

### CITY BEATS BOSTON AS LOVER OF BOOKS

#### Portland Central Library Circulates 74,000 More Volumes Than Famed Hub.

#### 44.8 PER CENT IS GAIN

#### Miss Mary F. Isom Reads Report at Annual Meeting of Association. New Building to Be Adequate for Quarter-Century.

Portland's central public library has been circulating more books, according to the annual report of the library, than any other city in the world. In 1910 the circulation of the central public library in Boston was 271,547. Portland's central library circulated 222,423 books in 1910 and 271,564 volumes during the fiscal year ending October 31, 1911, according to the report of Miss Mary F. Isom, the librarian, read at the annual meeting of the Portland Library Association, in the art room of the library last night.

The central library, branch libraries, and city and county schools circulated last year a total of 877,773 volumes. These were as follows: Sellwood branch, 24,757; Albina, 28,822; East Portland, 24,180; North Albina, six months, 14,165; sub-branches and depot stations, 128,622; city schools, 155,444; county schools, 12,754.

**44.8 Per Cent Gain Shown.**  
The circulation last year was an increase of 243,887 volumes or 44.8 per cent over the previous year. The gain not including the school department circulation, was 184,423 volumes, or 42.2 per cent. The per capita circulation for the county was 2.48, based on the 1910 census population of 207,214. At the central library, there are 33,628 book borrowers; at Sellwood, 1507; at Albina, 2915; at East Portland, 3295; and North Albina, 854, or a total of 42,914, not including the school children obtaining books through the schools.

W. E. Ayer, president of the Library Association, reported the sale of the present library building on Stark street and the purchase of the block at Yamhill, Taylor, Tenth and Eleventh streets. The present building will be retained two years. The new library will become the property of the county. Approximately \$400,000 will be available for the new main building and \$250,000 for stocks and furnishings.

**Carnegie's Gift Reported.**  
Miss Isom mentions in her report the rebuilding of the East Portland branch and of the gift of \$100,000 by Andrew Carnegie for building three new branches.

"On May 1," says the report, "the North Albina sub-branch was accorded full branch privileges and moved into larger quarters on Albina avenue, near Killingsworth. In the same month three new sub-branches were opened. One, however, was not a success, and was discontinued a few months later. "The playground system of the city perfected its organization last summer, and the library welcomed the opportunity of co-operating with that splendid movement. Stories were told weekly in the seven playgrounds and the library committee of the playground only, and 299 were drawn by the children during July and August. This granty movement is being taken to the Kentworth playground in the coming summer. The five playgrounds remaining are all situated near branches or sub-branches."

**Quarters Are Compared.**  
The year in the central building has been practically one of marking time, as it is impossible to initiate new departments under the existing conditions. "In November the fines for overdue books were reduced from 5 cents to 2 cents. The change was appreciated, and the good feeling produced more than compensates for the added labor and expense. The requirement of reorganization of a member's books in years, instead of two, is another change that has met with approval. "A more adequate reference collection upon the subject of books has been needed. Books have been ordered to meet this demand, and the library has appreciated the help and suggestions of the library committee of the Oregon Society of Engineers in preparing the list. To meet the lack of shelf-room, many volumes not in boxes and stored in the basement.

**RECEPTION WILL BE HELD AT CLUB FRIDAY AFTERNOON.**  
The foreign language collection has been increased by the purchase of Hungarian, Bohemian and Lithuanian languages. "There were 27 deposit stations in operation during the past year, at the stations at Palmer, Hurlburt, Multnomah and at the East Side branch of the Y. W. C. A. have now been discontinued. A new station has been installed on Government Island. A station has been established in the telephone exchange at Corbett, in answer to the petition of farmers living east of the Sandy River."

The treasurer's report shows receipts of \$109,964.42 during the fiscal year, and disbursements of \$94,137.01.

### POLICE CHIEF "TOUCHED"

#### Special "Cop" Says Vagrant Begged Price of Bed and Got It.

"When a vagrant at Third and Oak streets appealed to Chief of Police Slover Tuesday night for enough money to purchase a night's lodging, he received it without comment from the surprised chief. The vagrant was sent to the Chief of Police as a joke by a special policeman to whom he first applied. Chief Slover was talking with a special policeman on the corner when the vagrant tried to "touch" another special for the price of a bed. The special refused him, but said: "See that short man with the glasses over there? That's a rich fellow and he'll give you the money."

