NEW MAIL SUBSCRIBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT BARGAIN DAY HAS SWAMPED THE JOURNAL

GOOD EVENING.
THE WEATHER
Tonight and Thursday, rain; warmer tonight; high southerly winds.

THE Oregon DAILY Journal
WITHER ONE'S LIFE'S OWN WINGS

The Circulation Of The Journal Yesterday Was 17,280

VOL. III. NO. 255. PORTLAND, OREGON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 28, 1904—FOURTEEN PAGES. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

# TREMENDOUS INCREASE IN PORTLAND'S BUSINESS THIS YEAR OVER BEST EVER DONE BY RETAILERS IN CITY'S HISTORY

## RECORDS SMASHED

### Year of Greatest Prosperity Closing for Portland Merchants.

### CHRISTMAS TRADE WAS LARGEST KNOWN HERE

**Reasons for Wonderful Increase in Business Just as Satisfactory as is the Splendid Growth in Trade.**

Portland has established a new record for volume of retail business. It was made during the week ending last Saturday night. All previous big records were smashed.

Six weeks ago there was grumbling about the retail trade. The year's business did not promise to round out to the satisfaction of all. Today there is hardly a dissatisfied man to be found in all the list of Portland's retailers. The increase over any previous year averaged at least 50 per cent.

The enormous business of last week has placed the year 1904 to the front as the banner year in retail trade. The holiday revival began early in December, and there were practically two weeks of this business. Last Saturday was the great day. It was the top-notcher in the whole history of Portland's retail trade. There are stores in this city that did more business than ever before by from $500 to $1,000 on that day. One merchant's explanation of it is that the combination of Saturday and the day preceding Christmas made it the great buying day.

When Christmas falls on Sunday there is a full week of strictly holiday shopping, as the buying begins on the Monday before Christmas. This season the weather changed at the right time, and the people had money—a part of the $4,000,000 that has been spent in Portland this year in building operations.

**Interesting Phases of Increase.**

The increase over the holiday business of a year ago presents some interesting phases of the trade problem. There are many Portland merchants who study these questions, and who can talk interestingly on them.

Here is what some of them say:

William F. Woodward secretary and treasurer of Woodard, Clarke & Co.:

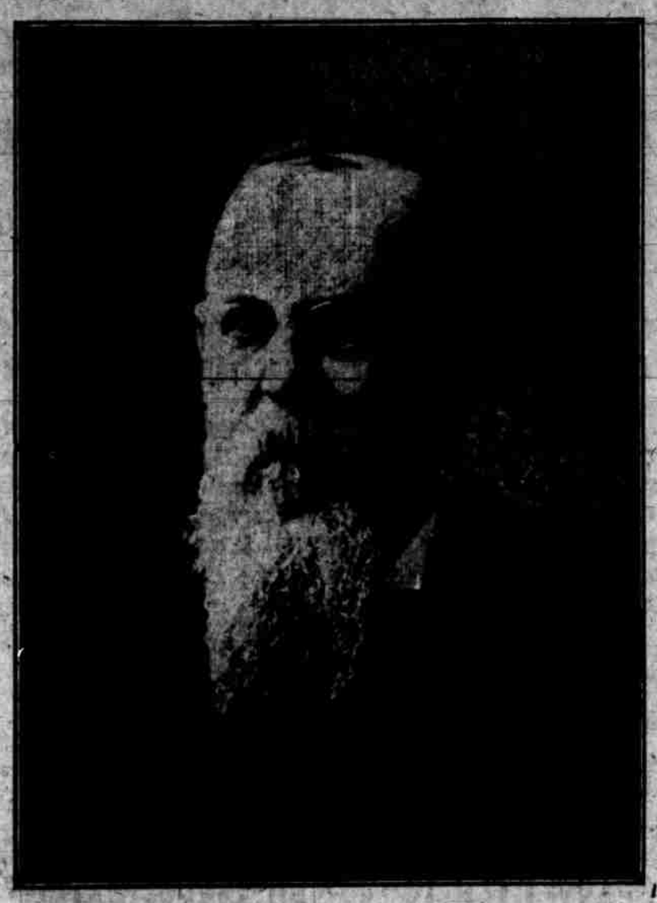
"While there has been an enormous increase in our holiday trade this year over that of any previous year, individual purchasers have not been so large as they were a year ago. The aggregate increase of trade comes from a very large increase in volume of buyers. In other words, more people are buying, but few of them are purchasing expensive goods in our line. We attribute this condition to two things—the absence of a large and flourishing sporting element that was in Portland a year ago, and the fact that installment home builders are buying only what they need, not what they want. There has been a vast amount of home-building in this city during the last season. These home-builders are husbanding their resources, and when Christmas time came they bought useful and inexpensive gifts.

