

CARD ROOM MENACE ASSAILED BY MAYOR

City Council Asked to Lift License Fee as Remedy.

EVIL GETS BEYOND POLICE

Municipal Executive Says Steps to Wipe Out Lawless Joints Have Become Necessary.

A heavy increase in the license fee charged by the city for operation of cardrooms, as a means of eliminating many such establishments, and holding the number to provide places of recreation for workmen, is urged in a letter to the city council by Mayor Baker. A full outline of the present situation was given verbally by the mayor at an informal meeting of the council held yesterday afternoon.

The present license fee for cardrooms is so low, according to the mayor, that any person without capital and perhaps with no desire to comply with the law, is able to open such an establishment.

Regulation Difficult at Present. The result is that the cardrooms have increased so rapidly that it is now impossible for the police, with its inadequate force, properly to regulate them all. Hence, many of such places have degenerated into gambling establishments and "moonshine emporiums," according to the mayor.

In his talk to the council, the mayor pointed out that the policy of licensing and regulating cardrooms was inaugurated by Mayor Albee, during his administration, as a means of giving the laboring masses places to seek recreation. This policy has the hearty endorsement of Mayor Baker.

But since this policy has been inaugurated, the present low license fee has caused many persons to enter the cardroom business as purely a commercial proposition.

Limitations of Rooms Recommended. "The low license fee now charged," the mayor stated, "has greatly increased the number of cardrooms that the police department, with its inadequate force, cannot possibly give such establishments proper regulation."

"There is no need for the city to be overrun with cardrooms. The license fee was applied to cardrooms to provide recreational headquarters for the man who could not afford to take advantage of facilities to be found in many of the clubs of the city. But it was not established for the purpose of giving many men an opportunity to establish cardrooms for the purpose of making profits."

"Unless the cardrooms are strictly regulated, gambling and illegal sale of liquor will be carried on and the cardrooms rapidly will become a constant source of annoyance to the community."

License Measure Is Remedy. "My recommendation to the council is that the license fee be increased by the council to an amount that will prevent irresponsible persons from obtaining licenses and so that the cardrooms will be placed on a legitimate basis."

No action was taken by the council and the mayor's formal report on the subject will come before the council next Wednesday. It is very probable that the council will adopt the mayor's suggestion as the means of eliminating many of the cardrooms now existing and preventing others from being established in the future.

A committee composed of City Commissioners Barber, Bigelow and Pier, City Attorney Grant and Chief of Police Jenkins, was appointed by the mayor to investigate the feasibility of cancelling licenses now held by cardrooms in order to bring the number operated down to such a point that the police will be able properly to supervise them.

EX-OFFICER IS ACCUSED

Leonard Morelock Charged With Robbing Chinese at La Grande.

Leonard Morelock, ex-policeman, ex-internal revenue officer and a former guard at the state penitentiary, was arrested early yesterday morning in this city on a warrant from the sheriff's office at La Grande, Or., charging him with robbery, specifically that he and another man robbed a citizen of La Grande on January 22.

LA GRANDE, Or., Jan. 27.—(Special.)—Leonard Morelock, arrested in Portland, is charged with robbing Ly Wo, a Chinaman, of \$120 Sunday afternoon. Morelock came here Sunday and about 4 o'clock in the afternoon went to Wo's place on the pretext of searching for narcotics, alleging that he was a federal official. He left here Sunday night and Monday a warrant charging him with the robbery was issued.

Morelock is a member of one of the pioneer families of this section and is a brother of Lee Morelock, United States deputy marshal at Portland, and of Tilden H. Morelock, formerly mayor of Joseph, who disappeared several months ago, leaving large debts. His former home was in Elgin, where the family lived for many years. He has been a resident of Portland for a number of years.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Oregon State Motor association held yesterday noon at the Multnomah hotel, A. H. Lea, secretary of the Oregon state fair, was elected president of the organization for the coming year. The meeting was the first held by the board since the annual meeting of the association and election of a new board of directors on January 18.

Additional officers chosen, all of whom were re-elected from last year, were: John H. Hall, vice-president; Charles R. Frazier, secretary; F. C. Stettler, treasurer; E. Shearer, assistant secretary. Mr. Lea succeeds A. L. Tetu, who was at the head of the organization during 1931.

At a session a resolution was adopted endorsing Mr. Lea as manager of the 1932 exposition and the secretary was authorized to send such a recommendation to the managing committee for the fair. The board also placed the association on record as favoring the early opening of the Columbia River highway and voted to meet with the county commissioners Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock to discuss the matter.

An amendment was proposed, which it was said will probably be acted upon favorably at the next meeting, changing the position of assistant secretary to that of manager, with greater responsibility placed upon that officer than in the past and greater salary allowed.

A. H. LEA HEADS AUTO MEN

OREGON ASSOCIATION ELECTS OFFICERS.

Meeting Will Be Held With County Commissioners on Opening of Columbia Highway.

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HEARSE IN TRUCK CLASS

Test Is Held to Determine What License Is to Be Paid.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 27.—(Special.)—A test to determine whether a hearse should be made to pay a state license as a pleasure car or as a truck, was staged at Stayton today by W. A. Weddle, president of the Oregon Funeral Directors' association.

