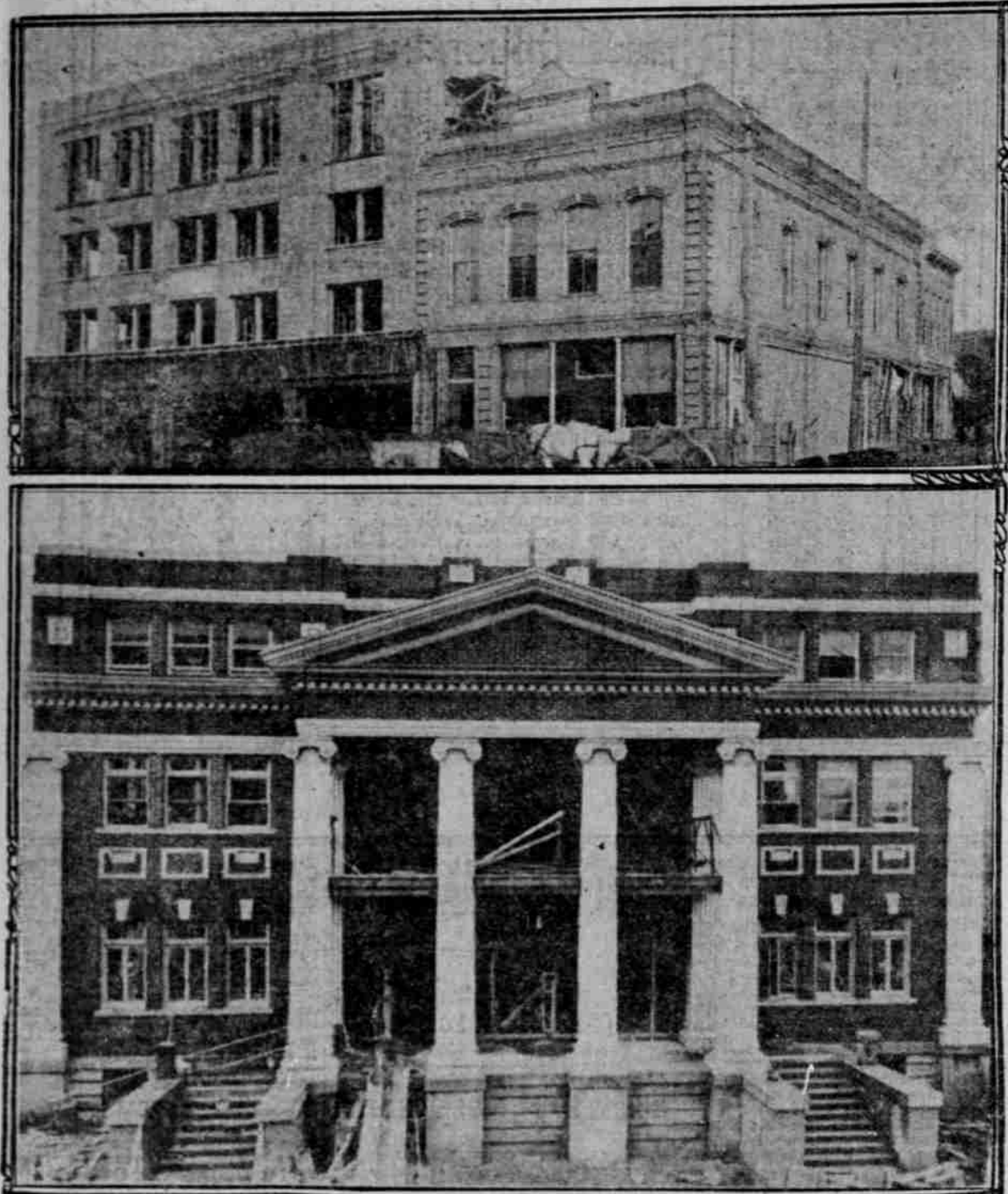


MASONS AND ELKS OF THE DALLES BUILD HOMES ON OPPOSITE CORNERS

Handsome Building of Father of Orders to Be Partially Ready by First of Year, When Old Structure Will Be Remodeled—B. P. O. E. Edifice Planned Exclusively for Lodge.



