

LIQUOR SUPPLY IS DOWN TO DREGS

Purchaser Today Asks No Questions, but Takes Gratefully Whatever He Can Get.

HELP CALLS UNAVAILING

Saloon, Expecting to Have Goods to Ship Out January 1, Engaged in Grand Scramble to Get Supply for Final Days.

Students of economics are respectfully referred to the liquor situation here in Portland as an excellent example of what happens when demand exceeds supply.

One could realize as never before what terrible privations this prohibition law was going to inflict on the rich when it became known the other day that only 50 uncol cases of champagne were left in town.

But that was nothing, a mere nothing, to what has now come to pass. One could even control one's rage at the thought of a rich man's thirst, but when it comes, as it has come, to depriving the common people of their "licker" before the time, one would indeed be adamant one's blood did not boil, or make threatening movements in that direction.

The situation last night, in short, was this: The supply of whiskey has run so low that wholesale liquor dealers predicted many barrooms would be unable to see the old year out for lack of "ammunition."

All Details at Low Water Mark. Now will substitute for whiskey be available. The supply of its allied beverages, so to speak, such as gin and brandy, was run down to the dregs of the casks.

The saloonmen are appealing frantically to the wholesale liquor houses to relieve this condition. The wholesalers reply that little, if anything, can be done, because of the stampede of excited citizens, who have ordered everything in sight, to fill their cellars against the pangs of drought.

And it is a stampede, a veritable onslaught, spring drive, offensive, frontal smash, flank attack and cannonade hammered into one.

Nothing that has gone before has been more than a small affair of outposts or reconnaissance in force at most, to the tremendous assault on J. Barstow's dwindling reserves that began yesterday.

Suitcase Popular Companion. Never have the appurtenances of travel, such as the suitcase and the lowly grip, been so popular. Not that every man who carries a suitcase is about to travel either. Candor compels the statement that most of the men you see today with suitcases and grips are bound for the counting house from the nearest wholesale liquor store.

And they are not particular about what they take away, either. Not any more. A few weeks ago a man who wanted some such brand as Doodie's Old John Henry would stand and haggle fervently if offered something "just as good." Now he will take what he can get and ask no questions as to its age, origin or condition of manufacture.

Nearly all the saloons have gone, and those left are mighty little but liquor left, at that.

That is why the lamentations of the saloonmen are enough whiskey to see them through the last few days are unanswered. And yet at the same time there never was so much whiskey in Portland as there is now. The biggest most of it is stored away in the basements of the populace.

Saloonmen Are Surprised. "I never saw or expected anything like this," said one saloonman, "I never saw or expected anything like this," said John E. Kelly, proprietor of the Kelly family liquor store, as well as a receiver for the Lotus saloon. "I fully expected to have in ship out some goods after the first, but there will be nothing left to ship."

"I still have three cases of champagne left, but they will be snapped up any minute. Probably the most plentiful supply of liquor still on hand in the city is Cresta Blanca and Italian Swiss Colony wines, but they are going fast."

"As for whiskey—well I venture to say there are not 25 barrels of uncol whiskey in town right now. There is not enough whiskey left to run the saloons of the city for one week, not taking into account all the family trade, and that is the big thing now. I have been trying to get enough whiskey to supply the Lotus saloon, but I haven't had much luck so far."

Early Closings Likely. "In all probability the Lotus will be only one of many saloons that will have to close, at the very latest, early the evening of December 31. If they are lucky enough to keep in stock till then, we expect to close the Lotus at 8 or 9 o'clock."

"Some of the saloons may keep open to sell beer only, if they can get enough of that."

"The family demand for whiskies has been enormous. I have sold as many as five barrels in one day in the last few weeks, each barrel running from 48 to 45 gallons. This unprecedented family trade is the reason for the shortage in the saloons."

As a quart of whiskey contains 32 ounces and drinks are estimated to average about one and one-half ounces each, it will be seen that a few million drinks have been carefully laid aside by advocates of prohibition.

"No, there will not be enough whiskey left to carry the bars through," said C. H. Fox, secretary-manager of F. Zimmerman & Co., the largest mail-order liquor store on the Pacific Coast, which will remove to San Francisco on January 1.

"We have been besieged by saloonmen with requests for liquor, and they have complained bitterly at being turned down, but the simple truth is we haven't got it to give them. We won't have a bottle left to ship to San Francisco, and we had expected to have to ship a large part of our stock out of the state."

Long Career in Oregon Ends. "When we go out of business here on December 31, we will wind up our 48th year in Portland. It is my 33th year with the firm."

Joe Rothchild, of Rothchild Bros., said that orders had been coming in so fast that stock was almost exhausted. This firm has succeeded in getting an additional 125 cases of whiskey from Seattle, to be in today, but it is largely gone for already.

