

PREPARING TO RETURN HOME.

Little Probability of Favorable Reply to Colombia's Note.

Washington, Dec. 28.—(Special)—Although Secretary Hay has not yet replied to the note of Reyes, preparations are going on rapidly for the closing of the Colombian legation here, and the departure of Colombia's representatives.

Hay Not Improved.

Washington, Dec. 28.—(Special)—The condition of Secretary Hay has not improved. He is suffering from bronchial trouble. The secretary will leave early in January for the south to try the effects of the milder climate.

MR. BRYAN MEETS TOLSTOI.

Count Pleased With Assurance That Bryan is Not Socialist.

The Hague, Dec. 28.—(Special)—William J. Bryan arrived here today from Berlin, and visited the foreign minister, Bryan said he found Tolstol looking well though aged.

"Are you a socialist?" When assured to the contrary the count said: "I am very glad to hear it. I am not a socialist myself."

Dixie Sails For Cuba

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—(Special)—The auxiliary cruiser Dixie, sailed from League Island navy yard today for Colon, carrying 600 marines and five months living rations for 1000 men.

Scientific Association Meets.

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—(Special)—The 53d annual meeting of the American Association for the advancement of Science began here today. Between 700 and 1000 members are present, comprising some of the most notable men in the country.

Murderer is Captured

Portland, Dec. 28.—(Special)—David G. Van Houghten, who shot Al. Young yesterday because he had stolen Van Houghten's wife, was captured in a barn at Montavilla this morning.

Drowned While Rowing

Whatecom, Dec. 28.—(Special)—Ernest Frost was drowned in Welser lake by the capsizing of a boat in which he and two women companions were rowing.

Killed By Indignant Husband.

St. Joseph, Dec. 28.—(Special)—H. G. Edmunson, a real estate dealer, was found in a room in a hotel here today with Mrs. M. W. Grote, and was fatally shot by the woman's husband.

Mrs. Alexander Sullivan Dead.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—(Special)—Mrs. Alexander Sullivan, well known on both sides of the Atlantic as an author and editorial writer, died today, after a week's illness, following a stroke of paralysis.

The ball to be given tonight in Hawthorn's hall by the Wakohv Club gives every promise of being the best conducted function of the kind to be given in Astoria this winter. The hall is resplendent with decorations, green and red predominating. Fresh green boughs line the walls and hanging from the ceiling there is a center piece of red and white, the beauty of which will be enhanced by colored electric lights.

A black purse containing a small sum of money, a locket and chain, and a roundtrip ticket on the A. & C. R. R. between this city and Portland, was lost near the depot Christmas eve. Finder will please return to this office.

The dredge Chinook resumed operations on the bar today. If the present weather continues it is expected that the dredge will do good work, as the east wind renders the bar in the smooth condition necessary to operate effectively.

A pair of lady's new black gloves was found Saturday near the Oregon bakery. They are now at this office and the owner can have same by proving property and paying for this notice.

PERSONAL MENTION.

W. G. Howell is in the city. Miss Morton returned to her school at Knappa this morning.

Benjamin Powell returned to his school duties at Portland last night. David Morgan, Sr., went to Portland this morning on a business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Calif returned to their Portland home this morning. Prof. and Mrs. J. W. McCormac are in Portland today.

Captain Hazen returned Saturday night from a visit with his parents at Warren.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Shaw, who had been at Cathlamet for Christmas, returned to the city today.

Duncan McLean returned to Portland last night after spending a few days with his mother.

T. K. Johnson, a prominent Columbia river seiner, came down on the Vanguard this morning from Skamokawa.

John Nelson of Oneida, Wash., who had been visiting relatives in the Willamette valley and at Cathlamet, arrived here this morning on the Vanguard.

Don Ross, who has been visiting with his parents for the past few days, returned to Portland last night. Mr. Ross is head of the traffic department in the Portland office of the Postal Telegraph Company.

Miss Laura McCann returned to Portland last night. She has been in the city since Christmas day, visiting with her parents. While in the city Miss McCann rendered good service at St. Mary's church with the Christmas music. Her singing of "Ave Marie" showed the effects of the excellent training she is receiving under Mrs. Walter Reed, Portland's noted vocalist.

C. H. Chandler, traveling secretary of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, left this morning for the east. Mr. Chandler has been in the city for the past few days, the guest of Rev. W. S. Short, and yesterday morning delivered an eloquent address at Grace church. The secretary's headquarters is at Pittsburg and his field of work is the entire western country.

Advertised Letters.

- Dec. 28, 1903. Achison, J. M. & Co. Anderson, J. H. Bergeron, E. Bernstein, Reuben Bowry, Marie Brown, Orns Clark, Geo. W. Craig, Emma J. Crescent, Emb. Co. Flynn, P. F. Fosch, Osminson Christ Fritson, Fred Godley, Clarence Harper, T. J. Mr. and Mrs. Harvas, Clara Hostetter, Levi S. Jensen, Julius Johnson, B. A. Johnston, Jack Johnson, Anna Miss London, Josephine McCoy, W. N. Mrs. Miller, Iyena Mary Miller, J. F. Mueller, Nettle Mattom, Gabe Nettleton, G. H. Occident Pkg. Co. Pacific Coast Mill Co. Pacific Union Co. Percy D. L. Peterson, F. J. Powell, R. G. Price, R. C. Riley, S. G. Leenhardt, L. W. Sanderson, V. Sanders, D. R. Severson, Henrich Smith, Wm. D. Strebe & Linhart Staub, Frank. Strenmetz Peter Stone, R. E. Svedrup, M. Tyro, Emil, (package) Brown, C. H. Foreign Gortn, David Hansanen, Matie Harjukoski, Emilie

City Treasurer's Notice.

