

# HOW TO PURIFY CITY AFFAIRS

### Walter Thomas Mills Points Out Good and Bad Points of Life in the City.

In speaking of "The City the Center of Corruption and Progress" Walter Thomas Mills, at the Masonic Temple last evening, told how free cities began and then said in part:

"City governments are everywhere corrupt. This is not because the citizens desire bad government, not because they are bad people, not because they prefer to be robbed, rather than to be given their just deserts.

"It is because in every modern city there are three great economic interests, not one of which can provide for itself except by methods secret, underhanded, necessarily corrupt. The corporation, privately owned, but rendering a public service, cannot come into existence except if first goes into politics. A great purchasable vote exists, which in selling its vote sells nothing else that is salable. Politics has become a profession. It is the business of the modern politician to organize the corrupt vote, to manipulate it in behalf of the corporations who provide the funds necessary to secure, by processes both secret and corrupt, franchises for the corporations, the spoils of office for the politicians, exemption from the enforcement of the criminal law for the vicious and disorderly, with the scant reward which is given to the vote which is purchasable.

"Curiously enough, municipal reform is most frequently undertaken by attempting schemes for commissions which shall further centralize the municipal authority, and remove it more and more from the direct voice of the people. On the other hand, a reaction is setting in which proposes also to centralize the municipal authority, but to simplify its organization and make that central authority responsible directly to the whole body of the municipal voters. Galveston, Texas, Newport, R. I., Des Moines, Iowa, have become models for the study and the imitation of other municipalities. Portland is studying the problem of the new charter. It has already adopted the Des Moines charter as its model. The charter commission is just now wrestling with the problem as to whether the small central body shall be made directly answerable to the

whole body of the people, or shall possess delegated authority which it may exercise in defiance of the people's protest.

"The central body should be small. Each member should be the head of a department and the joint action of all, and the separate action of each member, should be subject to referendum, while each member should be personally subject to instruction or recall.

"If this can be established in Portland, if it can be established in all of the cities, everywhere, it will give us municipal government without the interference of political parties, without the dominance of political rings, and without the possibility of corrupt control."

## PRESENTS FREE

"Evening With Our Friends" Planned by Gevurtz & Sons.

The "evening with our friends," which is announced to be given by the firm of I. Gevurtz & Sons tonight, promises to be an event long to be remembered. "Music and presents for everybody who attends" was the terse description Phillip Gevurtz gave of the affair. The store has been decorated with evergreens, and the place will assume the aspect of a great reception hall tonight. This will be but one of many pleasant surprises planned by the management of this house for the friends and patrons of the establishment. Music will be furnished by Stiles' orchestra, and the doors will be open at 7 p. m.

Every Ounce of Meat You Get at a Smith Market These Days Is the Prime Fancy Oregon Product, and We Have Provided for the Christmas Holidays.

- OREGON PORK**  
Smith's wonderfully choice Pig Pork Sausage, per lb. .... 12 1/2¢  
It's absolutely pure, made fresh every hour. We sell tons of it each day.  
Shoulder Roast Pork.... 10¢, 12 1/2¢  
Whole Shoulder Roasts.... 11¢  
Shoulder Pork Chops.... 12 1/2¢  
Loin Pork Chops.... 15¢  
Loin and Rib Roasts of Pork.... 15¢  
Pork Hocks.... 8¢  
Fresh Pig Feet.... 5¢  
Smith's pure Lard in 5-lb. pails. 65¢
- SPRING LAMBS—MILK FED**  
Small legs of Lamb.... 15¢  
Lamb Loin Chops.... 15¢  
Shoulder Lamb Chops.... 12 1/2¢  
White Shoulders to Roast.... 10¢
- SAUSAGES**  
Frankfurts.... 10¢  
Bologna.... 10¢  
Blood Sausage.... 10¢

# WATER RATES CUT IN HALF

As the expense of laying new water mains is hereafter to be paid by assessment upon property instead of from the water department's receipts, the water rates for 1909 will be reduced 50 per cent all over the city. A charter amendment provides for the change in paying for new mains. The reduction was agreed upon by the water board yesterday.

The city will pay \$50,000 a year for the use of water by its departments. These two changes from the old regime enable the water department to cut the rates in half.

The contract for the new east side water office at East Sixth and East Alder streets was let to Steele, Berterson & Co., by the water board. The bid of that company was \$19,750. A contract for 2800 meters was given to the H. B. Worthington company, and one for 200 meters to the Union Meter company. The total cost of the 3000 instruments is \$20,000.

