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As a business proposition, it pays to trade at home, conditions being equal as to the value offered; but when you can get a better article at home on as good terms there is an added reason for patronizing the home institution.

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The North Pacific Brewing Company. Phone 21.



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L. S. GORHAM,
General Agent,
140 Third St.,
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IRON MARKET IMPROVEMENT

Sales During the Past Week Show Better Increase Than Since Mid-Summer of 1903.

BAR AND WIRE ARE ACTIVE

Marked Improvements Along All Lines of the Iron Market in All Sections Cause Surprise.

Cleveland, Jan. 14.—The Iron Trade Review says:

A decided improvement in demand has appeared in the iron market in the past week. Not since mid-summer of 1903 has there been such a week's buying in finished material, the developments, in some lines, being a surprise to even those in closest touch with the situation. Blast furnaces in the east, west and central west have resumed operations or have made ready for early resumption. The Carnegie Steel Company will have 13 more stacks going by the end of the week than were active January 1, and the resumption elsewhere will quickly bring the added pig iron production up to a yearly rate of fully 2,250,000 tons. The production of pig iron by furnaces in the central west connected with the movement for curtailing the output reached low point December 31 when out of the 156 furnaces in the movement 103 were idle. On that date the capacity of the idle furnaces was 65 per cent of the total capacity, as against 57 per cent at the close of November.

The most pronounced activity of the past week has been in the bar and wire products. In the closing week of the old year and the first 10 days of this year, it is estimated that the sales of wire products amounted to fully 100,000 tons, most of this tonnage being at concessions of \$3 to \$5 from the prices previously quoted. Demand of such proportion at this season reflects the good buying ability of the agricultural committee and gives promise of a large spring business. On its heels has come an advance of \$1 a ton from the low point and the leading producer and independent Pittsburg and Ashland, Ky., district interests are maintaining uniform quotations, this being the first agreement of the sort in many months. Another evidence of sound agricultural conditions is the good demand for bars in the week, Chicago reporting 20,000 tons closed. Manufacturers of steel bars met in Pittsburg Tuesday and reaffirmed prices, though an advance of \$1 a ton had some supporters. Bar iron made a low record in the past 10 days in the central west but it is now about \$1 a ton above the low point. The sheet trade shows sharper competition, with prices about \$1 a ton lower in the week.

DARKNESS FOLLOWS FIRE IN MONTANA TOWN.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 15.—A Miner special from Harve, Mont., says: Fire started in the Bank saloon last night and for several hours the town was threatened with destruction, but at 2:30 this morning the fire was reported under control though still burning. A high wind raged during the fire which was fought under great difficulties. The Bank saloon and nearly an entire block of other buildings includ-

ing several saloons, laundries, a bakery, two drug stores and many small houses were destroyed. Two hotels were imperilled for a time.

The loss is probably \$180,000 with fair insurance. The town is in darkness, the fire having, in some manner deranged the lighting system. No one was hurt.

Is Not An Ultimatum.

Tokio, Jan. 14.—It is said that Japan's answer to Russia's latest note is not in the form of an ultimatum, and it is described as moderate in terms but resolute in tone. It is said to be largely devoted to a discussion of affairs connected with Korea, Japan having been strongly advised not to fight over Manchuria alone. Foreign Minister Komura visited successively today the Marquis Ito, chief of the privy council, Premier Katsura and the Emperor. He subsequently called upon Baron De Rosen, the Russian minister and it is generally believed here, handed him in person the Japanese reply.

Warning Tower Completed.

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—The storm warning tower which the weather bureau has erected on Mount Tamalpais is completed and ready for operation. The tower which is constructed of steel, is 75 feet high. It is surmounted by a flagpole which will be used for the signals warning ships off the coast and those in the harbor of approaching storms. The signals will be seen 10 miles out at sea.

Boys Are the Bad Ones.