There is money in the City Treasury to pay the following warrants drawn on the following streets:

- Alleyway and Cedar, No. 16,460 to 16,468, inclusive. Fifty-one and Birch, No. 16,441. Fourth street, Bond to Astor, No. 16,422. Fifth, Commercial to Astor, No. 16,334 and 16,335. Fifteenth, Jerome to Niagara, Nos. 16,262, 16,263, 16,264. Eighth street, Commercial to Astor, Nos. 16,095, 16,096, 16,097, 16,098. Eleventh street, Bond to Franklin, Nos. 16,708 to 16,714 inclusive. Interest will cease after this date.

THOMAS DEALEY, City Treasurer. Astoria, Ore., Dec. 28, 1903.

THE OLD RELIABLE A DIRECT LINE



Absolutely Pure THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

to Chicago and all points east; Louisville, Memphis, New Orleans, and all points south.



See that your ticket reads via the Illinois Central R. R. Thoroughly modern trains connect with all transcontinental lines at St. Paul and Omaha. If your friends are coming west let us know and we will quote them direct the specially low rates now in effect from all eastern points.

Any information as to rates, routes, etc., cheerfully given on application. B. H. TRUMBULL, Commercial Agent, 142 Third street, Portland, Or. J. C. LINDSEY, T. F. & P. A., 142 Third street, Portland, Or. P. B. THOMPSON, F. & P. A.,

VALUE OF ROAD DISTRICTS.

New Law Passed at Regular Session of Legislature Soon to Be Felt.

In keeping with the law passed at the last regular session of the legislature relative to road improvements, a valuation of the taxable property in the road districts in the county has been placed and a record of the same filed with the county court. Copies of this will be sent to the different supervisors throughout the county. The total value of the property reaches \$4,613,195.

The new law is on the same principle as the one governing school districts. Each district will be privileged to levy whatever tax it sees fit, the same to be devoted to road improvements. Besides this there is the regular state levy of 5 mills to be met.

Following is the list of the road districts of the county together with the valuation placed upon the property of each:

Table listing road districts and their valuations. Total: \$4,613,195

Lloyds Bank.

The bank that has shown the most remarkable expansion of any bank in the world during the last thirty-five years is Lloyds' Bank of London. This bank was formed in 1865. Within three months it absorbed two large private banking houses. Since then it has absorbed no less than twenty separate joint-stock and private banking concerns.

Lloyds bank has twelve offices in London, two hundred and sixty country branches and one hundred and twenty sub-branches and agencies. For the past five years it has paid dividends of 18 3/4 per cent to its stockholders, of whom there are about twelve thousand. Lloyds Bank is now much the most powerful banking institution in England, with the exception of the Bank of England.

It was announced the other day that arrangements have practically been completed for the absorption by Lloyds Bank of the Liverpool District Banking Company. With the absorption of this company Lloyds Bank will have deposits and current account balances amounting to \$360,000,000. This compares with \$5,330,000 in 1863. No other bank in the world shows such a remarkable expansion.

Assessment Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the assessment made for the purpose of improving 50th street from the south line of Cedar street, to the north line of Date street as per assessment roll No. 71 was made by an order of the common council due and payable January 5th, 1904 by ordinance No. 2873 confirming said assessment roll. That the following are the names of the persons against whom the assessments are made, amounts owing by each, to-wit:

Table listing names and amounts for assessment notice.

OLOF ANDERSON, Assessor and Police Judge. Dated Astoria, Oregon, Dec. 24, 1903.

WE THANK YOU



To Call and See our line of Christmas Slippers and Shoes, the finest that money can buy. Call and be convinced. THAT IS OUR BUSINESS.

PETERSON & BROWN

The Columbia Oyster House

Is now handling the celebrated TOKE POINT OYSTERS for Retail and Wholesale trade. Oysters always cooked and served in first class style. Shoal Water Bay Oysters always fresh every day.

NICK KAZEPI, Proprietor.

105, 107 TWELFTH St. Astoria, Or.

DON'T DRINK

If you do, get the best and purest, for family and medicinal use, AT THE California Wine and Liquor House NO BAR A TRIAL ORDER WILL CONVINCIE YOU 422 1/2 BOND STREET. PHONE 2174 BLACK

The Waldorf

CHAS. F. WISE, Proprietor.

THE BEST OF WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS,

Concert Every Evening

Corner 8th and Astor Sts. Astoria, Oregon

R. J. OWENS, Proprietor PHONE 831

THE WIGWAM

GUS BROOKE, Manager

Great Palace of Art of the Pacific Coast

Fine Bar and the Best of Liquors and Cigars

SEE THE ILLUSTRATED PICTURES

Eighth and Astor Sts. ASTORIA

MOVED TO NEW QUARTERS

The Popular Restaurant

formerly conducted at the corner of Astor and Seventh streets, has moved two doors eastward where the proprietor will be pleased to see all his patrons. The good service heretofore given the public will be continued and improved if possible, and the proprietor's aim will always be to please.