THE DALLES, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)

The commodious brick structures being built on opposite corners of Third and Union streets by the local lodges of Elks and Masons are fast nearing completion. The four-story business block covering 100 by 116 feet the Masons are building will be ready for many of its tenants the first of January, and the Elks' temple built solely as a home for the lodge will be completed next spring.

When the addition to the Masonic block is completed, the tenants now occupying the old structure will be moved to quarters in the new part which have been prepared according to personal directions, and the old building will be rebuilt to conform in style to the new.

The basement is built of concrete under the whole ground floor. A modern steam-heating plant is in the basement and the electric elevator runs from the basement to the top floor, a stairway being built around the elevator well. A 10-foot lightwell running the entire length of the building east and west is between the new building and the old to accommodate the new inside office rooms. The finishing wood used throughout the whole building is native Oregon pine in dark finish.

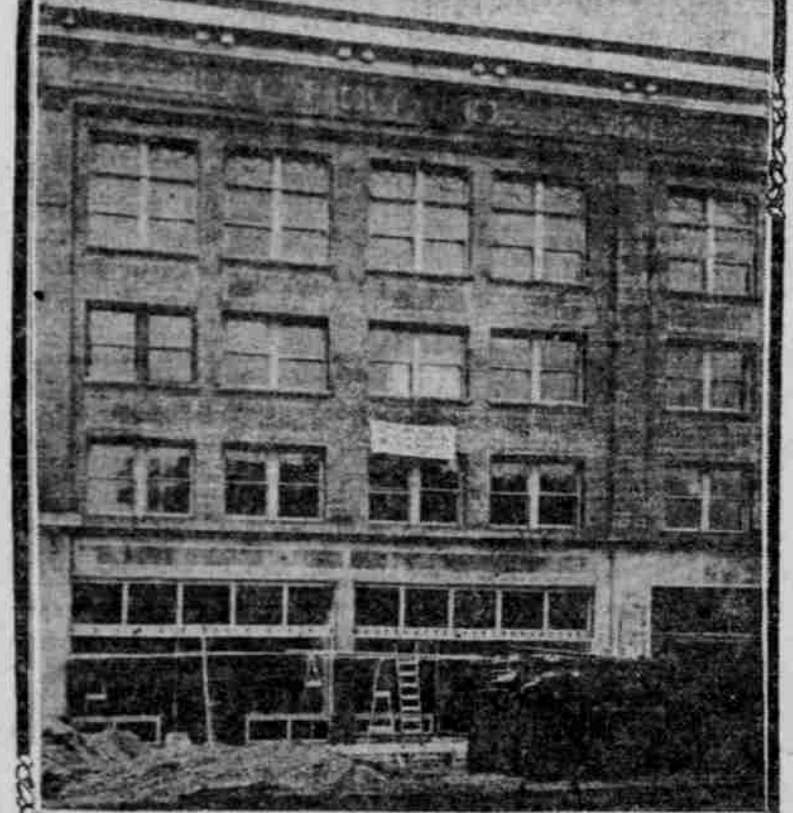
The top floor of the new part is occupied exclusively by the Masonic lodges in the city, the Masons, Royal Arch, Commandery and Eastern Star. Looking down on Court street is the reception hall and large banquet hall. Adjoining are the kitchen, lockers, bathroom, cloakrooms and lavatories. The lodge hall is finished with beamed ceiling and will be beautifully furnished. When the old part is rebuilt its fourth floor will be arranged as a lodgehall for rental purposes.

The third and second floors have been arranged for office suites. The north-west corner of the third floor has been fitted especially for the United States Land Office, which has leased the rooms for two years, though the Dalles is a Federal building. A fireproof vault is built in these rooms for the Government records. Poster files will have office rooms on the floor just below the land office.

Fronting on Court street the first floor of the new part will be occupied by two business buildings. A new firm, which will deal in exterior furnishings, has leased one and a local grocery firm will occupy the other. A large lobby connects with the halls and stairways on the ground floor.

