

# PORTLAND WITH INLAND EMPIRE

After Two Years' Hard Work, Contracts Have Been Let That Insure the Construction and Completion of the Celilo Portage Road Before Middle of May.

## HISTORY OF UNDERTAKING TO BUILD UP OREGON

Heavy Penalty Will Be Exact From Contractors If They Fail to Perform Work on Time, But They Are Confident Task Will Be Finished Within Limit.

After two years of preliminary work, in which there were many obstacles and discouragements, contracts were finally closed yesterday and bonds approved by the state, for construction and equipment of the Celilo portage road. The road must be turned over to the state complete and ready for operation on the 15th of next May, and heavy penalties will attach to a failure by the contractors, Nelson & White, to accomplish the task by that date. They will construct the road exclusive of tolls, for \$118,528.16, and the state will furnish the tolls. The Open River association has signed a contract and given a bond in the sum of \$20,000 to furnish the equipment. There is an appropriation left after the construction and tolls are paid for. This balance will be turned over to the Open River association to be applied on purchase of equipment, and the deficit will be raised by subscription through the efforts of the association.

The history of the undertaking is briefly told as follows: After the announcement that the government would build the canal, agitation was begun in behalf of the "Inland Empire" to secure the construction of a portage highway at Celilo immediately, and gain several years' time in the development of that country. The legislature of Oregon appropriated \$100,000 two years ago, for building such a road, and appointed a portage board, composed of the state engineer, the state auditor and the state treasurer to have supervision of the undertaking. Surveys and estimates were made. After the figures were completed it was decided by the portage board that the remaining funds were insufficient to construct and equip the road, and the project was abandoned by the state. The Open River association then came forward and offered a solution of the problem, which had rapidly assumed greater importance by reason of swift developments in the "Inland Empire." The need of river transportation facilities had become so imperative that those interested were ready to subscribe money to further the enterprise. The executive committee of the Open River association devised a plan that, after thorough canvassing, was accepted by the state portage board.

The association took charge of the project late in last August. At that time practically nothing had been done and not a foot of right-of-way had been secured. Since then the association's executive committee has secured the right of way, made careful surveys, completed estimates, advertised for bids and closed contracts for the construction, and has itself assumed responsibility for furnishing the equipment. Many obstacles have been held and insurmountable had been overcome. The committee has canvassed eastern Washington, Oregon and Idaho for support and secured money and pledges sufficient to guarantee completion of the undertaking and payment of any deficit that may remain after the state appropriation is exhausted. The result has furnished an example of what can be done by a few earnest men, working in a good cause. For 25 years Oregon legislative bodies have struggled with the problem of opening the Columbia river at The Dalles to furnish an outlet for transportation vitally necessary to the "Inland Empire." The task seemed impossible of accomplishment until the Open River association took up the work. Four months from that time the problem was worked out and the construction of the portage road is assured. Every precaution has been taken by the state portage board to make assurance doubly sure that the state shall not be liable for any money in excess of the appropriation made. Mayor Joseph S. McCoy is in charge of the building of the road. He has a committee of the event. It meets at the Dalles tomorrow evening and members of the committee will be the chairman, the chamber of commerce open river committee and Mr. Neal are invited to take part in the justification. The committee speaks in the highest terms of Mayor Sperry and the aid rendered by him in the prosecution of his work, not only in granting and securing rights of way, but the invaluable practical advice which he was able to give it.

## WILL OFFER BILLS TO LEGISLATURE

Taxpayers' League Receives Report From Committee on Needed Legislation. CIRCUIT COURT SHOULD HOLD ONE TERM A MONTH

## A HAPPY NEW YEAR

To every patron of the Oriental Beauty Parlors 304 Morrison Street, near Park.

## THERE IS MONEY IN CITY'S PURSE

New Year Finds Several Thousand Dollars to Credit of Different Departments.

## CLOSE ECONOMY GAVE COMFORTABLE SURPLUS

Annual Report of Auditor Devlin Makes Better Showing Than Was Expected.

The year 1904 has ended, and there remains several thousand dollars to the credit of the different departments in the city government. Four months ago it was feared that before the end of the year the city would be without funds with which to meet current expenses. Through careful economy in purchasing supplies and by curtailing help in several departments, the new year has found a surplus on hand. City Auditor T. C. Devlin completed his annual report last night and it shows the finances of the city to be in good condition. The balance in the different funds, from which, however, the warrants for December will have to be paid, are as follows: General fund, \$24,411.42; fire department, \$17,401.79; police department, \$11,646.41; bonded indebtedness interest, \$42,523.23; street lighting, \$8,994; street repair, \$2,455.50; water, \$41,930.41; city hall, \$1,577.41; total, \$147,946.47.

