

STORE CLOSERS AT 7 P. M. EXCEPT SATURDAY.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE

Misses' Fast Black Cotton Hose

Sizes 6 to 10, 15 and 20 cents per pair.

The A. Dunbar Co

Headquarters for Dry Goods on the Lower Columbia.

RUMORS ARE CONTRADICTORY

(Continued from Page One.)

minority of club men and officers in town last night. The majority still considered it impossible that Mr. Conger's message could have been sent in less than two days from Peking to Shan Tung, or that it was written on last Wednesday, and they attached no importance to any bulletins or guarantees from a viceroy after a full month of promiscuous mendacity.

The file also states that a private message has been received today which states the Japanese minister has given news of himself in terms analogous to those of Minister Conger.

NEW YORK, July 23.—An officer of H. M. S. Barfleur writing from Taku, under date of June 18 last, says:

"On Saturday the admirals met on board the Russian flagship and determined that the Taku forts must be taken. The Chinese in them were informed that they must give them up by 2 o'clock on Sunday or they would be attacked.

"Five gunboats were all the force available, the fleets being unable to get near enough. They were the Russian Bobre and Horveta, the German Itis, the French Leon and the English Algerine. The two British destroyers, Fame and the Whiting, were also available.

"The Algerine had a most trying time having been anchored for days under the guns of a fort capable of annihilating her at one discharge. The gunboats were in the river and consequently could not get up behind the forts, which are chiefly planned to fire seaward. But it was known that the Chinese had mounted extra guns to fire landward.

"On Saturday a little more than 1000 men were taken from the fleets and conveyed up the river in tugs, the Chinese foolishly allowing them to pass the forts. These men landed directly the fighting commenced, and making their way across country, stormed the forts from the rear. It was a bright moonlight night.

"The Chinese commenced. They opened fire at 1 o'clock, much to our people's surprise. The gun and torpedo boats moved directly to the part of the river settled on beforehand, and there, keeping in motion, engaged the forts. The two British destroyers went direct to the Chinese torpedo depot, where four torpedo boats were lying. Each destroyer towed an armed boat, and they were thus able to board all four Chinese boats at the same time, overpowering their crews and securing them. They then towed their captures up above Tong Ku, allowing the Itis to come down.

"At night a tremendous fire went on and at 6 o'clock it seemed we should fall, but just after six the new south fort blew up with a terrific explosion, shaking us like an earthquake. The south fort still kept firing, but at 8 o'clock gave in.

"What happened during the night was that the British and Japanese landing party had captured the large north batteries by 4 o'clock and then turned those guns on the south forts.

"Strange to say, the gunboats suffered very little; the shot passed over them and did more damage at Tong Ku than to them. One Russian boat only was seriously hit, and she was put out of action, had a boiler explosion and nearly sank. The Whiting was pierced and just escaped a boiler explosion, a five-inch shell being found lying in the bent tubes of her starboard after-boiler. Three officers and four men were wounded on board the Algerine. One Barbouer man was killed and one was wounded on shore, and the total British loss during the night was one killed and thirteen wounded.

"The Japanese commander on shore was killed and the captain of the Itis had one foot shot off. He is getting on well now. The Itis also lost her second lieutenant and five men. The killed on board the Russian Bobre was over 20. Had the Chinese fired shell that burst, the losses would have been very different, but either they did not fire shell or else it was shell that seldom burst.

"A Chinese cruiser forms part of the fleet here, a new and very powerful ship. Had she dared she could have done great mischief in the fleets, for the ships, though powerful, are nearly empty of men and very helpless. She has now been taken possession of by the Germans, and her guns have been disabled.

WHY DO THE HEATHEN RAGE?

Baptist Minister Thinks Catholics Are Responsible.

NEW YORK, July 22.—Rev. Robert

S. MacArthur, preaching in Calvary Baptist church last night on the subject, "Why Do the Heathen Rage?" said:

"The heathen are raging, that is certain. China amazes the world. Five years ago Japan alone annihilated her army and navy. Now she defies all the European nations. China has been called the riddle of the world; the jest of all nations.

"Doubtless some missionaries are largely responsible for the present uprising in China. All the missionaries who refrain from civil functions and confine themselves simply to preaching the gospel are not responsible for these uprisings. They follow the American idea of separation of church and state. They do not interfere between their converts and the Chinese authorities.