The Elks' temple, which is modeled on Ionic lines of architecture, and occupies 15 by 15 feet of ground space, is the only building of its kind in the Pacific Northwest used exclusively as a classroom with no stores or offices to rent to outsiders. Several rooms have been arranged for bachelor quarters on the third floor, and will be rented exclusively to members of the order.

On the second floor is the lodge hall, 50 by 70 feet, extending to the top of the third floor with beamed ceiling and an organ loft above the stage on the third floor. The stage is of standard size and a springroller, maple floor has been laid. This hall will be for use by conventions, musical parties, receptions, grand balls, dances and the like. On this floor, connecting with the main floor are the lodge ante-rooms, lockers, ladies' cloak-room and a large banquet hall, with lockers and connected by dumb waiters with the kitchen below. The main entrance to the first floor is on Third street, the massive porch pillars of terra cotta contrasting finely with the red brick. The floor of the loggia will



ABOVE, NEW MASONIC BUILDING—CENTER, FRONT VIEW OF ELKS' TEMPLE—BELOW, FRONT VIEW OF ADDITION TO MASONIC BUILDING.

be tiled, with an elk's head inlaid. The stairways lead to the upper floors from this hall. The large corridor is finished with several marble columns at the side and through the center. Opening from this is a large reading-room, with cozy fireplace and several French windows opening on a terraced porch looking on Court street. Beyond is a cardroom with fireplace. At the back and east sides are rooms for the secretary and librarians. Of the school department, there is a large billiard-room, with ample space for four tables. These floors are all polished oak and the whole building is finished with native Oregon fir.

The basement is of concrete. The steam-heating plant and a swimming pool 20 by 30 feet are in the basement. Hot and cold water connections reach every part of the building.

RUSH OF HOLIDAY SEASON IS SIGNAL OF GREAT ACTIVITY BY SHOPLIFTERS

Merchants Then Enlist Aid of More Detectives and Wily Thieves Seldom Get Away Safe With Loot—Young and Old, Deft at Tricky Plundering, Are Watched Constantly.

BY LULU MAE JOHNSON.

WITH the holiday season and its concomitant crowds, alluring displays and easy access to merchandise, come the shoplifters, or "light-fingered customers." At this season of the year all the stores are visited by these "patrons" who, rather than bother the clerks, prefer waiting on themselves.

Portland has never been so infested with these obliging people as in this season, and in most of the establishments the detective force, or body of "spotters" has been augmented to act as a reception committee for the sleight-of-hand artists.

Of the professional shoplifters there are not many in Portland, the larger cities, which offer a broader and more lucrative field, harboring most of this class. Occasionally those who bear the stamp and wear the soiled of an "artist" are found, yet the majority of those who operate here are amateurs.

As the goods-gatherers exert their

mental faculties to devise new schemes by which they may perpetuate their arts of trade; so also do the merchants at this season of the year have something new to offer in the way of surprises for this get-rich-easy tribe, and very few get farther than a block away with their booty. This point has been so well and thoroughly worked out by the merchants that most of the miscreants are caught.

As varied in appearance as the mirthful-looking "lifters" are the sleuths who are put on their trail. They are composed of both men and women and well-versed in the ways of the wary and wily-looking shopper to the alert, well-groomed, imported detective. They are of the old and bent species, and the young and officious, and at no time must they be caught "sleeping at the switch."

As a rule it is the feminine "lifters" who win out in the game, due no doubt to the fact that they are better able to conceal goods on their persons.

Shoplifters are composed of pilferers

who are unable to resist the temptation to "take" things which appeal to them, and the thorough and through thief, who would rather steal than make an honest living. They vary in age and appearance from the well-dressed young men with a vast amount of warts and minus the wherewithal with which to satisfy them, to the grandmotherly type, bent and withered wearing an old-fashioned "dollman" coat and carrying a capacious old-fashioned market bag; from the unsophisticated-looking youth with his flaring necktie and awkward manners to the avaricious man on whose face and form time has stamped the lines of age.