**Evil of Gambling Helps Trade.**

"I am not one of those who believe that the closing of public gambling houses hurts retail store trade. We have had an extensive trade from the gambling fraternity. As store friends go, they have been friendly to this store. While the gambler who a year ago came in and purchased a $50 gift for a friend, perhaps, did not come last week, the $50 came just the same—through perhaps a dozen channels instead of a single one.

The dollars a dozen wage earners spent in gambling places a year ago, remained in their pockets this year, and were

(Continued on Page Three.)



United States Senator John H. Mitchell, Who Is Testifying Before the Federal Grand Jury Today.

## WINDOW FULL OF MONEY ON SHOW

### About Ten Thousand Dollars the Result of The Journal's Bargain Day in Subscriptions—This Newspaper's Mail Circulation Now the Largest North of San Francisco.

In one of the large windows on the Washington street side of the Woodard & Clarke drug store there is a sight good for the eyes—a display of about $10,000 in gold, silver, greenbacks, checks and money orders, representing the results of The Journal's bargain subscription day, December 24. In other words, enough subscriptions to Portland's popular paper poured in on that date to make up a total of between $9,000 and $10,000, which sends all records shimmering down among the things that were.

Last year, when The Journal was virtually an infant, but not without a reputation, the same plan was tried. For one day only the subscription price of the paper was lowered about 40 per cent. The result was more than satisfactory, the receipts for that day being $6,300. This year, with a like reduction, even that much was not expected from bargain day, because the paper's subscription list has grown so rapidly since then. The wonderful result, however, is there in the window to be seen until 9 o'clock tonight.

Bargain day was advertised by means of personal letters to agents and known friends of The Journal. That these exist in large numbers and in all quarters of the Oregon country is demonstrated by the postmarks on letters received in return. Subscriptions came from Washington, Idaho, California and there is scarcely a postoffice in the state of Oregon not represented in the collection now on exhibition, either by money order or check. The amounts received range from 60 cents, from an individual subscriber, to $146, from an enterprising canvasser who knew a good thing when he saw it.

In the unique collection there are checks of almost every denomination. These, with bank notes and postal orders, cover the entire floor space of the large window, three or four deep, while laid out upon glass shelves are piles of gold and silver. The currency amounts to about $2,700, the coin totals $3,000, and the rest of the $10,000 is in postal paper or checks, with the exception of $200 in stamps. Needless to say, the utmost precaution was used in transporting the money and the window has been watched all day by Pinkerton detectives.

As soon as the treasure was placed on exhibition a crowd surrounded the window. A good many pairs of eyes literally bulged at the sight and expressions of congratulation on the unparalleled record established by the paper were countless. Some of the small boys of Portland haven't taken their eyes off the window except for lunch.

"Gee!" exclaimed a newsboy to his speechless companion, "she gets the money; eh, Jimmy? Dose guys knows how t' do bizness!"

The record of bargain day, 1904, gives The Journal the largest mail subscription north of San Francisco and will be substantially increased by the registered mail, which is usually slow to arrive. There are several thousand names to be entered upon the subscription books, and the circulation department is swamped. This work cannot be completed within two or three days, which is responsible for the delayed arrival of your paper. But The Journal has your name and address, and will send along what you purchased just as early as possible.