"We could have sold ten more cases of whiskey, 100 barrels, 3000 cases, if we had it in stock," said Joe Rothchild, of Rothchild Bros. "People who wait until the last minute to order will find not only that they will have only the leftovers to select from, but that they will have to pay high prices for them."

"Furthermore, there will be no deliveries on Friday. Those who buy their

will have to deliver the goods for themselves. Prices are already showing a tendency to go up. For instance, port wine that formerly went for \$1.75 a gallon is up to \$1 a quart in some instances.

ROAD BUDGET IS OPPOSED

Eugene City Council Takes Stand Against County Court.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Mayor Bell and members of the Council tonight unanimously expressed their opposition to the road budget as prepared by the County Court.

The budget provides for the collection of about \$4,000 in Eugene, Cottage Grove and Springfield, as a part of the general tax levy, but with the understanding that it is to be used for road purposes. The city is asked to ratify this action. A meeting with the county officials will be held tomorrow.

A law enacted by the last session of the Legislature provides that 70 per cent of the road levy be turned back to incorporated cities. To evade this provision the budget provides that the levy be made as a general levy.

Eugene Young Man Gets Lost in Big City.

Situation Becomes Embarrassing When Residents Seem to Know Little About the Place.

DOES Portland know itself? It does not, says a young man from Eugene, accustomed to ask questions.

"Where's the Dekum building?" he asked. "Don't know," responded a restaurant man scarcely a block distant.

"Where's the Perkins Hotel," he applied to a cigar dealer on a downtown corner.

"Diagonally across from the Oregon Hotel," maintained the tobacco man, even when the questioner appeared dubious.

"Let me off nearest 730 Ivon street," the conductor on a Waverly-Woodstock car was asked, but the stranger was put off at Ivon street, more than ten blocks from the house, where the car turned on Clinton and went within a block of the house.

"Where's the Fargo Hotel," the clerk in one of Portland's largest hotels was asked.

"Don't know," was the response. "Where's Hoyt street," the stranger asked another near the Union station.

"It's around here some place," was the reply. "I ought to know but I don't."

The questioner then discovered he was on Hoyt street.

NEW POSITION OFFERED

Superintendent Seymour Expects to Resign to Go to O. A. C.

DALLAS, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—H. C. Seymour, County School Superintendent, is reported, will resign about February 1 in order to accept appointment as a field worker for the Oregon Agricultural College.

Mr. Seymour is a Republican, and has held the office of County School Superintendent for three terms.

Through his individual efforts enthusiasm was created among Polk County students in the annual display at the school children's department of the county and state fairs. He has been closely identified with the work of the Dallas Commercial Club.

Among possible successors to Mr. Seymour are mentioned H. H. Parson, Supervisor in this county; Fred Crowley, of Wickreall; and Professor B. A. Veala, City Superintendent of Schools in Independence.

MR. WILSON HAS DOUBLE

D. J. Stewart, to Roseburg, Mistaken for President.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—To be mistaken for President Wilson is not an unusual experience for D. J. Stewart, of this city, who recently returned here from Portland, where he served as a member of the Federal Jury.

On a recent occasion when he was seated on the Oregon Belle Mr. Stewart says he was accosted by a party of 22 persons, who congratulated him on his approaching marriage. Several members of the party asked Mr. Stewart if he was accompanied by Mrs. Galt.

Mr. Stewart says he is beginning to wonder if he really resembles the President. Mr. Stewart returned to Portland today to resume his duties on the Federal Jury.

PRESS CLUB TO ENTERTAIN

Christmas Tree Party Will Be Held Wednesday Afternoon.

Portland's Press Club members will entertain their wives and friends Wednesday afternoon. There will be a Christmas tree in the clubroom parlors in the Elks' building, from which presents will be distributed for the juveniles.

Charles N. Ryan has announced some special entertainment and has provided for the serving of punch. The programme will begin at 2:30. A woman's reception committee has been named as follows: Mrs. Leslie M. Scott, Mrs. James H. McCook, Mrs. Stanhope Pierce, Mrs. Clarke Williams, Mrs. Horace Thomas, Mrs. L. E. Bakstet, Mrs. John L. Travis, Mrs. E. A. Beak, Mrs. F. E. Sullivan, Mrs. E. N. Blythe, Mrs. C. A. Johns and Mrs. Dan E. Powers.

CAMPAIGNERS MEET TODAY

Statewide Evangelistic Move Will Be Discussed at Y. M. C. A.

Final arrangements for the statewide evangelistic campaign to be launched December 31 will be made today at 12:15 o'clock at a meeting in the Young Men's Christian Association, Rev. W. O. Shook, general chairman of the movement, will preside. The evangelistic efforts will continue until January 27, when a "Join-the-church" Sunday will be held.