"These missionaries who combine civil authority with their religious instruction are partly responsible for the condition of things in China. More than three hundred years ago in Japan the Roman Church persecuted the Japanese who refused to accept their doctrine. At this moment similar things are at work in China. Bishops have told tales which excite the jealousy of the Chinese.

"Some missionaries actually sit as justices in civil cases and impose fines and other temporal penalties. They soon surround themselves with all the dignity of kingly rulers, and the native heathen do not distinguish between the ecclesiastical and civil rule. The result is an anti-foreign feeling. An anti-foreign feeling has been developed, and no one can help but see that the first attack is made upon the missionaries who have assumed to exercise civil power.

"I was in China five years ago this month, and many of the conditions I examined on the spot. I also have the testimony of missionaries on the ground at this moment. They declare the bishops secure the release of their converts when brought before the courts, and that the authority of the French consul is often invoked to emphasize the demands of the priests and bishops.

"The same thing is going on in the Philippines at the present time. These things lead to uprisings. The war with Japan put an end for a time to a contemplated uprising of the Boxers. Only missionaries who confine themselves simply to their religious duties can do any good. Those who do not only provoke uprisings on the part of the jealous Asiatics.

"Nothing is clearer than it is the duty of the United States government to protect the lives and property of its citizens. Great Britain has invoked the admiration of the whole world because of her army and navy, and is ready to protect her citizens with them."

BRAVE BUT NOT RECKLESS.

General Miles Praises American Officers.

NEW YORK, July 23.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Colonel Liscum's death while leading the Ninth United States Infantry, in the fight of the allied forces at Tien Tsin, has led many to ask if our officers are not needlessly reckless while under fire. General Miles, answering this question, said:

"American officers are as brave as any in the world. They rank as high in valor as the officers of any European government. Neither in Cuba or in Porto Rico did they needlessly expose themselves. Colonel Liscum met his death at the head of his regiment, and here I might say that the records will show that the percentage of Colonels killed in action is greater in proportion to their number than those killed in any other grade.

"The colonel's place is with his regiment, and when it advances he generally leads. It is his duty to discover the position of the enemy and to keep his men in an advantageous position. Officers are always a mark for the enemy, and the duties of a colonel naturally expose him more or less. Unmounted the colonel is at a disadvantage, as he cannot so readily cover the ground. Mounted, he is more easily a target for the sharpshooters of the opposing force.

"The colonel is generally to be found with the colors in the center of the regiment, the lieutenant-colonel commanding the right wing and the major the left. The regiment guides on the colors. If they are advanced the command moves forward. If they are moved back the alignment is still kept by a backward movement. Next to the colonel the most dangerous position is that of color-bearer, and I saw at the battle of Antietam 12 men successively killed as they came, one by one picked up and carried on the colors."

The general was reminded of the

criticism of our officers at Santiago by the German attaché who watched the operations of the Americans, who said they were needlessly and wantonly reckless.

The general said he did not agree with him and was of the opinion that the German was greatly mistaken.

General Miles refused to discuss whether or not the English officers were reckless in their way in South Africa, saying he was not in a position to express an opinion on that matter.

CHINESE HAVE A SIGNAL.

Chicago Celestials Prepared to Meet Mob Violence.

CHICAGO, July 23.—The inhabitants of Chinatown in this city have evidently adopted a signal in case they should be attacked by a mob. Last night over 100 responded to a call for help from Moy Yen, proprietor of a restaurant, and nearly overpowered Sergeant Mooney and two detectives of the Harrison Street Station before the astonished policemen could announce their identity and convince the excited Mongolians that they were making an arrest and not seeking to avenge atrocities committed in China.

As the three officers approached Yen's place a cry of alarm was raised. From every direction every doorway swarmed with Chinamen who, as they afterward explained, were answering the alarm recently adopted to rescue the Chinese inhabitants from avengers of diplomats supposed to be slain. When the first rush of the Celestials was made the policemen drew their revolvers and held the crowd at bay, informing them that at the same time of their mission. It was soon understood they had been tricked and an angry and disgusted crowd of Chinamen disappeared.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.

Three Companies Leaving Governor's Island For the Far East.