The vagrant slouched over to the short man with the glasses, not knowing he was the Chief of Police. "Can you lend a fellow a little money?" he asked the astonished police head. "I'm out of work and I haven't got the price of a bed."

Although Chief Slover denies that he ever saw the man or that he was touched, the special policeman says that the Chief dug down into his pockets and gave up the asked-for coin.

### THESE ARE NOT REQUIRED

Pacific University Establishes System of Graduation Honors.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Forest Grove, Or., Dec. 12.—(Special).—The thesis re-

quirement for degrees at Pacific University is now a law of the past. The requirement, in its old form, the institution itself and the decision was reached after a thorough consideration by the faculty.

The late Harvey W. Scott wrote the first thesis presented to the faculty, in 1863. To take the place of the undergraduate thesis, the faculty has adopted the plan of graduation honors, which goes into effect with the present senior class. The abandoning of the thesis system is the result of a signed petition presented to the faculty by the senior class. The graduate honor system is fashioned after the plan at Harvard. The work is aside from the regular course leading to a degree and is not compulsory, as was the thesis. The rules adopted are, in part:

"Of the major work required to be chosen by each student not later than the beginning of his junior year; at least three hours must be done in the senior year, in a course of courses approved by the head of the department in which the work is to be taken. "All students who desire to try for graduation honors must, before the end of the junior year, file with the registrar a statement of the department or departments in which they desire to do the work."

"The work for graduation honors is apart from and in addition to the present requirements for degrees and unrelated to the present system of grading degrees."

### PHIL METSCHAN, SR., ILL

#### PROPRIETOR OF IMPERIAL HOTEL LONG UNCONSCIOUS.

#### Acute Indigestion Causes Severe Attack, but Physician Says Danger Is Past.

Phil Metschan, Sr., proprietor of the Imperial Hotel, was critically ill at his apartment for 24 hours and it was not until late last night that the attending physician pronounced him out of danger and so notified his family.

Tuesday night he was entertained at the home of his son at dinner and returning to the hotel about 9 o'clock complained of his limbs being weak, but he went up to his room. Mr. Metschan is in California and he expected to join her next week. While alone in his room he became ill suddenly and went to the bathroom. There he became unconscious and remained in that condition until after being found in the morning at 8 o'clock. At the time it was feared that he had suffered a slight stroke of paralysis, but now it has been determined that he was suffering with an acute attack of indigestion.

Late last night Dr. Homer L. Keeney, his physician, announced that Mr. Metschan was out of danger and was able to converse with those about him. The news of his illness quickly spread throughout the city, and was received by his many friends with expressions of regret and soon the accounts of his condition became greatly magnified and by some even his death was reported.

Mr. Metschan is perhaps one of the most widely known men in Oregon. For two terms he was State Treasurer, being elected from Grant County.

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### PRESS WILL BE HOST

#### RECEPTION WILL BE HELD AT CLUB FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

#### Newspaper Men Will Keep Open House in Comfortable Quarters for General Public.

The Portland Press Club will hold open house to its great friend, the general public, tomorrow afternoon. The club, its wives and sweethearts and children, are cordially invited to visit the quarters in the Elks' building. No cards of invitation will be issued, it being the intention to have the affair informal in the extreme. During the past year and a quarter, which is all the existence the club has had, the institution has been the recipient of many favors from its friends, and tomorrow the club will in some measure undertake to show its appreciation.