State Prisoners to Produce Play.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—The inmates of the Oregon Penitentiary will give their annual holiday entertainment next Thursday night in the auditorium of the prison. A comedy entitled "Terrible Tower" will be presented for the visitors, who will be charged admission. The funds derived from the show will be used for the benefit of the prisoners.

Caset Against County Set for Trial.

Circuit Judge Davis yesterday overruled the demurrer in the case of John W. Swenney against Jackson County, Oregon, and the United States National Bank of Portland, growing out of the construction of, and pay for, the Siskiyou road in Jackson County. The case was then set down for trial January 27 by Judge Davis.

DOOM OF MONASTIR SEEN BEFOREHAND

Symptoms of Disaster in Air of City as Anxious Ears Hear Roar of Cannon.

NEWS IS LIKE BOMBSHELL

Frankness of Final Announcement in Days of Equivocation More Startling Than Fact of Doom of Town Itself.

BY JOHN T. MCCUTCHEON, (War Correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. Published by Arrangement.)

MONASTIR, Serbia, Nov. 15.—It looks as though Monastir is to fall into the hands of the Bulgarians. Thus will pass from the Serbians their last city of consequence, and from now onward they will be forced to the smaller mountain villages over toward the Albanian frontier.

The symptoms of disaster are to be felt upon all sides as I walk through the streets. There is no mistaking them, for there is an atmosphere of impending gloom which is hourly becoming more and more dense.

Two days ago I saw a considerable body of men armed with picks and spades being marched out of town. They were being hurried along. Yet, when I asked the authorities what the movement signified, I was told that the men were going out to repair roads so that the heavy motors of the British and French troops could hurry to the rescue of the Serbians.

British Keep Own Counsel.

There are two British officers here, but they are keeping their purposes carefully and effectively veiled. They live in the same lodging-house where I am and I can hear them coming in at all hours of the night.

When I go to the headquarters Dr. Nicoitch tells me what the situation is, but I feel that his lulling reports are to be accepted with suspicion; not that he wilfully misrepresents, but because it is part of the official military creed to hide the likelihood of disaster. He is a most capable and efficient officer, and from what everybody here tells me he is the supreme power in this district—even the commandant defers to his will.

He speaks French haltingly and with an occasional "also" thrown in, which indicates that he was educated in Austria, or Germany, and as a matter of fact his medical training was acquired in Vienna. He seems to be the busiest as well as the most efficient man we have found here in Monastir.

Serbian Victory Reported.

Two days ago we heard that the Serbians had driven the Bulgarians out of the Babuna defile and had pursued them almost to Velez. Then we heard that the Bulgarians had driven out of Tetevo, the northwest point of a triangle of which Babuna is the southwest and Velez the eastern end.

It is reported for a while as though the Bulgarians were being routed at several points.

Then, to my amazement, there came, two nights ago, the dull boom of distant artillery from off toward Babuna. This hardly harmonizes with the reports that the Bulgarians had been driven away.

The next day there were many strange faces in town. There were greater crowds in the street. In the coffee-houses there were many officers whom I had not previously seen. The Bosnia restaurant was jammed with men who sat long over their coffee and talked in low and excited tones.

Approach of Crisis Feelt.

One could feel that a crisis was approaching. I talked with some of the natives. Many of them had lived in the United States and could speak excellent English. They knew nothing definite for they reflected the wild rumors that are flying about.

So we went to see the efficient Dr. Nicoitch, who was one of inaction and stagnation. He assured us that at present we could not be permitted to go to Babuna. He made no definite claim, and when he was asked if Velez had been taken by the French he evaded a direct answer.

Then came another night during which the dull boom of distant cannon came to the anxious ears of those who listened at Monastir.

So we went back to Dr. Nicoitch hoping for news but expecting the usual stereotyped evasions.

We had a distinct surprise awaiting us, a moment which stands out like a beacon light above the times of expert departmental equivocation.

The doctor came into the anteroom reserved for the press—we being the press whose presence is responsible for the inauguration of a special press headquarters—and, as usual, he was polite, suave and businesslike.

There was no beating about the bush, no juggling of words, and no expert fencing and meaningless words.

"Gentlemen, the situation is very grave." The words fell like a bombshell. I don't know but that the frankness of them was more startling than the news itself.

"Babuna must be evacuated," he continued. "We have only two regiments there, and they must retire before the superior numbers and artillery of the Bulgarians."

"And that means that Monastir will be taken?" we asked. "Yes," he answered. "The Bulgarians will occupy Prilep in two days and it may be possible to hold them back from Monastir three or four days longer."

Fall of Town Predicted.

