

"ITCHING PALM" IS OBJECTED TO

Councilmen Apparently Resist Insinuation Concerning Cudicle of Hands.

OVERWORKED MEN CAUSED WRECK

Railroads Likely to Evade Law Forcing Shorter Hours for Operators.

William H. Beharrell, manager of the Haywood Bros. & Wakefield company, wholesale furniture dealers, may be hailed before the council committee investigating the alleged furniture trust and asked to explain recent remarks attributed to him in which he referred to the "itching palm" as a conclusion he had taken from the remark to himself and intend to make Mr. Beharrell explain.

Question of asking Mr. Beharrell appear before the investigating body came up at a meeting of the billboard committee yesterday afternoon. Councilmen Concanon, Belding, Cottel and Kellisher were present and gave opinions of Mr. Beharrell, after which they asked that he be called to account for his statements. They agreed that if he has any information upon which to base his accusations he should tell what it is.

The councilmen say the remark attributed to Mr. Beharrell is a reflection upon the whole body of councilmen, and those present yesterday declared themselves immune from "graft germ."

Whether Mr. Beharrell can be compelled to appear before the council committee and testify as to the "itching palm" remark is doubted by several of the councilmen, although Councilman Vaughn says that if the furniture man does not appear before the investigating body he will swear out a complaint in the municipal court against Beharrell and compel him to tell what he knows.

The members of the investigating committee are Councilmen Vaughn, Belding and Concanon. When Mr. Beharrell said "It has been hinted that the old and oft-tried remedy for an itching palm might secure a cessation of hostilities and calm the troubled waters; but it so happens that the individuals representing the furniture interests in Oregon, while taking a deep interest in the public weal and are large contributors to its support and upbuilding, are not of that class who are always seeking to further their own ends by being in close contact with the administration," he is supposed to have referred directly to Councilmen Vaughn and Concanon, who generally stand with Mayor Lane in opposition to the majority of the council. Other members of the council, however, have taken umbrage at the remarks and interesting developments are expected when the committee holds its next meeting Thursday.

"Bloody wreck records of the United States, in which overworked telegraphers figured frequently as the cause, crystallized public opinion to such an extent that the last congress yielded to the urging of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers and passed a law limiting the service of telegraphers on duty with the movement of trains to nine hours a day," says an old time telegrapher in commenting on the recent decision of the interstate commerce commission.

"Statistics assembled and submitted by the telegraphers' champions were so appalling when compared with European records, and the facts were so plain, that the railroads, though quietly lobbying against the measure, did not dare to make a noise about it. Their attorneys bided their time.

"Yesterday the interstate commerce commission, after a long and an argument for and against the enforcement of the law, flatly refused to extend the time for making the law effective, and it will be in force tomorrow, March 4.

"How will the law work? Will the roads now obey? These questions are ignored by most of the officials, whose attitude indicates a determination to evade the law. This is the opinion of telegraphers in close touch with the interests involved.

Violent Call Bell System.

"We do not glow," those laugh loudest who laugh last. All we can do is to watch developments. We see visions of federal courts and injunctions, split tricks and call bells. By the split tricks we may be made to work when we are needed and to wait when we are not, the actual hours of labor totaling nine.

"By the call bell, an audacious device when used to effect economy, instead of safety, the one or two men at a lonely desert station may be routed out at any moment by the pressure of a finger on a telegraph key in headquarters hundreds of miles away.

"For example, the desert office's number be 1-2-3-4. The operator is in bed, seeking much needed sleep. The dispatcher wants him, and he has put in only three hours and swears the party six. The dispatcher hits the key once, twice, three times and four—and there sets going a gong like those used in city fire stations, loud enough to wake the dead.

"I've worked at L'any a desert station and heard the coyotes and puffs and the call bell all uniting in a hideous noise to break the slumber of the knight of the key. When he answers the call and puts in an hour, or maybe 15 minutes, the dispatcher rips out a curt 'good night'—that's the call-bell system, and the O. R. & N. is installing them now. The Southern Pacific and Santa Fe have had them in use for years.

"James J. Hill, however, made no false presentations to the interstate commerce commission. He saw the need for reform and quietly acquiesced. Some time ago Hill, at vast expense, extended the block system and established friendly relations with his men. His service will be correspondingly better and finally the best.