## PROSPERITY IN EASTERN OREGON.

Evidence of Good Times as Reflected by the Record of Eilers Piano House—Twenty-four in One Little Town. Many people who pass the busy establishment of Eilers Piano House wonder where so many pianos and organs are sold, and few stop to realize the immense territory that is accessible to Portland jobbing houses and the thoroughly prosperous condition of most of the territory where Eilers Piano House and its bustling representatives are looking after business.

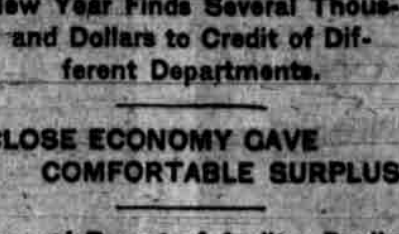
## TRAVELING MEN ELECT OFFICERS

Protective Association Has Enthusiastic Annual Meeting—Hears Encouraging Reports. E. SHELLEY MORGAN DOES NOT ASK RE-ELECTION

## ACCUSE TALBOT OF BLUFFING TACTICS

Irvine's Counsel Alleges That Bulldozing Has Been Resorted to by Bishop. PRESSURE IS APPLIED TO GET REPUTATION

## OUR GREETING



## TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS A HAPPY NEW YEAR

THE MOST all-around satisfactory and successful year in the history of our business has just closed. It has been a busy year, and our success has been magnificent, so it is but meet that we should wish to thank those who have given us success, the buying public of Portland and vicinity. We want to assure you of our appreciation—we want to tell you that no store could feel more appreciative than we do.

For 1905 we have this to offer you:

We are going to try harder than ever before to merit your patronage. We are going to have even better, larger and more attractive stocks for you to select from. We are going to—always—price everything just as low as is consistent with conservative merchandising. In short, you can always look here for everything that is modern and progressive in the housefurnishing line.

We realize that the store that succeeds well is the store with the great, big customers. This we will bear in mind every minute during the new year, and we promise you right now that you will have no cause for complaint—for a reason when you patronize this store with your patronage.

To our old customers, then, we say that you have been pleased thus far to see you during 1905. To those who have not yet come here as yet, we say that we know you will like it when you try. To all, we say that we wish you the happiest, least troublesome and most prosperous new year you have ever enjoyed.

Our Store Will Be Closed Tomorrow

YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD

TULL & COMPANY HOUSEFURNISHING GIBBS MAKE YOUR OWN TERMS

Our Store Will Be Closed Tomorrow

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Resolution of Confidence in Him Passed at Suggestion of President Ransom.

When the Moon Was Seen. Year by year the moon is getting a few inches more distant, and reversing the argument, in the great past the moon was nearer to us.

## THE "CECILIAN" Piano Player IS KING

The Only Perfected Player on the Market

## MUSIC ONE-HALF PRICE

Investigate and Save Later Regret E. U. WILL'S MUSIC STORE 350 Alder Street

a letter asking whether they should sign the document once or twice.

Says They Signed. "This comes about because in the opening paragraphs of the presentment their names are stated in a column, one under the other. They wrote asking whether the Bishop should affix their signatures at that place as well as on the last sheet, which contained the concluding paragraph of the document and which embodied the formal prayer to the presiding bishop for the appointment of a board of inquiry. They were informed that they need affix their signatures only at the latter point, and this they did, each man knowing fully what he was signing.

As far as the reputation of the gentlemen of their signatures is concerned, I wish to say only one thing. They have been bulldozed into the reputation of an act they knowingly and willingly performed.

Pressure Applied. "Do you know who was responsible for this bulldozing?" was asked. "I do," he replied. "Will you give his name?" "Not just now," was the answer. "Will you say whether or not the man or men who put this pressure on those men to induce them to repudiate their signatures were friends or partisans of Bishop Talbot?"

The New York lawyer hesitated a moment and then said: "The pressure was applied to partisans of Bishop Talbot. We propose to probe this matter to the bottom."

GETS NEW YEAR'S BALL. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) La Grande, Ore., Dec. 31.—A grand New Year's ball was given at the La Grande Commercial club last evening by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, it being their annual ball, and was one of the best attended ever given in the city.

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