The following appeared in the circular letter advertising bargain day and is now printed as a message to all readers of The Journal:

"As publisher of The Journal, I desire to thank you for the support given this newspaper. We are striving to make The Journal a live, honest, fair and interesting newspaper, and have succeeded, as proven by the strong support given The Journal by the people of the Oregon country, irrespective of party. The Journal is free to say it is 'read by the multitude,' and that it is 'the paper of the plain people.' The Journal grows better as it grows older and in 1905 it will endeavor to be 'the best ever' among the newspapers of 'the Oregon country.'"

## LUMBER FOR PANAMA TO COME FROM SOUND

(Journal Special Service.)

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Panama canal commission has awarded the contract for 2,207,000 feet of lumber to be delivered on the isthmus to J. J. Moore & Co. of San Francisco for the price of $63,181.42. The entire supply will come from Puget sound.

(Local lumber dealers had opportunity to bid on this contract and the fact that Puget sound dealers were successful is taken to indicate that trade is brisker here, and the local manufacturers have such demands elsewhere that they did not care to go down to the low prices of Puget sound lumber.)

**PREMIER RESIGNS.**

(Journal Special Service.)

Vienna, Dec. 28.—Premier von Koerber, it is reported, owing to the difficulties that surround his position, has decided to resign.

## OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE

### Dread Disease Breaks Out Among Cossacks From Ural Districts.

### KUROPATKIN REQUESTS MORE TROOPS RUSHED

**Wants Capacity of Siberian Road Increased From Twelve to Fifteen Trains a Day.**

(Journal Special Service.)

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—Dispatches from Kuropatkin state that a disease similar to bubonic plague, thought by some to be that disease, has broken out among the Kirghiz Cossacks from the Ural district. During the past few weeks 190 deaths have been reported from this cause, and the disease is making rapid headway in spite of all efforts to check it.

The plague has many of the symptoms of the Asiatic scourge and produces death almost before the subject is aware of affliction. Heroic sanitary measures are being resorted to in order to stamp out the disease, which it is feared will sweep through the army with terribly fatal result unless immediately checked. The cold weather is favorable to the suppression, for such an outbreak in the hot season would speedily be beyond control.

Kuropatkin has again requested as many reinforcements as possible rushed to his relief. He desires that additional troops be sent him in order to make offensive movements possible before spring sets fairly in. He reports that the Japanese are steadily recruiting their ranks with fresh troops, and actively preparing for an aggressive campaign as soon as the weather moderates.

Kuropatkin suggests that the capacity of the Trans-Siberian railroad be increased immediately from 12 to 15 trains a day, thus permitting the speedier movements of troops and supplies. A part of the railway is practically useless for days at a time now on account of the heavy snows which block traffic, and the numerous slides that have come with the winter. Whole regiments are engaged in clearing the tracks and using all possible means to promote speedy service.

**JAP CRUISERS SIGHTED.**

(Journal Special Service.)

London, Dec. 28.—A dispatch from Hongkong states that two Japanese cruisers have been sighted off there, and that a third Japanese warship reached Amoy this morning. The vessels are supposed to be part of Togo's fleet recently released from the blockade of Port Arthur, and are thought to be on scouting service from the fleet reported to have been sent south to meet the Baltic squadron.

### EXPECT RELIEF SOON.

**Port Arthur Garrison Hopes to Hold Out Until March.**

(Journal Special Service.)

Tokio, Dec. 28.—The report from Port Arthur that General Stoessel was injured by falling from his horse and that General Kondrachanko was killed is confirmed. General Smilnoff is reported wounded.

The battleship Sevastopol has been sunk in shallow water, her bow damaged in two places and her steering gear also damaged.

The garrison is said to be cheerful and confident that relief will arrive before March 1. It is said the army has sufficient provisions to last through February, and the navy about a month's store.

