

3500 JOIN VOICES IN OLD-TIME AIRS

"Sing" at Municipal Auditorium Is Delight to All Participants.

90 MINUTES ARE HAPPY

Big Throng Has Splendid Time in Unique Method of Seeing Birth of 1918; Mayor Baker Has Greeting.

An audience of 3500 persons blended their voices in the strains of such good old songs as "Annie Laurie," "My Old Kentucky Home," and "Keep the Home Fires Burning," at the Municipal Auditorium last night in the city's first annual community watch party.

From 10:30 o'clock Mayor George L. Baker, in felicitous greetings, opened the watch party. William H. Boyer swung the director's baton and quickly led the audience into the spirit of the occasion.

The big party-sing was arranged by a committee composed of Mrs. Thomas Carrick Burke, Miss Mary Frances Jones, Mrs. William Thomas, Madame Lucie Valair, Miss Mamie Helen Flynn, William D. Wheelwright, William F. Woodward, Harry Lead Corbett, Dr. Joseph B. Wise and L. R. Alderman.

As a preface to the program Mayor Baker presented these New Year's greetings and wishes: "It is very fitting that the people of Portland should gather at the first Portland Community Watch Party, to welcome with whole-hearted patriotism, the new year which promises to be the most brilliant in our history."

Let the spirit which prevails on the opening day of our epoch-making year prevail the Nation over during the entire 12 months, and let us hope and pray that we will be able to contribute our share to the United States community watch party a year hence to celebrate in behalf of an overwhelming and conclusive victory for democracy.

M'CORD ASKS LEAVE

JUNIOR RED CROSS APPOINTEE WILLING TO SERVE.

Acceptance Awaits Granting of Leave of Absence by Montavilla School Board.

Jeane McCord, principal of the Montavilla School, has been offered the position of Northwest organizer for the Junior Red Cross. She will accept the position, however, if the school board makes arrangements with the school board at its next meeting Thursday, for a leave of absence for the duration of the war.

Permission for the organization of the Junior Red Cross in the schools was given by the School Board at its last meeting. This is a new class of membership in the American Red Cross, designed to enlist school children in Red Cross work.

If Mr. McCord accepts the position offered him, he will be organizer of the Junior Red Cross in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska. The work in the counties of Multnomah, Clackamas, Columbia, Washington, Yamhill and Tillamook is under the direction of a committee consisting of Mrs. J. C. Elliott King, Miss Grace P. Gillett, D. A. Droul, Charles A. Rice and George Hag, of Multnomah.

FATAL ACCIDENTS 302

State Industrial Accident Commission Makes Report.

In the November report of the State Industrial Accident Commission of Oregon, just issued, and containing some data for the five-month period ended November 30, the Commission shows a treasury balance of \$1,945,712.94, and to have affected settlements in 19,491 accident cases.

RAILROAD HEARING CLOSED

Federal Judge Reserves Decision on Harriman Line's Application.

United States Judges Bean, Wolverton and Gilbert heard arguments yesterday on the application of the Southern Pacific Company for an order restraining the Public Service Commission from enforcing its decree December 27, 1915, directing the Harriman company to make a physical connection between its railroad and that of the Oregon Electric at Albany.

NIGHT SCHOOL TO REOPEN

Class in French Will Be Formed for Those Who Expect to Go Abroad.

GAIN IN DEPOSITS IN OREGON IS BIG

Increase Over 1916 Record Is \$34,361,794, Despite Liberty Loan Demands.

\$198,958,775 IS TOTAL

Showing by Banks Reflects Unusually Prosperous Conditions in State—Strides Made in Latter Part of Year.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Never in the history of the state has a bank statement been made so indicative of a prosperous condition as that completed by Superintendent of Banks Sargent after the last call showing the conditions of the institutions at the close of business November 30, 1917.

This is the belief of Mr. Sargent, who calls attention to the fact that, in spite of the immense demands made upon the depositors of Oregon in meeting the requirements of the two liberty loans, the deposits showed an increase of \$34,361,794.28 over those of November 11, 1916.

The most notable gain was made between September 11 and November 30, when the increase reached \$17,768,210.28. This is the largest gain ever recorded in the same length of time. The total deposits in the state on November 30 amounted to \$198,958,775.40.

The abstract, showing the combined figures on all of the 178 state banks and trust companies and 83 National banks of the state, showing also a summary of deposits, is as follows, the total of gains shown being net:

Table with columns: Resources, Increase since Nov. 20, 1917, Nov. 17, 1917. Rows include Loans and discounts, Real estate, Stocks and securities, etc.