Places Open, but Few Employed.

"Until now all operators worked 12 hours a day, 7 p. m. to 7 a. m. At small offices one man was employed, with indefinite hours, dependent upon train schedules, often remaining on duty 12 to 20 hours a day. In Oregon, if the law is obeyed, there are about 44 stations on the main line of the Southern Pacific, and 48 on the Oregonian, and 12 on the Navigation company, which will require an additional man. On the Southern Pacific branch line there are 25 one-man offices and 12 two-man offices. The O. R. & N. has only four or five branch offices requiring two men.

"In the northwest probably 2000 idle telegraphers may be employed, 2000 approximately in the entire country. There are hundreds of operators idle on account of hard times, eager to take advantage of the new regime. Few, however, have been employed."

MAJORITY BACKS UP AND THEN BACKS DOWN

After Shelving Ordinance Providing for New Detectives, Suddenly Pass It.

With public sentiment so strong against them, members of the majority of the city council have taken fright and will introduce a new ordinance providing for the appointment of police additional detectives to serve as police sergeants. The majority party in the council voted down this ordinance because it was introduced by friends of Mayor Lane, but will bring it up at the next council meeting and pass it.

At the last meeting of the council the members of the majority gave the excuse for shelving the ordinance that the measure provided that the salaries for the additional detectives would come out of the general fund and not out of the police department fund. They said they did not want to take any more money out of the general fund at this time because there is only about \$65,000 left in it to run for the year.

Councilman Rushlight was the author of the ordinance then asked the members to amend the measure so as to take the money out of the police department fund. This order he addressed to the bill because Rushlight, Kellisher and other members of the majority party were behind it.

Another ordinance will come up exactly similar to the Rushlight ordinance save that it will provide salaries for the police department fund instead of the general fund and it will be passed.

LILLIAN BLAUVELT COMING TO HELIG

The noted lyric soprano Madame Lillian Blauvelt will be heard at the Helig Theatre, Fifth and Washington streets, Monday evening, March 18. Man orders will be received from this city and out of town beginning next Monday. March 16. Address letters to make checks and money orders, payable to W. T. Fangle, manager Helig Theatre, 1000 Broadway, New York, as soon as possible. Madame Blauvelt will be assisted by Alfred Rosenthal, cellist, and Miss Edith Kellogg, pianist.

EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD LINE MOVES AGAIN

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Eugene, Or., March 3.—A force of 30 men and half a dozen teams was put to work on the Eugene-Springfield trolley line yesterday and the road will now be completed. The work was stopped last fall when the financial stringency came on and nothing had been done on the line up to yesterday. A larger force will be put on as soon as the weather settles, and it is expected the electric cars will be running into Springfield by the middle of the summer. Work on the bridge across the Willamette at Springfield will begin as soon as the water becomes low enough to enable the contractors to lay the concrete piers.

GRANT LANDS HELD OUT OF TAX SALE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Klamath Falls, Or., March 3.—Judge Henry L. Benson of the circuit court has issued an injunction to prevent the sheriff of Klamath county from selling the lands of the Oregon & California Land company for delinquent taxes. This order is in accordance with the complaint filed last week by the company's attorneys, protesting against the 1904 valuation on the large holdings of this company. Thousands of acres in the northern part of Klamath county, practically worthless, according to the complaint, were valued at \$5 and \$5 cents per acre in 1904, while the 1907 valuation was 75 cents per acre. Lands for sale on account of delinquent taxes were offered Saturday but the judge's order excluded these lands, pending further court proceedings.

WELLS TO WATER IDAHO TOWNS.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Boise, Idn., March 3.—The city of Mountain Home is planning to install soon a sewer and water system. Water is to be secured from deep wells.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S KNIT UNDERWEAR AND HOSIERY

It is a well established fact that we sell the kind of Hosiery and Underwear that brings customers back for more; hence the rapidly increasing business in this section of our store. Following are examples of the savings that may be realized tomorrow and Thursday.