Only a few junks bearing supplies have reached Port Arthur during the past month, and the price of food is very high.

Authorities this morning published a list of 33 officers killed and 60 wounded. The presumed casualties occurred at Port Arthur. Naval authorities also publish a list of nine officers and 67 men killed on special duty, and it is surmised that another cruiser has been sunk or damaged, and that these officers and men lost their lives in this manner.

**FARM HOUSE BURNS.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Colfax, Wash., Dec. 28.—The farm house of M. S. Scott and all its contents was burned yesterday while the family was visiting. The loss is $2,000, with no insurance. The cause is unknown.

**MINES AT FORMOSA.**

(Journal Special Service.)

Washington, Dec. 27.—Japan has notified the state department that mines have been placed at Kelung, on the northeast coast of Formosa. Shipping has been notified.

## SALARIES ARE RAISED

### City Teachers to Have Ten Per Cent Increase After This Year.

### PROVISION MADE FOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

**Taxpayers Decide to Erect New Structure on Lot Adjoining Hawthorne School, E. Fourteenth and Washington.**

Portland will have a new high school. This was decided upon at the annual meeting of the taxpayers of the school district last night. It will be constructed on the vacant lot adjoining the Hawthorne school at East Fourteenth and Washington streets and will cost $100,000 or more. Funds with which to build it will be raised by bonding the district.

Teachers will receive an increase of approximately 10 per cent in their salaries after January 1. The funds with which to meet this increased expense to the district will be secured [illegible] an additional tax levy of .6 [illegible]

[illegible] was no opposition to the proposal [illegible] high school and no one raised his voice against granting the teachers an increase in salary. The discussions hinged on the location for the proposed high school building, and the amount of increase which should be granted the teachers.

Thomas Hislop of East Portland was the champion of the proposed high school. He introduced a resolution granting the directors power to issue bonds to build the high school on the lot adjoining the Hawthorne Grammar school.

W. B. Ayer presented the opportunity for a heated discussion when he moved to amend the resolution by striking out the location of the school. He thought a more suitable location could be secured.

**Discussion on Location.**

Whitney L. Boise spoke in favor of placing the high school near the Hawthorne school; the lot was centrally located, and as the district already owned the ground it would be an unnecessary expense to purchase land elsewhere.

Director H. Wittenberg made a plea to the fathers and mothers on behalf of the little children of the Hawthorne school, who used the lot as a playground.

"If you cannot do better," he said, "I say sell this block and purchase land in another location, but do not place all the children from the two schools in such a small place."

Dr. Josephi agreed with Mr. Wittenberg regarding the space.

"Why leave this question to be decided by the directors?" he continued. "Why can it not be settled intelligently at this meeting of taxpayers? The directors were unable to come to a decision on teachers' salaries, although they were considering it for months, and placed the matter before us tonight without recommendation. Maybe they will not be able to decide upon a location for the high school."

Mr. Wittenberg attempted to speak again, but calls for the original motion drowned his voice.

The resolution was adopted, W. B. Ayer having withdrawn his amendment.

J. N. Teal moved to increase the tax levy .6 mill to provide for a 10 per cent increase in teachers' salaries.

Samuel Connell thought a 10 per cent increase not sufficient. He favored a 20 per cent raise.

**Favors Substantial Increase.**

Mr. Teal spoke in favor of a 10 per cent advance in salaries. He argued that the city's taxes were to be very heavy, amounting to nearly $700,000, and that the tax levy would be over 40 mills. He favored a substantial increase, but he was not in favor of laying down rules for the directors. He was of the opinion that the directors would use discretion regarding salaries and give an increase to those deserving it. He said that with a 10 per cent approximate increase in salaries the grade teachers, for whom the advance in wages was meant, would receive what was due them.

