

LANE LIKELY TO BE PLACED ON BENCH

Secretary of Interior Can Have McKenna's Place if Latter Retires.

OPPORTUNITY LONG OPEN

Two Other Judges Eligible to Retirement—Wilson May Break Record for Appointments to Highest Court.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 22.—There may be a new Secretary of the Interior in the Cabinet before long, if current Washington gossip is to be believed. Rumor has it that Justice McKenna intends shortly to retire from the Supreme Court and that Secretary Lane is to succeed him. Both men are Californians and it is no secret that Secretary Lane would be glad to round out his public career as a member of the Supreme Court.

Justice McKenna is 73 years old and has been eligible for retirement for three years, but he has been enjoying good health and has not up to this time, thought of retirement. There is a suspicion, however, that he was impelled to delay his retirement until after the election in the hope that when he retired a Republican might be appointed to succeed him.

Justice Unlikely to Wait. To insure the appointment of a Republican successor, Justice McKenna would be obliged to remain on the bench at least another four years, and that would make him more than 77 when he retired. There is a strong opinion on until they attain that ripe old age.

Secretary Lane has long been regarded as good time for the Supreme bench and could have been appointed when Mr. Hughes retired, although the President preferred not to have two Californians on the bench at one time. By waiting Secretary Lane has not impaired his chances, and unless he prefers to continue his work in the Interior Department until another vacancy occurs he probably will be named when Mr. McKenna goes on the retired list. Just when that will be, no one seems definitely to know.

There are two other judges on the Supreme bench who are eligible for retirement if they desire to relinquish their judicial duties: Chief Justice White, who is past 71, and Justice Holmes, who is nearly 71. Both these judges probably will retire in the present Administration.

Democrats Will Have Majority.

President Wilson in the past four years has appointed three of the nine judges now on the Supreme bench, Justices McKenna, Brandeis and Clarke. If he names successors to McKenna, White and Holmes before the expiration of his second term, he will have broken a record by naming two-thirds of the Supreme bench, something that no President before him ever did. Somewhere along the line, however, he will be expected to name one Republican, otherwise the bench would stand six Democrats to three Republicans. Today the bench stands five Republicans to four Democrats, and therefore it is to be expected that a Democrat will succeed McKenna, thus leaving the Democrats in the majority for the first time in many years.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT HERE

(Continued From First Page.)

clock, he informed the clerk, and perfectly suited as a present to his wife, but—

The wrought and gilded little timepiece was purchased a week ago. The husband who did his Christmas shopping early carried the clock home, glee in his heart, and hid it with great caution. Yesterday morning he peeked to assure himself it was still there. The clock was ticking!

Across the breakfast table he confronted his wife. "Woman," he sternly charged, "you are a very present. She widened her eyes in reproach and amazement. "Why, I never either!" countered she. "Listen here," he hissed, "that clock isn't an eight-day affair. And it's running. You found it and you would it!"

"I'm going to exchange it for something else," announced the husband. And he did.

Spirit Emulates Puck. So, you see, the Christmas spirit is a good deal of a "foshier," and possesses a Puck-like fondness for meddling with the affairs of mortals to the ends of fun. But there is another side, and it is exemplified in the true story of the little boy who "never had his pants and coat alike."

This little boy lives in Portland. His mother is a "dow," and he is 11 years old and he helps her a great deal. But he has never had pants and coat alike. Most of 'em, both pants and coats, have been made-over and, after a time, you get so you dream about the two pairs with each suit, that the streetcar ads tell of. This boy did. But he saved his pennies until he had \$2, which is a lot of money in pennies.

"I can have that suit by Christmas, can't I?" He asked his mother. She promised to increase his wealth until the dream came true. Then a small disaster befell, it doesn't matter what it was, but it made the day of "pants and coat alike" seem very, very distant.

The very nice end of this awfully sad story is that the boy is going to have the new suit day after tomorrow, though the Christmas Spirit is trying to keep the matter dark.

Then there was, and is, a family that

READ THE ADS! SHOPPING DAY LEFT BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

BRILLIANTSHINE
METAL POLISH
Cleans more brass signs, also signs, brass, silver, and all other polished metals. Because it is the only polish that does not leave a film, it is the only one to use. Sold by all grocers, hardware and drug stores.

BELLANS
Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

lived in the woods and wanted to come to Portland. So they came, mother and father and six little saplings. Like the famed "little brown jug," they "came down the mountain." The father didn't find work, at least not enough to make meat an occasion for rejoicing and bread scarcely less than a daily uncertainty. It looked pretty slim for Christmas, you may be certain.

There were, and are, four boys in a Sunday school class. They had saved \$4. Yesterday they assembled for this fortune, set shoulder to shoulder and marched downtown. On Christmas eve the four will usher a completely equipped tree, with presents, into the home where chances are looking pretty slim. Six children who lived among the wild Christmas trees and never had one, are in for an experience beyond their hopeful fancies.

