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Today's Weather.

Portland, Dec. 22.—Oregon and Washington Friday—Rain or snow.

THE WAGES OF SIN.

Sensations, no matter what the real facts, are read and devoured with avidity by the reading public in this age and generation. Anything that partakes of a sensational character published in a newspaper is read with more interest than the home news.

The more charitably inclined would be apt to designate her palatial mansion as a den of iniquity, but the legal definition would put it in the category of a house of assignation.

A short time ago Mrs. Chadwick chaperoned a bevy of 12 beautiful young ladies on a trip to Europe, paying all their expenses.

In her New York home of gilded splendor, and alluring enchantments, she practised her vocation preferring the wealthy banker and capitalist to acquaintances of her sex.

Sympathy is wasted upon the men who in an unguarded moment, seek the society of a notorious charlatan, and they are unworthy the hospitality accorded to the prodigal son who wasted his substance in riotous living.

would be better to kill the prodigal son. Those who dance must pay the fiddler is a truism applicable to the men who have lost his all in loaning the deposits of his patrons, made necessary by being caught in the meshes of a notorious adventuress whose demands for money could not be resisted for fear of exposure.

THE CZAR'S REFORM DREAM.

In the exuberance of his gratitude to Omnipotence on the birth of an heir, Czar Nicholas was moved to decree many alleged reforms which, on the face of things, appears the initiation of a new and radical policy.

Of all these fair-sounding promises, it is probable that only one—that relating to the knout—will benefit the people of Russia to any permanent extent. The remainder are like the colchicum which a gouty patient takes in the throes of his paroxysms—the pain is deadened for the time, only to return with redoubled severity.

The remission of the land taxes will be of transitory benefit, but how can the vast body of poverty-stricken peasantry be expected to thrive, when crushing taxes are constantly levied to maintain internal and foreign policies, and to fatten the most corrupt system of government in the world?

The abolition of the knout is the one notably hopeful phase of the proclamation. The late Dr. Benjamin Howard, who visited Russia several years ago and who made a thorough study of the use of this terrible implement of punishment, gives a detailed description of its operation which is too repugnant for unexpurgated publication.

Carrots for breakfast is the beauty prescription of a French dame who lectured at the city hall to school teachers the other evening. This old recipe is not an inviting one for even a feminine beauty seeker.

Down in Chicago a poet claims to have discovered how to perfect perpetual motion. A good deal of that Chicago poetry sounds as if it was turned out that way.

Nan Patterson says if she is acquitted she intends becoming an evangelist. And if she isn't acquitted she isn't likely to get a chance to be anything but an angel.

A NEW DEPARTURE

Rumored Tongue Point Lumber Co. Contemplate Change.

WILL OPEN LUMBER YARD

Wharf Privileges Said to Have Been Secured for a Lumber Yard in the Business Portion of the City.

It was rumored on the streets yesterday that the Tongue Point Lumber Company, the Hume mill, will open a lumber yard in the business portion of the city for the purpose of securing a share of the local business, and that arrangements have been made to secure a large wharf for handling the products of the mill.

Complaint has been made by members of the common council that the city of Astoria has been paying more for street lumber than is charged any other city on the coast, and at least 20 per cent more than is charged in Portland.

A prominent gentleman stated to an Astorian representative yesterday that the prices charged local contractors was considerably less than that charged private individuals, and that the contractors made a big profit off the lumber as well as on the contracts.

In this connection it is reported that an effort will be made to have the common council ask for bids for supplying lumber for street work, and that hereafter all street contracts will be based upon the prices charged by the lowest bidder.

In Paris automobiles are to be used as garbage carts. They would be much more useful as "dead" wagons.

SAILOR GOT DRUNK.

Admissions to Agents of the Russians Cause a Stir.

London, Dec. 22.—Publication in St. Petersburg is given the statement that the Hull fishermen voluntarily deposited that the foreign torpedoboats were among the Dogger Bank trawlers when the latter were fired upon by the ships of the Russian fleet.