NEW YORK, July 23.—Governor's Island and the ferry entrance at the Battery recall the days when the troops were preparing to start for the south at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War.

Three companies of the Fifteenth United States Infantry, I, K and L, are under orders to leave Governor's Island tomorrow for San Francisco, and the soldiers believe they will see active service in China before they return to this part of the world. Relatives and friends—the majority of them women—spent as many hours of Sunday with them as the rules and regulations would permit. Many a tearful eye was seen by the visitors, but the soldiers themselves joked and laughed and enjoyed themselves generally as if they were proud of fighting in a foreign land.

The three companies that will begin the long journey tomorrow will be under the command of Major Cornish. Preparations for departure have all been completed, baggage is packed and officers and men are ready for the sound of the buglers "fall in." At Ogden, Utah, company M, of the same regiment, will join the contingent from Governor's Island. This company for a long time has been at Fort McPherson, Ga. The companies will go into camp at the Presidio in San Francisco, preparatory to shipping for the Philippines or China, as may be determined by the war department.

The departure of the companies of the Fifteenth regiment will leave General Brooke with but a small garrison at Governor's Island until the arrival of the army corps now in Cuba. The island, which is the official headquarters of the department of the East, will be for the present garrisoned by companies of the Fifth artillery, now stationed at the harbor.

Army officials in this city, particularly those attached to the quartermaster's department, are very busy in looking after the troops ordered home from Cuba to their old stations. The belief is general that these commands will not long be permitted to enjoy the comforts of their home stations, but after a brief period they will be sent to the East via San Francisco. Company E of the battalion of engineers, two officers and one hundred men stationed at this point, is under orders to proceed to the East. The detachment will get away tomorrow. More troops are expected here this week from Cuba. The transport Rawlins is now on the way with part of the Fifth Infantry, which will go to Fort Sheridan, near Chicago. Two battalions of the Second Infantry, 22 officers and 550 men, are on the transport Sedgewick which is expected here tomorrow. These troops will be sent west at once to recuperate and recruit.

Orders have been issued by the Washington authorities to withdraw the First Infantry, now stationed at Guantánamo and Pinar del Rio, in Cuba, and early next month part of the Eleventh Infantry will leave Cuba. A squadron of the Fifth cavalry has also been ordered from Cuba to Fort Meyer, Washington. These are all seasoned troops and it is expected they will be able to give good account of themselves. Army officers stationed around New York are inclined to the belief that most of the troops now under orders to go to San Francisco will be landed on Chinese soil.

Army officers say that the Chinese troubles and the prospects of United States troops seeing service in that country have been given a great impetus to recruiting in this city. Nearly all the regiments in the service are below their quotas, and the officers in charge of the recruiting stations have received orders to redouble their efforts to secure men for the regiments now in the field. Most of the applicants, many of them veterans of the Spanish

war, want to be assigned to regiments under orders or likely to receive orders to go to Asia. No difficulty is anticipated by those in army circles in securing all the men necessary.

BANK RATE FOUR PER CENT.

London Reports Money Scarce and Stock Market Dull.

NEW YORK, July 23.—The Times' London financial correspondent cables: The Chinese war scare has driven the bank rate up to four per cent, not the actual position of the market. Therefore for reasons already explained—mainly expenditure and borrowed money by the government—floating balances have been cheap and they remain cheap. But the bank has lost \$2,000,000 in gold since the end of May, when it lowered the rate from four to three and a half per cent, and the prospect is that a good deal will be lost between now and November. There is the rub.

Perhaps by taking steps so early it may be that the strain put upon us in the end of last year will not be repeated. At least this seems to be certain that four per cent will in due course be followed by five per cent. With that \$2,000,000 of treasury bills to be offered this week and the \$500,000 borrowed from the bank, the government floating debt will be up to about \$18,000,000, and to fund this debt and pay the expenses of the war to date at least another \$50,000 of "khaki" stock must be created, but we have no information about what the government disbursements may be thus far, and there is an inclination to postpone telling the truth as long as possible. So much floating debt is not good for the market, and increases its embarrassments.