Tomorrow (Thursday) positively the last day for discount west side gas bills. Don't overlook gas appliance sale.



# MEN'S SUITS

## OVERCOATS AND RAINCOATS

# \$15

Hand tailored—All this season's fabrics. Equal in EVERY WAY to the garments sold in other stores at \$20 and \$25. A look in at our windows will convince you of the truth of this statement.

WHEN YOU SEE IT IN OUR AD IT'S SO

# MOYER

 Third and Oak 1st and Yamhill

## FRANK L. SMITH MEAT CO.

"FIGHTING THE BEEF TRUST"  
Six Markets  
Corner Fifth and Main Streets, Oregon City.  
18th St., bet. Bond and Commercial, Astoria.  
353 Taylor Street (Uniontown), Astoria.  
308 Alder St., between First and Second Sts.  
512 Williams Avenue.  
791 Mississippi Avenue.

Smith's Alder-Street Market is surrounded on all sides by markets that have been put there by his opponents. You must pass up these other markets. See that Smith's name and "Fighting the Beef Trust" are over the door, and then come in.

**FARMERS AND COUNTRY MERCHANTS**  
We Are Paying 8c per pound for good, young veal under 150 pounds, dressed.  
7c per pound for good dressed hogs.  
We are buying dressed turkeys, geese, ducks and chickens and all kinds of livestock.  
We do not charge commission on anything.  
**FRANK L. SMITH MEAT CO.**  
"Fighting the Beef Trust."  
Portland, Oregon.

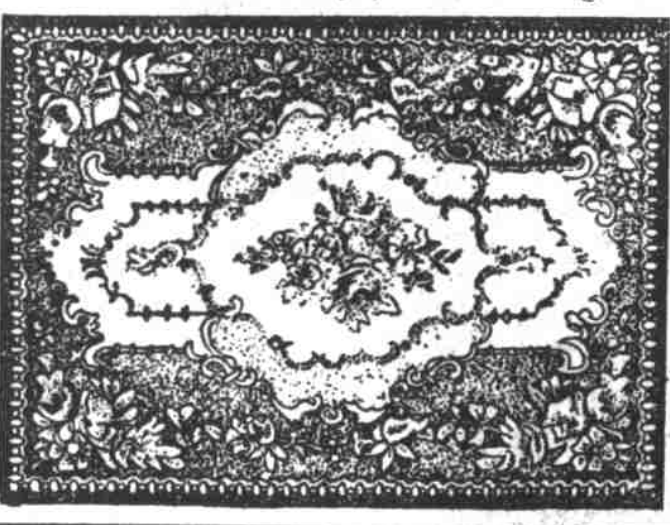
# Inspect These Great Christmas Bargains Tonight

## STORE OPEN EVERY NIGHT UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS

### Our Christmas Gift to Customers

#### Do You Realize That It Really Is \$10 FREE?

Well, you will realize the fact when you see the rug value we are offering you here. Genuine Smith's Axminster Rugs, worth \$32.50 (just as surely as a \$20 gold piece is worth \$20), will be on sale this week at only \$22.50—ten big silver dollars less.

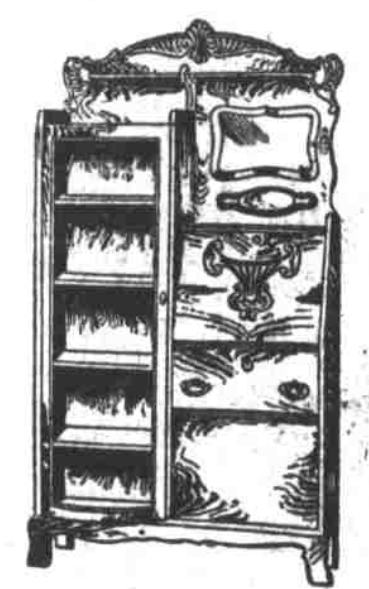


**9x12 Smith's Axminster Rugs at Only \$22.50**

Magnificent floral and oriental patterns. But once before this year have we been able to offer such a bargain in Genuine Smith's Axminster Rugs. These will make superb Christmas gifts for somebody. We expect a big demand, and we have provided a big supply. Come and see 'em, for you'll want to take home with you one of those small yard length Carpet End Rugs, remnants of Axminsters, Brussels, Wilton Velvets—priced at 35¢ and 50¢ each.