GRANTS PASS MAN SUICIDE

Walter Meals Shoots Himself as Result of Ill Health.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Walter Meals, a well-known resident of Josephine County, committed suicide by shooting himself in the forehead with a .32 caliber rifle, early Sunday morning.

LLOYD GEORGE IS HOPEFUL

In New Year's Message English Premier Speaks of Victory Near.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—In a New Year greeting to the Viceroy of India, conveying a message of good will from the British Cabinet to the Indian people, Premier Lloyd George says: "Despite many setbacks and many disappointments, we are far on the path of victory. I have good hope that before this new year is past the purpose to which we have set our hands will have been completely achieved."

SPECIAL PRICES EVERY DAY

Advertisement for Electric Light Globes with prices: 15-Watt Lamps... 25c, 25-Watt Lamps... 25c, 40-Watt Lamps... 25c, 60-Watt Lamps... 34c, Flashlights (complete)... 75c, Double Sockets (for Lamp and Electric Iron)... \$1.00, Electric Irons (10-year guarantee)... \$3.50, Electric Heaters... \$7.50.

THE STANDARD STORE OF THE NORTHWEST

A Happy and Prosperous New Year To Our Country—to Our Soldiers and Sailors and to You!

—See Evening and Morning Papers for Special Announcement of Our Annual Inventory Sale

Olds, Wortman & King

HIBERNIA SAVINGS BANK of Portland, Oregon.

STATEMENT AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOV. 30, 1917.

Table with columns: RESOURCES, LIABILITIES. Rows include Loans and Discounts, Real Estate, Furniture, etc.

LAST HOURS ARE GAY

Midnight Matinees in All Portland Theaters Crowded.

RED CROSS GATHERS COIN

Public Men Speak From Stage in Places of Amusement, Urging Contributions to Cause of Mercy, Then Forthcoming.

Unique and distinctive features marked the passing of the year and ushered in the baby New Year at all Portland theaters last night where midnight matinees were held, following a custom of many seasons.

LOCAL RAILROADS PLAN

CONFERENCES BEING HELD TO EXPEDITE NORTHWEST TRAFFIC.

Meeting of Heads of Operating Departments of All Lines Called for Seattle for This Afternoon.

Heads of the operating departments of the various railroad systems represented here are holding conferences for putting into effect the operation of the Government's plan for the most direct and expeditious movement of freight and passenger traffic.

CRESCENT BAKING POWDER

Advertisement for Crescent Baking Powder: Has a sustained leavening action which assures a perfect raise. 25c a pound. Double Acting Baking Powder (B-99).

Advertisement for Olds, Wortman & King: The Standard Store of the Northwest. A Happy and Prosperous New Year. To Our Country—to Our Soldiers and Sailors and to You!

Advertisement for Hibernia Savings Bank: STATEMENT AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOV. 30, 1917. RESOURCES, LIABILITIES.

Advertisement for Porter-Scarpelli Macaroni Co.: A Home Product A Clean Product A Thrift Product. Made Under Most Sanitary Conditions in a Sunshine Factory.

Advertisement for Knight's Pickles: THE WESTERN STANDARD FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS. CATSUPS, VINEGARS, APPLE BUTTER, ETC. Knight Packing Co. PORTLAND, OR.

Advertisement for Tea Garden Products: SYRUP PRESERVES. The Highest Quality Produced. Pacific Coast Syrup Co. Portland, San Francisco, Seattle.

Advertisement for Mountain View Sanitarium Co.: 1017 Corbett Building, Portland, Oregon. Office Phone: Main 640. Mountain View Sanitarium, for Mild Mental Cases, Alcoholics and Drug Users. Waverleigh Sanitarium for Nervous Diseases.

Advertisement for Kaola Products Purest: Made from copra, the sun-dried meat of the coconut. Never a hand touches this butterfat provided by nature from the time the natives load the sun-cured coconuts until the refined product reaches your mixing-room.

Advertisement for Doernbecher: The Famous Doernbecher Line of Diningroom and Bedroom Furniture. Always in the Lead in Design—Originality Quality—Finish. The Doernbecher Line brings satisfaction to the ultimate buyer, increases business and prestige to the dealer.

Advertisement for Whisky: "Whisky" Proves to Be Water. WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—A raid on the hotel of Leo Rogers Saturday led to the finding of no liquor, but the officers found a number of empty barrels in the basement. Rogers finally admitted that he had bought the barrels supposedly filled with whisky, but investigation showed that they contained only water.

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