Fine Lisle Underwear for Women

75c Values at 39c—By buying direct from the mills in large quantities we have saved the "middle man's" profit and are in a position to offer you better values in women's Knit Underwear than ever before; this for example:

Women's Fine French Lisle Thread Underwear—Vests and Pants in all sizes; the vests are made with high neck and long sleeves; the pants in both tight knee and lace trimmed styles; they are high grade, perfect finished garments, in correct spring weight; usual 75c values; on sale Wednesday and Thursday at..... 39c

Reuben's Knit Vests for Infants

65c Values at 39c—Tomorrow we place on sale for the first time the celebrated Reuben's Wool Vests for infants; they are without doubt the most satisfactory as they are made to fasten without buttons; they come in all sizes; are made of nice soft wool and mothers who have once used them will have no others. Regular 65c values; on sale Wednesday and Thursday at..... 39c

Women's Stockings

25c Values at 15c—As a special inducement for you to visit our stocking department tomorrow we place on sale a line of women's fine fast black seamless stockings made of best quality Maco yarn; they come in all sizes and have always sold at 25c a pair; on sale at less than cost price, Wednesday and Thursday at..... 15c

Children's Stockings

20c Values at 9c—Children's Stockings at less than half price. That's the way our stockings buyer bought them; will you share in the saving? They are made of fast black cotton in both 2x1 and 1x1 rib, with triple knee, heel and toe; all sizes for boys and girls; regular 20c vals.; priced for this sale, Wednesday and Thursday at... 9c

Leather Belts 49c

A wonderful assortment of new leather belts for spring wear. These are nobby little belts, all in this year's style. Exactly the correct belts for the latest shirtwaists. They come in black and colored leather and fancy tinsel, with handsome gilt and oxidized buckles in plain and jeweled effects; Wednesday and Thursday. 49c

Wonderful Bargains at the Notion Counter

Velveteen and Brush Edge Skirt Binding, in all colors, yard..... 34c
5c Hooks and Eyes, in black and white..... 24c
8c Nickel Plated Safety Pins..... 5c
8c Cube Pins, 100 pins on cube..... 5c
10c Silk Tissue Toilet Paper, 1,000 sheets to a roll..... 75c
Steamboat Playing Cards..... 34c
5c Toilet Soap, per dozen..... 45c

A. B. Steinhilber & Co.

SPRING EXHIBIT OF MEN'S AND YOUNG MEN'S HATS

—Portland's largest and liveliest Hat Department desires its thousands of patrons to know that its exceptional display of spring headwear is now ready. Included in the exhibit are

YOU MAN'S AND STETSON

BROOK

ESPECIALLY MADE FOR A. B. STEINHILBER & CO.

\$3--THE PEER OF ALL HATS--\$3

HAVE ENOUGH FUNDS TO BUILD NEW HOME

Old Ladies' Home Society Casting About to Secure Location.

The annual meeting of the Old Ladies' Home society took place yesterday afternoon at the First Presbyterian church. Annual reports were given and Mrs. P. J. Mann, the president, read her report which showed the society to be in a prosperous condition. The work of the past year was reviewed, but most of the report was devoted to the hopes and plans for the coming year's work.

For several years the society has been working toward the construction of a pleasant home for old ladies who are unable to care for themselves. While there was no building the society has devoted its efforts to caring for individual cases and much good has been done in a quiet way.

A fund has been constantly growing for the building of the home and the members feel that they have now reached the time when the consummation of their hopes and plans is possible. The legacies left them by the late Senator Corbett and the late Mrs. Reed, together with other substantial gifts from friends and the money realized from the members and from the entertainments given by the society have placed them in such a financial position that they can begin to plan a site for the new home.

At present a site is lacking and the aid of interested friends is asked. Of course it is hoped that someone interested may give acreage for this purpose, but if this is not possible the members hope that some citizen will make such an offer on land in the cause of this charity as will make it possible for them to take it.

Mrs. H. C. Eckenberger of the Hobart-Curtis and Mrs. J. E. Bingham of 572 Kearney street were yesterday appointed a committee to see about a location and anyone wishing to make an offer is invited to communicate with them.

The original plan of the society was to build an old ladies' home but the plans have now been enlarged to include men too, and this will necessitate a change in house plan and a larger expense in building. Of course an effort will be made to secure land near a car line for the convenience of the old people. Two sites have been offered, but both were impracticable in location.

The election of officers will take place at the meeting of the society on Friday morning. At that time plans will be made for the annual Easter Monday luncheon. Mrs. J. Mann's home letters to the Hobart-Curtis on that date and is one of the large society events of the year.

