

NEW RATE CONTEST DATA ALL PREPARED

Chamber of Commerce Expected to Strike First Blow Wednesday Night.

ALL REALIZE IMPORTANCE

Portland's Chief Contention Likely to Be Prior Decision Refusing Astoria Rates Equal to Those of This City.

Either today or Wednesday is practically certain to work the first step in the campaign of the Portland Chamber of Commerce to bring the Interstate Commerce Commission to grant lower rates to Portland than to Astoria and the ports of Puget Sound.

Probably the first action will be taken by the board of directors of the Chamber Wednesday night. Tuesday being a holiday, the regular meeting of the board was of necessity moved to the following day.

The only division of the Chamber meeting today that will be in a position to initiate any action on the subject is the members' council, which will be in session at noon. The question of the Astoria rate case and a proposal for the Chamber to go on record as urging the Interstate Commerce Commission to grant the parity of rates were submitted to the members' council two months ago, and, after consideration, it was decided that the entire subject should be left in the hands of the bureau of transportation and the board of directors, and should not be interfered with by the council.

It is not beyond the bounds of probability that someone may see the subject off from the floor before the close of the session of the council today, and by precipitating the discussion at least mark the first step in the move that seems imminent, was the expression of Frank E. Smith, of the members' council.

If the subject of the reduction of Portland's rates is not brought up at the members' council today, it is practically certain that three different divisions of the Chamber will be working on it by Wednesday night.

These will be the board of governors, the trade and commerce bureau and the traffic and transportation bureau.

The secretary of the transportation bureau, J. H. Lewis, said last night that calls will probably go out to the members of the bureau today calling a meeting for Wednesday. The regular meeting of the bureau of trade and commerce will come on Wednesday, owing to the holiday on Tuesday.

Data Already Gathered. The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission has been expected for a long time by the Chamber, and a great amount of data has been gathered, with a view to just such a campaign as is now imminent.

A resolution was adopted by the Chamber a short time ago, on recommendation of the transportation bureau, endorsing the parity of rates provided that a reduction in rates under Astoria and Puget Sound should be given to Portland, such as the advantage of her geographical situation entitles her to.

This resolution, if nothing else, gave a clear clue as to the attitude of the Chamber and the nature of action it would take following the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission favorably to Astoria.

Members of the bureau of trade and commerce and of other bureaus which have been working on the question, believe that in the decision of the Commission in the case of Astoria and the Farmers' Union against the Northern Pacific about five years ago, is the precedent on which a decision favorable to Portland should be based.

In this case the Farmers' Union and the representatives of the Port of Astoria asked for a parity of rates with Portland in the shipments of wheat from the Inland Empire, which was denied them by the Commission on the ground that Portland's inland position entitled her to the lower rate indicated by the shorter haul.

Board to Act First. C. C. Colt, president of the Chamber of Commerce, is of the opinion that the first action should be taken by the board of directors and the bureau of transportation will be authorized then to carry forward the details.

George E. Hardy, manager of the Chamber, is expected to arrive home from the East in time to be present at the meeting of the board, Wednesday. Portland's campaign to secure the reduction of rates under those of Puget Sound and other seaports, which is justified by her advantageous inland position, has been foreseen for a long time by the Chamber. Mr. Colt said, "and preparations have been made for it. We have all the material ready at hand for carrying on the campaign and there will be probably no delay in getting into action on it."

It is practically up to the Chamber to go ahead with it at once and as fast as possible. It is a matter of such importance to the shippers here that, I believe, if the Chamber decided to take up the responsibility and make the move before the Interstate Commerce Commission, it would be a matter of only a very little time until some individual or shipping concern would start the fight on his own hook."

MOVING PICTURE NEWS



DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, APPEARING IN "HIS PICTURE IN THE PAPERS" AT COLUMBIA THEATRE.

TODAY'S FILM FEATURES.
National—"The Target."
Columbia—"His Picture in the Papers."
Majestic—"Fighting Blood."
Pickford—"The Woman in 47."
Peoples—"The Trail of the Lonesome Pine."
Sunset—"The Goddess."
Circle—"Italy and Austria at War."

National.

"THE TARGET," a big story of a strong man's struggle against an overwhelming adverse fate, received its initial screening at the National Theatre yesterday. This feature of the great outdoors, with plot and action of several films crowded into one, presents Hobart Bosworth, one of the leading portrayers of heroic characters of the open places, in the leading role.

The great central thought of "The Target" and it runs consistently through its many developments, is the power of mother love. Deserted on every hand by those whom he trusted, the man finally turns to his mother as the one true factor in his life. Briefly the story presents Bosworth as a successful lawyer given a pistol by a grateful client. A pleasure-loving woman is so enchanted with his strength that she marries him, only to desert her home for the lights of the city within a short time. The lawyer takes to drink. His partner kills another lawyer and then accuses Bosworth of the crime. Possession of the gift pistol sends him to the penitentiary for ten years. He escapes with a prison-friend, Taylor, and goes to British Columbia. There he falls in love with a girl (Jane Novak), but she loves Taylor. He is captured by her mother, is captured at her door, serves the remainder of his term, and returns to her.