"I believe the grade teachers were forced to ask for a 20 per cent increase," said Mr. Teal. "In order that all teachers would get their salaries raised. I do not think they asked for such a large advance on their own account. A $20,000 increase in salaries properly divided will be sufficient. It behooves everybody to use judgment in this matter. The increase in the amount of taxes during recent years is greater than the increase in the assessed valuation of property."

Dan J. Malarkey favored a 20 per cent increase. He thought Mr. Connell's proposition to levy an additional 1 mill tax the proper thing.

**Fair Wage for Educators.**

"I submit to you that the question involved is a question of fair wage to those who educate our children," said he. "All other questions are foreign.

(Continued on Page Six.)

Herman Wittenberg, Who Made a Hard Fight for a New High School.

## WATER FOR DESERT COSTS $31,000,000

### Of Projects Under Consideration Contracts for Several Have Been Let.

### AGGREGATES MORE THAN ONE MILLION ACRES

**Cost Ranges Eighteen to Thirty-Five Dollars, Average Being About Twenty-Seven.**

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)

Washington, Dec. 28.—Great interest is taken at this time in the operations of the reclamation service under the national irrigation act, which has now been on the statute books about two and one half years, and the forthcoming report of the chief engineer of the service is looked for with the expectation that it will show that fair progress is being made toward actual irrigation under government auspices. The report will show that between 30 and 40 large irrigation projects have been examined, 13 have been recommended for approval and contracts for construction have been either advertised or let on six projects, as follows:

**Advertised or Let.**

Truckee-Carson project in Nevada; construction commenced September, 1903.

Salt river project, Arizona; construction commenced November, 1904.

Minidoka project, Idaho; construction commenced November, 1904.

Hondo project, New Mexico; construction commenced December, 1904.

North Platte and Pathfinder project, Nebraska and Wyoming; proposals advertised to be opened January 9, 1905.

The preliminary work of road building and telephone line has been undertaken also on the Shoshone project, Wyoming.

The reclamation projects approved contain a total of 1,121,000 acres of arid lands, situated in Arizon, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Wyoming, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon and Washington.

The total amount of money appropriated for the work on these approved projects is $31,395,000, an average cost an acre of $27.26. The lowest cost shown is $18 an acre and the highest $35.

The Salt river project in Arizona comprises 160,000 acres at $20 an acre, amounting to $3,200,000.

In California the Yuma project consists of 85,000 acres, at an average cost of $35 an acre, making a total of $2,975,000.

The Uncompahgre project in Colorado contains 100,000 acres, at a cost of $2,500,000, or an average of $25 an acre.

In Idaho the Minidoka project of 70,000 acres, calls for an expenditure of $1,820,000, or $26 an acre.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## MITCHELL ON STAND

### Senator Questioned as to His Connection with Land Frauds.

### HERMANN TO FOLLOW HIM THIS AFTERNOON

**Federal Grand Jury Makes No Concessions to Oregon's Senior Representative in the U. S. Senate.**

Senator John H. Mitchell appeared before the federal grand jury today to testify in his own behalf concerning his alleged connection with the land frauds. For two hours this morning he was before the jury and he was again before them when they reconvened at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Congressman Binger Hermann was notified that he would be the next witness called, as soon as Senator Mitchell's testimony was concluded.

Senator Mitchell's request that he be furnished with a statement of the charges against him, of the nature of the evidence and of the names of the witnesses, was not granted. He was himself the first witness in relation to the transactions which are supposed to involve him in the land frauds. No previous testimony having been given as to these transactions, it was, of course, impossible for the grand jury to comply with his request, even had it been so disposed.

The names of the witnesses to be called and the nature of the charges against Mitchell and Hermann are known only to Assistant Attorney-General Heney, and even the grand jury is ignorant of them, except so far as they were disclosed by the testimony given by Senator Mitchell today.