THE PLAY

Lyric—"By Right of Sword."

Romantic drama is the thing at the Lyric this week and in "By Right of Sword," Ralph Stuart's swashbuckling play, the Allen Stock company will undoubtedly have a successful week of it. It was one of the most popular things played by Mr. Stuart in this city and appeals particularly to admirers of Mr. Stuart.

The story tells of an American and young and rich and therefore just couldn't help being dramatized. Mr. Hamilton goes to Russia on adventure, and finds it a plenty. He encounters Olga, daughter of a "dook," and helps Olga out of numerous grievous situations, such as for instance, where she is about to be attacked for want of a brother and where the versatile Mr. Hamilton stepping in, plays brother and lover and gains Olga as a bride.

Miss Felton plays Olga and does it well. Mr. Drum was good as Hamilton and George Mortimer was Lieutenant Welsch. William E. Blake played Johann Weber and Charles Ayres was try to spell. The performance went excellently and gave much satisfaction. It will be continued all week.

Grand-Vandeville.

It is a very silly and uninteresting bill that the Grand is giving its patrons this week. Silliness is now and then funny and heaven forbid that a dramatic offering that is funny should be scowled off the boards. But even the half-baked school children who had hurried away from the protecting wings of the classroom couldn't see much fun in yesterday afternoon's performance.

The session opens with a one-act comedy telling how a burglar enters a house and finds a young girl and is converted and goes and steals no more. The development of this decidedly unique plot takes half an hour. It doesn't take nearly that long to read "Editha's Burglar."

Next come Ed and Bella White, who give an exhibition of sparring which may be good but to the unscientific mind doesn't look it.

Ed and Bella once out of the way the Crimmins and Gore bounce upon the stage. They are silly but so silly that one has hopes they may prove funny. And they are funny in a mild, burlesque sort of way. You enjoy it for a while, but when it is over you think how much more you would have enjoyed had there been less of it.

De Witt Young and his sister have an act they call "The College Boy Juggler." The name should be enough. The college boy comes out wearing a big white sweater with a crimson "H" on it. The "H" doesn't stand for Harvard, but for Mr. Young's nationality. He flits about and does some very poor tricks and a few interesting hoop-rolling stunts.

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Mann have a very sad playlet which they call "Mandy Hawkins." It is too weep.

With those things out of the way the Brown Brothers and Doc Kealy come on. They are brought in at what is nearly the close of the performance and are the only people worth going to see. The Brown Brothers have a musical act that is entertaining. Kealy is a minstrel who positively shines by comparison with the other entertainers of the evening.

Thousands of Yards Embroideries Now Selling at Half and Less

A wonderful assortment of new up-to-date patterns to choose from in dainty little designs, neat floral effects, and large scroll patterns, etc., etc., with insertions to match, made of fine quality Swiss and Nainsook. The best embroidery values ever offered in the city.

These lots to choose from:

At 6c Embroideries worth 15c to 25c	At 23c Embroideries fully worth 50c	At 43c Embroideries worth 85c to \$1.00
At 10c Embroideries worth 20c to 30c	At 29c Embroideries worth 60c to 75c	At 57c Embroideries worth \$2.00 to \$3.00

The Best in Quality

Roberts' Tapes

THIRD AND MORRISON

The Most in Value

A GRAND PRESENTATION

Silks and Dress Goods

FOR SPRING AND SUMMER

A complete showing of all the latest fabrics that have received the sanction of the world's fashion centers—our great Dress Goods and Silk Sections present for the critical inspection of the women of Portland and vicinity the newest weaves and most exclusive novelties, and the variety is so comprehensive as to be all inclusive, having been selected with a taste and skill that has been cultivated and developed by years of experience. Selections are endless—there's not only dozens of weaves, but hundreds of materials, that have the merit of being new, stylish and captivating. Following we mention several groups

Royal Wash Taffeta Silk 69c

A yard for Wash Taffeta Silk fully worth 85c. It's a great special offering to induce you to visit our Silk Section tomorrow or Thursday. Over fifty shades to choose from in this season's most popular plain colors. It is full 19 inches wide and is guaranteed to wear satisfactorily; it will not crack, split or break. This is an opportunity you should not overlook.