Ronald Bradbury, formerly a Portland stock actor, plays the part of Jack Taylor in the feature, and is given a much better opportunity than in his last appearance in Portland with Edwin Stevens.

Peoples.

"The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," the famous John Fox story, presented in song and on the stage, unquestionably finds its best expression on the screen. This compelling story of the struggle between revenue officers and moonshiners is being presented at the Peoples Theatre, with such prominent players as Charlotte Walker in the role she created on the legitimate stage; Theodore Roberts and Thomas Meighan. In addition to transmitting faithfully all that has made the story so attractive, the motion picture adds the wonderful wealth of scenery amid which the moonshining mountaineers lived.

John Hale (Meighan) is sent to the mountains to put an end to illicit distilling. As soon as it is known the Tolliver clan, led by "Devil" Judd (Roberts), opens a campaign to stop his activity. He is captured but escapes by burning the things which bind his wrists. June (Miss Walker) falls in love with Hale, and he reciprocates her affection. Hale is again captured and

is so badly injured that only a surgeon can save him from death. The girl persuades Dave, a kinsman who loves her, to go for a doctor, and he informs the Sheriff's posse of the Tolliver hiding place in order to save Hale's life. Judd, thinking Dave is a traitor, kills him and then yields to authority.

The seventh installment of "The Goddess," featuring Anita Stewart and Earl Williams, shows the rapid progress of the love of the two halted when the father disinherits the son. Celestia begins to pay less attention to her mission of reforming the world.

Why talk of Charlie Chaplin, Roscoe Arbuckle, et al; Douglas Fairbanks is in town. This sunny Broadway chap who unrolled a delightful film comedy surprise in "Double Trouble," is efficiently hoisted to the nth degree when in pursuit of his profession as laugh-extractor in "His Picture in the Papers," which opened yesterday at the Columbia Theatre. Triangle has produced nothing in the comedy-drama field more deserving of success than the Fairbanks vehicle.

"His Picture in the Papers" deals with the efforts of a young, well-to-do well-to-do sanitary food magnate—to make good a boast that he would cut loose and secure for himself, the family, and Pringle's Food, publicity in the shape of a picture and story of himself on the front pages of the metropolitan papers. If he does this he gets a half interest in the business and the hand of the girl he adores.

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Fate and the newspapers are decidedly unkind to young Pringle, although he wrecks an auto, wins a prizefight, swears to drink from a tin and whips two policemen. The best he can get is a few lines in some obscure section until he bursts forth as a hero indeed, foiling the diabolical plot of a gang of blackmailers who seek to wreck a train bearing his father-in-law-to-be.

Pickford.

The rather hectic career of a young Italian girl, in which her advent into America is followed by experiences with amorous gentlemen, leading to divorce, suicide, and other incidents of high-tension, swift-moving action, is presented at the Pickford Theatre in "The Woman in 47," the World vehicle starring Alice Brady.

This film story, which takes its name from a hotel room reserved for a bride and groom, is an interesting series of incidents in the life of Viola, who comes to America at the behest of her lover, to learn upon arrival that he has been killed. Miss Brady is convincing in the shape of suicide next door, with a note implicating "the woman in 47," enters into the mixup before the lovers are at peace.

Majestic.

"Big Bill" Farnum, the man who put the punch in "The Spoilers," is "Fighting Bill" in his latest feature, "Fighting Blood," which opened yesterday at the Majestic. This Fox production, said to have its story foundation from "My

Old Kentucky Home," is just the sort of a film in which Farnum appears at his best; a strong, virile, rugged type of manhood, with a strain of fighting blood, which carries him crashing through every obstacle.

Two corking good scraps—not offensive but with "kick" enough to thrill—enter into the story of "Fighting Blood," which deals with Lem Hardy, a Kentuckian of sturdy and pugacious ancestry. He is falsely imprisoned and emerges from jail a preacher. He ejects a gang of rowdies from his church, but loses his job, and then thumps a mining-camp bully, earning another job. In the camp he meets Evie, the boyhood sweetheart, who married the man who sent him to jail. Evie, the villain, dies by gunshot, and Hardy and the girl start on the long trail together.

Dorothy Bernard, a former Portland stock actress, plays the role of Evie, giving a splendid portrayal of the part of the girl who falls beneath the spell of the villain only to repent as soon as she takes the decisive step.

All Musicless Homes Should Investigate This at Once

A Sale of Nearly One Hundred Modern Player Pianos to Carry Out Manufacturers' Contracts. Sale Starts This (Monday) Morning

In our consolidation plans we unexpectedly took over so many pianos from other establishments that we could not fully live up to our agreements with a number of player piano manufacturers for whom we undertake to sell a definite number each year.