**Mitchell Shows the Strain.**

A few minutes before 10 o'clock this morning Senator Mitchell left the Portland hotel and walked, unattended, to the postoffice building. Reaching the big, bare hallway upon the second floor of the building, he took his seat among the waiting throng of witnesses who had gathered outside the juryroom. A dozen ranchers, farmers and timber cruisers who had been subpoenaed from central and southern Oregon occupied the chairs placed in the lobby, and offered a strange contrast to the venerable figure of Oregon's senior senator as he took his seat among them.

Senator Mitchell plainly showed the strain of the past few days, and the respectful greetings of those who spoke to him were tinged with sympathy. He soon retired to the comparative privacy of the United States district attorney's office, where he waited for the summons from the grand jury room. He had not long to wait. Mr. Heney came out from the juryroom and informed the senator that the jury was ready to hear him. Carrying a bundle of papers and letters, to which he evidently expected to refer in his testimony, Senator Mitchell went before the jury.

It was close upon the noon hour when the jury adjourned and Senator Mitchell reappeared.

**I Can Say Nothing."**

"I can say absolutely nothing," he said in response to a question concerning the proceedings. "I am under oath not to divulge anything that took place in the juryroom, and I have nothing whatever to say."

The ordeal had evidently been a wearing one. Senator Mitchell added:

"I do not wish to say anything whatever, even though you ask questions which it would be proper for me to answer. If I say anything it is liable to be construed into a breach of my oath before the grand jury and the only thing I can do is to maintain absolute silence."

It was after the conclusion of Mitch-

(Continued on Page Two.)

## NOISY LUNATIC IS BEATEN TO DEATH

(Journal Special Service.)

Napa, Cal., Dec. 28.—Because he made too much noise Joseph Louis, an inmate of the insane asylum here, was beaten to death on Sunday night by Attendants Shanahan and Retzman. Louis was a big powerful man, some times violent. On Christmas day he made a good deal of noise and two attendants tried to subdue him. He resisted and the two men lost their tempers.

They threw Louis to the floor and pinned him there, but were not content with merely overpowering him. He must be taught a lesson. So they rained blow after blow upon the crazy man's prostrate form and finished by staving in his ribs.

While the man was helpless and at their mercy they beat him with a heavy strap on which was a big brass buckle. The autopsy showed that all but one or two ribs were broken and great gashes made in the abdomen by the buckle. The coroner's verdict charged the attendants with causing death.

Both men have been arrested on the charge of murder. Rumors have been current for some time of cruelty towards patients practiced by nurses and attendants and a thorough investigation by the state commission is probable. Several years ago similar charges of cruelty against the superintendent and physicians in charge, which led to a sweeping investigation and created a political scandal of wide proportions and resulted in the public trial of Dr. Lawlor and his removal. Governor Gage took an active part in the proceedings, refusing to dismiss the superintendent.

## SHIPWRECKED CREW PICKED UP AT SEA

(Journal Special Service.)

Los Angeles, Dec. 28.—Capt. F. K. Fall of the British ship Lonsdale, 150 days from Newcastle-on-Tyne to Port Angeles, tells a story of the rescue of 26 castaways who had been drifting around Cape Horn for over a week. The condition of the men was pitiful. The thin, emaciated sailors wept for joy when rescued and several were in a frenzied condition for days. They had abandoned the British collier Elvion, which burned.

Late in the afternoon of October 6 a small boat was sighted. While a rag tied to an oar was waved frantically as the boat drew near faint calls from the starving men were heard. The boat contained eight men and had been drifting for six days. Provisions were fast disappearing, a condition that crazed the strongest men when confronting them. The men suffered severely from the cold. They reported the remainder of the crew drifting about, if they had not gone down.

Captain Fall decided not to leave until all hope of rescuing the others had passed. The Lonsdale cruised first south, then west and east. It was on the second day that they sighted another section of the crew in even worse condition than the first. These men were brought aboard and given the best [illegible] The captain's girl was still [illegible] a second search began. Two [illegible] when the captain had [illegible] proceed northward. The girl was [illegible] up and the whole crew [illegible] having [illegible] perished. All [illegible] in the power of [illegible]