Mr. Weddle loaded his hearse with a ton of oyster shell, and then for good measure took on a man of average weight. The test was made over four and one-half miles of rough road between Stayton and West Stayton and the hearse proved its ability to carry more than one ton and get over the highway without difficulty.

Under the motor vehicle law, which provides that a car which will carry more than a ton over ordinary roads without difficulty shall be classed as a truck, Mr. Weddle said he is convinced that a hearse is a truck and not a pleasure car. The attorney-general in an opinion given sometime ago held that a hearse should be licensed as a touring car, only when its carrying capacity is less than one ton. The question was put up to the attorney-general by the secretary of state.

SHERIDAN HEARING BEGUN

City Seeks Lower Rates and Better Light and Power Service.

SHERIDAN, Or., Jan. 27.—(Special.)—With two members of the public service commission present, together with Mr. Beebe, consulting engineer for the commission, the hearing of the case of the city of Sheridan against Sheridan Light & Power company began yesterday. J. T. Thompson, manager of the

Saturday is the Boys' Day-at Ben Selling's



New, seasonable merchandise is offered in the Boys' Store (Second Floor) at worth-while reductions. The specials listed below are but a few of the items that will please your boy—and you.

BOYS' ALL WOOL SUITS
with two pairs of knickers
\$9⁸⁵
Values, \$15 and upward.

Here's an exceptionally good value. All this season's suits, belted models, full lined, in Cassimeres, Tweeds and Cheviots. All sizes.

BOYS' MACKINAW
\$5⁹⁵ **\$7⁹⁵**
Sizes 5 to 12 years. Sizes 13 to 17 years.

Warm, heavy belted models in rich plaids and dark colors, having large roll collars and big roomy pockets.

BOYS' SWEATERS
\$1⁹⁵

Here's a good assortment of heavy yarn sweaters with large roll collars. Shades of Gray, Blue and Cardinal.

BEN SELLING LEADING CLOTHIER
MORRISON AT FOURTH

light and power company, was the important figure in the fight for lower rates and better service made by the city.

Mr. Thompson was asked if it were possible to run the Sheridan plant and the Williams plant entirely through the hydro departments and furnish power to the water turbine in the Sheridan plant during the seasons of the year when water is plentiful in a dilapidated condition and unfit for regular use.

S. & H. green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co., coal and wood. Mat. 353: 560-21.—Adv.

NEW SHOW TODAY



AND NOW COMES—THE MIRACLE GIRL FROM "THE MIRACLE MAN"—A 100% ENTERTAINMENT

Betty Compson
in
"The Law and the Woman"



Adapted from "The Woman in the Case," the noted play by Clyde Fitch.

A tale of miscarried "justice" that beauty and daring put right.

For when one woman, through hate, had sent a man to prison, another, through love, set out to make him free.

See her slip into the habits and haunts of the wasters she despised! See her play their reckless game, run down the lie and win!

A drama revealing the genius of Betty Compson like nothing else since "The Miracle Man."

TWO PART COMEDY
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Always Keates and Our Organ.

a
Paramount
Picture

KEATES' CONCERT SUNDAY AT 12:30

H-LIEBES & CO.

Furs and individual style shops Broadway at Morrison

Saturday's Specials

Full-lined, brocaded corduroy robes
6.45
A new shipment!

Brocaded—full mull lined—corduroy robes—priced less than you'd pay ordinarily for a plain, unlined garment! You may choose, too, from turquoise, American beauty, purple and blue—all belted—all with pockets—all warm and of the utmost service.

This value is so unusual that we urge you to shop early!

Harriet Lee makes selections for out-of-town customers

H. Liebes & Co.
ESTABLISHED 1884

LAST TIMES TODAY—AND—SUNDAY

"Just Around the Corner"

A Paramount Picture by Fannie Hurst

You have but today and Sunday to see this picture full of love and human nature. Then, there's the "Romance of a Raindrop," an Oregon-made film that shows you a lot of things about your own Oregon.



RETURN ENGAGEMENT
Sir James M. Barrie's
"THE LITTLE MINISTER"


The Paramount version of Maude Adams' stage success, featuring Betty Compson.

STARTS MONDAY



STARTING TODAY
FOR ONE WEEK ONLY

Continuous 11 to 11 P. M.



BLUE MOUSE CONCERT ORCHESTRA

LEO BRYANT Conductor

ANOTHER BIG WILLIAM FOX SUPER-SPECIAL THAT WILL THRILL AND STARTLE ALL PORTLAND—SUCH IS

NOTE!
A Plain Statement of Facts About
"SHAME"

"After viewing it, I must agree with eastern critics, for it is surely a great picture. It is the biggest, most thrilling, best acted, best directed and finest photographed super-production I have yet shown in my theater and I question whether a bigger picture has been seen in Portland in the past year."
—JOHN HAMRICK.

BLUE MOUSE THEATRE
100% John Hamrick WASH. AT 11TH

SHAME