"All week the house committee and Generalissimo Li Hung Chang, who gained great renown by being carded in the Press Club program, have been at work furnishing and refurbishing the rooms. The curtains have been washed, the carpets swept and the piano tuned, the which, by the way, is what principally, in the eyes of the gentler sex, constitutes getting ready for an important function. The entertainment committee has also bent its best efforts to making the afternoon a great success, and although it has refused to tell what is to be expected, it can be taken as assured that it will be well worth seeing. The ladies who have been asked to receive the guests are: Mrs. E. Vincent, Mrs. E. B. Piper, Mrs. C. S. Jackson, Mrs. Lute Pease, Mrs. E. A. Beale, Mrs. Charles N. Ryan, Mrs. Paul E. Kelly, Mrs. D. F. Morrison, Mrs. John Kelly, Mrs. Carl S. Kelly, Mrs. John T. Douglass, Mrs. E. N. Hynd, Mrs. O. C. Merrick, Mrs. W. P. Strandberg, Mrs. Frank J. McGinnis, Mrs. John L. Travis, Miss Leone Cass Bear, Miss Luella Clay Harrison, Miss A. V. Lobell, Miss Eleanor Cannon and Miss Amanda Otis.

President Names Consuls.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—President Taft today sent to the Senate nominations for Foreign Consuls, including Rea Hanna, of San Francisco. His post is to be Georgetown, British Guiana.

### MME. CURIE CITED IN DIVORCE ACTION

#### Wife of Professor Langevin Files Suit, Demanding Custody of Children.

#### HUSBAND'S LETTERS HELD

#### Wife Seeking Decree Says She Will Withdraw Criminal Complaint Only in Event That Separation Is Granted by Court.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The name of Mme. Curie, the discoverer of radium, and one of the most eminent professors of chemistry at the College of France, was cited today in a petition filed in the divorce court by the wife of Professor Langevin, also a professor of general and experimental physics at the College of France. Mme. Langevin asks in her petition for separation and the custody of her husband's children. She also claims separate maintenance on the ground of her husband's alleged misconduct.

**Langevin Opposes Petition.**  
Professor Langevin, through his lawyer, entered opposition to the form of the petition. Mme. Langevin's lawyer submitted documents containing letters alleged to have passed between Mme. Curie and Professor Langevin, which he contends prove "grave injuries," this term meaning either physical violence or marital infidelity.

Maitre Coudry announced in court that if a separation (which becomes a divorce in France at the end of three years) is granted, Mme. Langevin will withdraw her criminal complaint, which she brought against Professor Langevin and Mme. Curie. Otherwise, she would let that allegation take the ordinary course.

**Letters Taken Surprisingly.**  
The letters cited by Mme. Langevin's lawyer include all those which Mme. Langevin removed surreptitiously from an apartment where her husband is said to have constantly met Mme. Curie, and it is hinted they show that relations of great intimacy existed, while it is said they disclose the attempt made by Mme. Curie to separate Professor Langevin from his wife.

#### PACIFIC AFTER \$100,000

#### College at Newberg Plans to Increase Its Endowment.

NEWBERG, Or., Dec. 12.—(Special).—Pacific College is launching a campaign for an addition of \$100,000 to its endowment, the board having taken that action at a special session last night. President Pennington is to withdraw from all classroom work at the college, but will continue to take the lead in this campaign, but will not retire from his executive duties as head of the school. An additional teacher will be employed to take his place in the teaching force. This campaign, following the completion of the new brick and stone building last year, is regarded as an indication of the new life that the college is experiencing. The attendance is larger this year than ever before and the proposed addition to the endowment will put the school in a position for a work that it has never before been able to do. A year is being added to the academy course and with this advance the requirement for graduation becomes considerably in excess of the amount given in the requirements for the standard college.

### BOSTON HAILS ROOSEVELT

#### New Hampshire Governor Urged to Speak at "Progressive" Meet.

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—"Holy smoke," Colonel Theodore Roosevelt exclaimed today as he looked down from a State-street building, where he was attending the regular monthly meeting of the board of overseers of Harvard College, upon a crowd of 6000 enthusiasts who had left their business to catch a glimpse of the ex-President. A few minutes later, as the Colonel was leaving the structure, there was a deafening din of cheers. As the ex-President entered an automobile, he acknowledged the greetings, but requests for a speech met with a decisive negative.

After a conference today with political leaders calling themselves "progressive," Republicans, Colonel Roosevelt admitted having urged Governor Robert F. Bass, of New Hampshire, to speak at the "progressive" party can meeting here on Saturday evening and expressed his pleasure that Rev. Samuel M. Crothers, of Cambridge, would preside.

