

RAILROADS MOST HOMELESS MEN

O.-W. R. & N. Officials Meet 1708 at Ash-Street Dock at Third Christmas Dinner.

NEW BONDS ARE FORMED

Approach and Steamer Hassalo, Where Meal Is Served, Are Decorated and Ad Club Quartet Sings - Guests Get Pipes.

Creed, color, nationality or politics had no place on Ash-street dock yesterday. Where the official staff of the O.-W. R. & N. Company held forth as hosts to 1708 men.

The dinner was to have started at 11 o'clock, but the time was advanced half an hour because men had been gathering on the dock since early morning.

It was the first Christmas dinner the company arranged. The company arranged, the quantity of the food, decorations and spirit of the gifts it offered in no way differ from the same careful preparations.

From Front street the approach was fringed in fir trees and in the big waiting-room of the dock was a small forest, while other decorations were abundant.

There an organ was used advantageously by the O. W. R. & N. and from the moment the first crowd was admitted until the last man walked through the big south doors on his way to the steamer Hassalo, where the tables were, music was heard.

Classics, songs, popular melodies and those of sacred and homely tune and those of a repertoire which brought forth applause. In that crowd were men who undisturbedly carried back to their day at home by the selections, as many countenances turned toward the singers showed only too plainly their emotions as the songs of long ago were sung.

J. D. Farrell, president of the O.-W. R. & N., and J. O'Brien, president and general manager, William McMurray, general passenger agent, E. R. Budd, superintendent of the Oregonian, and fifth division; Curtis Sutherland, assistant to the general manager; Superintendent Morrison, of the dining car and hotel department; Charles E. Wells, agent for the San Francisco and Portland fleet and in most cases men under them were in the line of the hand-shaking and congratulatory.

Captain Purser Van Horn, of the Harvest Queen, and Ed Miller, dock agent, were there to assist in getting the lines of men in motion, with Harbormaster Spieler and his entire staff. A few of the officers assigned to the central station also were on duty, though not for administering one or two unsteady guests their cares were not serious.

Aboard the Hassalo, Capt. B. W. Henson who has been steward of the steamer T. J. Potter for years and at other seasons is in charge of the crack line of the Hassalo, and who had his hands full, as more than 170 men were fed at each sitting.

"To be clean, to be honest, to be temperate and to be industrious," was a resolution Archbishop Christie asked his flock to adopt.

"I know work is scarce," he said. "I am today looking after 400 orphans, of course with the assistance of others throughout the state, and the sisters who care for them receive no recompense but their livelihood. The priests under me at the cathedral, though they were on duty until midnight and were abroad again at 5 o'clock this morning, receive the munificent sum of \$25 a month."

"Do not think that these men who are entertaining you today, who hold positions of trust and honor, do not labor for their livelihood. I am harder than you and I in looking after this great system. If any man exceeds the most labor and I am not special. Financially you are in a serious condition. But what is the cause? Why are we here enjoying the hospitality of the corporation? Why are we here, who are destitute of worldly goods, but is the fault to be found with the corporation? Is it not rather our fault to a large extent?"

One man with worn-out shoes was re-upped and other cases of need were looked after. In the line of this case, also, a negro, and any number of Europeans, but all walked through the cheerful atmosphere on the same level.

FIVE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO SWAM IN WILLAMETTE RIVER YESTERDAY.



(1) Left to Right, Harry Bunnell, Miss Blanche Fisher, Miss Catherine Boye, Miss Marian Fisher and Charles Boye. (2) Miss Catherine Boye Just Before Taking Her Plunge.

yearly changes made. Logging camps are largely inactive this year. The idle stretch affords steambath owners opportunity to make repairs and so over vessels in preparation for the ensuing year and all look forward hopefully to Spring, which may mark the reopening of the entire Columbia River logging industry.

The Queen is operated throughout the year, as she is regarded best fitted for the work along the river and is more economical than either the Hassalo, which goes into service in the Spring as a rule and runs until Fall, or the sidewheel T. J. Potter, which plies during the summer season between Portland and Megler for the accommodation of North Beach patrons.

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Now that river conditions have improved and steambathmen feel that navigation is less hampered, some of the engaged in towing logs face an enforced tie-up owing to the season, as it is customary for the lumber plants to shut down about the time of the holidays so that machinery may be overhauled, inventories completed and

movements of vessels. PORTLAND, Dec. 25.—Arrived—Steamers from San Francisco, Dec. 25, 1914.

GRAIN FLEET EAR

Change of Wind May Bring in Many Squareriggers. STACKS OF WHEAT READY

Congestion on Dock Acute and Only Hope of Relief Lies in Appearance of Ships Which Soon May Reach Port.

Exporters, stevedores, longshoremen and all who have to do with the dispatch of grain ships were as appreciative yesterday of a change in weather conditions as many personal reminders were received for the watchful Observer Kellaher, at North Head, reported that a southwest wind was on, tuned at 18 miles an hour, which augured well for about a dozen sailers regarded as being held up by the weather.

The best feature for the workers is that even should all vessels looked for put in appearance and be loaded, there will yet be immense stacks of wheat remaining on docks.

As fast as the cereal goes down the chutes and by way of conveyors into the holds of vessels new shipments from the interior are unloaded from the front—about 15 to 20 cents each. The congestion is said to be unpleasantly acute and the only prospective relief is for the squareriggers, fleet of corn rollers into the river. On the other hand, the limited facilities at Linnton ballast docks for a large fleet make stevedores wish for the carriers to be rather than a fleet of floes so they may be handled there and moved into the harbor regularly.