The shoplifter must be well supplied with "nerve." It requires an over-abundance of that attribute to prompt a man to walk into a fitting room to try on a pair of trousers and when an opportunity offers itself, to walk out, down the aisles of the store and out on the street without exhibiting the least concern.

There is also the woman who graciously steps aside to make room for another customer and leisurely walks out of the store with a \$50 hat adorning her head.

Even when these people are caught, they show no signs of nervousness. Hooks which are fastened ingeniously on the inside of coats and waists are so apt to catch on dainty and expensive jacks. When detected the fair lifters laugh at the "accident" and wonder how it occurred, expressing herself as "extremely sorry."

One woman visited a millinery department and in her inspection of the display put accessible goods in the umbrella she carried. When the saleswoman, Franko, it was raining and unthinkingly, the fair one raised her umbrella, and the flowers, ribbons and all fell to the sidewalk, much to the amusement of the passerby and the gratification of the store spotter immediately behind her.

Basket Holds Loot.

Another person, whom one of the store employes happened to know slightly, entered the establishment with a lunch-basket neatly covered with a white napkin. The employe was suspicious and to make sure before making the accusation, he approached the customer and playfully grabbed the napkin off, exclaiming: "Got something good to eat in there?"

Instead of a lunch, the basket contained handkerchiefs, neckwear and other "takings."

While one woman was wearing a pair of gloves tried on at the ribbon and

glove counter, she slyly thrust a bolt of ribbon in the bosom of her coat, but unfortunately left an end hanging out. The clerk had been too quick-sighted for the woman, and grasping the protruding ribbon, asked: "What's this?"

The "lifter" commenced pulling the ribbon out by the yard, when the clerk said: "Don't unwind all of that, because I will have to roll it up again." The woman took the bolt from her bosom and thrust it into a man's hands to the clerk. The incident had been witnessed by a store detective.

A clever attempt was made by a man to appropriate a suit. He walked into a clothing store and wanted to pay \$5 which he said he owed. The books were referred to and he was told there was no account against his name. He insisted he owed that amount and laid down the \$5.

As he started for the door he paused and examined the suits. A clerk asked him if he did not wish to buy a suit.

"No," he answered, "I won't have the money until payday."

Further conversation followed, and the man later walked away with a new suit charged to his account.

However, most of the shoplifters comprise those it seems easy to walk away with merchandise in crowded stores, but on the contrary it is a very difficult task, and the person who attempts it finds there are "eyes on him," and he is nabbed before he gets far with his plunder.

CITY LIBRARY WORK IS OF GREAT PROPORTIONS

Scope of Institution Shown by Report to Be Large—Need of More Room Felt—Relations of Library and Schools Now Closer Than Ever.

Showing a large increase over last year in the work of the Public Library, a report read by Miss Mary Franko, librarian, at the annual meeting of the Library Association last week, outlines in detail what is being done in each department.

"During the past year," says the report, "the library has not only maintained the rate of growth expected, but has far exceeded it. Five hundred and fifty-two thousand, seven hundred and twenty-two volumes were drawn for home use, a gain of \$6,423 over the preceding 12 months, and a great volume of work was accomplished in every department."

The following table gives the results of the year's activities:

Total number of volumes in library at end of year	99,582
Total number of volumes in reading collection at end of year	11,678
Total circulation from lending collection	532,722
Total attendance (approximate)	787,815
Total number of members	39,284

The membership, circulation of books and the per cent of fiction read, were distributed through the city and county, as follows:

Membership—Central	23,254	Sellwood	12,712
Albina	2,928	East Side	2,928
Circulation—Central	323,828	Sellwood	22,712
Albina	4,413	East Side	44,963
schools	14,867	schools	887
Patron tickets	1,111	Patron tickets	1,111
Albina	53	East Side	54
schools	40	total	32

More Room Is Needed.

In regard to the need of more buildings, Miss Franko says:

"The crowded conditions noted in the last report still prevail. We still need more branches and well-equipped branch buildings; we still need a central administration building, commodious and properly arranged for carrying on the constantly increasing work. It requires much ingenuity to shove the monthly accessions of books and to provide a standing room for the library visitors."