Pupils Give Savings.
Had you the ears of a fay, which hear a sound lighter than the splash of a raindrop in distant Bull Run, you might have caught a prodigious rattle and clatter from Westover Terrace of late, and the waving of the hands of small change from ever so many tin banks, for a certain private school in the vicinity agreed, pupil with teacher, and teacher with pupil, that Santa Claus should be bribed against forgetting anybody. Also these children gave their own toys, after going bankrupt for the delight of poorer friends.

The Christmas Spirit did a lot of chuckling over that, we may be sure, but his jollity waned a trifle when he counted his Salvation Army lasses, standing in the rain. It seemed too much to be asking of them, that 10-hour vigil in the sleet and drizzle, and yet—

"Sometimes we get as much as \$2 or \$3," said the girl in the bonnet, her eyes as gray as the clouds. "Sometimes we get less. It all goes for Christmas dinner for the poor. But I had luck today! Think of it!"

"Credit," wrote the Christmas Spirit, "two wet feet and a cold tomorrow." And the lassie has a fortune coming to her.

STOCK MARKET BUOYANT

THURSDAY'S DEMORALIZATION IS FOLLOWED BY RECOVERIES.

Numerous Shares Fully Regain Losses With Best Prices Being Quoted In Last Hour of Trading.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Buoyancy marked the stock market today. The slump of the last fortnight, which culminated in yesterday's demoralization, gave way to recoveries of 5 to 10 points in the closing hour. The market was considerably more in issues of an ultra speculative class.

On today's extreme recoveries numerous shares fully regained yesterday's losses, while a few were at or above final quotations of Wednesday. The volume of operations—about 1,750,000 shares—against the tremendous outpouring of more than 3,000,000 shares the day before.

The outstanding factor of today's market was the better understanding of the international situation, based on reports received from Washington and other centers of importance, which helped in great measure to clear the financial atmosphere. Another important feature was the support given by investors who quickly availed themselves of the "bargains" offered at yesterday's decline.

Today's recovery began at the opening, when stocks of all descriptions showed gains of 3 to 5 and even 8 points. Best prices were recorded in the last hour, when the market again became active and trading was broader than at any previous time of the day.

CANNERY RATE IS ASKED

Southern Pacific Starts Move for Southern Oregon Plants.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 22.—The Southern Pacific Company has petitioned the State Public Service Commission to establish a rate of 20 cents a hundred pounds for all canned goods from Ashland and intermediate points to Portland, according to a communication received by the local Chamber of Commerce today, that Southern Oregon canneries may compete with factories nearer Portland or points subject to water competition. The rate applies to a carload of at least 50,000 pounds. The present rate from Ashland is 30 cents.

No date has been set for a hearing on the petition.

ABERDEEN BUSINESS GOOD

Mail Heavy and Merchants Report Record Sales.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Incoming and outgoing Aberdeen mails are the heaviest in its history, and the postoffice is doing a record handling more business than in 1915, according to Assistant Postmaster W. A. Grandall. The incoming mail amounts to about 100 sacks every train. Four extra carriers and two autos are being used in the distribution of the packages.

Merchants report an enormous increase in their trade over what it was last season, and say that their business this year undoubtedly will exceed that of any former Christmas season.

MRS. M. J. REED IS BURIED
Portland Woman Is Survived by Husband and Daughter.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary J. Reed, who died December 18 at her home at 468 Clay street of pneumonia, was held at her late residence Wednesday afternoon. Interment was in Riverside cemetery. She was 82 years of age and had been married almost 57 years.

Mrs. Reed was born in East Palestine, O., July 7, 1834. She was married in 1860 to Samuel T. Reed, who survives her.

Her children born, only one survives, Blanche Reed, of this city. There are three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

St. Agatha Parish Has Tree.
More than 200 children attended the Christmas entertainment given at St. Agatha parish at the parish hall, East Fifteenth street and Miller avenue, last night. There was a Santa Claus, a Christmas tree and a general program. The tree provided something for each one of the children attending. The Christmas vacation will continue until January 3.

Lebanon Pioneer Critically Ill.
LEBANON, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Brice Wallace, father of Dr. J. P. Wallace, ex-Mayor of Albany, who was 80 years of age last March, is critically ill at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. V. Keebler, in this city. Mr. Wallace served two terms as Treasurer of Linn County in the early '90s, and is a pioneer of this county, coming here from Tennessee shortly after the close of the Civil War.

Only One "Bromo Quinine"
To get genuine, call for full name, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for signature of E. W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in one day. 25c.

M'ARTHUR SCORES WAR DEPARTMENT

Delay in Giving Aid to Families of Guardsmen Rouses Oregon Representative.

