men seem literally part of the animals they ride, as they race across wide streams and up and down steep cliffs and embankments that one would never suppose a horse would attempt. The veteran picture-show pa-tron here found something that held his attention

"In Gay Paris" at the Lyric.

HERE is an hour's fun "In Gay Paris," this week's musical comedy at the Lyric Theater. There is just a suspicion of a plot, and now and then not even that, but that fact does not seem to interfere with the amuse-ment of the audience or detract from the efforts of the performers. is a desert no longer, now that it has been found that artesian water in unlimited quantities lies just below the surface, that they can grow fruit in comparison with Hood River, that the lumber supply is almost unlimited and that Australia, alone is 4000 square miles larger than the United States, they declare they are almost thought Munchausena.

This evening the boys will really conclude their visit here with a performance at the auditorium of Washington High School.

The home life to which the Australians have been introduced in America.

Is a desert no longer, now that it has been found that artesian water in unlimited and limited and limited and the surface, that they can grow fruit in comparison with Hood River, that the sulling and only sparticularly interesting and o

in a truly daredevil manner. This act pany doing an imitation of Sousa's chosen officials are: Charles R. Price, is really of the hirsute raising sort. | Band.

KNIGHT SAYS: "The foot in the day is larger than in the -AND KNIC night-this partly accounts for the foot is RIGHT being most admired in the (K) night."

THE KNIGHT

BACHELOR GIRL SHOE

New York's Latest Novelty

This Stunning, Chic Shoe We Have in Four Styles

All the Real, Smart Girls Will Wear the KNIGHT BACHELOR GIRL SHOES This Season

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

GUN M. CALF

Breach of Promise Case Fails to State Woman Asked to Marry.

Because the complaint did not allege that the defendant had ever asked the plaintiff to marry him, while it ex-pressed her willingness to become Mrs. Thompson at any time, Judge Gatens yesterday sustained a demurrer to the complaint of Helen M. Goodeve, who is suing R. Henry Thompson, Jr., for \$50,-900, alleging breach of promise to marry. The defendant is a son of R.

marry. The defendant is a son of R. Henry Thompson, one of the heirs of the R. R. Thompson estate.

The judge, however, ruled that Judge Rufus Mallory, appearing for Miss Goodeve, should be given an opportunity to remedy his previous oversight by submitting an amended complaint wherein one of the sallent points will be the allegation that Mr. Thompson asked Miss Goodeve to become Mrs. Thompson and that she consented.

Knights of Rose Elect.

Knights of the Rose of Home Court No. 1 last night held election of officers at their assembly hall at Second and Morrison streets. Public installation of officers will be held next Monday night, followed by a dance. The newly-

commander; F. E. Watson, lleutenant-commander; G. J. Scheibe, chaplain; C. T. Fredrick, financial secretary;

WHITE DUCK

FANCY FOOTWEAR

Knight carries more fancy Shoes

and Slippers than any other dealer in Portland.

Morrison at Seventh

Tull & Gibbs' Building

C. T. Fredrick, infancial sections, Ludwig Klug, recording searctary; E. McCoy, page of the white rose; E. W. Gubser, page of the red rose; C. C. Feters, inher guard; Ernest Kronke, outer guard. The outgoing commander, Dr. A. K. Higgs, will take the station of past commander. EVARS' BAIL CUT DENIED

Philomath Banker Pleads Not Guilty to Second Indictment.

CORVALLIS, Or., Dec. 4 .- (Special.) -A petition to reduce the \$20,000 ball of James Evars, charged with irregularities in the conduct of the First State Bank of Philomath, was refused by Judge Harris in the Circuit Court

here today. Evars' attorney asked that the ball be cut to \$10,000, which he said his client would be able to furnish.

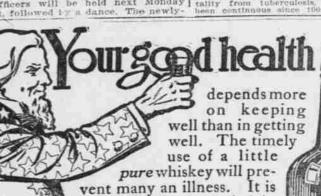
Evars pleaded not guilty to the second charge of the grand jury. His trial has been postponed until a data in January on account of the lliness of Attorney Fowler, of Portland, who is conducting the case for the defense.

An interesting fact brought out in the annual report of the registrar-general for Ireland is the continued decrease in the mortality from tuberculosis, which has now been continuous since 1998.

SOTTLED O IN BON

GUCKENHEIME

Pure Rye Whi



ness, fatigue or accident. No home is quite complete without a bottle of

Good old GUCKENHEIMER Pure Rye BOTTLED IN BOND

Since 1857, the Standard Rye Whiskey of America.

Rothchild Bros., Distributors, Portland, Or.

invaluable in case of sick-

That's Easy!

Easy to get; easy to prepare; easy to eat and digest-everything is easy about the use of

Cambrelli Soups

They offer you a pleasing variety to choose from-something different and good, for every day; always pure, palatable and satisfying; and ready "in a minute" with no drudgery nor fuss.

Order a dozen. Keep them on hand; see how they will lighten the daily grind for you.



21 kinds 10c a can Bouillon Or Tail
Celery Pea
Chicken Gumbo (Okra) Printanier
Clam Bouillon Tomato
Clam Chowder Tomato-Okra
Consonwer Vegetable

Mulligatawny Mutton Broth Ox Tail

Look for the red-and-white label