"Each year the capacity of the periodical room seems to have reached its limit, but each year there is reported an increase of use; there was a gain this year of 581 over the preceding 12 months. All the educational magazines have been removed from this room to the school department.

The circulating department shows a gain of over 3000 per month, while a large gain is shown at all of the branch libraries. Of the school department, which was opened during the year, the report says:

item was approved at the taxpayers' meeting in January without a dissenting voice.

"The directors of the Library Association, in turn, voted to administer and supervise these classroom libraries, to pay all charges except the actual cost of the books. Then the school department was established. Miss Harriet A. Wood, formerly librarian of the public library at Cedar Rapids, Ia., was engaged as school librarian and entered upon her duties on April 12. Under her able management the organization has proceeded rapidly and effectively."

Room Given Teachers.

"In order to assist the teachers in their school work, a room has been set aside for their use at the west end of the central library building. This room adjoins both the adult circulating department and the children's room, and is open from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. to all teachers in Portland, whether in public, private or parochial schools. All books for educational purposes may be drawn here on the teacher's regular library card. The shelves contain pedagogical books and duplication of volumes not strictly professional if frequently needed by teachers. Here are also every well-known educational magazine as well as others that may be helpful.

The following tells of the gifts that were presented to the library during the year:

"Seven hundred and seven-odd volumes, which include United States public domain and Oregon state publications, and 2747 pamphlets, were presented to the library during the year. For these gifts we are greatly indebted to the state and city governments, publishers, institutions and other libraries. The most notable gift which the library received and which it has placed among its rare possessions are the 26 volumes of "The North American Indian," the work of Edward S. Curtis, of Seattle, five volumes of text and five volumes of plates have been received, and the rest will be forthcoming on publication.

"The first volume bears the names of the donors engraved on a vellum sheet, and this adds greatly to the value of the work to the library. The donors were: W. B. Ayer, Mrs. Caroline A. Ladd, Paul Wessinger, Henry Wagner, Miss Genevieve Thompson, Mrs. Gordon Voorhies, Mrs. William Shepard Biddle, Miss Maud Ainsworth, Mrs. Ralph Jenkins, Mrs. Lee Hoffman, J. C. Ainsworth, the H. W. Corbett estate, the R. Gilsen estate and the A. Meier estate.

"Mrs. J. B. Montgomery generously presented the library with a complete set of the American Archives now so scarce, and with other public documents of value."

Relations Are Close.

"The relations between the schools and the library, unofficially, have always been very close. By means of carefully prepared reading lists for teachers and departments by the publishing of a monthly educational bulletin, by frequent visits to schools, and talks at teachers' and principals' meetings, and by offering special privileges to teachers in drawing books, and by purchasing in quantity the books recommended to classes, the library has endeavored both to meet and to encourage the demands of teacher and pupil.

"On the part of the teacher the response has been cordial. Four hundred and thirty-nine teachers availed themselves of the special card privilege during the last school year and 21,228 volumes were drawn upon these cards from the children's room alone. It was evident that larger service would be appreciated, therefore, in the yearly budget of the Board of Education the sum of \$10,000 was set aside for the purchase of books for classroom libraries. This

Eastern Star Elects Officers.

At the annual election of Camelia Chapter No. 27, Order of Eastern Star, held on the night of the last regular meeting of the chapter, the following officers were elected: Worthy matron, Mrs. Hattie L. Aldrich; worthy patron, G. A. Johnson; associate matron, Mrs. Belle Widner; secretary, Mrs. Lydia Butterworth; treasurer, Mrs. Arsene Harresehau; conductress, Mrs. Clara Graham; associate conductress, Mrs. Florence P. Johnson.

Holliness Association to Convene.

The Oregon Holliness Association will hold a convention from January 5 to 25 at the Baptist Church, East Ankeny street, with Rev. Eldred Robinson of Peniel, Tex., and Seth C. Rees, of Pasadena, Cal., in charge.

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