

CHRIS MAS CRASH IS OVERWHELMING

2000 Extra Clerks Taxed to Limit by Demands of Holiday Shoppers.

WOMEN MOST IN EVIDENCE

Real Estate and Automobiles Popular as Gifts, But There Is No Relief From Pressure at Old Points.

With close to 2000 extra clerks hired and arrangements completed for extended business hours, Portland business houses are prepared for the annual strife and turmoil of final-week Christmas shopping.

All corners capable of service as salespeople were being hired yesterday by the leading stores. One big firm had taken on 400 extra hands, mostly girls and women.

Stores to Be Open Evenings. Substantially all the stores will operate evenings from now on. Business hours range from 12 to 12 1/2 hours.

The hours of the women will not be greatly increased in any of the downtown stores of the city. Lipman, Wolfe & Co. announced that the women sales force would not be required to appear for duty until 9:30 o'clock and would be relieved at 9:30 P. M.

Judging from preliminary sales, Portland will spend as much again for Christmas this year as during any past season. Five million dollars is the estimate one business house fixes for the final ten-day dash in Portland.

Real Estate Gifts Popular. Even the real estate dealers will profit for the giving of real property for Christmas has of late years become popular among people even of limited means.

While the various business houses have been experiencing a lively business for two weeks or more, the first touch of the Christmas shopping developed last night. Streets and stores were in a turmoil of activity.

There were more men about than heretofore, but again the women were 16 or 20 to one. The male population of Portland's shoppers has not awakened to the nearness of Christmas.

And, unbelievable as it may sound, men prove even harder customers than women. Salespeople say that when it comes to shopping "frankness" the male Christmas shopper is in a class by himself.

There are exceptions to this rule which, as was once pointed out, only goes to prove the rule. "No trespassing" and "Cut no trees" are signs that will meet those who join the annual pilgrimage to the woods for Christmas trees today.

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However, there is considerable open land left where young firms may be taken without possibility of legal conflict, and the amateur woodsmen will have merely to avoid the property bearing such signs.

Postoffice Business Grows. Postmaster Believes Limit of Present Building Is Reached.

Careful tally of the number of persons who have transacted business at the Portland Postoffice during the past week is indicative of the tremendous holiday business which is taxing the building to its utmost capacity.

Every nook of the present building has been utilized for space to accommodate the public, and officers of the Government believe the limit of the present building has been reached.

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Alleged Former Convict Arrested on Complaint of Astoria's ex-Mayor.

Fred Deming, alias Cusick, 34 years old, and thought to be an ex-convict from the penitentiary at Folsom, Cal., was arrested for alleged forgery yesterday morning by Detective James Coleman at Fourth and Burnside streets.

Photographer Drops Cyanide Into Ale, and Realizing Mistake, He Leaves Note for Family.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A remarkable description was given of the death of E. J. T. Webb, a well-known Portsmouth lawyer, at the inquest yesterday morning.

When William Griffith, Deputy United States Marshal, yesterday picked up a woman's fat-looking purse from the floor of the corridor in the Federal building, he proved his honesty by handing it to the first woman he saw— but here is the story:

"I guess I have proved that I'm not a grafter," said the deputy, as he burst into the office of the Marshal. "I just picked up a purse in the hall. It belonged to some woman, and I spotted a lady standing at one of the general delivery windows. Stepping up to her, I asked if she knew to whom the purse belonged, and she said she thought she did. I gave it to her."

Princess Appears in Comic Opera. PARIS, Dec. 18.—Princess Robert de Beugle, whose marriage to Estelle Alexander, the American singer, in Chicago was annulled by the French courts in 1907, has made his debut as an actor in comic opera at Nice.

Bugle Calls to Be Heard. Bugle Band to Give Complimentary to Oregon National Guard.

