

CHARTER RATES DROP; BETTER DEMAND FOR LUMBER IS EXPECTED Today's London Cable Will, It Is Believed, Carry News of New Charters.

SAILINGS ARE REPORTED Merchants' Exchange Gets Word That Three Vessels Are Headed Toward Portland.

Charter rates have dropped for ships for North Pacific loading and it is expected a better demand for both lumber and wheat will result.

Reports today are that a strong possibility exists of three vessels being taken for loading from this port. Today's London cable will, it is believed, contain news of their chartering.

The Italian ship Bioglio O. will carry a cargo of lumber from either this port or Puget sound to the United Kingdom, while the British steamer Africa will carry passengers and cargo.

MAY OPEN INSIDE PASSAGE Esquimaux Officials Announce Matter Taken Up With Ottawa. Victoria, B. C., Dec. 17.—As a result of clearing the seas of hostile craft by British fleets, naval authorities are expected to reopen Broughton strait on inside passage from Puget sound to Alaska within a few days.

ADMIRAL EVANS IS DAMAGED The Canadian Pacific railway has chartered the steamship Itasca from the Puget Sound Navigation company to take the place of the Princess Charlotte on the Seattle-British Columbia route.

NEWS OF THE PORT Arrivals, December 17. St. Helena, N. Y. str. Capt. Giddard, freight from New York via San Francisco, docked last night.

Marine Almanac. North Head, Dec. 17.—Condition of the mouth of the river at 8 a. m.; smooth; wind, east. Sun rises, 7:54 a. m. Tides, December 17. High water, 7:54 a. m. Low water, 1:30 p. m.

Makes Stubborn Coughs Vanish in a Hurry Surprisingly Good Cough Syrup Easily and Cheaply Made at Home.

SEEK GUN'S OWNER Men Arrested With Gun Shift Responsibility of Proprietorship. Patrolmen Madden and Collins who this morning arrested Herbert McDonald for carrying concealed weapons, are endeavoring to find out who really owned the revolver.

ILL HEALTH GIVEN AS CAUSE General Manager of Pacific Coast Steamship Co. Resigns. San Francisco, Dec. 17.—George H. Higbee, vice president and general manager of the Pacific Coast Steamship company, has tendered his resignation to become effective January 1.

DRIFTED TO SEA IN LAUNCH Whole Family Has Narrow Escape Off California. Hermosa Beach Cal., Dec. 17.—After drifting all night at sea in an open launch, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Blake, their son and daughter and two little girls were rescued early today when the incoming tide washed their craft upon the beach here.

ALL ALONG THE WATERFRONT With a part cargo for the Dodge line, consisting of transhipped freight from the American-Hawaiian line, the steamer St. Helena reached Albers dock last night.

TO STANDARDIZE GRADE WORK That Portland school work may be made standard with that of other cities, Superintendent Dolph Johnson will ask the school board this afternoon to eliminate the ninth grade from the elementary schools.

WOMAN DRIVER IS ASSESSED \$5 FINE Mrs. A. C. Ruby Had Driven Electric Car in Violation of the City Traffic Ordinance.

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COURT ORDERS THAT SHIPPERS SUSPECT BE SAVED FROM INSULT Also Holds That Roy Farnam's Parents Be Allowed to See Him in Jail.

CHARGES WERE MADE Sheriff Quine Maintains That Prisoner Has Never Been "Bully-Ragged."

WHAT LABORERS DOING Cigarmakers Are Boosting Hard for Made-in-Oregon Goods. Committee Obtaining Data. The cigarmakers have appointed a committee of three to try and secure cooperation with commercial bodies to improve the demand for made-in-Oregon goods of all kinds.

NOT SMART. VERY IMPORTANT. OLEANS! HORRORS! Doctor—I have trouble making that man believe he's all right. He's never been a doctor before.

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HOW'S THE WEATHER? Being a Slight Variation of That Old Wheeze — "Is It, etc.?"

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TAXES IN 1915 TO BE MATERIALLY LESS THAN PRESENT YEAR Unless Commissioners Alter Tentative Estimate, Portland Owners Pay 22.8 Mills

DECREASE IS 4.2 MILLS Total Will Be \$7,604,948.49 Against \$8,248,350.00 for Current Fiscal Year.

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