### AL KADER TEMPLE ELECTS

#### W. C. Bristol Is Chosen Potentate at Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of Al Kader Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, was held last night at the Masonic Temple. The following were elected: Potentate, W. C. Bristol; chief rabban, D. G. with; Oriental guide, W. E. Grace; with; Oriental guide, W. S. Grace; treasurer, W. A. Cleland; recorder, B. G. Whitehouse. Representatives to the Imperial council—R. D. Cannon, George F. Robertson, W. C. Bristol and William Davis. The present membership of the shrine is 1667. The consideration of new by-laws was postponed until Saturday, December 23.

### MISS PULTZER BRIDE SOON

#### Marriage License Issued for Wedding of Late Publisher's Daughter.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—A license to wed has been issued to Edith Louise Pultzer, daughter of the late Joseph Pultzer and William Scofield Moore, son of Clermont Clark Moore. The wedding, which will be held at the Pultzer residence December 21, will be a quiet affair because of the recent death of Mr. Pultzer.

### Vancouver Fire Rates Readjusted.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 12.—(Special).—Insurance rates in this city are being readjusted by T. C. Craig and three assistants representing the Western Insurance Rate Bureau, of Seattle.

### What Will It Be?

LOOKING over our varied stock of HIGH-GRADE JEWELRY, CUT GLASS, SILVERWARE, LEATHER GOODS, etc., you will surely find something to meet your fancies.

COME in and allow us to help you make your CHRISTMAS selections. We will not urge you to buy, but will, if you desire, offer suggestions which will make buying easy.

HOWEVER fastidious your tastes, you will find here articles of ornamentation and utility. Seal your friendship closer by giving your friends presents of merit.

We are showing a better stock than ever this holiday season.

### L. C. HENRICHSEN CO.

Est. 1861  
284 Washington, Near Fourth

### Dr. Lyon's PERFECT Tooth Powder

is prepared by a practical dentist who knows what is best for the teeth

### NEW YEAR'S FETE SET

#### PORTLAND HOTELS AND GRILLS DECIDE ON DECEMBER 30.

#### Managers Hold Conference With Chief Slover—Lid Will Be Put Down Tight, Is Said.

New Year's eve in Portland will not be celebrated Sunday, December 31, but on Saturday, December 30, that is, of course, from a hotel and grill standpoint. Representatives of the various establishments involved held a meeting yesterday to consider whether to observe Saturday or Monday as New Year's eve. It was decided, as one of them expressed it, that there would be too much of a "hold-over" feeling in the air Monday, place on it to be celebrated.

First of all there was an informal discussion with the Chief of Police. And the result of the informal discussion was the informal information that on as metaphorically tight as possible, on as metaphorically tight as possible. That means that the bars which pertain to every grill will close with the last minute of Saturday. In mere point of fact, they will close about three minutes of 12 for clocks are always kept a minute or so fast, to avoid possible delay in removing from the premises those desirous of continuing their celebrations.

The dining-rooms will close at 1 A. M., as will be the case last New Year's eve.

"Will the celebration be as lively as possible?" was asked one of the hotel representatives. "Well, er, shall aim to make it as nice as possible," was the reply. "It is more than faintly rumored that in certain of the grills there will be a wine restriction. That is, unless those reserving tables guarantee to consume a certain quantity of champagne or other refreshment of a similarly pleasing and expensive kind, their applications for tables for the evening will be tabled."

The hotel and grill men scout this rumor. They declare that reservations will be made as fast as they come in and that it will be a case of first come first served—the reservations, not the champagne.

The message did not consider variations from accepted conduct to be possible, for it seemed to be generally understood that canons of good taste would be apt to vary on an occasion like New Year's eve.

The hotels having representatives at the meeting were the Portland, Oregon, Bowers, Imperial and Carlton and the grills at the Louvre and Hofbrau.