P. A. STOKES "Swell Togs for Men." MERRY YULE-TIDE And our store jammed full of everthing that goes to make the man or boy happy. We will be pleased to help you in your selections. FOR WINTER LEISURE there's a world of satisfaction in the Store open every evening till eight o'clock. Smoking Jackets, House Coats, Lounging Robes. Not High-Price Goods, for Gift Purposes Only, but Popular Novelties, in Popular Fabrics, at Popular Prices—to supply the wants of the every-day man who appreciates House Comfort. Let us show you the lines—you'll be willing to pay more than we ask. REMEMBER everything guaranteed to give satisfaction or money refunded. P. A. STOKES "Swell Togs for Men."

CLUE TO TRUNKS.

Chadwick Will Reach New York on Wednesday.

Cleveland, Dec. 22.—Dr. Chadwick and his wife are jointly indicted by the county grand jury today on a charge of having forged the \$5,000,000 note signed Andrew Carnegie.

Mr. Chadwick is now on his way to New York from Paris, and is expected to land Wednesday. Mrs. Chadwick is in better health today than for some time.

Nathan Loesser, the receiver, said today he obtained information concerning the whereabouts of Mrs. Chadwick's missing trunk and satchel, and expects to recover them.

Attell Wins.

St. Louis, Dec. 22.—Monte Attell San Francisco, knocked out Johnny Regan, New York, in the 17th round of a 29-round fight.

Fought a Draw.

Kalamazoo, Dec. 22.—Clarence Forbes of Chicago and Harry Cobb of Detroit fought 10 rounds to a draw tonight.

Nelson is Out.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—Batting Nelson, applied tonight for the arrest of "Ted" Murphy, his manager, alleging that Murphy left the city taking \$10,000 belonging to Nelson.

In Paris automobiles are to be used as garbage carts. They would be much more useful as "dead" wagons.

The Russian soldier fights for a cent a day, and up to date he hasn't earned any more than that.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

A Large and Varied Assortment at Ekstrom's.

Here are a few articles which will make suitable and handsome Christmas presents for anyone. All popular and stylish, cheap in price, but high in quality. Read: Silver novelties in numerous different patterns, handsome cut glass pieces, sterling silverware, ebony goods in brushes, glasses and toilet sets, fancy umbrellas and canes, match boxes, tableware, fine chains, chafing dishes, carving sets, special watches, diamonds, broches and a thousand other things.

H. EKSTROM, Astoria, Ore.

Today Zapp & Co. will sell you \$8 Solid Oak Morris chairs for \$5.95.

Schiltz's beer made Milwaukee famous, and is having the same effect on the Grotto. Nothing better on the market.

The Grotto will supply patrons with delicious Tom and Jerry every day. The superior quality of goods which has made the Grotto popular, will be supplied.

Come and See what we Have to Show You in HOLIDAY GOODS Our Stock is complete and better than ever before. J. N. GRIFFIN

Fisher's Opera House L. E. SELIG, - - Lessee and Manager Week Commencing Monday, December 26th

KEITH STOCK COMPANY A company of accomplished players appearing in a powerful repertoire of plays replete with special scenic embellishments. Opening performance Monday, December 26,

"Slaves of Russia" Followed on other nights by: "Brother Against Brother," "Capt. Fresh, U. S. A.," "Senator's Daughter," "Power of Truth" and "Light House Robbery." PRICES: Reserved Seats, 35c.; Children in Gallery 15c., Adults 25c. Seat sale opens Saturday morning at 9 o'clock at Fisher Bros. Office.

Worst of All Experiences. Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newson, Decatur, Ala. "For three years" she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was marvelous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered. For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by Chas. Rogers Druggist. Go to the New Style Restaurant for a square meal. JUST ARRIVED! large shipment of live Turkeys, Geese and Chickens, from Southern Oregon, at the BOND STREET MARKET the largest poultry house in Astoria. We have hired ten men expressly to dress poultry for the Christmas and New Year's trade. You can save money by buying your poultry from us. Phone 2183 Red. S. A. GIMRE 543-545 Bond St.