New York, Jan. 14.—The first annual report of the juvenile court in this city has just been issued. One of the interesting features is the comparatively small number of girl offenders. Out of 4,790 children under 16 years of age convicted by the magistrates, 4360 were boys while only 430 were girls.

THEY DEVOUR YOUNG SQUAW

Indians Made Desperate by Lack of Food, Kill and Eat One of Their Number.

FOOD SENT TO DESTITUTE

Terrible Tale of Death and Suffering Brought by Hunters From Frozen Ontario.

Chicago, Jan. 14.—A dispatch to the Inter-Ocean from Port Arthur Ont., says:

An Indian has arrived in town and told a terrible tale of the suffering among the members of his tribe, north of lake Nepigon. He told of where one family was so destitute that a young squaw, 25 years of age, was murdered and the rest of the family ate her. At first the tale was not believed, but it was corroborated by three white traders who arrived later A. W. Patterson, a Hudson Bay factor, arrived, and he also told the same tale.

A train was at once started for the scene with food, but it will take four days at top speed to reach the Indians. Two constables also left to look into the murder case.

Must Be On Gold Basis.

Manila, Jan. 14.—The habit prohibiting the importation of all silver coin which is not upon a gold basis, became a law today and the members of the commission have been loudly cheered for their promptitude in meeting

the demands of the mercantile classes in this respect. Action upon this supplemental act providing for a tax upon all written contracts made payable in home or foreign coin not upon a gold basis, has been postponed for a week

Conference of Mission Boards.

New York, Jan. 14.—At the eleventh annual conference of foreign mission boards of the United States and Canada which has just opened here representatives of more than 29 missionary organizations were present. They represent practically every foreign board in North America. The conference will conclude this afternoon.

Excellent Art Exhibit.

St. Louis, Jan. 14.—Mr. Marcel Estieu, first attache of the French government commission for the Louisiana Purchase exposition, has arrived in St. Louis. Mr. Estieu brings the information that the French exhibit for the palace of education and the palace of arts will leave Harve on January 19. Some of the excellency of the French art exhibit may be obtained from the fact that out of 4800 pictures submitted to one jury only 500 were chosen.

Cut Is Too Extensive.

Youngstown, O., Jan. 14.—A final meeting of the 1200 employes of the Ohio plant of the Carnegie Steel Company will be held Saturday night at which an ultimatum will be prepared and sent to the company. Upon its acceptance or rejection depends, the men state, the question of whether they shall continue at work or strike. The wages of the men have been cut 66 2-3 per cent and they are unwilling to accept such an extensive reduction.

It was almost a miracle. Burdock Blood Bitters cured me of a terrible breaking out all over the body. I am very grateful. Miss Julia Filbridge West Cornwall, Conn.

COLUMBIA THEATER

Opens in Old Liberty Hall,
Corner Seventh and Bond Streets

Monday Evening, January 11th.

High Class Vaudeville
THREE HOURS OF FUN

Hart & Hart Comedy Sketch Artists.
Hildebrand World's Champion Hand Balancer and Equilibrist.

SIMS Celebrated Tramp Cartoonist
Hays & Winchel Novelty Sketch Artists and Rag-Time Piano Players.

ADMISSION 10, 20 and 30 CENTS.

Band Concert 7:30. Performance Begins 8:15 Every Evening.

AUSTRALIAN COAL

Best for Steam
Best for Ranges
Best for Heaters

The most economical and satisfactory
Fuel for any purpose.

Any Quantity at Any Time
on short notice.

Free Delivery in the City.