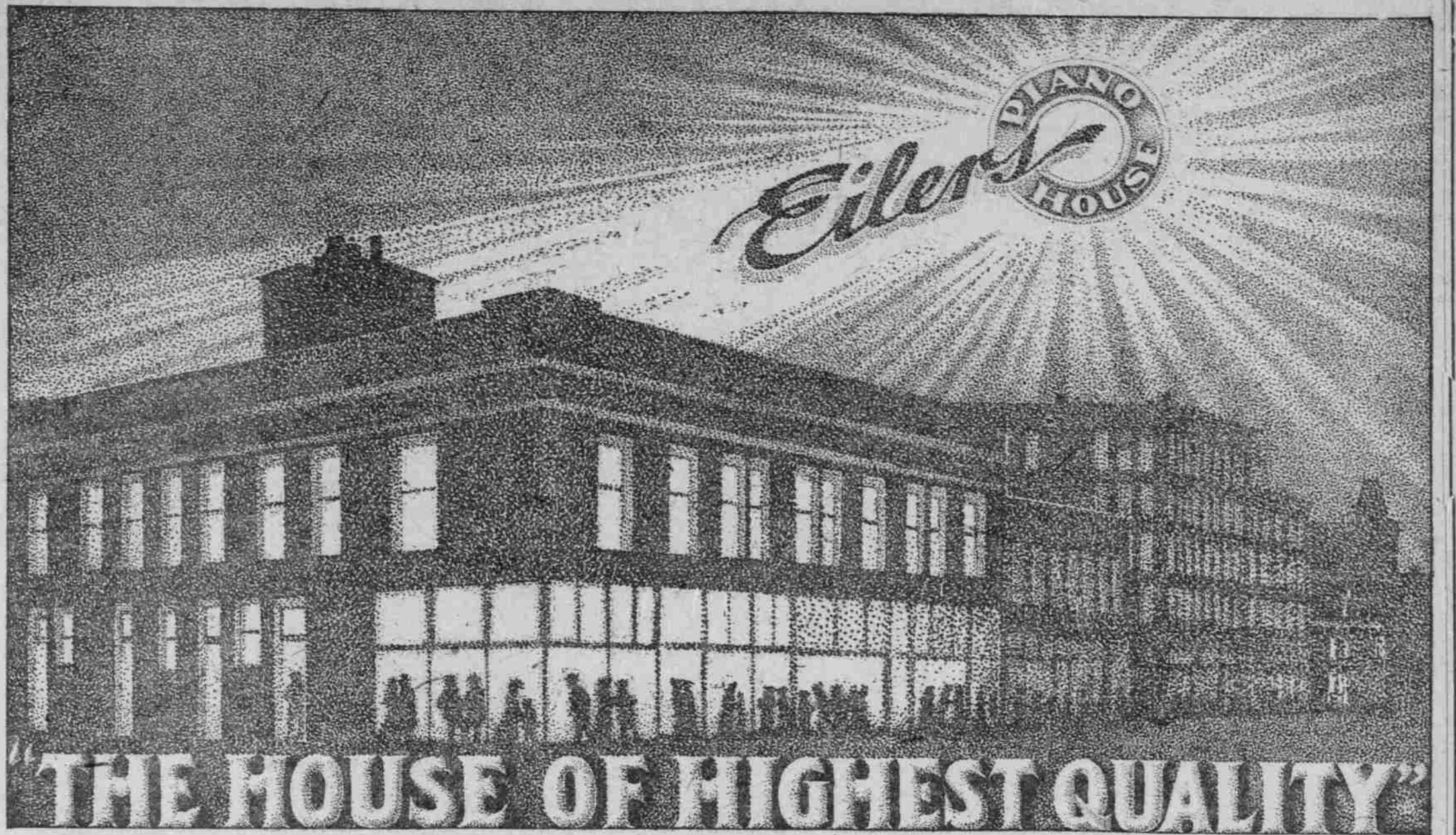
Bugle calls of the leading armies of the world will be sounded at the Armory tomorrow night when the bugle band from the Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles will give a complimentary concert to the officers and men of the Third Infantry, Oregon National Guard.

Man Writes of Death. DRINKS POISON BY MISTAKE AND JOTS ACCOUNT.

Forgery Charge Faced. Alleged Former Convict Arrested on Complaint of Astoria's ex-Mayor.

EILERS PIANO HOUSE FOR XMAS GIFTS

OPEN EVERY EVENING NOW



THE HOUSE OF HIGHEST QUALITY

DEAL AT HEADQUARTERS

All that is worthiest and best in Pianos, Organs, Talking Machines, etc., is here. Also the wonderful Pianola Pianos, the Orchestrelle and the little Cabinet Pianola, which can be readily attached if you already own a piano.

EILERS PIANO HOUSE

HEADQUARTERS 353 WASHINGTON ST.

STORES EVERYWHERE

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Talks on Teeth

THE ENDLESS CHAIN

If we depended alone on these talks on teeth to advertise the wonders of the Alveolar method of dentistry, we would not be able to pay our running expenses.

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The Highest Grade—Every Modern Convenience. Centrally located and commanding a view of the city.

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Gray Hair Restored. "WALNUTTA HAIR STAIN" Restores Gray, Striped or Thinning Hair to Black.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS. A New Vital Restorative. Stops all drains. Braces weak nerves. Cures weakness from any cause.

SEXOID. A New Vital Restorative. Stops all drains. Braces weak nerves. Cures weakness from any cause.

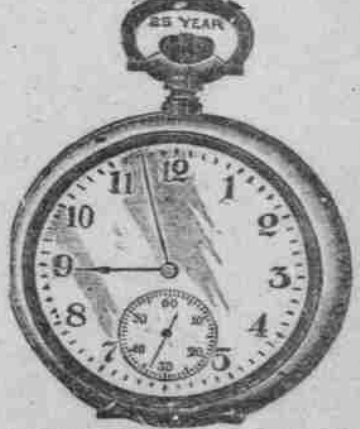
Christmas Specials

MONEY SAVED

Compare these prices with other jewelers and you will see that we save you from 10 to 25 per cent. We carry a large assortment of Diamonds \$500 to \$1000.

1/4 KARAT DIAMONDS, FINE WHITE COLOR FROM \$25.00 TO \$35.00

1/2 KARAT DIAMONDS, FINE WHITE COLOR FROM \$60.00 TO \$75.00



18-SIZE WALTHAM OR ELGIN, 20-YEAR CASE, 7-JEWEL \$ 9.00 - 17-jewel \$12.00

16-SIZE WALTHAM OR ELGIN, 20-YEAR CASE, 7-JEWEL \$ 9.25 - 17-jewel \$14.25

12-SIZE WALTHAM OR ELGIN, 20-YEAR CASE, 7-JEWEL \$ 9.25 - 17-jewel \$14.25

0-SIZE WALTHAM OR ELGIN, 20-YEAR CASE, 7-JEWEL \$11.50 - 15-jewel \$15.00

Boys' Watches... \$5

SOLID GOLD BIRTHSTONE RINGS... \$2

SOLID GOLD SEAL RINGS... \$2

GERMAN SILVER MESH BAGS, large sizes, from... \$3 to \$4.50

SILVER TOILET SETS from... \$7 to \$10

We Give a Written Guarantee With Every Article Sold—All Goods Engraved Free of Charge.

Standard Jewelry Store

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