Some Near Port Are Mentioned. Among those mentioned as reasonably close to close at hand are the Port Caledonia, which left Iquique October 25; the Castleton, from Antofagasta, which is known to be on the way, but the sailing date of which is in doubt. The cases of the Clackman, from Halls, Balla; the Celtic, from Antofagasta; the Birnie, from Coquimbo, and Klimenty, from Coquimbo, are similar.

The Denmark has been out from Antofagasta since October 27; the City of London, from Callao, since October 27; the Cambudon, from Iquique, since October 12. The Elavold got away from Copacabana October 27. The Kinross-shire from Honolulu November 21, the Cambuskenneth from Cape Horn, since October 27, the Karroo from Valparaiso October 28.

STEAMER SCHEDULE. DUE TO ARRIVE. Name, From, Date. Geo. W. Elder, San Francisco, Dec. 27. Hoanock, San Francisco, Dec. 27. Beaver, San Francisco, Dec. 27. Tuckan, San Francisco, Dec. 27.

NATIONAL THEATER TO SHOW ALCO AND ALLIANCE FEATURES. George H. Grombacher Announces the Opening of Service Tomorrow With Mabel Taliferro as Star.

The Progressive Investment Company of Portland, with offices in the Northwestern Bank building, is the direct Western representative of the All-American Alliance big play film programme.

George H. Grombacher of the above company has just returned to this city from New York, where he concluded arrangements to place the output of these two film-producing organizations exclusively in the National Theater, beginning tomorrow.

"The idea is a new one in film service," said Mr. Grombacher. "It means virtually that the National will bring the service direct from producing plant to exhibitor. We looked over the local theaters carefully and taking into consideration central location, seating capacity, ventilation, inviting comfort, and all the other superior attractions of the theater, decided to place our film play productions in the National."

"We have contracted the film rights to a large number of successful plays and novels. We have placed under contract also the exclusive of an extraordinary list of successful dramatic plays and novels, which are important, we have procured the services of a staff of photoplay directors who are no longer experiments, who have distinguished themselves in their field of specialized work."

"Our opening attraction at the National theater will be Mabel Taliferro in 'The Three of Us,' and I say, with out fear of contradiction, that it is a picture which has never been surpassed."

Good Things in Markets. WE have just passed Christmas, and incidentally, the trade done by the stores was simply marvelous. On Christmas eve one could scarcely push one's way through the market.

As apples are on the table at almost every household, large Winter Bannans apples can be had at 20 cents a dozen or \$1.00 a box. The very choicest may be had at 15 to 20 cents a dozen. Ganos bring from 45 to 55 cents and the Willow Twig variety, 85 cents a box.

GIRLS TAKE ICY DIVE

Three Swim in Frigid River in Christmas Day Frolic. WATER IS NEAR FREEZING

Two Men Make First Plunge to Test Out Temperature for Others and All Enjoy Fun for Short While—None Fear Cold.

In spite of the fact that ice still fringes the edges of the river and that the water's temperature was just one degree above freezing, three girls yesterday participated in a Christmas swim at the Willamette Mooring Club.

The swimmers were Miss Blanche Fisher, 17; Miss Marian Fisher, 13; Miss Catherine Boye, of 1577 Virginia street; Charles Boye, of 533 East Third street; and Harry Bunnell, of the Willamette Mooring Club.

Candy Wager Prompts Swim. Miss Boye, it is said, had wagered a box of candy that she would swim in the Willamette River on Christmas day. To win the wager, she went to the Mooring Club yesterday and the two Misses Fisher declared they would take the dip with her.

Following the two weeks of freezing weather, and ice encrusted the river banks. Scarcely dainty by the gloomy prospects or by the thermometer, which showed that the water was within one small degree of the ice point, the girls and two men prepared for their plunge.

Boye and Bunnell climbed to the roof of the Fisher houseboat and plunged into the river. At their had no inclination to float about idly. But they came out glowing and laughing.

Both Are Experts in Water. The Fisher girls are daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Orton F. Fisher, who are living all winter in their houseboat at the Mooring Club because of their daughters' love for aquatic sports. Un-til the middle of November the Misses Fisher and Harry Bunnell took a daily dip in the river.

Miss Blanche Fisher, 17 years old, is a student in the Lincoln High School. Last week she won the second prize at Pantages Theater in the fancy diving contest.

Miss Marian Fisher, only 13 years old, last summer accomplished the remarkable feat of swimming from the Young Tack Island, a distance of three miles, in two hours and four minutes. Both of the Fisher girls are pupils of Miss Adeline Schloth, matron of the Young Women's Christian Association.

Marine Notes. It was 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon when Capt. Beaver, of the "Big Three" line, ploughed the waters of San Francisco past Meigs Wharf, making the run from the mouth of the Columbia River in 48 hours and slightly over 48 hours from Portland. She left here soon after 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and sailed from the river at 4 o'clock Wednesday morning.

After loading wheat here for San Francisco, the steamer Daisy Putnam left the harbor yesterday afternoon for Westport to take on a deckload of lumber. The steamer Shoshone finished discharging general cargo and proceeded to Grays Harbor for lumber.

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Yout Holiday Baking. Crescents Baking Powder. It raises the dough and makes light, tender and delicious cakes and pastry. 25c.

COOS BAY LINE. STEAMSHIP BREAKWATER. Sails from Astoria each Tuesday, P. M. every Tuesday. Freight and ticket office, lower Almsworth dock, P. O. Box 15, Astoria.

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