DILATORY ACTION CHARGED

Many in Destitute Circumstances, While Money Appropriated by Congress Lies in Treasury Awaiting Distribution.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 22.—Representative McArthur today called attention of the War Department to the dilatory tactics which have attended the distribution of money appropriated by Congress for the relief of the families of married men who enlisted in the National Guard and served on the Mexican border. He was prompted to do this by appeal from members of the Guard and their families in Oregon who are in destitute circumstances and in some instances dependent on charity for bare necessities of life.

"The War Department's delay in this matter is little short of criminal," said Mr. McArthur. "I have on my desk a letter from a guardman who served with one of the Portland companies and who recently returned from the border to find that his old position had not been held open for him and that his wife and three children were without food. This man has been walking the streets of Portland for the last 90 days in search of work, and in that time has had employment less than two weeks."

"The Thanksgiving dinner for himself and family consisted of dry bread and coffee without sugar or cream. This man is not a loafer or tramp, but an upstanding American citizen, who offered his services to his country when they called, and who is now being kept in destitute circumstances."

"Congress appropriated the money which was made by the guardsmen who went to the front and promptly made the necessary appropriations for the relief of destitute families, but the War Department has been altogether too slow in the distribution of the money."

"With the money at their command, the officials of the War Department ought to have distributed this money among destitute families long ago instead of allowing it to lie in the treasury."

"There are so many other similar cases that they cannot and should not be taken care of by private charity when they have something coming legitimately from the country."

"These dilatory tactics of the War Department are not in keeping with our best ideals of patriotism and faithful reward for service."

ARMY ASKS \$28,400,000

DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL SUBMITTED TO HOUSE.

Supplemental Estimate of \$11,250,000 to Clothe and Garrison National Guard, Is Reported Also.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—A deficiency appropriation of \$28,400,000 for the Army on account of Mexican border service was submitted to the House today by Secretary of War Baker.

In addition, Secretary Baker submitted a supplemental estimate of \$11,250,000 to clothe and garrison 150,000 men of the National Guard for a year beginning July 1. It was considered significant in connection with the plans for retaining the Guardsmen in the Federal service.

Testifying before the House military committee recently, Quartermaster-General Sharpe said that if the National Guard were retained on the border at a strength of 75,000 men until June 30, 1917, the deficit would reach a total of \$30,000,000. It was more than \$25,000,000 October 1, and has increased in excess of \$3,000,000 since that time, according to the figures presented today.

It is understood the strength of the Guard retained on the border pending further development in the international situation would be approximately 75,000 men, making a total force of 115,000, including regulars, compared with 200,000 there a few months ago.

The supplemental estimate of \$11,250,000 to maintain the Guard during the fiscal year 1918 is understood to include provision for the replacement of clothing and other property which the state soldiers brought with them into the Federal service.

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Do Your Shopping Early Our Store Will Close at 6 P. M. Saturday

Doors Will Open Promptly at 9 A. M. Our Store Will Remain Closed All Day Xmas!

All Mail Orders Received Saturday Will Be Promptly Filled

All Packages Purchased Before 6 P. M. Will Be Delivered Saturday

Shopping in the Early Morning Hours

Will invite a much more leisurely inspection and assure greater certainty of satisfaction to the one who receives on Christmas day. We earnestly advise you to come early. Early gift-buying is desirable. Make it a pleasure, and not a task. The absence of the inevitable holiday crowd during the morning hours should appear at once as a very necessary feature attendant upon the satisfactory selection.

Assuredly the Best Values Are to Be Found Here

You'll Find Everything New and Fresh, Conveniently Arranged, With Courteous and Attentive Salespeople to Serve You—Come to This Store Saturday Before 6 P. M. Stay Until Your Every Need Has Been Supplied

Practical and Pleasing Gifts

FOR MEN

Gift Things of Beauty, Usefulness, in Fascinating Variety. Priced to Please the Most Frugal Buyers.

25c—50c—\$1.00 for Men's Silk Four-in-Hand Ties—A complete new assortment of patterns to select from in light and dark colors.

50c—75c—\$1.00 for Men's Fine Elastic Suspenders—The best styles and colors. Each pair in a fancy holiday box. A welcome gift.

\$1.25—\$1.50—\$1.75 for Men's Outing Flannel Pajamas—Neat appearing, well made garments in popular styles and in all sizes.

75c and \$1.25 for men's Suspender and Garter Sets. Neat and attractive colorings in many different patterns—each set in a fancy holiday box.

25c and 50c for men's fancy silk Elastic Arm Bands. Pleasing styles and colors. Each pair put up in a fancy holiday box.

\$2.98 up to \$5.98 for men's custom-made Bath Robes. An unsurpassed showing of the most popular styles in all wanted patterns and colorings.