There was a long pause. Then I asked if we might state the situation in a dispatch to our papers. "You may send a dispatch if you wish. But remember, I am giving you only my own opinion of the situation. There have been many cases in this war where towns have held out for weeks after they have been expected to fall. I don't want you to embarrass your journals by stating something that may not happen."

We took the chance and wrote dispatches which indicated the imminence of the fall of Monastir.

Attorney Has Blood Poison.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—District Attorney J. M. Devera is under the care of physicians tonight with a serious case of blood poisoning. Mr. Devera scratched his thumb on a rusty nail last Thursday, and the infection has now spread over his entire right arm. He was at the office for a time today, but his condition is regarded as very serious.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.

WELL-FURNISHED HOME—L644 AG61. See. Phone East 861.

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In addition, the section will contain special articles describing the highway and features in connection with the boulevard, such as Larch Mountain Trail and the proposed Vista House.

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11 DRUNKS AWAIT JAN. 1

DATE DOESN'T MEAN PROHIBITION TO THEM, BUT WAY TO DRINK.

Men Who Were Sentenced "Until State Goes Dry" Then Will Be Free to Get All Liquor They Can.

Eleven of the most notorious heavy drinkers in Portland are looking forward to January 1 with anticipation. It doesn't mean prohibition to them, but a chance to get liquor. Not a healthy chance, but a better one than they now have in the City Jail.

These men are all members of Municipal Judge Stephenson's 1916 club, which had its inception in August, when the first of the incorrigible drunkards was sent to jail to stay "until the state goes dry." This was the actual phrase used by Judge Stephenson when he inaugurated the club in August, but the sentence resolved into terms which would extend well past January 1.

Dick Reynolds, alias "Diamond Dick," is the charter member of the New Year's Club. He was elected August 22. Nels Peterson next joined on September 3. James Sullivan enrolled on the same day. On September 20, John Gallagher joined the ranks.

John Arbuckle took on membership October 7, but a few weeks later walked away from the city garage, where he was working as a "rusty," and has not been heard from since.

George Phillips signed the membership roll on October 14, and Ed Perlman 1914, is a deputy state game warden in charge of the Portland game farm. Thomas Smith went in on November 5, and on

STANFORD CLUB TO MEET

Portland Alumni Will Discuss Keeping of Rugby.

Approximately 100 former members of Stanford University will gather at the University Club Wednesday, December 23, primarily for the purpose of discussing what the spirit of the Portland alumni is regarding the keeping of Rugby at Stanford University.

Many of the old-time Stanford football stars will attend and respond to the discussion at the banquet that will be given at 7 o'clock. Among such men who will be heard are Chester G. Murphy, Plowden Stott, Frank H. Hilton and those of the Mazamas, and Bob O'Neil are also scheduled to speak.

Paul Giesy is the president of the Portland Stanford Club.

Ex-Policeman Under Arrest.

C. W. Maddux, ex-member of the Portland police force, is under arrest in Butte, Mont., according to information received here, and is charged with fraudulently taking \$50 from Mrs. M. Schneider, the wife of a friend.

Schneider, according to officers, was extradited from Montana to Texas. He is said to have sent his friend Maddux \$50 to give Mrs. Schneider, but Maddux is said to have refused to turn over the money. Maddux, who was discharged from the Portland force in 1914, is a deputy state game warden in Montana. He was for a time a member of the Butte police force.

Celebrate New Year's Eve at The Hazelwood Special programme by the HAZELWOOD ORCHESTRA on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. New Year's Day We will serve a 75c Turkey Dinner The Hazelwood Confectionery and Restaurant Washington St. at Tenth

Where to Buy After New Year's Spring Valley Wine Co. San Francisco, Calif., and we shall attend to our customers' needs as thoroughly and rapidly as we have in PORTLAND.

You'll Enjoy Your Trip East if you go via the route of sunshine and flowers, San Francisco to Los Angeles via the beautiful coast line. "Along the coast's shore a hundred miles or more." Los Angeles to El Paso through orange land, past Salton Sea below sea level, up the many colored Salt River Canyon through Tucson, the Pueblo City, Beyond El Paso, the Pecos Canyon, San Antonio, Houston, Rice and Cane fields of Louisiana. All this and more on Sunset Route East Every Day a "May Day" "SUNSET LIMITED" RUNS daily from San Francisco through Los Angeles to New Orleans. A solid steel train with all latest comforts for the traveling public. Connects at New Orleans with 1,600-ton steamers to New York. "100 Golden Hours at Sea." Tickets, reservations or further information at City Ticket Office, Cor. 6th and Oak St., Union Depot or East Morrison St. Station. Telephone—Broadway 2760. A 6794. SOUTHERN PACIFIC John M. Scott, G. P. A. Portland, Oregon.