THE NEW STRIPES TAKE FIRST PLACE

We are showing all the latest Silk Novelties in Pekin stripes, swivel stripes, pin stripes, new three-tone stripes, shadow stripes, etc. They come in all the new pastel shades in rich elegant Taffetas, Louisines, Surrahs; also Punjab Fancies in all wanted colors with heavy satin overchecks and stripes. Then there's new Persian and Printed Warp Fancies, in the finest foreign and domestic weaves, real works of art and beautiful creations in Taffetas and Louisines in every correct color combination. We call your special attention to the new Crepe de Chines, new Pompadour Messalines, new Black Grenadines, new Messalines, new Jap and China Wash Silks, new Drapery Silks, etc. Prices are always moderate. We are never undersold. Now is a very good time to make your selections and obtain the pick of the best and exclusive lines. Extra space devoted to the display of these goods. We invite your inspection tomorrow or Thursday.

BLACK TAFFETA SILKS

48c For Black Swiss Taffeta, fully worth 65c a yard; it is 19 inches wide.
69c For Black Buckskin Taffeta, fully worth 85c a yard; it is 23 inches wide.
\$1.00 For extra fine Black Swiss Taffeta, fully worth \$1.25 a yard; it is 36 inches wide.

75c For Black Messaline Taffeta, fully worth 95c a yard; it is 27 inches wide.
85c For Chiffon Finished Black Taffeta, fully worth \$1 a yard; it is 30 inches wide.

New Spring and Summer Weaves in Cream Colored Dress Goods

New arrivals that are bound to be immensely popular this season. We have prepared accordingly and our assortments are the largest and finest ever shown in the city. See these, for instance:

50-inch Herringbone Serges at, yard..... \$1.50	48-inch Herringbone Serges at, yard..... \$1.25
50-inch Shadow Checked Serges at, yard..... \$1.50	46-inch Read's Chiffon Panamas at, yard..... \$1.25
46-inch Whip Cords at, yard..... \$1.50	42-inch Woolen Dimities at, yard..... \$1.00
46-inch Angulier Suitings at, yard..... \$1.50	42-inch English Bedfords at, yard..... \$1.00
46-inch Fancy Basket Weaves at, yard..... \$1.25	46-inch Storm Serges at, yard..... \$1.00
46-inch Wool Taffetas at, yard..... \$1.25	42-inch Chiffon Panamas at, yard..... \$1.00

NEW Wash Goods

FOR 1908—SPRING AND SUMMER—1908

Enough variety exists in our stock of new wash cottons to satisfy all tastes. It is the most complete assortment we have ever shown, fabrics, designs and colorings are the richest and most beautiful we have ever seen and quality considered, you will find our prices most modest. Will you see these tomorrow?

AT 25c—Picardie Voiles— A new mercerized wash fabric for spring and summer wear; it comes in pretty check and plaid effects in plain colors and white; has a beautiful rich finish.

New Soisettes— They come in all the wanted shades, in plain colors, one of the best washing fabrics of the season; has the bright, rich appearance of silk.

Mercerized Taffetas— In a large assortment of new plaid and check effects in all colors, the rich finish and splendid wearing quality of this fabric has made it a particular favorite.

Scotch Zephyrs— Our own importations; they come in stripes, checks and plaids in all the wanted colors; it is the largest assortment we have ever shown.

Mercerized Poplins at 25c and 35c— Two qualities to choose from; they come in plain colors and white; they are pretty, durable and very popular.

Voil Tissues at 40c a Yard— At this price you have choice of a large assortment of checks and plaids in all new styles and colorings; it is one of the finest of the new fabrics.

Women's and Children's Knit Underwear and Hosiery

Women's Stockings

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MONTHLY REPORT ON INSANE ASYLUM

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Salem, Or., March 3.—Superintendent R. E. Lea Steiner of the state insane asylum in his monthly report submitted to the governor yesterday states that the new wing that is being annexed to the institution will be completed within 30 days. He also reports that the new ward for the criminal insane will be occupied during the coming week.

The expense for the keeping of each patient for the month was \$12.37, or 82 cents per day.

Had the Grippe?

Take a few doses of the Bitters. It will aid greatly in restoring your former health and strength. We guarantee it pure.

In cases of Chills and Colds it is also very beneficial and if taken in time Grippe can be prevented. It also cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Costiveness and other Stomach Troubles. Try it.