For the moment, discount has risen close to four per cent, but the supply of mercantile bills is quite moderate and short credits remain cheap. Money for the week can still be had at 3 per cent. Unless, therefore, the Bank of England pulls in with one hand what it is obliged to pay out with the other, the four per cent rate cannot be kept effective, and, even if it were, it will not. The utmost we can hope for is that it may prevent the stock of the bank from being further trenced upon. The gold you send does not come here, and experts think it would not come to any extent, even were discount five per cent.

Obviously there can be no large stock exchange business in present circumstances. The prevailing heat would curtail operations, however, enthusiastic the public may be to gamble or invest, but apart altogether from that, there is no disposition to buy nor is the public willing to subscribe for new issues.

These are being poured out with a geyser-like velocity generated by long abstention. Huge combinations like the eight million pound cement corporation, considerable loans like the government's local loans issue and Swedish and Queensland loans are none of them being taken. The local loans issue has fallen to discount and was barely covered. The underwriters had to take 90 per cent of the Queensland loan and at least 70 per cent of the Swedish.

BRIGHTON BEACH RACES.

Four Days of Racing Begin Today.

NEW YORK, July 23.—At the Brighton Beach track stakes will be decided on four days of this week. The first event of importance is the Spinner stakes at six furlongs, for fillies, two-year-olds, to be run tomorrow. Several weeks ago a special sweepstakes to bring together the smartest fillies of the year—Sweet Lavender, Tower of Candies and Cap and Bells—was talked of, but if the Spinner fulfills its promise such sweepstakes will not be necessary, for all three are engaged in this stake together with a number of other well tried fillies, and the race ought to settle the question of merit.

On Wednesday the Istip stake for three-year-olds and upwards, gives promise of bringing out a high class. In it are Ethelbert, Imp, Jack Point, Kinley Mack, May Hempstead, Prince McClurg, Raffallo, Voter, Maribert, The Kenticule and a list of others that have won good races.

The main attraction on Thursday will be the Sea Gull handicap on a mile for three-year-olds, with Colonel Roosevelt, Hdrim, Maribert, McMeekin, Mark Cheek, Mesmerist, Missionary, Ten Candles, Toddy and Vulcan, among the most prominent of the 48 to be handicapped.

The \$5,000 Neptune, six furlongs for two-year-olds, and the Peconic, one mile, will be run on Saturday. Among the 51 two-year-olds engaged in the Neptune are All Green, Ballyhoo, Bey, Baron Pepper, Bedeck, Bella Rio, Command, Tommy Atkins, Handwork, Luke Ward, Prince Charles, Prince Pepper, Schoolmaster, The Puritan and Watercolor. In the Peconic, with 49 eligible entries are Prince of Melbourne, Brigadier James, Colonel Roosevelt, Hdrim, Merito, Mesmerist, Missionary, Maribert, Smaritan, Ten Candles, Toddy and Vulcan.

COAL PASSER KILLED.

Fell From the Dock at Tacoma.

TACOMA, July 23.—Griffith Williams, a coal passer aboard the United States transport Rosecrans, fell from the dock early this morning and was drowned. His family lives in San Francisco.

METAL MARKET.

NEW YORK, July 23.—Lead 27 1/2 @ 60 1/2; bar silver 61 1/4.

SENSATIONAL INDIAN MURDER.

Young Squaw Shot by Her Husband in the Street at Kamloops.

KAMLOOPS, B. C., July 23.—A sensational Indian murder occurred here yesterday. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon, two Indian women were seen riding up Fourth avenue at a full gallop. They were closely pursued by a mounted Indian, who was armed with a Winchester. On nearing them he raised his rifle and shot one dead. She dropped from her horse and the murderer made off toward the reserve. He was arrested and proved to be George St. Paul. The victim was his young wife. Whiskey and jealousy were the cause of the crime.

KILLED BY A BURGLAR.

Chicago Saloon-Keeper Refuses to Be Held Up.

CHICAGO, July 23.—John Barsanti, a saloon-keeper on Van Buren street, was shot and fatally wounded by a hold-up man at his place of business early this morning. He had refused to hand over his money on the demand of the robber, and the shooting was done during a rough and tumble fight between the men. The robber escaped.