Thus, we find ourselves with too many player pianos and we must take still more, under our contracts with a number of factories. The old reliable Eilers Music House always makes good. Therefore, we devote the next fifteen days to the quick selling of nearly a hundred of the highest-grade player pianos ever shown in Portland. Nearly all of them brand-new ones; also some concert used ones, and numerous player pianos sold by other firms that we have accepted in part payment for the most highly perfected player pianos which are sold by the House of Eilers.

The extremely low prices brought about by these conditions can never be made again, and when the last of these instruments is sold no more can be had at such low prices.

- The very latest player pianos THAT WERE \$1000 ARE NOW ONLY \$620 AND SOME FOR \$540.
- The very latest player pianos THAT WERE \$850 ARE NOW ONLY \$520 AND SOME FOR \$415.
- The very latest player pianos THAT WERE \$750 ARE NOW ONLY \$470 AND SOME FOR \$355.
- The very latest player pianos THAT WERE \$650 ARE NOW ONLY \$385 AND SOME FOR \$315.
- The very latest player pianos THAT WERE \$550 ARE NOW ONLY \$310 AND SOME FOR \$260.

STUDY THESE GREAT NAMES

Not to Be Found in Any Other Western Music House The Nation's highest quality pianos, carrying the most highly honored names in musicdom, including even the superb Chickering player pianos and the wonderful Chickering artigraphic, also the Nation's greatest favorite and grand prize-winner at San Francisco, 1915; the Kimball; the magnificent, old-established Decker; the now internationally renowned genuine Autopiano player; the Bungalow player piano, also gold medal winners at the San Francisco Exposition; the superb Player Pianos de Luxe, and ever so many others.

METAL TUBING IS BEST

The latest metal tubed, human touch, correctly equipped player pianos are offered. Not the make-believe, rubber tubed, imitation of the genuine, with nothing but high-flowing advertising language to recommend it. Sale now on.



Eilers Building Broadway at Alder St.



The superb new model 180 Bungalow player piano—correct in design, perfect in finish, purest in tone, easiest to operate, most durable of all, and not expensive—included in this sale at most liberal concession in price.

Also Some Regular Pianos, Brand New, Included in This Quick Sale as Follows

Pianos often advertised as "beautiful \$250 or \$300 pianos" are only \$82 here now. Accurately less than ever known.



Pianos frequently offered as "\$250 values" are here now only \$145. Pay \$5 a month.

These Pianos Only \$82

Pianos often sold at "\$400" by branch houses and small dealers, are now here for only \$215. Pay \$5 a month.

Cash Buyers, Attention!

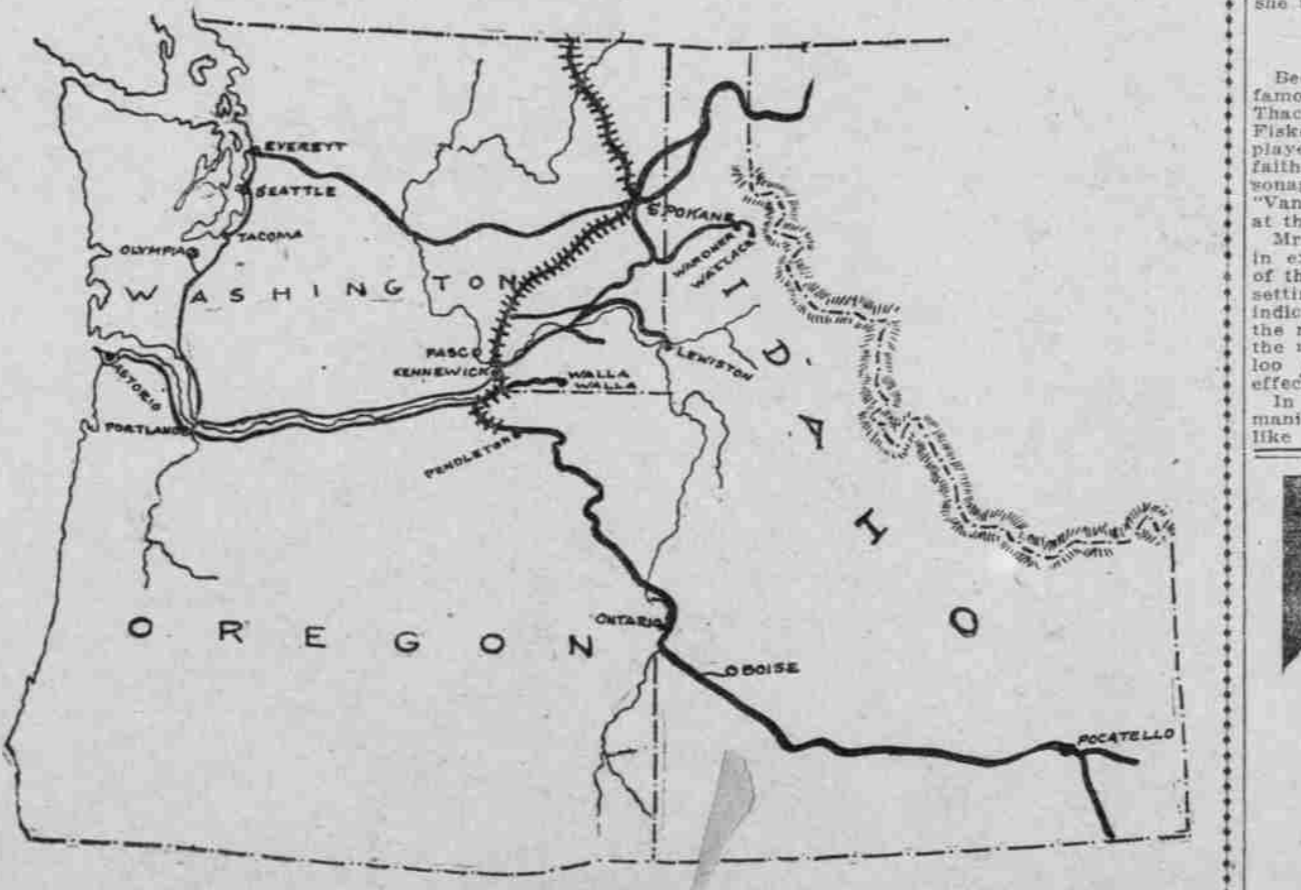
A great variety of the kinds frequently charged at "\$425" are here for only \$222, etc., etc.