### CHRISTMAS SPIRIT BUSY

#### PETTY OFFENDERS TO BE ALLOWED PARDONS,

#### Council, Clubs and Charitable Organizations Are Seized With Desire to Give Joy.

Spook in the Christmas spirit has been taken heavily by Portland residents the last few days, and so far there is no indication of the certificates being issued in any limited number. The City Council presented four men with pardons as a unique form of Christmas present and Councilman Monks remarked that any man who is in jail for committing a petty offense should be given a pardon if he wants it.

The Portland Ad Club took one big block of stock when they informed Postmaster Merrick that all letters addressed to Santa Claus would be taken care of by their members so that the little Whitties and Marys should not find themselves forgotten entirely. To the surprise of the club, the Postmaster informed it that it could only have a portion of the letters, as several charitable organizations and two Portland newspapers were already acting in the capacity of Santa Claus.

Then the Church of the Interdenominational, 123 Russell street, has arranged to supply all needy people with food and clothing, supplies being distributed during Christmas week. Mrs. Isabel Russell, pastor, however, wants to sell some of her stock in the Christmas spirit, and she asks that

### XMAS GIFTS WORTH WHILE

Go to Eilers Music House immediately today and get one of the latest Hornless Talking Machines and Records—10 cents a day. We have just received a new shipment and include them all in the great \$22.80 combination offer. THIS LATEST HORNLESS MACHINE (cut does not do it justice), and 24 selections of records, all for \$22.80 cash, or on payment of TEN CENTS A DAY. Order now—this lot will not last long.



All Departments of Our Store Will Be Open Evenings Until Xmas. Now is the time to obtain one of these marvelous hornless Talking Machines. As an ideal Christmas present it has no equal, and will be a pleasant daily reminder for many years to come. It is a strong educational influence, as well as a most delightful source of entertainment. Twenty-four selections with each machine. Sent on three days' free trial to any home. Will refund money to any purchaser not pleased with instrument. Made in mahogany, quarter-sawn oak and fumed oak, with highest grade of piano finish. Largest-sized turntable—triple-spring motor—plays six pieces with one winding—concealed sound chamber—hornless type—modulating doors—produces tone absolutely lifelike. Price \$59 cash, or \$7 cash and \$4 monthly.



In the new Eilers Building. Seventh and Alder Streets.

The Nation's Largest

Ranek as Receiver of the Vancouver Land Office, Senator Jones having occurred in the recommendation of Senator Poindexter.

### OLD VIRGINIA ANTIQUE FURNITURE CO.

131-133 Tenth Street, Near Alder.

Are selling their entire stock of rare and valuable Antiques, comprising Colonial, Chippendale, Adams, Sheraton, Hepplewhite and Dutch Marquetry Furniture, superb Vases, rare old China, Sheffield Plate, Brasses, Mirrors, Clocks, Paintings, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM HEADQUARTERS ARE THAT EVERY ARTICLE MUST BE SOLD AT ONCE, ABSOLUTELY REGARDLESS OF COST.

### CASH PRIZES

EVERY WEEK FOR ARTICLES ON "HOW WE WON OUR HOMES"

The Portland Realty Board invites the homeowners of Portland and vicinity to enter an essay contest for the best articles on the general topic, "How We Won Our Homes," and offers the following prizes each week: FIRST PRIZE, \$25; SECOND PRIZE, \$10; THIRD PRIZE, \$5.

The articles should deal with actual, concrete personal experiences of home-winning and home-building, setting forth, step by step, the progress toward the achievement, from the time of making the first payment on a lot or acreage to the realization of the ambition. It is not necessary that homes be entirely paid for. Articles will appear in The Sunday Oregonian. Photographs are desirable, but will not be considered in awarding prizes. The right is reserved of running in The Sunday Oregonian stories not awarded prizes. The following simple directions should be observed:

1. Articles should not be more than 800 words in length.
2. The writer should be a bona fide homeowner, or the member of a homeowner's family.
3. Write on one side of paper only.
4. Sign writer's correct name and address.
5. Mail articles to City Editor of The Oregonian.
6. Prizes will be awarded Thursday of each week.

### Free Music Lessons

Cut this out. Take it to Graves Music Co. and arrange to receive a full term of free music lessons. Select your own teacher.

### Graves Music Co.

111 Fourth St.