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

The following letters remain uncalled for at the Astoria postoffice: Anderson, C. O. Johnson, A. R. Anderson, J. J. Landau, C. Balonoff, S. O. Neta, Miss Carr, E. C. Owen, C. Carson, H. C. Peterson, Con. Chockron, Harry Smith, Ethel Christens'n, Mrs. Spence, T. C. Cronk, Miss Elsie Stockenbourg, Louis Ervine, Walter Thompson, M. J. Ervine, Walter J. Thurston, A. Filter, A. Welch, E. A. Goly Hing, Wilson, Annette M. Harris, Chas. Wilson, Missa B.

FOREIGN.

Anderson, M. Simons, M. Squire, Miss M. C. (2)

PACKAGES.

Brehany, J. R. Carson, H. C. Henderli, R. J.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Missoula Mercantile Company to The Astoria Company—northwest quarter of section 4, T 5 N, R 8 W; \$500. J. A. Eakin, administrator, to L. D. Coffman—tract of land in section 21, T 6 N, R 10 W; \$100.

NOTICE.

All men who believe in the preservation of the Republic and who are opposed to imperialism and trusts are hereby invited to attend the ratification of Bryan and Stevenson, to be held on Saturday evening, July 28, at which time a club will be formed, after which a dollar banquet will take place. The meeting will be held at Hawthorn hall.

Tickets for the banquet may be had from the undersigned.

JOHN E. GRATKE, Chairman of Executive Committee. HERMAN WISE, Secretary of Executive Committee.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Old Fellows' Land & Building Association will be held at Odd Fellows' hall on Thursday, August 23, 1900, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of electing a board of directors, and such other business as may lawfully come before the meeting. G. REED, A. J. MEGLER, President. Secretary.

IMPROVED SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT.

The new schedule of the O. R. & N., which went into effect April 22nd, shortened the time to Chicago 12 hours, and gives a double daily service between Portland and Chicago.

Train No. 2, leaving Portland at 9:15 a. m. is known as the "Chicago-Portland Special." Its equipment is new throughout, making it fully the equal of any train now in service from the Pacific coast to the East.

The "Overland Express" leaves Portland at 4:30 p. m., and furnishes complete service both via Huntington and Spokane to the East, together with the best of service to all local points on the O. R. & N. lines.

A NEW TRAIN.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co. will place in service April 29th a New Train between St. Paul and St. Louis, called the "Flying Dutchman." The train will have through sleeping cars and be first-class throughout. Ask any ticket agent for particulars or address

C. J. EDDY, General Agent, Portland, Oregon.

WHITE COLLAR LINE.

Columbia River and Puget Sound Navigation Company.

Ballie Gatzert leaves Astoria daily except Sunday at 7 p. m. Leaves Portland daily except Sunday at 7 a. m.

H. F. Prael Transfer Co.

DRAYING AND EXPRESSING

All Goods Shipped to Our Care Will Receive Special Attention.

No. 538 Duane St., W. J. COOK, Mgr. Astoria, Or. Res. Tel. 1121.

THE LOUVRE.

Strangers visiting in the city will find the Louvre an attractive resort worth a spend the evening. The Amme Sisters Ladies' Orchestra is still on the bills and presents nightly a musical program of exceptional merit. Handsome pool and billiard rooms are a feature in connection with the house. Palatable lunches will be served at all hours.

"The World Owes Every Man a Living" Star Estate Range W. J. Scully, Agent 431 BOND STREET

Decorative Art Room. Miss Bertha Martin's Full Line of Newest Embroidery Materials. Initials a Specialty. Choice Selection of Sampling Designs. Stamping Nearly Done.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL MONMOUTH, OREGON. Full Term opens September 18th. The students of the Normal School are prepared to take the State Certificate immediately on graduation.

MOUNT ANGEL COLLEGE AND SEMINARY. Conducted by the Benedictine Fathers. Located 40 miles south of Portland, on one of the most beautiful and attractive spots of the Willamette Valley.

HOTEL PORTLAND PORTLAND, OR. The Only First-Class Hotel in Portland

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UNLIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS. Subscribed Capital, \$5,000,000. Paid-up Capital, 1,000,000. Assets, 2,545,114. Assets in United States, 300,000. Surplus to Policy Holders, 1,718,792.

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..The Esmond Hotel.. PORTLAND, ORE., FRONT AND MORRISON STS. European plan, \$60 to \$120 per day. American plan, \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day.