On this occasion we can sacrifice these instruments at actually \$168. In cash less than the price frequently asked for same.

Same rate of discount may be applied on any piano or player-piano you may select from the stock in this sale.

Tuning and delivery FREE.

MAP SHOWING ZONE THROWN OPEN TO ASTORIA BY DECISION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.



The order in the Astoria rate case applies to the territory east of the railroad lines marked on the map to points on a north and south line drawn coincidentally with the western boundary line of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and extending straight south through Colorado to the southern line of that state. Beyond that line Astoria was already on a rate parity with Puget Sound. The order does not specifically affect the O.-W. R. & N. from Pendleton to Ontario, as business originating thereon is not interstate business. It does apply to the Oregon Short Line in Southern Idaho from Ontario eastward.

Already several property owners have paid the levies fixed by the County Court.

845 CARS OF STOCK SOLD

Value of Shipments From Klamath Estimated at \$1,223,500.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Livestock to the value of \$1,223,500 was shipped from Klamath County points between July 1, 1915, and February 10, 1916. A total of 845 carloads went out during that time.

Cattle formed the bulk of the shipments, with 124 carloads. The price averaged \$15.60 a car, making a total of \$2,825,000.

One hundred eighty-three carloads of sheep and lambs have been shipped, valued at approximately \$123,500. The horses and mules shipped out filled 60 cars and were worth about \$120,000.

Fifty carloads of hogs shipped during the season were valued at \$45,000.

Corn and rice crop is smaller than it was last year.

2 Dollars FOR YOU

If you fill in this form and leave it at the

Sunset Theater

corner of Broadway and Washington, you will receive by mail

Free Each Week for Six Months a copy of the METRO-SUNSET PICTURES MAGAZINE, a 24-page illustrated paper for photoplay fans. It costs \$4 a year and is worth every cent of it.

Name Address Cut from The Oregonian of February 20. P. S.—Don't Forget to See "Vanity Fair."

WIFE SELECTS HIS BARBER

Women Tonsorial Artists Strictly Taboo, Too, She Says.

"See here, this is the kind of a barber shop for you to patronize," snapped a middle-aged woman as she deposited her husband inside the door of a Fifth-street shop which employs men barbers Saturday morning. "Never mind about the women barbers."

"But," started to protest the deposited husband.

"Never mind! You just let the men shave you if you can't shave yourself," she admonished, as she left the shop and her husband took a seat to wait for the call of "next."

"She just won't stand for me being shaved by a woman," explained the husband to the gossip-hungry barber, as he settled down in his chair.

Klamath Collecting Taxes.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Collection of the 1915 taxes in Klamath County began Thursday in the office of Sheriff Charles C. Low.

Advertisement for Dr. Lyon's Perfect Tooth Powder. The text reads: "Before your present supply is gone stop in and get your next can of Dr. Lyon's Perfect Tooth Powder. Prepared by a Doctor of Dental Surgery. Send 2c stamp today for a generous trial package to I. W. Lyon & Sons, Inc., 500 W. 27th St., N. Y. City."