MEN'S HANDKERCHIEFS IN AN UNLIMITED VARIETY

The items listed here are only a small part of the many special holiday offerings which abound in this department.

5c Each—6 for 25c for men's plain white Handkerchiefs with neat hem.

10c Each—8 for 25c for men's initial or plain white Handkerchiefs.

15c Each—2 for 25c for men's initial or plain white Handkerchiefs.

20c Each—3 for 50c for men's fine, plain white, all-linen Handkerchiefs.

25c and 30c Each for men's fine, plain white, all-linen Handkerchiefs.

UNLIMITED VARIETIES—TEMPTINGLY LOW PRICES

Last Minute Christmas Gifts

NEW WOOL SCARFS IN VALUES TO \$1.25, AT 75c

The popular Brushed Scarfs in both solid colors and in stripe styles.

NEW WOOL SCARFS IN VALUES TO \$2.00, AT \$1.15

Wool and Silk Scarfs in Angora finish, solid colors and 2-tone effects.

WOOL SKATING SETS—ALL PRICES, \$1.25 TO \$3.00 SET

An extensive showing of the fashionable Skating Sets—Cap and Scarf to match. They come in plain colors, stripes, plaids. \$1.25 to \$3 a set.

BOUDIER CAPS, 50c—\$1.19

Exquisite colorings in silk, lace or net, with ribbon or lace trimming. Each cap in a separate box. All prices from 50c to \$1.19 each.

MARABOU STOLES AND CAPES, ALL STYLES AND COLORS, TO CLOSE AT HALF PRICE!

BOYS' WAGONS \$3.98

Just a few more of these large-sized wood-wheeled boys' wagons. Made like a real farm wagon—at our cost—then our stock will be gone.

269-271 Morrison St.

East Second and Morrison

Roberts Bros. THIRD & MORRISON

Glove and Merchandise Orders

Busy folks who have little time to shop around for Christmas gifts will find it of distinct advantage to give glove or merchandise orders for any amount they wish to spend. And such an order from Roberts Bros. carries with it the knowledge that it will purchase nothing but quality merchandise.

Glove and Merchandise Bonds issued for any amount at our Accommodation Desk.

65c Leather Fringed Purse at 50c

\$1.25 Leather Hand Bags at 98c

\$1.50 Leather Hand Bags at \$1.19

\$2.00 Leather Hand Bags at \$1.75

\$1.25 Military Brushes in case at 98c

\$3.00 Ebony Military Brushes at \$2.50

\$6.00 Sanitary Military Brushes at \$4.50

\$1.75 French Ivory Hair Brushes at \$1.25

\$2.50 French Ivory Hair Brushes at \$1.98

\$5.00 French Ivory Hair Brushes at \$3.98

\$5.00 Pyralin Ivory Bonnet Mirror at \$3.98

\$2.50 French Ivory Hand Mirror at \$1.98

\$1.75 French Ivory Hand Mirrors at \$1.25

\$1.00 French Ivory Nail Buffers at 79c

25c French Ivory Nail Buffers at 19c

50c French Ivory Nail Buffers at 39c

50c French Ivory Nail Files at 39c

20c Ivory Handle Button Hook at 10c

20c Ivory Handle Nail File at 10c

French Ivory Handle Shoe Horns at 25c

Fine Silk Hosiery

Every woman of taste prizes Silk Hosiery, whether of her own purchasing or received as a gift. Here you will find a complete line in staple colors, black and the popular new shades. One or more pairs will make an ideal Xmas gift at a moderate price.

THE PHOENIX SILK HOSE AT 80c AND \$1.05 PAIR.

These high-grade, celebrated Silk Hose are shown here in all wanted new and staple colors, including white and black. They are perfect fitting, durable stockings. Shown at two prices—80c and \$1.05 a pair.

PURE INGRAIN SILK HOSE AT \$1.50 A PAIR

The very best of pure ingrain Silk Stockings, shown in the most popular colors and all sizes. They come in the perfect fitting \$1.50 leg, reinforced heel and toe. Unmatchable quality at, pair \$1.50

WOMEN'S FIBER SILK HOSE, PAIR 60c

A fine, perfect fitting Stocking. A special sale of fine silk boot all sizes, in black, white, tan, blue, gold, purple, etc. A spe-60c

WOMEN'S SILK BOOT HOSE, PAIR 60c

A special sale of fine silk boot all sizes, in black, white, tan, blue, gold, purple, etc. A spe-60c

Saturday at only, the pair 60c

LATEST NEW STYLES IN WOMEN'S SWEATERS AT \$4.98

A manufacturer's sample line just received. Included are all the latest styles and colors—nobby fiber silk Sweaters. Values to \$6.50—Saturday \$4.98