**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
This large Reed Rocker, worth \$5.00, special price Thursday only .....\$2.75



**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
Combination Bookcase, like cut, made of solid oak, worth \$20. Thursday special .....\$13.00



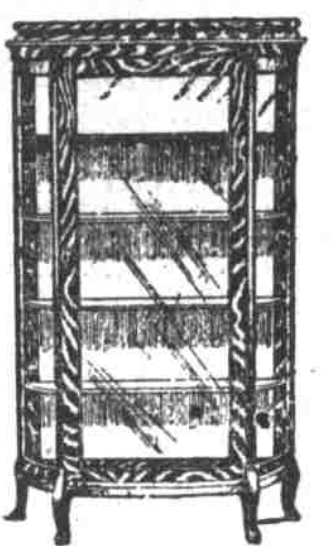
**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
Large Morris Chair, movable velour cushions, made of oak, or in mahogany finish, worth \$12. Thursday special .....\$9.00



**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
Golden oak and mahogany Phonograph Record Cabinets, hold 100 records, priced at \$18 by music stores; special....\$13



**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
Large Arm Rocker, like cut, golden oak, or mahogany finish, cobbler seat, worth \$3.00. Thursday special .....\$1.75



**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
Large China Closet, made of quartersawed oak, 5 feet high, 44 inches wide, bent glass ends; worth \$25. Thursday special at only .....\$14



**Wear the Watch While You Pay**  
A \$1.00 a week payment will soon pay for one and you will not feel the cost to be burdensome.



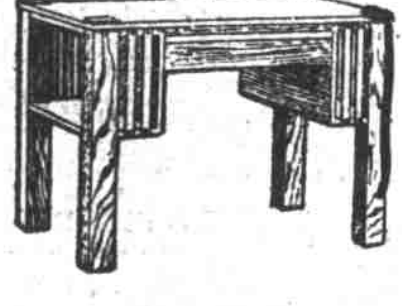
**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
These little Book and Magazine Racks, 24 inches in length, 15 inches in height, made of oak, golden or weathered finish, worth \$2.00. Thursday special at .....\$1.50



**THURSDAY SP'L**  
Large Japanese Ornamental Vases, many sizes and profusely decorated; suitable for mantels, etc., worth \$2.75. Thursday special at .....\$1.75



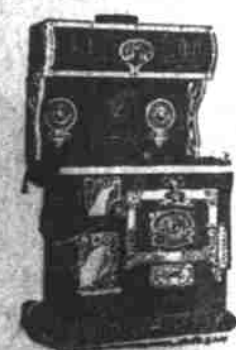
**THURSDAY SP'L**  
Ladies' Writing Desk, like cut, made of solid oak, special Thursday, only .....\$6.00



**THURSDAY SPECIAL**  
This handsome solid oak Table, in the weathered finish, 28x48-inch top, with drawer, like the cut, suitable for den, parlor or living room, worth \$27, special for Thursday at only .....\$18.00



**THURSDAY SP'L**  
Weathered Oak Writing Desk, like the cut, worth \$14. Thursday special at only .....\$10



### A Gift for Your Wife

There are many good housewives in Portland today who would gladly forsake the old fashioned cook stove for the conveniences of a modern steel range. The **GEVURTZ ALL-STEEL RANGE** would make an ideal Christmas gift, and requires but very little cash. **A \$1 DOWN.** We'll place one of these fine steel ranges in your home and the weekly payments are small, too—only **A \$1.00 A WEEK.** Prices range from \$40 to \$55. These ranges are warranted for 15 years against all breakage.

# Easy Terms of Payment

Specials mentioned here for Thursday's selling are for cash. On other goods \$1 a week will do.

### Golden Oak and Mahogany Tables at \$2.75

For the reader's quiet nook, for books, magazines or papers, for the parlor nook or any other place where smart tables are used.

Mahogany finished, shaped shelf below the 24x24 inch top, and gracefully formed legs, making an unusually pretty piece.

**Specially Priced at \$2.75**



# Tonight!

We hold open house to all our friends from 7 to 9:30. Music on the third floor. Fine Art Calendars given to each guest. All welcome. Come and inspect Christmas wares. No goods sold tonight.

# GEVURTZ & SONS

First and Yamhill Second and Yamhill

All are invited to our exhibition of Christmas goods, from 7 to 9:30. There will be valuable prizes given away.

# Tonight!