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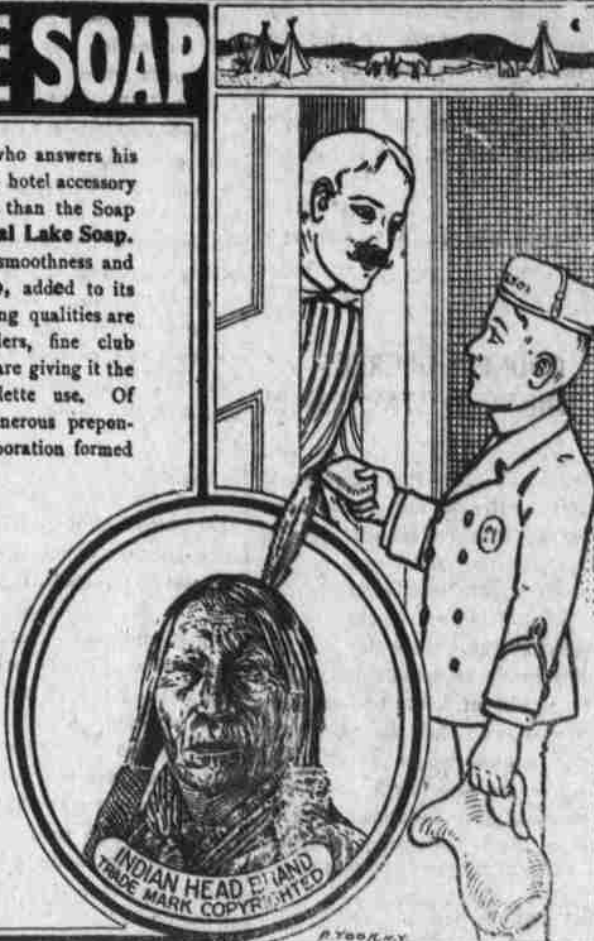
Phone 1961. 9th and Commercial Streets.

MEDICAL LAKE SOAP

Says this up-to-date traveler to the bell-boy who answers his imperative summons: "I know of no small-sized hotel accessory that means more for the satisfaction of its guests than the Soap provided for them. You always provide Medical Lake Soap. That's just as it should be." The refined smoothness and exquisite fragrance of Medical Lake Soap, added to its incomparable freshening, cleansing, smoothening qualities are the reason why all comfort-desiring travelers, fine club houses, first-class hotels and home-like homes are giving it the unmistakable endorsement of exclusive toilette use. Of delicate, purely natural composition with a generous preponderance of Medical Lake Crystals—the evaporation formed concentration of Medical Lake, Washington, with its wealth of hygienic power, Medical Lake Soap is the Soap par excellence for travel by rail or water. It is admirable for the complexion and is a strong and pleasant antiseptic, and will be found of great value in all cases of Eczema, Sunburn, Prickly Heat, and all Skin Irritations. All first-class druggists sell Medical Lake Soap. 25c. a cake.

MEDICAL LAKE OINTMENT
THE IDEAL SKIN FOOD
25c. a box at druggists.

Medical Lake Salts Mfg. Co., Sole Mfrs.
New York and Spokane, Wash.



Medical Lake Salts Mfg. Co., Spokane, Wash.

Gentlemen—A severe attack of rheumatism overtook me, but instead of consulting a doctor I resorted to Medical Lake water and was soon on my feet again. For barbed wire cuts the Medical Lake salts are the most effective remedy that can be found. I had a valuable horse get into the wire fence and was so badly cut that she was unable to walk. To get her home I was compelled to roll her onto a "stone boat" and haul her home. I wanted to shoot the animal, but my wife prevented me, and we went to work to save mare if possible. A strong solution of Medical Lake water was used to wash out the frightful cuts then the pure Medical Lake pulverized salts were blown into the wounds. The results more than justified our hopes. The deep cuts began healing from the bottom, and in an incredibly short time the animal was, save for a few slight scars, as good as ever. Have also used it in other cases of barbed wire cuts in animals with most satisfactory results. The English language is inadequate to express my admiration of Medical Lake water and salts as positive cures in such cases. JAMES GLASGOW, Medical Lake, Wash. For sale in Astoria by Frank Hart, corner Twelfth and Commercial; the Conn Drug Company Twelfth and Commercial and Charles Rogers, Odd Fellow's building 661.